

# THE OAK LEAF

SUMMER 2014  
Volume 2



*The Gulf Park College for Women Alumnae Association, Inc. is an incorporated, nonprofit, member-driven organization that honors the memory of our beloved Gulf Park by-the-Sea!*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**June, 2014.** Twelve of us arrived a day early on the Coast to do preparation for Wednesday's check-in at the Marriott Courtyard. It was a unanimous vote to have dinner at Mary Mahoney's, an old Gulf Park girl favorite! And, that, it would seem, set the tone for five days of grazing at some of the finest restaurants from Pass Christian to Biloxi! For the record, some of the tastiest food can be found back off the beach. Three cheers for Lil Ray's to-die-for Po-Boys!

It was like being back in Hardy Hall on the day of check-in! Every girl who strolled through the front door, pulling her rolling luggage behind her, was greeted with squeals of delight and group hugs! I couldn't help but note that times have certainly changed. Not one woman was in heels, a hat or gloves! The fashion was capris and sandals – a look of

pure comfort which, frankly, is all I seem to care about, anymore!

Henrienne Dorsey Hewes '63, hosted a beautiful dinner at her home in Gulfport for the 50+ girls who had arrived on Wednesday. The dinner was delicious and beautifully presented. Thank you, Henrienne, for welcoming us into your home!

On Thursday, arrivals continued; and, in the final analysis, 78 people were in attendance, including several guests. From the Florida Keys to the state of Washington, from Rhode Island to California and many points in between – they came! Many years of Gulf Park girls were represented – from 1956 to 1969! The Board of Directors slipped away during lunch to discuss some of the issues we usually do by email. It's so much easier to talk face-to-face, and we got a lot accomplished! Thanks to JoAnn Basalyga Turner and Jerry Wear

Mason, both of C'63, for attending the check-in desk on both days! You girls were terrific, and we couldn't have done it without you! JoAnn was also in charge of dinner at The Chimneys that evening, and she proved that she is an efficient and delightful hostess! The Chimneys provided both delicious meals and excellent service. Thank you, JoAnn, for being a planner extraordinaire!

While we are on a roll, thanks to Joan "Chuckles" Reznichuk Fleming for the outstanding Friendship Oak T shirts that she created. There are still some available. If you are interested, please contact her at [chuckles66gpc@gmail.com](mailto:chuckles66gpc@gmail.com).

One personal note: Your board— Penny Shafer Wright '62, Janet Hardwick Brown '63, Judy Shafer Williams '64, Sidney Oliver '65, Jake Jacobs '68 and Cinda Steenhof Morrison '66— has given hundreds of hours over the

*In this issue:* PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE • MEET THE BOARD • 2014 REUNION REPORTS

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last year so that the organization could be put soundly in place and be relatively easy to take forward into the future by our Gulf Park sisters. So many of you have expressed appreciation for their outstanding efforts. I want to add my thanks to each of these beautiful women for their team spirit and their commitment to this project.

You made requests, and we listened. Like Thursday, we left Friday open for independent fun. Even though the rain - drizzles, soft and steady and in sheets just kept coming, no one seemed to care! We were there to nurture old friendships and make new ones. Some visited Huck, some walked in the rain on the beach, others shopped or just sat in the lobby - visiting. And, it was wonderful! The wind was so strong and the rain so relentless that we were forced to stay inside for our Serenade. It didn't seem to matter. Singing all the old songs and sharing laughter and fun in the comfort of a hotel conference room is a treasured memory. It's important to note that a Fire Chief's conference was going on in the hotel that weekend, and everyone was friendly and accommodating. Because we couldn't be on the beach, the firemen shared a "faux fire" that they had on display, so we got to sing around the fire, after all!

The Saturday morning business meeting on campus was very productive; and, as your president, I want to thank the attendees for all of the suggestions and recommendations you made for the future of the organization. In 2015, the current board of seven will welcome a new slate of officers to take the helm. Our job has been to lay the foundation for the future of the Gulf Park College Alumnae Association, Inc. We have loved every minute of the roles we have played. But, ours is a member-driven association and it is vitally important that everyone have a vested interest in our future. Thanks to all of you who signed the volunteer sheets and offered to serve! And, if Ginny Klinke Raths C'63, chairman of the nominating committee calls you and asks you to consider a leadership role, please rise to it and lead us into the future!

The Memorial Service to those we have lost was headed by Sherrie "Jake" Jacobs. Many, many names were cited by attendees in the large circle under Friendship Oak, and some would make soft comments as a name was read..."that was my mother"... "that's my sister"... "my aunt"...it was very touching; and, Jake, we thank you. We thank Jake, too, for the amazing number of pictures she took during reunion week. She has contributed a collage

of them in this issue of our newsletter. And, one more thank you to Jake for the beautiful Senior sweatshirts and embroidered crest polo shirts that she ordered for us.

We had a delightful visit to the Heritage Room; and, a great big thank you to Allisa Beck for taking time on her day off to allow us that privilege. We are so grateful to the University of Southern Mississippi/Gulf Park for the warm welcome we received and the caring approach they have to preserving the heritage of Gulf Park by-the-sea.

On Saturday evening, we enjoyed an incredible Reunion Celebration Dinner at the Great Southern Club. Again, Henrienne Dorsey Hewes was our gracious hostess. What an elegant and delicious dinner it was! We were delighted to welcome Nels Anderson and Jan Nelson, former instructors in drama and horseback riding, respectively. Allisa Beck, Associate Professor and Collection Management Libraries; Barbara Griffeth, Access Service Manager of Interlibrary Loan Services and Edward E. McCormick, Associate Professor and Interim University Librarian, all of USM were our dinner guests as well. In addition to the beautiful view out over the Gulf of Mexico, the delicious food and the wonderful conversation, we would like to think we contributed in some small way to help Susan Siegel Santori C'63, and her husband, Tom, celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary that evening! Now, that's what I call devotion to Gulf Park Reunions!

Back at the hotel on Saturday evening, most of us stayed up as late as our endurance would allow, not wanting it to come to an end. But, on Sunday morning, as everyone came down to breakfast, the goodbye hugs were gentler, more deeply heartfelt. Just briefly, a song flitted through my mind. "For all we know...we may never meet again..." And, then, as I sat there quietly watching the vibrant, happy, wonderful women who have been in my life for over 50 years, I found that other, more hopeful and beloved songs, came to mind. "No Man is an Island," "You'll Never Walk Alone," "Friendships Forever We Share," "Pride and Honor," and "May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You...til we meet again." I trust that He will bless and keep you, and that we will, indeed, meet again. Much love in sisterhood to you all.

Sherrie Johnson Miller, '63  
President

## Meet the Board

In the summer of 2013 a group of Gulf Park women began to communicate in anticipation of revitalizing the Gulf Park College for Women Alumnae Association. From the beginning it was obvious that each of these women had an undying love for our college-by-the-sea. Each had well defined ideas of how an alumnae organization should function. Fortunately, their philosophies were a perfect blend! Ongoing outreach to find lost sisters, determination to create an accurate roster and mailing list, a desire to be inclusive and to encourage participation and input from every member, and a longing to leave a legacy that is worthy of the college that served as a gracious transition from childhood to young adulthood for all of us. Each woman displayed distinctive strengths and talents, and those strengths were supported and encouraged.

Because we are devoting two years to solidify the revitalization of our alumnae association, we want to make certain that you know your board and that you feel free to share your ideas and, hopefully, volunteer to help make things happen!

So, let's get acquainted with the board.

**Penny Shafer Wright, C'62**, Treasurer—While enjoying a collegiate career that culminated by earning a PhD in Education, Penny served in the University Senate. In addition to spending five years in nursing practice and another 25 years in nursing education, Penny served as member and chairman for various academic unit committees as well as a member of several professional organization committees. She was a member of the founding board and served as secretary and chairman of the board of directors of "For the Cause, Inc." Penny loves traveling, cycling, needlepoint and the company of friends and family.

**Sherrie Johnson Miller, C'63**, President—majored in Broadcast Journalism at the University of Georgia. During her career, she served as Women's Director of WSB Radio/TV in Atlanta, Georgia; as Public Relations Director for the city of Louisville, Kentucky; as owner/manager of WIMO Radio in Georgia and as Main Street/Downtown Development Director for two cities in Georgia. Currently she is a member of the Companion Animal Advisory Board (Avian Representative) for the Georgia Department of Agriculture and the host of "Day

One," an internationally syndicated radio program that broadcasts each week on 358 radio stations throughout the U.S. and 187 stations worldwide. She loves needlework, her four parrots, and her three rescue dogs. Her greatest happiness is found in her three daughters and three granddaughters.

**Janet Hardwick Brown, C'63**—Vice President, married Phil Brown not long after her graduation from Gulf Park College in 1963. The Browns spent 24 years traveling the world with the United States Air Force. Janet served from 1990 – 1996 as lead teacher at the Suntree Early Learning Center. She currently volunteers at the Moore County Coalition for Human Care and at the Moore County Free Health Clinic. She is active in Project Outreach. Married almost 51 years, Janet and Phil have two daughters, one son and seven grandchildren.

**Judy Shafer Williams, C'64**—Secretary - has a BS in Nursing from Emory University School of Nursing. She has served on the board of directors of Andalusia Ballet – two terms as secretary of that organization. Currently on the board of directors of N.W. Florida Ballet, she has also served as secretary of that organization. Judy served as President of the Gulf Park College Alumnae Association in the early 80's. She has loved searching for "lost" Gulf Park girls since she first became involved with the association back in the 1970's and humbly says that this is her "calling."

**Sidney Oliver, C'65**—*Board Member at Large in charge of Bylaws and Incorporation* - has a Master's in English. She spent 15 years in national association administration, 15 years as a freelance writer and editor and has edited two national newsletters and co-edited a national quarterly journal. Sidney is the Founder and Board President of Desert Harbor Doberman Rescue. She led Rescue through bylaws, incorporation and their 501c3. Her interests include travel, her beloved dogs, polymer clay and the love of friends and family. Sidney has drafted the Gulf Park College for Women Alumnae Association, Inc. Bylaws.

**Cinda Steenhof Morrison, C'66**—Board Member at Large in charge of Roster and Mailing List Development - has 30 years of experience in K-12 public school, community college and university administration with extensive strategic planning and budget development responsibilities. She was the National High School Director of School Reform. Currently a board member

of Rotary International, Cinda was also a board member for the Economic Development Commission of Clackamas County, a board member of the YWCA of Kitsap County and a board member of the Junior League of Seattle, Washington. She is currently working on her study and writing project on The Impact of the Structure, Scholarship and Unique Educational and Cultural Experiences of Gulf Park College for Women on Its Former Students. Cinda loves spinning, hiking, and the medical study of her rescue Walker Hound, Curly. But the lights of her life are her grandson and brand new granddaughter.

**Sherrie “Jake” Jacobs, C’68**—Board Member at Large, in charge of the Gulf Park College for Women Web Site—has 39 years of experience in English Education, as a Reading Specialist and Counselor. She serves as a teacher consultant with the National Writing Project. Jake has been the yearbook advisor and school newspaper advisor. She was on the founding board for the Delta Music Museum. She is a Website Administrator for several organizations. Jake loves Gulf Park College history, animal rights, traveling, reading, photography and coloring with granddaughter, Avery Mac.



*Susan Melanie Levy '66 and Dixie Loehr '66 lunching at Lil Ray's in Pass Christian.*

## Nomination Notes

Those of you who were not able to attend the first reunion of the Gulf Park College Alumnae Association, Inc. missed a fun, friendly, good time! It was fabulous to see many old friends and to meet so many of the younger alums who were lots of fun and very enthusiastic! The current board did a great job of organizing the reunion and making us all feel welcome. These seven gals did a lot of work over the past year and will continue to serve as our Board until the next reunion in April, 2015. Because they laid the foundation for the association, the officers' positions will be much easier to carry out in the future.

I am serving as the Chairman of the Nominating Committee. At the reunion I met many dynamic, interesting women who showed interest in serving on the next Board of Directors. I appeal to all of the membership in asking that if you are interested in serving on the Board or in any other capacity, or if you know of someone who may like to get involved, please let me know. The nominations for next year's Board will be featured in the fall newsletter in late October. Our Bylaws state that "candidates...shall stand for election by ballot no less than ninety (90) days prior to the next Annual Meeting" (in April, 2015.) Please call me or email me with your suggestions and nominations.

Ginny Klinke Rath's '63  
630.964.5312  
gindg4516@aol.com

## Save the Date!

*Mark your calendars now for the 2015 reunion, April 22 - 26 on the Mississippi Gulf Coast!*

*Watch for details at  
[www.gulfparkcollege.com](http://www.gulfparkcollege.com)*



*Class of '63: (l to r) Henrienne Dorsey, Faith Farenzena, Susan Siegel, Nancy Pace, Jerry Wear, Tish Talbot, Janet Hardwick, Glenda Moon, Suzy Porter, Ginny Klinke, JoAnn Basalyga, Kay Field, Martha Kate Gray, Sherrie Johnson, Suzanne Bettencourt, Georgia Tuttle ( in front)*



*Class of '64: (front) Carol Johnson, Jill Bogart, Susan Middleton, Paula Gwin, Anne Nichols (back) Sally Stieler, Judy Shafer, Linda Grubb*



*Class of '65: (front) Vicki Lynn Thompson, Sidney Oliver, Tillie Thompson (back) Savann Whitman, Jane Whitely*



*Class of ' 67 Bobsie Quad: Jane Friday, Sally Fokes, Founder Chuckles '66, Ann Burke, JB Bettencourt*



*Class of '68: Lynn Ketzler, Suzanne Simpson, Carol McInnis, Suzie Carlton, Sherrie "Jake" Jacobs, Kitty Jordan*



*Class of '69: Marcia Burnham, Connie Jackson, Donna Thompson*

# Gulf Park College Alumnae Association, Inc.

## Business Meeting

Hardy Hall Ballroom, USM Campus  
31 May 2014 9:30am-11:30am

The business meeting of the GPCAA, Inc., was called to order by President Sherrie Johnson Miller.

The business meeting agenda was approved.

### Reports from Officers and BOD

The president reported that the 7 members of the BOD have agreed to serve 2 years on the BOD then stand down for a newly elected BOD or stand for reelection.

A plea for Class Captains was made.

Sherrie Johnson Miller announced that we have found 2700 alums.

Secretary Judy Shafer Williams stated her job is to record meeting minutes and locate alums. As there are no previous minutes, none were read.

Treasurer Penny Shafer Wright gave a treasurer's report and it is attached. Ms. Wright also explained the monetary challenge which was made by one of our alums. Susan Levy moved and Janet Hardwick Brown seconded a motion to "pass the hat" for the treasury. \$1080.00 was collected.

Sidney Oliver, board member at large, provided a brief overview of the bylaws.

### Reports from special committees

Susan Levy presented a brief overview of her Facebook creation.

Sherrie Johnson Miller requested that pictures from this reunion be emailed to her for inclusion in future newsletters. She asked that everyone in the picture be identified.

### Unfinished Business

Approval of bylaws: Penny Shafer Wright stated that there were 56 usable ballots returned by 20 April 2014.

55 voted to approve the bylaws, 1 voted to not approve the bylaws. Several ballots were received after 20 April 2014 and could not be counted.

Joan Reznichuk Fleming requested roster information be verified and added to, if indicated.

Joan Reznichuk Fleming explained the "time line" scrolls which were created by Cinda Steenhof Morrison.

### New Business

Sherrie Johnson Miller announced Ginny Klinke Rath and Janis Bettencourt Fox will be co-chairs of the nominating committee.

Sherrie Johnson Miller announced that Nancy McKenzie Dupont will be chair of the Finance, Scholarship and Endowment committee for 2015. Chair of the program committee for 2015 is still to be determined.

Janet Hardwick Brown explained the difference between the roster and directory.

Attendees were invited to make suggestions and recommendations.

JoAnn Basalyga Turner suggested that we remove the newsletter from the website and requested that each alum indicate her preference for receiving the newsletter – by US Mail or electronically - on the business meeting sign-in sheet.

Janis Bettencourt Fox suggested a luncheon fashion show for the 2015 reunion.

Suzanne Carlton Buck placed this suggestion as a motion which was seconded by Carol McInnis Gordon. It was carried unanimously.

Joann Basalyga Turner and Ginny Klinke Rath will send cards to ailing and recently bereaved alums/family.

Nels Anderson, former faculty member of Gulf Park College, gave information on several former faculty with whom he is in contact. These include, Jan Nelson, riding instructor, Sarah Pinckney Ambler, and Helen Picking. He would like to find: Clare Weddington, dance instructor and Robin Jackson.

Mr. Anderson expressed interest in the alums having an art show in the library and perhaps selling some items to create income for our treasury.

Tillie Thompson requested a list of the reunion attendees for this year.

Janis Bettencourt Fox asked for the total number of alums at this reunion.

Joan Reznichuk Fleming suggested that we have items for auction. The proceeds from this sale would be used for alums in need. Ms. Fleming further requested that newsletters be sent electronically.

Virginia Kerth Roper suggested that we have a lunch at which tablemates will be allocated by number drawing. The purpose of doing this is to ensure that everyone meets other alums in attendance and not just their friends and classmates.

Mrs. Roper suggested we call this a "mixed nuts" luncheon.

### Announcements

Memorial for deceased alums to be held under Friendship Oak immediately after the Business Meeting. Heritage Room is open for visiting. And Joan Reznichuk Fleming has the Friendship Oak T shirts available.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Shafer Williams, Secretary



*In Memoriam readers: Jane Friday '67, Liz Klinke '56, Judy Kennedy '56, Lockett McDonald '62, Connie Jackson '69*



*GPCAA, Inc. business meeting in Hardy Hall*



*Seafood Dinner at Hen's: Henrienne Dorsey, Janet Hardwick, Sherrie Johnson, Jerry Wear, all 63s*



*In Memoriam under Friendship Oak where we called the names of our departed sistas*



*Judy Shafer '64, Phyllis Bland '62, Penny Shafer '62*



*Nels Anderson and Janet Nelson, GPC faculty*

# Gulf Park College Alumnae Association, Inc.

## Treasurer's Report

September 03, 2013-December 31, 2013

<b>Income</b>	
Dues	1900.00
Contributions*	3800.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5700.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Newsletter (Fall, 2013; 8 pages)	
Printing	1072.58
Mailing**	257.72
Postage	397.55
Total	1727.85
Banking supplies***	22.99
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1750.84</b>
<b>Balance Forward (12/31/13)</b>	<b>3949.16</b>

\*Challenge match included

\*\*Mailing Service includes all costs necessary to produce and mail the newsletter EXCEPT printing and postage. Mailing Service includes collating pages, cutting paper to size, folding, addressing and applying sticky circles

\*\*\* Banking supplies: deposit slips

Two reminders:

1. An anonymous donor has issued a Challenge to our alums: A match, dollar for dollar to the amount of \$1500.00 for any contribution over and above your annual dues. To qualify for this Challenge Match, you must place the word Challenge somewhere on your check.
2. We will accept dues for 2014 at any time, but they are due January 1. This is driven by Internal Revenue Service policy/regulations. We were incorporated and issued an Employer Identification Number (EIN) in July; at that time our fiscal year was July 1 through June 30. With those fiscal year dates and according to IRS policy, we were required to file a tax return for 2012, a year in which we did not exist, clearly not possible. The IRS recommended that we change our fiscal year to January 1 to December 31 and we complied. We apologize if this has caused any inconvenience.

**Balance forward** **3949.16**

FYI: Dues for 2015 can be paid at any time but because our fiscal year runs 1/1-12/31, they are due 1/1/15.

January 1, 2014-May 31, 2014

<b>Income</b>	
Dues	2375.00
Individual Contributions	773.00
Challenge Match	285.00
Education Fun	1225.00
Bonfire Donations by BOD members	300.00
Bonfire deposit refunded	50.00
Reunion registration	5400.00
'Pass the hat'	1080.00
DVD sales	640.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>12,128.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Newsletter (Spring, 2014; 12 pages)	
Printing	1501.24
Mailing	228.93
Postage	376.22
Total	2106.39
Banking supplies*	52.05
Income Tax**	
Federal	592.00
Mississippi State	143.00
Total	735.00
Reunion	
Deposit Bonfire King	50.00
Seafood Dinner	343.00
Wine and Cheese reception	598.18
Great Southern Club***	2311.00
Sussies	364.08
Registration refund	100.00
Total	3766.26
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>6659.70</b>
<b>Balance Forward</b>	<b>9417.46</b>

### Estimated Expected Expenses within the next 12 months

Newsletter per issue (Summer, 2014 and Fall, 2014; 8 pages each)****	
Printing	1073.00
Mailing	258.00
Postage	398.00
Graphic Design	500.00
TOTAL (2229.00 per issue)	4458.00
Reunion ( <i>Unknown—amount depends on what is planned by the program committee</i> )	
Income Tax ( <i>Unable to estimate at this time but as our income has increased substantially from 2013, I would expect our 2014 Federal and State of Mississippi income tax to increase also.</i> )	

\* Banking supplies: checks

\*\* Because we are incorporated and have an EIN, we are required to pay state and federal income tax. We are classified as a non profit, not tax exempt, organization.

\*\*\* Includes projection screen rental fee of \$25.00

\*\*\*\*Newsletter costs are based on Fall, 2013 costs and do not reflect any price increases





*Pat Skoglund '66 and Gayle Gibbons '66 looking over the menu at Chimney's which was reserved just for the Gulf Park girls*



*Serenading in All Whites*



*"Thump's" line: Lynn Ketzler '68, Carolyn Ashworth '66, Savann Whitman '65, Frances "Frank" Crabtree '67*



*Tillie Thompson '65 and Suzy Porter '63 checking out the firefighters*



*Hardy Girls (back row) Savann Whitman '65, Suzie Carlton '68, Suzanne Bettencourt '63, Suzanne Simpson '68 (middle row) Kitty Jordan '68 and JB Bettencourt '67 (front) Jake '68*



*Celebration at the Great Southern Club*

## All in the Family—Part 2

### Klinkes Cover Three Decades at GPC

“I had wanted to go to Gulf Park since I was five years old, and when I got there it met every expectation I had. When you’ve waited your whole life for something, usually it disappoints. But Gulf Park didn’t.” So says Ginny Klinke Rath, who followed her mother and older sister to the campus by the sea, and graduated in the class of 1963.

Her first trip to the campus was when she was five years old, and she has “somewhere” a photo of herself with her mother and sister by Senior Fountain from that trip. Her mom, the late Marion Cousins Klinke, graduated with the class of 1927. She passed away on Mother’s Day in 1987.

Ginny’s next trip to the campus was with her family at her sister’s graduation, when Ginny was in the sixth grade. “I saw the Aquaettes perform, and I wanted more than anything to get into synchronized swimming and be a member of that group. Of course, I never developed the skills to qualify.

She may have never made the Aquaettes team, but at GPC Ginny cut quite a swath in the leadership department. Her Junior year she was class president in addition to being voted Outstanding Junior. Her Senior year she was again class president and was vice president of the student body, in addition to being a sorority officer, chair of the Judiciary Board, Most Versatile, and on the May Court. The list goes on and on. At the reunion she was named chair of the Nominating Committee to choose the next Board and officers for GPAA, Inc.

After GPC, she graduated from the University of Colorado. She then taught school in Michigan, where she met her husband, Don, a structural engineer. “After being at least a thousand miles from home during college, we settled five blocks from my childhood home in Downers Grove, Illinois.” Downers Grove is a suburb of Chicago.

“I live in my hometown, five blocks from where I grew up. I’ve lived in the same house with the same husband for 46 years. I really should get out more,” she quipped. Her son and daughter live close by with their families, giving her a total of five grandchildren to see often.

The whole family enjoys skiing, so they spend quite a bit of time in Colorado. They also enjoy the Pacific coast

of Mexico, especially Puerto Vallarta. Like most of us, however, the light of her life is spending time with her grandchildren.

Her sister, Mary Elizabeth Klinke Englehardt, didn’t stay home. Now a resident of a Fort Worth, Texas, suburb, she is as fun-loving and active as Ginny. For example, at the reunion she and her classmates from the Class of 1956 formed a conga line at the firemen’s karaoke party, which really got the party started.

After GPC she graduated from Indiana University in Bloomington, where she taught school for two years. She and her husband then moved to Tulsa, then Denver, then Houston, where she spent most of her adulthood. She moved to Fort Worth because two of her three children live there. Her other child lives in Maryland, and she visits there often. “I go to all my grandchildren’s ball games, recitals, and such,” she said, noting that she just returned from Maryland where she saw a granddaughter’s junior high production of “Cats.” With seven grandchildren and a great-grandchild, this keeps her busy. “Sometimes it seems like I’m never home,” she says.

She and Ginny are very close, and try to take a trip together every year. She enjoys Mexico and the two of them have been to Alaska and Mackinaw Island recently. She also visits Ginny and her family in Chicago fairly often.

Mary Elizabeth – Mary to some, Liz to others—denies being the leader at Gulf Park that Ginny has been. “I’m a good Indian, not a chief,” she says. Since I don’t have a yearbook from her years at GPC to check, I don’t know, but given her outgoing and fun-loving nature, I think she may be downplaying things a bit.

A mother and two sisters are all GPC graduates, representing three different decades in the school’s 50-year history. They talk about what Gulf Park gave to them, but they gave just as much to Gulf Park’s rich history.

Tish Talbot, ‘63



*Hardy Hall*

## In Memoriam

**Betsy Boyce Snyder**, Class of '63, passed away March 5 at age 69 in Russellville, Arkansas.

A native of Dardanelle, Arkansas, she had spent most of her adult life in Russellville. After her high school graduation from Gulf Park, she graduated from the University of Arkansas, where she was a member of Chi Omega.

Betsy was a caterer and event planner and for several years wrote a weekly food column, "Cooking With Betsy," for the Russellville newspaper. She was a member and officer in several community and statewide organizations, especially genealogical groups, and was active in the Presbyterian Church, where she functioned as a lay minister.

Funeral was March 9 at the First Presbyterian Church in Dardanelle. Among the honorary pallbearers was Tish Talbot (GPC '63). Burial was in the historic Brearly Cemetery in Dardanelle.



## THE OAK LEAF

Gulf Park College for Women Alumnae Association, Inc.  
251 Beachview Drive  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547



*Return service requested*



## This and That

- **Favorite Memories.** At the reunion, we provided yellow slips at check-in for each attendee to jot down and turn in her most favorite memories of her time at Gulf Park. If you didn't turn in yours or didn't attend the reunion, please take a few minutes to send an email to Cinda Steenhof Morrison '66 at [cinda.gpc66@gmail.com](mailto:cinda.gpc66@gmail.com). Please provide your class year, (HS or college,) your first name, maiden name, current last name, and your email address. Please do this ASAP as Cinda is working on a special fun project for our association.
- **Paid your dues?** If you haven't sent in your 2014 dues, now's the time to do it! Just a check in the amount of \$25 to Gulf Park College Alumnae Association, Inc in care of Penny Shafer Wright 2320 Flat Stone Drive, Cumming, GA 30041.
- **Words of Comfort.** If you know of a Gulf Park sister who is ill or has lost a family member, please send a message to JoAnn Basalyga Turner '63 at [dipcdo@aol.com](mailto:dipcdo@aol.com) with the GPC girl's current name and address. JoAnn has volunteered to head a committee that will send cards to any and all GPC girls who could use our friendship and support.
- **Do you know of an alum or faculty member who has recently passed?** Please notify The Oak Leaf editor Sherrie Johnson Miller at [sherriemiller@yahoo.com](mailto:sherriemiller@yahoo.com) or 770-361-2221.
- **Change of mailing address, phone or email address?** Don't let us lose you! Notify Cinda Steenhof Morrison at [cinda.gpc66@gmail.com](mailto:cinda.gpc66@gmail.com) or at 206.349.4231.