

Dixie Darlings Alumnae Newsletter

November 01, 2005

Newsletter by Patsy Mitchell



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A Note from Anne...

I heard homecoming was magnificent, and I am just sorry I was not able to attend for the first time since 1994. Many of us lost our homes, businesses, churches, schools and friends due to Hurricane Katrina. The devastation was catastrophic. We on the Gulf Coast lost a lot of history. Material things can be replaced, but the memorabilia cannot. As most of you know I held all the Dixie Darling pictures, jacket, boots and many other treasures. If you have any pictures from our beginnings 1954, please make sure you bring them to Homecoming 2006. I wish to thank each of you for all the emails, phone calls, cards and the offers for places to live. I am humbled. I miss each of you and cannot wait to see you again. Each of you rewards me every year when you return and rekindle those old friendships as well as make new ones, issue scholarships, and give money for breast cancer research. Thank you, alumnae, for all your continuous help. Great job and thanks to all who helped carry out this year's homecoming and made it fun for all --- Sarah Farris, Pat and Jim Mason, and Linda Kelly. Hugs and kicks to all!!

A Note from Dee...

How it did my heart good to know that many of you were together during Homecoming weekend this year...supporting each other and keeping alive the DD spirit!! Who would have ever dreamed at this time last year that there would be so much suffering in our Southern Miss world? I know that our beautiful Gulf Coast is slowly recovering and that ultimately we will rejoice in its rebirth. I am deeply grateful to the DD Alumnae Association for continuing our Reunion this year, and my special thanks go to Patsy Mitchell, Sylvia Henington, and Brad Snow. As most of you know, my family and I lost our home and everything in it...not even any debris to sift through. One of the "lost" items that I cherished most was my memory book from last year's 50th Anniversary. I had collected over 125 emails, cards and letters from those who attended with sentiments of what that reunion meant to them...plus all the pictures that everyone sent me. I poured over those notes from you many, many times, and they brought me such unbelievable joy. Can't believe it was right on the table by the door as we evacuated! Please, please, please send me any DD pictures you have that you can spare. I will be returning to the Coast in January, and I cannot wait to build a NEW memory book filled with your shining, smiling faces!!

2005 Homecoming...shaking it up!



A Note from Patsy...

Homecoming was a success! We had 30+ with two first-timers, Robin Mahaffey '93 and Donna Milner Reynolds '67. At the end of our Friday morning practice, Brad Snow (Assistant Director of Bands) generously gave out Pride t-shirts to everyone. Smoothie King donated smoothies for our afternoon break. Practice with the band

was fun! The Pride sounds wonderful and the DD's look awesome! Our Friday night social was held at Jim and Pat Mason's home. They were terrific hosts and everyone enjoyed themselves. On Saturday we marched in the parade and then tailgated with the Music Department. Before you knew it, it was time to go to the game and then it was halftime...time to strut on the field. What a RUSH! To hear the crowd and feel the energy was overwhelming. We wished that everyone could have been there with us. Everyone said it looked great! After halftime, we all circled up. We dedicated the show to those who couldn't be with us this year due to the hurricanes and other reasons. We had a moment of silence for Frankie Jellinek (DD Director '57-'67), who has recently been diagnosed with cancer as well as Anita Jo McDonald Jefferies '65, whose cancer has returned. Soon we went our separate ways. This has been a year filled with unthinkable events, but we must move forward. We hope you will come next year to share, visit and encourage one another.



Beautiful faces smile for the crowd during Halftime. Pictures by Wink Cunningham

"I think people saw a group of good looking women who know who they are and what they are all about - confident and radiant! I just love you gals!"
Wink C.

Upcoming Events

Tailgating at the Rock

There was talk at Homecoming about possibly meeting up for tailgating before each game. This would give everyone a place to meet prior to the game to visit, etc. If you're interested, contact Sylvia Henington at SHenington@aol.com.

Pep Rally 2006?

Friday Night at the Fountain includes dances from the Dixie Darlings, Southern Misses, and cheerleaders. We want to see our DD Alumnae dance for the Homecoming pep rally. The dance will be current style with styles from the decades incorporated. We need to know if there's enough interest. Email Patsy Mitchell at DixieDarlings@excite.com if you want to dance as well as help choreograph the routine.

Dixie Darling of the Year – Jennifer Cornette

This is Jennifer's 4th year as a Dixie Darling. Her team picked her out of the 43 current Dixie Darlings. Congratulations Jennifer!



DD Alumnae Congratulations



Brandi Sharpe Burgess '03 and Trent Burgess wedded on 6/04/05.

Andrea Welborn Fondren '93 and Jay Fondren wedded on 9/24/05.

Canan Rivero Hales '96 & Ethan Hales had a baby boy, Aidan Bradshaw Hales, on 8/23/05.

Have news/updates for the next issue? Email Dee Ervine at SouthernMissDDAA@cableone.net.



SOUTHERN MISS
GOLDEN EAGLES

Scholarships

Scholarships were given to the following Dixie Darlings from the Anita Jo McDonald Jefferies '65 and Carl Alesio endowment funds:

Lindsay Boler
Jessica Buckelew
Les-Leigh Friedmann
LeAnne Miller
Erin Parker
Amber Shaffer

Congratulations!

If you would like to donate to DD scholarships, contact Anne Larman at aslarman@bellsouth.net.

Homecoming 2005 Photos Order Info

The prices for the decade group photos of the Dixie Darlings at Homecoming are as follows:

8x10	\$ 9.00
5x7	\$ 7.00
11x14 Poster	\$20.00

The Poster is a combined picture of all decades and group shots like the sample shown at homecoming, only a smaller version of 11x14. The Southern Miss Alumni Association might assist us in getting enough posters for everyone who attended, but you can also order one from Photo Services. Remember to add 7% sales tax to the completed order.

To order or if you have questions, please call Kelly Dunn at Southern Miss Photo Services, 601-266-4149 or email Kelly.Dunn@usm.edu.

DD Alumnae Bag Order Info

We are excited to offer a Dixie Darlings Alumnae carry bag. It measures 17x20", black, two draw strings, with "Dixie Darlings Alumnae" and your name embroidered on the front. Cost for the bag is \$16 (\$13 + \$3 for shipping). If you would like to order one, fill out the form to the right. Please order by **December 10th**. Send order form and check **payable to DDAA** to:

Patsy Bridges Mitchell
71 Mt Carmel Rd
Carriere MS 39426
DixieDarlings@excite.com



\$1,000,000 Campaign for Scholarships *Bricks to Music and Dance*

Our One Million Dollar Campaign for scholarships began on June 15, 2005. We are off to an excellent start! Some bricks have already been laid down. The bricks are placed between the Dome and Bennett Auditorium (was a street but is now a walkway). Next time you are on campus go take a look.

Anyone can purchase a brick. It doesn't matter whether or not they attended Southern Miss. The bricks range from \$100.00 to \$1000.00. An individual, business person and/or corporation may purchase one. Bricks can be emblazoned with your name, your company or organization's name or the name of a graduate, family member or friend. If you wish to purchase a brick, please contact Jim Mason (husband of Pat Mason, DD '59) 601-296-2372, or send a note to him at 22 Bayou Circle, Hattiesburg, MS 39402, email Flexoman@aol.com. Call and request an order form from Jim.

4x8" brick paver @ \$100 each
8x8" brick paver @ \$250 each
16x16" limestone paver @ \$500 each
16x16" corporate limestone paver w/ logo @ \$1000 each

Name on bag (write it out exactly as you want it printed).
Usually, only your first name is embroidered on the bag.

NAME ON BAG

Mailing Information:

Name
Address
City
State
Zip
Email
Daytime Phone #

ORDER BY DECEMBER 10, 2005



Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund

A Note from Sylvia...

Many of you have already donated your registration money for this year to the fund and that is great!!!! If each DD who gets this letter would donate just \$20.00, we could really bless those who lost so much. Thank all of you for your contributions. The deadline for getting your check in is **December 10th**. We hope to get checks out by **Christmas**. We have received a donation from the Stefan Grebal Dance Company in Birmingham for over \$500.00. These young girls put on a benefit performance and raised the money for us. Debbie Grebel was a former dance student of my mother's. They wanted to do something more personal than the Red Cross and chose our organization. We are so grateful to them. If you know of a DD Alumnae who lost everything (or close), please contact me, Sarah, or Patsy. We have a partial list...but we're sure it's not complete.

Make checks **payable to DD Alumnae Relief Fund** and send to either:

Sylvia Keeton Henington
301 West Lake Rd
Hattiesburg MS 39402
SHenington@aol.com

Or

Sarah Speake Farris
#2 Village Ln
Hattiesburg MS 39402
SarahSFarris@msn.com

*Hope to see you next year at
Homecoming 2006!*



Southern Miss
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We're on the Web!
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

