



## As Usual, Spring Arrived Early

We already have Azaleas and Kapok trees blooming and it started in late February. St. Petersburg has escaped any killing freezes this winter and it has been difficult to have a fireplace blazing for an evening!

We have learned that the grand opening for the new St. Pete Pier Park will occur on May 30. News of this anticipated event, with pictures, will be in the next newsletter.

## Winter Reunion Luncheon

The class assembled at PJ's Oyster Bar on St. Pete Beach, Saturday, January 11. It was unusual not to have James Lyn Provo and his wife, Suzanne in attendance. Lyn, as we knew him at SPHS, had suffered a stroke and was hospitalized – more on that later. We are indebted to Walter Lettau's daughter, Sandy, for these pictures.



L to R: June Ward Fleisher, Karl Maier, Bob Watson and Joanne Schindler Biringner.



Clockwise from left: Gloria Fernald Flad, Boyd Acklin, Pat Reeves Acklin, barely visible Phyllis Reicherderfer Doescher and Walt Lettau.



Gloria Fernald Flad joined her classmates, as she was accustomed to do at the quarterly luncheons.



Cloe Carroll Dance often rejoins her SPHS classmates, even though she was in the first graduating class from Boca Ciega High School.



The Buckingham's, Bill and Sandy (Shoemake) used to travel down from Holiday, but now live in Clearwater.



On the left, our current Class Treasurer, Lil Olsen Classen is joined by BCHS alumnae Bette Jackman LoBue and Cloe Carroll Dance.



Phyllis Reichelderfer Doescher is shown visiting a classmate at a different table.

## Graduations



**Dr. Harry Gordon Rothwell, Jr., MSD (83)** went to be with his Savior Jesus Christ February 19th, 2020 after a long illness. A lifetime resident of St. Petersburg, FL he was the son of Dr. Harry G. Rothwell, Sr., DDS, and Ethel Rothwell. He followed in his father's footsteps toward a life in dentistry. He graduated from St. Pete High School in 1954 and received degrees from the University of Florida and Emory University Dental School.

After practicing General Dentistry in St. Petersburg for 14 years, he went back to school to pursue a specialty in periodontics receiving his MSD Degree from Creighton University and becoming Board Certified and a Diplomat of the American Board of Periodontology.

He was an avid hunter, fisherman, and traveler and took numerous mission trips throughout Central and South America. He is preceded in death by his brother, Dr. John C. Rothwell, DDS, and his parents Dr. Harry G and Ethel Rothwell. He is survived by his loving wife of 62 years Linda W. Rothwell, daughter Deborah L. Rothwell, son Jeffrey G. Rothwell (Lauren), granddaughter Jordan L Rothwell, grandsons John C. Rothwell (Tayler), and Jacob G. Rothwell as well as his great-granddaughter Blake Jillian Rothwell. A Celebration of Life service was held March 14th at Suncoast Cathedral, St. Petersburg, FL. The family requested that in lieu of flowers donations be made to New Life Solutions, 1910 E Bay Dr, Largo, FL 33771.



## Classmate Notes

As noted previously, **Lyn Provo** experienced a stroke prior to our previous reunion luncheon. Due to quick action by his wife, Suzanne, and the EMT people, he was quickly transported to the Bayonet Point Medical Center. He was stabilized there and suffered no lasting paralysis or speech problems. It took several weeks of rehabilitation before he could return home, where he continues to gain back his strength. Lyn has some home healthcare, including occupational therapy. We are grateful that he survived this harrowing event. Notes can be sent to him at: 1324 Trimaran Place Trinity, FL 34655-7170

**Dick Jemison** had surgery at the Cleveland Clinic in Stuart, Florida. His wife, Sonja, has asked for prayers.

**Roy Kaple** shared a clipping from the *St. Petersburg Times*, dated June 3, 1951. It was an article written about the Ninth-Grade dance at Mirror Lake Junior High with the theme of "Moonlight and Roses".

**Ninth Graders  
Dance - June 13**

By DOBIS HUSTIN

"Moonlight and Roses" will be the theme of the Ninth Grade dance scheduled June 13, 8 to 10 p. m. at Mirror Lake Junior High School.

Decoration committee members are Suzie Fisher, chairman; Nan Spaulding, Judy Van Sciver, Margaret Hellyer, Sylvia Hommer, Sue Talton, Jack Randalow, Jon Fogarty, Ronnie Rasmussen, Lamar Owens, and George Hanchey with Mr. Perkins and Miss Olson as advisers.

Lucy Crossland and Betty Ann Copper are chairmen of the refreshment committee, with Nancy Cushman, Danny Richardson and Peter Fenner as members, and Miss Buland as adviser.

Gail Willingham heads the program committee with Ann Howard, Mike Newman, Don Carr and Bill Bohn as members, and Mr. Matthews as adviser.

**THE RECEPTION** committee is composed of Ann Stewart, chairman; Sandra Hollins, Mimi Schleman, George Perkins and Don Barnett, with Mrs. Adams as adviser. Joyce Stevens will head the flower committee with Jean Dickinson as her assistant. Miss Mayme Smedley is adviser.

The annual Band Concert by students was Friday evening in the school auditorium, under direction of Melvin Dean.

Miss Jane Mulhollem directed the chorus which sang four foreign folk songs entitled "The Happy Peasant Girl," "Cheapanticas," "Lonesome Valley" and "Dance My Comrades." The Boys Chorus sang "Stout Hearted Men" and "Men of Harlech."

The band played many selections, including "Ave Maria," "Stadium March," "Golden Gold Overture" and the "Star Spangled Banner."

Ninth Grade homeroom students met Tuesday and voted for the celebrities of the Class of 1951. The results will not be known until Wednesday at the final chapel exercises.

Thanks go to Roy for keeping this 1951 clipping.

## Classmates Care

Thanks also go to **Mary Liz Slater Turner** for her donation. Our Treasurer, Lil Classen says we do not need more donations, until further notice. 😊

### Class Contacts:

Class of 1954 web site, where you can find e-mail, phone numbers and mail addresses about our classmates: <http://sphs1954.org/>.

Help us keep your data current!

**Permanent Reunions Chairman:** Boyd Acklin, 1110 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33703, (727) 527-0361 or [eacklin1@gmail.com](mailto:eacklin1@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Lil Olsen Classen, at 8037 Elbow Lane N., St. Petersburg, FL 33710. Please make checks payable to: "SPHS Class of '54",

**Classmate updates, news-to-share, etc.,** should be sent to: Ron Rasmussen, Editor, 10212 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Pinellas Park, FL 33782-2632, (727) 544-2374 or [r.rasmussen@ieee.org](mailto:r.rasmussen@ieee.org)

### Next reunion luncheon is Saturday, April 11, 2020

Location is PJ's Oyster Bar. Gathering time is **11:30 a.m.** If you plan to attend, please let Nancy Cramer Litten know by Thur., April 9. Nancy's home is (727) 201-9862 or (727) 430-4005, cell.



7490 Gulf Blvd,  
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

SPHS Class of 1954  
10212 58<sup>th</sup> Street  
Pinellas Park, FL 33782-2632  
Address Service Requested