



spring 2017

alumni notes

a branch of the ojai valley school family tree



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CONTRIBUTORS

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ALUMNI WEEKEND JUNE 9 - 11, 2017

Alumni Weekend Registration is now open! Sign up online at www.ovs.org/aw
See page 22-25 for more information about this year's program.



On the Cover

Retired teacher Gary Dinkins has spent many years honing his craft as an artist. Even though his paintings would fetch top dollar, he has chosen instead to lend many of his pieces to the Upper Campus, where he taught history and foreign languages for 40 years. Today, Mr. Dinkins paintings adorn the walls of the Burr Hall library and offices, where students, teachers, alumni, and other visitors can enjoy them. In 2015, a bidding war broke out over a painting he donated to benefit the OVS Gala and Auction. Dinkins settled the dispute by generously donating a second painting.

This year, Mr. Dinkins has donated another piece (pictured here and on the cover) to benefit OVS through this year's Gala and Auction, which will be held at the Lower Campus on May 6. Join us and you could go home with a Dinkins original. Call the Development Office for tickets at (805) 640-2584, ext. 1222 or visit www.ovs.org/gala.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE



In the past few weeks a long-forgotten series of events befell our students. An occasion causing excitement – and appeals to leave the classroom and experience the phenomena first hand – was affecting life on both campuses. It was raining! In fact, it was pouring. Students rediscovered puddles, P.E. on soggy fields and the joy of sliding in the mud. After years of drought, a series of storms provided some short-term relief, although our water conservation efforts continue. The study of water hydrology, river watersheds, and a legacy of land and water stewardship have been integral parts of our curriculum for many years and reflect the school's long-standing commitment to environmental education and sustainability. This includes our commitment to saving nearly 10 million gallons of water since 2013.

I am proud to inform our alumni that the concerted efforts by the OVS community to sustain and conserve (especially water) have been recognized by the State of California with the naming of Ojai Valley School as a Green Ribbon School, the state's top honor for environmental excellence in education.

As one of only seven independent schools recognized, we were commended for "exemplary achievement in whole school sustainability, reducing environmental impact and costs, improving the health and wellness of students and staff, and providing effective environmental and sustainability education." That is quite a testimonial!

The award was announced last month by the California Department of Education. Junior Emma Gustafson (L14) has written a wonderful story about the award, which is included in this issue. We are grateful to our Director of Technology and Sustainability John Wickenhaeuser for leading our sustainability efforts, and writing the 48-page Green Ribbon Schools application. Many thanks are also due to our faculty and staff, whose contributions in the classroom, in our renowned outdoor education program, in recycling and composting efforts and more were the basis of this well-deserved recognition.

We also appreciate and recognize the support of like-minded alumni, like you, who support our programs and provide OVS with the resources to be an innovative leader in environmental science, technology, and conservation-focused education. There is much more that we can accomplish on the sustainability front. This has been central to our OVS Vision Plan, our strategic plan for future growth and improvement, and is integral to our current building plans for the Upper Campus Student Commons and Library.

We look forward to working as a community to advance these goals, and welcome the opportunity to hear your thoughts and ideas about these exciting initiatives. We remain a school whose relationship, since its founding, to the environment through our many outdoor experiences, has never wavered. I constantly hear from our alums about their favorite camping trips and experiences in the spectacular wilderness on our doorstep and beyond.

Whilst the OVS students here in Ojai may wait in vain for the next rainstorm, they will continue to study their important role in preserving and conserving our natural wonders for everyone's future. It may be a while until they again get to play in the rain!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Hall-Mounsey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Michael J. Hall-Mounsey
President/CEO

Dress dinner is a tradition that continues today

By Carl S. Cooper (L64, U68)

Throughout the school year, our resident students participate in Dress Dinners, trading their t-shirts for neckties to enjoy a more formal meal with their peers and faculty members. Dress Dinner occurs once a week on each campus, continuing a long-standing tradition intended to teach children and teens basic etiquette and the concept of dining rather than just eating.

As Dress Dinner is a tradition I know well from a lifetime spent at Ojai Valley School, I thought I would share a bit of history about how it originated and evolved over the years.

As a child at Lower Campus, sit-down formal meals were the norm. Even in the summer program, we were assigned seats and, at dinner, boys were required to wear long trousers and collared shirts; while the girls were expected to wear dresses or a nice blouse and skirt. Students were placed at different tables each week and over the course of a school year would, at one time or another, sit with every other student in the school. This tradition was carried to the Upper Campus when it opened in the 1960s and continued into the early 1970s.

At that time, students also learned to wait tables, perform dish detail and, at Upper, even help with food preparation. There were many reasons we shifted away from this approach for all meals, but major reasons were economics and health codes. Serving cafeteria-style actually reduces food waste and allows more people to eat in a shorter time frame.

From that time onward, we have held at least one Dress Dinner a week on each campus to prepare students for the kind of dining situations they will experience over the course of their lives.

At the high school, we use Dress Dinner to promote leadership as the seniors serve as table heads. Two or three sophomores are selected to lead the wait crew that is made up of all freshmen and new students to the



school. Every student over the course of his or her tenure at Upper will serve on the waitstaff and even the faculty contribute by serving the very formal holiday meal in December.

Good manners are taught by instruction and by example. The experience of having relaxed conversations with peers and adults while sharing a meal, rather than rushing off to study or play, reminds us to slow down and appreciate a good meal with friends.

I am reminded of an alumna who returned to visit just after finishing her MBA. Her professor was impressed that when she met someone she had a firm handshake and looked a person in the

eye. She credited the skill to the tradition of the Head of School greeting each student as they come through the door at Dress Dinner, shaking hands, making eye contact and exchanging a few words of acknowledgment.

As a school, we are proud that we expose students to the little niceties of life and expect them to incorporate them into their daily lives.

Dress Dinner is another way we build social skills, develop a sense of community and the responsibility that service to others brings. It is more than an occasion to dress up and eat a meal - it is truly a fulfillment of our goal of educating the whole child.



OVS Plans to Expand and Improve Hermes Hall at Upper Campus

By Tracy Wilson

Plans to improve the resident facilities at Upper Campus will continue this summer as Ojai Valley School launches a significant renovation of Hermes Hall dormitory for boys, formerly Bristol House. The school also plans to continue upgrades to rooms in Smith Hobson House for girls. Taken together, these two projects will significantly improve the resident experience at Upper Campus, and, with donor support, can be accomplished in a short period of time to immediately benefit current and future high school students.

Ojai Valley School launched a three-phase capital campaign to improve and expand facilities at the Lower and Upper campuses seven years ago on the eve of its centennial. The Next 100 Campaign successfully funded the Alan F. Pearson Center of the Arts, which was built in 2015, and made possible renovations to Boney Bean and Tower dorms at Upper Campus, as well as improvements to Wallace Burr Hall.

The school is now poised to finish Phase II of the campaign with renovation of Hermes Hall and improvements to Smith Hobson House. These projects are critical to maintaining and expanding enrollment by creating a safe, comfortable environment for students to learn and grow. While students enjoy modern science laboratories and newly renovated classrooms, they still lack spacious dorm rooms to rest, study, and socialize with friends.

A recent feasibility study, which included interviews with alumni, past parents, and current families, showed support for three campus projects: new dorms and faculty housing; construction of a new two-story dining hall or Student Commons; and construction of a gymnasium. Interviewees noted that enhancing the student experience is a top priority and that begins with upgraded housing.

The existing Hermes Hall dorm, built in 1963, no longer meets the needs of a modern boarding school. Plans are now underway to renovate the current dorm and construct a redesigned modern residence hall. By remodeling the dorm on its existing site, the school can complete upgrades to the rooms and adjacent faculty apartments within three to four months. At the same time, the school plans to continue renovations to the girls' dorm by renovating rooms in Smith Hobson House as funding becomes available.

As proposed, the Hermes Hall renovation would begin in June 2017 with demolition of existing rooms and portions of adjacent faculty apartments. Workers would then begin construction of the new rooms, which will be larger, fitted with modern technology and comfortable furnishings, as well as new doors and windows, heating and air conditioning, a new central bathroom and a laundry facility, and storage. By taking some space from the existing faculty apartments, this remodel will expand Hermes Hall from its current six rooms, accommodating 12 boys, to ten rooms, which would accommodate 20 boys. This will enable OVS to admit eight additional boys at Upper Campus. The project is estimated to cost \$980,000 and fundraising efforts are underway.

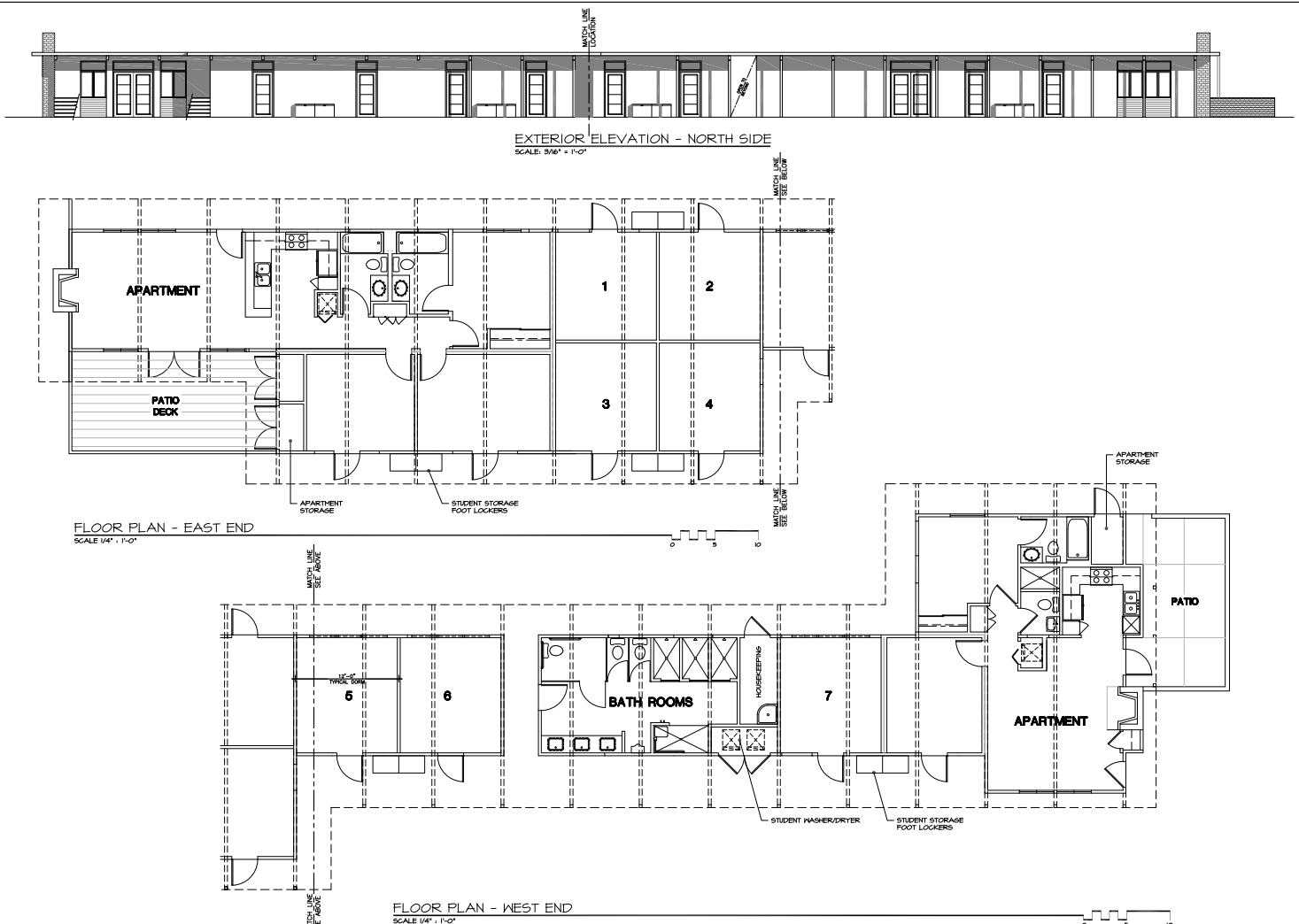
In addition to Hermes Hall improvements, the school will continue renovations to the girls' dorm by replacing the furnishings, flooring, and closet areas in all 23 dorm rooms. Two sample rooms have been remodeled to serve as a template for future renovations. Faculty apartments would also be upgraded, allowing OVS to recruit and retain top teachers. Finally, new landscaping will create attractive indoor and shaded outdoor gathering places for all members of the community.



Support OVS

Support from parents and alumni have funded significant Upper Campus building projects in recent years, including the pool, stables, the Lucila Arango Science & Technology Center, and renovations to Boney Bean and Tower dormitories. Please join this legacy of giving to improve and expand facilities at the Upper Campus. Your support will make a difference for our current and future students.

Contact the Development Office at 805-640-2584 ext. 1276 or by email development@ovs.org



OJAI VALLEY SCHOOL - HERMES HALL
OJAI, CALIFORNIA

JANUARY 06, 2016

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Alumnus and Trustee Ron Rose has retired after a long tenure of service to the school. Rose, pictured far right, participated in the groundbreaking for renovations to the Founder's Workshop in 2015.

Ron Rose Retires from the Board of Trustees after 36 Years

By Elizabeth (Curran) Hermes (L66, U69)

He had developed such a strong attachment to OVS that his mother had to shove him out of the car when she dropped him off to start the 9th grade at Carpinteria High School in the fall of 1950.

Three years before his reluctant start at Carp High, Ron Rose had arrived at OVS as a sixth-grade boarding student. Ojai had offered Ron a more benign environment for his asthma than did the coastal town where his family lived, and Ron thrived as an OVS student. The OVS motto, "Integer Vitae," had resonated for him. Also, the excellent academics in combination with the outdoor program strongly appealed. Another reason Ron developed such a connection to OVS was his admiration and high regard for then Headmaster Wallace Burr. Ron reverently describes Burr as "a true educator" and notes, "He led by example as much as by word."

He was also a heck of a fisherman. "Wally Burr nurtured my interest in fishing and the outdoors," says Ron. "I marveled at the ease with which he would bring back a creek-full of beautiful trout from the Sespe in just an hour

or so, while I would fish all day for one or two!"

The warmth, camaraderie, and fun of Lower Campus life that Ron had experienced at OVS made it hard for him to leave. But there was no high school at that time so Ron left for Carpinteria High. The school ended up being a good fit for him. He was elected student body president and played offensive tackle for three years for The Warriors. "We never lost a league championship while I was there," Ron says, with justifiable pride. He was also a member of the crew team, a team that went all the way to the NCAA championships. And there were other features that Ron liked about being at Carp High besides athletics: "[There was] a good racial and economic balance," he says. In his estimation, "It was a really good school." It must have been. Ron left there to go to Stanford.

Long before the Buenaventura Center (now known as the Pacific View Mall) opened in Ventura, Ron's father had

established the Jack Rose store, an exclusive dress shop that, at one time, employed 150 people. Jack's brother became a partner in this successful venture and opened another family store in Santa Barbara, Lou Rose. That's why Ron's family had ended up in Carpinteria: it's halfway between where the two stores were located.

Ron's father died in 1955, when Ron was just finishing his undergraduate degree in economics at Stanford. Although he'd had aspirations of becoming a Navy pilot or playing major league baseball, Ron wound up instead doing a stint in the National Guard for six months before coming back to run the family store. However, the former football star explains that, when he found himself "arranging mannequins and doing other display work," he concluded, "It just wasn't [his] cup of tea."

About the time he came to that realization, the successful store attracted the attention of women's retail clothes magnate Joseph Magnin, who made an offer the Rose family couldn't refuse. They sold the business, and Ron returned to Stanford for his MBA, which he completed in 1959, the same year he married his high school sweetheart, Lynnette. They had three boys, who are now in their 50s.

Ron moved his family from Carpinteria to Ventura, where he went to work for the Bank of A. Levy, starting as a lowly management trainee but ultimately serving as the bank's chief loan officer, senior vice-president, and regional manager. After a distinguished 29-year career there, Ron worked briefly for Santa Barbara Bank and Trust before retiring for good.

He had been a hard worker at the bank, sometimes putting in 50 to 60 hours a week. He has also been hard working as a volunteer. With his rowing crew experience combined

(continued on page 14)

Science Fair Winners

Five OVS middle school students took top honors at the Ventura County Science Fair and three qualified to compete at the state level in April for projects that explored innovations in math, botany, and biological product design.

"We had several students who were invited to participate in the state science fair, which is a super high standard," said science teacher Matt Inman, who joined the students at the recent county awards ceremony.

Caleb Carver in sixth grade won first place in Botany and is eligible to compete at the California State Science Fair. Sixth grader Hannah Little and seventh grader Alex Alvarez tied for first in the Biological Product Science division and both are eligible to compete at the state fair.

Eighth grader Ethan Gao won second place in Mathematics, Computer Science and Electronics, while classmate Sophie Ades won an honorable mention in Mathematics, Computer Science and Electronics. She also won a special award from the Society of Women Engineers.

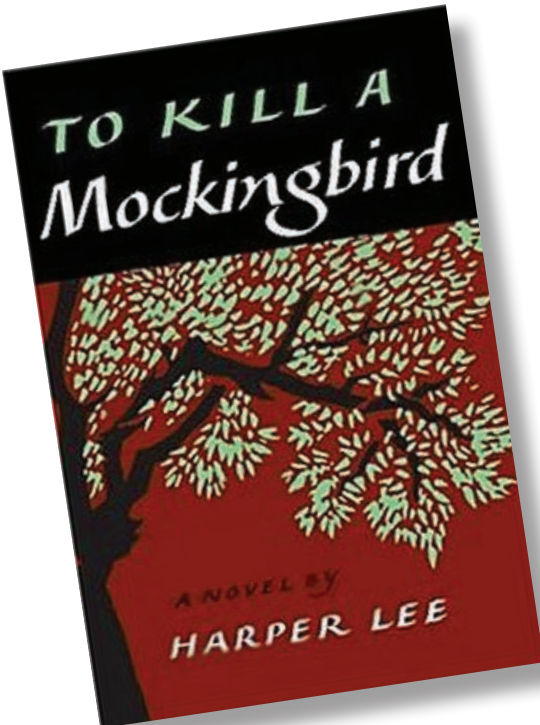
The students who qualified for the state fair will attend its 66th annual event at the California Science Center on April 24-25. They will be present their projects alongside nearly 1,000 other students in grades 6-12 from 400 schools throughout California.



Ventura County Science Fair winners Ethan Gao and Caleb Carver (top row), Alex Alvarez and Sophie Ades (middle row) and Hannah Little (bottom row).

Inspired Reading from Courtroom to Classroom

By Joy Campbell (L14, U18)



In February, the *New York Times* published an article about five teens who vandalized Virginia's historic Ashburn Colored School, and, as their sentence, were handed a reading list. The court's disposition required the teens to read and give monthly reports on 12 books from a list of 35 that address "some of history's most divisive and tragic periods."

Upper Campus English teacher Terry Wilson read the article and became inspired by the judge's reading list, and its common themes of prejudice and discrimination. She assigned the list to her AP Language and Composition students during the winter break. The goal was for students, upon returning to school, to present oral and written reports on the books they chose. They were asked to consider why the court chose the book for the disposition and share personal opinions with their classmates to encourage more reading.

Now, the AP students and faculty members are exploring ways in which some of the books could be included in the upcoming summer reading for all Upper Campus students.

The books all follow a common theme of prejudice, and they cover a broad range of subjects, from the pain and horrors of the Jim Crow South to moments of hope for the women in Iran during the revolution. The list includes literary classics such as *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Color Purple*, *Night*, and *Cry the Beloved Country*. It also includes modern titles, including *The Underground Railroad*, *The Orphan Master's Son* and *Reading Lolita in Tehran*.

"Each one of these books has similar themes, in terms of discrimination and the ways people have dealt with it," Ms. Wilson said. "These just seemed like really good books to suggest."

OVS Honored for Environmental Education and Sustainability Initiatives

By Emma Gustafson (L14, U18)

In recognition of its long-standing commitment to environmental conservation, preservation and sustainability, Ojai Valley School has been named a California Green Ribbon School, the state's top honor for environmental excellence in education.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced the Green Ribbon awards in March, lauding more than two dozen California schools and school districts for reducing their environmental footprints and engaging students in environmental literacy.

"Through their environmental practices, the schools and districts we honor today are teaching students to be responsible stewards of our precious resources," Torlakson said at the awards ceremony, held at Redondo Union High School. "I commend their commitment to instill policies and habits that will continue our forward progress in establishing healthy campuses and communities."

OVS was one of three schools in the Ojai Valley, and one of seven independent schools statewide, to earn the Green Ribbon title, receiving Gold Level recognition for the award, the state's highest designation. The award – the result of a lengthy application process spearheaded by OVS Director of Technology and Sustainability John Wickenhaeuser – acknowledges efforts at OVS in recent years to reduce environmental impacts and costs, improve the health and

wellness of students and staff, and promote environmental and sustainability education.

"I feel very, very gratified that somebody has recognized our school initiatives of the past several years," OVS President/CEO Michael J. Hall-Mounsey said. "And, I was very grateful to Mr. Wickenhaeuser for leading our efforts and for submitting the extremely detailed application on our behalf."



Earlier this school year, Wickenhaeuser put together a 48-page application that showcased a host of environmental initiatives launched at both the Upper and Lower campuses. For example, in response to California's ongoing drought and keeping with OVS' commitment to sustainable practices, the school set out several years ago to reduce water usage on its campuses and facilities, replacing grassy areas with mulch and drought-tolerant plants, installing weather-based controllers, and optimizing

irrigation. In addition, the school installed a state-of-the-art irrigation system in its equestrian riding arenas on both campuses, and replaced the fine dusty sand in those arenas with a new footing made from a mixture of quartz sand, polyester and synthetic materials. The move drastically reduced the need to water the arenas to keep down dust. Taken together, those conservation measures have saved nearly 10 million gallons of water since 2013.





OVS Upper and Lower Campus students combined on a trip this year to do restoration work on Anacapa Island.

Four years ago OVS installed a 1,001-panel, 274-kilowatt solar array that produces more than 95% of the electricity at the Upper Campus. The solar panel project has reduced electricity use and green house emissions by 56%, and OVS hasn't had to pay an electric bill at the Upper Campus in more than three years.

Another important part of OVS, and an important criterion for Green Ribbon School recognition, is environmental education. Outdoor education starts in pre-kindergarten and continues through the 12th grade at OVS, featuring multiple camp trips each year to national and state parks, mountain ranges, and campsites close and far.

Those trips are meant to be fun, for sure. But they also are in keeping with the school's fundamental commitment to use the outdoors as extended classrooms to teach students the importance of conservation, preservation and good stewardship of the land.

"One of the areas in which we [OVS] are most successful in and where we truly stand out from any other school is in our outdoor education program," Wickenhaeuser said. "The breadth of it is pretty extraordinary."

Over the past two years, OVS has partnered with the National Parks Service on their "Hands on the Land" initiative,

which brings restoration work to the Channel Islands. Funded by the National Environmental Education Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency, the grant has been used by students and teachers on both campuses to access the islands and use them as living laboratories, tackling projects including working on-site in nurseries, removing invasive vegetation, and gathering and compiling plant restoration data.

Students in grades four to 12 participate in those excursions, taking trips to the islands throughout the year. So far this school year, fourth grade students and AP Environmental Science students have taken trips out to the islands to remove non-native species. And, even as the Green Ribbon awards were being announced, OVS fifth graders were on a trip to Anacapa Island to continue the restoration work as part of the federal Hands on the Land grant.

OVS is hardly done.

The school plans in coming years to continue with water and energy conservation, recycling, and develop more partnerships such as the Hands on the Land effort.

"I think the thing that really pleases me about this is to have a third party recognize and validate what we've been doing as a school, and it's broad based," Wickenhaeuser said. "It's not just one person who was doing this. This is something integrated into the experience at Ojai Valley School for a long time."



COMMUNITY SERVICE

OVS Fourth-grader Shaved His Head to Draw Attention to Disease That Threatened His Life

By Joy Campbell (L14, U18)



The clock reads 8:05 a.m. It's time for the All-School meeting at the Lower Campus. There's a brief introduction. OVS fourth grader Jake Larkin and a fellow student, his friend Pako Rilling, are on stage in the Greenberg Activities Center nervously shifting. Jake has his mind set on shaving his head. Why shave his head, much less in front of the entire school? One answer: to raise money for and awareness about pediatric cancer research.

At five and a half years old, Jake was diagnosed with severe aplastic anemia – not a cancer, but a rare disease in which the bone marrow ceases to produce enough blood cells. The knowledge gained through study of pediatric cancer was what saved Jake, and it is a cause very close to his heart – so close that he wanted to share his advocacy with the OVS community.

"As Jake's parents, we are super proud of Jake, that he cares so much about giving back!" said Jake's mom, Kimberly Cluff (L83), speaking on behalf of herself and Jake's father, Robert Larkin. "We are thankful that Ojai Valley School is the type of amazing place that is embracing Jake's event."

Jake has endured much for one so young. He has gone through chemotherapy, and he has lost his hair. He has undergone a bone marrow transplant that saved his life.

Still, aplastic anemia is hard to cure, hard to fight. But it can be conquered. St. Baldrick's Foundation is committed to beating children's cancer, and Jake is committed to supporting that cause.

So, on a morning last fall, the scissors came out.

Grinning from ear to ear, Pako took them and sawed through the base of his friend's ponytail. The next moment the razor was buzzing, and half of his hair was gone. As it fell to the Greenberg stage, the OVS community rallied with donations that morning and helped Jake exceed his goal. He has raised nearing \$8,000 for the foundation.

St. Baldrick's challenges people to shave their heads to raise awareness. Jake is now a healthy boy on his way to change the world of pediatric cancer research — one haircut at a time.

Winter Musical

By Tracy Wilson

The middle and high school performing arts programs recently staged two fabulous spring musicals at the Lower Campus Greenberg Activities Center.

Under the direction of veteran music teachers John and Lisa Boyd, the Upper Campus students tackled the funny and gruesome musical comedy, *Little Shop of Horrors*. Sophomore Clover Griffin (L15) and freshman Shea Colborn (L16), pictured bottom left, played the doomed lovers. Senior Gavin Floyd (L13), pictured at center, portrayed the sadistic dentist. From left to right, freshmen Adair Wallace, Olivia Brown (L16), sophomore Wendy Lazo-Dowdy (L15), junior Leila Giannetti (L14) and sophomore Lilli Trompke lent powerful voices to the production.

The middle school students, under the direction of Performing Arts Coordinator Andy Street, performed the rousing western musical *Paint Your Wagon*. The ensemble cast of students in grades 6-8 were impressive and the show provided numerous opportunities for solo talent, include eighth-graders Grace McHale and Timothy Chadwick (pictured upper right), as well as swooner Beckett McDowell (pictured bottom right).



Outdoor Education

Class hikes in the Sespe. Mountaineering adventures in the High Sierra. Surf trips, ski trips, camping trips, mountain biking excursions, rock climbing explorations and so much more round out the Outdoor Education programs on both campuses today. Students continue to follow in the footsteps of countless alumni before them by learning valuable lessons in the outdoors.

In the fall, eight Upper Campus students participated in a backpacking trip to Gem Lake at 10,000 feet in the Eastern Sierra. The group had to scramble to lower elevation when a sudden snow storm hit, but it was no big deal for these seasoned campers — who all attended the Lower Campus.



From left to right: Aaron Wolf (L16), Caspian Ellis (L16), Siyu Lai (L16), Maya Mullins (L15), Lucy Orgolini (L15), Gavin Floyd (L13), Jeffrey Lin (L13) and Shawn Harvey (L13).

Ron Rose...

continued from page 8

with his credentials as a banker, Ron was chosen to be the finance manager of the rowing events, held at Lake Casitas, during the 1984 Olympics. He also served as president of the Ventura County Taxpayers Association and was a member of the Ventura Rotary Club, as well as of Consumer Credit Counselors. Ron joined the OVS Board of Trustees in 1980 and, over the last 36 years, has served on the Building and Grounds Committee, the Investment Committee, and the Academic Committee. Former Board Chairman Bill Hair, who is the only trustee to serve longer than Ron, had this to say of Ron's contribution: "Ron has always been the

financial 'watchdog,' making sure that OVS stayed the fiscal course. In addition, as an alumnus Trustee, he has also safeguarded the school's traditions, particularly those having to do with the outdoor program."

An environmentalist before the term had been coined, Ron is pleased to see the ways in which OVS has been and remains responsive to environmental concerns. His love of the outdoors, which had been fostered at OVS, has endured and grown. He has camped a lot over the years, exploring a good share of the Sierra. He introduced his boys to camping, and they, in turn, have passed their love of camping to their own children.

Still trim and fit in his 8th decade, Ron goes to the gym five days a week. He reads several newspapers cover to cover and has stayed in touch with some of his OVS classmates. He will be missed by his fellow Trustees, who credit him with having consistently maintained a highly honorable code of conduct. "Ron could always be counted on to ask the tough questions in Board and committee meetings," notes former Chairman Hair, adding, "He was not one to act impulsively." As Ron steps down from the Board of Trustees, OVS would like to express deep appreciation for his impressive 36 years of service.

Baseball

The OVS baseball team won its first game of the season this spring, beating Newbury Park Adventist Academy 8-4 in the league opener. Sophomore Johnathan Duke scored three of the runs, which included stealing home in the fourth inning. Sophomore Nolan Colborn (L15) also helped secure the win, allowing one hit and striking out nine. He also scored the first run of the game. Baseball has a full schedule of games this season. Come out and support the team before the May 20 Alumni Games at Upper Campus!



Golf

The boys' golf team has started the spring season strong with two wins over rival Villanova. After edging the Wildcats by only five strokes in their first match, OVS won by 11 strokes in the second outing, scoring 249-260. Three of OVS' players scored in the 40's for the nine-hole match at Soule Park, and sophomore Jacky Cai (L15) scored a 49. Before the season started, sophomore Kaden Skillern (L15, pictured) pulled off one of the rarest feats in the sport: a hole-in-one. Kaden sunk the shot while playing with his teammates last fall at the Ojai Valley Inn.



Cross Country

Coach Fred Alvarez called them the Magnificent Seven — a powerful and young team of runners who raced their way to CIF Southern Section Cross Country preliminaries last fall. Toeing the line against 112 other runners from 17 schools, almost all of them with student populations larger than OVS, several of the boys turned in personal best performances. With so many underclassmen filling the top spots, the future is bright for this team. Pictured from left to right: Jacob Tadlock (L14), Erick Liang, Shea Colborn (L16), Kase Skillern (L14), Peter Weckerle, Sam Desmond and Won Jun Han (L16).



Equestrian

During Spring Break, five high school riders (including Ivy Sun, shown here on Geromino) departed for Ireland to explore the country on horseback. The OVS equestrians have enjoyed a great year thus far, including a glorious camping trip with their ponies and horses in the Santa Barbara back country.



Alumni Regional Gatherings

Since our last issue of *Alumni Notes*, OVS has been busy traveling the globe recruiting new students and hosting events along the way, allowing alumni the opportunity to reconnect with former classmates and meet the current leadership. During our travels, we visited our sister school in Japan, enjoyed dinner and conversation in Berkeley, had a few laughs with our college alums in Boston, and gathered with parents and alumni at various points in China. If you missed out, please be sure that:

1. We have your current address – so we can let you know when we're in your region,
2. You follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ovsalum and check out our latest events and
3. You save the dates for our upcoming alumni events, including Alumni Weekend, June 9-11.

BERKELEY, CA



On Saturday November 5, seven OVS alumni of the 1970s met President Mike Hall-Mounsey and his wife Carol as well as Development Coordinator Jack McClenahan for dinner at Great China restaurant in Berkeley. After dinner the group walked to nearby Freight & Salvage coffeehouse for a concert of "genre bending" folk music featuring alumnus Ed Littlefield (U67) and his band, Marley's Ghost. Bruce Frank (L71) joined the group there.

Pictured above (left to right) are Carol Hall-Mounsey, Mike Hall-Mounsey, Gail "Gigi" Ordway (U78), Dr. Babak Jamasbi (U78) and Dr. Penelope Jamasbi. Also at the dinner were Charlie and Kathy Devoli (U76), Cindy Alwan (U75), and Mary Tilbury (U74).

TOKYO



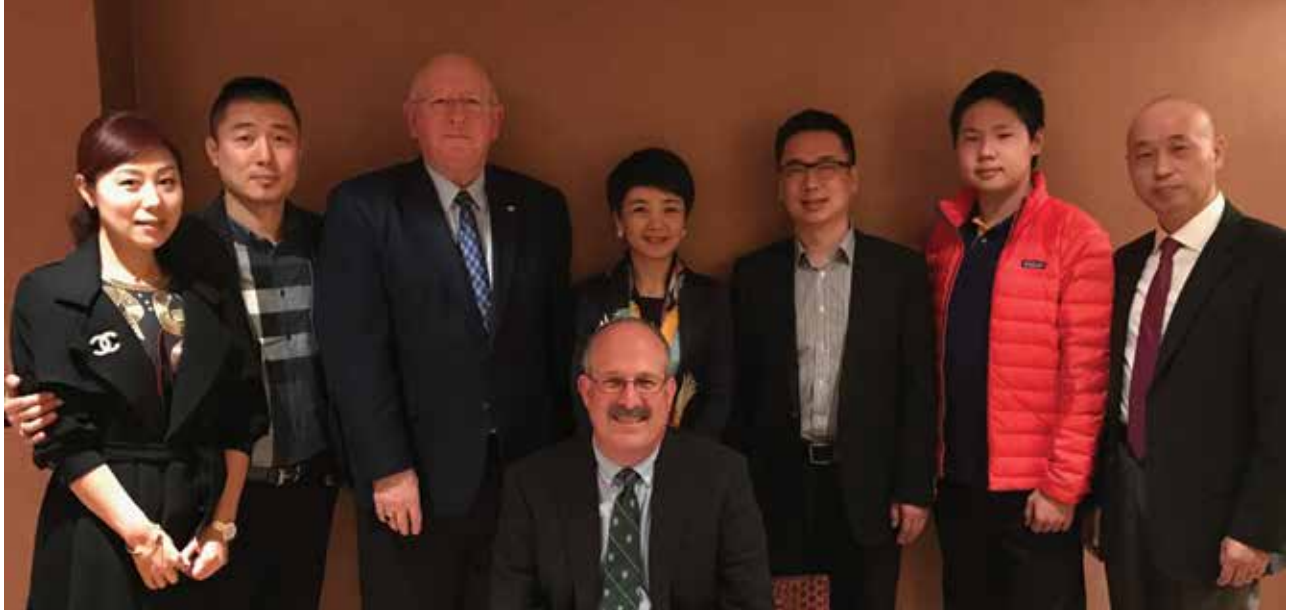
Incoming Upper Campus Head of School Craig Floyd traveled to Japan in mid-October to visit OVS sister school AMICUS International in Okinawa. While there he met with middle schoolers to share information about OVS as well as various school administrators. He then went to Tokyo to attend a TABS recruiting fair to meet prospective students and also attended an alumni function hosted by Ryo Furuya (U81), which was attended by: Ryo, Yohtaro Hamada (U85), Yuhi Kuramoto (U16), Ayako Yamamura - mother of Shotaro Yamamura (U18), and Yoko Matsuo - mother of Eriko Matsuo (L10) and Keiji Matsuo (L05).

SHANGHAI



Li Yao (mother of Gary Zhou), Mei Li (mother of Jenny Zhang), Louis Meng (father of Andrew Meng), Ellen Wang (mother of Danny Wang), Kinda Peng (Educational consultant for Wang family), Jiabo Sun (father of Mark Sun), Jin Feng and Steven Han (parents of Jenny Han), Michael J. Hall-Mounsey, Craig Floyd, Andy Lin (father of summer camper Katie Lin).

BEIJING



OVS President Michael J. Hall-Mounsey and Incoming Upper Campus Head of School Craig Floyd (U83) visited China in March to meet with current and prospective parents and students and alumni. On Sunday, March 12, members of the OVS community were invited to an Alumni & Parents Reception in Beijing hosted by Ojai Valley School. It was a wonderfully attended event and everyone seemed to enjoy hearing about the school's ambitious plans for the future over food and drinks. Pictured above are Hai Ying Dong and Ming Qu (Angela Qu's parents), Michael J. Hall-Mounsey, Hong Xu and Chenghai Xue (parents of Eric Xue (U20), Alex Wei (L16) and his father Andy Wei, and seated is Craig Floyd (U83)

HONG KONG



OVS President Michael J. Hall-Mounsey and Incoming Upper Campus Head of School Craig Floyd (U83) met with Mr. and Mrs. Dan Zigel (U68), alum and former Trustee, at the Jockey Club in Hong Kong.

BOSTON



Thanks to all of our Boston alumni who attended our April gathering. Special thanks to alum Shelly Xu (U14), pictured above, for touring our current high school students as part of this year's Spring Break college tour. Shelly is in her third year at Boston University studying broadcast journalism. She was a staff writer and multimedia editor for the Upper Campus news department "*On the Hill*" and had won 3rd place for the Ventura County Star Journalism Competition in 2014.

Shelly was one six young alums who introduced current OVS students to their universities during the recent college tour: Ally Feiss (U16) is a freshman at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell; Ellen Liu (U14) (pictured) is pursuing degrees at the Rhode Island School of Design and Brown University. Grant Spencer (U14) currently attends Columbia University and classmate Min Choi (U14) attends New York University.

Alumni BASKETBALL

Thank you to everyone who attended the Alumni Basketball game in February. We look forward to seeing you all for the Bingo Memorial Lacrosse Game and Baseball Game on Saturday, May 20. Be sure to RSVP to alumni@ovs.org if you plan on playing in either or both games! A roster will be posted on the OVS Alumni Facebook page in the week prior to game day.



Founder's Alumni Award

The Founder's Alumni Award Recipient will have demonstrated good character, respect for other people, a balance of accomplishments at a level that has a positive and broad impact, whose achievement(s) is/are significant within a profession, career, vocation, or service. Recipients of the award will receive a special spread in Family Tree, an engraved Revere Bowl, and lifetime complimentary access to Alumni Weekend for themselves and a guest.

Please join us on June 10, 2017 during the main event dinner at Alumni Weekend to find out who has been chosen as the 2017 recipient of the award. For more information about the award or to submit your nomination for next year's consideration, please visit, www.ovs.org/alumni/FAA.



Spencer Garrett (L62, U65), pictured with fellow alum and Founder's Alumni Award Committee Member Scott Eicher (L65, U68), was the recipient of the 2016 Founder's Alumni Award.

ALUMNI WEEKEND JUNE 9-11, 2017

Join us this summer for the 2017 OVS Alumni Weekend, June 9-11! Classes ending in a "7" or a "2" are celebrating milestone reunions this year. Also, as many of you may know, the 2016-17 school year marks Carl Cooper's last as Head of School at Upper Campus, and OVS would like to take this opportunity to honor his legacy at Alumni Weekend.

We are expecting a large turnout and will have an expanded schedule to keep everyone busy on both campuses. Registration is now open. Register online at www.ovs.org/aw or by mailing in the form on the next page by June 1 to lock in the early-bird rate. If you plan on staying in the dorms, please be sure to reserve your room immediately – Our event takes place during a very busy weekend in Ojai, many hotels are already booked, and the Upper Campus dorms are expected to reach capacity.

Please always remember that Alumni Weekend is a celebration for all alumni regardless of how long you've been away or which campus you attended! You don't have to be celebrating a milestone reunion to attend!

Save these Dates:

MAY 6
OVS Gala

MAY 20
Alumni Baseball & Bingo Memorial
Lacrosse Games

JUNE 1
Lower Campus Graduation

JUNE 2
Upper Campus Graduation

JUNE 9-11
Alumni Weekend at Upper Campus

OJAI VALLEY SCHOOL ALUMNI WEEKEND, 2017

JUNE 9-11, 2017 - REGISTRATION FORM

Please return your completed form with payment by June 1 to: OVS Alumni Office • 723 El Paseo Road • Ojai, CA 93023

Name _____ Class of _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Email _____ Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Name(s) of adult guest(s) _____

Name(s) & age(s) of child(ren) _____

Activities

Please let us know which events you would like to participate in and the number in your party:

Friday, June 9th

# of people	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
	12:00 p.m.	Carl S. Cooper Golf Tournament	Soule Park Golf Course
	5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Wine & Cheese Welcome Reception	Lower Campus Alan F. Pearson Center

Saturday, June 10th

# of people	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
	8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	Upper Campus Dining Hall
	8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (approximately)	Guided Hike in the Sespe	Meet at Upper Dining Hall
	9:00 a.m. to Noon	Ropes Course	Upper Campus Ropes Course
	9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Pony Rides for Children	Lower Campus
	Noon to 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Upper Campus Dining Hall
# of players:	2:00 p.m.	Alumni vs. Alumni Soccer Game	Dok Smith Upper Campus Field
	4:00 p.m.	Campus Tour – New building plans!	Lucila Arango Science and Tech Center
	4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	Childcare/ Teen Lounge (Dinner provided. Children must be potty trained)	Grace Hobson Smith Girls' Dorm Lounge, Upper Campus
	4:30 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.	THE MAIN EVENT Poolside Social and Grand Celebration Dinner	Upper Campus Pool and Field, respectively.

Sunday, June 11th

# of people	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
	9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Closing Day Brunch	Lower Campus Pergola

Please provide your payment information on the back side of this page.

Accommodations

Please bring your own towels, pillows, bedding/sleeping bags, and toiletries for dorm accommodations. A shuttle will be available from and to Lower Campus.

I will need dorm rooms for _____ people at:

- ☐ Lower Campus
☐ Upper Campus

Alumni Weekend Pass

The 2017 Alumni Weekend Main Event Dinner is a seated event; we strongly encourage you to purchase your ticket(s) in advance, as this event is likely to sell out. ALL meals, campus accommodations, childcare, and activities (except for the golf tournament) are included in your admission ticket.

Early-bird Rate:

\$60 for 1 adult ticket

Ticket(s) \$_____

\$100 per couple (available before June 1 only)

*Ticket prices increase by \$15 per person if paying after June 1

Saturday evening childcare and weekend accommodations for children 4-16 is free

Round up for OVS!

Your tax-deductible gift supports the 2016-17 Annual Fund, which funds new educational initiatives, including new technology and classroom materials, faculty enrichment grants, improvements to our equestrian, athletic and outdoor education programs, as well as increased scholarships and financial aid. Supporting the Annual Fund is the best way to have a positive impact on the daily life of our students and faculty.

☐ \$5 ☐ \$20 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other

Donation \$_____

Payment

☐ Check Enclosed. Please make your check payable to Ojai Valley School.

TOTAL \$_____

☐ Credit Card. To pay with a credit card, for your security, please visit www.ovs.org/aw or call 805-640-2578.

Alumni Note

Tell us about your family, work, interests, a recent vacation, a new venture in your life, share an accomplishment or an OVS memory. You may also email your notes to alumni@ovs.org.



OVS Alumni Weekend: Honoring Carl Cooper, June 9-11, 2017

Friday, June 9th

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	DETAILS
11:00 a.m.	Carl S. Cooper Golf Tournament	Soule Park Golf Course	The Inaugural OVS Golf Tournament honoring Carl S. Cooper Registration starts at 11:00 a.m. – Tee time starts at noon.
After 4:00 p.m.	Dorm Room Self Check-in	Lower & Upper Dorms	Bring towels, toiletries, pillows, and bedding if you will be staying in the dorms.
4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Alumni Weekend Check-in & Information Table	Lower Campus Alan F. Pearson Center	Pick up your reunion materials and name badge – you will need your badge to enter Saturday's Main Event Dinner
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Wine & Cheese Welcome Reception	Lower Campus Alan F. Pearson Center	Join us for live music and a delectable spread.

Saturday, June 10th

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	DETAILS
Enjoy at your leisure	Tennis, Disc Golf, Volleyball & Basketball	Upper Campus Various Locations	Equipment is available to checkout at the information table.
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	Upper Campus Dining Hall	Enjoy a continental, sit-down breakfast with your classmates.
8:45 a.m. to approx. 1:00 p.m.	Guided Hike in the Sespe	Meet at Upper Dining Hall	For all levels of ability. Transportation & lunch provided. Fixings for sack lunch available during breakfast (see above).
9:00 a.m. to Noon	Ropes Course	Upper Campus Ropes Course	Test your skills on the high wires, leap off poles, and zip down the zip line. (Ages 14+)
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Pony Rides	Lower Campus Stables	Pony rides for children
11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Alumni Weekend Check-in & Information Table	Upper Campus Pool	Pick up your reunion materials and name badge – you will need your badge to enter Saturday's Main Event Dinner.
Noon to 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Upper Campus Dining Hall	Enjoy a buffet lunch.
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Pool Open	Upper Campus Pool	Enjoy a refreshing dip in the pool.
2:00 p.m.	Alumni Soccer Game	Dok Smith Upper Campus Field	This will be a scored game – jerseys and equipment provided. Water and soft drinks provided.
4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	Childcare/ Teen Lounge	Grace Hobson Smith Girls' Dorm Lounge	Children and teenagers will be provided with dinner and a variety of age-appropriate activities throughout the evening. Children must be potty trained.
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Campus Tour New building plans!	Lucila Arango Science & Tech Center	Learn about our campus improvements and vision for the future.

THE MAIN EVENT: GRAND CELEBRATION DINNER

Please join us as we honor Carl Cooper and his 47 years of service to the school. We will also present the Founder's Alumni Award Recipient. Dressy casual/cocktail attire with comfortable footwear.

5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Poolside Social	Upper Campus Pool	Join us for cocktails, live music, and group photos. (Class photos begin at 5:15 p.m.)
6:30 p.m.	Grand Celebration Dinner	Upper Campus Field	Adults only, please. Your name badge is required for entry. Shuttle available.
8:30 p.m.	Music & Dancing Under the Stars	Upper Campus Field	Join us after the dinner and program for music and dancing under the stars.

Sunday, June 11th

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	DETAILS
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Closing Day Brunch	Lower Campus Wallace Burr Pergola	Bid adieu to your classmates and enjoy one another's company over coffee and eggs.

Tentative Schedule. Times and activities subject to change
Updated 4/19/17

Alumni Profile

Carolita Landers

Reunited and it Feels So Good!

By Emma Gustafson (L14, U18)

This is a love story. Maybe not a traditional one. Or maybe it's more traditional than you think.

It's a story about OVS alum Carolita Landers (U14) and the horse she rode, named Kronos, during her time at the Upper Campus.

They were not a typical duo. Carolita forged a bond with Kronos that went beyond her love for horseback riding. For her, Kronos was not just a horse to be ridden during sports. He was a special part of her high school life.

So, when it came time this fall for Kronos to retire from OVS, it was only natural for him to find a home with his best friend.

In November, Kronos was trailered from OVS to Colorado, where he now lives on a ranch with an indoor arena, and plenty of space for Carolita to take him on long, leisurely trail rides.

Now a junior at Colorado State University, Carolita did not forget about Kronos after she graduated from OVS, and the strong bond they maintain is proof of the connection that so often occurs between horse and rider as part of the OVS equestrian program.

"I visited OVS for the day the year after I graduated and he was the first thing I went to go see, and I also got to see him when I was at OVS for Caitlin's wedding this summer," Carolita recalls. "And I think that was one of the main reasons why it really sparked my interest in having him."

Typically, when OVS horses grow older, the equestrian department does not fully retire them, unless they are completely unable to be ridden. Rather, they start bumping down the amount a horse is ridden and the duration. For example, the elderly horses will be used only as horses to walk on. And, for the horses that are in too much pain due to old age or health reasons, they are euthanized.

As for students, usually, they will graduate, leave high school, and maybe think back on fond memories of horseback riding, but their horse and their high school memories are in the past.

But that is not the path Carolita chose to take. And that's something Equestrian Director Stephanie Gustafson has never seen in her 11 years at OVS.

"I think it was amazing that Carolita, during her time at OVS, felt such a connection to Kronos that she wanted give him a home for the rest of his life," Mrs. Gustafson said.

The road to this reunion was a long one.

Throughout her time at OVS, Carolita competed in 1st Level Dressage with Kronos, went down to the barn early on Saturdays to groom and ride him, returned to riding him after her gap year in eleventh grade, and in her senior year, asked the equestrian instructors if she could take Kronos to college with her.

Continued, page 44



Alumni Profile

Henry Mooney

OVS Alum Raises Environmental Awareness

By Natasha Freudmann (U17)



While nearly everyone graduates high school with dreams of success, Ojai Valley School alum Henry Mooney (L08, U12) recently solidified his aspirations.

On May 8, Mooney published his first book, *It's Not That Hard: Easy adjustments to make your everyday life a little more environmentally friendly*. He wrote it a mere few months prior to its publication, driven by his passion for the environment and appreciation for environmental conservation.

"Growing up in Ojai, and Southern California in general, it's hard not to be passionate about the environment, or at least constantly immersed in it," Mooney said. "I love the natural world and enjoying the outdoors."

It's Not That Hard focuses on the importance of environmentalism, and gives tips for reducing negative environmental impact. The

book is packed with facts about both issues in society, as well as the environmental movement itself.

"I think a great deal of opposition toward more environmentally friendly initiatives comes from the fact that "being green" is often seen as synonymous with being a hippie, vegan, crossfit enthusiast, etc.," Mooney said. "What many don't realize is that there are definitive scientific reasons why the transition to more environmentally friendly initiatives must take place if we want to be able to physically sustain a growing global population."

OVS played a large part in helping Mooney achieve this mindset.

"I got a good solid foundation for appreciating the outdoors, and especially through OVS," Mooney said. "Not only did I go camping or backpacking every single year, but I took AP Environmental Science with Mr. Wickenhaeuser in my senior year, which really solidified my appreciation for environmental conservation."

AP Environmental Science teacher John Wickenhaeuser couldn't be more proud of Mooney for following this path.

"I, of course, think that his pursuit of Environmental Studies is fantastic," said Mr. Wickenhaeuser, who also serves as the school's Director of Technology and Sustainability. "I think it is great that he put together this straightforward guide to things that everyone can do to reduce their impact on the planet."

After graduating from OVS in 2012, Mooney attended Stony Brook University, where he majored in Environmental Studies. He is now living in Stellenbosch, South Africa, and is working towards his Master's Degree in Sustainable Development, with a focus in Renewable Energy Development. Following the completion of this program, Mooney hopes to go into environmental and energy consulting for businesses or government projects having to do with renewable energy implementation.

Currently, however, Mooney is focused on the success of his book, and the impact it will make on the environment.

"My hope is that people adopt at least one [technique] listed in the book," Mooney said. "The rippling effect made by seven billion people will make a huge difference. So that's why I wrote it. Not everybody has to learn about global environmental issues to have a positive impact, it really just involves simple lifestyle adjustments."

Alumni Profile

Chris Cole



Producing Results

OVS Alum Chris Cole Developed a Passion for Film While Attending Upper Campus. Now He is Producing Films for the Big Screen

By Emma Gustafson (L14)

Chris Cole (U05)has long had an interest in film, and he brought that passion with him to the Upper Campus when he attended from grades 10 to 12. In his sophomore year, Chris traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico to volunteer at an orphanage. When he returned he made a documentary of his time spent there and showed it to his classmates and teachers.

Fast forward just a few short years and Chris has now transformed his hobby of making school documentaries into the business of producing films for the big screen. Recently, the New York resident showed his film *Entonces Nosotros (About Us)*, a romantic comedy set in Costa

Rica, at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival. Before the February screening, Chris returned to the Upper Campus and invited faculty members to attend. The film first started while Chris was in graduate school at Columbia University, where he met his collaborator, Hernan Jimenez. Chris read Hernan's script, and the pair decided they should create the film.

"I hadn't planned on doing something like that just because it's very tough to make a movie, especially when you're in grad school," explained Chris, a 2005 graduate and executive producer for *Entonces Nosotros*. "I was drawn to script because it was a comedic yet honest look at the end of a relationship that managed to subvert the usual expectations of a romantic comedy."

Alumni Profile

Chris Cole

Chris and Hernan, who is the writer, director, and lead actor of the film, went through pre-production for two months, and shot the film in Costa Rica for six weeks. They were also heavily involved in the casting process, casting the lead actresses from Argentina, because of the immense talent there that is not widely recognized. In April of Chris's and Hernan's senior year, *Entonces Nosotros* premiered in Panama. The film has since become the fourth highest grossing Costa Rican film ever, and was that country's official entry for Best Foreign Language Film at the 89th Academy Awards.

In May, *Entonces Nosotros* will be available on HBO, and Chris has already started working on several projects, one being another romantic comedy with Hernan, and the other being a horror film.

OVS English teacher Crystal Davis taught Chris during his time at OVS, and remembers him as a deep thinker who was very involved in international and social issues.

"I think that sensitivity spilled over into everything he did," Ms. Davis said. "And I was delighted and surprised when he came to visit [OVS], and he was able to recognize that some of the training he received as a writer helped him in his role of producing films."

OVS science and music teacher Lisa Boyd attended the showing of *Entonces Nosotros* in Santa Barbara.

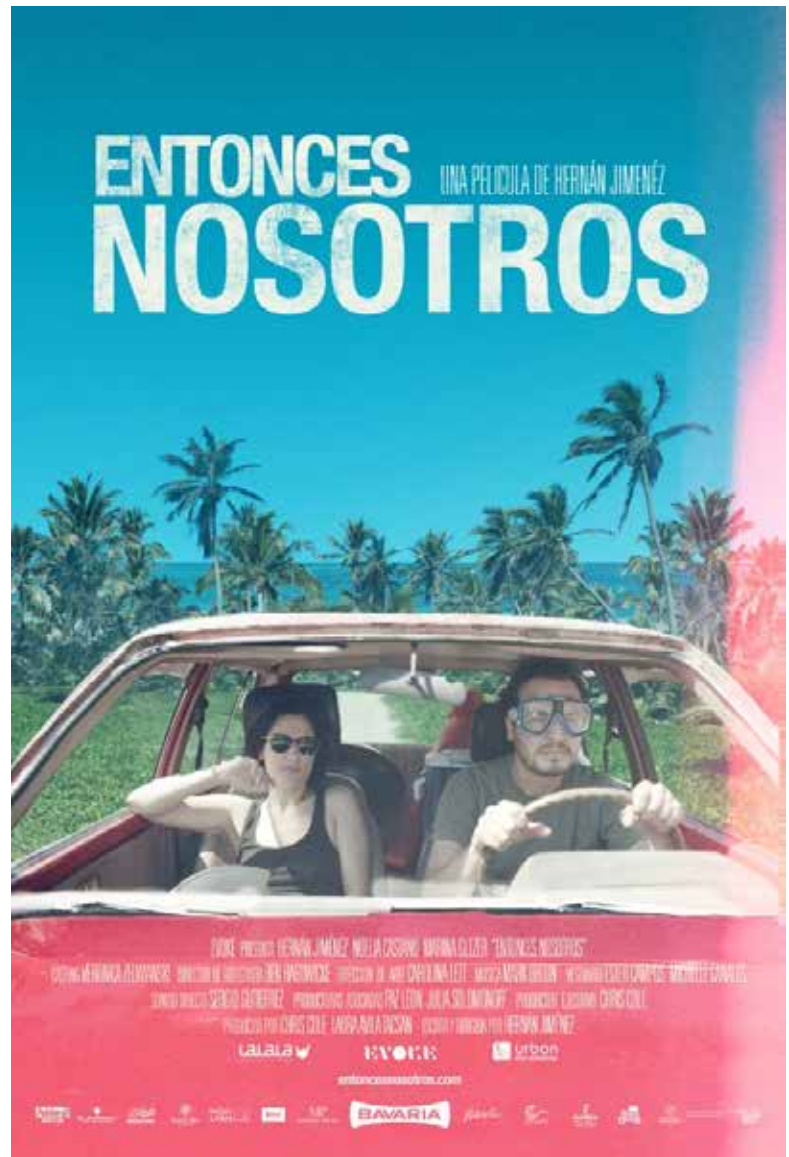
"I loved it," she said. "It was a romantic comedy, it was in Spanish with subtitles, I laughed, I was moved by it, it was fun."

Throughout his time at OVS, Chris participated in the school plays, playing the lead in all, and working with Mrs. Boyd, who directed the plays. Mrs. Boyd also was one of Chris's dorm parents, and describes her and her husband, photography teacher John Boyd, as almost "surrogate parents" to Chris during his time in high school.

After high school, Chris went on to receive a bachelor's degree in finance and political science from Arizona State University, and a master's in creative producing from Columbia University, where he received the Carla Kuhn Fellowship, Producing Faculty Fellowship, and Film Program Scholarship.

But even with all that scholarship and expertise under his belt, Chris said it was nice to return to OVS recently and touch base with the people and the place that helped spark his creativity.

"It was great [to see Mrs. Boyd] because she was one of like the creative lynchpins for me at OVS," Chris said. "It was cool to come full circle and have her there."



alumni notes



Lower 1953

1 Alaska residents **Edgar Bailey** and his wife, Nina Faust, were presented with the third annual Land at Heart award by the Kachemak Heritage Land Trust (KHLT) for their lifelong commitment to ecology. Alaska's first land trust, the KHLT was established in 1989 to preserve, for public benefit, land with significant natural, recreational, or cultural values by working with willing landowners on Alaska's Kenai Peninsula.

Jeri (Batson) Prenzlow, along with some of her classmates, visited the Lower Campus recently and had this to say about her experience as a student: "My two years at OVS (7th and 8th grades) in 1950-1952 were the best years of my childhood (and perhaps my parents' lives, too)!"

"I was very energetic, daring, etc. Not bad, just an early teen. Mr. Burr told me I had the most 'marks' in the history of the school. My punishments included being 'campused' three times in a row and being spanked in his office after putting on nine pair of cotton underpants under my Levi's. It didn't help.

"Then the next day, he, Mr. Burr called across campus, 'Jeri! Are you upset with me?' – Of course, I could never be upset. I had earned the spanking. I just forgot how much they hurt!"

"Also, Mr. Burr made me press my tongue on his handful of cayenne pepper for using a swear word (learned at OVS!) in front of him. HOT! But I never repeated that word. by the time I was in 9th grade, OVS had helped me mature! Thank you all, for all you do!"

Lower 1954

Congratulations to **Tim Crawford** and his wife, Kathy, who were awarded the 2016 Montana Neighbor Award for their commitment to conservation and community land involvement. There were only five recipients of this award throughout the state of Montana. The Crawford ranch sits on a 360-acre plot around the East Gallatin River off West Dry Creek Road. When the Crawfords chose to put their property into a conservation easement, they made a permanent commitment to protecting their public land. Tim is also involved with several land organizations including the Gallatin Valley Land Trust and the Public Land and Water Access Association.

Lower 1950

Dee Dee Casey and **Joan (Hassall) Carroll**, graduates of OVS 9th grade in 1950, met in Anchorage, Alaska, just in time for a bright brick-gold autumn. They enjoyed memories of former OVS Headmaster Wallace Burr, as well as of teachers Chel Kesselheim and Ada Duggar.

Lower 1952

It was good to hear from **Cathy Hertz**, who has had an eventful year in 2016. She broke her hip at a New Year's Eve party and consequently spent nearly a month in a rehabilitation facility before she could return home. Relocating her home is another notable event Cathy experienced recently. She moved to Loma Linda last September and says she loves it.

Cathy continues to do freelance copyediting. She's taken on two huge projects, one of which she describes as "a 5,000-page tome on anesthesiology."

She is planning a trip to India with a stopover in Israel later this year.



Just about everyone who has lived in Ojai knows about Friend's Ranch. Many of you also know that the owners are OVS alums and, in George Thacher's case, a current OVS parent. However, did you know that "Friend" is a family name? We came across this bit of history on their website:

It began with George and Sarah Beers, whose daughter Annie married William Friend and had six children in the late 1800s: George Elmer, Inez, Ellen, Jennie, Velma, and Henry.

In the 1940s, George Elmer had two daughters, Aleta and Anne. Anne married Tony Thacher (L55) and had two children in the 1970s, George Thacher (L85) and Emily (Thacher) Ayala (L86).

George married Marcia (current OVS Spanish teacher) and they have three children, Matthew (L16), Andrew (L17), and Mariana (L20). Emily married Tony Ayala, and they have two children, Oliver and Celeste.

Five generations of the Friend family have lived and farmed in Ojai (the sixth generation is still too young to have made career decisions, but, reportedly, they do enjoy running amok in the orchards).

Alumni and friends, Pixie season is here! Be sure to visit the Friend's website to order your box. They also offer shipping!

www.friendsranches.com





This photo was taken by Bill Wilmer (L55) in early August from a dirt road across the Ruby Marsh in Nevada.

OVS regrets to report that **Timothy MacAlpine** passed away on July 6, 2016.

Lower 1955

2 Bill Wilmer and his wife, Sue, spent part of their summer on a five-week travel trailer trip to Nevada, Idaho, Utah, and the eastern Sierra. They started the trip with a week's stay at Ruby Lake at the base of the Ruby Mountains in northeastern Nevada. The lake (which Bill described as really a marsh) encompasses 35,000 acres, stocked with trophy trout and a range of bird species. "It is remote, requiring a dedicated 125-mile drive on narrow and eventually dirt roads to reach the Forest Service campground. The silence of the days and nights is remarkable, and the vistas are 180 degrees for miles with no lights at night except the stars," Bill wrote. "It was a very peaceful camping experience, akin to some earlier times spent 'way down the river' in the Sespe years ago."

From the marsh, they traveled to Craters of the Moon National Monument in Idaho and then were off to an area near the Grand Tetons to be with friends from Montana for a few days. From there,

they landed on the shore of Flaming Gorge and then spent several days at Dinosaur National Monument with their eldest daughter, Chris, and her two young boys, the Wilmers' youngest grandchildren. "Together, we white-water rafted the Green River though the most beautiful canyon I have ever seen," Bill said. "Sue and I then drove across Utah and Nevada to the eastern Sierra where we stayed a week next to the Walker River. Then we returned to Mountain Ranch."

In addition to exploring, reading, and spending time with family, Bill continues to write about his life in Venezuela, which will include his years at OVS.

Lower 1959

Peggy Chase, whose background is in social work, continues to do work that she enjoys and that greatly benefits others. She travels to companies and organizations—some of them in distant states—to conduct manager and employee training seminars. Her clients include such divergent groups as city and county employees, hospital staff, educational institutions, as well as law

and architectural firms. “The underpinning of everything I do is emotional intelligence,” explains Peggy. She defines that term as “the ability to be aware of and manage one’s emotions as well as to effectively intuit and respond to the emotions of others in any situation.” She adds, “I hope these are skill sets that will soon be more fully embraced in educational settings.”

The companies and organizations that hire Peggy consider her training seminars an investment that’s clearly worthwhile: when a workplace environment is one in which employees can thrive, organizational effectiveness and profitability increase dramatically. When, years ago, Peggy explained the nature of her work to Thacher School’s Jack Huyler, he offered this homely but apt analogy: “In other words, happy cows give more milk.”

Yes. They do.

Peggy’s daughters are doing well. Farr, who has two children, is a school psychologist in Ithaca, New York. Edie, also mother of two, is a successful singer-songwriter, who tours the country and has several CDs. Her home base is in Colorado. Check out Edie’s website at www.ediecarey.com

Lower 1960

We are grateful to learn **Victoria Arguello Harris**, (previously known as “Vicky”) is doing well, having survived two knee replacements, two hip replacements, and cancer. She writes, “Always be appreciative of what we have and life... thankful I can still ride my horses and have wonderful friends and family!”

Lower 1962

Lola Marley (see U65)

Lower 1966

Claudia (Christensen) Wunderlich (see U69)

Lower 1972

Leola “Lee” Roberts attended the Lower Campus and returned last fall as the new social studies and language arts teacher for the sixth grade. She holds a Master of Arts degree in American and New England Studies and has extensive experience teaching appreciation and mastery of the written word. She is excited to be returning to her Ojai roots, and we are so happy to welcome this dedicated educator, dynamic writer, and avid equestrian to our middle school team.



Lower 1979

3 Katie (Ballou) Calhoun and her husband Alex Calhoun have lived in San Francisco near Golden Gate Park for over 20 years. The couple has two children, Natalie, 22, and Walker, 20. After graduating from OVS Lower Campus, Katie attended The Thacher School and is married to a Thacher alum. Last fall, they spent Thanksgiving with her mom, Felicia Tracy, (formerly Felicia Ballou), Upper Campus riding instructor) in Grass Valley, along with OVS alumnae Anita Purcell DeAragon (U81) and her family, who were staying at Felicia’s ranch, too. In addition, they enjoyed the company of the Callender clan, including Whitney (Callender) Demorest (L83, U87) and her brother, Rea Callender, along with their respective families. Professionally, Katie has a public relations and marketing communications agency specializing in wine and premium spirits. See her website: www.calhounwine.com.

ALUMNI NOTES

Lower 1980

Sandra (Comstock) Eisenbock (see U84)

Lower 1984

Mari Holden (see U88)

Lower 1997

Simon Wang (see U01)

Lower 1998

Congratulations to **Kelsey (Gartrell) Bailey** and her husband, Greg, who welcomed their first child, daughter Harper June Bailey, on January 3.

Lower 1999

Sarah Gates (See U03)

Lower 2000

Devon (Haberstich) Gentry (see U04)

Lower 2001

Callen Gartrell and Lauren Tochner (U05) and are engaged! Lauren is now in her third year of law school at Southwestern School of Law in Los Angeles. We also learned that like OVS, Southwestern was also founded in 1911!

Jason Goldman (see U05)

Lower 2002

Paloma Sandoval (see U06)

Lower 2004

Patricia Boyd (see U08)

Ben Malkin has served as the head of our boys' dorm for the last three years. He has recently made the commitment to step into a new role as teacher for our elementary technology department and as coordinator of our after-care programs. Ben brings a wealth of technology experience to the elementary program; he is excited to introduce creative technologies and engineering skills to our elementary students. His experience with our resident program and as a former coordinator of our summer activities has also helped him develop our after-care programs.



Lower 2005

4 Marie Shin and Danny Tsai (L05, U09) visited the Lower Campus in October. The Wallaces, Tami Scott, Myr Slosberg, Nicole (Gartrell) Ferro (L96), Kelsey (Gartrell) Bailey (L98), Eleanora Burright, and Gary Gartrell all were greeted with big hugs and many photos were taken. Marie and Danny were so happy to be back on campus, and they wanted to buy PE uniforms at the student store. "I even made them put their names on the shirt and shorts, like I still do when the kids buy them," Eleanora said. "They also got the new Spud shirts." Marie and Danny looked at photos from Lower Campus camping trips, and Danny even found some from the first summer camp outdoor leadership with Matt Inman!

Lower 2006

Gianna Burright studying for her Master of Fine Arts at Trinity Laban in London.

Hunter Helman (see U10)

Jesse Holguin (see U10)

Lower 2007

Eva Boyd (see U11)

Lower 2011

Connor Floyd (see U15)

Jenna McIntosh (see U15)

If you would like to get in touch with a classmate, please contact the Alumni Office at alumni@ovs.org or 805-640-2578.



Lower 2014

5 Erin Snett, a junior at Nordhoff High School in Ojai, was cast as Sandy in last fall's production of *Grease*. She's shown here practicing a dance number with Garrett Woll, son of Lower Campus Athletic Director Shandon Woll.

Upper 1965

Lola Marley, who attended OVS from grades 6 through 12, remembers the incongruous sight one day at Lower of Mr. Taggart's prize Karmann Ghia in the middle of the quad, having been lifted and carried there by a group of very naughty boys. Mr. Taggart was apparently not amused by the prank. "He became apoplectic!" recalls Lola.

She and her husband, Glenn Surrence, still make their home in Charlotte, North Carolina. Lola has now retired from the business she owned and operated, a tobacco shop called "The Smoking Lamp." Her daughter, Valerie, teaches AP history and economics in Charlotte. Lola has a message for her classmate Mike Tomkins (U65): "Mike, you owe me a call!"

Upper 1967

It's no mean feat, but **Steve McPherson** has made his living as a fiction writer for the last four decades. He credits J.B. Close with recognizing and developing the instincts that made it possible for Steve to "live by his wits in front of a keyboard."

At the moment, Steve has put aside the novel he's been writing and has turned his attention to a couple of more pressing projects: one, a cable series based on a fascinating but little-known aspect of the US Civil War; and the other, a feature screenplay he is crafting into a thriller and "homage to Alfred Hitchcock."

It would seem that J.B.'s influence has extended to the next generation. Steve's daughters (Hallie, 27 and Audrey, 25) are both writers. Hallie is a Brooklyn-based playwright, and Audrey, newly returned from extensive international travels, is launching a podcast focused on millennial life around the world.

Steve still lives in Santa Barbara, where, as of the end of January, he was recovering from knee replacement surgery. When his bionic knee is fully broken in, he plans to have a new right shoulder installed as well. So, by the time his class convenes in June for their 50th reunion, he should be better than new.

As his classmates surely recall, before college, Steve served two combat tours in Vietnam, where he was badly wounded. Upon returning home, he was active for several years with the Vietnam Veterans against the War. Steve says that the greatest shocks of his "allegedly adult life" have nothing to do with the personal dramas most of us expect and experience. He simply thought he'd never live to see our country "do Vietnam all over again" in Iraq, and thought he'd be gone before he personally witnessed a world without Polar bears.

Steve remains close to **Keith Carradine (U67)**. Occasionally, usually over martinis, they discuss which of them will bury the other.

Upper 1969

Claudia (Christensen) Wunderlich set a tough record to beat on the golf course: In 2015, she became the women's club champion at Ojai Valley Inn and won the President's Cup. She also got her first hole-in-one that year.

Claudia has been volunteering for the Ojai Valley Community Hospital since she moved to Ojai and has been the president of the hospital auxiliary for the last several years. Accompanied by her brother, Craig Christensen (L64, U67), she will be traveling to Switzerland in late March to attend the wedding of her son, Marc.

Upper 1976

Carrie Morrow (see In Memoriam)

Upper 1977

"The world gets wilder and weirdly more interesting every day!" observes **Nina Sugamori**.

"I moved to Missouri and am engaged to a local I met in California when we were teenagers circa 1982. He wooed me via Facebook messenger in 2014.

"The not so-good-news is that I was diagnosed with Crohn's Disease and am home being treated and not working. Fingers crossed for Humira!" OVS sends Nina best wishes, on both her engagement and on the success of her treatment for Crohn's.

Check out Nina's web site: TheOneFoodStrategy.com.



Upper 1982

6 OVS is thankful to hear from **Sue (Scoggin) Billups**, who checked in as follows: “Hello to my dear friends from the 80s! Coop, Congrats on your retirement this year! How many lives have you touched, advised, and guided through our adulthood, mine included. Thanks for the tough soccer practices and your sense of humor. All the best to your and Jody’s next chapter!

“I still live in Thousand Oaks area with the loves of my life, husband Bill and my two sons, Joe, 23, and Brad, 17. I am also blessed with 3 other kids: Bill’s son, Nick, and daughter, Brie, along with her husband, Shawn.

“These amazing hearts have helped me through the most difficult time this last year while I battled breast cancer. I am happy to say, I am a cancer survivor. I am in awe of what the human body can endure and very thankful for modern medicine. Also for having hair again! The love I received from my family and friends healed me on all levels. My sister, **Debbie (Scoggin) Hansen (U80)** was an incredible rock star – sending care-packages every time I had a chemo treatment. She, too, is a breast cancer survivor!

“This year, Bill and I were given the best gift ever – a grandchild! Yep, I am a grandma to a beautiful healthy little boy, Grady Cruz Hughes. Life can so beautiful, but can also be short. Live it to the fullest! Drop me a line! sebillups@gmail.com . Wishing you all health and happiness, joy, and lots of love!”

OVS sends all those wishes to you as well, Sue! Double!!

Upper 1984

Greetings and congratulations to **Sandra (Comstock) Eisenbock** and her husband, Andy, who will celebrate their 30th anniversary this year. Their home in Vancouver, British Columbia, will officially become an empty nest soon, as their younger son, Ryan, is getting ready to move out on his own after finishing a business degree. His older brother, Trevor, is living in Edmonton and has joined the Canadian military.

Sandra says she feels fortunate she was able to be home to raise her boys. Her busy and active life includes hiking in the beautiful mountains near Vancouver, running the sea walls, as well as enjoying hot yoga, golf, and gardening. Having created an art studio at home, she has been painting for the last decade. For the last seven years, she has been the resident artist in her area. She primarily uses acrylic paints on canvas or wood panels, and she adds gel to the paint in order to create a distinctively exaggerated texture. Her works have sold both privately and in several local stores.

Sandra plans to attend Alumni Weekend this June and hopes to see many of her OVS friends and classmates. She sends this message to Carl Cooper: “Congratulations on your well-earned retirement. May you enjoy the next chapter: lots of family time and golf games. Much love, Moe.”

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Upper 1988

Huge congratulations to **Mari Holden**, who was inducted into the US Bicycling Hall of Fame in November.

According to cyclingnews.com: Cycling since 1993, Holden went on to earn the silver medal at the 2000 Sydney Olympics in the time trial. She also won the world title in the time trial that same year in Plouay, France.

Holden is currently directing the UC Irvine women's team Twenty16-RideBiker. It is her third season with the team. According to a team press release, she will continue to direct the team in 2017, when it will be renamed Twenty20 with an eye on 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

"I was so surprised to receive the news that I was elected into the US Cycling Hall of Fame," Mari is quoted as saying. "It was completely out of the blue. I have not been this overcome with emotion since I won my first National Championship in 1995."

"I am absolutely overwhelmed with the full circle of my cycling career. I feel blessed and humbled to have my name alongside my idols: the legends Rebecca Twigg, Inga Thompson, and Connie Carpenter. I also feel incredibly grateful to be listed in history with my friend of over 20 years, Alison Dunlap. We were all pioneers not only in cycling but in women's sports. My philosophy has always been to focus on the task at hand and do every task to the greatest of my ability. I have also always done my best to choose what is right over what is easy."

"Now, as a director of Twenty16-Ridebiker cycling team, my goal is to see our girls succeed in pursuing their dreams. I want to lead by example and let them understand that we aren't entitled to anything. We work and focus and win because we are willing to do the hard work that other people aren't willing to do."

OVS is so proud of you, Mari!

ATTENTION: We welcome your updates anytime! Alumni news received before June 1, 2017, will be published in the next issue of *Family Tree* magazine.

You may submit your updates to the Office of Alumni Relations:
Mail: 723 El Paseo Road, Ojai, CA 93023
Email: alumni@ovs.org
www.ovs.org/alumni.



Upper 1989

7 Kevin Polis updated us as follows: "I became a certified specialist in family law. Our daughter, Savannah, finished her first year of college at Chico State, and our son, Benji, continues to excel in school and in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. My wife Cindi and I have now been married for 12 years; she is a registered nurse with the school district in San Diego. The family is healthy, and life is good."

Upper 1994

Congratulations to **Tomoko (Seino) Hotema**, who recently landed her dream job. She writes, "Ever since I was about Asa-Boy's age, I've been passionate about volunteering and service to others. Whether it was working with physically and mentally challenged folks, elders in a care facility, or a friend in need, I've always felt joy in helping people."

"I will be working to fight human trafficking, trauma in all areas, homelessness, elder abuse, child abuse, etc."

"Friends, if you, your organization, company, people you know are ever interested in teaming up to do any projects, please reach out to me. Part of my job is to bring people and groups together, and I will need your support. There is so much we can do, and I am thrilled BEYOND WORDS!!! Mahalo."

Tomoko lives in Hawaii with her husband, Andreu, and their three boys: Asa, Josen (Jojo), and Raven.



Upper 1995

Jen (Whipple) Muller moved to Ojai this fall and enrolled her two children, Paige and Corbin, at OVS.

Upper 2002

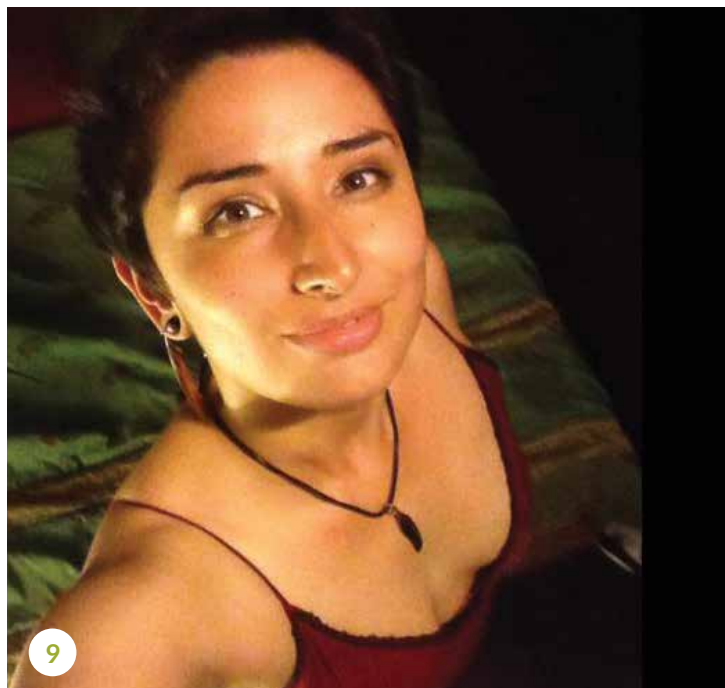
OVS congratulates "**Pic-Pac**" **Karnchanachari**, who earned her bachelor's degree in business economics from UCSB, and who got married in June of 2016. The couple met while enrolled in the Sasin MBA program offered by Chulalankorn University, Thailand.

Upper 2003

8 On October 16, 2016, Ryan Bunter proposed to **Sarah Gates** (pictured, top left) after sunset on the beach in front of Mama's Fish House on Maui. They were there to celebrate to celebrate the wedding of his mother and step-dad. The engagement was officially announced to our parents when Ryan was asked to put a lei around Sarah's neck as is the tradition of newly engaged couples.

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Upper 2004

Devon (Haberstich) Gentry lives in Chandler, Arizona, with her husband, Jake, her daughter, Evangeline, her stepson, Vincent, and her English bulldog, Primrose. Devon and her husband tied the knot on February 29th, 2016, in a backyard ceremony with only eight people present. She is currently managing a small apartment complex and is working as a distributor for the cosmetic line Lipsense, which specializes in long-lasting liquid lip color. When Devon is not busy with her business, she reports that she enjoys Cosplay at local comicons, playing Hearthstone and World of Warcraft, and running (but then says she's just kidding about the running). She misses Ojai and OVS every day and can't wait to bring her family to alumni weekend. She sends love to Mrs. Whipple, Mr. Cooper, the Colborns, Dink, and the class of 2004.

9 **Belan Vance** (top right) brings us up to date as follows: "Warm winter greetings from Thailand! After completing my Interdisciplinary B.A. at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco, I've enrolled in a Master of Science in Education in learning design and technology at Purdue University, training in the design of innovative educational technologies.

"I've now been in the field of Holistic Health for ten years, studying and practicing traditional natural medicine systems from India and China. My practice has included massage, nutrition, medicinal herbology, traditional movement arts, and meditation.

"I've also been staying active as a performer and musician all these years, both solo and in groups I've created. Venues have included a variety of stage shows, small concerts, festivals, and theaters. I completed a music tour in Japan in 2014, and, in 2015, started working as a professional harpist at weddings and in therapeutic settings such as yoga classes.



"My master's program is online, so I'm currently location-independent and thrilled to be traveling the world for the next two years! I'm currently touring through Asia, deepening my studies in medicine, enjoying a closer connection to nature, and, of course, eating delicious food!

"Please feel free to contact me if you are in Asia, Oceania, or Europe, and would like to meet up."

Upper 2005

Jason Goldman graduated from Pepperdine University in 2012 with an international business degree and is now in his third year at the Ventura College of Law. He is currently involved with the Student Bar Association, is class president, and performs at the top of his class. Way to go, Jason!

Upper 2006

Paloma Sandoval started working this year in the OVS Health Center while raising her daughter, NaYelli.

Upper 2007

10 Jae Nam, who goes by "Jenna" now, visited the Upper Campus in September and sought out some familiar faces, including music and biology teacher Lisa Boyd. Jenna attended New York University, where she graduated a semester early with a B.A. in politics and a minor in business. She took a marketing internship in New York, further exploring the city and all that it had to offer. In 2011, she went back to her home in Seoul, Korea, and landed her first job at a convention organizing company, which plans and organizes big international events such as the G20 summit. This past year, she changed jobs and is now working in the marketing department for an international law firm, Ropes & Gray, in Korea. Her strong English skills, which first developed in the English Language Program (ELP) at OVS, made her a desirable candidate for multiple jobs. Jenna said she really enjoys her current role in marketing because it offers her the opportunity to meet people from other countries. Jenna designed her September trip to the states to visit New York and Ojai, and was thrilled to share memories with her former teachers.

"Jae sang in chorus and was in my voice class in her senior year," Mrs. Boyd recalled. "While she was visiting, I gave her a copy of the program from her recital, and we saw that she performed Alicia Keys' song 'If I Ain't Got You.' She is a sweet, warm person who was lots of fun to teach. She is very intelligent and hard-working."



Upper 2008

Patricia Boyd and her husband, Joey, are living in Fargo, North Dakota. After having served an eight-year stint in the Marine Corps, Joey took a job with Microsoft in Fargo. He and Patricia are doing their best to adjust to the change of climate from Southern California. Despite the harsh winters, they like living in Fargo and plan to stay for the foreseeable future. They have made many new friends there. Patricia is currently pursuing a master's degree in psychology.

Upper 2010

Chelsey Carrol's son, John, turned a year old on December 12. He's the 10th generation in his family named John, though he goes by his middle name, Dawson. His father is Chelsey's fiancé, John Kamryn Argue, a production manager for a company that designs restaurants and bars. They live in Newbury Park, California, where Chelsey is a stay-at-home mom for the present. "I love my life and my little family so much. I definitely miss my OVS family!!" writes Chelsey.

Hunter Helman is now working at the Lower Campus, having served as assistant athletic director, soccer coach, and weekend coordinator at the Upper Campus. Hunter says he's excited to return to the Lower Campus dorm where he lived as a student.



Firefighter **Jesse Holguin** is very attuned to his diet and health and recently expressed his gratitude to OVS for instilling the values of healthy living. He writes, "Been watching a few documentaries about obesity in America that point out how oblivious people are to the harm all the processed foods and nutritionally deficient foods do. I'm so glad I spent from kindergarten to my junior year at Ojai Valley School, where every meal was freshly prepared and cooked, so I knew I was always getting healthy food. That, along with my parents always cooking meals at home, helped teach me how to continue to eat healthily when I was living on my own."

Upper 2011

Eva Boyd lives in Ojai and is nearing completion of a bachelor's degree in biology at California State University at Channel Islands. She also works part time at The Oaks Spa in Ojai, managing The Nest gift shop on the weekends.

11 Carolita Landers See page 28

Upper 2013

12 Congratulations to **Jason Chang**, who recently graduated from the Swiss School of Hotel Management.

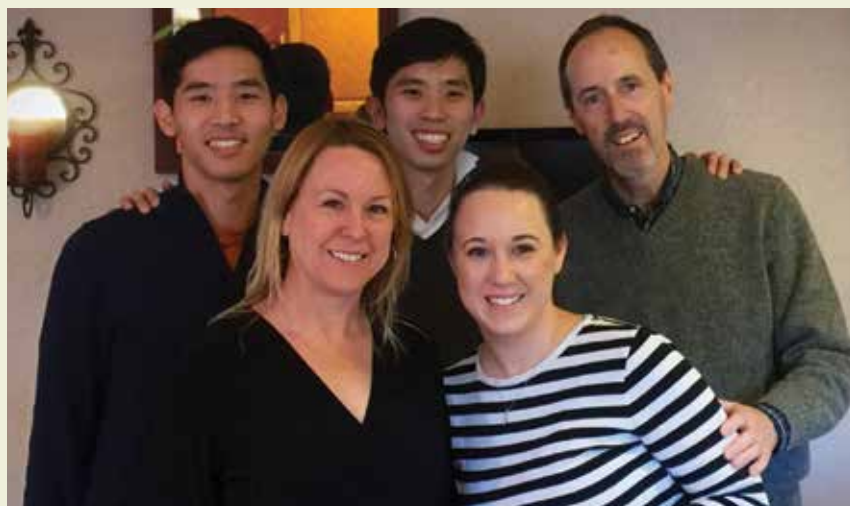
Upper 2015

13 Connor Floyd (L11, U15) and his dad, incoming Upper Campus Head of School, **Craig Floyd (U83)** met up with **Natalie McKerjee (U07)** for a tour of the KC Royals ballpark while traveling to Iowa. Natalie is Manager of Corporate Partnerships for the Kansas City Royals baseball team. She toured Connor and Craig around the stadium while they were dropping off Connor at school this past August. Connor is majoring in Sport Management at Clark University and he was able to ask questions about her career path.

14 Can you spot **Jenna McIntosh** pictured amid her College of Charleston equestrian teammates?



Answer: Back row, fifth from the left



Last January, the Boyds had a nice visit with **T (U05)** and **Nin (U08) Srimanus**, who made a side-trip to Ojai when they were in the States with their father on a business trip. All live in Bangkok and work together in the family business. Updated news on these alums: T received his degree in economics from Boston University and married in February of 2015. Nin earned a degree in chemical engineering from UCSB. (Their sister, **S (U10)**, also lives in Bangkok but did not come to the States this time).

Longtime OVS Camp Director Eleanora Burright honored with WAIC Director Emeritus Award



Growing up in the San Fernando Valley, Eleanora Burright found herself living in a close-knit neighborhood. They were like family, but when the summers rolled around, all her friends and neighbors would go off to summer camp. Life on the block was quite lonely. She never had the opportunity to attend summer camp, but couldn't wait for them to return and she loved to hear all about their time at camp. She would hear the tales of hiking, sleeping under the stars, campfires, learn the songs, hear the stories, the arts, the crafts, and just about life at camp. The funny thing was, that most of the kids attended a camp in a beautiful little valley, nestled against the mountains - located in the Ojai Valley.

In 1982, she graduated from CSUN with her Degree in Outdoor Recreation. After graduating, she was off for a yearlong adventure to travel Europe and meet her Italian family. Little did she know that after her travels, she would find her way to Ojai by means of many different experiences. She worked for the National Forest Service as a summer counselor -Youth Conservation Core - then found her way to outdoor schools in the Orange County and Conejo Unified School Districts. She worked for California State Parks, Ventura Parks and Recreation, Patagonia and eventually found her way to the Ojai Valley School. At OVS, she began her career, first as Stable Manager and Riding Instructor and later as Weekend Activity Coordinator, which became the Resident Life Coordinator, Summer Camp Director.

She met her husband on the steps of the dining hall and then hired him to be her assistant. Having fun with the OVS residents and spending

so much time together, they fell in love. They have two girls: Bianca, now 26, works in the medical field. Gianna, 25, is now studying in London for her MFA in choreography. Both are graduates of the Lower Campus.

During the academic year, Eleanora continues to serve as Resident Coordinator, planning and playing with the students and keeping them on track. She is considered to have many titles: mom to many, the fun director, and Mrs. "B", because she is buzzing all around the campus and wearing many different hats. Throughout the 32 years, she has been part of the OVS summer programs and has directed many different programs for the school. She brought camp songs, camp games, and camp rituals to OVS. In the 1990s, she helped establish a two-week Japanese exchange summer camp. That morphed into an International English Language Summer Camp (IELST), a four-week program offered after the traditional six-week camp for Ojai Valley School.

Eleanora enjoys her time, which includes volunteering, collaborating, learning and growing with her friends from Western Association of Independent Camps and American Camp Association, and, of course, OVS. She is honored to have received this Director Emeritus recognition. She has great appreciation for her colleagues, admin staff and friends that have helped her through years of development and work.



2 Lisa Boyd keeps busy with her many singing activities. Besides teaching music classes at Upper Camus and directing all of our Upper Campus musical productions, Lisa also directs her church choir and sings with the Pacific Shores Master Chorale, frequently featured as a soloist. Facebook friends can see her most recent show-stopping solo from the Chorale's Christmas concert on her Facebook page. She keeps active by exercising regularly at the Ojai Athletic Club and enjoys working in the ceramics studio with **Jody Cooper (L71, U74)**.

John Boyd's musical activities outside of OVS include working with the Ojai Community Chorus. He plays bass, piano, and guitar, and he sings in the baritone section, often featured as a soloist. Local schools and theater groups frequently hire John to play in their pit bands. Last year, for instance, he played synthesizer for Thacher School's production of *Legally Blonde*, which he described as a "fun and challenging show." Most recently, he began playing piano for *Swing Shift*, a local big band. They rehearse weekly and perform on a regular basis. The group recently performed for the Upper Campus the musical production of *Little Shop of Horrors*.

1 Jody (L71, U74) and Carl (L64, U68) Cooper hiking over the holiday break. The end of the 2016- 2017 school year marks Carl's last as Upper Campus Head of School. We look forward to seeing everyone at the 2017 Alumni Weekend as we honor Carl and his longtime service to the school.

Caitlin (Black) Cooper (L97) and Nate Cooper (L91, U95) recently had a baby boy. Stay tuned for the next issue of the *Family Tree* for a photo of the handsome fella.

3 Dana DeYoung got to check SCUBA diving off her bucket list during the break. She writes, "Never thought I'd be scuba diving! It's the first of many dives, and I can't believe I was so lucky to have done it in Bali. You are never too old to try something new!"

4 Congratulations to Gary Dinkins who recently became a grandpa! He writes, "The proud parents are my son, Bryan, and his wife, Erica Doval Dinkins. My late father's name was George. They wanted to name the baby after him. Since it is a girl, they named her Georgia Rose. Rose, after her maternal grandmother, Rosa. She was born December 16."

Tami Scott is back and is now working in the Upper Campus girls' dorm.

5 Malory Taylor, Associate Director of Alumni Relations, and her husband Dan Grimm welcomed their first child, a baby girl, into the world on August 6, 2016. Alumni Weekend should be a lot easier this time around without a little bun in the oven!

Carolita Landers...

continued from page 26

Carolita fondly remembers the therapeutic qualities that came from being with Kronos.

"Even if I went down to the barn and didn't ride and had a bad day, he had such a funny personality, he would always find a way to cheer me up," she said.

With tears in her eyes, Mrs. Gustafson remembered a time when Carolita was supposed to ride Kronos during Parent Weekend, but the horse was lame. Rather than be upset that she couldn't show off her more advanced skills, Carolita groomed and readied him to perfection anyway, and just walked him around the arena, simply happy to be with him.

That is why, three years later, Carolita still has an immense love for Kronos, and her 12th grade wish of taking him to Colorado has finally come true.

Carolita kept in touch with her riding instructors over the years, so when it came time for Kronos to retire, OVS barn manager Caitlin Cooper contacted Carolita to see if she wanted to have Kronos retire with her in Colorado.

"It's remarkable because it wasn't just out of the sadness of saying goodbye, because she said goodbye a long time ago," Mrs. Gustafson said. "So, [her decision to care for him] was not out of that intense separation and sadness associated with it but rather a long term commitment and love for him."



On the Hill

Find the latest campus news on the award-winning OVS student journalism website On the Hill: oth.ovs.org

On the Hill

OJAI VALLEY SCHOOL



OJAI VALLEY SCHOOL ESTATE PLANNING

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

- Winston Churchill



The Yeomans Legacy was established to honor those who provide for OVS in their estate planning. Everyone has the opportunity to help carry the school's mission and philosophy into its second century for future generations of students. Membership in The Yeomans Legacy is open to anyone who has made some form of estate gift commitment to OVS.

If you have already made provisions for OVS through your estate or wish to learn how to do so, please visit www.ovs.org/legacy or call (805) 640-2584 x1276.

Yeomans Legacy Members as of August 31, 2016:

Anonymous
Carol and Russell* "Rusty" Ach (L58)
Florence Burbidge Free (L46)
Carol Carpenter Norman (L58)
Laura Casper (U93)
Alice and Robert* Chesley
Robert Christensen (U66)
Laura Y. Clark Macleod (L88)
James Demsey (L53)
Michael Eddy* (L59)
Julia Fowler Westerfield (L61)
Spencer Garrett (L62, U65)
William "Billy" Gill* (L52)

Elizabeth Curran Hermes (L66, U69) and
Michael D. Hermes* (L53)
Newbold Herrick III (L55)
Paul Howie (L49)
Melanie "Whitney" Hoyt (L96)
Sherwood Jackman*
Fredrick Joss* (L28)
Marcia Legere Binns* (L38)
James D. Loeb1*
Ruth Lucking Col (L61)
Ann Murray Browning* (L59)
Joyce Murray (L58)
Rory O'Connor (U72)

Leslie Ohligschlager Jones (U67)
Hester Palmquist (L58)
Elton Parks (U75)
Alan Pearson* (L55)
David Hickman Phillips (L78, U82)
Donald Putnam, Jr. (L66)
Betty Raymond*
Myrym and Charles Slosberg
Kelly Somers (L73, U77)
Nicholas Thacher (L60)
D. Michael Tomkins (U65)
Charles Van Patten* (L20)

*deceased

Carrie Morrow, Upper 1976

OVS is saddened to learn that Carrie died on Dec. 27, 2016. According to those close to her, Carrie lived a full and happy life. She will be dearly missed. Her love of music and her talent as a singer/songwriter, already apparent when she was a student at the Upper Campus, lasted throughout her life and gave her much joy and satisfaction. OVS alumna Mary Boggs (L72, U76) was informed of Carol's passing by Kathie (Devoli) Hoehn. Mary remembers Carrie fondly stating, "She had a special place in our hearts and had loving family and friends fill her life and celebrate her life afterwards."

She is survived by her daughter, Andrea; her son, Joseph; her grandchildren, Lacey and Joey; her younger sisters, Mina and Jennifer; and by her partner, Kat. A celebration of her life was held in January near Carrie's home in Redding, CA. Many friends and family members were in attendance for the weekend festivities, which included a screening of *Freedom*, a 1980 film chronicling Carrie's adventures with a traveling Northern California carnival right after she left OVS. The film (available for viewing on youtube.com) was written by Carrie's mother, the screenwriter Barbara Turner, and stars Mare Winningham as "Libby" (Carrie).

Ralph Williams

Ralph Williams, who was a popular summer school shop teacher at OVS during the '50s, passed away on March 11th of this year. He was 93.

A native of Ojai, Ralph was born on Orr Ranch (now known as Hermitage Ranch) to parents Clarence Williams and Ada Plott Williams on August 25, 1923. During World War II, Ralph served in the Pacific as a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps.

After graduating from San Jose State University, Ralph taught woodshop at Ojai's Nordhoff High and Matilija Junior High schools for 30 years. During many summers, he worked with campers at OVS. He was a highly skilled woodworker. He also coached athletics.

Tony Thacher (L55) remembers Ralph as "a down-to-earth person who was always patient and encouraging to students of all ages."

Ralph's wife, Betty (Smith) Williams, predeceased him in 2013. He is survived by his children, Susan Shorb of Auburn, CA; Bruce Williams (Ellen) of Chandler, AZ; and Iris "Debbie" Williams and her husband, Kirk Lowry, of Ojai. In addition, Ralph is survived by eight grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild as well as by his brothers, Glenn Williams of Banning, CA, Jack Williams, who lives in Lake of the Ozarks, MO, and Jim Williams of Goleta, CA.



OJAI VALLEY SCHOOL ^{4th} annual GALA & Auction



== MAY 6, 2017 ==

Join us for the fourth annual Spring Gala & Auction.

This year, we will be celebrating 106 years at Ojai Valley School and hosting the event amid the historic Wallace Neff buildings at the Lower Campus. Cocktails and silent auction begin at 5:00 p.m. Farm-to-table dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m, followed by the live auction, music and dancing. Tickets and proceeds from the event benefit the OVS Annual Fund.



Please contact the Development Office at development@ovs.org to purchase tickets or donate auction items.



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Parents of Alumni:

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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THE CARL S. COOPER GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRI
JUNE 9
2017

**SOULE PARK
GOLF COURSE**
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Ojai, CA 93023

**DEADLINE TO SIGN UP
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REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 11:30 a.m.
SHOTGUN STARTS AT NOON
DRINKS AND PRIZES AT 5:30 p.m.



Tickets include lunch, green fees, cart, and tee prizes!