

Senior Class History

The first grade composed of Leo Bennett, McTyeire Black, Kirby Bunton, Dorothy Garris, Elizabeth Griffin, J. W. Herndon, Mildred Kinard, George Kinsey, Joyce Lyons, Walker Lyons, Alice McClary, Betty Myers, Frances Myers, Ronnie Myers, Charles Padgett, Sylvia Padgett, Franklin Rickman, Miriam Robertson, Betty Ann Smith, Brad Smith, Donald Smoak, David Strickland, Ronald Strickland, Vernon Strickland, Bobby Varnadoe, Randolph Whetstone, Sadie Mae Proveaux, Irene Padgett, Clarence Reynolds, Rover Reynolds, and Jackie Padgett began its school career in September, 1939. Miss Gertrude Campbell was our teacher.

Our second school year began in the present school building, which had just been completed at that time. We lost several pupils that year - Randolph Whetstone, Sadie Mae Proveaux, Irene Padgett, and Clarence and Rover Reynolds. Their places were filled by Norman Spell, Van Robertson, Thurman Jenkins, Rosa Lee Varnadoe, and Miles Maxey. Miss Mary Wallace was our beloved teacher. During the course of the year we converted our classroom into an Indian village, which was the pride and joy of every student.

We began our third year with Miss Margaret All as our teacher. We did not gain any new pupils that year but lost seven - Franklin Rickman, Leo Bennett, Charles Padgett, Betty Ann Smith, Vernon Strickland, Rosa Lee Varnadoe, and Miles Maxey.

In the fourth grade we acquired seven new pupils - Iris Lyons, Doris Lyons, Clare Thomas, Paul Barnes, Earl Shelly, Edward Smoak, and Harold Mixon. We lost only one pupil - George Kinsey. The class agreed that we had entirely too many teachers that year. We had four and it made us think that we were in high school. They were: Miss Wilma Deloach, Miss Margaret All, Miss Bridge, and Miss Quick.

By the time we got to the fifth grade we had only three teachers, Mrs. Ruth Parker, Mrs. Annabelle Kneece, and Mrs. J. M. Hiers. That year we gained Ernest Strickland and lost Alice McClary, Brad Smith, Doris and Iris Lyons, Jackie Padgett, Edward Smoak, Harold Mixon, McTyeire Black, J. W. Herndon, and Bobby Varnadoe.

In the sixth grade we were fortunate enough to have the same teachers as when we were in the fifth grade. Joyce Lyons moved to Lodge during the year. James Foster began our sixth year with us but moved away after the first semester. We also lost Van Robertson, and Thurman Jenkins.

In the seventh grade one of our favorite teachers, Mrs. J. M. Hiers, taught us. Darwin Kinard joined our class that year and Paul Barnes moved away.

When we reached the eighth grade we were considered high school students. Nadene DuBois and Ben Strickland moved into our community but after the first semester Ben moved to St. George. We also lost Earl Shelly. Our teachers in the eighth grade were: Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Polk, Mrs. M. R. Galloway, Mrs. Gladys Goodwin, Miss Ruth Steedly and Mr. Gerald Padgett.

Our ninth year was a red-letter year for all of us. Ruffin High School students came to Smoaks High. This added the following students to our class: Robert Breland, Charles Henry Gooding, Bertie Mae Crosby, Helen DeLong, Buddy Eurey, Nancy Williams, Rosa Lee Varnadoe, Mary Jo Williams and Charles Wilson. Ralph Kinard and Michel Goviera also became members of our class. However, Ralph dropped out before the year was over. We had the following teachers: Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Polk, Mrs. Sara Linder, Mrs. Helen Farrell, Mrs. W. R. Parker, and Miss Jeanne Sanders. Kathryn MacDonald joined our class in the tenth grade and Michel Goviera moved back to his old home in Oakland, California. Cupid invaded our class and captured four of our girls - Sylvia Padgett, Elizabeth Griffin, Nadine Dubois, and Rosa Lee Varnadoe. We also lost three more boys - Buddy Eurey, who moved to Estill; Charles Wilson, who moved to Lodge; and Donald Smoak, who attended Carlisle Military School in Bamberg.