

OWU

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY | SPRING 2020

M A G A Z I N E

cheers!

It's a spirited life in the
wine & beer business

IN THIS ISSUE

TOP 10 OF THE '10S

MOCK CONVENTION

HALL OF FAME COACH



*The first warm spring days always bring some classes out into the sunshine on the historic campus. Though the campus will be empty in the spring of 2020, we know this scene will be repeated in years to come. (Photo by **Mark Schmitter '12**)*





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On the cover: Amy Prosenjak '94, CEO of A to Z Wineworks in Newberg, Oregon

Cover photo by John Valls

Ohio
Wesleyan
University

Liberal arts degree is today's best career preparation

The Ohio Wesleyan Board of Trustees held a retreat in February to consider the challenges and opportunities facing OWU over the next decade. The Board heard reports on the characteristics of Generation Z, the very different generation of students entering college now. The Board reviewed the impact of changing demographics on American higher education, including the fact that the number of students entering college in this country has declined each year for the past six years, and they considered the impact of technology on higher education in the future.

Morton Schapiro, president of Northwestern University and an economist who has devoted 40 years to the study of the economics of higher education, was the keynote speaker. Morton shared data from his research showing that a liberal arts education is the best preparation for students who will move across multiple occupations over the course of their lifetime. He noted that the

“Our institutions are the ladder of opportunity.”

skills needed for the 21st-century workforce include quantitative skills, deep aesthetic appreciation, respect for diversity and inclusion, empathy, tools for lifelong learning, and the humility to acknowledge how little one knows and how much one must learn. These skills are deeply embedded in liberal education.

Morton further noted that studies of economic mobility show that selective liberal arts colleges have the best record in all of higher education for providing pathways for students to climb from the

bottom quintile of family income to the top quintile. Our institutions are the ladder of opportunity.

The Board acknowledged that we live in a time of unprecedented disruption and change in higher education. Such a time requires our university to examine every aspect of the ways in which we organize to educate students. At the same time, the Board was clear at the conclusion of the retreat that our future rests in continued excellence in liberal arts education.

I marvel at the stories I hear from our alumni about how their liberal arts education has propelled them into lives of meaning and impact, enrichment and fulfillment.

In this issue of *OWU Magazine*, you will read about alumni who followed their passions to the wine and beer industry. Some are entrepreneurs who started their own companies, created their own brews, and developed their own distribution networks. Others are senior executives in larger organizations.

Their undergraduate majors include accounting, chemistry, philosophy, politics and government, and psychology. They studied broadly across the disciplines, and they studied deeply in their chosen major. They developed the tools of creativity, inquiry, analysis, entrepreneurship, teamwork, and resilience required for success in a rapidly changing world.

With those tools, they have taken their place in leadership in an industry



As an Arkansas delegate, Rock Jones addresses the 2020 Mock Convention in February. The convention was a showcase for liberal arts learning, as students debated issues of science, economics, the arts, education, and, of course, politics.

that has changed dramatically over the past 25 years. Together, they exude the values and benefits of liberal arts education.

Ohio Wesleyan will continue to adapt to serve the changing needs of our students, including ensuring our curriculum prepares students for lives of meaningful and productive work and providing increasing support through our Career Connection program. We will do this while preserving our abiding commitment to the values and benefits of an education grounded in the liberal arts.

As you read this issue, I encourage you to consider the ways in which your life has been enriched by your liberal arts education, and in your own way to raise a glass to your alma mater and to the enduring values that give OWU a memorable history and a bright future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rock Jones".

Rock Jones

President, Ohio Wesleyan University
Twitter: @owu_rockjones

covid-19: Adapting and pivoting as the world shifts

The deadline for this issue of *OWU Magazine* hit just as the COVID-19 pandemic was closing schools and businesses and transforming all of our lives.

The coronavirus has flipped our world upside down, and spring semester at OWU is equally upturned. At the time of this writing (mid-March), we have ended in-person classes for the semester, and faculty are working together—at a safe social distance—to rework classes and teach remotely to students scattered across the country and around the world.

The crisis is rapidly changing from day to day. We have postponed Commencement with the goal of rescheduling it to celebrate our seniors sometime this summer.

This situation is most distressing to our seniors, who are missing their final spring semester on campus with their friends. In his message to seniors committing to rescheduling rather than canceling Commencement, President Rock Jones wrote: “As much as you want to be here to complete your senior year, we want you here, too. We have watched you grow and mature so much over the past four years as your Ohio Wesleyan classes and experiences have opened your eyes to the world and helped you to define your role in it. How could we not gather to celebrate something so significant?”

We have also had to cancel Reunion Weekend, and we plan to invite 2020 reunion classes to a grand celebration with 2021 reunion classes next spring.

At this time of crisis and uncertainty, we are inspired by the creativity and resilience of OWU students, employees, and alumni. In that truly liberal arts spirit, **Chris Sayer '99**, featured in our cover story as the founder and owner of Connecticut's Brewery Legitimus, told us on St. Patrick's Day: “We are in good shape here for the moment. Still able to sell curbside, and luckily we have the education and life-skill set to hold out better than others. (On our staff are) two MBAs, a JD, and two years in the Peace Corps. We can pivot and adapt to a situation quicker than most!”

On behalf of President Rock Jones and all of those who have been separated from the OWU campus in this time of remote work, teaching, and learning, the *OWU Magazine* staff wishes you health, happiness, and the spirit to adapt, pivot, and persevere as we continue to navigate this most challenging time.

“This situation is most distressing to our seniors, who are missing their final spring semester.”

Share your opinions!

Email us at: magazine@owu.edu
tweet @OhioWesleyan

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Office of Communications
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OWU

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Vice President for University Advancement
Natalie M. Doan, J.D. '03

Director of Alumni Relations
Katie Webster

Editor and Chief Communications Officer
Will Kopp
magazine@owu.edu

Class Notes Editor
Reilly Wright '20

Copy Editor
Susan Kopp

Editorial Assistant
Christina Semeraro '20

Designer
Jennifer Brinckerhoff

Contributing Writers
Cole Hatcher, Ericka Kurtz

Editorial Advisory Board
Natalie Doan, Erin Fletcher, **Shala Hankison '95**,
Ericka Kurtz, Stefanie Niles, Mike Plantholt,
Eugene Rutigliano, Nancy Bihl Rutkowski, Katie
Webster, Doug Zipp

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Office of University Communications
740-368-3335
magazine@owu.edu

Alumni Relations Office
740-368-3325
alumni@owu.edu

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Photo by Paul Vernon

Having a ball

During President's Ball, an annual dance hosted by OWU's President's Club, students celebrate the end of fall semester with music and dancing. President's Ball was established in 1985 and has provided students with a memorable night ever since. Pictured from left, first-year students **Julia Molino**, **Elle Dickey**, and **Olivia Guenzel** dance the night away at their first Pres Ball.

Hayes connects OWU and Paraguay

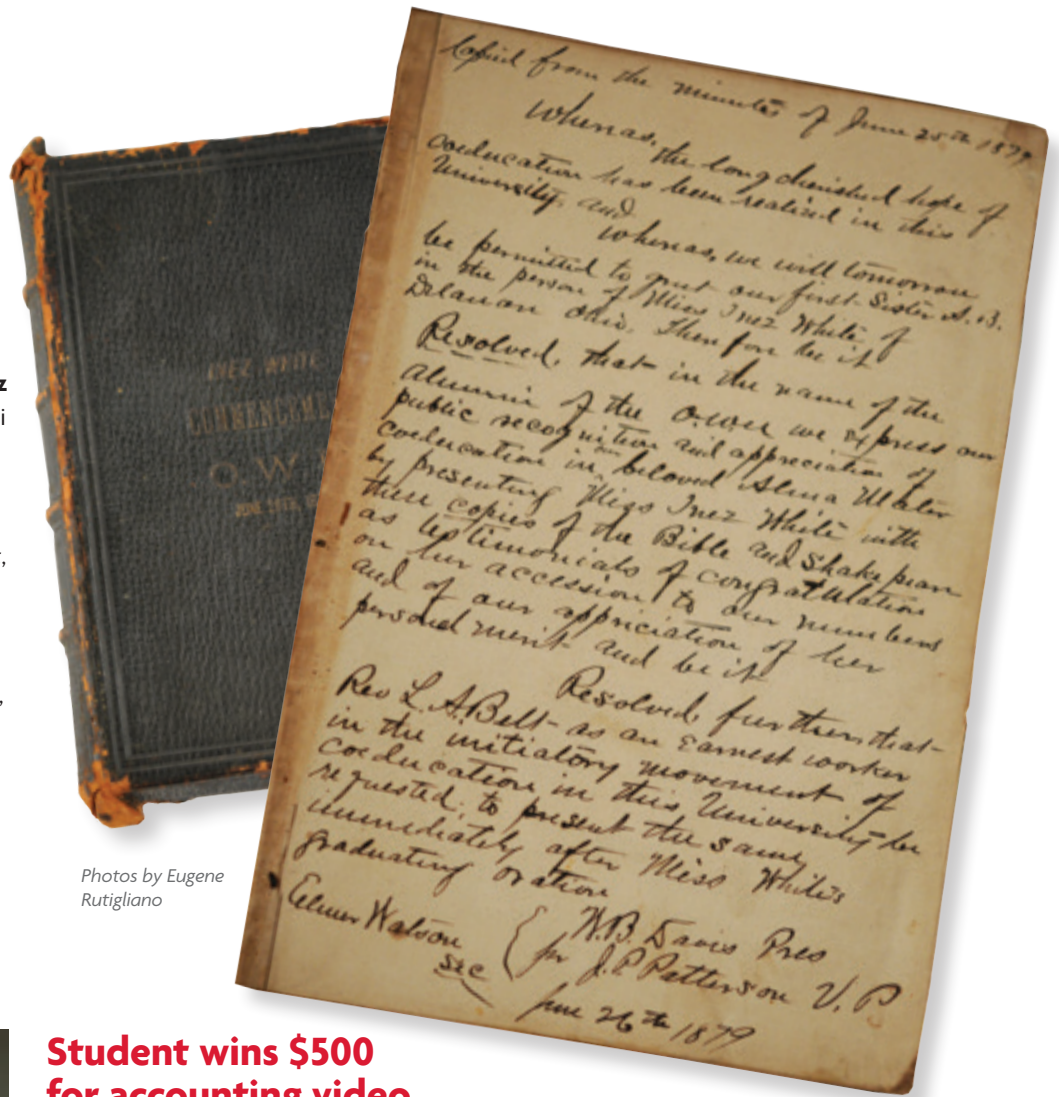
Embassy of Paraguay
Ambassador Manuel Cáceres (left) and University President Rock Jones sign a Memorandum of Understanding on Jan. 10 creating a new Rutherford B. Hayes Scholarship Program to support Paraguay's best and brightest high school students. Hayes, a Delaware native, is considered a hero in Paraguay. The program will provide one student from Paraguay with a full-tuition scholarship of about \$47,000, and up to five others with scholarships of \$40,000 based on their academic record.



Photo by Reilly Wright '20

Bible from first woman graduate returns to OWU

Beeghly Library recently received a Bible originally presented to Ohio Wesleyan's first female graduate, **Inez White Dial**. In 1879, the OWU Alumni Association presented the Bible to Dial as she received her degree from the newly coeducational University. Dial's granddaughter, Rebecca Lovett, donated this historic find to the University. The 1879 degree followed Dial's first bachelor's degree in 1875 from Ohio Wesleyan Female College, shortly before its merger with Ohio Wesleyan University in 1877. She received a master's degree from the University in 1883. Pictured is the inscription in the Bible.



Photos by Eugene Rutigliano



Student wins \$500 for accounting video

If **Nick Braydich '20** would ever want to leave his promising career in accounting, maybe he could turn to filmmaking. In December, he won \$500 in the national "ThisWayToCPA" student video competition sponsored by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The accounting major from Struthers, Ohio,

was one of the top five national vote recipients for his video explaining why he wants to become a CPA. Braydich completed a three-month internship with PricewaterhouseCoopers in Columbus last spring, was offered a job with the Big 4 accounting firm, and will begin working there after graduation.

New programs connect science, math, and economics

Two new programs are bringing a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) focus to economics and finance.

This fall OWU is launching a new major in quantitative economics that prepares students to analyze economic issues, explore theories, and predict future conditions using statistical procedures and mathematical models. Potential careers for quantitative

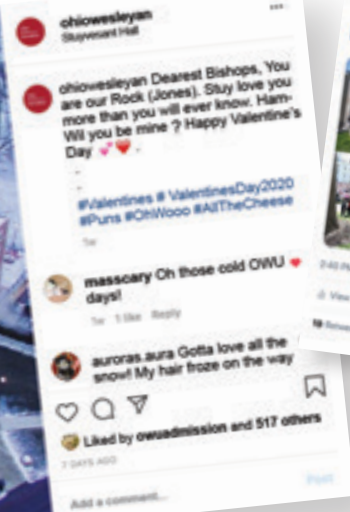
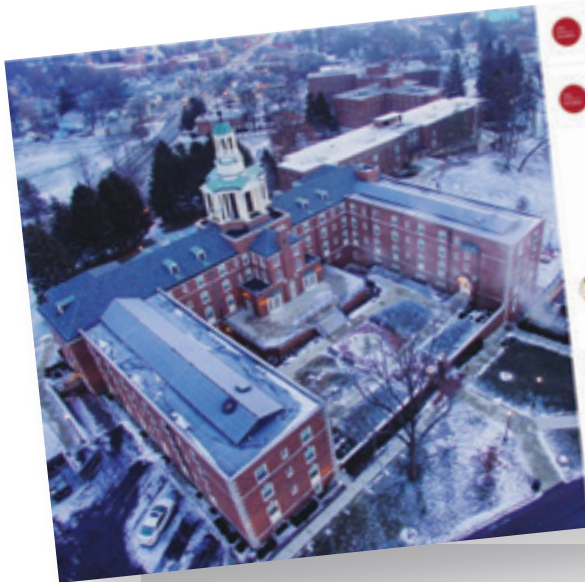
economics majors include financial analyst, economic forecaster, investment banker, benefits analyst, and other jobs requiring workers skilled in interpreting, analyzing, and presenting data.

OWU is also partnering with Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland to create an early admission pathway for OWU students seeking to earn a

Master of Science in Management-Finance degree from CWRU's Weatherhead School of Management. Through the new agreement, Ohio Wesleyan students accepted into the Weatherhead School will receive a \$10,000 scholarship for their MSM in Finance program, a STEM degree, and have the potential to receive additional merit scholarships.



New public art enlivens Ohio Wesleyan campus



Gears and Wrenches Bike Rack, created by Jonathan Quick (seen in the photo installing the piece), part-time associate professor of fine arts, is the first piece of art supported by a new endowment to place public art across the OWU campus. **Lorry Haycock Luikart '73** and her husband, **Jack Luikart '71**, created The Ebb and Teena Haycock Public Art Endowment to honor the memory of Lorry's parents. Her father was a longtime art professor, and her mother worked in OWU's Department of Speech and Theatre. Lorry says, "As more public art emerges on campus, the environment will be enriched, igniting imagination and encouraging thought and discourse."



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Committee sets goal to expand Greek life at Ohio Wesleyan

A new team of students and administrators is charting a path to dramatically increase Greek life participation at OWU.

Vice President of Student Success and Engagement Dwayne Todd is chairing the Fraternity and Sorority Life Strategic Planning Committee, and he says their goal is to reach 40 percent affiliation in the next four years.

“There was a day here when 70, 80, or even 90 percent of OWU students were Greek,” Todd says. “Right now, we’re at 28 percent. Our decline in interest is really similar to what other campuses have seen nationwide.”

Todd says participation in Greek life leads to higher retention rates and increased campus involvement among students and alumni, and he understands personally how powerful a fraternity or sorority experience can be for a student.

“When I think back on college, it’s my fraternity brothers (Pi Kappa Phi) that I remember the most,” he says. “I want every student to have that rich experience if they’re seeking it.”

Students serving on the committee also treasure their Greek experience.

“I went to an all-girls high school, so I wanted to have that feeling of sisterhood again,” says **Hope Poolos ’20** (Delta Gamma). “I wanted to be with a group of women who I knew would support me through everything.”

For **Peyton Larkin ’22** (Phi Gamma Delta), joining a fraternity means more than just connecting with his peers. “I’m a fourth generation FIJI,” he says. “My grandfather was a FIJI here. Being a FIJI



*The Fraternity and Sorority Life Strategic Planning Committee is a mix of administrators, staff, and students: from left, Peyton Larkin, **Anna Davies ’19**, Sinclair Davis, Katie Weber, Allie Hausfeld, Hope Poolos, Dwayne Todd, Nancy Bihl Rutkowski, and Brad Pulcini.*

has absolutely brought me closer to my family.”

In the spring of 2019, an outside group conducted a review of Greek life at OWU, producing a detailed report on what is working well and what can be improved. The strategic planning committee was formed to evaluate the suggestions and develop plans to increase Greek participation.

The group will disband at the end of this academic year, with the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council then implementing the plans.

Larkin says a big challenge in the Greek system is overcoming a lack of unity. “I want to bridge the gap between different chapters and try to create an environment where we can all come together and enjoy being fraternity men as opposed to just members of each individual chapter.”

The committee also is tackling the stigma of Greek life. “Greek life is different here, because we do put school first,” says Poolos. The average GPA of students in Greek life is higher

than the overall average GPA at OWU.

Larkin says, “Part of the reason I joined a fraternity, and part of the reason a lot of people join a fraternity, is to hold themselves to a higher standard.” His FIJI chapter has earned national awards for its academic excellence.

The committee also hopes to expand the inclusion of National Pan-Hellenic Council chapters, historically black organizations. Currently, two OWU students are members of these groups, and in November they visited a local chapter to learn how to promote and run a chapter at OWU.

Before joining the strategic planning committee, Poolos says she had doubted the administration’s support for Greek life. “Now I realize how much they care about Greek life.”

Todd says, “We are 100 percent behind having a very solid fraternity and sorority life program at Ohio Wesleyan. We want it to grow, and we’re putting resources, time, and attention into making that happen.” ■

Coaches honored for season and career

Jay Martin

Men's soccer coach Jay Martin was inducted into the United Soccer Coaches Hall of Fame during ceremonies in January at the United Soccer Coaches convention in Baltimore.

"I'm very honored," Martin says. "I've been very fortunate to have been the recipient of a number of awards over the years, but this one is particularly meaningful. To be recognized by your peers as one of the best coaches in the country means an awful lot."

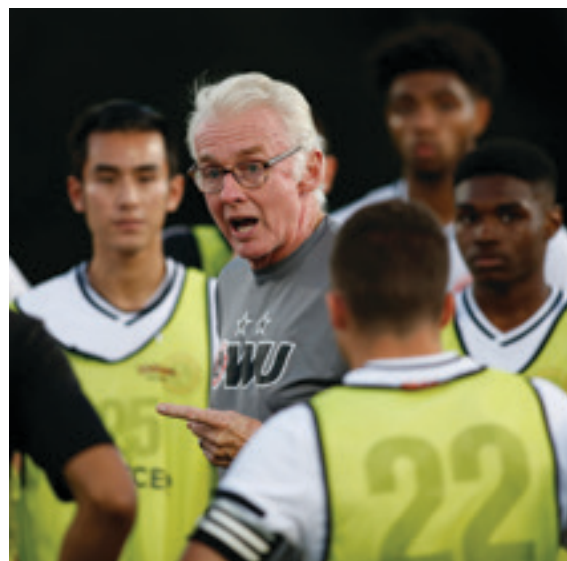
Doug Zipp, director of athletics, agrees. "Being inducted into the United Soccer Coaches Hall of Fame is an extraordinary accomplishment. It honors Jay's longevity as an influencer in soccer, his success as a coach on the field, and the impact he's had on the lives of hundreds of student-athletes. Plus, he's a pretty darn good coach who has been able to adjust and adapt to the ever-changing student-athlete and the sport of soccer."

Martin is one of three inductees honored this year, the latest among

a total of 68 who have been inducted into the hall since it was established in 1991.

Martin is the winningest coach in NCAA men's soccer history, finishing the 2019 season with 723 wins. His list of achievements is extraordinary.

- He has guided his 43 Battling Bishop soccer teams to a 723-150-74 record.
- His career winning percentage of .805 entering the 2019 season ranked 11th all-time in the NCAA.
- Martin's teams have compiled a 283-29-22 record in conference play, a winning percentage of .880, and have won 26 conference crowns.
- Martin guided Ohio Wesleyan to NCAA Division III national championships in 1998 and 2011.



- His teams have reached the NCAA Division III semifinals 9 times, finishing as national runner-up twice, and have finished among the final 16 teams a total of 29 times.
- A 16-time Regional Coach of the Year, Martin also was named Division III Coach of the Year in 1991, 1998, and 2011.

Brenda Semit

This fall, the OWU field hockey team won its first league championship since 1995—and won more games than it has won in any season since 1995.



Photos by Paul Vernon

With such success, head coach Brenda Semit was named NCAC Coach of the Year for the first time. The coach of the year is chosen by a vote of all the field hockey coaches in the conference.

"We are very proud of Brenda being named NCAC field hockey coach of the year," says Doug Zipp, director of athletics. "This recognition is a reflection of all the hard work by the players and coaching staff, and it shows the appreciation coaches across the NCAC have for her accomplishments."

Ohio Wesleyan finished the season with a 13-4 record. The Bishops shared the NCAC championship with a 7-1 mark and advanced to the NCAC tournament for the first time since 2012.

Semit marked her fifth season at OWU in 2019, and her teams have improved during each of the past three seasons, with the 2018 team topping the .500 mark at 10-7.

Semit came to OWU after spending three seasons as an assistant coach at Kenyon College, where she helped the team improve each season and compile a 40-20 overall record. ■

You can support OWU Athletics with your gift to Team OWU. Give at owu.edu/teamowu.



Messy learning

Merkel takes Russian lit outside the box and inside the supply closet

When some people see a tiny, neglected supply closet near their office, they might use it to store a vacuum. For Associate Professor of Comparative Literature Stephanie Merkel, it was ground zero for learning innovation.

Now, thanks to Merkel and colleagues, the former Sturges Hall supply closet is a mini digital humanities lab, complete with a wall-mounted monitor, Ikea furniture, and a high-tech name: the Lit Hatch. This type of project is what Stephanie Merkel is all about—hands-on innovation and constant learning.

An OWU professor for 22 years and expert in Russian literature, Merkel likes to think beyond the traditional essay assignment. The Lit Hatch, and the opportunity it provides students to use digital storytelling software like Scalar and Twine, is just the latest chapter in a thick volume of innovations Merkel has used to engross students in the literature and create projects that stretch their creativity and expand their skills.

In one course, Merkel's students studied 18th-century "it" narratives—a widely popular genre of stories narrated by material objects—through the lens of textiles. The final exam took the form of a fashion show, with students creating handmade clothing items, composed of craft paper and pages of text. A student-made black coat and corset still decorate her office.

In another course, to help students explore relationships and connections between Russian noblewomen, Merkel approached letter writing as a literary genre. After delving deep into words from Catherine the Great's inner circle, students met for dinner with their final papers "letter locked," a way 18th-



Photo by Paul Vernon

Stephanie Merkel, the Rebecca R. Brown Professor of Humanities, at the grand opening of the Lit Hatch.

century nobles tamper-proofed their correspondences with a series of holes and cut corners.

Merkel believes that learning is a messy process, one that demands we try new things.

"One of the things I learned along the way is that mess is good," she says, explaining that when she and her students end class with more questions than they started with, it means they're on the right track.

For Merkel, the messy process of

"I love the saying, 'When one teaches, two learn.'"

learning is also collaborative, and she learns alongside her students.

"I love the saying, 'When one teaches, two learn.' I always try to teach from a place where I'm learning still," she says. "I'm the guide, but we're all on the trip together."

Her hands-on projects serve another purpose: to help students gain confidence in their ability to create and think. This confidence is something that will help them in any career. For Merkel, it's all about "the ways we can take the things we are doing and express the knowledge in different ways."

Collaboration, innovative thinking, and especially storytelling, Merkel says, are necessary for success in many careers. Whether you are a research scientist or an ad executive, "you can't function at all as a human being if you cannot tell a story."

Most employers understand that literature students can write and read well, but Merkel hopes her students show them they can think well, too, "as logically as those in the sciences and as creatively as those in fine arts."

Looking at the Lit Hatch, she adds, "I like to do things where students can say to a future employer, 'I did this project. Would you like to see this interactive game I made?'" ■

—Natalie Kopp

comfortzones

Sinclair Davis '20: Jay Martin Soccer Complex

Sinclair Davis '20 can be found all over the OWU campus—talking with students as an RA in Hayes Hall, working in a chemistry lab, hanging with her Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority sisters, or prepping in the women's soccer room, her campus comfort zone. Sinclair, from Knoxville, Tennessee, is uber-involved across campus and has received an array of honors and awards during her four years at OWU.

1 #00 forever

Playing goalkeeper all four years, Sinclair grew attached to her jersey number. So much so, she took her number plaque from the locker room when she was given the opportunity after her last practice. "To me, double zero—that was my number, it never made any sense for me to change."

2 Captain Davis

Her teammates value Sinclair's leadership. On the day that she was named team captain, Sinclair tore her ACL, her second ACL injury in two years. "Having the armband reminded me that even though I had the injury, I was still a part of the team."

3 A Golden RA

Sinclair won the Returning Resident Assistant of the Year/Moderator of the Year award for her support of other RAs.

4 Meet Drizzy, the travel companion

Sinclair's favorite travel companion has been everywhere with her since her senior year of high school. He's traveled to

places ranging from Las Vegas on vacation to the Cayman Islands for soccer. "He doesn't have a passport, though. He probably should."

5 A constant reminder

A gift to Sinclair, her gold prayer necklace stays around her neck as a reminder to "control the controllable, relax, everything will fall into place as long as you're doing your part."

6 Family tradition

Women in Sinclair's family historically have been members of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Her paddle was a gift from her aunt, an AKA member, and is decorated with colors symbolic to the sorority.

7 Chemistry found, biochemistry declared

Sinclair credits a class she took by chance her first year for redirecting her academic path from genetics to biochemistry. A lecture from Professor of Chemistry Dan Vogt sparked her imagination, and soon thereafter she declared her new major of biochemistry, alongside microbiology.

8 Socks and sandals (sometimes)

Sinclair says she's matured during her time at OWU in that she no longer wears her Chaco sandals 24/7, as she did her first year, when she "was known as the Chaco girl." She now realizes that socks and sandals just aren't functional during Ohio winter months.

9 Mom knows best

This canvas painted by her mom serves as a daily reminder about how to start each day. Sinclair says her mom instilled the belief that you should "take whatever it is that you have and be grateful for it," which Sinclair strives to do every day.

10 Strong as can be

After making this canvas at a team event her first year, Sinclair kept it in her locker to remind her to stay both mentally and physically strong. The stars at the top represent her goal of the team earning a third national title. Though it didn't happen during her playing years, Sinclair trusts it will happen soon.

—Christina Semeraro



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Start each day with a grateful heart

Serving Kenya's first lady means changing lives



As director of communications and head of press for Her Excellency Margaret Kenyatta, the first lady of Kenya, **Vivianne Ngugi '85** never has a typical day. Ngugi might find herself planning an event, writing impact stories for the media, or even training for a marathon. But it's the chance to change lives that she loves most.

Her position allows Ngugi to work closely on Kenyatta's Beyond Zero initiative, which is guided by the fundamental belief that no woman will die while giving birth.

"The first lady's Beyond Zero initiative is about improving the health and well-being of mothers and children," Ngugi explains. The initiative is addressing issues such as reproductive health, maternal and child mortality, noncommunicable diseases, early child marriage, and female genital mutilation.

In January 2020, Ngugi planned and implemented the fifth edition of the Beyond Medical Safari, which is the

anchor activity of Beyond Zero.

"The safaris offer free medical services to marginalized and vulnerable communities around the country," Ngugi explains. "This event coincided with the global elimination of cervical cancer month and saw thousands of women and girls get screened for prevention and early testing of cervical cancer, which is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women in Kenya."

Ngugi was recently recognized for her exemplary public service when she received the Kenyan presidential award Moran of the Order of the Burning Spear.

Her work requires her to be nimble and expect the unexpected.

"My job requires a mixed set of competencies, professionalism, maturity, as well as many doses of humility," she says. "This even includes training for marathons!" Each year on International Women's Day, First Lady

Kenyatta hosts and runs at her Beyond Zero Half Marathon in Nairobi.

"The first lady of Kenya is the only first lady in the world who has run the London Marathon," Ngugi says. Months ago, Ngugi began training alongside Kenyatta for the fifth edition of the marathon, held on March 8.

Although she didn't expect marathon training to be part of her career, Ngugi always intended to have a career in public service. As an international and global studies major at Ohio Wesleyan, she thought her future

career would focus on diplomacy and international relations.

"I think being exposed to multicultural living and learning gives anyone an edge," she says of her time at OWU.

After graduating, Ngugi completed foreign service diplomat training, still intending to pursue a career in international relations. "But somehow I ended up working in communications, which I think is an essential skillset for any career," she says.

After a variety of public and private sector jobs, Ngugi served as the head of communications for the regional office of Canada's International Development Research Centre.

"It was a really interesting job that brought me full circle back into public service. The different professional roles for me became the building blocks that I apply in my current job." ■

—Ericka Kurtz



1988



2020

Photo by Paul Vernon

timescapes

Mock Conventions prove OWU students are ahead of the times

An OWU tradition dating back to 1884, Mock Convention remains a momentous campus event. This year Gray Chapel again filled with students, along with faculty, staff, and several alumni, to debate the issues, amend the party platform, and nominate candidates for president and vice president. In 1988 (top), despite support for native son Howard Metzenbaum, OWU for the first time nominated an African American, Jesse Jackson, for president. This year the students again made history, nominating an all-female ticket, Elizabeth Warren for president and Stacey Abrams for vice president. OWU's Mock Convention always represents the political party not currently in the White House, so the 2016 event was a Republican convention and this year's was a Democratic convention. Pictured, **Dylan Hays '20** submits the signatures to nominate Warren while (from left) **Alexis Greene '21**, **Makaila Weir '21**, Assistant Professor of Politics and Government Brianna Mack, and **Fatima Iqbal '21** look on.

the best of the BISHOP



decade

top 10

The decade of the 2010s was historic for Ohio Wesleyan, with new programs, amazing building makeovers, and incredible achievements from students, faculty, and coaches. Here's a list of the top 10 accomplishments based on an informal survey by *OWU Magazine*. Do you agree? Let us know.

The Connect Today, Create Tomorrow campaign surpasses its original goal more than a year ahead of schedule (2019), and more than \$200 million in contributions begin to transform the campus and enrich student experiences.



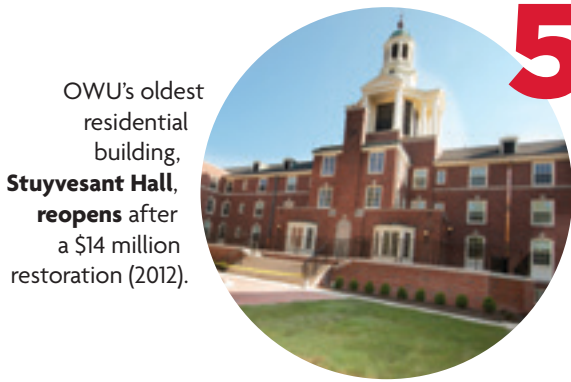
After more than 30 years, **Merrick Hall reopens as the home of The OWU Connection** (2015). During the decade, OWU awards \$2.3 million in grants to support OWU Connection experiences in more than 60 countries.



Bachelor of Science degrees are introduced along with new majors in business administration, communication, data analytics, neuroscience, special education, and more.



Men's soccer wins the national championship, and Jay Martin simultaneously becomes the winningest coach in NCAA men's soccer history (2011).



OWU's oldest residential building, **Stuyvesant Hall, reopens** after a \$14 million restoration (2012).

(Tie) **Cirrus Robinson '20 wins her fourth national high jump championship** (2019) and **Nate Axelrod '18 earns Jostens Trophy** as nation's most outstanding NCAA DIII men's basketball player (2018).



Meek Aquatics and Recreation Center opens (2010), OWU's first LEED-certified green building.



The Delaware Entrepreneurial Center opens on campus (2018), a first-of-its-kind business incubator and education center at a private liberal arts college.



I-Cubed mini lecture series begins (2015) – and Mary Anne Lewis Cusato's "Chuck Norris in Algeria" lecture surpasses 100,000 YouTube views.

Ohio Wesleyan celebrates 175 years (2017).



2019-2020

10



A politics and government graduate from the Class of 1999, Chris Sayer opened Brewery Legitimus in New Hartford, Conn., in 2016.



The joys and challenges of running a brewery, creating a tasty wine, and delivering spirits

By Kathy Lynn Gray

Cheers!

Amy Prosenjak '94 never imagined she'd leave the Midwest to become the CEO of an Oregon winery. The OWU accounting major had worked 14 years for two very traditional Ohio companies—The Limited and Value City Furniture—and had grown up in Youngstown, Ohio.

Owen Ridings '06 had a similarly unexpected experience. He had toiled for the forest service in the West and marketed automobiles in Detroit before realizing that wine was his calling.

But as craft breweries sprang up like weeds, wine-tasting tours became popular getaways, and whisky sours and martinis had a resurgence, Prosenjak, Ridings, and other OWU graduates

learned there's much to love—and little to hate—about the alcoholic beverage industry.

“It's a unique combination of art and science,” says **Roger Nabedian '85**, senior vice president and general manager of E&J Gallo Winery in Modesto, Calif. “There's an art to creating wine, but it's also a scientific endeavor. At its core, wine is a consumer product, and that makes the business very complex. And I like the complexity.”

Nabedian's been with Gallo since 1986, just a year after he graduated from OWU with a chemistry degree and a yen for a job that wasn't staid and predictable. Today he manages Gallo's \$1.2 billion premium wine division and is part of the leadership of the family-owned company.

He's grown to appreciate the benefits of a company founded and owned by family, as many are in the industry.

“I didn't think about this when I joined the company, but once you're there and you interact with the more senior level staff, you realize that the purpose and values of the company are likely to remain consistent,” he says. “That gave me the confidence that I knew what was likely to happen in the company, and I was motivated to work hard because of that.”

Bennett Thompson '12 also majored in chemistry at OWU, but he's used his degree in a more direct way: He's a quality manager for Half Acre Beer Co., in Chicago, where he tests the brewery's beer at various points in its



we're farmers, and all of these vineyards have to deal with the climate."

—Amy Prosenjak

production to make sure it's a consistent product.

"Beer and beer science are really understudied," says Thompson, who also has a master's in chemistry from Yale University. "We're just beginning to learn what causes different flavors and how to really wrangle with what beer is. That's pretty cool, and I like to be able to sink my teeth into that."

Chris Sayer '99 considers his leap into owning his own brewery in New Hartford, Conn., "a chance to put my artistry into a glass for you to enjoy."

He and his wife, Christina, opened Brewery Legitimus in 2016 in a former Waring factory on Rt. 44 after three years of planning. Besides brewing craft beers such as an IPA called Dr. Strangehaze, they run a taproom that Sayer likens to an old-time pub in England or Scotland.

"I love what I do," says Sayer, who majored in politics and government and international studies at OWU. "If you love what you do and can balance those things in your life, that's success. Most people never discover what they're passionate about, and I feel fortunate that I found that."

Devaraj Southworth '94 also comes to the field with an entrepreneur's passion but a different bent: enabling home delivery of spirits within an hour or two. A myriad of federal, state, and local laws make such deliveries complex. Spirits can't be sold directly from a manufacturer to a consumer; they must go through a distributor and a retailer.

"It's a tough industry and extremely challenging," says Southworth, who started his business six years ago with fellow OWU alumnus **Maxim Razmakhin '10**. "Part of my joy is



Photo by John Valls



“There’s an art to creating wine, but it’s also a scientific endeavor.”

—Roger Nabedian



taking the time to see how we can work to make this industry more efficient. Consumers in this day and age want to make purchases for everything on their mobile devices.”

The business has evolved from one that facilitates home deliveries to a company that now provides marketing and data for manufacturers so they can know their customers better, Southworth says. He’s banking that will increase the percentage of liquor sold online, now at less than 1 percent, to a figure closer to the general online purchase percentage of 13 to 14 percent.

While government regulations for wine and beer sales aren’t as stringent as for spirits, the businesses have plenty of unique challenges.

“It’s highly competitive,” says Prosenjak, who has worked for A to Z Wineworks in Newberg, Ore., for 13 years. “It’s difficult as a business to get attention, so we’ve invested in marketing, buildings, and salespeople.”

That’s meant steady growth. Prosenjak notes that A to Z produced 80,000 cases of wine a year when she started; that’s

ballooned to 400,000 cases a year, sold in all 50 states and exported internationally.

According to Nabedian, drinking wine came of age in the United States with baby boomers in the 1980s and 1990s.

“Forty or fifty years ago, the United States was a whisky-drinking culture,” he says. Household penetration for wine has grown significantly, from 20 to about 40 percent, and the trick now, he says, will be to make wine an everyday part of meals.

“It’s a huge opportunity, but also a major challenge.”

Exacerbating that challenge is climate change, says Prosenjak.

“We’re farmers, and all of these vineyard owners have to deal with the climate.” That has included a six-week swing in harvesting grapes because of climate change, she says.

Ridings, a wine sales specialist at Chateau Potelle winery in California’s Napa Valley, believes climate change will affect wineries more than anything else in the coming years.

“But we can adjust to the climate we’ll be in,” he says. “If all technology went away, we could still produce wine, and still produce great wine. You’re at the mercy of Mother Nature, so you make adjustments and have contingency plans.”

Prosenjak also worries about a dwindling supply of skilled labor, which she says is caused by the government’s squeeze on immigration and the growing cannabis market.

“It’s the same labor pool we’re drawing from at the same time of the year,” she says. “When grapes or anything are ready to harvest, you have to harvest them, and pruning and harvesting in a vineyard is really skilled labor.”

In the craft brewery industry, competition may be the biggest challenge, according to Sayer.

“We constantly have new competitors,” he says. “Some later entrants think owning a brewery is a license to print money and it’s easy. But we work 80 to 100 hours a week.”

Others “have an obsession with



Photo by Brian McConkey Photography '88

“we’re just beginning to learn what causes different flavors and how to really wrangle with what beer is. That’s pretty cool.”
—Bennett Thompson

always making something new instead of just perfecting what they’ve already created,” Sayer adds. “Staying relevant and making beer your customers want is important. There’s going to be a correction in the market eventually, and those that fall through will be those that haven’t connected with their customers and haven’t developed a culture to go along with their brand.”

Thompson, of Half Acre Beer, also anticipates fewer craft brewers as some consolidate or run out of capital. That may come about, in part, as brewery workers demand better pay.

“Breweries tend to run lean, and wages are depressed,” he says. “I’m well taken care of, but some breweries with a national status have taken advantage of the fact that it’s a cool job. So for a lot of people that means hopping from one brewer to another. It’s definitely something we need to collectively wake up to.”

The best breweries, he says, have a strong commitment to consistency and quality no matter what type of beer

they’re brewing. Candy and cake batter flavors are just a few of the flavors brewers are trying.

“For some people, that’s exactly their style.” ■



Devaraj Southworth (left) and Maxim Razmakhin graduated from OWU 16 years apart and now have joined forces to launch Thirstie, a technology company and e-commerce platform for the alcohol industry.

how to choose a good beer or glass of wine

By Kathy Lynn Gray

Even wine and beer experts are a bit flummoxed when asked how to help a novice find a beer or wine they'll love.

"Wine is extremely confusing," says Roger Nabedian of E&J Gallo Winery. But once you discover one that you like, he suggests asking a wine salesperson or restaurant wine specialist which wines have similar characteristics and trying those.

For those who don't know an acid taste from a tannic one, wine sales specialist Owen Ridings uses other preferences to help his clients at Chateau Potelle winery in California's Napa Valley.

Do you eat grapefruit with your breakfast? Then you might like a Pinot Grigio or a German Riesling.

Do you add cream and sugar to your coffee? That probably means you'd prefer a "rounder, softer, fruit-forward wine," like a Zinfandel, he says.

A to Z Wineworks CEO Amy Prosenjak says the only way to please yourself with wine is to try several varieties at a local wine shop, articulate what you really like or dislike about each, and then determine your personal preference.

"You really have to educate yourself," she says. "It's difficult."

As for finding a beer you enjoy, most are either ales or lagers. Most ales are bitter, while lagers vary in their bitterness.

Beers with a lot of hops are more bitter—or more flavorful, in some

minds, says chemist and beer quality manager Bennett Thompson.

Explaining what you like to eat to a brewer is one way to begin identifying which beers you might prefer, says Chris Sayer, founder of Brewery Legitimus.

"If you like spicy food, I might steer you to a lager or an IPA," he says. "For someone who likes beef, I steer them towards an Abbey Dubbel" (a dark Belgian-style beer).

Thompson says so many styles of beer exist today that there's something for everyone.

"If you like beers of one style, you might like others in the same style," he says. "If you like an IPA, try another IPA." ■

““ If you like spicy food,
I might steer you to a
lager or an IPA. ””

—Chris Sayer



owu alumni mastering the science, art and economics of beer & wine

Roger Nabedian '85

Throughout his college years, Nabedian worked in a grocery store. So perhaps it wasn't surprising that his first real job out of college was within that realm.

Nabedian signed on with E&J Gallo Winery, working as a salesperson in New Hampshire selling wine to grocery and liquor stores.

"I understood that environment quite well," he says.

He filled a variety of roles at the company after that, including director of college recruiting, director of recruiting and field marketing in Europe, vice president of new product development, and vice president of operations.

"I've been very fortunate," he says. "I love leading and managing a team."

In 2007 he became senior vice president and general manager at Gallo's headquarters in Modesto, Calif., the job he currently holds.

"I started at the bottom and worked my way up," he says. "It was a great foundation because you really see how consumers interact with brands, and you have to learn how to influence people, to create needs and wants in your buyers. A lot of our people start there even to this day."

Amy Prosenjak '94

After working on the business side of The Limited and Value City Furniture in Ohio, Prosenjak was up for an adventure.

"I was getting that itch: Are we going to live in Ohio our whole lives?" she thought. She and her husband, Steven Guy, had traded in their beer kegger for a wine collection, and when Guy found a job opportunity for his wife at an

Oregon winery, Prosenjak sent in her resume on a whim.

"The next day the owner called and asked me if I understood cost accounting," she says. "He said he could teach me wine, but he couldn't find anyone who understood cost accounting."

That was 13 years ago. Prosenjak's been in the top management at A to Z Wineworks in Newberg, Ore., since then. She's now the chief executive officer, overseeing a company making 400,000 cases of wine a year and selling it in all 50 states.

"Wine is all about cost accounting," she says. "It's a really interesting and fun business, much sexier than furniture. Sometimes I get a call: 'Can you come taste this new wine?' And I say, 'Sure, I'll be right down.'"

Prosenjak will be back on the OWU campus this fall for the third biennial Women of Ohio Wesleyan (WOW) women's leadership forum, Nov. 6-7. She's on the steering committee for the event, which will feature opportunities for alumnae to connect, develop their professional network, and discuss shared experiences (see registration information on page 27).

Devaraj Southworth '94

As a digital sales manager at Deloitte, Southworth watched as many of his colleagues left to become entrepreneurs. So he took the plunge, too, building a successful advertising tech business, IThink Labs, before returning to a corporate job as a vice president at American Express.

Two years later, he felt the pull of entrepreneurship once again and cofounded Thirstie, a technology company and e-commerce platform for the alcohol industry.

First, the company offered online alcohol sales and delivery directly to consumers. Next, it added

data services, gathering information about customers for large manufacturers and, more recently, smaller, independent brands.

“It’s the final frontier in e-commerce,” says Southworth. “We are changing an industry forever and it needs to be done in a calculated way, and you have to build credibility. You have to approach it as a long-term journey.”

Chris Sayer '99

Sayer’s love affair with beer began during a semester abroad in Brussels during his junior year at OWU. To learn French, he worked at a tiny neighborhood bar washing glasses one night and drinking beers the next.

“I’d never had a beer in my life before that,” he says. But beyond expanding his taste buds, Sayer learned the importance of knowing your customers, and that’s a lesson he’s carried through to his own enterprise, Brewery Legitimus in New Hartford, Conn.

His taproom doesn’t use a dishwasher—the staff washes all the glasses by hand as they talk with customers.

“Washing dishes and talking to people while we’re working, as weird as that sounds, it’s a chance to hang out and talk. We learn what customers like and don’t like. I think interaction with people is the most important thing in this industry. We want you to be comfortable and we want to create a community.”

Owen Ridings '06

What do you do with a philosophy degree? Ridings likes to joke that he philosophizes while he drinks and pours wine in his job as a wine sales specialist at Chateau Potelle winery in California’s Napa Valley.

“I say that in jest, but because I’m in a sales position I do use my major to figure out how I can best make connections with people,” says Ridings. “I love that I get to educate people about the enjoyment of wine, the cultural aspects around it. I get to tell them the story of where the grapes come from and the soil they come from.”

Ridings learned about wine “the old school way.” He apprenticed with a wine maker for six years, then worked as a wine director at a Japanese restaurant before managing a wine tasting room and then

moving to his current position.

“There isn’t anything I hate about the job,” he says. “It’s definitely one of the best jobs I’ve ever had.”

Bennett Thompson '12

Thompson’s plan after graduation was to get his Ph.D. in chemistry and become an academic.

“I had no goal to ever leave for an applied science career, and beer was not close to my goals,” he says.

But facing a tight job market for chemistry professors, he quit his Ph.D. program after getting his master’s and started thinking about pursuing food science. The brewing industry caught his attention and he tried it, working at a Connecticut brewery for three months without pay. That led to a paid job in the lab of another brewery and then his current job as quality manager at Half Acre Beer Co. in Chicago.

“Being able to apply my science education directly is exciting,” he says. “I feel like it’s full of endless opportunities to continuously learn about something that humans created to enjoy and something that’s really interesting.” ■

—Kathy Lynn Gray



For Chris Sayer at Brewery Legitimus the business is all about hands-on tradition and building community with customers.

Bennett Thompson relies on his chemistry background to help his Chicago brewery create distinctive beers. (Brian McConkey Photography '88)



2019 Holiday Parties

owu.edu/alumni | Facebook | LinkedIn | Twitter | Instagram

In December more than 650 alumni, parents, and friends gathered to share in the seasonal cheer at 11 OWU holiday parties from Boston to Los Angeles. Watch for dates for 2020 holiday events coming this July.

In the photos people are named from left to right unless otherwise noted.



Atlanta: Nancy Wortmann '65, Kate Duello Roca '01, Randy Wortmann '64



New York: Craig Luke '85, Hillary Panas Pember '85, Kent Miller '85, and Andrew Morrison '85.



Columbus: Sean Harris '97, Zibbi Palmer Wentz '99, Wendy McCall Johnson '74, Anthony Peddle '14, Katie Webster, director of alumni engagement, Denise Brenner '00, Joni Manos Brown '78, Mark Shippis '70, Ginny O'Grady Shippis '70, Liz Long Downey '06, and Scott Donaldson '02.



Washington, D.C.: Alex Lothstein '15, Taylor Heasley '16, Nick Calio '75, Tom Grissom '62, Katie Nunner '16, and Ellie Magner '15.



Columbus: Jenny Brodie '04, Samantha Wallace Sharpe '09, Dan Sharpe '06, Obinna Moneme '96, Allison Moneme, and Jonathan Lange.



Boston: Conor Duffey, Megan Doherty '16, Caroline Bonee '16, Jennifer Lockett '16, and Alison Kennedy '10.



San Francisco: Standing: Anne McComas '12 and Andrea Richards Moore '82; seated: Lisabeth Raskin '83 and Martha Bloom Weinstein '82.



Philadelphia: Charles Valentine, Deborah McColloch '77, Debbie Legge-Sloman '77, and Brian Sloman.



San Francisco: Daniel Jackoway, Memme Onwudiwe '15, and Annie Pappenhagen '15.



Columbus: Suzanne Sutter Sumner '75, John Sumner '74, Leslie MacFarland Sours '74, Steve Sours '74, Wendy McCall Johnson '74, Chris Johnson '74, and David Roark '74.



Los Angeles: Gerry Gacek, Janet de Michaelis '74, Bill More, and Julie Lafond More '69.



Cleveland: Hasani Wheat '09, Leah Eickhoff, Eric Eickhoff '00, Marie Rymut Schaefer '07, and John Schaefer '05.



Los Angeles: Diane Petersen '66, Caslisse Lindsey P'23, Fred Haney '63, Michele Petersen, and Barbara Breig Haney '63.



Cleveland: Penell Paglialunga '19, Hayley Glessner '19, and Katie Kuckelheim '19.



San Francisco: Arvind Thyagarajan '00, Suhneel Roye '98, Keith Rozanski '99, and Jack Luikart '71.



Chicago: Sarah Dailey '15, Julia Melio '19, Matt Cohen '09, President Rock Jones, Matt DiCesare '16, Jane Suttmeier '15, and Brian Schaefer '16.

Palmer's \$2 million gift solidifies Global Scholars Program



During a celebration at the Ross Art Museum, Rock Jones leads a toast to Tom and Susan Palmer (left) on the creation of The Thomas W. Palmer '69 and Susan Palmer Global Scholars Program. Joining in the toast are Global Scholars Program faculty (from left) Mary Anne Lewis Cusato, Jeremy Baskes, and Nathan Amador Rowley. (Photo by Paul Vernon)

Ohio Wesleyan Trustee **Tom Palmer '69** and his wife, Susan, have created a \$2 million endowment for the OWU Global Scholars Program, which will provide international opportunities for students for years to come.

The program was created three years ago through a short-term grant as part of OWU's Global Studies Institute. The institute brings together faculty and students from the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, and fine arts to explore issues from all academic disciplines and work toward real-world solutions. Each fall, a dozen or more incoming students are invited to become Global Scholars in recognition of their passion for international issues and potential for high academic achievement.

As juniors or seniors, Global Scholars receive a \$4,000 university grant to pursue an approved international research or study project of their choice. As seniors, they also complete a faculty-supervised thesis or capstone project. In addition, they are required

to take four semesters of foreign language. Students who successfully complete the Global Scholars Program graduate with a Global Studies Institute certificate noted on their transcript.

"Susan and Tom Palmer's incredibly generous endowment ensures that the Global Scholars Program will exist to benefit future generations of Ohio Wesleyan students, many of whom would not be able to study abroad if it were not for the associated stipends," says Jeremy Baskes, program director and professor of history. "Ohio Wesleyan, and specifically the Global Scholars Program, is exceedingly lucky to have such committed and caring benefactors."

"We welcome this opportunity to support the initiative and creativity of faculty and students engaged in the Global Scholars Program," said the Palmers in announcing the gift. "This program not only enables experiences of global connection for those directly involved but also for others in sharing interaction. In this, OWU continues to differentiate itself as a university

dynamic in affording distinctive learning opportunities."

OWU President Rock Jones notes, "As the world becomes increasingly interconnected, Ohio Wesleyan wants to ensure that our graduates are prepared to be active and engaged global citizens and leaders. Tom and Susan's support helps us to achieve this important mission. We look forward to witnessing the positive impact the Palmer Global Scholars have on the world."

A current at-large member of the OWU Board of Trustees, Tom Palmer has practiced law for more than 45 years with Marshall & Melhorn, LLC, in Toledo, Ohio. At Ohio Wesleyan, he majored in economics and was a member of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. Susan Palmer is a former educator and development director for the Toledo Museum of Art, where she still serves on the Board of Trustees.

The gift is part of OWU's Connect Today, Create Tomorrow comprehensive campaign, which has raised more than \$200 million. ■

Senior Sanchez donates all four years



Alexander Sanchez talks regularly with OWU alumni from his Phonathon station.

A smile fills the face of Ohio Wesleyan University senior Alexander Sanchez as he talks about his four years of giving back.

Sanchez has donated to the University all four years he has attended OWU. His appreciation for the impact OWU has on him inspired him to ensure a continuous impact on current and future students.

From Caguas, Puerto Rico, Sanchez was introduced to the importance of donating through his position at Phonathon, an OWU program for University fundraising. Phonathon encourages student workers to highlight the influence that a donation

will have at OWU. Sanchez has taken this message to heart as he's seen the willingness of alumni to give back to their alma mater. He says he wanted to acknowledge all OWU has done for him to make his college experience valuable.

An international business and French major with minors in women's and gender studies and politics and government, Sanchez credits OWU for providing him with travel opportunities and professional assistance that has helped him focus his career path.

Strong connections with professors and other students are the most valuable part of OWU, he says. ■

—Christina Semeraro

calendar of events



This calendar was prepared before we knew of COVID-19. Since then, Reunion Weekend has been canceled. For the status of other events and to RSVP, visit owu.edu/alumni or call 740-368-3325.

May 15–17
OWU campus
Reunion Weekend CANCELED

May 30
Cleveland, Ohio
Cleveland Indians game and pregame gathering with Bob DiBasio '77 CANCELED

July 11
Traverse City Country Club
Michigan Red & Black Luncheon

August 8
Cape Cod, Mass.
New England Clambake on Cape Cod Hosted by Rich '82 and Kim Alexander

September 2
Various locations
Welcome to the City

October 2–4
OWU campus
Homecoming & Family Weekend

October 23–25
OWU campus
Sigma Alpha Epsilon Reunion

November 6–7
OWU campus
Women of Ohio Wesleyan (WOW)
Info and registration at owu.edu/WOW

Vote for trustees!



Michelle Kilkenney '99

Michelle's career at Kirkland & Ellis LLP has focused on debt financing transactions, representing private equity groups and other private and public companies. She serves on the boards for Catherine Cook School, City Year Chicago, and the Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights. At OWU she was a member of the Women's House, participated in Wesleyan in Washington, and was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma. She and her husband, Ryan, live in Chicago with their three children.



Jerilyn Bushong Mapes '87

Jerilyn's career in wellness and health care has included managing the health and wellness programs at one of the largest hospital systems in Indiana. She was the founder and president of Health and Fitness Solutions, which developed wellness programs for companies across the Midwest. At OWU, she was a four-year letter winner on the women's basketball team and was a member of Delta Gamma. She and her husband, Chris, have two grown children.

Read full bios and vote by **May 8** at owu.edu/alumni/BOTslate.

To nominate an alumnus/a for future consideration, please email: alumni@owu.edu. Please include name, class year, and qualifications.

Andrew Busch, assistant professor of health and human kinetics, coauthored the article “Performance Differences in Division III Female Field Hockey Athletes With Prior Lower Extremity Injuries Over a Competitive Season,” *The Sport Journal*, January 2020.

Amy Butcher, assistant professor of English, received an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award in February for her upcoming book *Mothertrucker*.

David Caplan, professor of English, presented a keynote address, “On Erasure: Past, Present, and Future,” at an international conference, “New Poetries—New Poetics? Cultural and Aesthetic Transformations of American Poetry,” at the University of Konstanz in Konstanz, Germany. Of his presentation, Caplan says: “I talked about erasure poetry, poetry composed by erasing words from another text. Sometimes the texts are literary, other times they are political or legal. I discussed the technique’s development, current uses, and possibility.”

Michael Flamm, professor of history, created a 10-episode series on “How 1954 Changed History.” Recorded for Amazon and Audible Originals as part of “The Great Courses” series, the audio course takes listeners through the battle against polio, the Red Scare that gripped the nation, the domestic impact of foreign conflicts, and the groundbreaking case of *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Jeffrey Ford, adjunct instructor in English, published two books: *Out of Body*, a 172-page novel from Tor.com/Pan Macmillan; and *The Best of Jeffrey Ford*, a short story collection from PS Publishing, U.K., January 2020.

James Franklin, professor of politics and government, wrote the article “Human Rights on the March: Repression, Oppression, and Protest in Latin America,” which was accepted for publication in *International Studies Quarterly*.

Lee Fratantuono, professor and chair of classics, published an article on Virgil in the Spanish classics journal *Myrtia*.

Jerry Goldstein, professor emeritus of botany and microbiology, along with student coauthor **Aidan Shumaker '20**, published “Cinnamon Extract and Cinnamaldehyde Inhibit the Replication of T2 Bacteriophage in *E. coli*: Potential for Use in Antiviral and Anticancer Therapy,” in *Research & Reviews: A Journal of Biotechnology*, 9(3), 8–17.

Kellie Hall, director of the Early Childhood Center, and Katherine Glenn-Applegate presented “Nurturing Curious Minds: Asking Smart Questions in Science and Beyond,” at the Action for Children Teaching and Learning Conference on Nov. 2.

Vanessa Hildebrand, assistant professor of sociology-anthropology, published the chapter “Ethnography” in the book, *Research Methods in Health Humanities*. She cowrote the chapter with Eileen Anderson-Fye. The book was edited by Craig Klugman and Erin Gentry Lamb.

Sarah Kaka, assistant professor of education, published five articles and delivered two presentations. Her articles were: “Shrinking an Already Decreasing Pool: Potential Implications of edTPA Implementation,” in the *Ohio Journal of Teacher Education*, 33(2), 47–79, Fall 2019; “Administrators’ Insights into the Preparation and Performance of New Teachers,” in the *Northwest Journal of Teacher Education*, 14(2), Fall 2019; “Classroom Culture in the Social Studies Classroom: The Abilities of Preservice Teachers,” in *The Councilor: A Journal of the Social Studies*, 80(2), Fall 2019; “2018–2019 Ohio Council for the Social Studies Annual Survey Results,” in the *Ohio Social Studies Review*, 55(2), 4–5, Fall 2019; and “Cooperating Teacher Perceptions of Their Preservice Teachers’ Impact on Student Learning,” in *Educational Research: Theory and Practice*, 30(2), 75–90, Fall 2019. She



Marty Kalb, professor emeritus of fine arts, had one of his paintings purchased by the Columbus Museum of Art. The painting, *Chagrin Falls Winter* (pictured above), is one of a series he made several years ago of waterfalls in Ohio, New York, and Vermont. The director of the museum, Nannette Maciejunes, saw the painting at an exhibition of Ohio artists at the Ohio Governor’s Mansion in July 2019.

made two presentations at the National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference in Austin, Texas, in November 2019: She presented a book chapter, “First Amendment Rights and Speech: Views from Students on News and Social Media in Schools,” which appears in *At the Schoolhouse Gate: Teacher, Student, and Administrator Perspectives on First Amendment Rights in Schools*, in press; and she presented a session on “Using Ephemera, Monuments, and Museums to Teach Controversial Social Issues.”

Sean Kay, professor of politics and government, was recognized by the Keep Delaware County Beautiful Coalition, receiving the group’s Garrison-Brown Award for his volunteer work at the 2019 Northern Olentangy Watershed Festival, Olentangy River Cleanup, and Scioto River Clean Sweep. Over Thanksgiving Kay flew to Dublin, Ireland, to make a presentation on the 2020 U.S. presidential election. The event was sponsored by the Institute of International and European Affairs. Kay also published an article about his journey as an assistant guide through the Grand Canyon on the Colorado River, “An Old River Guide Learns New Tricks,” in *Boatman’s Quarterly Journal* (Winter 2019/20), the official journal of the Grand

Canyon River Guides Association. As part of his research related to his newly developed course, Environmental Politics and Policy, he published an article delving into Ireland's plans to divert the Shannon River, "Explaining Rainy Ireland's Water Crisis," in *Irish Central*, the largest Irish online magazine in the U.S. In March 2019, Kay was invited to present a paper on "Realism and Transatlantic Security Institutions" at the conference "What Is a Realist Foreign Policy?" held at the Mershon Center for International Security Studies at Ohio State University. The paper has been accepted for publication in *Security Studies*, one of the world's top peer-reviewed international relations journals. It will appear in the May/June 2020 issue.

Chris Modica, assistant professor of psychology, authored two articles, one accepted and one in press. In press: "The Associations Between Instagram Use, Selfie-Activities, Appearance-Comparison, and Body Dissatisfaction in

Adult Men," *Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking*. Accepted for publication: "The Association Between Body Surveillance and Body Satisfaction Moderated by Self-Concept Clarity in Adult Women in the United States: A Cross Sectional Study," *Journal of Women's Health, Issues and Care*, 8, 1-6.

Michele Nobel, assistant professor of education and director for special education, presented "Want to Travel the World With Your Class? You Can With Google Tour Builder," at the Innovations in Teaching and Learning Conference, hosted by Franklin University, Oct. 18.

Robert Olmstead, professor of English, was recognized by the Ohioana Library Association, which selected his novel *Coal Black Horse* as one of 90 books by Ohio authors chosen to help the association celebrate its 90th anniversary.

Eva Paris-Huesca, assistant professor of Spanish, published the book chapter "Reivindicando el cine ginocriminal

español: el proyecto pionero de la ciudad perdida de Margarita Alexandre" [Claiming Spanish Gynocriminal Cinema: the Pioneer Project of The Lost City by Margarita Alexandre] in *Papeles del crimen. Mujeres y violencia en la ficción criminal* [Criminal Roles: Women and Violence in Crime Fiction], ed. by Lama, Losada, and Resano, University of Barcelona, Spain. She also published the article "El impacto de los festivales en la cultural cinematográfica" ["The Impact of Festivals on Cinematographic Culture"], in an online film magazine.

Anne Sokolsky, associate professor of comparative literature, has been working since April 2019 as literature editor for the *Journal of Japanese Language and Literature*. Sokolsky also published a book review of *Outcasts of Empire: Japan's Rule on Taiwan's "Savage Border," 1874-1945*, by Paul D. Barclay, in *The Journal of Asian Studies*. In October, she presented a talk, "The World of Travel as Presented in the Japanese Colonial Journal *Taiwan Fujinkai*, 1934-1939," at the New York Conference on Asian Studies at SUNY New Paltz. Finally, she received a \$3,000 Northeast Asia Council Japan Studies Grant for a project titled "Shigemitsu Mamoru and the Tokyo Trial in Literature, Film, and Personal Letters." For the project, she will travel to Japan in May 2020 to study archives at the Mamoru Shigemitsu Memorial Museum in Kamakura, Japan, as well as film archives of the Tokyo Trial housed at the NHK library in Tokyo and Japan's National Diet Library. These activities are financially assisted by the Japan-United States Friendship Commission and the Northeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies.

Chris Wolverton, professor of botany, coauthored the article "Comparison of Microgravity Analogs to Spaceflight in Studies of Plant Growth and Development," which was published in *Frontiers in Plant Science*, Dec. 6, 2019. Wolverton also presented findings of his NASA spaceflight experiment in the President's Symposium of the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Gravitational and Space Research in Denver, Colorado, Nov. 21.



Shari Stone-Mediatore, professor of philosophy, was named managing director of Parole Illinois, an organization that she cofounded to educate people about over-incarceration in Illinois and the need for fair systems of release for people with long-term sentences. She was awarded \$37,000 in funding from Circles of Justice Initiative, Sparkplug Foundation, and Crossroads Foundation for staff and operating expenses. She helped direct an auction of incarcerated people's art (pictured above), the distribution of newsletters to 500 incarcerated members, a website (ParoleIllinois.org), the development of open and accountable communication practices among incarcerated and non-incarcerated board members, and the transition to official 501(c)(3) status. With her incarcerated colleague, Joseph Dole, she coauthored a news article about the organization, "Incarcerated Activists Raise the Bar on Parole." Also, she is supervising OWU students **Avery Newcom '23**, **Scottie Hughes '21**, **Athena Vakaleris '22**, and **Genesis Canngieter '20** in various Parole Illinois projects, including a report on expanded uses of clemency, the tracking of input from incarcerated members, and interviews with people with life sentences.

classnotes

Thank you to all who sent in submissions for the Class Notes section. Due to space limitations, we ask that entries be limited to 100 words. To submit Class Notes items, please use the form at www.owu.edu/classnotes. **Deadline for the Fall 2020 issue is May 19.**

1940s

Dorothy Judd Curtis Brown '49 and her husband of 60 years, **Bill Brown '48**, traveled frequently across the U.S. for his role as research director and president of the Council of State Chambers of Commerce in Washington, D.C. They had two daughters, leading Dorothy to become involved with the Girl Scouts for 50 years as troop member, leader, camp director, and more. She taught microbiology on two college campuses and was a tour leader on the environmental importance of the wetlands in Harpers Ferry National Park. In Estero, Fla., she was a boardwalk tour guide for 23 years at Six Mile Cypress Slough and coauthored "Seasons of the Slew." Of their daughters, Darmae is an accomplished organist and library cataloguer, while the late **Ann Brown Nutt '76** was the first director of the Lighthouse Child Care Development Center in West Virginia.

1950s

Paul Ross '50 and his wife of 32 years, Susanne, are living at Pacific Regent, a high-rise senior community of about 100 residents, in Bellevue, Wash. While she paints and creates art, Paul does scientific writing, and both continue their many-year attendance at Seattle Symphony

Maribeth Amrhein Graham '55 was recognized with the Women of Influence award by the YWCA Dayton. As one of only seven women selected from over 130, she was honored as a visionary leader who has made a difference in the Dayton community while remaining dedicated to the YMCA goal of empowering women and including all. Maribeth is credited for helping save many of Dayton's most revered landmarks, including the Victory Theatre and the Dayton Arcade. She has served as a member of the Junior League of Dayton and the West Carrollton School Board, life trustee on OWU's Board of Trustees, and Founding Trustee of Antioch University Midwest, and her tireless community involvement was a central point of her selection. "Maribeth is the living version of the Margaret Mead quote: 'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has,'" said her nominator.



concerts, avoid the long waiting lines of air travel, and enjoy day trips into the North Cascades mountains. They celebrate their first great grandchild being born in September and their good health.

Ezra Vogel '50 was honored by China Institute for contributions to enhancing China-U.S. relations. Ezra received the annual Blue Cloud Award's special Lifetime Achievement Award for exceptional achievements in contributing to a friendship and understanding between the two countries. Ezra emphasized the importance of a good, informed international relationship, as well as China Institute's work in "making efforts to hear real Chinese voices."

Jack Hahn '55 continues to live in his Albuquerque, N.M., home in the Northeast Heights. His wife, Jude, recently retired from the U.S. Department of Energy and now has time to enjoy true home activities. Jack belongs to a small group of "Ancient Aviators," and the two still operate a large-scale "Sulphur Spring and



Don Denton '53 organized a round of golf in Westerville, Ohio, to commemorate Payne Stewart, a victor of two U.S. Opens and a PGA Championship. While Don had never met the late Stewart, both he and the professional golfer were members of Phi Gamma Delta, albeit at different universities. On the 20th anniversary of Stewart's death, Oct. 25, Don and six other Phi Gamma Delta brothers dressed in plus-fours, baggy trousers that extend four inches below the knee. "I had thought for a long time, it would just be fun to dress up like Payne Stewart and go play some golf," Don quipped to the *Columbus Dispatch*. Pictured from left, Dave Prescott, Dave Tilley, John Gibson, Don Denton, Michael Pittroff, Sam Balla, and Gus Domenick celebrate the legacy of Payne Stewart. (Photo by Joe Blundo)

Alum Creek" garden railroad through their backyard. Summertime finds them in their new flower garden, which is visited by a variety of birds and wild creatures.

Bill Myers '55 continues to live in Glen Ellyn, Ill. Long retired from teaching, he still participates in activities related to architecture and theater in the Chicago area. For the warmer part of the year, he leads boat tours on the Chicago River.

Larry Spees '57 found his calling a few years after graduation. He returned to college for teaching certification, earned a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stout, began teaching at the University of Rio Grande, and was awarded a fellowship at West Virginia University, where he earned a doctorate. Larry retired after 29 years at Rio Grande. He and his wife have traveled Europe and now winter in Naples, Fla., leaving their home at the edge of Westerville, Ohio. After being on national boards of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity, he still checks in on the OWU chapter.

Dick Hottel '58 and **Margie Keller Hottel '60** have four children, eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Margie has worked in a variety of fields, from organizing and teaching their church's

nursery school program to teaching in the U.S. Air Force high school in Germany, where Dick was deployed. Margie has been an elementary PTA officer, church deacon and session, pastor search committee member, and part of the national capital presbytery study group. She is a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority. Dick was employed by the U.S. Air Force for five years and by Harvey B. Hottel Inc. as chairman of the board, retiring in 2018. He also has served as a church officer, including being deacon, chairman of several fundraising campaigns, and property manager.

1960s

Jan Stillinger Cross '60 left OWU with skills and attitudes that served her well, especially in her professional work ethic. This ethic carried her just short of her 80th birthday in a career as a university professor working with hundreds of high school student teachers. She lives with her husband, Criss, in Davis, Calif., and tries to model for their two sons and five adolescent grandchildren the hope they need for a changing world.

Vick French '60 and **Patricia Ross French '60** live in Chevy Chase, Md. Their two children and two grandchildren live nearby. Patricia earned a Ph.D. in English literature from the University of Maryland, writing her dissertation on poet Philip Larkin. She taught undergraduates in English literature at both the University of Maryland and Georgetown University, ran literary seminars at the women's prison in Jessup, Md., and served as first reader and chairman of the building and grounds committee of the Christian Science Church of Chevy Chase. For years she has been head librarian of the Christian Science Reading Room in Chevy Chase. After OWU, Vick received an M.A. in

English from Cornell University, served as editor at the Brookings Institution, legislative assistant to Sen. Fred Harris (D-OK), executive director of the Democratic National Committee, presidential campaign chief in Pennsylvania for Sen. George McGovern (D-SD), and chief of staff to Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-OH). Verrick also was executive vice president of the National Retail Merchants Association, president of French & Company, a government relations firm, and cofounder of the King's Contrivance Discussion Group, composed of OWU graduates, from 1958 to 1975.

Virginia "Ginny" Van Meter Herrick '60 lost her husband of 56 years in 2018. In 2019 her first grandchild was born. She is active in her church and involved in coordinating a natural food buying club, practicing tai chi, working out at the gym, hiking, and supporting a Mexican journalist seeking asylum.

Gerald Kerwin '60 is retired as vice president-general manager of WQHS-TV in Cleveland. He and his wife, Kay, recently celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary and enjoy their time with family and friends in Avon Lake, Ohio. He notes how hard it is to believe it has been 64 years since everyone came to Delaware, and he holds many fond memories of classmates and teachers.

Roger Lockwood '60 is living with his wife, Sheila, in Norwood, Mass. He has a blended family of six married children who have produced 13 grandchildren. Roger is happily working for his son David as franchisee of Taco Bell. He serves on the boards of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute of Boston and League School for autistic children, where he is chairman. He enjoys golf, but not every round.

Jane Polley Riggin '60 has filled her days with art in Sarasota, Fla., as she attends the opera and serves on the board of directors for the artist series concerts. She fondly remembers how full of happiness and joy she and classmates were at OWU, treasuring those feelings despite the loss of her husband of 47 years. Jane is grateful for those memories and the skills learned in the classroom and from the fantastic people in her life while attending OWU. She is a member of Alpha Chi Omega.

Martha Hall '63 has had poems appear in numerous national journals, such as *Bellowing Ark*, *Las Cruces*, *Old Red Kimono*, *Tale Spinners*, and more. She won the 2005 John and Miriam Morris Chapbook contest for her collection *Abandoned Gardens* and was a semi-finalist in the 2007 Concrete Wolf Chapbook contest and the 2010 Kathryn A. Morton Prize in Poetry. Martha has published more than 10 books, one of which was nominated for a Pushcart Prize in 2011. She was honored by the New Hampshire Poet Laureate to be one of the state's featured poets. Martha has been a member of the Manchester, New Hampshire, Poets Unbound group, the Academy of American Poets, the Poetry Society of New Hampshire, and the Monadnock Writers' Group. She and her identical twin sister, Deb, were Conover models in New York City. After graduating from OWU, she attended Columbia University and has been a realtor with various real estate firms over the decades. Martha's books may be purchased through Barnes & Noble and through various publishers and bookstores.

Howard Prestwich '65 is retired from the practice of law. Howard and his wife, Linda, live in Freeport, Ill., but winter in Palm Springs, Calif., to be closer to their

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classnotes

daughter. He wishes all his classmates good health and happiness in the years to come and hopes to see many at the reunion.

Timmen Cermak '67 releases his book on the science of marijuana, *From Bud to Brain: A Psychiatrist's View of Marijuana*, through Cambridge University Press, this spring. He has practiced addiction medicine for 40 years and was the president of the California Society of Addiction Medicine. Timmen also chaired the Youth Work Group of California's Blue Ribbon Commission on Marijuana and currently serves on two state



Sherry Smith Bell '63 was elected to the Exhibitions Committee of the San Juan Islands Museum of Art. This museum, located in the San Juan Islands of northwest Washington, an area noted for its scenic beauty and concentration of artists, is committed to promoting the arts of the Pacific Northwest and Southwest British Columbia. With rotating exhibitions through three galleries, the museum hosts approximately eight to 10 exhibitions a year, as well as a lecture series, Art as a Voice. Sherry also serves as vice president for PADs for Parkinson's, a dog training facility for the detection of Parkinson's disease. The nonprofit program is staffed by volunteers and a director of canine detection. Sherry's dog, Jaden, an Australian Shepherd, joined the program as a detection dog sniffing out disease. Pictured: Sherry in her printmaking studio, Blue Sky Press.

advisory committees focused on cannabis regulation and use of cannabis tax revenue for youth education, prevention, early intervention, and treatment of substance abuse.

Charles "Chuck" Bauer '69 had his artistic work exhibited in the gallery in the offices

of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters in Madison, Wis. From late October to December, the exhibit showcased many paintings of Madison. Bauer says he is drawn to natural and domestic themes in his subjects, but he employs a nostalgic and tranquil approach. He majored in fine arts while at OWU.

1970s

The Rev. Catherine Savage Adler '70 lives in Portland, Ore., and has served multiple United Church of Christ (UCC) churches as pastor. She also saw clients as a licensed clinical social worker within school systems and private practice before retiring. She has three children, Ben, Sarah, and David, and four grandchildren. Operation Crossroads Africa led her to raise funds for Somalia and Ethiopia in the 1980s and '90s. As a member of the UCC Palestine Israel Network, Catherine works for Palestinian human rights and how those rights intersect with other human rights movements.

Philip Amrein '70 attended medical school at Johns Hopkins and earned a fellowship in hematology-oncology at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) after OWU. With his wife, Karen, he lives in Belmont, Mass., and their children, Stephen, Leslie, and Kate, have led interesting lives. As an attending physician doing clinical research in the leukemia disease center at MGH, he has been fortunate to work with productive people and has seen some of the new drugs improve response and survival for patients.

Jan Baran '70 is a senior partner in the Washington, D.C., law firm Wiley Rein LLP, where he is the founder and past chair of the firm's Election Law and Government Ethics group. In his 45 years as a lawyer, Jan helped individuals, politicians, political parties, nonprofits, and business organizations comply with laws that regulate political activity and lobbying. In addition to arguing constitutional cases before the Supreme Court of the United States, Jan served as a member of federal and Virginia government commissions and was the U.S. ambassador to an international telecommunications assembly. He and his wife, Kathryn, live in The Plains, Va., and have four children and five grandchildren, all in the D.C. area.

David Bernard '70 retired five years ago and sold his practice after 40 years working as a CPA. He and his wife, Linda, spend time in Boca Grande, Fla., during the winter, generally taking one or two trips each year, and devoting the rest of their year to Gloucester, Mass., where he enjoys golf and fishing. Their three children have given them eight grandchildren, something he says they are lucky to have.

Richard Bourquard '70 earned his M.S. in geophysics and worked for Texaco, becoming manager of advanced exploration programming. He later founded an investment management company. He lives in Denver, Colo., and works as CFO of a privately held startup. Rich was also a snowboarding instructor for 10 years at Winter Park. Off-time, he snowboards, composes music (Richmusic.com), and volunteers teaching racquetball, teaching Java programming at a high school, and being a Big Brother in Big Brothers Big Sisters. With his wife and new Gordon Setter puppy, he enjoys traveling and visiting their three children and three grandchildren.

Elizabeth Blackwood Bowerman '70 spent 20 years in the U.S. Navy, earned a master's in financial management, started both a bookkeeping service and a condominium management business after retiring, and then "went wild and took a job on a cruise ship in Hawaii!" She is now happily retired near San Antonio and very active in land conservation efforts in the beautiful Texas hill country, serving as the president of the Comal County Conservation Alliance. Her husband, Rick, is the bass player in a local band of other "old guys" and keeps their life full of music.

Chris Kreps Buchert '70 and **Tom Buchert '68** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Dec. 27. They were married over Christmas vacation because they knew Tom would be home on leave. Their life has been a journey. Chris taught for many years in Middletown, Ohio, where they lived. Their three daughters, Julie, Katie, and Jill, along with their sons-in-law and grandchildren, have brought them much joy. Tom and Chris like to travel and have visited all 50 states. Chris has traveled to all seven continents.

John Egan '70 has lived a life filled with happiness since graduation and is grateful

for his many blessings. He is a partner in a small consulting firm with no desire to retire. However, he is creating more time to focus on other interests, such as travel, walking his Golden Retriever in the nearby woods, and finishing a book 10 years in development. John has been married for 40 years and has two married boys and four grandchildren. While he has lived in Hunt Valley, Md., for 38 years, he still considers Ohio his home and cheers for the Tribe.

Susan Flaata '70 says every day is an adventure. After OWU, she married Wendell and earned her master's degree from the University of Michigan. They have three married children, **Amanda Flaata '99**, Ben, and Rachel, as well as one grandson. For 25 years, Susan taught fifth through eighth grade in Sylvania, Ohio. She has lived in Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, and Arizona, with extensive domestic and international travel. Susan now lives a new life in Iowa as a caregiver for her husband with Alzheimer's disease. She appreciates her wonderful family, friends, life, and OWU education.

Sandy Seel Gallagher '70 feels fortunate to have attended OWU, not just for the excellent education, but also for wonderful roommates, lifelong friendships, and meeting the love of her life, **Rick Gallagher '69**. They have been married for 46 years and have two children. After graduation, Sandy taught elementary school before "retiring" to raise their children. She began to teach literacy courses at the local community college, eventually teaching education courses as an adjunct for Ashland University. She later became the undergraduate director at Ashland's Elyria Program Center. After 22 years, she retired in July 2017, now visiting her first granddaughter in Orlando, Fla., as often as possible.

Linda Odell Granger '70, originally of Mentor, Ohio, retired from a career of nearly 40 years with the city of Virginia Beach, where she managed the city's financial systems and process improvement projects. She earned her MBA from Old Dominion University and later was inducted into the City Employee Hall of Fame. She and her husband, Doug, are enjoying retirement through travel and boating on the Chesapeake Bay. They have two daughters and two

young granddaughters and will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in October. They continue to live in Virginia Beach, Va.

Cynthia Dimon Hendrick '70 grew up by the Atlantic Ocean in Ocean City, NJ., and retired by the Pacific. Her journalism degree initially led her to newspaper writing and editing jobs, then to similar positions in the medical and education fields. She married, divorced, made good friends, and learned valuable life lessons in Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Ohio (her children grew up in Shaker Heights, Ohio), North Carolina, and Tennessee. Now that she is retired, she enjoys San Diego's myriad of cultures, beautiful scenery, and plentiful learning opportunities. She also has time to volunteer, quilt, and garden year-round, not missing the snow.

Julie Hymen '70 took part in the fall 1969 Arts Program in New York. Her first job was with Merce Cunningham Dance Company, and her claim to fame was as assistant company manager for the world premiere of *Einstein on the Beach*, European tour of 1976. Julie held positions as bookkeeper/finance manager for arts organizations, volunteer leader for American Youth Hostels' bicycling and skiing trips, and key manager for Five Boro Bike Tour. She is a member of Park Avenue United Methodist Church. She never married or had children, but had a few boyfriends, including the grandson of a famous writer. She is possibly relocating to her "hometown" of Albany, N.Y.

Sara Michael Josey '70 married Bill Josey in 1975 and moved to London for five years. The two met singing in choir and still sing 45 years later, now with the National Philharmonic Chorale, its chamber choir, and the choir at St. John's Lafayette Square. Sara and Bill enjoy traveling with the choir, venturing to Vienna, Iceland, and Italy, and on their own to Portugal, Lithuania, and Tanzania. They have four children, including **Austin Josey '02**, and nine grandchildren. Sara is a retired high school choral, piano, music theory, and fine arts resource teacher and now stays busy as an education assistant for the National Philharmonic and a babysitter.



Pete Lee '65 and his wife, Joette, will celebrate their 50th anniversary this year and continue to enjoy busy lives in Arroyo Grande, Calif. Pete is still involved with youth lacrosse, but he retired from competitive tournament lacrosse in November. He still volunteers as the administrative assistant to the head coach of a local girls' high school soccer team (their son is the varsity head coach). He looks forward to the SAE chapter reunion in October 2020.

Sally "Sarah" Constantin Kittredge '70 returned to Rochester, N.Y., where she and her husband of 48 years, George, raised their two sons. Being in Rochester allows them to make their family cottage in the Thousand Islands a priority. Delta Gamma alumnae became a part of Sarah's life, introducing her to a wonderful group of women. She has enjoyed working for several nonprofits, both in management and fundraising, over the years. Not quite ready to fully retire, she works seasonally for United Way. They are blessed with a terrific family, including four grandchildren in San Francisco and Boston. They enjoy traveling there and to other exotic locations.

Gerry Lynn '70 mourns the passing of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity brothers Greg Krone and **Glenn Rodman '70**. He began his career with a try at teaching before deciding to earn a master's degree in accounting from the University of Hartford. He retired after 27 years working for the state of Connecticut as an internal auditor. Gerry has been married for 31 years to Elizabeth Barrett, and they have no children. For the past 30 years, he has been interested in scuba diving, even diving in the Caribbean, Hawaii, Micronesia, and Bali. His biggest interest now is playing with a 1964 Buick Riviera.

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Steve McKeever '70 and **Liz Cunningham McKeever '70** will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in August. They raised their two children in Chatham, N.J., and Plano, Texas, and now split their time between Vero Beach, Fla., and Colorado Springs, Colo. Steve retired from JCPenney 12 years ago after 38 years with the company. Their three children are happily married and have given Liz and Steve seven grandchildren. Their hobbies include golf, pickleball, bridge, and world traveling, leading a good life.



On December 29, a group of OWU alumni from greater Baltimore and D.C., Arizona, Lancaster, Pa., and other areas gathered for good cheer and camaraderie at the Valley Inn in Lutherville-Timonium, Md. There to toast one another, their alma mater, and lasting friendships were, from left, (front row) **Cynthia Richards Cunningham '75**, **Annie Griffith Seiler '75**, **Jim Ries '78**, (second row) **Ellen Simpson '77**, **Lisa Chapin Hoffberger '79**, **Rob Richards '77**, **Peter Hoffberger '78**, **Sally Ries Erlanger '83**, (back row) **Steve Cunningham '75**, **Rich Seiler '72**, **Gordon Witkin '77**, and **Niels Holch '78**.

Jill Haddock McNaughton '70 earned her M.A. in guidance and counseling at Ohio State University and continued to spend her career in education, from working at Druid Hills High School in Atlanta to Grandview Heights High School in Columbus, Ohio. Jill retired in 2012 and began part-time work at OSU to review student applications. She and her husband, Brian, welcomed their first granddaughter in 2018 and are now looking forward to a little traveling.

John Morris '70 has lived in St. Louis, Mo., since 1982. A neurologist, he serves as director and principal investigator of the Knight Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at Washington University School of Medicine. He and his wife, Lucy, a retired radiologist, have been married for 41 years and have three children: Carrie, a physician; Ted, an attorney; and Mary, a

social worker; and two grandsons. John's ties to OWU have been maintained by the matriculation of nieces and a nephew, by periodic returns of the 1969–70 Bashford Hall residence counselors, and by the recent campus installation of the inaugural Morris Family Professorship in the Natural Sciences.

Janet Stephan Shapiro '70 of Longboat Key, Fla., retired from teaching in 2014. She volunteers in community activities, is the administrative secretary and youth

chairman of the Rotary Club of Longboat Key, and serves as president of the board at her church's early care center. Walking, swimming, and reading are some of her favorite hobbies. She and her husband are members of the Ringling Museum of Art and attend gallery walks. The two have traveled throughout the U.S. and, since her retirement, have explored one region of Europe each summer.

Thomas Truesdell '70 spent 29 years as a sales manager for Kaiser Aluminum, retiring in 2014. Most of those years were in Granville, Ohio, but he also spent four years in Macon, Ga., and two in Evergreen, Colo.

Ann Stafford Truesdell '69 did volunteer work for Kappa Kappa Gamma for many years

and ultimately became the executive director for the KKG Foundation, retiring in 2013. They moved to Arcata, Calif., in 2015 to be closer to their two grandchildren, noting the change from conservative Ohio to liberal California, but knowing it was the best move of their lives. They celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary on Dec. 27.

Sharon Anderholm Wiener '70 still mourns the recent loss to cancer of her husband, **Howard "Kerry" Wiener '70**, but is enjoying retirement from a 34-year career with the Foreign Service and is taking advantage of Washington, D.C.'s many cultural treasures. She frequently visits their son and granddaughters in Berkeley, Calif., as well as their daughter and grandson (named after his late grandfather) in Brooklyn, N.Y. Sharon volunteers with the local "village" organization, committed to helping senior

neighbors age in place. She spends a day each week tutoring at an elementary school in one of the most deprived neighborhoods in the nation's capital.

Jane Sarno '71 was inducted into the Otter Valley Hall of Fame in Vermont on Sept. 28. Selected for her exemplary scholarship, citizenship, and character, Jane taught American Studies at Otter Valley for 27 years, eventually becoming curriculum director before retiring in 2009.

Richard Sesler '71 was selected as Belk's Project Hometown Hero for his founding of Camp Blue Skies, a camp program for adults with developmental disabilities. He was awarded this recognition during college football's Belk Bowl at Charlotte's Bank of America Stadium on Dec. 31.

Jim Baron '75 lives in Mentor, Ohio, with his wife of 35 years, Nancy. Their two daughters live in Columbus, Ohio, and Salt Lake City, and Jim and Nancy became grandparents in 2018. Jim still works at his photography business of over 30 years and maintains a studio in Cleveland, Ohio. He also has done tour guide work for Roads Scholars and has led trips in Cuyahoga Valley National Park and the Ohio presidential sites. He and Nancy enjoy travel, and last summer they biked 72 miles in America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride at Lake Tahoe, raising almost \$5,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Norman Butt '75 graduated from Miami University in 1988 and joined The Architectural Group, Inc., of Dayton, Ohio, where he focuses on university and health care projects. He is a part of organizations such as the American Institute of Architects and the United States Green Build Council. Norman lives in Oxford, Ohio, and is a member of the board of directors of Oxford Community Arts Center.

David Crandall '75 retired in September 2018 after a 45-year career in student affairs in higher education. He credits the world-class early 1970s OWU student affairs team for a great start in a rewarding career. He served the last 19 years as executive director of the Associated Students at California State University, Northridge. His wife, Maureen O'Connell, hopes to retire from Northrop Grumman in the coming year or so. Her daughters, Samantha and

Taylor, are in restaurant management and college admissions, respectively. His daughters, Katie and Taylor, are in P.A. graduate school and children's nutrition, respectively. In retirement David plans to learn tai chi and to play the cello, as well as continue his photography, carpentry, and travel.

Ann Gregor Fleming '75 spent the next 29 years after OWU as a military spouse, moving 14 times, living in places such as Okinawa, Korea, England, and Belgium.

Her hardest move was taking her only child to college in Florida and then getting on a plane for Belgium where she remained for the next three years. Her greatest challenge was in October 2018 surviving Category 5 Hurricane Michael. She and her mother spent the first night in the car after the roof, ceilings, and water came crashing down all around them. They are slowly rebuilding, but very grateful and thankful.

Dick Fowler '75 is a volunteer leader at Loaves & Fishes Community Services. He retired in 2013 after 11 years as a director



William "Ted" Bolton '74 is in his eighth year teaching digital marketing at the University of Miami Herbert Business School. This career follows him retiring from his Philadelphia-based companies, Bolton Research Corporation and Liberty Broadcasting. Ted (in center wearing green) currently resides in Coconut Grove, Fla. with his wife, Nancy Anderson Bolton, the vice president of gA (Grupo Assa), a global technology company. Pictured: Ted with his fall 2019 Fundamentals of Digital Marketing class. Ted teaches students all aspects of digital marketing strategy and analytics and allows them to create content for #UDigital, a Facebook page devoted to the topics discussed in class.

with Intrado, a 9-1-1 database management and call routing service. Prior to that, he completed a 24-year career with AT&T in sales management, marketing, and product management. He is the coauthor of a family of nine U.S. patents for 9-1-1 services in Private Branch Exchange and campus environments. Dick and his wife, Nancy, enjoy travel and spending as much time as possible with their two grandchildren—and regularly reuniting with his Sig Ep brothers. They live in Naperville, Ill.

Ann Ellsworth Guins '75 and her husband live in Hudson, Fla., from fall through spring, before returning to Ohio in the summer. Their grown children are married, and they have one grandson and three step-grandchildren. While Ann still swims competitively and is certified in adult learn-to-swim, she and her husband have also taken up pickleball.

a commercial and residential real estate appraiser in Washington and Massachusetts for over 20 years, and is now responsible for all commercial and residential property valuations for the Office of the Assessor in Arizona's Yuma County. Jay has one daughter, Hanna, and three grandchildren. He describes himself as an enthusiastic, but only marginally talented, musician and a dedicated desert rat.

Robin Horton LeBlanc '75 continues to lead Plan NH, the unofficial Smart Growth organization of New Hampshire. In this role, she manages programs that raise awareness of the impact of community design and support a vision of healthy and vibrant towns and neighborhoods across the state. She is an advocate for housing choices, walkable downtowns, and reframing how we think about aging. Robin believes strongly in the participation of residents and others in creating a new future for communities. She lives in Portsmouth, N.H., with her husband, Charles. They have three grown children and two grandchildren.

Annie Griffith Seiler '75 has worked at Ohio Wesleyan for almost 37 years in a variety of capacities. In 2001, while serving as OWU's director of alumni relations, she helped organize a tournament of lacrosse alumni in Lake Placid, N.Y. Former lacrosse coach **Richie Seiler '72** and Annie reconnected there and were married in 2002. Since then, the couple have lived

Jay Immelt '75 graduated from Seattle University School of Law in 1977 and conducted trial work in state and federal courts across the nation. He then led a career as



Sharlene Carter '74 was named a poet laureate by Poetry and Praise Ministries. She received a note from President Barack Obama about her poem "American Ends in I Can," and former OWU education faculty Dury Sudduth delivered two poems she wrote about Nelson Mandela to the Nelson Mandela House Museum in South Africa. Above right, Sudduth delivers Sharlene's poems to the museum. Sharlene also received a U.S. Congressional Recognition from Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-OH) for being honored at the 22nd annual awards celebration of Poetry and Praise.



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in Baltimore, where she works for OWU remotely. They have four adult children and three grandchildren. When not working, Annie and Richie love to hike, fly fish, and camp in Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho, and travel wherever they can in North America. Through their travels, work, alumni lacrosse, and more, they love connecting and reconnecting with many OWU friends.



Kathy Geer Root '75 is sorry to miss the class' 45th reunion, as she will be at her daughter's Ph.D. graduation from the University of California, Berkeley. Kathy retired last October, showing up on the courts to learn to play pickleball the next day—definitely a new sports addiction. She is looking to complete triathlon numbers 48, 49, and 50 this summer (after finishing No. 47 in September 2019, shown above), visit England twice for her granddaughters, travel to Iceland (again), California, and Austin, Texas, along with anything else she can think to do. Three kids with three spouses, three grandkids, and no work—life is excellent. She wishes a happy reunion to everyone! Oh-Wooo!

Agnes Haigh Widder '75 is in her 41st year as a librarian at Michigan State University Libraries in East Lansing, Mich. She is responsible for British, French, medieval/Renaissance, and religious studies. In 1986 she married Keith Widder, a Western Great Lakes historian working for Mackinac Island State Park Commission. He has retired, and she has retirement on her radar as well.

Michael Jordan '76 was awarded the Royal Palm Literary Award for his first novel, *The Company of Demons*. More than 500 qualifiers submitted for this prestigious award, given by the Florida Writers Association, and Michael's book based on the true story of the infamous Torso Murderer emerged as the winner. After graduating from OWU, Michael earned a law degree from George Washington University and went into trial law with work as a civil litigator. He continued writing all the way into his current retired life in Longboat Key, Fla.

Robert DiBiasio '77, the senior vice president of public affairs for the Cleveland Indians, spoke on the team's 2020 fortunes in February in Ashland, Ohio. He is in his 41st season of public relations with the MLB team, even hosting the popular Indians Alumni Roundtable Show on Sportstime Ohio (STO).

1980s

Maureen Staley Cary '80 notes it's been 40 years since the muggy indoor graduation ceremony during which class president Bridgett Donnell played the Kenny Loggins song "This Is It" as an intro to her speech; four decades since her younger sister stumbled down the bleachers of Branch Rickey on her way to the bathroom after too much partying the night before; 479 months since her address was Delaware, Ohio, and she thought college graduation meant she was an adult. Maureen married **Peter Cary '79**, and they have four grown children. She shifted from journalism and communications into freelance work and parenting before attending Boston College for a degree in counseling psychology. Maureen has worked as a psychotherapist for nearly a decade and feels fortunate to be in a high-demand field that values life experience. She looks forward to seeing everyone in May.

Sandy Bodine Demarest '80 lives in Amherst, N.H., with her husband, Russ. She owns Demarest Directions, a career, leadership, and retirement transition coaching business. She loves working with mid-to-late-career clients to help them find purpose and navigate their next chapter. Sandy is coauthoring a book, *Conscious Living in the Second Half of Life*. She loves spending time with their three daughters, **Melissa Demarest**

Ruggiero '09, Brooke Demarest, and Leah Demarest, who are scattered across the country. Sandy and Russ welcomed their granddaughter, Makenzie, and visit the family in Littleton, Colo. whenever they can.

William Ingram '80 will retire from his presidency at Durham Technical Community College in North Carolina. After 35 years in leadership roles, and 12 as its president, he saw Durham Tech expand its main campus and add another campus in Hillsborough, N.C. William also has served as a senior vice president, chief instructional officer, director of continuing education, and more.

Rob Last '80 of East Lansing, Mich., is finishing up a three-year term in the leadership of the American Society of Plant Biologists while serving as professor of plant biochemistry at Michigan State University. He expresses his gratitude for the great training in chemistry, botany, and zoology he received from OWU faculty in those and other departments.



Matthew Tabenken '80 relocated from Massachusetts to Falmouth, Maine, in 2010, building a house bordering a fairway on a golf course. For the past 12 years, he has managed marketing and sales for Moët Hennessy U.S.A. in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, part of the LVMH group. Matthew's wife, Joyce, is an administrative coordinator for Pierce Atwood LLP, one of Maine's largest law firms. Their daughter, Lily, is a high school senior and has been accepted to many schools, including OWU. They have a vacation home on the ocean in New Harbor, Maine, and have also enjoyed traveling to Lanai, Hawaii; London; and Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, in the past year.

Henry “Lee” Cooper IV ’85 joined Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe (WCAS) as an Operating Partner. WCAS is a private equity firm focused on the health care and technology industries, and Cooper brings his experience as an accomplished health care executive with over 25 years of leadership at GE.

Darryl Peal ’85 was named Northern Kentucky University’s chief diversity, equity, and inclusion officer (CDO) and Title IX coordinator. Darryl is arriving at this new position with experience from the National Collegiate Athletic Association in driving strategic initiatives through engagements and partnerships with NCAA members, sponsors, and external stakeholders.

Mary-Ann Wanjui-Wamalwa ’85 was a second-generation international student at OWU, quickly understanding why her father, **Joseph Wanjui ’61**, wanted her to attend his alma mater. The pre-internet exposure to both American and international students provided a multicultural environment she never would have experienced had she studied at home in Kenya. She followed suit and sent her daughter, **Mukami Wamala ’21**, to OWU.

Evan Dockser ’86 was appointed managing director of Eyzenberg & Company’s new regional office in Washington, D.C. As the first hire, Evan will work to grow the real estate investment bank’s presence in the area and leverage its capital markets expertise. He previously worked in hospitality and residential transactions with clients, including urban boutique hotels and signature golf resorts.

Todd Fitch ’86 was hired as offensive coordinator for Vanderbilt University’s football team. He is a 35-year veteran of college football and spent the past four seasons at Louisiana Tech. Todd has been offensive coordinator at Boston College and has coached at Iowa State, South Carolina, West Virginia, and Ohio Wesleyan.

Dean Hood ’86 became Murray State University’s head football coach in December. Formerly the special teams coordinator and defensive backs coach at the University of Kentucky, Dean has coached collegiate football for over 30

years, leading teams from Eastern Kentucky University, Wake Forest University, Ohio University, and more. At OWU he earned three All-North Coast Athletic Conference selections when he played as a defensive back, eventually landing him in the Ohio Wesleyan Athletic Hall of Fame.

Ann Pryor ’87 is settling into her second year as senior communications manager at Kensington Books in New York City. She was brought on board to help grow the New York-based independent publisher’s nonfiction line, and she manages publicity, marketing, and tours for authors whose topics range from health, military history, and cinema to business leadership and inspiration. To date she has helped create a *New York Times* bestseller and has booked authors on such outlets as NPR, *The Atlantic*, *The Washington Post*, and the *Today Show*. Ann spent 17 years at McGraw-Hill Professional handling public relations for authors in the consumer and business space; she also worked at HarperCollins and Simon & Schuster. Ann and her



Bruce Clash ’86 won a seat on the Carlisle school board in Carlisle, Pa., on Nov. 5. After earning his degree in politics and government at OWU, he received a Master of Public Administration from American University. Bruce currently works as Pennsylvania state director for Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, part of the nonprofit Council for a Strong America.



Gathering for a “Girlfriend Mini Reunion,” (from left, standing) **Linda Nicewander Brincks ’86**, **Linda Pollitz ’86**, **Alison Cauthorn ’86**, **Pat Franz ’86**, (seated) **Serena Bowman White ’86**, and **Laura Reynolds Kessler ’86** shared OWU swag to commemorate the occasion. At Pat’s home outside Oklahoma City, the friends of 37 years sported handmade matching red and black scarves.

husband, **Mark Miller ’85**, live in Jackson Heights, Queens, one of New York City’s most diverse neighborhoods, and still talk fondly of classes with Conrad Kent on the Modern Temper and Blake Michael in comparative religion.

Joseph Schroeder ’87 was celebrated as the cross country coach of the year for the second consecutive year by the *Boston Globe*. He has led the Martha’s Vineyard boys cross country team into island history by winning the Massachusetts Division II State Championship among other achievements across his 31 years of coaching.

1990s

Ann Krysiak Kirschner ’90 was hired at North Coast Angel Fund (NCAF) as chief financial officer, the first role of its kind there. With over 25 years of financial management experience with top accounting firms, she will lead NCAF’s financial management and analysis activities.

Edward “Ted” Cosgrove IV ’92 was nominated as a candidate for the Framingham Zoning Board of Appeals in Massachusetts. Recommended by Mayor Yvonne Spicer, Ted is one of six presented to the city council for review and approval. At Ohio Wesleyan he majored in politics and government.

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Rebecca Roesner '92, chair and professor of chemistry at Illinois Wesleyan University, has been named associate provost. She joined Illinois Wesleyan in 1997 and was named chair of the chemistry department in 2006. Among Rebecca's many awards is the 2014 Kemp Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence, the university's highest teaching honor, presented annually to a faculty member.

Jeffrey Zalatoris '93 graduated from Wesley Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity, was commissioned as a provisional elder in the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church, and is now a pastor at Harmony UMC in Falling Waters, W.Va. With his wife, **Alice Ehlers Zalatoris '93**, he is settling in Martinsburg, W.Va., and adjusting to life with their son away at college.

Amy Prosenjak '94 was promoted to president and CEO of A to Z Wineworks, a winery that grows and crafts wines only from Oregon sources. When she joined



Victoria Hawes Gearity '93 announced she will not seek a fourth term as mayor of Ossining, N.Y. She will explore opportunities that build on her experience in economic development and sustainability. Victoria was the first woman elected mayor of her community. Her administration has overseen a period of thriving economic growth while maintaining no tax rate increase and implementing energy-saving initiatives. With college tuition bills on the horizon for her two sons, Victoria is leaving office in order to earn a greater income for her family. She acknowledges it will be challenging to find a position as rewarding as serving her community as mayor, and she keeps open the door to serve in a locally elected office again one day.

the company in 2007 as chief financial officer, the winery was producing around 80,000 cases annually. Now, as one of the top-selling wineries in the state, it produces about 400,000 cases a year. *See story on Page 16.*

Joe Cassidy '95 is in his 24th year teaching in Montgomery County Public Schools, with the last 13 years at Whitman High School in Bethesda, Md., and the last 18 years as a varsity baseball coach. Joe will celebrate his 10th wedding anniversary in July with his wife, Libby, also a teacher, and they spend their free summers in Cape Cod, Mass.

David Kovar '95 is a professor of molecular genetics and cell biology at the University of Chicago. He lives in the Beverly neighborhood of Chicago with his wife, Elizabeth, and their children, Emily and Roger.

Kenneth Robinson '95 will be taking on additional responsibilities for the American Red Cross as the regional disaster officer for the central and southern Ohio regions. There since 1995, he says it has been a dream job to work with volunteers in alleviating human suffering and creating prepared, resilient communities. After 23 years in a traditional Rotary Club, he switched to the Ohio Pathways E-Club to better accommodate his schedule and is now writing an online training program for presidents-elect. He and **Tara Robinson '93**, a physician, are entering their 25th year of marriage. Their oldest son will graduate from Bowling Green State University in May before attending law school, and their other son will be entering his second year at BGSU in the fall.

Heidi Romero '97 was chosen as the West Virginia recipient of the 2019 Upsher-Smith NASPA Excellence in Innovation Award for demonstrating innovative pharmacy



Justin Krueger '97 and his wife, Ann-Morgan, built a home in Marysville, Ohio, where Justin owns his own practice as a pediatrician and internist. He also enjoys working as the medical director of the Newborn Nursery and as the chair of internal medicine at Memorial Hospital. They welcomed their fifth child, daughter Molly Anne Krueger, on March 11, 2019. Molly joins her older sisters, Katie and Paige, as well as her older brothers, Sam and Ryan. The family is usually found at a soccer field, a track, a show choir competition, or a cross country meet (or busy doing laundry from all of the above).

practice resulting in improved patient care. She works as a pharmacist at Griffith & Feil Drug in Kenova, W.Va.

Joshua Mandel '98 was signed as head coach of the Berlin Rebels, the 2019 German Football League quarterfinalists (American football). He started coaching with the Rebels in late 2010, became the defensive coordinator in 2015, and will begin his new role as head coach in the 2020 season. While at OWU, he was a physical education major, served as captain of the football team, and lettered all four years.

Mark Wade '99 was the guest artist at the annual Central Ohio Symphony holiday concert on Dec. 15 in Gray Chapel. Mark holds a doctoral degree in trumpet performance from Ohio State University, has taught at Denison University, and is a national hammered dulcimer champion. He played as a soloist and with the orchestra on the hammered dulcimer.

2000s

Anand Philip '00 lived in New York City for 15 years; Cambridge, Mass., for two years while earning an MBA; and has lived in Minneapolis for the past three. He has been involved in private equity and hedge fund industries the entire time and now runs his own investment firm. He and

his wife, Amy, have a son, Teddy, and are expecting another child. With a growing business and tiny kids ruling their lives, there is little free time.

John Vandersall '00 moved back home to Indianapolis a few years ago. Now a realtor with the largest independent brokerage in Indiana, TC Tucker, John has helped many individuals and families buy and sell in central Indiana. In 2018 he ranked in the top 10 percent of new agents. He is also helping organize a central Indiana alumni chapter and serves on the development committee for School on Wheels, a local nonprofit providing tutors for homeless children in Indianapolis.

Jose "Pepe" Villaseñor III '01 was named the All-Area Coach of the Year by the Lee Central Coast News in Santa Maria, Calif. He has won two Mountain League championships in his two seasons leading the St. Joseph High School football team, his first head coaching position.

The past year has been an amazing one for emerging actress and voice-over actor **Veronica Dillard '02**. She was nominated among the top 30 finalists for the CBS 2 audition spotlight at the That's Voiceover! Career Expo in Los Angeles. Now her film *Humanity Without a Home*, written by Armon Robinson and directed by Armon Robinson and Rel Torry, is available on



Glenda Wucher Bernhardt '00 was named the new CEO and executive director of Freedom School Partners, a nonprofit organization in Charlotte, N.C., that promotes the long-term success of children by preventing summer learning loss through igniting a passion for reading and inspiring a love for learning.

Amazon Prime. You also can watch Veronica in *See The Light*, written and directed by Aretha Tatum, which was featured in the 2019 Chicago South Side Film Festival. *See The Light* also screened at the Vocalize Film Event in Trinidad and the Inspired Film Festival in Atlanta. The film won the Best Inspirational Film Award at the 2019 Anaheim Film Festival this year.

Michelle Koch '06 joined the law firm Baker & Hostetler LLP of Cleveland, Ohio, in September as a conflicts researcher. She was previously employed as an investigator at Research Associates Inc., of Westlake, Ohio. Michelle celebrated one year of cancer remission in November.

Christy Sicher George '07 was named executive director of the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC), an organization overseeing utility services to Illinois citizens. She is ICC's first noninterim female executive director. Christy previously served as the deputy budget director for the city of Chicago and assistant commissioner for the Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection.

Joe Duffy '09 was promoted to real estate development director at Union Miles Development Corp. in Cleveland, Ohio. He also was accepted as a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners with the American Planning Association.

2010s

It was a win-win situation for Ohio voters in the City of Delaware's Fourth Ward. In the November general election, voters chose between two OWU alumni: **Drew Farrell '10** and **Sarah JanTausch '14**. Drew, hailing from Toledo, majored in history for teachers at OWU. Both he and his wife, **Whitney Deel Farrell '10**, now teach in central Ohio. Sarah, raised in Delaware, graduated with a degree in politics and government. She has led a career in state government focusing on policy areas including business-impacting regulations. She is married to **Jonathan Bocanegra '14**, a data scientist at JPMorgan Chase & Co. In the final analysis, voters tapped Democratic candidate Drew for the post.

Brandon Luttinger '10 married Dana Lord in Duxbury, Mass., on Aug. 17, and they honeymooned in Bali, Indonesia, for two

weeks. In the fall, the couple purchased their first home in South Boston. Brandon received his MBA from Northeastern University in 2018 and will be celebrating his five-year anniversary at Fidelity Investments later this year.



Josh Dawson '05 was elected the 2020 vice president of the Greater Dublin (Ohio) Realty Association; he will be president in 2021. As a realtor with Core Ohio Realty Advisors and a Dublin resident, Josh specializes in residential and multifamily sales in central Ohio. He also serves on the government affairs committee of the Columbus Board of Realtors.

Kristen Lear '11 was featured in an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) publication. The article chronicles her scientific passion, bats, and details her first real experience with the animals while at OWU. She went on to earn a U.S. Fulbright Postgraduate Scholarship to further study bats in Australia. Kristen is an If/Then Ambassador with AAAS, where she serves as a role model for girls interested in STEM careers. She also will appear in a segment of *Mission Unstoppable* on CBS and lead a National Geographic Explorer Classroom session.

Anthony Peddle '14 presented his dissertation research at the National Association for the Education of Young Children conference in Nashville, Tenn., in November. After defending his dissertation, "Teachers, Positive ACE Scores and Their Informed Classroom Practices," Anthony is expected to graduate with his Doctor of Education degree in leadership studies from Ashland University in May.

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Megan Pinto '14 had her poetic work “To the Old Man Who Lived on a Hill; The Unfolding” published by *Ploughshares*, a journal of contemporary writing. She is a playwright and resident artist at the Purple Rose Theatre Company in Chelsea, Mich., and an artist-in-residence at The Tank NYC.



Brianna Robinson '15 won the 2020 6th Getting to Carnegie Hall competition as soprano. As part of the prize, she will fly to St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands to perform in the Water Island Music Festival.

Ryan Haddad '15 was featured in *Cleveland Magazine* for his rising career in acting as a gay, disabled man. He landed a big role in the Netflix high school dramedy *The Politician* as Andrew Cashman, a cunning teen, and he's performed his autobiographical comedic solo play (also his OWU senior thesis project) “Hi, Are You Single?” nationwide. Ryan continues to explore these intersections of identity in the filming of season 2 of *The Politician* and in four other productions he is workshoping or performing.

Miles Mackenzie '15 cofounded a new digital beer, wine, and liquor delivery platform, Handoff. Based in Colorado, Miles and the other two founders of Handoff aimed to create a viable way to replenish drinks without missing a minute of an exciting sports game. Handoff is supported by mobile, Alexa, and Google devices and guarantees deliveries in 60 minutes or less at a nominal fee.

Jonathan Overstreet '15 was named a finalist for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program 2019–2020. As one of the 15 students nominated, Jonathan has received a grant offer for an English Teaching Assistantship in South Africa. He majored in zoology at OWU.

Joseph and Linda Diamond H'18 received the Spirit of Philanthropy award at the Delaware County Foundation's annual Evening of Generosity on Oct. 10. The honorary alumni are both founding members and board members of Main Street Delaware and contribute to nearly every volunteer committee. Their community engagement extends to their dedication to preserving the history of the Strand Theatre, where they can be seen helping during busy opening nights. Joe and Linda established an estate gift for OWU that will create the C. Joseph and Linda Diamond Endowed Scholarship, further exhibiting their community connection and philanthropic spirit.

Friends

James Dicke II was elected president of the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans Inc., a nonprofit educational organization honoring outstanding individuals and youth seeking higher education. James is a 2015 Horatio Alger Award recipient and was the association's vice president before his election. He is the chairman and CEO of Crown Equipment, an Ohio-based manufacturer of forklifts, and is recognized for his generous contributions to scholarships. James became a member of the association's prestigious Legacy of Achievement Circle for those who have greatly contributed to the endowment of Horatio Alger scholarships.

Births

2000s

Kristen Houser Sluss '06 and Phil Sluss welcomed their third son, Micah Paul, on May 30, 2019.

Blaire Hayden Bartish '07 and Dave Bartish welcomed their second child, Rosalie Joyce, on Sept. 11. Big brother Louie is excited to take care of his “little princess,” but is a little frustrated she doesn't know how to play baseball yet.

Caitlyn Nestleroth Johnson '08 and James “JJ” Johnson IV welcomed their first child, Brooke McKenzie, on Oct. 13.

Matthew McNeal '08 and **Kate Elwell McNeal '09** welcomed their first son, Mason James, on Jan. 6. Also celebrating are aunt **Mary McNeal '13**, great-aunt **Dawn Nesbitt Wright '85**, and cousins **Jake Wright '16** and **Reilly Wright '20**.

Kevin McMahon '10 and **Kaitlin Raphael McMahon '09** welcomed their first child, Jack James, on Nov. 12. Also celebrating are grandparents **Susan Harris Raphael '80** and **James Raphael '79**.

We want to hear from you



Please send us your news using the form at <http://www.owu.edu/classnotes>. Or email your news to classnotes@owu.edu. Submissions may be edited for space or clarity.

You can also submit your news to:
Attn: Class Notes Editor
OWU Magazine
Ohio Wesleyan University
Mowry Alumni Center
61 S. Sandusky St.
Delaware, OH 43015

Include your name and class year as well as a daytime phone number. Photos are welcome.

The deadline for receiving Class Notes and Faculty Notes submissions for the Fall 2020 OWU Magazine is May 19, 2020.

Weddings



1



2

1 Curry-Rosenthal wedding
Molly Curry Rosenthal '13 and **Scott Rosenthal '13** were married Sept. 21 at the Nantucket Yacht Club in Nantucket, Mass. Molly's parents also met while at OWU. (L-R) **Travis Boyle '12**, **Matt Thomas '13**, **Colin Short '13**, **Irena Pandzic '12**, **Jake Liebrock '12**, **Katie Liebrock '12**, **Kathleen Lewis '12**, **Meredith Wholley '13**, **Mary Shinnick '13**, **Julia Alkon '14**, the bride, **Kyle Harrigan '13**, **Chaz Narwicz '10**, **Emily Lunstroth '13**, **Liza Bennett '13**, **Chris Ehlinger '10**, **Spencer Schnell '14**, **John Curry '83**, **Tyler Kingsley '13**, **Amy Curry '84**, **Sean Walter '13**, **Dan Kaplan '14**, **Ken Callahan '13**, the groom, **Stephen Ford '14**, **Thomas Minkler '14**, **Nick Striler '13**, **Kenneth Bennett '83**, **Lauretta Kennedy Mulholland '84**, **Thomas Raymond '84**, **Deborah Truesdale '84**, **Julie Alden Dee '84**, **Laura Boulton '84**, **Caitlin Bailey '14**, **Gabrielle Dinkin '14**, and **Annie Swanson '13**.



3

2 Killorin-Miller wedding
Abby Killorin Miller '15 and **Jake Miller '14** were married Oct. 5 in New Haven, Vt. Guests from OWU included, from left: (back row) **Aj Barnhardt '16**, **Samantha Weeks '15**, **Rebecca Muhl '13**, **Jason Lonnemann '14**, **Liam Dennigan '15**, **Paul Priddy '15**, **Maddie Priddy '16**, **Mariah Brockbrader '15**, **Ben Miller '16**, **Elaine Young '15**, **Carly Zalenski '15**, **Sonja Petermann '14**, **Haley Leber '14**, **Ibrahim Saeed '15**, (front row) **Collin Finn '15**, **Ali Phillips '16**, **Ashley Day '18**, bride, groom, **Whitney Lonnemann '15**, and **Ellie Magner '15**.

3 Eileen Foley Marousek '15 was married Sept. 28 to Sam Marousek in Strafford, N.H. OWU guests included, from left: (back row) **John Peranzi '15**, groom, **Cate Bailey '14**, **Saige Bell '15**, bride, **Kaitlyn Kropf '15**, **Meredith Wholley '13**, **Megan Doherty '16**, (front row) **Jordan Bernstein '15**, **Sarah Dailey '15**, **Chris Shwanz '15**, and **Peter Hamblet '18**.

1930s

Eleanor Kirk Kackley '36, of Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 1, age 105. Throughout her life, Eleanor enjoyed reading, knitting, volunteering at various organizations, and spending her summers at her Lakeside, Ohio, cottage. She was predeceased by her aunt, **Mary Hunter Kirk 1914**, and cousins **Winston Kirk '34**, **Rutledge Kirk '42**, and **Miriam Kirk Lamb '51**. She is survived by her two daughters, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

1940s

Lois Wissinger Bartels '42, of Snyder, Texas, Dec. 27, age 98. She was active in the First Methodist Church, led the Girl Scouts, and volunteered as a "Pink Lady" at the hospital. She was predeceased by her husband, Bernhard, and is survived by her four children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

Mary Burlingame Young '42, of San Gabriel, Calif., Oct. 11, age 98. Mary was an active member and volunteer of the Arcadia, Calif., community, serving on the Arcadia City Council and as mayor of Arcadia. She was predeceased by her husband, Richard, a son, and brother **Robert Burlingame '44**. She is survived by her son, daughter, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Majorie Farber Ross '44, of Midland, Texas, Oct. 9, age 97. She was an engineering apprentice during World War II before she moved to Texas to be an investment analyst. She was predeceased by her husband, John, and brother, William. She is survived by her daughter, Kathy, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

Marianna Pollock Bowman '45, of Pasadena, Calif., Oct. 2, age 96. She was a lifelong traveler, journeying the U.S. and Europe while working for American Airlines and later sailing around the world on the QE2. She was predeceased by her husband of 61 years, David, and is survived by her three sons, five grandchildren, and sisters **Evelyn Pollock Sadler '51** and **Carrie Pollock Kiefer '55**. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Barbara West Lomas '45, of Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 27, age 96. She was married to Bernard, former president of Albion College, for 72 years, and had two sons, David and Paul. She is survived by three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her son, David, cousin **Joan Sawyer McKenney '48**, and aunt **Dorothy West 1924**. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Joanne Kreisle Duran '46, of Cincinnati, Ohio, Oct. 17, age 96. She was predeceased by her husband, Robert, a sister, and brother. She is survived by her sister, children, grandchildren, including **Sam Duran '08**, and many great-grandchildren. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Jean Hayward Malerstein '46, of San Francisco, Calif., Sept. 20, age 94. She was predeceased by her husband, Joe. She is survived by her children, **Barbara '84**, Sarah, Julia, and David, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

The Rev. Calvin Rodeheffer '46, of Portsmouth, Ohio, Dec. 20, age 94. He served as a senior pastor at three churches before becoming inaugural executive director of Hill View Retirement Center, helping plan and build the center. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Margery, four children, including **Stephen Rodeheffer '73**, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Robert "Bob" Hamblet '47, of Fargo, N.D., Oct. 9, age 94. He is survived by two siblings, his wife, Jean, their five children, and multiple grandchildren.

Grace Carrington Goodall '48, of Troy, Ohio, Dec. 8, age 93. She was a longtime member of the First Presbyterian Church and the American Association of University Women, and volunteered at Stouder Memorial Hospital. She was predeceased by her husband, James, and her sister. She is survived by her daughter, brother, and granddaughter. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

Shirley Moore Hummel '48, of Cleveland, Ohio, Jan. 5, age 93. She was predeceased by her husband, **Paul Hummel '49**, and is survived by her two children and a grandchild. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Howard "Bud" Miller '48, of Cambridge, Ohio, Oct. 3, age 93. He was predeceased by his parents, sister **Alice Miller Gall '33**, wife Joan, and a daughter. He is survived by his two sons, two sisters, and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Regina Boehringer Teetor '48, of Marion, Ohio, Dec. 2, age 93. She had a career of teaching at Grand Prairie School and Eber Baker Junior High, and enjoyed traveling the world. She was predeceased by her husband, John, and two siblings. She is survived by her four children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta.

Vivian Taylor Dauber '49, of Bradenton, Fla., Oct. 7, age 92. She was predeceased by her husband, Philip, and her brother, William. She is survived by her stepson, cousins, and grandchildren. She was a member of the OWU Tower Society.

Ann Inman Exum '49, of Sweetwater, Tenn., Oct. 22, age 92. She was predeceased by her parents, George and **Gladys Miller Inman 1922**, husband **Raymond Exum '48**, daughter, son, and brother. She is survived by sister **Carol Inman Everson '54**, children, including **Jennifer Exum MacKenzie '86**, and many grandchildren. Ann was a fourth-generation legacy at OWU and a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Arthur Gundry '49, of Lexington, Ky., Oct. 8, age 95. He was predeceased by his parents, first wife, Beatrice, second wife, Margarette, and a brother. He is survived by his two daughters and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Michael Homa '49, of Gainesville, Fla., Dec. 25, age 94. For nearly 30 years, Michael practiced general surgery in Virginia, even serving as medical examiner for the state of Virginia. He was predeceased by his



Edward Kitts '48, of Dana Point, Calif., Sept. 30, age 93. He was predeceased by his wife, Betty. He is survived by his four sons, including **Stephen Kitts '71**, and a daughter. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

wife of 43 years, Betty, his two brothers, and two sisters. He is survived by his two children, four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

Arthur Ritter Jr. '49, of Haddon Heights, N.J., Jan. 15, age 93. He was predeceased by his wife of 53 years, Shirley, and three of his brothers. He is survived by his son and two daughters, six grandchildren, one great-grandson, and a brother. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

1950s

Doris Baker Blackmore '50, of Troy, Ohio, Sept. 30, age 91. She was predeceased by her husband, James, two daughters, and sister. She is survived by her son and daughter, and multiple grandchildren. She was a member of Beta Sigma Phi sorority.

Margaret Boehringer Campbell '50, of Fairlawn, Ohio, Nov. 10, age 90. She graduated from OWU as a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society before teaching at Highland High School for almost 20 years. She and Loren, her husband of 68 years, enjoyed many years of playing bridge with their friends. Ellen is also survived by her children and grandchildren. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

Thomas Cecil '50, of Dayton, Ohio, July 21, age of 92. He was predeceased by his parents and sister **Nancy Albrecht '47**. He is survived by sister **Martha Stauffer '53**, brother **David Cecil '55**, and multiple grandchildren. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity. *NOTE: There was an error when this item appeared in the Winter 2020 issue. We apologize for the error.*

Ann "Mitzi" Gellhaus Jackson '50, of Shaker Heights, Ohio, Nov. 22, age 91. She is survived by her husband, James, sister, **Barbara Gellhaus Dellinger '56**, son James, daughter Susan, and two granddaughters. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Mary Jo Kennedy '50, of London, Ohio, Jan. 26, age 91. For 33 years she led a career as a business education teacher in high schools. She was predeceased by her husband, William, and her brothers. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, **Douglas Kennedy '77** and **Candy Kennedy**

'79, grandchildren, great-grandson, sister, and many nieces and nephews. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Michael Kevesdy '50, of Sandusky, Ohio, Dec. 6, age 96. Describing himself as "deliriously alive" and "ecstatically American," Michael served in World War II, where he received the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart. He was a lifelong learner and excellent public speaker. He was predeceased by his wife of 60 years, Stella, his parents, and three siblings. He is survived by his three daughters, four grandchildren, and a sister. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Dean Temple '50, of Fredonia, N.Y., Sept. 30, age 95. He was predeceased by his parents, **Dean Temple 1919** and **Grace Pittman Temple 1920**, uncle **Horace Pittman 1920**, wife **Margaret Geyer Temple '50**, as well as his daughter, sister, brother, and grandson. Dean met Margaret at OWU, where he cooked for his fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon, to pay for his education. He is survived by his three children, grandchildren, and four (soon five) great-grandchildren.

Richard Timmons '50, of Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 3, age 92. He had a career as a general practitioner/family practice doctor, eventually becoming a physician for pilots before retiring in 2014. He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Donna, three children, two stepchildren, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, three brothers, including **James Timmons '61** and **Robert Timmons '50**, cousin **Mary Sykora '62**, and many nieces and nephews, including **Jill Timmons Kennedy '64**, **James Timmons '92**, **John Timmons '82**, and **Poe Timmons '82**. He was predeceased by his parents, **Donald Timmons 1922** and **Mary Poe Timmons 1922**, brother **Frank Timmons '52**, aunt **Margaret Timmons Reed '29**, uncle **George Poe '42**, cousin **Ruth Nolze Cobb '40**, and a foster brother. Richard was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

Nicholas White '50, Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 14, age 94. He served in the South Pacific in the battles of Guam and Iwo Jima, where he was one of the two survivors in his company. He and his wife, Marjorie, attended OWU after the war, giving birth to their son, **Nicholas White II '70**, there. He was predeceased by his parents, Nicholas and **Lucile Chatterton White 1919**, brother **James White '42**, and

a granddaughter. He is survived by his wife, sons, daughters **Marcia White Soldatos '77** and Cynthia Gudeman, eight grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren, including **Katherine White Arendt '98**. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Paul Finical '51, of Charlotte, N.C., Sept. 12, age 92. He is survived by his wife, Emily, two children, and five grandchildren, including **Stephan Finical '84**, Charles and **Paula Finical Murphy '79**, and **Matthew Murphy '08**. He was elected to Pi Delta Epsilon and Alpha Epsilon Rho honoraria while at OWU and was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

Nancy Harter Green '51, of Delaware, Ohio, Nov. 14, age 90. She met her late husband, **William Green '49**, while they worked at Bun's Restaurant in Delaware. Nancy was active at the Asbury United Methodist Church, tutored with Delaware City Schools, and volunteered at the Hocking Valley Welcome Center. She was predeceased by her husband and her daughter, **Marcia Green Clark '77X**. She is survived by three children, seven grandchildren, and many great-grandchildren. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Erman Lamb '51, of Avon Lake, Ohio, Jan. 1, age 90. He dedicated the first part of his career to the restaurant industry, hosting patrons such as President Eisenhower and Walt Disney, before driving a tow motor until he was 75. He was predeceased by his wife of 54 years, **Miriam Kirk Lamb '51**, and sisters, including **Martha Lamb Baker '50**. He is survived by his three sons and two grandsons. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Jean Hagberg Ambler '53, of New Bern, N.C., Oct. 10, age 89. She taught in the Ohio public school system in Cleveland for over 30 years before moving to North Carolina to pursue her love of sailing with her husband, Bob. She was preceded in death by Bob, her brother, and parents. Jean is survived by her son, sister-in-law, niece, and nephews. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Edward Davis '53, of Raleigh, N.C., Dec. 21, age 88. He was a lifetime member of the Telephone Pioneers of America, a member of the First United Methodist Church, and a member of the Washington Yacht and

Country Club. He was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Anne, and his brother. He is survived by his daughter and family, as well as nieces and nephews. Edward was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Cynthia Brown Kane '53, of Jamesville, N.Y., Nov. 20, age 88. She led a life of service as president of the Junior League and coordinator of volunteers at the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse, N.Y. She was predeceased by her husband, Tom, and her sister. She is survived by her twin brother, four children, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

David Dean Shobe '53, of Lewes, Del., Dec. 2, age 88. He continued his education in international relations at the University of Chicago. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, later becoming a public affairs officer for the Department of State and living in cities across the globe. When David returned to the U.S., he was involved in furthering educational and financial advancement for New York's Pratt Institute, the Civil Rights Movement, the Arthritis Foundation, and more. He was predeceased by his wife of 60 years, Nancy, and is survived by his three children, Stephen, Christopher, and Helena. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Carol Maneely Walker '53, of Burnsville, Minn., Oct. 22, age 88. She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Donald, a daughter, son, and grandchildren. Carol was a teacher and an active member of her United Methodist Church. She was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.

Douglas Applegath '54, of Midland, Mich., Nov. 2, age 87. While at OWU, Doug worked as property manager of Beta Sigma Tau, his fraternity. After graduation, he was hired by Dow Chemical Company and remained at Dow for 37 years, lending him experiences such as transferring to Tokyo, Japan, and authoring four U.S. patents and many published technical articles. Doug was predeceased by his wife, Anne, his parents, and three siblings, including **John Applegath '57**. He is survived by his three children, **Susan Applegath Beach '81**, Charles, and Kathryn, as well as six grandchildren.

Joanne Robinson Pérez '54, of Little Rock, Ark., Oct. 24, age 88. She was predeceased by her parents, brother, and grandchild. She is survived by her husband, daughter, son, and granddaughter.

William "Bill" Apel '56, of Portsmouth, Ohio, Dec. 9, age 89. He played OWU baseball and football and was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles, but Bill chose to coach and mentor to high school athletes. He was predeceased by his wife of 57 years, Betty Lu, and is survived by his daughters, including **Molly Apel Glockner '80**, grandchildren, including **Martin Glockner '09**, and many nieces and nephews, including **Otto Apel '67**. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

Susan Courtright Ludwig '56, of Marion, Ohio, Dec. 18, age 85. She was predeceased by her parents and brother **John Courtright '51**. She is survived by her husband, son, daughter **Laura Ludwig Tiberi '80**, and grandchildren. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Nancy With Merrill '56, of Canton, Ohio, Dec. 28, age 85. She was predeceased by her sister, brother, and husband of 51 years, George. She is survived by daughter **Linda Merrill Casey '87**, son, and six grandchildren. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

John Long '57, of San Luis Obispo, Calif., Nov. 1, age 84. After OWU he entered a military career with the Navy, graduating in one of the first classes from the Navy Underwater Swimmer School in Key West, Fla. He later attended dental school at Georgetown University and maintained a practice for 30 years in California. He was predeceased by his parents, including **Helen Long '32**, and uncle **William Rogers '26**. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Kit, his two sons, siblings, and cousins, including **John Rogers '60** and **W. Leslie Rogers '55**. He was a competitive swimmer and a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity at OWU.

Edith "Edie" Weisman '57, of South Bend, Ind., Oct. 5, age 84. She is survived by her husband, **David Weisman '57**, and two sons. Edie and David met the first day of chapel their freshman year due to their matching surnames. They married two weeks after graduating from OWU. She was a member of the OWU Tower Society and Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

Jennifer Dickson Kantonen '58, of Asheville, N.C., Nov. 10, age 83. While at OWU she not only met her husband, **William Kantonen '58**, but her best friends, known as "The Committee." Jennifer was predeceased by her sister and brother. She is survived by William, her three children, nine grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Ronald Leibman '58X, of New York City, N.Y., Dec. 6, age 82. Born in New York City, Ronald followed his dreams of working in theater, traveling across the Midwest and joining various improv troupes. He made his Broadway debut in the 1960s as Peter Nemo in *Dear Me*, *The Sky Is Falling*. Ronald won a Tony award in 1993 for leading actor in Tony Kushner's *Angels in America*, his 10th Broadway play. In filmography, he played a variety of roles ranging from humorous to dramatic. He appeared in *Norma Rae*, opposite Sally Field, an Oscar winner for her performance; *Slaughterhouse-Five*; and television shows such as *Kaz*. Ronald also appeared in the iconic show *Friends* as Rachel Green's father, Leonard. He is survived by his wife, Jessica Walter, his stepdaughter, and a grandson. He is survived by cousin **Lewis Shomer '59**. Ronald was a member of Beta Sigma Tau fraternity.

Homer Adams '59, of New Port Richey, Fla., Oct. 18, age 82. He was a teacher, guidance counselor, and dean of boys in Parma, Ohio. Homer also was involved with the Ohio School Counselors Association and in developing educational television. Homer was predeceased by his parents and two sisters. He is survived by his two brothers, three sisters, and nieces and nephews. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

Carolyn Nutter Kraft '59, of Centreville, Md., Dec. 26, age 81. She is survived by her son, **Andrew Kraft '83**.

Mary Pryde '59, of Tucson, Ariz., Nov. 4, age 82. She was preceded in death by her parents, first husband, and a son. She is survived by her husband, William, sons, daughter, and multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

1960s

Roger Auker '60, of Bradenton, Fla., Nov. 19, age 81. Roger led a career in education, serving as a coach, athletic director, and assistant principal at high schools in Medina, Ohio. Roger is survived by his wife, **Ann Heiges Auker '60**, sons, grandchildren, and siblings. He was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

Barbara Acklin Jenks '61, of Valley Grove, W.Va., Oct. 26, age 80. She led a career in education as a middle school teacher, student affairs administrator at Kenyon College, and psychologist in the counseling center at the University of Pittsburgh, still counseling after leaving Pitt. Barbara is survived by her companion, Martha Starkey, her three children, and grandchildren. She was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

William Knoble '61, of Rocky River, Ohio, Oct. 11, age 80. He was predeceased by his wife, Lindsey Taylor Knoble, and is survived by two sons, granddaughter, brother, and sister. He was the mayor of Rocky River from 2001 to 2006 and was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

Mary McCleary Posner '61X, of Columbia, Mo., Oct. 26, age 80. After OWU, she led an extensive career as president of Posner McCleary, Inc., an international firm specializing in management consulting with universities, law firms, and corporations. Mary served on the International Trade Committee and cofounded the Memorial Day Weekend Salute to Veterans Corp., an educational company. She was predeceased by her husband, Allan, parents, and brother. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta and served on OWU's Board of Trustees from 1975 to 1984.

Marlene Schenck Sheppard '61, of Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 11, age 81. She was predeceased by her husband, Charles, and is survived by her daughters and son, and cousins **Audrey (Blue) Jones '56** and **Martha (Blue) Fitzgibbons '61**. She was a public educator for 30 years and an avid sewer, artist, and book lover. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

George Thatcher '61X, of Mount Liberty, Ohio, Oct. 1, age 80. He was predeceased by his parents, stepmother, and sister. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, two children, and five grandchildren, including

John Thatcher '12. He was a member of Pi Lambda Phi fraternity.

Raymond Zambie '61, of Cedar Park, Texas, Dec. 5, age 80. He earned his MBA at Michigan State University and worked in the treasury department for several companies. He was predeceased by his brother, Allan, and is survived by his wife, Sylvia, three children, and five grandchildren. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

Thomas Sisko '62, of Bridgeport, Conn., Jan. 7, age 79. He was a veteran of the Korean War and was a software engineer and teacher. He is survived by three nieces.

Nancy Clark Smith '62, of Chevy Chase, Md., Jan. 9, age 79. She taught English in Beirut, Lebanon, and traveled extensively throughout the Middle East, South Asia, and Europe. She is survived by her three daughters, four stepchildren, three grandchildren, her brother, and niece.

Veronica Virtue '62, of Golden Valley, Minn., Oct. 21, age 79. Veronica received her master's in sociology from Columbia University. She worked as a skilled therapist and social worker for seniors, married couples, assault survivors, and more. The U.S. Army commended her considerable abilities and outstanding performance of duty.

Nancy Lee Ely Hicks '63, of Hendersonville, N.C., and Dallas, Texas, Nov. 25, age 78. She is survived by her husband, Alexander, and daughters **Mischelle Miller Raftery '88** and **Christina Ely Miller '94**.

Joan Clark Stewart '63, of Seattle, Wash., Sept. 13, age 78. She is survived by her husband, Douglas, her three children, seven grandchildren, siblings, and a large extended family.

Edward Guthrie Jr. '66, of Houston, Texas, Dec. 29, age 75. He enjoyed golf, travel, volunteer work, and time with his family. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, **Betty Plaggemier Guthrie '66**, two children, and his sister. He was a member of OWU's Tower Society and Delta Tau Delta.

Claude "Skip" Hinsley '67, of Oro Valley, Ariz., Nov. 1, age 73. Skip traveled, led

restaurant and catering businesses, and contributed to his community and church. He is survived by his three children and three grandchildren. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Robert Craig '68, of Albuquerque, N.M., Oct. 19, age 73. Robert earned his Doctor of Ministry degree from McCormick Theological Seminary. During his rich career, he served with President Clinton on a White House commission and as pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Columbus, Ind. He is survived by his wife, **Sharon Hughes Craig '68**, daughter, son, and grandchildren. Robert was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

James Cushing '68, of Westmont, Ill., Dec. 18, age 73. He led an exciting life of travel, racing Formula V Lola race cars, sales, photography, and teaching. James is survived by his wife of 40 years, Marilyn, and his three daughters, including **Laura Geis '91**, and siblings, including **J. Caleb Cushing '65**. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

William Allin '69, of Greenville, S.C., Dec. 6, age 72. He attended Pace University School of Law and had a career in banking, eventually founding Greenwood Capital Associates and cofounding Dividend Asset Capital in South Carolina. He is survived by his wife, Hazel, his children, and grandchildren.

Hollace Drake '69, of Storm Lake, Iowa, Jan. 7, age 72. She was a dedicated teacher her whole life, helping children with special needs in public schools, teaching as an adjunct at the University of Iowa, and serving as a professor at Buena Vista University. She is survived by her children, Nicholas and Cameron, her sisters, including **Mari Schatz '75**, and a grandson.

Richard Gallagher '69, of Elyria, Ohio, Nov. 4, age 72. He was an avid multisport athlete and, while on the OWU football team, was named an All-American and played for OWU's conference-champion team. He led a rich career of teaching and coaching, and later founded Erie Industrial Maintenance Inc. Rick is survived by his wife of 46 years, **Sandy Seel Gallagher '70**, their children, granddaughter, and siblings. He was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

1970s

David Gardner '71, of Canton, Ohio, Nov. 11, age 70. David was president and chief executive officer of Alfred Nickles Bakery Inc., a business started by his grandfather and now one of the largest independently owned bakeries in the U.S. He served in the U.S. Air Force for two years during the Vietnam War before joining the family business. David led a yearly entrepreneurship class at OWU and is recognized by current students as a favorite guest lecturer. He was predeceased by his father, **David Gardner '48**, the previous president and CEO, and his mother, **Marie Nickles Gardner '47**. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, **Susan Rinehart Gardner '73**, brothers **Ernest Gardner '73** and **Philip Gardner '74**, sister **Mary Gardner Slee '76**, children Christian and Molly, grandchildren, and niece **Emily Slee '16**. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Jana Siman '72, of Twinsburg, Ohio, Nov. 8, age 69. Her career propelled her to New York City, where she worked as an international marketing executive for Avon International, Estée Lauder, and International Gold Corporation. She later attended the Yale School of Nursing, became an adult nurse practitioner, and lectured occasionally at her nursing alma mater. She was predeceased by her father and is survived by her mother, brother, two children, and grandchildren.

Jon Peterson II '76, of Delaware, Ohio, Oct. 10, age 65. He is survived by his wife, Melissa; daughters, Emily and Hannah; his father, Arthur Peterson, an OWU professor for 15 years; and sisters, **Rebecca Peterson McDaniel '78**, **Donna Harr Peterson '81**, and Ingrid Bliss Peterson. He earned several honors as an OWU politics and government major, then received a Master in Public Administration from Florida Atlantic University, a law degree from Capital University, and a Master of Sacred Theology from the Methodist Theological Seminary of Ohio. Described as “a Renaissance man with a huge heart,” Jon led a career in Ohio government. From his start as deputy auditor for Franklin County in 1980, he rose to serve as chief deputy auditor of Delaware County, representative and assistant majority whip in the Ohio House of Representatives, and Delaware County treasurer. Jon was

an advocate for people with mental illness and physical and developmental disabilities, and he formed the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program, allowing parents of children with disabilities to access additional special education programs. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

David Gibson '77, of Oberlin, Ohio, Nov. 16, age 65. He was predeceased by his mother, and is survived by his wife, Lorna, their children, and his father and brothers. David was masterful at the art and science of baking, running his family's 134-year-old bakery, Gibson's Bakery of Oberlin.

Cynthia Heeremans Greer '77, of Leicester, N.C., Sept. 25, age 64. Cynthia attended the University of Barcelona and graduated with honors in Spanish translation. She later moved to North Carolina and became a sanctioned teacher of the Pachakuti Mesa Tradition Apprenticeship Program, a form of Peruvian shamanism. She is survived by her children, Alison and Brian, grandchildren, and sisters.

1980s

Storey Johnson Hart '82, of Montclair, N.J., Nov. 20, age 59. After a career in magazine advertising sales, she raised her three children and stayed active by volunteering, skiing, fly fishing, and horseback riding. Storey fulfilled her dream of living in the mountains of Montana and training horses with her husband of 33 years, **Douglas “Andy” Hart '80**, when they built Aspen Ridge Ranch. She was predeceased by her parents and brother, and is survived by Andy and her children. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

Sonnetta Shahid-Sturkey '83, June 26, at the age of 57. She was predeceased by her sister, **Evonne Shahid '85**. She is survived by husband **Daniel Sturkey '84**, cousin **Jay Hairston '78**, parents, and multiple siblings. *NOTE: There was an error when this item appeared in the Winter 2020 issue. We apologize for the error.*

Allyson Cupo Hughes '84, of Basking Ridge, N.J., Oct. 14, age 56. She is survived by her husband, Owen, her four children, parents, and siblings. She was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Carolyn Donaldson Feuer '85, of Glenview, Ill., Dec. 5, age 56. She is survived by her husband, Mike, two sons, and siblings.

William “Michael” Frame '87, of Lewisburg, Pa., Oct. 8, age 55. He is survived by his mother, three children, and his sister.

Linda Gillmor Gable '87, of Powell, Ohio, Dec. 12, age 54. Her volunteer work focused on helping pregnant teenagers and on delivering meals during the holidays. She was predeceased by her parents, including **Paul Gillmor '61**, and is survived by her daughter, **Brenda Gable '15**, a sister, three half-brothers, and two aunts, including **Dianne Gillmor Krumsee '67**.

Blair “Doug” McMillin '88, of Aspen, Colo., Dec. 10, age 54. He made a living in construction and enjoyed photography, sailing, and woodworking. He was predeceased by his parents and is survived by his wife, Chrissy, their four children, and his two siblings. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

2000s

Amanda Beasley-Donahue '01, of Marion, Ohio, Oct. 6, age 40. She is survived by her husband, Todd, her mother and husband, a brother, and grandfather.

Peter Svotelis '01, of Elkins Park, Pa., Sept. 26, age 40. He is survived by his parents and grandmother.

Faculty and Staff

Marguerite Foust, of Delaware, Ohio, Nov. 6, age 88. She retired from OWU after 29 years of service in housekeeping, receiving a white Bible signed by students, faculty, and coworkers. She is survived by her son, daughter, and grandchildren.

Norman “LeRoy” Honeter, of Ostrander, Ohio, Oct. 30, age 72. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1968 and served until 1974. LeRoy then worked for 40 years at the Henkel Corporation in Delaware and 10 years at OWU. He is survived by his wife, Linda, two children, and several grandchildren.

Mary Todd, of Delaware, Ohio, Sept. 26, age 72. She worked in food service at OWU.

Mary Zwick, of Summerfield, Fla., Dec. 9, age 95. She worked for the Department of Natural Resources, OWU, the Methodist Theological Seminary, and more. She was predeceased by her husband, Herman Zwick, and is survived by her three sons, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren

Sympathy to

Jack McKinnie '54 for the loss of his wife, Jean McIntyre McKinne, of Westlake, Ohio, Oct. 27, age 88. Jean worked in the commercial law department at Picklands Mather, and she was a member of the League of Women Voters and an elder at Bay Presbyterian Church.

Joyce Hartweg Mannis '61 for the loss of her husband of 47 years, the Rev. Jedediah Mannis, of Harvard, Mass., Sept. 9, age 74.

Joan Worthing '73 and **Cathie Worthing Helfand '75** for the loss of their father, Jurgen "Jerry" Worthing, of Wantagh, N.Y., Oct. 29, age 95.

Brooke Ann Barthelmas Larger '76 for the loss of her mother, Jane Barthelmas, of Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 29, age 91.

Donna Bodner '77 for the loss of her mother, Susan Potoma, of Parma, Ohio, Nov. 29, age 87.

Bradley Kendall '88 for the loss of his mother, Grace Fullarton Kendall, of Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 23, age 82.



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A prayer for **Ohio Wesleyan**

OWU Magazine asked recently retired Chaplain Jon Powers to send us his thoughts—and perhaps a prayer—upon his retirement. We happily publish his words below.

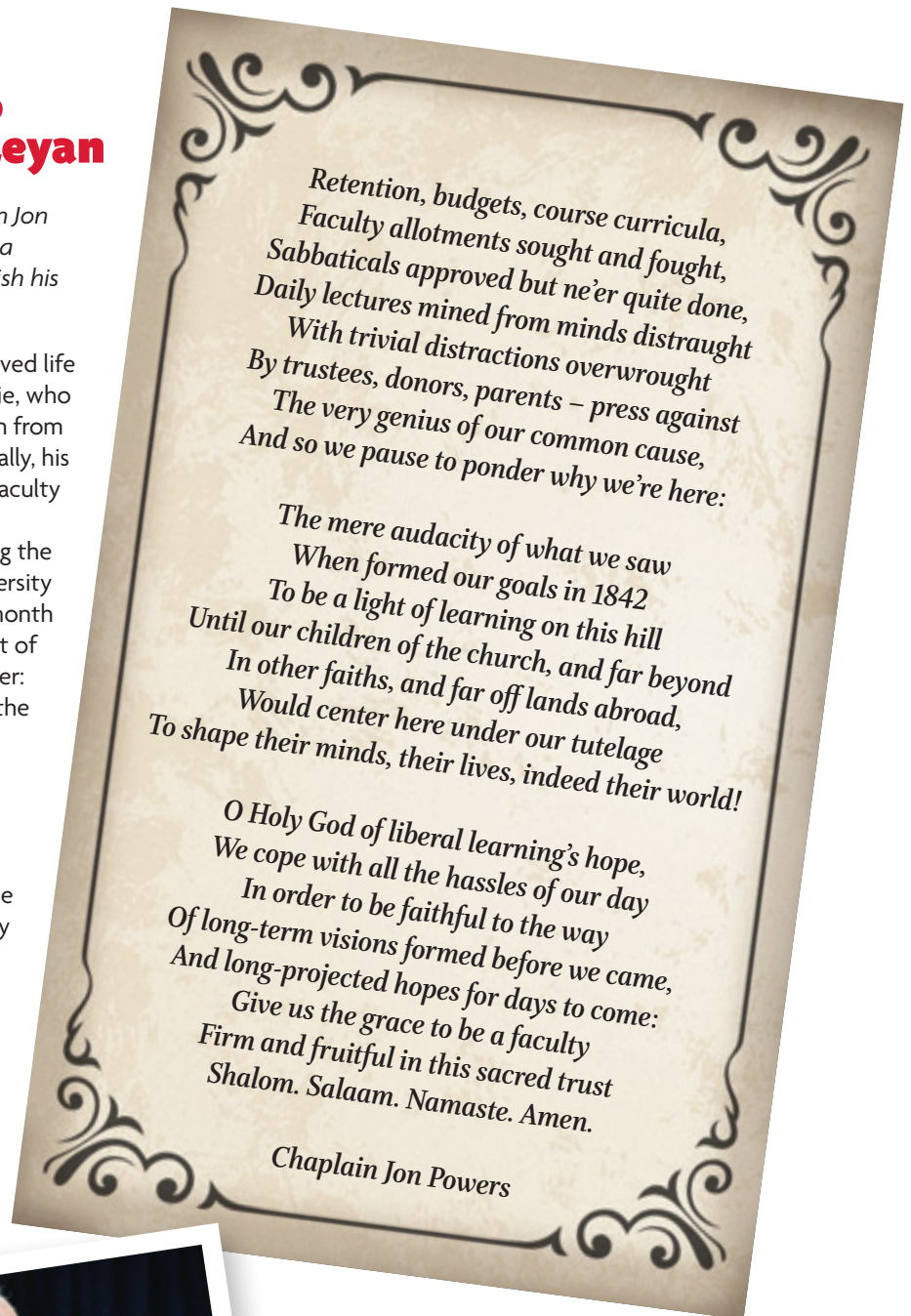
One of my fondest memories of my beloved life mentor and dear friend, Rev. James Leslie, who was Ohio Wesleyan University’s chaplain from 1960 to 1988, is that he would send me, periodically, his witty and winsome prayers offered at monthly faculty meetings.

Jim always said that monthly prayer was among the most difficult things he ever had to do as a university chaplain, because it caused him to pause each month and seriously, prayerfully consider the full weight of Ohio Wesleyan’s commitment to our 1842 Charter: “...the University is forever to be conducted on the most liberal principles, accessible to all religious denominations, and designed for the benefit of our citizens in general.”

In 1988 I assumed that prayerful responsibility of Chaplain Leslie with full acceptance of that academic covenant. I immediately discovered the full burden of that monthly responsibility to pray for the WHOLE Ohio Wesleyan University by way of my monthly prayer for the faculty.

For 31 years, I also found this to be the most difficult demand of me as a university chaplain. It was a bit like doing my weekly children’s sermon at nearby Asbury United Methodist Church: One must be mindful of the diverse developmental levels of the various children (faculty, staff, student reporters) who are present, even as one must be reconciled to the reality that only one particular level of developmental awareness can be adequately addressed for any given lesson/faculty prayer.

It is with such sensitivity and angst that I approached every monthly faculty meeting. There is no one prayer over the past 31 years that totally reflects my love, care, and devotion for you all, but



here is one such example that may well remind each of you of a moment in your own life at our beloved OWU.

Oh, wait! An even more important prayer from me was that which I offered each Baccalaureate, which I now offer to every one of you who are OWU:

***I love you! I honor you!
I thank God for you!***

—Chaplain Jon Powers

So many ways to connect with OWU and help us **Make the CASE**



Career development

Host an OWU intern in your workplace or speak at a Career Connection event.



Admission

Refer students to OWU, send notes to admitted students, or staff a college fair.



Social events & service

Join us at homecoming or host a regional alumni event when life is back to normal.



Engagement and giving

Make an annual or monthly gift to support OWU students.

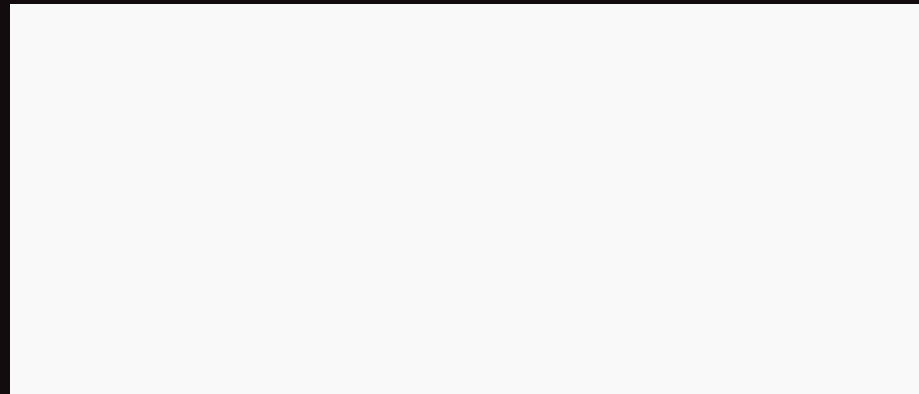
To find out more visit: owu.edu/volunteer

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Meek Aquatics and Recreation Center glows at twilight. (Photo by Paul Vernon)

