Hello Everyone,

I hope all of the Alumni are having a great Summer. Whatever you do have fun and be safe. I just want to update you on what has been going on during the Spring. Your Board has met and continues to work hard for you and the organization.

We awarded 5 $1,000 scholarships to 5 deserving seniors at GHS. It is so exciting to be able to help these young people further their education. We all contribute to this cause. We also continued the tradition of serving the seniors cake after the awards ceremony. Thanks to all the Board members who helped serve cake.

The fifth annual Sporting Clays Shoot is in the books. I would like to thank all of you who helped man the stations, register shooters, make arrangements for prizes and the many other jobs that it takes to put on an event like this. Thanks to Steve Scurlock and Lois Reed for the time they put into planning the event. This is our biggest fund raiser and I know Steve is already thinking about how to make it bigger and better next year.

The Class of ‘69 is in the process of putting together a great reunion for us in September. The date is September 28, 2019. Cheryl Copeland and her team have been meeting and planning to make this a great event. Please save the date and plan to be a part of this event.

Congratulations to Daylon Mack class of 2015. I know some of you have followed this young man’s career since he graduated. He had an outstanding career at Texas A & M and was recently selected in the 5th round of the NFL draft by the Baltimore Ravens. Since he was drafted he has been in Baltimore preparing for training camp that begins in late July. By the way he also received his degree from Texas A & M in May. Another Bear success story! If you happen to catch a Raven game this Fall on TV look for # 94.

Please feel free to attend our Board meetings, the dates and times are in the newsletter. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to the Board with any concerns you might have.

Have a Great Summer, and GO BEARS.

Larry Clemens, Board President
Memorial Day Service

Monday, May 27th, 2019 The City of Gladewater held a ceremony in remembrance of veterans who lost their lives in the service of our Country. The ceremony was held at the Gladewater Veteran’s Memorial. Vietnam War veteran, US Marine Corps Sgt. Jim Jones, was the speaker. Participants included veterans of the Korean War, Vietnam War and the Gulf War, members of the City Council and Mayor J.D. Shipp. The ceremony, honoring all those who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our Country, was dignified and moving to all those in attendance. The ceremony was planned and organized by Leon Watson, GFSA Associate Director, USMC.

Closing Out “The Sixties”, A Decade That Changed A Nation!

~~Save the Date! September 28th, 2019~~

The Gladewater Class of 1969 invites you to join them, Saturday, September 28, 2019, at the GFSA Building, 2509 Hendricks, for the All-School Reunion. The GHS Class of 1969 has been busy planning this year’s reunion and it looks to be a great gathering. Let’s help them celebrate their 50th Reunion!

~~See attached flier and Registration Form for details.~~

ON SALE NOW!

GFSA Swing Raffle Tickets

The Gladewater Former Students Association is selling tickets for an Outdoor Swing and frame built with pride by the Gladewater High School Ag department. Tickets sell for $10 and all proceeds benefit GFSA scholarships, the Veteran’s Memorial and the GFSA Building fund. For information contact Lois Reed at 903-845-2631 or Steve Scurlock at 903 918-3616. Drawing is at the All School Reunion on September 28th, 2019. Only 400 tickets will be sold, so your chance to be the winner is really good!

Changes Coming to the GFSA Newsletter

In recent years, the association has seen a great increase in the number of newsletters returned to our office. The Board has decided to post a copy of each newsletter on the website where it will be available at any time. If you prefer to have your newsletter mailed to you, please contact the Gladewater Former Students office and let us know:

Contact us by mail:
GFSA
P.O. Box 1425
Gladewater, TX 75647

Be sure to include your current address and phone number. If a newsletter is returned by the postal service, we may delete that person from the mailing list.
Dr. John Hood 1985 GHS Alum Surprise Benefactor to 2019 Graduating Class

Bill Waters Gymnasium was the venue for some exciting news as the entire graduating Class of 2019 found they were to be the recipients of a great and unexpected graduation present. Dr. John Hood, GHS Class of 1985, and his wife Sally gave a $40,000 scholarship to Rashaud Johnson. They also gave four Seniors $2,500 annually renewable scholarships. Then, they gave every other 2019 graduate a $500 scholarship...YES, EVERYONE GOT A SCHOLARSHIP! Through the generosity of Dr. Hood and his wife, every student who chooses to attend college or a trade school will be able to further their education. Dr. Hood is the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Impact Biomedicines and several other biomedical companies. He has had a long career in the development of regenerative medicines and oncology therapies. He is an inventor with more than 100 patents and author of 50 plus scientific papers. After his graduation from GHS, Dr. Hood earned his Ph.D in medical physiology and B.S. in biochemistry from Texas A&M. He met his wife Sally while he was a student there. He credits several professors at A&M for their encouragement and mentorship. He also has high praise for his education at Gladewater High School where he was able to indulge his interest in a wide variety of disciplines; from Football, debate, drama, choir, physics. Dr. Hood says that most of his teachers were great mentors and supportive of him. He particularly credits his middle school teacher, Mr. Keller and Mrs. Hayes for the interest and encouragement they gave him. As is evident by the generosity of Dr. John Hood and his wife Sally, another thing he learned growing up in Gladewater was how to give to others, how to use whatever gifts you have to make life better for others and how to be a great citizen of the world. Who knows how many of the GHS Class of 2019 will go on, thanks to him, to follow his example? The world needs more people like Dr. Hood and Gladewater is lucky to have him as her son.

Coach Walter Derrick
April 8, 1930 - April 1, 2019

Resolution by Texas State Senate
The Senate of 86th Legislature of the State of Texas Passed Resolution 711 in Memory of Walter Derrick. The resolution outlined the accomplishments of Mr. Derrick as a coach and educator, Gladewater City Council member and Mayor. Mr. Derrick was instrumental in the creation of Bumblebee Park, served on the East Texas Council of governments, Gladewater Habitat for Humanity and the Board of Trustees of the Gladewater Round-up Rodeo. His tireless efforts led to thousands of dollars in scholarship money for Gladewater students and the betterment of the city of Gladewater and the entire East Texas area. His selfless dedication to education and public service resulted in this tribute to Mr. Derrick.

GFSA Building Sound System
As many of you who have attended the recent All School Reunions know, we are in dire need of a new Audio/Visual system for the GFSA building. It is almost impossible to hear the programs and the old technology is not compatible with developments available in newer computer systems. We are asking for donations for the replacement of the system. We hope to get some response to this request and, when that happens, we will solicit at least 3 companies for bids. If you are interested in donating for this purpose, contact Larry Clemens at larryref50@gmail.com or 903-845-5533 or Steve Scurlock at steve013050@gmail.com or 903-918-3616.

If you are interested in donating for any purpose, that would be wonderful also.
GFSA Board Members welcomed Barry Cook, Class of ’68, back to the board. Barry has agreed to fill the void left when his sister Bonny Cook Cain took a position as Superintendent of School for the Waxahachie Independent School system. Congratulations to Bonny and thanks to Barry for agreeing to serve in her stead.

Gone But Not Forgotten

We would like to remember the following former students and teachers who have recently passed away. All will be sorely missed by their families, friends and classmates to whom we extend our deepest sympathies.

Paul King, Teacher, Coach, Counselor

Coach Walter Derrick, Teacher, Coach

Judy Payne Reynolds- Class of ’67

William Echols- Class of ’66
Meet Your Board

In our last newsletter, we profiled our incoming president, Larry Clemens. We thought all members of GFSA might like to know a bit more about the people serving on your board. The following are biographies of three members of the board with more to come in the next newsletter.

Leslie Blount Willeford – Class of 1977

Starting Kindergarten as a Bear, I graduated from Gladewater High School in 1977. My interests in high school were art, yearbook staff and student government. I was voted Miss GHS my senior year.

After graduation, I attended Kilgore Junior College and North Texas State University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Merchandising and Business. Working in the business world for a few years, I became dissatisfied and wanted to make a more purposeful impact on my community. I acquired an Elementary Education teaching certificate at Lamar University, beginning my educational career in 1990. I taught 3rd and 4th grades in Groves and Sabine. In 1995, I found myself back in Gladewater, teaching GED classes and directing Even Start, a family literacy federal grant program. In 2003, I obtained a Master of Arts degree in School Guidance and Counseling, working at Gladewater High School for thirteen years. I retired in 2016 with twenty-five years of educational experience.

I am married to Leo Willeford and have two children, Ashley and Brett. We live in White Oak and attend Spring Hill Baptist Church. In my spare time, I like to golf, read and decorate. I am enjoying working part-time with Hallmark.

Margaret Liddell Pevehouse – Class of 1966

I grew up in Gladewater and graduated from Gladewater High School in 1966. I attended Kilgore College, East Texas Baptist University (Marshall, Texas), Brookhaven College and UT Dallas.

I am proud of my Native American heritage and belong to the Chickasaw Tribe.

I have had a successful 41 year career as a Senior Administrative Professional at Weaver, the largest regional Accounting firm in the Southwest. I am still working and actively involved with the organization. I have one son and one grandson who are the “light of my life”.

I have attended the majority of the All School Reunions as well as the groundbreaking ceremony for the Former Students Association building. I Live in Krum, Texas and work in downtown Dallas. I still have family in Gladewater and I travel to Gladewater frequently to visit. I have served on the GFSA board for 3 years.

Shirley Elliott Willett - Class of 1968

I was born in Gladewater and have been a Gladite all my life. I graduated from GHS in 1968. I graduated from Kilgore College, where I was a Cheerleader. I furthered my education at Stephen F Austin University where I earned my Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Education.

I married Garland Willett, from Tyler, who taught Biology at Gladewater High School. My two sons, Michael and Nicklas, graduated from GHS. I taught for 39 years in the Union Grove and Gladewater Independent School Districts.

I have served on the GFSA board for several years, including 2 years as Corresponding Secretary and 3 years as President.
The GLADEWATER FORMER STUDENTS’ ASSOCIATION would like to recognize and thank the following alumni who have supported this organization with “KODIAK” contributions:

'43 Dorothy Dake Anderson
'62 John Paul Tallent

'30 George Wilkins (Dec’d)
'38 C.W. Williams, Jr.
'38 Gladys Browning Best
'39 Dr. John Heit (Dec’d)
'39 Helen Adams Thomas (Dec’d)
'40 June Strawel Gelvin (Dec’d)
'41 Dr. John Artie & Arna Browning (Dec’d)
'41 Gladys Williams Deeson

'33 Gwendolyn Hamilton Hogue (Dec’d)
'38 Lee Fisher (Dec’d)
'39 Jane Neal Sellers (Dec’d)
'39 Ernestine Wilson Sawyer
'41 Johnnie Pace Brown
'41 Dr. Robert Brutsche
'41 Emma Dean Hinton Felter
'41 Jean Clark Hughes (Dec’d)
'41 Dr. Helen Chapman Williamson (Dec’d)
'41 Charles Gilpin
'41 Dr. Harold McDowell (Dec’d)
'41 Patricia Nichols Summer
'42 Ann Ruth Stone Gentry
'44 Lafoon Dorrough (Dec’d)
'44 Georgia Waters Dorrough
'44 Jo Nell Adams Lucky (Dec’d)
'44 Robert H. Schmidt
'44 Roy A. Tallent (Dec’d)
'45 Lawanna Lee Ballard
'46 Billy C. Dale (Dec’d)
'46 Gladys Ronita Dillard
'46 Bobbie Millorn Medisette
'46 Dr. Jack “Spot” Collins (Dec’d)
'46 B.M. “Mack” Rankin (Dec’d)
'46 Virginia Henley Mankins (Dec’d)
'48 William “Billy Bob” Green
'48 Nelda Jean Barr Young
'49 Jack Foshee (Dec’d)

49 Robert Honeycutt
'49 Bill Looney
'49 T. E. “Ed” Maxwell
'49 Richard D. Tallent
'51 Colleen Tallent Coffman (Dec’d)
'52 Frances Ann Brow Shanks
'52 Beverly Hutson Lancaster
'53 Alice Ruth Wallace Cater
'53 Jerry Don Lancaster
'56 Travis Stanley
'56 Donald Williams (Dec’d)
'56 Ronald Williams
'57 Homer Beck
'59 Mary Barr Price
'59 Grace Ann Rose Shore (Dec’d)
'60 Tom & Nita Zajicek in memory of Paul & Agnes Zajicek
'62 Jack Butler
'62 Barbara Brooking Henderson
'62 Ellender “Cookie” Owens Holcomb
'62 Glenna Rush Ishmael (Dec’d)
'62 Loretta Bear Mitchell
'62 Ronny Moore (Dec’d)
'62 John Shepperd (Dec’d)

'62 Paula Jones Smith
'62 Betty Jean Thomas Stegall
'62 Kay Pothof Wallace
'63 Melvin A. Tallent (Dec’d)
'65 Danny Strickland
'67 Jerry D. Tallent (Dec’d)
'68 Mark Abernathy
'68 Shirley Elliott Willett
'71 Sue Clifton Moore (Dec’d)
'76 James Humgan
'76 Sharon Surluck Berryman
'77 Jayson Wynn (Dec’d)
'85 Cindy Tallent Rowe
'85 Jon Rowe
'89 Johnny Tallent
'90 Andrea Slover Tallent
2011 Alyssa Rowe
2013 Leslie Rowe
2015 Rebecca Rowe
Class of 1943
Class of 1945
Class of 1958
Class of 1961
Class of 1962
Class of 1965
Class of 1968
Beverly Brunson Tallent

Past President Life Members:

'38 Nauty Byrd Pelphrey Mayer 1989-1990
'40 Truman Wilson 1995
'61 Sherry Waggoner Beall 1993-94, 2011-12

'56 Dr. Syntha Traughber West 2004-2006
'68 Barry Cook, 2007
'60 Roy T. Van Houten, 2010
**GFSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Tax-Deductible Annual Membership ONLY $25.00 per Member

*In order that we may properly give you credit for your dues payment, please fully complete this form and mail with your check to: GFSA, P.O. Box 1425, Gladewater, TX 75647.*

**YOUR GRADUATION OR CLASS YEAR**

**NEW MEMBER**

**RENEWAL**

**LAST NAME**

**FIRST NAME**

**MAIDEN NAME**

**SPouse NAME**

**ADDRESS**

**CITY**

**STATE**

**ZIP**

**PHONE**

**EMAIL**

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**GFSA CONTRIBUTION FORM**

The GFSA is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

**AMOUNT**

**SELECT A FUND:** Building  Scholarship  Veterans Memorial

**NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

**CITY:**

**STATE**

**ZIP**

**PHONE**

**EMAIL**

Mail to: GFSA, P.O. BOX 1425, GLADEWATER, TX 75647

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**BRICK ORDER FORM**

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED:** $______________  

**PRICE PER BRICK** - $65.00

Engraving limited to only 3 lines, 14 characters each line (including spaces).

**SUGGESTED ENGRAVING:**

**IN HONOR OF**

**IN MEMORY OF**

**CLASS YEAR**

Mail to: GFSA, P.O. BOX 1425, GLADEWATER, TX 75647
UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 28, 2019:  Annual All-School Reunion
Tuesday, November 11, 2019:  Veterans’ Day Luncheon
Mid-December, 2019 (TBD):  Christmas Gathering
Date to be Determined:  Retired Teachers Luncheon

www.gladewaterformerstudents.com