

2010 family tree

a magazine for the extended community of ojai valley school



In this issue: Graduation Alumni Weekend Celebrating our Centennial



INTEGER VITAE
CENTENNIAL

Ojai Valley School is celebrating its CENTENNIAL YEAR in 2010-2011!

It's a small, unpretentious school. But for thousands of children who have found their way here over the last hundred years, the Ojai Valley School has proven a true and benevolent sanctuary; a place of academic nurturing and solid social grounding. Lifetime friendships have formed at OVS, and countless students have had their interests and abilities recognized and fostered by truly extraordinary teachers and staff.



OVS has aged gracefully, expanding its campus as well as its academic scope in keeping with the progressive educational philosophy implemented with such foresight by the school's remarkable founder, Edward Yeomans. (See profile on page 15).

SAVE THESE DATES!

June 10-12, 2011

Alumni Weekend Centennial Celebration

There will be milestone reunions for classes ending in "1" and "6," but all alumni are encouraged to attend this historic celebration!

Log on to www.ovs.org/alumni for expanded Centennial coverage, including:

- Photos through the decades
- Readings by J.B. Close and Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen
- 100-year expanded interactive timeline
- Centennial trivia: test your early OVS knowledge
(Answers will be published in the fall alumni e-newsletter)
- Archival photo of the week
- Alumni memories
- A complete listing of events
- Centennial merchandise
- And more!



Cover photo: OVS students painting outdoors in 1930s art class

**BE SURE WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS SO YOU
CAN RECEIVE CENTENNIAL UPDATES!**

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family tree

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Congratulations,



Front row: Jessica Sims, Veronica Crisafulli, Peevara "S" Srimanus, Kathlyn "Kathy" Valdez, Alicia "Ali" Graff, Cameron Davis, Kili Behlman, Second Row: Sung Hoon "Chris" Kang, James Wickenhaeuser, Jen Wen "Evan" Lee, Hsien Ming "Simon" Lee, Wei Hsuan "Sean" Yuan, Kyeong Hoon "Ted" Kim, Kuen Soo "Kevin" Kim, Hunter Helman, August Krankl, Max Wheeler; Fourth Row: Robert Lee, Seung Kyu "Victor" Choi,

Class of 2010!



Julia Yankelevitz, Reem Al-Tamimi, Anita Alvarez, Hye Ji "Miranda" Choi, Mi Yeon "Vivian" Park, Molly Baker, Riley Thomas, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Waian, Daniel Ramirez, Paul Graham, Garrett Blach; Third Row: Masachika "Masa" Katayanagi, Toshiyuki "Toshi" Takeuchi, Yeon Kyoung Kang, Angus Beverly, Alexander "Zander" Jacobsen, Joon Hyun Park; Back: Matthias Krankl, Andre Bato, Alexander Pfeffer

HEADMASTER'S ADDRESS

Carl Cooper

As a teacher and philosopher, Socrates educated his students by asking questions. The answer to his questions were not his, but rather those of the students he queried. Seniors, today when you walk off this stage the questions will be waiting for you. Some questions are obvious, such as how do you achieve world peace, or stop an oil leak thousands of feet below the surface of the ocean? More likely, the questions you will face will be more personal, such as how to pay for gas and dinner on the allowance that your parents have given you? In some cases, achieving world peace may be easier to accomplish.

Socrates expected his students to use their education to resolve the problems that challenge man's existence but also raise his consciousness as to what is right and wrong. He would ask, "Do you have the ability to do what is right, even if it is more difficult than doing nothing or making the wrong decision?" He would ask, "Are you a person of character and principle? Do you recognize yourself as a person who has integrity?" He would suggest that, before you can seek truth, you must first be truthful. The cornerstone of an OVS education is integrity, a value each member of your Class of 2010 has aspired to.

Socrates would be proud of the 40 graduates who sit before you... They have spent a lifetime, short as it may be, building skills that will allow them to speak clearly, articulate their thoughts, think, reason, learn, and communicate in written letters and the spoken word. What they don't know, they can learn.

FAREWELL SPEECH

*Veronica Crisafulli and Max Wheeler,
Lower Class of 2006, and Upper Class of 2010*

Veronica: Who would have thought, after eight years of knowing each other and essentially becoming siblings, we would be on this stage delivering the farewell speech? Webster's Dictionary defines family as "a fundamental social group in society typically consisting of one or two parents and their children." "Well, to put it bluntly, Max and I disagree. The bond that links your true family is not one of blood, but of respect and joy in each other's life. The students and faculty on this campus are our family. And, with them, we have learned to accept, to trust, to take risks, to become self-sufficient, and to love completely. Everyone on this campus has something to share, and this is something I learned first-hand eight years ago when I first came to the OVS Lower Campus ... as I started my life here, I learned almost instantly that this is the place where I belong; the place where I would be able to learn and grow and develop friendships that would last a lifetime.

Max: We all were nervous when we took our first steps on this campus, but we became comfortable with each other rather quickly, and that is what makes this group of people so special. This class will not let different schools, different states, or even hundreds of miles diminish our relationships. I know that the relationships that I have built with friends and faculty will last an eternity. This year sprinted past us. I speak on behalf of everyone on this stage when I say that we are just as excited for the future as we are sad to leave the place we call home. There have been many "lasts" to this year, but it is the most difficult to comprehend that this is last time we will all be together, recognized as the Class of 2010. Now, we are off to college. But near or far, we will have each other. We may be the biggest senior class, but I would confidently argue that, in our time here, no class has been closer.



Wallace Burr Award

Established to recognize the student who has made a significant impact on the OVS community by giving unsolicited service.

Angus Beverly

Robert G. Cooper Award

Honors the senior who has demonstrated the most growth during his or her senior year.

Robert Lee

A. Carl Kotchian Award

Based on faculty vote for the most outstanding scholar; not only for academic achievement, but also because of this student's level of effort and intellectual curiosity.

Chris Kang

Carl S. Cooper Leadership Award

Recognizes the underclass students who consistently display a commitment to the school community and who also display the moral strength to make correct judgments during the course of school affairs, thus affecting the school in a positive way.

Lucy Kim & Jimmy Chen

Sportsmanship Award

Given to the athletes who have demonstrated integrity, leadership, and, above all, good sportsmanship.

Lucy Kim, Robert Lee & Paloma Spencer

Andrew Kille Award

Given to the senior who has demonstrated himself or herself to be a leader with a strong sense of community; one who has been consistently hard-working, helpful, friendly, and who has demonstrated a good sense of humor.

Reem Al-Tamimi

J.B. Close Award

Recognizes the students who have exhibited the most enthusiasm and active participation in the outdoor program.

Cameron Davis & Molly Baker

Paul Pittman Award

Recognizes the student who has exhibited the most enthusiasm and active participation in the equestrian program.

Emma Zornes

Dorothy Burr Literary Award

This award recognizes those students for their outstanding writing based on submissions of poetry or expository writing.

Kili Behlman & Grier King



"I have been here since kindergarten. I'm not able to share the memory of my first day at OVS with anyone sitting behind me. However, I am able to share the memory of my last day with everyone sitting behind me, and, in turn, we are able to share today with all of you. I think I speak for the class when I say, 'Thank you.' Not just for being here today, but for everything you have done to make today possible."

– Hunter Helman, welcoming the Class of 2010 to their graduation ceremony

REEM AL-TAMIMI — *University of California, San Diego*



Reem Al-Tamimi wants to earn her college degree and return to her native Saudi Arabia to inspire young women to be anything they want to be. She doesn't have far to go. In her three years at Ojai Valley School, Reem was nothing short of inspirational. She was a dorm prefect and an honor student, excelling in Advanced Placement courses in everything from calculus to studio art. She was an accomplished equestrian, a whiz on the soccer field, and a powerhouse in the chorus and school musicals. Her contributions were recognized during graduation when she was presented the Andrew Kille Award, honoring the senior who best exemplifies the spirit of the OVS community. Reem did just that, and her grace and good humor will be missed.

MOLLY BAKER — *Evergreen State College*



Of all of the members of the Class of 2010, Molly Baker was among the last to arrive at OVS, coming her junior year. But no one embraced more fully all that the school had to offer. She exhibited grace on the soccer field and oozed talent in the chorus and school musicals. She spent last summer in Thailand teaching English to rural schoolchildren. Molly proved herself a campus leader, serving as the Student Council's senior class representative and emerging as an outspoken advocate on environmental issues. Co-winner of the J.B. Close Award for excellence in outdoor education, she plans to pursue her environmental interests next year and beyond, and the planet will certainly be a better place with Molly as its protector.

KILI BEHLMAN — *Santa Barbara City College*



View the world through the camera lens of Kili Behlman — or through her artwork, music or poetry — and you will find a planet filled with beauty and worthy of exploration. She poured passion into the arts, launching an arts section for the campus newspaper and taking second place in photography in Ojai's Awesome Art exhibit. She embraced the art of the written word, and was named co-winner of the Dorothy Burr Literary Award. She was art in motion atop a horse, expertly exhibiting the grace that comes from working in tandem with such majestic creatures. Finally, she discovered the art of voice, wowing the audience at the Festival of Talent with an original composition and demonstrating to all the value of art in nourishing the soul.

ANITA ALVIREZ — *Pierce College*



Anita Alvarez left her mark on OVS with her vibrant personality, cheerful good humor and her ferocity on the athletic field. She participated in volleyball, soccer, and lacrosse, and became well known for her fervor on the field. Besides leading numerous OVS teams to victory, Anita has showed her remarkable voice in chorus and the school musicals. Anita brought the same passion to community service. She cooked meals for the homeless, took care of the elderly, and spent an entire night walking in the Relay for Life to support the fight against cancer. Anita said she "gained a whole different perspective on life" during her four years at OVS, as she matured into a vibrant young woman who believes in herself and her potential to succeed.

ANDRE BATO — *University of California, Los Angeles*



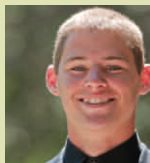
One look at Andre Bato's dorm room wall and you would have known you were in the presence of a gifted artist. Art is his passion, and he took courses off campus to sharpen his skills. But that was not the extent of his talents. Andre brought a broad depth of understanding to his schoolwork, diving deep into Advanced Placement courses in English, calculus and psychology. He was a profound thinker and his ability to carry on conversations on a wide range of topics amazed students and faculty alike. He was a blur on the dance floor, never more happy or alive than when moving to a hip-hop beat. In the end, Andre made people smile. And, ultimately, that was his greatest gift to OVS.

ANGUS BEVERLY — *University of California, Los Angeles*



Angus Beverly defined participant. He served as Student Council president, played lacrosse, performed in the musical, and wrote insightful articles for which he won three first-place awards in a countywide student journalism competition. His enthusiasm led his lacrosse coach to describe him as "an example of the best our school has to offer." Angus worked hard to make a difference on and off campus. He pulled ivy to help restore the oak woodland surrounding the amphitheater and spent part of his spring break removing invasive ice plant from Anacapa Island. His contributions were recognized when he was awarded the Wallace Burr Memorial Community Service Award three years in a row. Angus has demonstrated a true passion for bettering his community, and we are the better for it.

GARRETT BLACH — *University of Northern Colorado*



A city boy who enjoys fishing with his grandfather and throwing a football with friends, Garrett grew into a mature young man during his years at OVS. He stepped into a leadership role as quarterback on the football team. An injured hand did not make him quit this past season. He went to practice every day and,

though restricted from playing, he was always there to support his team. Garrett also played basketball and baseball, ran for the track team, and served as a member of the Student Council. Garrett showed talent for debate during mock trials in his Law and Society class. He plans to major in political science next fall. Garrett's ability, potential, and competitive drive will serve him well on that journey.

CHELSEY CARROLL — *Santa Barbara City College*



On "The Hill," it can sometimes be difficult to tell the difference between a day student and a boarding student, as students from those two worlds tend to mix so fluidly. That was especially true for Chelsey Carroll, who may have had a physical address in Ojai but found a home away from home at the Upper Campus. She immersed

herself fully in all the school had to offer, eagerly plunging into outdoor education adventures and lending her voice to the school chorus. She was an ace on the volleyball squad and broke a perceived gender barrier by joining the baseball team, traditionally an all-male enterprise. Chelsey practically lived on the hill, spending nights and weekends in the dorm, while soaking up every minute of the OVS experience.

MIRANDA CHOI — *University of Massachusetts, Amherst*



Ask her music teachers, and they will tell you that Miranda Choi is a phenomenal talent. She can perform a piece of music after listening to it just once or twice, and her vocal ability is as energetic as it is exhilarating. Miranda was not shy about sharing her considerable talents,

playing and singing in choral performances, school musicals, and the annual Festival of Talent. She was talented in the classroom as well, taking three Advanced Placement classes her senior year. Her teachers described her as hard working, cheerful, and curious. But she was also tenacious, pushing hard to excel in her classwork and to satisfy her desire for knowledge. Her contributions to OVS were many, her stamp on the school community indelible.

VICTOR CHOI — *Carleton College*



During his five years at OVS, Victor Choi grew from a shy, introspective student to a zealous participant who realized his potential to have a positive impact on the world. A fine athlete, Victor enthusiastically led the football team as captain. In academics, he demonstrated an affinity for asking the deep questions that arise

in great literature. Off campus, he quietly sacrificed his holidays to lead students to Mexico, where they brought computers and other supplies to families in a small village. This was not something he talked about, just something he did. Victor will be remembered for his kind heart and bright mind — not to mention his tendency to arrive for breakfast with mussed hair, soccer shorts, untied Italian dress shoes, and a wry smile.



VERONICA CRISAFULLI — *Marymount College*



Veronica Crisafulli exemplifies the OVS philosophy of wholeness of life. From her melodious voice in chorus to the way she ferociously guards a soccer goal, Veronica has grown into a true student leader since joining the school in fifth grade. She has served as a Student Council representative, played varsity volleyball, lacrosse and soccer, and performed in the spring musical. A talented writer, Veronica also served as editor-in-chief of the student newspaper and took a leadership role within the journalism program her senior year. Veronica is someone whose interests seem to increase daily. Once described by her English teacher as being "on the cusp of becoming a writer of great influence," Veronica's powerful opinion and sharp writing skills can only lead her to great heights.

CAMERON DAVIS — *Marymount College*



Look through the photos of past camping trips and you will no doubt see her exuberant, smiling face. Cameron Davis loves the outdoors. Named co-recipient of the J.B. Close Award as the outstanding camper for the 2009/2010 school year, Cameron was recognized for how she takes in the experience and for how she responds as an activist to care for our environment. Her activism led her last summer to Thailand, where she taught young children English in a remote village. At home, she is an active member of the National Charity League, and, at school, she gives her time to helping at the Humane Society and visiting seniors at a local nursing home. She is a poet, a writer, and a generous spirit who has graced our community.

ALI GRAFF — *San Francisco State University*



Ali Graff arrived at OVS as a junior, intending to stay one year before heading to community college. But, somewhere along the way, she changed her mind, drawn by the magic of "The Hill" for her senior year. And OVS was the richer for it. Her enthusiasm for life was infectious, and that energy spilled over into every task she undertook. She won the annual Ceramics Award, not just because she was the best potter; but because she poured so much passion into her work. She was a lover of creatures large and small, and staked a claim of being the greatest friend of Harley, the headmaster's dog. She infused heart and soul into OVS and now the world beyond "The Hill" will get to share her gifts.

PAUL GRAHAM — *Mitchell College*



Paul Graham is a true renaissance man. While at OVS, he learned to fly a helicopter and decided to pen his own comic book, handing out copies shortly before graduation. He was an exceptional student and athlete, earning honors in both areas. In fact, he was Condor League champion his senior year in the hurdles and was a key member of the 2008 team that brought OVS a Condor League track and field title. To cap the school year, Paul joined his mother and brother in climbing Mt. Whitney, ascending the challenging Mountaineer's Route to summit the tallest peak in the lower 48 states. There was no challenge too big for Paul, and his can-do attitude will serve him well in future endeavors.

HUNTER HELMAN — *Chapman University*



No senior was at Ojai Valley School longer than Hunter Helman. He arrived as a kindergartener thirteen years ago and delivered a heartfelt and tear-stained Graduation Day welcome in his final hours as an OVS student. What an adventure he had. From captain of the football and soccer teams to award-winning student journalist for the campus newspaper, Hunter exemplified the OVS philosophy of learning that pushes students to explore their interests and to make the best of their abilities. Hunter certainly did that, whether he was earning the award as the outstanding English student or hustling up business for the Senior Snack Shop. We say goodbye with a lump in our throats but confident in the knowledge that Hunter's star has only begun to shine.

ZANDER JACOBSEN — *University of California, Merced*



As a senior class representative to the Student Council, Zander Jacobsen took great pride in serving as the voice of his fellow seniors. And he served them well. He was point man on the annual Senior Project, leading efforts to spruce up the area around the Lucila Arango Science and Technology Center by installing a water fountain and providing other improvements. Zander took advantage of all the school had to offer, taking on the challenge of Advanced Placement classes and performing in the school musical. But he experienced his greatest joy on the lacrosse field, throwing himself headlong into a sport that tested his physical prowess and his mental toughness. It was a test that he passed well and with honor.



CHRIS KANG — *University of California, Berkeley*



It would be easy to dismiss Chris Kang as a one-dimensional super scholar. After all, his academic record was impeccable, Chris aced a long list of Advanced Placement courses and studied independently such subjects as macroeconomics. But that only tells half the tale.

You need only watch him float across a soccer field or dig into the final turn on the track to understand that his talents run much deeper than the classroom. You need only listen to the power of his voice during a choral performance or observe him at a Student Council meeting to understand that leadership is best demonstrated not by words, but by deeds. Chris embodied that spirit, and OVS was blessed for a time to have a student of such character.

YEON KYOUNG KANG — *Boston University*



Intellectual and highly motivated, Yeon Kang earned high praise from his teachers for his dedicated work ethic and love of learning. He tackled a tough schedule of classes. Sciences seemed to come naturally for him. In math, he took the second level of Advanced Placement calculus as an independent study to prepare for the BC level exam. Outside of class, he was a friendly and positive presence on campus. He played center on the football team, and emerged as a gritty, determined competitor who fought hard despite a broken finger. He also sang with the chorus and participated in the spring musical. As Yeon heads to the East Coast, we will miss his quiet determination as well as his tenacity, and we know he will make us proud.

MASACHIKA KATAYANAGI — *Jinan University, China*



In his five years at OVS, Masachika Katayanagi left his mark as a resilient and friendly member of the community. He absorbed the OVS experience as a second-language learner but also took on Spanish to become fluent in three languages. Masa enjoys the technical world

of computers and was a fierce video gamer in the dorms. He ran cross country and joined the cycling team on a borrowed bike, blossoming into a top rider. His coaches said he never complained. Rather, he showed his peers how to persevere in the Ojai heat while riding and running the hills surrounding the Upper Campus. Masa was a good teammate, one who was willing to share in the pain and drudgery and smile when it was all done.

KEVIN KIM — *State University of New York, Binghamton*



Arriving from Korea six years ago, Kevin Kim was first introduced to the OVS community as a seventh-grader. He moved on to another high school and returned to OVS to complete his senior year. A talented soccer and football player, Kevin's involvement added to the teams on which he played. He played hard on the field and showed a similar tenacity off the field. Kevin completed more than 400 hours of community service his sophomore year and was the recipient of the Christian Community Service Award at his previous school. One of his endearing characteristics is his ability to see situations where a helping hand will make a difference. One never has to ask for his help because he is perceptive in seeing the need.

TED KIM — *University of Massachusetts, Amherst*



Smart and creative, Ted Kim showed a depth of talent as an artist, mathematician, and athlete. A defensive lineman, Ted coached his teammates during a game last fall and showed both a grasp of and love for the game. He also ran cross country, played golf, and served as an exceptional manager on the soccer team. Off the field, Ted showed a keen interest in his studies. During his junior year, he often attended an additional English class during his free period – just because he was curious. One of his favorite activities was to sing in the chorus and perform on stage. He shared a fine tenor voice with the community. He is a loyal friend, respected by his peers and loved by all.

AUGUST KRANKL — *University of San Francisco*



August Krankl has been commended for his skills in the outdoor education program, for his strength of character, sense of humor, and critical thinking. His teachers describe him as a “powerful learner” – vocal, energetic, and curious. He has exhibited a genuine love of history. He held a leading role in the reduced Shakespeare play and performed in the musicals *Guys and Dolls* and *The Buddy Holly Story*. On the trail, he was the first to offer to lighten someone’s load. He added these qualities to the Honor’s Cross Country Ski Trip. He has participated in cross country, played lacrosse, and, most recently, joined the baseball team. He will take his smile away with him but not the impact it has had on all of us.

MATTHIAS KRANKL — *Pratt Institute*



The smile is always present. The willingness to engage in unending dialogues, the curiosity to explore new ideas, and the joy he brings to living make him unique. Since he began as a student at the Lower Campus in middle school, Matthias Krankl has challenged and delighted us with his inquisitive nature. One of his instructors speaks of his motivation to learn and his willingness to apply what he studies. Matthias has demonstrated his passion for photography. He performed on stage, played lacrosse and joined the baseball team, along with his twin brother, his senior year. Last summer, he dedicated 20 hours a week to volunteer at the farm run by Help of Ojai. He is a symbol for looking forward, being positive, and enjoying life.

EVAN LEE — *University of California, San Diego*



Well-liked by faculty and students, Evan was a quiet, active, and reliable participant in many areas of campus life. He volunteered at the local Humane Society and on the yearbook staff. He worked as part of the stage crew for the last two musicals, earning praise from the director for his hard work and responsibility. He ran long distance for the cross country team and showed his talents at the hurdles during four years on the track team. He also played on the basketball team and could often be found on the courts at night and on weekends. Teachers characterized him as bright, intellectual, mature and disciplined. Blessed with a wonderful sense of humor and a quick smile, Evan distinguished himself through his character and integrity.



ROBERT LEE— *University of California, Riverside*



Robert Lee is the kind of guy you want on the other end of your rope. That's what his dorm parent said in handing Robert a year-end leadership award, asking those in the audience to imagine they were dangling from a cliff and that they got to choose one person to save them from falling. Robert was a mainstay at OVS. He was captain of the basketball and cross country teams, and was chosen to represent OVS at Dodger Stadium when the school was honored with the CIF's sportsmanship award. He received the Robert G. Cooper Award as the senior who demonstrated the most growth. Robert is a gentleman with a heart as big as his smile, and his drive and dedication to excellence will take him far.

JOON PARK — *University of Missouri*



Joon Park distinguished himself as a competitive athlete and talented singer during his five years at OVS. He ran cross country and track, and he played soccer, football, lacrosse, and volleyball. He took on the physically and emotionally demanding position of goalie, inspiring his teammates with his gritty, passionate play. During the alumni lacrosse game, he led his team to a shutout and, at one point, ran goal-to-goal in an attempt to score. It was pure heart and vintage Joon. Outwardly shy and soft-spoken, Joon loved to sing and perform. He was an active participant in chorus, the musicals, and voice class. He was a leader in the tenor section and was chosen to be a member of the elite CAIS Honor's Chorus.

ALEX PFEFFER— *University of California, Riverside*



Alex Pfeffer was one of OVS' profound thinkers. He devoured good literature and amazed his teachers with his ability to discuss everything from science fiction to complex mathematical principles. One of his teachers said simply, "He enjoys thinking." Alex excelled his senior year in the field of journalism, breaking new ground for the program through his production of multimedia projects on students and faculty. His commitment to academic excellence earned him the Ryan Orfalea Scholarship from the Ventura County Community Foundation. In other areas, Alex demonstrated true talent with a camera, was a key member of the yearbook staff, and served as student barn manager for the equestrian program. Alex was easygoing and always willing to lend a hand; his humor and good nature will be missed next year.

SIMON LEE— *Ohio State University*



Simon made his mark through his dedication, scholarship, and friendly personality. One of the hardest working students, he did not shy away from challenges or new experiences. He was a durable and congenial member of the cross country team. His coach noted that, while Simon was not the swiftest on the course, "there is no quit in him." Simon impressed his peers with his decision to move from back stage to center stage this year to play a role in the spring musical. A serious student, Simon was always a good sport when put on the spot. Like the time his secret snowflake arranged to have a girl kiss him in front of the whole school during milk and crackers. Simon just smiled and turned beet red.

VIVIAN PARK — *Parsons School of Design*



During her five years at OVS, Vivian Park brightened both the Lower and Upper Campuses with her bubbly personality and her brilliant artistic skills. Her work was recognized annually at Ojai's Awesome Art exhibit. She took at least one art class every year during high school, including drawing, Advanced Placement art, ceramics, and foundation of voice. When you watch her sing or dance, you can quickly recognize her passion. She was a founding member of the OVS dance team. She performed in the school musicals, as well as the Festival of Talent, and choreographed dance portions of school productions. She was mesmerizing on stage. A dorm leader, she served as prefect during both her junior and senior years. Her full-throated laughter and playful spirit will be hard to replace.

DANIEL RAMIREZ— *Universidad de las Americas, Puebla, Mexico*



From his position as dorm prefect to his time as Student Council officer, Daniel Ramirez easily commanded the respect of his peers. He led by example, plunging headlong into every aspect of the school program. He won the J.B. Close Award as the outstanding camper his junior year and, as a senior, captained the track and cross country teams. Smart and curious, he often could be found with his nose buried in a *National Geographic* magazine or a daily newspaper. He selflessly lent his bass guitar skills to musical performances and lent his muscle to moving sets at the spring musical. Most importantly, Daniel was a sweet, good-natured guy, representing the best of OVS, where he started in grade six. His presence will be profoundly missed.

JESSICA SIMS — *Undecided*



For some, high school is about finding a path. But Jessica Sims spent two years at OVS blazing a trail. She emerged as one of the school's premier talents, lending her vocal ability to the chorus and the Festival of Talent, and cracking up audiences with her comedic turn as Miss Flannery in the school's musical production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Off stage, she showed grit on the lacrosse field by stepping into the goalie position this spring. She walked all night in the Relay for Life, raising money to fight cancer and to support those who are battling the disease. Funny, kind, and possessing a resounding laugh that echoed across the Upper Campus, Jessica discovered the best in herself during her OVS journey.

TOSHIYUKI TAKEUCHI — *Santa Monica College*



Toshi Takeuchi spent five years at OVS after leaving his homeland in Japan. Quiet, focused, and thoughtful, Toshi's creative thinking shone through in all areas of school life. In chemistry, he created a battery out of lemons, pennies, and nails that actually worked. He was recognized for his haiku in the school's annual love poetry contest, and, in his senior year, his design skills flourished in Advanced Placement studio art. Toshi's true passion is golf. He was the leading player for OVS, showing a remarkable stroke and a laser-like focus on the links. Not only did he understand the physical aspect of the game, but he remained true to the principles of integrity that go with it, and those carried over to every part of his life.

KATHY VALDEZ — *San Francisco State University*



A fiery Texan, Kathy Valdez began her OVS journey as a fourth-grader at Lower Campus. She attended another high school for two years and returned to OVS for her junior and senior years. She is a positive, upbeat student who enjoys learning and is willing to put the extra effort to master her course work. She has a creative, dramatic flair and performed with ease during school productions. Her feisty spirit was evident on the soccer field. Last summer, Kathy used her fluency in Spanish to teach Costa Rican children through an international nonprofit organization. Her work included tutoring abused and mentally disabled students. It was an experience that enriched her life and theirs, and served as an example to others of the value of community service.

"S" SRIMANUS — *University of Washington*



A feisty, hard-working student of high intellect, Peevara "S" Srimanus arrived her freshman year from Bangkok and established herself as a top scholar in the community. Winner of numerous awards signifying her achievements in math and science, S demonstrated particular strength in AP chemistry and AP biology. She often tutored her classmates who were struggling. When others headed to town on the weekends, S could be found studying in the library. Beyond the classroom, S ran cross country, played soccer, basketball, and lacrosse. She worked back stage for the musical and served as junior class representative to Student Council. S has also shown her generosity through her active volunteer work in Thailand. She plans to pursue a medical degree – an obtainable goal given her grit and determination.

RILEY THOMAS — *California Lutheran University*



Riley Thomas joined the OVS community her sophomore year, drawn to the equestrian program. But her interests and contributions went far beyond the barn. Described by teachers as "hard working, determined, and conscientious," Riley tackled a challenging course load. In Advanced Placement chemistry and psychology, she strove for excellence and demonstrated maturity toward her studies. She put forth the same effort to excel on the soccer field, showing true athletic ability. Coaches tried to lure her to their sports, but her first calling was to her horses. She was the co-recipient of the Sandy Ballou Award as the outstanding rider her junior year. Riley excelled as a photographer with an eye for detail, and the world viewed through her lens appeared a better place.

LIZZIE WAIAN — *Marymount Manhattan College*



Elizabeth Waian demonstrated true girl power as a student-athlete during her four years at OVS. She was an active participant in class discussions and an organized, articulate writer. She was recognized at the year-end awards ceremony her senior year for her participation in the elite French class and in the geology class. Outside the classroom, Lizzie excelled on the soccer field and was among the top riders in the equestrian program. She has a true love for horses and was co-recipient of the Sandy Ballou Award as the outstanding rider her junior year. She is a member of the National Charity League and is involved in community service efforts. She will be remembered fondly as a focused, articulate, and conscientious student and as a valued member of the school community.

MAX WHEELER— *Marymount College*



The longest attending resident student in OVS history, Max Wheeler started in third grade and left an impression on both campuses. While involved in campus life as a Student Council representative, a prefect, and, as a cast member in the school musicals, Max's greatest impact was in athletics. His natural talent, amazing hands, and intuitive ability to be in the right spot to make the catch or pass was an asset on the football, basketball, baseball, volleyball, and soccer teams. Max took his passion for sports to the next level and volunteered to coach a local youth basketball team. He passed along some of the lessons he learned at OVS – to never give up, to take risks, and to stick together. Max is a gentleman and has made OVS proud.

JAMES WICKENHAEUSER— *Chapman University*



Talent runs wide and deep in James Wickenhaeuser. Talk to him about history or science and you'll discover a student as insightful as he is inquisitive. Read one of his English essays and you'll realize his uncanny maturity. James spends time thinking about the world, and figuring out his place in it. In that vein, he spent hours trying to heal the planet, volunteering to restore the oak woodland surrounding the amphitheater and giving up part of his spring break to remove ice plant from Anacapa Island. He demonstrated leadership in all things, whether it was serving as Student Council treasurer or taking the mound to lead the baseball team. His is a generous spirit, and the world away from "The Hill" will now reap the benefit.

JULIA YANKELEVITZ — *Notre Dame de Namur University*



What a smile. There was no place on campus—not a classroom or a dorm room—that wasn't brightened by Julia Yankelevitz's smile. And there was no one on campus who didn't consider her a friend. Described as "one of the hardest working students" in her English class, Julia's powerful writing and thoughtful essays earned her the award as the outstanding English student her senior year. She displayed a can-do spirit in playing soccer and volleyball, and in running cross country and track. She also demonstrated a commitment to community service, doing volunteer work in Costa Rica and brightening the lives of the elderly at St. Joseph's nursing home. Julia cared about others and cared about improving herself, and those qualities will serve her well.

SEAN YUAN— *University of Washington*



Sean Yuan's intelligence and sense of humor led him to great heights at OVS. Disembarking onto American ground from Taiwan only a few years ago, Sean displayed a passion for science, especially biology. He spent his recent summers interning at UCSD laboratories, working alongside professors separating cells in a project known as Gene Silence. On campus, this studious city boy pushed himself beyond his boundaries to tackle football, basketball, track, and cross country. He participated in the spring musical and served as yearbook editor. He could often be found on the courts with friends playing a pick-up game of basketball. Sean contributed to the school through his academic skills, but also through his optimistic, easygoing attitude and his willingness to pitch in wherever and whenever he was needed.



Congratulations, Class of 2010!



Back Row (Boys L-R): Hongwei Xu, Keaton Shiffman, James White, Jin Bai Park, William Carlson, Kolby Saucedo, Min Ung Choi, Erich Herzig, Nicholas Burns, Michael Bradbury, Jack Kinsler, Luke Prestridge, Cameron Cuthbert, Cole McIntosh; Front Row (Girls, L-R): Amanda Webb, Haoze "Nicole" Ye, Motoko Akabe, Qixin "Sophia" Wu, Emmy Addison, Min Ju Chai, Anasazi Levy, Nina Naghshineh, Sarah Tadlock, Grace Song, Priya Jae, Mariah Lotts, Abigail Wolfe, Rachel Vandevort, Charlie Coe, Victoria Bulnes-Medina, Giovanna Ferrel

HEADMASTER'S ADDRESS — *Andy Hamilton*

"When I first met this class, I had just arrived in Ojai, and they had just entered the Middle School. I remember the timid looks on their faces as they watched the eighth graders lead the all-schools, run the snow cone sales, star in the plays, and compete on the athletic fields.

"I joined them on their sixth-grade class hike and saw glimmers of leadership and a spirit of exploration that made a distinct impression on me. When they were in seventh grade, I joined them on an epic adventure to Santa Cruz Island and watched their confidence grow as we hiked the canyons, kayaked the caves, and snorkeled in the waves.

"We then started this eighth-grade year with an incredible journey to Jamestown and Washington, D.C. There I watched their mature and intellectual interactions with teachers, tour

guides, and government officials. By the time I joined them on their eighth-grade class hike to the top of Nordhoff Peak, I encountered a seasoned, confident group of adventurous young adults who laughed and chatted up and down the mountain. They have come back from their spring backpacking trips, finished their finals, and here we are.

(Addressing the graduates):

"Now it is time for high school. You have made it through a rigorous academic program, shown tremendous growth in character, and appear confident and independent as the challenges of high school await you. I hope high school is ready for you. Congratulations on a great year!"

To view a gallery of photos from the Lower School Graduation and middle school promotions, as well as the elementary and primary promotions, please visit the Media Gallery at www.ovs.org.

Sportsmanship Award

The highest honor OVS gives a graduating eighth grader.

Erich Herzig, Anasazi Levy

Headmaster's Award

Given for the significant contributions an eighth-grader has made during his or her years at Lower School.

Emmy Addison, Mariah Lotts, Abigail Wolfe

Michael D. Hermes Award

Given to the outstanding eighth grade students/athletes.

Min Ung Choi, Priya Jae



Michael J. Hall-Mounsey Award

Honors the boarding student who has consistently served as an outstanding role model for his or her peers and who has demonstrated initiative, leadership, and responsibility.

Motoko Akabe, Min Ung Choi

J.B. Close Award

Given each year to the student who best exemplifies the goals of the OVS Outdoor Education Program. His or her consistent contributions to camping, backpacking, and rock climbing trips, love and respect for nature, and commitment to helping others in the face of adversity set this student apart.

Nina Naghshineh

Paul Pittman Award

Recognizes the student who has exhibited the most enthusiasm and active participation in the equestrian program.

Michael Bradbury



PROGRESSIVE EDUCATOR EDWARD YEOMANS SET THE COURSE FOR OJAI VALLEY SCHOOL

By Elizabeth (Curran) Hermes (L66, U69)

Simply put, without Edward Yeomans, there would be no Ojai Valley School. Yeomans not only founded the Ojai Valley School, he also established a visionary philosophy that impacted educational reform and has served the school remarkably well for nearly 100 years.

A progressive educator and impassioned maverick, the New Jersey native was inflamed by what he regarded as the widespread failure of schools to truly and usefully educate students. He had himself been a victim of the inadequacies of conventional teaching methods and his thesis about the harm educators were doing their young charges is summed up in the stark imagery of his book's title: *Shackled Youth*, published in 1921.

Born the year the Civil War ended, Yeomans attended the prestigious Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, as well as the Hill School in Pottstown, Pennsylvania. According to Yeoman's son – as quoted in Patricia Fry's retrospective book, *A Thread to Hold: The Story of Ojai Valley School* – “These institutions left him with a powerful dislike of college-preparatory education as it was practiced in the 1880s,” largely due to “unsympathetic teachers” and “unhappy classrooms.”



Edward Yeomans, 1941

After graduating from Princeton in 1888, Yeomans worked in a variety of jobs, including serving as a journeyman inventor in Thomas Edison's laboratory. By the end of the 1890s, Yeomans found himself working for an industrial pump company that sent him to Chicago to open a new plant. That move changed the course of his life.

The volunteer work Yeomans did mentoring juvenile delinquent boys in Chicago brought him to the attention of Jane Addams, the founder of Hull House. Through his connection to Jane Addams and Hull House, Yeomans met his future wife, Julia Day. They were married in 1904.

Residing in Winnetka, the Yeomans enrolled their two sons at Francis Parker School, where the internationally acclaimed storyteller Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen was teaching. Yeomans recognized in Thorne-Thomsen that most essential quality of a true teacher: She possessed, he said, “intelligence of the heart.”

In praise of Mrs. Thorne-Thomsen, Yeomans described her as, “such a simple woman, without an affectation, without a single pose, without self-consciousness, without pride of intellect, with apparently nothing but prodigious good-will, gigantic good sense, brimming good-humor, unlimited patience, and an energy and interest and curiosity equal to the sum of the energies and interests and curiosities of all the children in the school.”

1911

Miss Ida Lamb starts a private school in her Ojai home. First students are the Van Patten boys



1911 world events

Chevrolet enters car market

Rediscovery of Machu Picchu

Nestor Motion Picture Co. opens first motion picture studio in Hollywood

1912

School expands into the Bristol School, at the corner of Ojai Avenue and Bristol Road, as Mrs. Walter Bristol takes over teaching duties from Miss Lamb

Boarding students are accepted for the first time (girls only)



1917

Forest fire burns most of Bristol School and it is rebuilt

School becomes co-ed

"The one thing for a teacher to do is to open the door into that enchanted land where children come into their own estate—an estate that remains theirs thereafter."

Years later, when Yeomans took on the challenge of starting his own school, Mrs. Thorne-Thomsen would be the first educator he recruited, appointing her headmistress of the newly established Ojai Valley School.

Yeomans served on the school board in Winnetka, honing his ideas about educational reform and publishing his philosophy for the first time. He railed against the stultifying effects of the educational status quo, articulating a bravely romantic ideal in its place: "The truth of every subject taught is the Emotion and the Music at the centre of it; and the fact about life is that we miss it all if we miss the joy. The truth about the subject is the beauty at the heart of it, and the music and the radiant passion it actually contains." Contended Yeomans, "...[S]chools ought to start or stimulate a process that will grow into wisdom outside, or into understanding...or, at least, into a healthy curiosity from and sympathy with, the things of the mind and the things of the imagination, past, present, and future."



Frank Frost and his son, Morris (ca. 1920)

A series of articles Yeomans wrote for the *Atlantic Monthly* caught the notice of Frank Frost, a wealthy widower living in Philadelphia whose young son was asthmatic and needed to live in a drier climate. So impressed was Frost with Yeomans' progressive views about education that he asked him to start a school in the west, a school that Frost's son could attend.

It was not the first offer of this kind Yeomans had received. Since the publication of the *Atlantic Monthly* articles, he had been relentlessly implored to put his philosophy into action. But the terms Frost was offering were especially tempting: Frost would build the campus and underwrite all the expenses for five years if Yeomans would agree to lead the school.

The wives of these two men had a connection that helped seal the deal. The late Mrs. Frost's family owned a home in Ojai where the Frosts defrosted each winter. Julia Yeomans was also familiar with the little town: she had visited Ojai as a girl and was enchanted by it. She enthusiastically encouraged her husband to accept Frost's offer.

(continued on next page)

THE SHOP

Edward Yeomans felt strongly that a child should learn with his or her hand and "train it to do the fine and beautiful work it is capable of doing." Frank Frost, parent and benefactor, funded the redwood shop, which Yeomans designed himself and considered the heart of campus. Yeomans read verses from Emily Dickinson or Walt Whitman by the fireplace, while boys and girls alike experimented with a variety of materials and designs. Today, the shop is still abuzz with both woodworking and visual arts. See article on woodshop teacher Steve Bartlett's retirement on page 33.



1923

Edward Yeomans raises money and purchases the Bristol School's goodwill and equipment for \$500

Edward Drummond Libbey, who is developing the Arbolada, donates land for the school. Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen leaves Francis Parker School in Chicago to become Ojai Valley School's first headmistress.

Donors include Mr. Frank Frost, Mrs. Burton Twichell (primary building), Mrs. Thomas Bard (classroom, assembly hall, and offices), Mrs. William Ford (land for athletic field), and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Eric Lindin.

Bristol cottages rented as dormitories for boarding students.

1923 world events

Time Magazine hits newsstands for first time

Inner chamber of Tutankhamun's tomb is opened

Yankee Stadium opens in NYC



1924

Frank Frost (left) funds and oversees construction of the **woodshop** and Frost Hall, designed by renowned Southern California architect Wallace Neff.

In addition, Mr. Frost offers to underwrite the school's deficits for five years, although the school was self-sufficient in three

"...the supreme duty of parents and teachers is to attach children's hearts to the threads of great literature and great music and great ideas, while there is still time."

As in *Field of Dreams*, the article of faith was predicated on the conviction that "if you build it, they will come."

However, in a sense, the school was already there. The Bristol School, located just off of Ojai Avenue on Bristol Road, had an established faculty and student body but was on the brink of closing. While Yeomans' own school was still in the planning stages, his two sons attended The Bristol School, as did young Morris Frost. "Ed saw the opportunity to open his school with an already existing enrollment." In March of 1923, The Bristol School officially became The Ojai Valley School. But the campus was yet to be built.

Armed with a copy of Yeomans' *Shackled Youth*, Frank Frost approached Edmund Libbey, a local philanthropist and developer, and asked him to donate the land for the Ojai Valley School's campus. Reading Yeomans'

educational treatise helped convince the landowner that his property would be more attractive to buyers if there were established a private school with so refreshingly progressive an approach.

By fall of 1924, Frost Hall, designed by renowned architect Wallace Neff, had opened, full to capacity with boarding

students. The day school was also fully enrolled. Yeomans had induced Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen, who had made such an impression on him as his children's teacher, to serve as the school's first headmistress. Aside from actively recruiting his handpicked faculty, teachers who, like Thorne-Thomsen, had "intelligence of the heart" and therefore met Yeomans' standard of excellence, Yeomans left the running of the school to Headmistress Thorne-Thomsen and involved himself teaching shop to the youngsters. "He loved his shop and reigned supreme there," noted his wife.

In his forward to *A Thread to Hold: The Story of Ojai Valley School*, Yeomans' son, Edward Jr., reveals that "The covered wagons, locomotives, and clipper ships that became hallmarks of the 'shop' program at Ojai Valley School were descendents of the intricate projects Yeomans' father had taught him to make when Yeomans was a boy."

Yeomans also brought with him to OVS a deep love of music and a strong

conviction that music must be absolutely central to the school's program. In *Shackled Youth*, Yeomans relates this anecdote: "A very eminent representative of an Eastern university, discussing the general subject of schools and colleges, said a surprising thing. If it were necessary, he asked, to drop every subject of every curriculum in all schools and colleges except one, what one would you retain



Ed Yeoman's beloved woodshop



1925
Ojai Valley School incorporated and first Board of Trustees appointed

First OVS newspaper published, *The Periscope* (later known as *The Ranger*, and, later still, as *The Observer*)



1926
Quad buildings completed
Enrollment: 65 students (17 boarding students)

Automobiles popular; but stage coach still runs between Ventura and Ojai

1928
Ninth grade added

"This school is only a part, and a small part, of your preparation for life. The rest of it is out of doors..., on the hills, along the rivers,..."

as the most indispensable of all? He felt quite sure that...music would be found the most important subject... My own inference is that [music] contains all the other subjects that are important, that are indispensable to the life of a human society, and that it is itself of incredible nutritive value."

Himself a classically trained cellist, Yeomans made choral singing, dancing, and orchestral playing a prominent feature of campus life.

In addition to bringing about what came to be known as "The Individual System" of education to Winnetka public schools and founding the Ojai Valley School, Yeomans was integral in starting the Peninsula School in Palo Alto, California, and, later, the Putney School in Vermont.



First building at Lower Campus

Given that Yeomans' "strongest and deepest educational conviction in his later life, without question" was that "no school could really be a good fortune to its students unless founded on a farm," he would

have, no doubt, been enormously pleased to know of the equestrian and outdoor education programs that have become so central to the Ojai Valley School experience in more recent eras.

As we approach the centennial celebration of the Ojai Valley School, we do well to reconnect with our roots, those roots

that support the graceful oak tree that has come to symbolize the Ojai Valley School. The very acorn from whence these roots have grown was a visionary named Edward Yeomans, a man whose passion and zeal to release young people from their educational shackles has benefited generations of OVS students.

CASTLE

To enhance their English history studies, the students began constructing a castle in the early 1930s. Welshman Philip Ascott, a staff member and jack-of-all-trades, supervised construction of a replica of the Caernarvon Castle. Students poured the cement blocks and even constructed a moat. Originally, there were five castles on campus. Remnants of the Caernarvon castle still delight students and visitors today.



1934

Students began building model of **Caernarvon Castle**



1942

Edward Yeomans, Sr. dies.
Mr. Peter Gott appointed
Headmaster

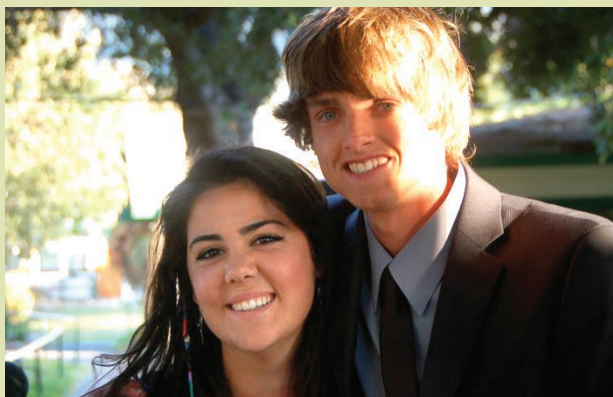
1943

Mr. Wallace Burr becomes Headmaster
First Summer School & Camp held
OVS becomes founding member of Western
Association of Independent Camps



PONS DINNER

Over 100 Lower School graduates, eighth-graders, teachers, and special guests attended the 15th annual Pons Dinner in May. Addressing the group were college-bound seniors Veronica Crisafulli (L06, UI0) and Max Wheeler (L06, UI0), eighth-grader Grace Song (LI0), and alumnus Glenn Fout (U80), who had served as a Lower School resident counselor and librarian.



ALUMNI LACROSSE

For only the second time in Ojai Valley School history, lacrosse players scored a victory against the alumni, emerging with a 9 - 0 win in the Annual Bingo Memorial Alumni Lacrosse Game. "The team really came full circle. This was the best game they played all season," said Mr. Brad Weidlich, OVS lacrosse coach. Sophomore Henry Mooney added, "It was an honor to play the alumni. I hope they bring the same intensity next year." This annual event honors the late Bryan "Bingo" Caldwell (L90, U94).

ALUMNI PANEL

Four recent OVS graduates returned to the Upper Campus to share their experiences and offer advice about the transition from high school to college. Jason Coudray (L00, U04), Blake Estes (U07), Jason Kim (U08) and Natalie McKerjee (U07) comprised the alumni panel and fielded questions from the current student body in a lively Q-and-A session in the Lecture Hall. What was the overarching message? Manage your time. Don't procrastinate. Appreciate how much your teachers at OVS care, and be careful with the huge freedoms that come at the university level.



EQUESTRIAN

A frequent guest to OVS in the 1920s was Margaret Hunt, an accomplished Ojai horsewoman. Although the school did not have a riding program of its own, Mrs. Hunt would take students on trail rides. Headmaster Wallace Burr bought a horse from Mrs. Hunt the first summer (1943) he spent at OVS. Stables were built in 1946, and horseman Paul Pittman was recruited from Cal Prep to establish a comprehensive riding curriculum. Today, both campuses boast nationally-recognized riding programs.

1945

On-campus **horse program** initiated by Wallace Burr joins an expanded **camping program**





From right to left, Lower 1966, Upper 1969 classmates Liz (Curran) Hermes, Larry Levy, and Claudia (Christensen) Wunderlich enjoyed a post-alumni weekend visit.



U81 classmates Karen (Rascoe) Farmer and Richard LaGraff



Members of the Lower School Class of 2000 look through the photos and memorabilia that have been reposing in their time capsule.



Sibling alums Lewis Carlino II (L80, U84) and Alessa Carlino (L78)



Tony McHale (L79) gives Gary Dinkins, who is retiring after 44 years at OVS, a heartfelt hug.



Classmates from the late sixties and early seventies reminisced about the Age of Aquarius. (Front row, left to right): Carole Ekker (U71), Wooi Yi Yin (wife of Alfred Yin), Neil Marcus (L68, U71), Alfred Yin (U70), Michael Milligan (L67, U70). (Back row, left to right): Anne Enders (wife of John Enders), John Enders (U70), Bruce Gribbin (U70), John Bateson (L67, U70), Jean (Mendelsohn) Rutherford (U69), and Bruce Milton (U70)



Representing the seventies and eighties were OVS schoolmates (from left to right) Mark Farmer (U82), Karen (Rascoe) Farmer (L77, U81), Richard LaGraff (U81), Nina Sugamori (L77), David Eliasberg (L75, U80), Terre (Gallagher) Steinbeck (L76), Lauri Wright (L76, U80), and Chris Elberfeld (L76, U80).

CAMPING

Camping had long been a part of OVS, but it was Headmaster Wallace Burr who embraced and greatly expanded the program in the 1940s. He felt that the activity would give students "a firsthand appreciation of nature and an abiding interest in nature that would carry on into adult life." In 1948, a cabin was leased from the forest service at Lions Camp (often called Piedra Blanca or PB.). The rest is history. Memories received from alumni regarding camping trips are the most numerous and vivid. Today, students collectively participate in more than 50 hiking and camping trips per year.



1945 world events

World War II ends.
FDR is elected to unprecedented fourth term as President

1946

Barn completed

1947

Mr. Austen Pierpont draws master building plan for the school

3.9 additional acres purchased along El Paseo Road from the Libbey estate

Pool and field house built



1949

The California Association of Independent Schools was formed. Wallace Burr led the initiative to include elementary and middle schools in the association of high schools.

alumni weekend



Katherine "Kit" Elliott (L73, U77) visits with Lana (Lucking) Fredell (L57)



René (Pon Tell) Briggs (U68). René's children Loc (L86, U90) and Maren (L93, U97) were also in attendance.



The poolside pergola was the setting for a sumptuous buffet dinner on Saturday night.



Carol Hall-Mounsey and Kirste Johnston, faculty members from the Lower School, joined Crystal Davis from Upper to greet former students.



Susan (Cooper) Shaver (L59) came down from Fresno to attend alumni weekend and get a hug from her little brother, Carl Cooper (L64, U68), who, as headmaster of the Upper Campus, was hosting the event this year.



Celebrating their 20th anniversary as Upper School graduates were (front row, left to right) Nicole (Vaupen) Sheard, Alison (Tannen) McMullen, Deva (Tamburri) D'Ull, and (back row, left to right) Ted Kunewa, Todd Gold, Zachary Smith, and Loc Briggs.



Katherine and Mark "Terry" Collins III (L59)



Jean (Mendelsohn) Rutherford (U69) shares OVS memories with John Bateson (L67, U70)



Poolside at the cocktail party are (left to right), Mike Fry (U74), Michael Katz (U65), Betsy Katz (Mike's wife), and Oscar Kornblatt (U73).



Helen Berggruen (L60) and Susan (Cooper) Shaver (L59)



1949 world events

First recorded snowfall in Los Angeles
First non-stop airplane flight around the world

1951

Music building constructed from Edward Yeomans, Sr. memorial funds



1955

Lower School girls' dorm built

1953

Sportsmanship Award (for overall excellence) started by Lower School ninth grade class. As class president, Mike Hermes presented the award for the first time.



Terre (Gallagher) Steinbeck (L76) takes a leap of faith on the ropes course.



Adam Mitchell (U00) gets higher and higher on the ropes course.



Stephanie Carr (L00) and Ben Smith (L91, U95) brought their soccer skills to the alumni game.



On the Saturday morning Sespe hike, Alfred Yin (U70) was King of the Mountain!



All decked out in their OVS alumni gear are Adam Mitchell (U00), Lauri Wright (L76, U80), and Mike Fry (U74).



OVS President Michael Hall-Mounsey and Rich LaGraff (U81) at the first game on the newly-renovated Smith Field



(LEFT: More alums than ever opted to go on the Sespe hike. From left to right: Helen Berggruen (L60), Hilary Rand (Helen's partner), Breanna Farber (L99, U03), Ana Hernandez (mother of Scott and Stephanie Carr), Scott Carr (L03), George (friend of Stephanie's), Stephanie Carr (L00), Michael Milligan (L67, U70), Alfred Yin (U70), Wooiyi Yin (Alfred's wife), Sean Ham (L00, U04), Betsy Katz (wife of Mike Katz (U65), Anne Enders (John's wife), John Enders (U70), Mike Fry (74), Susan (Cooper) Shaver (L59), Angela (Chambers) Carvallo (L80) and family, Jennifer Galer (Larry's wife), Larry Levy (L66, U69), and Judy Oberlander (faculty).

1960

Enrollment in grades 3-9 reaches over 100 for the first time

1961

195 acres of ranch land purchased for the Upper School campus on May 8

UPPER CAMPUS

The hilltop property that became the Upper Campus was known as the Alves ranch, a rugged 195 acres with stunning west-facing views of the Ojai Valley. Construction began immediately. Eager students and teachers, including former OVS President Mike Hermes, threw down sleeping bags on the ground inside the first framed dormitory building in 1962. Spencer Garrett, the Upper School Student Council president and today a member of the Board of Trustees, recalls the "spirit of being in on something new. We recognized our role as pioneers."



LOWER 1935

OVS sends warm congratulations to **Barbara B. Smith** (L35), University of Hawai'i ethnomusicologist and professor emerita, who was recently named one of the two recipients of the prestigious 21st annual Koizumi Fumio Prize. The prize was established by the estate of the late Japanese ethnomusicologist Koizumi Fumio to honor outstanding colleagues in the field throughout the world and was presented during a ceremony in Tokyo, Japan, on May 27, 2010. Smith was honored "in recognition of her long-term contributions through research and education to the knowledge and understanding of the musics and the peoples of Asia and the Pacific in both academic and lay communities."



Barbara Smith was recently honored in Tokyo.

LOWER 1936

Richard "Dick" Bard, Jr. (see *In Memoriam*)

McKee "Mickey" Mhoon checked in as follows: "I was in the same class as Dick Bard, Herbert Lyttle, Laurie Butler, Carmen Revnes, etc...I have very fond memories of the Ojai Valley School and want to say hello from the class of 1936 to anybody who might remember me."

LOWER 1938

Helen Margaret "Peggy" Smith (see *In Memoriam*)

LOWER 1949

"During my time at OVS, I probably would have been voted least likely to succeed in any form of athletic activity," declares **Peter Fish**, who apparently became desperate: "I even remember studying black magic at one point to see if it could improve my ability to hit a baseball," he writes, adding, "It did not."

Fast forward sixty years: "I am running about 50 miles (and one vertical mile) per week," reports Peter. "My most recent race was a 100K in Arizona last October. I have a 100-miler scheduled in southern Oregon next September. Wish me luck."

OVS is not only happy to wish you luck, Peter, but would like to express great admiration to you for your achievements. You're an inspiration! (And a true jock!)

LOWER 1956

Henry Butler III, M.D. flew to Haiti in January to offer assistance after the earthquake.

LOWER 1960

Artist **Helen Berggruen** brings us up to date as follows: "I have been in Iowa City for two years while Hilary has been in the Writers' Workshop pursuing an MFA in Poetry. The landscape is inspiring. It has been a fruitful time. I've gathered material for three exhibitions: in New York, Berlin, and coming up in the fall, San Francisco."

LOWER 1965

David Sessions (see U68)

LOWER 1967

Cheryl (Chalfant) Hockaday has made a decision to simplify her rewarding but perhaps overly full life: "This will be my last year running a B & B

1961 world events

Soviet cosmonaut first man in space

JFK becomes 35th President of the United States

1962

Upper School construction begins
Bristol Dorm, now called Hermes Hall, is built

Tenth grade added, boys are first residents at the new Upper School
Lower School science building completed

1963

Eleventh grade added

Dining room, Tower House, and Boney Bean dorms added at Upper



in Oregon's premier wine country," she explains, adding, "Come stay, drink wine, and reminisce about OVS before it's too late!"

"I also have a small organic farm, and, with four children, seven grandchildren, and one great grandchild, I stay VERY busy. Innkeepers joke that, 'Sure we can add more things to our schedule in our spare time, between two and three a.m.!'"

Concluding that's no way to live, Cheryl is getting out of the business. "I am always disappointed not to make it to alumni weekend," writes she, "but my busiest season begins on May 1st each year."

Maybe now we'll get to see her on alumni day. At any rate, we wish her well in semi-retirement.

World traveler **Maria-Guiliana Latini** sent us this update: "I just returned from a backpacking trip and stay through Asia. For three months, I lived in Kathmandu, where my son, Piero, is on a Fullbright scholarship. I wound up traveling all over Nepal,

then Thailand, Malaysia, and India for seven months total. After that, I headed back through Italy, where another of my sons, Eugenio, is a chef in his hometown of Milan. Now, back in Sonoma (where my family has been for over 40 years), am trying to figure out what to do when I grow up."

LOWER 1970

A note from **Terry Berne**: "The 40th anniversary of the first Earth Day reminded me of our own celebration of the event at OVS in 1970. I've been living in Spain since the early 1980s as an art critic and music journalist (*Art in America*, *Billboard*). Would love to hear from former classmates such as Paul, Eric (still listening to the Fish!), Matt, Penny, Stephanie, Noa, Kitty, and especially my roommate Jay Ross Clark, for whom I've been searching for years..."

LOWER 1971

Bruce Frank, who resides in Tiburon, CA, reports he had a great visit with former classmate Scott Jefferies in December, 2008.

Also, Bruce recently found his 4th to 7th grade report cards from OVS and

passes along this observation: "I really was a poor student!...It is good that I got some of my outdoor skills while I was there...because I think I seemed to be 'academically challenged,' at least back then!"

Despite having come to that conclusion, Bruce sends these warm greetings to OVS: "Best to everyone from then and now!"

LOWER 1973

Marty Thomas says he's "lovin' life living in the Santa Barbara area," and he brings us up to speed on his latest project: "I'm so lucky to be in pre-production on a psycho-thriller feature I'm directing for Universal called *Killer Holiday*, starring Michael Copon, Tommy Lee, and Shanea Grimes.

Reporting on the home front, Marty writes, "Am blissfully married for the first time (I'm now 52)." Marty and Shelise recently celebrated their 6th wedding anniversary.

1963 world events

Zip codes introduced in the U.S.

Martin Luther King, Jr. delivers "I Have a Dream" speech



1964

Twelfth grade added

Mr. Robert Cooper appointed director of the Upper School

Upper classrooms (Burr Hall) built



Marty's ties with the school remain strong. "I miss my OVS Lower days and hanging with Ron & Pat Singleton at the stables. Also miss my science teacher, Mr. Lauter," he writes.



Director Marty Thomas yelling, "Cut!" (Or maybe it's "Lights out!")

LOWER 1974

It was nice to hear from **Barbara Jones**, who told us how her OVS dorm mother made a lasting impression: "As I had never been away from my parents before," Barbara writes, "I used to think it was comforting and sweet when Mrs. McGuiness sang us a lullaby to help us go to sleep. It worked for me!"

"I still remember the lullaby and plan to add it my own pre-school class' naptime repertoire. At the end of it, Mrs. McGuiness would say: 'Good-night, girls.'

And we, in chorus, replied, 'Good-night, Mrs. McGuiness.'

"I shall refrain from 'naming names to protect the guilty' of those older girls who couldn't refrain from giggles and

miscellaneous comments during this pre-sleep ritual. (You know who you are!)"

LOWER 1975

Rae Dawn Chong (see U79)

LOWER 1996

Katherine "Katy" Horback (see U00)

LOWER 1999

Mana Sakaguchi (see U03)

LOWER 2002

Tiana Coudray (see U06)

LOWER 2003

As she seeks to establish herself in a challenging but particularly rewarding profession, **Madeleine Shernock** reaches out to fellow alums: "I am on a mission to become a certified midwife!" she writes.

"More info can be found at <http://makemaddyamidwife.blogspot.com>.

Any help or info about midwifery programs or contact with former

OVS students who have pursued this profession would be welcomed!" Contact Madeleine at mshernock@gmail.com

LOWER 2005

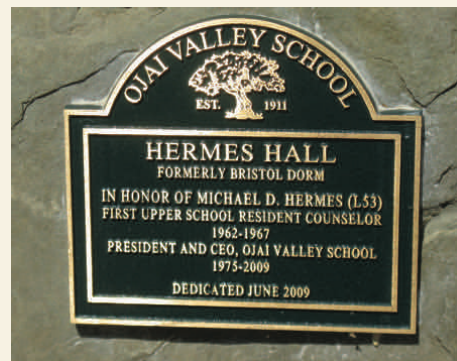
Parker Colborn (see U09)

Christopher Coudray (see U09)

UPPER 1965



Some of the first residents to occupy Bristol Dorm at the Upper Campus recently visited the newly renamed Hermes Hall with their former dorm father, Mike Hermes. From left to right: Mike Tomkins, Spencer Garrett, and Kirk Warren, all members of the Upper School Class of 1965.



1965

Upper amphitheater built
First classes are held on the Upper School campus

Founding Upper School class graduates



1966

Upper Grace Hobson Smith Girls' Dorm built

1969

Upper Arts & Crafts building completed

UPPER 1968

David Sessions (see In Memoriam)

UPPER 1969

"You can start over – any old time!!" asserts **Michael Carroll**. Here's how he knows that's so: "Am currently in job-search mode, hoping to move south (GA, FL, SC, NC: somewhere like that) and will be marrying a truly great lady and superb bowler, (in fact, she's a National Hall-of-Famer with 32 PWBA Tour Titles to her credit), this year sometime. She's currently a veterinary tech, and we'll join forces with 12-13 cats and a golden retriever (at least)."

UPPER 1971

Congratulations to **Richard "Rick" Barda**, who reports, "I just received a patent from the US Patent Office for a new approach to anti-virus software! Very exciting for me!"

Rick says that he still loves teaching music and that many of his students are doing quite well professionally.

UPPER 1979

Here's the latest from the multi-talented and high energy **Rae Dawn Chong**: "I am currently producing a television pilot for the new media (internet and broadcast) called 'Floaters' out of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Am also writing a novel, starring in two movies, training clients, and playing USTA league tennis on 3 teams. Life is very busy and full, and I am happy...I love living in New England; it's living life on the highest level of beauty, sanity and love."

UPPER 1982

Suzanne (Janes) Schmalzer, who is living in Seattle and fighting ovarian cancer, has this advice to share: "We have all heard how hard it is to catch ovarian cancer early. I did everything right—annual check-ups, self-exams—and still got caught short. One of the factors that makes diagnosis so challenging is that women can easily make excuses for the symptoms. I was exhausted, but chalked it up to my career and raising a toddler. Completely reasonable, but, looking back, it would have been great to connect exhaustion to other

common conditions (including pelvic pain, lower back pain, loss of appetite and urinary urgency). Don't ignore your body. If you wonder, call your doctor."



Suzanne Schmalzer enjoying time with daughter Kiki

She adds, "I would like to thank some of my classmates for being my constant companions—however virtual, thanks to Facebook—during a difficult time: Pattie Rascoe Bakke, Staci Roth, Ralph Litton, Karen Rascoe Farmer, Glenn Fout, Forest Michael Heistermann, Monya Manning, and Danielle Merkel Spandau.

"Some of you may have heard that I—happily—hailed myself to New York last week to visit friends and attend the baptism and first

1970

Mr. Arthur Biscoe heads the Upper School, followed by Mr. Otis Wickenhaeuser and Mr. Wallis Drew

1971

Wallace Burr retires as Headmaster, having served 29 years. Mr. Thomas Lee appointed Headmaster.



1975

Mr. Michael D. Hermes (L53) named President/CEO of Ojai Valley School

Mr. James Heyman appointed Headmaster of the Lower School
Mr. Dok S. Smith (L62, U65) appointed Headmaster of the Upper School until 1986, and then the Lower School until 1990

holy communion (conducted nearly entirely in French) of my one-and-only god daughter. Nothing short of an act of God could have kept me away, it seems. During a glorious, sunny weekend in Scarsdale, I had the great honor of standing up for a dedicated and faithful young lady, Simone Spandau, who is the daughter of my high school friend Danielle Spandau and her husband, Robert, and who is the granddaughter of Josette Roe. While she will remain in my prayers every day, please include her in your prayers as well (if you are so inclined). I also got to spend a couple days with my friend Lydia Wagner in Manhattan. It was a totally enjoyable 5 days.

"I returned home to a third round of chemotherapy under the care of my nurse, Rose Schwartz, at the University of Washington. I am beginning to feel much better and look forward to a beautiful summer with my husband, Peter, and daughter, Kiki.

So far, so good."

All your friends at OVS send their support and love, Suzanne.

UPPER 1996

Having a baby and finishing a doctorate: double congratulations go to **Linda (Donohoo) Hurley**, who is living in Albuquerque, NM, with her husband and new baby girl, Kaleigh Rosario. Linda is close to finishing her PhD in geology and is searching for a post-doctoral position.

UPPER 2000

In 2004, **Katherine "Katy" Horback** graduated with a degree in biology from Reed College in Portland, Oregon. She was employed as a senior research assistant at Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU) in Portland from 2004 to 2010. In July, Katy will enter medical school at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

UPPER 2003

Mana Sakaguchi sent our alumni office this update: "I am currently attending the MFA program for photography at Parsons New School for Design. We are working hard towards our thesis show and catalog coming up this August."

UPPER 2006

Tiana Coudray was featured in the May, 2010, issue of *Sidelines Magazine* as she makes the transition from being named the United States Equestrian Association's Young Rider of the Year (she won this title a record three years in a row) to beginning her professional career.

In the *Sidelines* article, Tiana credits OVS for getting her started on her equestrian path. An excerpt follows:

"...[I]t was her very unique little school in Ojai that gave Tiana a solid foundation in everything horses and riding. At the private Ojai Valley School, an extensive riding program gives students in elementary through high school a chance to learn horse skills and riding by caring for their own school horse at a barn on the school property. Riding counted as PE credit, and Tiana was able to compete in dressage, eventing, and hunter/jumpers through the program on 'her' horse.

1975 world events

Bill Gates and partner found Microsoft

Charlie Chaplin knighted

1977

Mr. A. Carl Kotchian appointed Chairman of the Board

Mr. Patrick Faverty appointed Headmaster of the Lower School

1980

Mr. Kirk Warren (L62, U65) appointed Lower School Headmaster; followed by Mr. Phil Bryan

1982

School philosophy "Integer Vitae" written by President Michael Hermes, based on founder Ed Yeomans' writings

New seal is adopted; artwork by alumna Mary Tilbury (U74)



'We got to take [our school horses] to shows and clinics and horse camping,' she says. 'You could do everything you might do with your own horse, and the beauty of that program was that when you were ready to move on to the next horse, you didn't have to sell your horse. It was the only way I would have gotten started in riding.'

Tiana is currently a working student at Stillwater Farm in Carmel Valley and has built up a string of her own horses to ride. She has aspirations of competing in London in 2012.

Austin Deming is currently working as an audio engineer at Swinghouse Studios and has worked with such artists as Maroon 5, Iggy Pop and Stooges, 30 seconds to mars, Tom Morello, she wants revenge, and Isaac Brock (modest mouse).

UPPER 2007

Darren Long is currently serving as crew chief on a medical evacuation Black Hawk helicopter in Iraq. He has just deployed for his second tour in Iraq and will be there for the next year. He sends his regards to all who knew him at OVS.



Darren Long is crew chief on a medical evacuation Black Hawk in Iraq.

UPPER 2008

Ning Chen will be attending USC starting in the fall of 2010.

UPPER 2009

Thumbs up from **Parker Colborn**, who had a great freshman year at Chapman College. "Everything has been awesome down here at Chapman," he reports. "I loved my classes, and the football team has really allowed me to be involved in the community. Overall, everything has been amazing, and I am loving college."

Christopher Coudray sends his greetings and says he is having a great experience at Ventura College. "I love my classes. I'm all into geology and learning how to read and write music. I currently am working as a volunteer every Wednesday at the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum, in the anthropology department."

STORYTELLING

Thorne-Thomsen was a world-renowned storyteller and lecturer on children's literature by the time that Ed and Julia Yeomans persuaded her to leave Chicago and serve as the school's first principal/headmistress. For thirteen years, she enchanted OVS students with her stories, often folktales reflecting her Norwegian heritage. Today, the storytelling tradition continues through an endowment funded by alumna Jane Hohfeld Galante (L38.)



Visit our website to hear readings by J.B. Close and Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen.

1983

Lower School library restored and dedicated in honor of Charles Van Patten, OVS's first student

1986

Mr. David Anderson appointed Headmaster of the Upper School until 1989

1985

Mr. Anson Thacher awarded first Trustees' Service Award

1987

Storytelling Program Endowment established by alumna Jane Hohfeld Galante (L38.)

Rodney Hobson Smith Academic Center built through a gift by Barbara B. Smith (L35) and family, through the Hobson-Smith Foundation



RICHARD BARD, JR. (L36)

Richard “Dick” Bard, Jr., a member of the Lower School Class of 1936 and one of the original builders of the castle that still exists on campus, passed away on March 7, 2010, at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane, Washington, of complications from heart surgery.

Dick was born eighty-eight years ago in Oxnard, California, the first son of Joan (Boyd) and Richard Bard. He attended Hueneme Grammar School before enrolling at OVS. After attending high school at Thacher, Dick subsequently graduated from Cornell University with a degree in Civil Engineering.

Dick served as a survey and instrument man with the 427th Armored Field Artillery Battalion in the Asiatic Pacific (Philippines) from 1943 - 1946. In 1944, he married Barbara Ann Hitchcock of Santa Barbara.

After the war, he and Barbara settled in Ventura County. For most of his professional career, Dick worked in the family business, Berylwood Investment Company, serving as vice-president and manager of the Simi Ranch until 1960. The company had been incorporated in 1911, but the history of the firm actually dates back to 1865 when Thomas R. Bard came to California as agent for Thomas Scott (Undersecretary of War for President Lincoln and president of

the Pennsylvania Railroad), who was in this area for the purposes of oil exploration. Thomas Bard pioneered much of the development of Ventura County, particularly the Rancho Colonia (now Naval Base Ventura County at Port Hueneme) Las Posas, and Simi.

In 1960, Dick moved his family to Darby, Montana, where he actively surveyed for a number of years in the Bitterroot Valley. In the early 1970s, Dick and Barbara moved to Colville, Washington, and he continued surveying until he retired in the late 1990s.

Dick was passionate about his work, his family, and his country. He had developed a keen interest in reading and in history while at OVS. He continued to research his pioneer family roots throughout his lifetime.

Recognized by his OVS teachers for being “frank, enthusiastic, and eager to try whatever is the business at hand,” one of them made this prediction about Dick: “He has a thoroughness which, with his good mind, will carry him far.”

A man of integrity and honesty, much like his father and grandfather before him, Dick will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Dick’s wife, Barbara, predeceased him in 1988. He is survived by two daughters, Susan Ward of Florence, Montana, and Jill Waudby of Murray, Idaho; by two sisters, Joanna Newton of Santa Barbara and Margaret Fall of San Francisco; and by eight grandchildren as well as nine great-grandchildren.

DAVID SESSIONS (L65, U68)

Written by Scott Eicher (L65, U68)

On Thursday morning, March 4, 2010, my dear friend and OVS classmate, David Sessions passed away after a brave battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 62 years young.

Dave started his OVS career in the seventh grade in 1962 and was a member of the fourth class to graduate from the Upper Campus. Dave played on the varsity soccer team for all three years at the Upper Campus and was the stalwart bass guitarist in the Fyve of a Kind, along with Conrad von Dehn, John McCutcheon, Jeff Hanselman and me.

After graduating from OVS, Dave attended Northrop Technology Institute with Jeff Hanselman as they followed a life-long interest in all things electronic. After two years, Dave returned to Santa Barbara, where he married Diane Pitts (U68) (now Geraghty), and enrolled in Brooks Institute of Photography.

Upon receiving his degree from Brooks, Dave and Diane moved to Santa Monica, where he pursued a career as a professional, commercial, and fashion photographer. Dave and Diane divorced in 1980.

Dave continued his photography career in Los Angeles. In 1990, he married Rachel Voelzke. Dave and Rachel enjoyed spending time in Humboldt, California, where they had purchased a home for their retirement.

Dave was known for his sensitivity, his kind and gentle nature, and a wicked sense of humor. All of us who knew him will always remember that smile and his great laugh.

In late March, Rachel held a wake for David. Jeff Hanselman, Diane Geraghty, Kent Salveson, my wife, Kathy, and I attended along with a cadre of David's business and personal friends from Los Angeles. Many of us spoke about our relationships with him. Most of his business clients and models saw him not as only an associate, but as a friend. The day was a celebration of his character and kindness.

I miss him every day.



Dave Sessions on the field, ca. 1967

HELEN MARGARET "PEGGY" SMITH (L38)

Helen Margaret "Peggy" Smith, who attended second through eighth grades at OVS starting in 1929, passed away in Camarillo on Jan. 22, 2010.

Born in Oxnard on March 12, 1922, to Fred W. and Grace Hobson Smith, Peggy grew up in Ojai in the house that is now the Ojai City Hall. As a child, she traveled to Europe with her family twice, developing in Peggy a lifelong love of travel and learning.

While a student at OVS, Peggy was recognized for her "engaging personality and excellent standard of scholarship." Her teachers found her a delightful student, as is apparent from this comment from her second grade teacher: "Peggy seems always very gay, as if she could hardly contain herself at times for sheer happiness. She is a joy." Another of Peggy's teachers characterized her as "unselfish, thoughtful, and discerning."

"Peggy is always a lovely person to work with," wrote Julia Bygrave, Peggy's music teacher, "eager to do whatever will be the best thing for the group. In all situations, she gives her whole self."

Peggy's interest and talent in music became readily apparent through her playing first of the piano and then the violin while attending Ojai Valley School and Nordhoff Union High School, where she also excelled in academics.

Peggy majored in music and received the Bachelor of Arts with high honors in 1943 from Pomona College, where she subsequently began her teaching career. She expanded her knowledge of music through specialized course

work at Columbia University and the University of Reading, England, and, in 1963, earned a doctorate in musicology at Indiana University. In 1980, she received an honorary doctorate from Claremont Graduate School, where she both devoted the major part of her teaching career and served on its Board of Fellows.

Passionate about her family, her students, music, and education, Peggy devoted her life to them. She served on boards of her family's agricultural businesses located in Ventura, San Luis Obispo, and Monterey counties, and on the Smith-Hobson Foundation. A selfless contributor to many causes, among Peggy's most significant philanthropic gifts were student scholarships and a faculty chair at Claremont Graduate School.

Predeceased by her brother, Rodney Hobson Smith (L32), Peggy is survived by her sister, Barbara Barnard Smith (L35); her nieces, Marilyn Cassidy and Barbara Smith Stupay (L65, U68); her nephews, Jeffrey P. Smith (L62, U65) and Gregory H. Smith (L66); as well as by her grandnieces and grandnephews. Peggy will be warmly remembered by all who knew her.



Peggy Smith in the play "Patience," ca. 1936

GARY DINKINS

By Hunter Helman, Upper Class of 2010

Gary Dinkins is admittedly an old-fashioned guy.

He recently got his first cell phone, and email remains a mystery to him. To say he is technologically challenged is an understatement.

Ironically, however, he is at the cutting edge of one of the most popular social networking sites of this generation. He has a fan page on Facebook that has attracted about 300 members. The fan base consists mostly of students, faculty, and alumni. Heck, even the man affectionately known as "Dink" is a fan of himself.

"I feel like I'm appreciated," Mr. Dinkins said of the fawning comments by former students and others about his 44-year tenure as teacher and mentor at Ojai Valley School.

But as of the end of the school year, Mr. Dinkins' run at OVS came to a close, the longest serving of a trio of faculty members at the Upper Campus who are calling it quits to pursue other interests.

While Mr. Dinkins' Facebook notoriety puts him on the cutting edge of the social networking revolution, he still stays true to his simple lifestyle.

He has lived on the same property in Ojai for the past four decades, having built a studio there that he finds quite satisfying. He has been a distance runner for the past 35 years, currently running a "moderate" six miles a day (it used to be nine).

Running every day has become like a ritual to him.

"It would seem abnormal if I didn't run," he says about his obsession.

He has run marathons, half-marathons, and 10Ks, often winning his division. He goes surfing every week, which he has been doing for 15 years.

He is an exceptional painter and his artwork adorns the campus. His art pieces could sell for hefty prices, but Mr. Dinkins chooses to keep them on display at the Upper Campus so that students, faculty, and others can enjoy them.

He has three adult children, Bryan, Amy, and Caitlin. Bryan and Amy are both graduates of Ojai Valley School.

Bryan, like his father, is an artist, sculpting in wood. Amy is an opera singer, having sung with the LA Opera Chorus. And Caitlin is the former artistic director and illustrator for Stila Cosmetics and is now doing freelance work.

Mr. Dinkins claims he was born on the planet Krypton in 1939, but he was actually born in Philadelphia, PA.



1989

Mr. Carl S. Cooper (L64, U68) appointed Upper School Headmaster and is still serving in that capacity



1989

Mr. William H. Hair appointed as Chairman of the Board
Mr. Kotchian retires after 25 years of service and is awarded the Trustees' Service Award

1989 world events

Fall of the Berlin Wall
Tim Berners-Lee, a scientist at CERN, invented WWW

1990 world events

Nelson Mandela is freed
East and West Germany unite
First world wide web page is written



1990

Mr. Michael Hall-Mounsey appointed Lower School Headmaster

The tradition of High Tea begins at the Lower School

He grew up in Santa Barbara, graduating from Santa Barbara High School in 1957. He majored in Russian at UC Berkeley, graduating in 1962. He also earned his master's degree in French from UCSB in 1980.

In 1966, his educational life continued with his first teaching job at the Ojai Valley School.

He spent his first eight years educating students at the Lower Campus. Over the years, he has taught numerous students French, Spanish, Latin, World History, US History, and World Geography.

He has also mentored many student athletes in one of his passions – cross country – coaching teams to Condor League titles in 1980, 1984, 1987 and 1988.

In 2008, he was co-coach of the OVS track and field team when it won its first-ever Condor League title.

Not bad for a guy who says when he took the job he was just following his heart.

During his tenure at OVS, Mr. Dinkins said he has enjoyed seeing the growth of the school, pointing to additions such as the pool, the science and technology center, the fitness room at the Upper School, and the Greenberg Activities Center at Lower Campus.

He will be missed for his presence on campus, his sense of humor, his witticisms, and, overall, his good-natured personality.

Ousmane Fofana, a member of the Upper Class of 2009, who calls the French-speaking African country of Mali his home, remembers Mr. Dinkins reaching out to him when he started his OVS life halfway through his freshman year.

"When I first came to OVS, I didn't know anyone, but Dink made me feel at home, speaking French to me and just welcoming me altogether," Ousmane said.

Now that he will not be teaching students five days a week, Mr. Dinkins can focus on personal interests such as landscape painting and travel. He has traveled all across the world, spending a couple of months in France, backpacking and camping, seeing many interesting historical sights and museums, and taking surf trips to Costa Rica and Kauai.

For those who really miss him, Mr. Dinkins is scheduled to teach watercolor painting and Chinese this summer at the Upper Campus.

He may be leaving, but he has become a staple in the memories of the countless students to walk the OVS hills. He will always be a valued member of the OVS community.

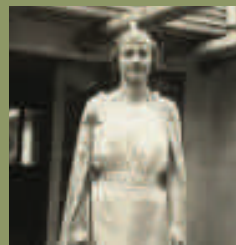
As he heads into the sunset, it's important to remember what Mr. Dinkins himself has to say about the next chapter in his life's journey: "Not all who wander are lost."

MUSIC AND DANCE

Music and movement were an early part of OVS. Cordelia Kingman, well-known for her work in rhythmic dance work in New York, taught posture, folk, and improvisatory dance for two decades at OVS.

Lyle Ring was recruited from Harvard and Surette's Concord Summer School of Music to be OVS's first music teacher. OVS founder Ed Yeomans said, "Lyle

Ring taught us music if such an infectious process of pure joy in singing and playing could be called teaching." Today, musical programs continue to be featured prominently during the academic year, from the World Music Endowment program, funded by Professor Barbara B. Smith (L35), to full-scale musical stage productions.



Barbara Smith (L35)



1991

First Kindergarten graduation ceremony

Pre-kindergarten program introduced

1992

Upper stables built with a gift from current OVS Chairman of the Board, Mr. John De Nault III

STEVE BARTLETT

By Angus Beverly, Upper Class of 2010

It's late in the afternoon, and Steve Bartlett is calmly sweeping away woodchips in his cramped, dusty woodshop at Lower Campus. He is pondering construction techniques for his students' projects, just as he has done for the past 15 years. It is the end of another frenetic day, and the retiring Bartlett knows there are not many of those left.

"I am going to miss some of the kids' energy," said Bartlett, who stepped down at the end of the school year. "I do not have kids of my own. For me, teaching children was a way for me to have a relationship with young people. I feel like I have raised a family of kids during my period of just teaching."

After taking art classes at UCSB and San Diego State University, Bartlett worked as a metal artist, working with cast iron.

"I was a bohemian artist," he said. "I was an abstract expressionist. I used art to express feeling. As human beings, we aren't thinking creatures but feeling creatures."

In 1986, Bartlett began working at OVS, first as a dorm parent and later as a weekend advisor and leader in the outdoor program. During Bartlett's tenure, former Lower School Headmaster and current OVS President Michael Hall-Mounsey asked him to rejuvenate the woodshop program.

After a few years, Bartlett established woodshop as a formalized class that students from 6th to 8th grade could take as an art course. Bartlett also helped the school develop numerous projects, including murals, the tile map of the Sespe in the Greenberg Activities Center, countless metal projects, and, more recently, a straw-bale house.



"There are a number of things I have left my mark on," Bartlett said, noting that OVS gave him the opportunity to express himself creatively.

"In the classroom, everything I teach has been my own program," he said. "Everything I have done has been a curriculum I have created. No textbooks. I have created and presented projects to students and seen how they are accepted and received. My whole career has been a creative experience."

During the 2006-2007 academic year, Mr. Bartlett and a group of students, fueled by a grant from British Petroleum, created a small straw-bale house in a vacant lot across from the Lower School.

"Building the house was a really cool experience," said junior Chloe Freed, a former Bartlett student. "I really admired Mr. Bartlett's passion for teaching and his ability to engage his students in his craft. He taught me a lot and gave me the opportunity to express myself in a new and creative way."

During his retirement, Bartlett plans to spend a significant amount of time working on green building projects on his property near Lake Isabella.

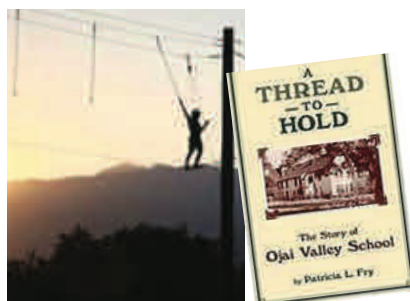
He has a keen interest in eco-building projects that focus on sustainability, like photovoltaic solar panels and papercrete, a concrete-like material made from clay and recycled paper projects.

"Mr. Bartlett loves the work he does," said Lower School Assistant Headmaster Gary Gartrell, who has worked with Bartlett for many years. "He truly enjoys the work he creates and the work he is able to help students create. He has always looked for new ideas, innovations, and new ways to get faculty and students alike involved in old world and new world projects."

1996

Upper Ropes course and Lower Wallace Burr Pergola completed

A Thread to Hold: The Story of Ojai Valley School published



1996 world events

Dolly the Sheep first mammal successfully cloned

Nasa's first Mars rover launched

1998

Lower Technology Center completed and named in honor of Norman Pollet

DAVE BROWN

By Garrett Blach, Upper Class of 2010

Come to any sporting event or school function, and you will likely see him sporting his trademark Fedora, khakis, and white sneakers. Still can't find him? Look for the guy toting a walking stick, the accessory that probably fits him best.

He is a traveler, constantly in motion. And now, he will need that walking stick more than ever.

After 44 years of teaching, selling real estate, running a geology museum, and more teaching, 70-year-old Dave Brown is retiring. So, what's next?

"Who knows?" he said with a soft but excited grin. "All I have planned for the rest of this year is seeing my son and his family in Chicago. There's also a [fossil] dig that I plan on doing in September."

From a young age, Dave Brown knew he wanted to be a teacher. Born in Pomona to a minister father, Monte, and stay-at-home mother, Dorothy, he spent time in Colorado, Indiana, and Oregon, before attending Webb School in California.

"By my senior year, I knew I wanted to be a teacher."

In 1971, Brown began teaching at The Thacher School. He taught biology, geology, mathematics, and electives in biology. Brown also coached soccer for the Toads.

Upon leaving Thacher, Brown took up real estate in Ojai with Coldwell Banker.

In 1989, Brown came to OVS for one year and later returned for a second stint in 1992 to teach science and math. He left OVS in 2000 to run a geology museum in Casper, Wyoming.

After seven years, Brown returned to OVS to teach AP biology, geology, and conceptual physics. Now, he is stepping down permanently.

"It was just time," he said. "I had been feeling it for most of the year."

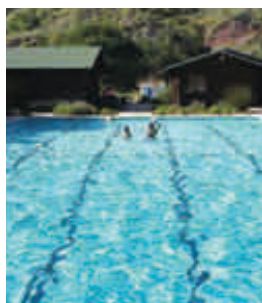
When asked what he'll miss most, Brown replied: "Working with the students and trying to convey my enthusiasm, trying to get them to see the world from a different point of view. I spent my whole life doing that, and I enjoyed it a lot."

So now, Brown walks off into the sunset, an unknown world in front of him, with his walking stick in tow. But the transition should be simple, as this isn't his first journey.



1999

Upper School Activities Center; pool and field house completed



2000

New Lower School pool completed

2005

Upper School Lucila Arango Science and Technology Center completed



BERNADETTE DIPIETRO

By Chloe Freed, Upper Class of 2011

After 33 years at Ojai Valley School, art teacher Bernadette DiPietro has stepped down from her position.

DiPietro developed an art department at the Upper School in 1983. She transformed an old empty room into a resourceful place for students to let their artistic minds flourish. From that point on, Ms. D, as she is affectionately known, worked hard to expand the art department at OVS. She established an Advanced Placement art class, exposed her students to local museums and artists, and created options for those who love to create.

As a published author and accomplished artist, Ms. DiPietro was the perfect mentor for young art students. Museums and galleries have been exhibiting her work since 1979 throughout the United States and Europe, and she has won numerous awards for her art. As a teacher, she pointed her students in the right direction and then let them paint their own unique path.

"I encourage them to risk using unusual combinations of materials, and experimenting with a variety images and themes," Ms. DiPietro said. "I guide them toward an understanding of the elements and principles of design."

Her way of motivating students to open their minds and search their imaginations to create original art is inspiring in itself.

Over the years, her students have been accepted to some of the most prestigious art schools in America, such as Parsons School of Design, Art Center in Pasadena, and Rhode Island School of Design, to name only a few.

"Ms. D's projects and positive comments towards my art encouraged me so much," said senior Vivian Park, who had Ms. DiPietro as a teacher for three years and who will attend Parsons School of Design in New York this fall. "As a teacher, she helped me a lot and really encouraged me to pursue art."

Though retired from teaching, Ms. DiPietro continues to work on her own art. She recently had an opening in Los Angeles at the Pacific Design Center featuring some of her photography. She plans to, "see what unfolds, and see what happens," and continue to stretch her imagination and inspire those around her.



VISUAL ARTS

Carl Eric Lindin, the philosopher and landscape painter, taught the first art classes and was a member of the Board of Trustees. Originally from Sweden, he studied at the Art Institute of Chicago, in France, and was one of Woodstock Art



Colony's leading painters. Today, the visual arts continue to be a focus, from the primary division to the Upper School. See article on retiring art teacher Bernadette Di Pietro's on this page.



2006

Lower School Greenberg Activities Center and Abbott Classrooms addition completed



2007

First eight-man football game played



CENTENNIAL EVENTS

Save these Dates

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2011 – 100th Birthday Party

Join our students on the quad for an old-fashioned birthday party to celebrate OVS turning 100!

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2011 – Parent Centennial Celebration

Enjoy a play and dinner as well as fantastic live and silent auction items

FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2011 – Pre-1960s Alumni Reunion

Honoring alumni from the 1910s through the 1950s

Enjoy remarks, lunch, a music performance, and time to reminisce

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011 – Pons Dinner

The Centennial eighth grade class and Lower graduates attending high school are invited to the 16th annual Pons Dinner

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2011 – 100th Eighth Grade Graduation

Join our Centennial graduating class on the quad

FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2011 – 12th Grade Graduation

Celebrate our graduating seniors and the 50th anniversary of purchasing the land for the Upper School

FRIDAY TO SUNDAY, JUNE 10-12, 2011 – There will be Alumni Weekend Centennial Celebration milestone reunions for classes ending in “1” and “6,” but all alumni are encouraged to attend this historic celebration. Enjoy golf, hiking, swimming, soccer, special guests, and a dinner celebration with music and images through the decades

JULY TBD, 2011

Alumni gathering in Seoul with Shelley Hermes (U77) and Danny Kim (L01, U05)

TO BE ANNOUNCED: Regional alumni events in San Francisco and Tokyo

**For the most up-to-date centennial information,
log on to ovs.org/centennial**

2009

Michael D. Hermes retires from presidency after 34 years.

Michael Hall-Mounsey elected President

2009

Dr. Andrew D. Hamilton appointed Lower School Headmaster

John De Nault III named Chairman of the Board. William Hair steps down as Chairman, after 37 years of service



2009

Through the generosity of parent Dawn Silver and grandparent John De Nault III, a new barn was constructed at the Lower School and named the **Terry Wilson Equestrian Center**, after OVS's long-time equestrian director



2011

Ojai Valley School's centennial year

OJAI VALLEY SCHOOL



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If your son/daughter no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please notify the Alumni Office of his/her new mailing address at (805) 640-2578 or alumni@ovs.org



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