



Buckeye Bulletin

OHIO
STATE

A Publication of The Ohio State University Alumni Club of Orange County and the Inland Empire

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2005 Year in Review

What a Year!

This past year was one of great accomplishments for our club. We changed our game watch venue, upgraded our website, added five great Buckeyes to our board, created a Young Bucks group as part of the club, hosted a wine tasting party, hosted a reception for President Holbrook, were awarded another "Outstanding Club" award by the Alumni Association, awarded the most scholarship money in our club's history, and grew our membership for the fourth consecutive year.

Here are some highlights of our accomplishments in 2005:

- ✓ We awarded \$8,100 in scholarship money to 5 different students
- ✓ We contributed \$6,000 to our scholarship fund
- ✓ The market value of our fund is over \$115,000
- ✓ 100 members attended our reception for President Holbrook
- ✓ We participated in the Susan Komen run against cancer
- ✓ We donated over 75 gifts to the "Motel Kids" organization
- ✓ We grew our membership to over 230 families
- ✓ We hosted more people at our game watches than ever before with crowds ranging from 125 to over 400 for the Texas and m!^#!%@n games
- ✓ We brought in over \$5,000 in our 50/50 raffles with ½ of that won by members
- ✓ We were acknowledged by the Alumni Association as one of the top 10 clubs in the country for the 3rd consecutive year

Now it's on to 2006. Our mission is simple:

OUR CLUB EXISTS TO PROMOTE THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY THROUGHOUT ORANGE COUNTY AND THE INLAND EMPIRE AND TO STAY CONNECTED TO OUR UNIVERSITY.

We as a board are committed to making our club even better. This applies to everything we do. Every board member volunteers their time because they have a passion and love for Ohio State. The reward is seeing so many other passionate Buckeyes in Southern California enjoying our Midwestern values together. I like to think that Jim Tressel is the perfect example of what a true Buckeye is: confident, classy, cool, calm, humble, respectful, considerate, prepared, responsible, dignified, team oriented, reasonable and most of all honest! This is exactly what our club sets out to be.

Thanks for a great year!
Go Bucks

– Mike Kourie, *President*



Officers & Board Members

President

Mike Kourie
mkourie@pacbell.net

1st Vice President

Christie Brockhage
christie.brockhage@businesswire.com

2nd Vice President

Aaron Friedman
friedman.93@osu.edu

Secretary

Terry Cooper
terry@bijouresearch.com

Treasurer

Tammy Berry
tlberry01@aol.com

Student Recruitment

Keri Tabar
KeriAnn11@aol.com

Scholarship

Heather Guarnera
buckeyepride1@hotmail.com

Julio Buathier

Ron DeVore

Steve & Barb Dreffer

Don Girard

Bill & Barbara Haddad

Rick & Peg McIntosh

Casey Miller

Susan Munthe

Bev Rush

Bob & JoAnn Schmahl

Don & Carol Whiteside

About Our Club

The Ohio State Alumni Club of Orange County/Inland Empire...

is one of over 200 geographically-based OSU alumni clubs
located all over the world.

We have 220 family memberships with graduates and friends of the university, ranging from 20 years old to 90 years old, plus future Buckeyes as young as 1 year old. There are over 6,000 alumni living in the Orange County, Inland Empire area.

Our club has been awarded the prestigious **Gold Star** award as one of the Top 10 clubs in the country by the National Alumni Association, along with being acknowledged as one of the Top 5 newsletters in the country.

Club Mission

OSU OC/IE exists to promote The Ohio State University through communications and community relations, student recruitment, fellowship, and networking. Its goals are to accurately represent Ohio State in our local community, mobilize alumni to meet special needs of the university, recruit the best and brightest students, contribute new ideas about existing and/or possible university programs, and support university development and scholarship efforts.

Club History

Prior to 1959, Orange County was part of the OSU Alumni Club of Southern California Club. In 1959, Orange County became part of the OSU Alumni Club of Long Beach and remained so until 1974. To meet the growing needs of Orange County, the club was granted its charter by the Alumni Association, becoming the Ohio State University Alumni Club of Orange County, Long Beach.

In 1996 the club became what it is currently known as "The Orange County and Inland Empire Club." The club now serves only Orange County and The Inland Empire. The Long Beach Club is now part of the Greater Los Angeles Club.

Community Service 2005

Susan Komen Race – Breast Cancer Run/Walk

Sunday, September 25th, 2005. It was early for a Sunday, but my legs knew that they had a mission to accomplish today. RUN A 5K TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR BREAST CANCER. As the sun began to rise over Fashion Island in Newport Beach, I could see that this race had grown from the first time I ran it in 2002. This year there would be 23,000+ of my closest friends to help the cause. For the Ohio State Alumni Club of Orange County and Inland Empire, it was our first year running the race, and we had a total of five people running/walking. It was a great start and we were able to aid in the raising of \$1.85 million this year.

Did You Know?

53% of funds go to local agencies providing breast cancer education, screening, and treatment

25% funds breast cancer research

22% goes to general administrative costs

I know that I will see more of you next year in the fight to eliminate breast cancer.

Holiday Toy Drive

This year was the second year that we collected toys for a local charity to hand out during the holiday season. Motel Kids was the charity that was selected to have the multitude of toys donated to. The piles of toys were even larger than last year's thanks in part to the 100+ people that showed up at Mike and Kitty's home. Here is a copy of the thanks that they sent to us:

"On behalf of Serenity Village, I would like to thank you for your generous support for our children Christmas party. Your donation is tax deductible.

This event was a direct funding for our mentor and hotel outreach program of Serenity Village. Your participation in this event helped us to further our mission to support our youth in areas critical to healthy development – educational achievement, health, safety, and social and emotional growth for Orange County's least fortunate children.

Please know that your friendship and support are greatly valued and appreciated. Again, thank you for your wonderful gift in celebration of the development of Orange County's neediest children."

These are just a couple of the planned community service projects that we have completed recently. With your support, we can give back to the community that has given us so much joy since we moved from Ohio. In 2006 we are planning, in addition to the above activities, PCRFB (Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation) 10K run/walk and possibly an Ohio State vs Michigan Blood Drive to go along with the one running on campus. Thank you all. GO BUCKS!!!

– Aaron Friedman



Aaron Friedman at the Holiday Party.

Scholarship News

All fundraising and event proceeds of the OSU OCIE Club are used for enhancing our Scholarship Trust account in Columbus. We keep a working capital balance which allows us to purchase football game tickets, buy merchandise to resell at the tailgate parties and pre-pay any event costs. Thanks to the dedication of the volunteers who operate this club we have been able to add at least \$6000 per year to our Scholarship fund for each of the last 3 years.

– Tammy Berry

Best Buckeye

Congratulations to **Mike Kourie**. The Ohio State Alumni Association named Mike Best Buckeye. This is an honor only a select few around the country earn. It is also noteworthy that Mike has just completed a three-year term on the Advisory Team for the Alumni Association. Mike has made himself available on campus at Ohio State twice a year, at his own expense, to help other Ohio State University Alumni Clubs.



Public Service Spotlight: Bob Nixon

One of the benefits of belonging to the Ohio State Alumni Association Club of Orange County/Inland Empire is meeting people from different walks of life and different professions who all have the common thread of their love for Ohio and Ohio State University. It has become my pleasure to get to know Bob Nixon and I would like to share a little bit of his life with the rest of the members and friends of our club.

For four years I knew Bob as one of the men who sat at the next table at the football games we watched at the National Sports Grill. He was an avid football fan and although it was never said I knew he had been in the band. Every time the Ohio State University Marching Band made it on camera both of Bob's arms would go in the air and with a smile on his face he would yell GO BAND.

Late last year I had lunch with Bob and here is what I learned about the man. Bob is from the Canton, Ohio area. He attended Ohio State University and was in the marching band from 1954-1957. He marched in the 1955 and 1958 Rose Bowls. He has an undergraduate degree in Industrial Management and a masters degree in Finance from Ohio State. His Rose Bowl experiences convinced him that he wanted to live in California so after he earned his masters degree he came west. I am going to pass over several years of Bob's life. We will save that story for another day, but Bob did marry. He and his wife Rosemary have four children and seven grandchildren. When Bob retired from Toyota in 1998 Rosemary gave Bob a yellow Labrador Retriever. The dog's name was Misty. Doing volunteer work had not entered Bob's mind at this stage in his life. It was a year later that Bob's veterinarian recognized something special in Misty. One thing led to another and after some training and certification Bob was about to begin a new career, a therapy dog handler. Bob and Misty were soon doing hospital visitation. Bob became a regular at St. Jude's Medical Center, Anaheim Memorial Hospital, Evergreen @ Fullerton Nursing Home and Fullerton Gardens, an Alzheimer facility.



In 2003 Misty was diagnosed with terminal bone cancer and soon passed away. Although Misty was gone Bob's desire to do volunteer work was still alive and well. Bob has a new yellow Lab. Her name is Annie. Bob is still a regular at St. Jude's Hospital and Anaheim Memorial Medical Center. Bob says that the hospital visits are the most rewarding activity he has ever experienced. Bob is passionate about the joy Annie brings to hospital patients.

Bob, keep up the good work and GO BAND!

– Richard McIntosh



**The Orange County/Inland Empire
website has been updated and improved.
Check it out at www.osuocie.org.**

2005 Football Season

The season started off rocky but ended up on a high note. The losses to Texas and Penn State were disappointing. We should have won the Texas game but I don't know if anyone could have beaten Penn State the day we played them. The wins over that team up north and Notre Dame were great Buckeye victories. We ended up Big Ten Co-Champions and fourth in the national polls. I also believe we saw Troy Smith really mature as our team quarterback. Here are pictures from the Corner Office giving us a recap of our enjoyment of the games.

– Richard McIntosh



Ohio State Attracts California's Brightest

We've all heard that over the past few years Ohio State has changed its application criteria and that it is increasingly difficult to get accepted into the university. President Holbrook, in her June visit to the OC/IE Alumni Club, stressed the importance of high academic standards and attracting the best and brightest high school students from across the country. In an effort to improve our recruiting process on the west coast, our club hosted a Student Recruitment Volunteer training event in August. The university sent representatives from undergraduate admissions to explain the exciting changes to campus and to advise volunteers on how to talk to parents and students interested in Ohio State.



Keri Tabar and Bob Schmall working at a local high school college fair.

Well, our efforts are starting to come to fruition. This year we have found that the caliber of student that visits the Ohio State booth at college fair nights is much higher than ever before. Today's high school student is a well-prepared, critical thinker, testing volunteers' knowledge of Ohio State's majors, special programs, campus life, housing, international studies, diversity, research possibilities, graduate programs and job placement. They are taking the time to research schools prior to attending the fair and formulate questions on specific programs.

Many students came prepared with index cards filled in with their personal interests and contact information. We forwarded their information on to admissions so that university representatives can guide students through the application process and help them decide whether Ohio State is the right school for them.

If you would like to volunteer at a college fair night next fall, please email keri.tabar@cox.net for more information.

– Keri Tabar



Ryan Schultz, Young Alumni Chair

Where did you grow up? Is Ohio home? I grew up in Waterville, Ohio. A small town about 20 minutes south of Toledo.

Why did you attend Ohio State? I was looking for a big and exciting school that could fulfill my goal of pursuing a career in architecture, so Ohio State was the best fit. I had also heard they had a pretty good football team.

What years were you there? 1999 - 2004.

Graduated what year? June of 2004. Degree in Landscape Architecture.

Why did you locate to California? I had a great job opportunity offered to me and once I paid Orange County a visit, I was sold.

What are you doing now? I'm currently working at a landscape architecture firm called Borthwick Guy Bettenhausen, Inc. in Irvine as an assistant project manager.

What are the Young Buckeyes? The Young Alumni strives to further embrace alumni activities and events geared toward our younger crowd here in the Orange County/Inland Empire area. It provides an outlet for our young people to become more involved in the community as well as establish a network for themselves with other local young people alike.

How did you come up with the concept? After my own early experiences of having just moved out here to Southern California, along with those of a few of my close friends', I thought what better to make other fellow Buckeyes' transitions easier. With the support of the club and my friends, it became possible.

What did the Young Buckeyes do in 2005? We did a very important thing by establishing the club itself with a current membership of almost 50 members. We did have a tailgate party prior to the Penn State football game, we've organized a softball league team, some of us participated in local college fairs and also have already formed a solid camaraderie amongst ourselves especially at the weekly football game watches.

What are the plans for 2006? We certainly plan to get things going this year now the club is established. Plans include happy hours, more local league sports teams (softball, flag football, bowling, etc.), volunteer work at local charities and events, possible ski trips/beach bonfires/camping trips, and hopefully, a weekend in Texas when the Longhorns host the Buckeyes this year in Austin.

What is your all time favorite Ohio State memory? My favorite memory was Ohio State vs. Michigan weekend of the 2002 championship season. The entire weekend was one big party and I have never so much fun in all my life. It was then that I realized how proud I was to be a Buckeye.

– Richard McIntosh

Holiday Party

Our club's annual holiday party was held at Mike and Kitty Kourie's home on Sunday December 11. Events at the Kouries are always wonderful and this party was no exception. One hundred and five people attended the party. The food was spectacular. The Capistrano Brewing Company provided beverages. The surprise of the party was the Tis The Season Bell Carolers. Their music, in the traditional Christmas Carole style, was a perfect end to a record-breaking year for our club. Here are the pictorial memories of the Holiday Party.

— Richard McIntosh





Fiesta Bowl

Can you believe The Ohio State University Buckeyes played in their third Fiesta Bowl in four years? The 2002 National Championship win over Miami will go down as one of the greatest Buckeye victories in history. The 2003 season finale over Kansas State was a good win but I can't say if it was memorable. The 2006 Fiesta Bowl between The Ohio State Buckeyes and The Notre Dame Fighting Irish had all the drama of another football classic. Both teams had great seasons. Both teams were at the top of their game. The Buckeyes played their hearts out and as we know were victorious with a 34 to 20 win over the Fighting Irish. I still tear up when the band does Script Ohio. I will never tire of hearing the Buckeye fans sounding O-H-I-O around the stadium. I trust the Fighting Irish fans will remember it for a long time. I know the Hurricane fans do. Hang On Sloopy still rocks. I must be old. I remember when the song was a hit. Our alumni club had over 40 members make the trip to the Arizona Desert. Here are memories of the trip.

– Richard McIntosh

