The Olney Current

Olney Friends School

Fall 2014 Volume 122, No. 2

The Olney Current

Fall 2014

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ON THE COVER: Taemin Kim ’16 and Kelsi Chavez ’16 collaborate on a lesson in the chemistry lab of the new Stillwater Science Center.

THE OLNEY CURRENT

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Note: Class years are included after the names of alumni; “x” designates an alumnus or alumna who attended but did not graduate. Honorary alumni (Hon.) have contributed significantly to the life of the school. “*” New faculty 2014-15.

Head of School Report

We have entered autumn, a glorious but waning season in the natural cycle but a season of new genesis at schools. We are a few weeks into the new school year and have already sent home first quarter mid-term reports, but it feels really different this year. New building, new courses, new faces, new energies!

The seed of an idea to reinvigorate our school and science program at Olney found first light on my wedding anniversary, September 4, 2013. Our administrative team retreated to my living room, and after three hours of thoughtful discussion of alternatives, we decided to suggest to the Board of Trustees a plan to develop a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) curriculum. These topics are in great demand nationwide, and the plan included efforts to spread the word broadly and to seek to attract new students to our fold. In less than 12 months, the plan germinated, the board approved, the school acquired the gift of a new building from the Stillwater Monthly Meeting, a general contractor was retained, and renovations were completed in time for the first day of classes.

Students travel between the Main and the Stillwater Science Center once each day and spend a half day in each building. The newer space offered air-conditioned relief in the final days of summer, and the older space provided the comfort of familiarity. Teachers are still transferring equipment and materials between buildings, but the transition has been relatively easy. New offerings include an Introduction to Engineering (a Project Lead the Way course) and Agricultural Science (long a part of the ethos of Olney but now a solid part of the curriculum) along with other staples such as Environmental Science.

Many new student faces can be seen among the more familiar. More significantly, we are seeing an increase in genuine initiative percolating up from the senior class. For instance, **Kayla Kellar '15** has taken the lead on a plan to reduce our carbon footprint by exploring opportunities to fund solar photovoltaic cells on the roof of the girls' dorm. It is unusual for a student to have the moxie to lead such a movement. Kayla spent time this summer at Oberlin College studying sustainability projects with a potential funding source.

Joe Kingery '15 also is taking his leadership role in Self Gov and as dish crew leader seriously. Not satisfied with the status quo, Joe is thinking, writing and presenting new ideas and exhibiting a mature service ethic at every turn.

Kayla Kellar ’15

Amihan Tindongan ’15 is a farm team captain who is taking her role to heart. Not only is she focused on learning what work needs to be done, but also on shepherding younger students to fulfill their responsibilities in the farm buildings. She has learned the value of a calm and steady demeanor around livestock.

Joe Kingery ’15

In review of the past few weeks, I can only describe this opening of school year 2014-2015 as sparkling.

A fresh new feeling pervades the campus, and although we will always experience a few wrinkles here and there, the start of this new year bodes well for the near future.

Charlie Szumilas
Head of School

Amihan Tindongan ’15

STUDENTS 2014-15

Seniors

- Kefan Bai - Kunming, Yunnan,CHINA
- Aidan Burns - Mansfield, OH
- Audrey Dennis - Brooklyn, NY
- Zixuan Feng - Shijiazhuang, Hebei, CHINA
- Anh Huy Ha - Ha Noi, VIET NAM
- Anh Ngoc Ha - Ha Noi, VIET NAM
- Noah Howells - Asheville, NC
- Stacy Isaac - Abqaiq, SAUDI ARABIA/INDIA, *Sister of Justin Isaac '11 and Steve Isaac '09*
- Kayla Kellar - Senecaville, OH
- Joseph Kingery - Bexley, OH
- Jonas Robin - Bronx, NY
- Mishka Smith - Lodi, NY
- Rongyi Tang - Nanjing, Jiangsu, CHINA
- Amihan Tindongan - Albany, OH
- The Vy Tran - Costa Mesa, CA /RUSSIA/VIET NAM
- Benjamin Whitten - Athens, GA
- Yi Zhang - Beijing, CHINA

Juniors

- Katherine Arling - Irvine, CA
- Anteneh Asratu - Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA
- Nils Bechtel - Steinheim, Baden-Wurttemberg, GERMANY
- Kelsi Ch'vez - Atuntaqui, Imbabura, ECUADOR, *Sister of Maria Jose '14, Dennis '09, Ronaldo '06, and Mauricio '04 Ch'vez; cousin of Nita Ch'vez '08*
- Julian Fahl-Matlack - Athens, OH
- Taemin Kim - Yeonsu-gu, Incheon, SOUTH KOREA *Brother of Taehwan Kim '13*
- Yang Liu - Wuxi, CHINA
- Cayce Morrison - Vashon, WA, *Grandson of Dick '49 and Barbara Emmons; son of Esther Emmons Morrison '81; nephew of Chris '78, Stephen '85, and Maria '89 Emmons, Anna Emmons Kirk '80, and Toki Emmons Hal '90*
- Julian Sun - Corvallis, OR
- Adrien Taylor - Bethesda, MD
- Liarucha Zahnke-Basuki - Big Stone Gap, VA

Sophomores

- Claire Bober - Akron, OH
- Lauren Collier - Slippery Rock, PA
- Holden Fry - Westerville, OH
- Devra Roberts - Belmont, OH
- Lyushen Song - Kunming, CHINA
- David Ulin-O'Keefe - Asheville, NC
- Emilio Valverde - Urbana, IL

Freshmen

- Rowan Fahl-Matlack - Athens, OH
- Antonia Sigmon - St. Clairsville, OH
- Rachel Smith - Lodi, NY
- Joseph Velick - Ann Arbor, MI, *Son of Elizabeth Sikkenga '81x*
- Lichen Yang Kunming - Yunnan, CHINA

HEAD SEARCH

The Head Search Committee continues to meet regularly to review applications for the Head of School position. Interviews have begun, and campus visits are taking place this fall. A hiring recommendation from the committee will be given to the board by the end of 2014.

The committee is comprised of:

Co-clerks

- **Phil Goodchild** (Board of Trustees, attorney, parent of **Hannah Goodchild '07**)
- **Emily Stanley '78** (Board of Trustees, teacher, parent of **Morgan Bailey '09**)

Members

- **Amy Davis '77** (Board of Trustees co-clerk, health planning administrator)
- **Lars Etzkorn '83** (Board of Trustees, attorney)
- **Jeff Moredock (Hon.)** (former Olney assistant head, retired head of independent school and retired National Association of Independent Schools chief operating officer)
- **Shelley Rockwell '82** (current Olney business manager)
- **Eric Lundblade (Hon.)** (current Olney teacher)
- Rich Marklin (professor at Marquette, parent of **Davis Marklin '14**)

Several staff and community members help to unload large foam blocks used to fill an excavated area on the east side of the Stillwater Science Center.

AROUND CAMPUS

The word "bustling" does not do justice to the state of affairs at Olney Friends School in recent months. Throw in "hectic," "exhilarating," "frenzied," "galvanizing," "inspiring" and a few others and you'll begin to get a feeling for the atmosphere surrounding renovation of the Stillwater Science Center and the start of a new school year.

Staff members and contractors were focused on a huge variety of tasks as the renovation work progressed. Crews excavated two exterior walls of the former Barnesville Independent Elementary School for waterproofing and stabilizing work and filled the void with giant foam blocks. Staff members and hired hands painted interior walls. Others ordered, unloaded and assembled new furniture. Worn floor tiles were replaced with new carpets and vinyl, and the entire building received a makeover to ensure it would become an appropriate high school learning environment.

ABOVE: Workers install work stations in the new chemistry lab. RIGHT: Trenches crisscross the lower level floor of the Stillwater Science Center as crews install plumbing, gas and electrical lines to supply the new biology and chemistry labs.

ABOVE: **Denny Rockwell '77**, left, and **Bob Rockwell '56**, right, talk with contractor Dave Cook as the south wall of the Stillwater Science Center is excavated. BELOW: More volunteers including, from front left, **Shelley Rockwell '82**, **Anne Marie Taber '79** and **Ernie Hartley '57** begin to place foam blocks in the void around the SSC.

In keeping with tradition, the entire school community kicked off the new year with the annual "Almost Anything Goes" activities, including trivia challenges and outdoor competitions designed to increase team-building skills and to help students get acquainted with one another.

Rowan Fahl-Matlack '18 takes on a slippery challenge during the annual "Almost Anything Goes" activities held to kick off the school year.

As soon as students were settled into their new classrooms, they began to think about baking pumpkin bread for sale at the annual Barnesville Pumpkin Festival. Some students trained with teacher **Jacob Naegeli (Hon.)** to participate in the Pumpkin Run. Others took to Captina Creek with teacher **Leonard Guidon '70** to monitor water quality and aquatic life in the stream.

A field trip to American Electric Power's Cardinal Plant at Brilliant, Ohio, gave some pupils insight into the practice of producing energy by burning coal. And all students gained a sense of accomplishment by

Antonia Sigmon '18, left, and **Lauren Collier '17** work on a puzzle during AAG.

ABOVE: **Julian Sun ’16** waves from atop an enormous ball used during an AAG team-building activity as teacher **Leonard Guindon ’70** looks on. BELOW: Staff and students map out a team strategy for AAG. Members include, from left, **Admissions Assistant Aaron Schultz, Antonia Sigmon ’18, Audrey Dennis ’15, Julian Fahl-Matlack ’16, Noah Howells ’15, Lauren Collier ’17** and **Anh Huy Ha ’15.**

Amihan Tindongan '15 carries a ladder to the area where a new vernal pool was installed near the soccer field. The temporary pool is designed to provide a habitat for specific plants and animals that cannot withstand competition from fish in a permanent body of water.

doing community service work at the YWCA of Wheeling, W.Va.

A vernal pool, a temporary pool that provides a unique wildlife habitat, was installed in the woods near the soccer field by Belmont County Soil and Water Conservation District, and Leonard and his students added a bat box to a nearby tree.

Before school started, we said goodbye to Admissions Director **Musa Hamideh '05**, Admissions Assistant **Harriet Hart (Hon.)** and Academic Dean **Cindy Rogers (Hon.)**. We also said a fond farewell to the 13 graduating members of the Class of 2014.

We have since welcomed **Chris Graham** as a temporary academic dean, **Aaron Schultz** as admissions assistant, **Rory Beck** as chemistry teacher, **Sarah Harmon** as girls' dorm staff and **Joe Sullivan** as admissions director, along with his wife, Nicole, and their 8-month-old daughter, Ella. Aaron also

CHRIS GRAHAM

AARON SCHULTZ

RORY BECK

SARAH HARMON

JOE SULLIVAN

The Olney soccer team poses for a photo with coaches and friends. In front are **May** and **Sho Brownstein**. Behind them, from left, are **Nils Bechtel, Liarucha Zahnke-Basuki, Lee Tran, Noah Howells, Jonas Robin and Julian Fahl-Matlack. Standing, from left, are Coach Micah Brownstein, Abraham Song, Anteneh Asratu, Aidan Burns, Cayce Morrison, Ben Whitten, Kayla Kellar, Emilio Valverde, Seth Solomon, Rowan Fahl-Matlack and Coach Jamie Zavitz.**

is serving on boys' dorm staff, and the Sullivans are living in the Hutton house. Chris filled the void left by Cindy's departure. Chris now plans to volunteer weekly and allow **Emily Carton (Hon.)** to step in as Interim Academic Dean while we search for a permanent person for that role.

FALL SPORTS

JAMIE ZAVITZ '83, *Soccer Coach*

This fall there are three sports options — running, Farm Team and soccer.

As running coach, **Jacob Naegeli (Hon.)** has students wearing out the picturesque country roads on and around Olney's campus. Students can choose to run twice a week for Junior Varsity credit or at least four times a week for Varsity credit. Several runners trained aggressively throughout the summer, and it is not uncommon for students to sign out on their own for a 6-mile run.

The soccer team is under the direction of **Micah Brownstein (Hon.)** and **Jamie Zavitz '83**. Of the school's 42 students, 24 are participating in soccer at either the recreational or competitive level.

This year's schedule consists of 14 games, culminating with the traditional Alumni game on October 18. Early season success has fostered positive team morale and nurtured a growing confidence in the team's ability to aspire to even loftier expectations.

The soccer team has also benefitted from the diligent training of players over the summer.

Farm Team members **Rachel Smith '18**, left, **Amihan Tindongan '15** and **David Ulin-O'Keefe '17** wash eggs from the hen house.

Sandy Sterrett (Hon.) is again offering both Vegetable and Animal Farm Team options. Each group meets two days a week, providing a physical workout for the students involved. At the same time, participants are gaining valuable experience and skills that will have lifelong value. Student participation is enthusiastic and is bolstered by the fact that this year the farm is providing even more of the school's food.

Across the board, Olney students are participating wholeheartedly in the sports programs this season and doing so with smiles on their faces.

FARM REPORT

The transition from farming full time with interns to farming and teaching without interns has been challenging this year. We are enjoying working with **Leonard Guindon '70** and the students who are enrolled in the new Agricultural Science course. Already, the Agricultural Science students have picked up a load of square hay bales, learned about weeds and grasses from the field and started planting winter vegetables in the hoop and green houses.

Emily Carton (Hon.) organized a nomad vs. farmer project for her ninth

grade Humanities class. At the final presentation, as we expected, the students concluded they would rather be farmers than nomads. In addition to this class, the 11 students who make up the Vegetable and Animal Farm Teams have worked to plant the fall brassica field, clean up the chicken coop, pick tomatoes and feed the goats. Several advisory groups have worked on the farm or in the Sunnyside gardens.

Our test intern program was a success, and we will look towards expanding that program next year. Interns **Francis Peet '14** and Najib Hamideh planted and hoed field crops. For the first time in years, we have a good harvest of tomatoes, winter squash and sweet corn thanks to the intern help and to the purchase of special electrified netting to keep out rabbits, ground hogs, raccoons and deer. We could see the difference from a foliar feeding of liquid fish and seaweed made possible by the generous donation last year by Raven Rocks.

These three improvements, plus good weather, will enable us to provide much fresh food to the food service manager, **Eric Simmons (Hon)**. We plan for a late garden to coincide with the school year and still have more vegetables almost ready to harvest before the first killing frost.

In between haymaking, Don has continued to work on the beef herd project. The end seems in sight with the sorting lot at the Towe Barn almost finished and the Taber Farm pasture area down to a handful of fencing upgrades and another handful of loafing shed retrofitting projects. After a late start on first cutting, which reduces hay quality, we are pleased to have a good amount of higher quality second cutting.

ADVANCEMENT

Annual Fund Update

We closed Fiscal 2013-14 on June 30 with an Annual Fund total of $453,131. This amount included $81,365 in restricted gifts designated for the Stillwater Science Center, leaving an unrestricted Annual Fund balance of $371,766.

Our loyal supporters set the bar high last year by making 665 gifts to the Annual Fund, but we know we can surpass that number this year as we continue striving to reach an unprecedented goal of $500,000.

As of Sept. 8, the Annual Fund total for Fiscal 2014-15 stood at $32,553.

As you can see, we have a long way to go to meet our $500,000 goal, so please give to Olney as generously and as often as you can. Your support will carry us into the future with a modern new facility and an exciting new curriculum.

Fundraising for the Stillwater Science Center is gaining momentum. We

have received 98 gifts in support of the SSC to date for a total of $117,235. Members of the Board of Trustees are supporting this effort right along with the rest of the community. Board members had given a combined total of $10,900 for the SSC, as of June 30, 2014.

The Development staff also continues to seek major contributions from other sources. A request for a $100,000 grant has been submitted to CONSOL Energy. Other corporations that have been approached include CAT, Toyota and Rice Energy.

Gulfport, another oil and gas drilling company operating locally, has established a charitable foundation with a focus on educational projects this year. We have applied for a $10,000 grant — the maximum allowable amount — through that foundation.

Ernie Hartley '57, former co-clerk of the Board of Trustees, points to one of the Quaker Testimonies while holding a sign acknowledging donors who provided refreshments for the opening of the Stillwater Science Center.

Appeals

One opportunity to give should have arrived in your mailbox recently. We are currently seeking donations from "Friends of Ernie" in support of the Stillwater Science Center.

Ernie Hartley '57 in July completed nine years of service as a member of the Board of Trustees, the maximum allowable term under the school's bylaws. In recognition of his dedication, several individuals contributed money to the school, and Ernie asked that those funds be designated for development of the science center.

Here, Ernie reflects on his years as a trustee and shares his love for the school in a letter to the Olney community.

To the Olney Family:

As I leave the Olney Board of Trustees after nine years in that capacity, I feel a deep sense of appreciation for what we lovingly call the "Olney Family." This group includes all of you who read this and many of your ancestors, and many other Friends of the School. All of us who care about Olney are responsible for our school's continued growth and maturation since 1837. As we begin our 178th year of operation, the Olney Family should be encouraged by the fact that you have a strong and dedicated Board of Trustees who share your love of the school, and share your hope, trust and confidence that Olney will continue to grow and prosper as it changes with the times.

"Your generous donations are helping the school fully develop the program providing American and International students a competitive edge on the world stage."

Ernie Hartley

The school has made great progress in recent years. A staff investigation into the support received from the Olney Family during the 14 years since the 1999 reorganization shows that we have invested about $4.5 million into maintenance and stabilization of the physical plant, school farm and the academic program. In today's world, it takes this level of investment to maintain a school capable of attracting good students, good teachers and good administrators.

It is for this reason that the Board and Administrative Team took the giant step a year ago to begin preparations for a new kind of academic program designed to attract a larger student population than we have been able to attract in the recent past. We made the commitment to enter this new phase without knowledge of where we would get the funds and facilities to create the program. But, we knew that this leap of faith was necessary to keep the Olney dream alive. I think it is safe to say that Divine Intervention steered us and others toward the realization that we hoped and prayed and planned for. It is the same kind of miraculous support that the school has received so many times in the past. Stillwater Monthly Meeting acquired a building that they were willing to give to the school for academic expansion. Donations for the new Stillwater Science Center began to come our way. The school staff shifted into high gear to jump-start the program. A project management firm donated

"(STEM) will give Olney students, day and boarding, an important head start for those seeking to specialize in math, science, engineering and technology at the university level and in careers beyond."

Ernie Hartley

early planning and estimating services to help determine whether the required building retrofits were feasible. Volunteers came to help. Today, as a new school year begins, students and staff are in that building, science labs and classrooms are in place. Teachers are teaching and students are learning.

The present campaign is building an improved and expanded math and science program for Olney Friends School. It includes a "world-class" curriculum prepared by Project Lead The Way, considered the nation's leading STEM program.

For those not familiar with STEM, it is an academic program integrating science, technology, engineering and mathematics. We have added environment and ecology to that program. It is a curriculum with hands-on, project-based and problem-solving design. It will give Olney students, day and boarding, an important head start for those seeking to specialize in math, science, engineering and technology at the university level and in careers beyond.

During my final Board meeting in July, Charlie, our Head of School, announced that he had received an anonymous gift for the Stillwater Science Center from some "Friends of Ernie."

Before the Board meeting was over, Shelley, our Business Manager, announced that other gifts had come in from "Friends of Ernie." Shelley recently informed me that "Friends of Ernie" have donated almost $8,000 — all of which will go toward development of the Stillwater Science Center. While I appreciate the sentiment, I feel an overwhelming appreciation for so many friends who have stepped forward to support this next step in building Olney's future.

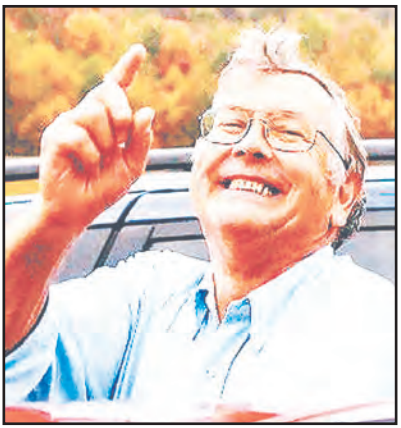
Stillwater Science Center is up and running, but the bills have not all been paid. We still need your support.

Your investment in its completion will generate new tuition income as more and more full-pay students are attracted to enroll in this great program.

Your generous donations are helping the school fully develop the program providing American and International students a competitive edge on the world stage.

Thank you,

Ernie Hartley
Former Clerk,
Olney Board of Trustees



"... as a new school year begins, students and staff are in (the Stillwater Science Center), science labs and classrooms are in place. Teachers are teaching and students are learning."

Ernie Hartley

2013-2014 ANNUAL FUND DONORS

The teachers and administrators at Olney strive each day to challenge students to grow, celebrate intellectual vigor, provoke questions of conscience and nurture skills for living in community. But that important work would not be possible without the support of our generous donors. It is with immense gratitude that we share the names of those who contributed to the 2013-14 Annual Fund below:

Dan & Jean Adams
Parks & Paula Adams
Katharine & Jim Adolf
Deborah Alley
Roy & Bonnie Andersen
Paul & Jeannette Arling
Warren & Mary Lea Bailey
Phil & Joyce Balderston *
David Barnes
Janet & Arthur Bateson
James & Kathy Beard *
Marisa Becerra
Verne & Shirley Bechill
Louise Beede
Heather Best
Jessica Bilecki
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Sarah Boyer
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Joan Brindle
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David & Mae Brown *
Donna Browning
Micah & Akiko Brownstein
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Kathleen Cleary
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Peter Fox *
Ulises & Claudia Franco
Margaret Fraser
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Sara & Jon Hager
Harvey & Ferne Haines *
Judy Hale & Keith Reed
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Lloyd Hampton
Sue Hanlon
Martha Hansen
Barbara Harrison
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Helen Marshall
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Sarah Meyer
S. Mackay & E. Meyer
Jerry Mikesell & Anne Loughney *
Ariel Miller
Eliot & Andrea Mintzer
Chris & Terri Modic
Patsy Moffitt
Lee & Vicky Morgan
Terry & Heidi Morlan
Cleda Mott
Greg & Diane Mott *
Jacob Naegeli
Jeffrey Nagle
William & Birgitta Namad
Tina Neiswonger
David Morgan & Lori Nelson
Mary Ellen Newport
Sabron & Robert Newton
Joyce Osborn
Sarah Palmer
Promise Partner
Richard & Sharon Patterson
Ann Payne
Beata Peck-Little *
Karlena & Gary Peebles
Nancy Penry
Betty Petersen
Mary Alice Pino
Ruth & Michael Podolin
J.M. & Sally Pomputius
Brett Potash
John & Margaret Prescott
Ron Preston *
Susan & Gary Price
Chris & Janeal Ravndal *
Hannah Reed
Peter & Carol Reid
Roger & Diane Reynolds
Cassie Ridenour
Amy & Tony Rieck
Laurie Rinehart-Thompson
Donald & Carol Rippin
Elizabeth River
Joseph & Leanna Roberts
David Robinson
Joel & Shelley Rockwell
John & Wanda Rockwell *
Steve & Cindy Rogers
Margaret & Richard Roisman
Allan & Louise Root *
Ernest & Yila Ross
Suselma Roth *
Blanche Rybeck
Wendell W. Satterthwait
Larry & Linda Schonborn *
Lois & David Schrevelius
Kurt Schuchardt
John & Carol Schwartz *
T.J. & Rebecca Shankland
Deborah Shaw & Sid Kitchens
Paul Shaw & Jeanine Derby
Bill & Marina Shaw
Jason Shenk & Nicole Bauman
Bev & Bob Shull
Richard & Mary Sidwell *
Elizabeth Sidwell
Eric & Emily Simmons
Herb Smith
Josh Smith & Amanda Sutherland
Kathryn Smith *
Stanley Smith
Ellis & Winifred Standing *
James Standley & Wendy Rockwell
Judith Stanfield *
David R. & Carolyn Stanley
Emily Stanley *
Edith Starbuck & Michael Benson
Judith Starbuck & Peter Greenfield
Margaret Starbuck
Sandra Sterrett
Susan Bailey-Stickney & Cary Stickney
Shirley & Richard Stoffer
John Storck
Jane & Peter Stowe
Donald Stratton & Helen Young
Richard Stratton

Shelly Stratton & John Nimo
Wilmer Stratton *
Roy Joe & Ruth Stuckey *
Anna Mae Sutterley
James and Barbara Syphers
Charles & Susan Szumilas *
Anne Marie Taber
Merlin Taber
John & Martha Tanner
Michael Taylor *
Janet & Edgar Teets *
Arthur & Mary Lou Thomas
Lowell & Nancy Thomas
Sylvia Thomas & Fred Moore
Barbara & Bent Thygesen *
Jill & Sean Tikkun
Mary Esther Tipton *
Lawrence Tjossem *
Lola & Doug Toot
Gertrude Torry *
Carole & Ray Treadway
Dan Treadway
Julianne Trempus *
Gladys & William Trzcinski *
Judy Tsafrir
Nancy Tyndal *
Albert Unetic
James & Kristin Updegraff *
Pete & Madge Vail *
Mike Wagner & Kate Lawrence
Wayne & Gertrude Ward
Clifford Ward
Etta Warman
Allan & Debora Warren *
Margaret & Roderick Warren
Dave & Barbara Warrington *
Floyd & Beth Warrington
Virginia Watters
Austin Wattles
Mary & Roger Way *
Edward & Suzanne Way
Martina Weitsch
Gay & David Wellman
Elizabeth Westfall *
Stan & Kathryn White *
Katrina & Glen Whitfield *
Barbarajene Williams
Larry & Janice Willis
David & Virginia Wood *
Andrew & Barbara Woods
Marygene & William Wright *
Quan Xu
Bruce Yarnall
Willie Yee & Elizabeth Lee
Carolyn Yoder *
Timothy & Susan Young
Dana & Debbie Zak
Jamie Zavitz
Jane Zavitz-Bond

Organizations

Athens Friends Meeting
Birmingham Monthly Meeting
Broadmead Friends Meeting
Chestnut Ridge Friends Meeting *
Community Friends Meeting
Crossroads Friends Meeting
Dayton Friends Meeting
Delaware Friends Meeting
Illinois Yearly Meeting
Kent Friends Meeting
Lake Erie Yearly Meeting
Miami Monthly Meeting of Friends
Oberlin Friends Meeting
Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting
Ohio Yearly Meeting, Conservative
Oxford Friends Meeting
Shortcreek Monthly Meeting of Friends *
Stillwater Monthly Meeting of Friends *
Wooster Friends Meeting
Yellow Springs Friends Meeting

Institutions, Foundations, and Corporations

Cottage Owners Association Epworth Park
Friends Council on Education
Hissom's Gas and Glo *
MATERNOHIO Clinical Associates Inc.
Northwestern Mutual (FY 2012-13 Correction)
Project and Construction Services Inc. *
The GE Foundation
The Mennonite Foundation, Inc.
Towe Foundation
United Way of Northern New Mexico

* *Indicates that all or part of their gift was designated for the Stillwater Science Center*.

Marketing & Communications

We continue to seek new and creative ways to promote the school, including through a variety of advertisements and press releases. We hope that many of you saw our full-page ad on the back cover of *Friends Journal* in August. That ad will not be a regular feature, but we couldn't pass up the opportunity to take advantage of special pricing offered for that edition.

We also have more money to invest in advertising with *Friends Journal*, thanks to a generous donation from an alumnus.

If you live in the Ohio Valley, you also may have seen our 30-second TV commercial on WTRF affiliates this summer. That spot also is appearing in other markets across West Virginia, including a station that reaches the Pittsburgh, Pa., area.

Online, we are assessing and updating our website. Faculty members have been asked to help examine our site for needed updates, and we would be happy to receive suggestions from you as well! Email comments about our site to jennifer@olneyfriends.org.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

By Chris Graham

The school's support of the teaching staff's journey to further their professional development becomes a challenge for an administrator. The budget dedicated for professional development is limited. Class coverage is limited to the willingness of other staff members to cover classes, and matching staff members to individualized, meaningful educational experiences is difficult. Olney is a unique school, and we have no other boarding school in Belmont County to partner with that would have a similar diverse student population.

Each member of the teaching staff was asked to identify one goal for professional development that could make a positive, measurable impact on teaching and learning. In reading through the proposed goals I could not find two teaching staff members, out of the nine who responded, who asked for the same professional development opportunity. All of the responses were thoughtful, sincere and student centered.

The challenging process of matching individual staff members to personalized professional development opportunities has begun.

Rory Beck, already an adjunct professor at Wheeling Jesuit University, will begin his student teaching experience in January. He will work toward his teaching certification in the content area of science. **Leonard Guindon '70** will support Rory as his mentor teacher, and **Chris Graham** will be his evaluating supervisor.

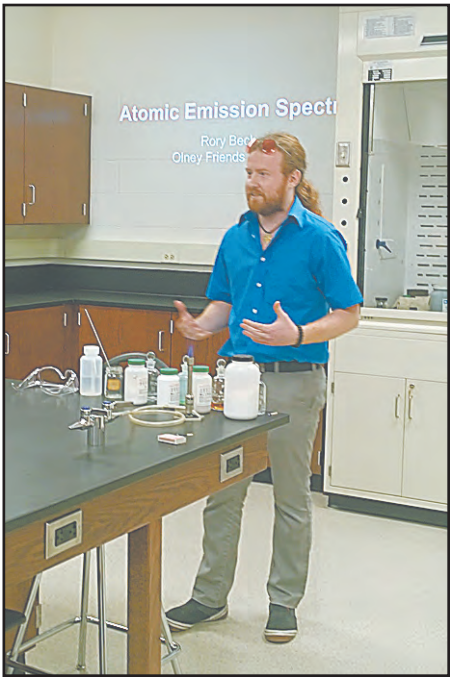
Eric Lundblade (Hon.) will be paired with Gail Koch. Gail is a retired language arts teacher who is teaching evening classes at Muskingum University in

New Concord, Ohio.

Eric is interested in becoming a National Board Certified Teacher. Gail will mentor Eric in the process of choosing a content area and working within a timeframe, and she will share her portfolio of work samples.

Leonard will be paired with a Master Teacher in Belmont County. Leonard is interested in the implementation of problem-based learning methods in the classroom setting. We are waiting to hear back from our county Educational Service Center representative on who that match will be.

Many professional individuals in the county and professionals at the Ohio Department of Education have committed to helping us find meaningful experiences for our staff members.



RORY BECK

ADMISSIONS UPDATE

By Micah Brownstein (Hon.)

For the 2014-2015 school year, we have enrolled 12 new students from five states and three countries.

Short Takes 2014: A Few Student Profiles in Their Own Words

❦ **Cayce Morrison, Incoming Junior**

Hometown: Vashon, Washington

Home life: Home life is outdoor oriented, including gardening and yard work. Cayce dreams of having a career working in the great outdoors.

Most influential person: My father (Jeffery Morrison) because of the values he taught me.

The most important thing you bring to OFS: A calm and open-minded attitude.

Most rewarding project: Salmon counting in a local stream.

Why you chose OFS: Everyone is allowed to share what they think. I wanted to be at a place much different from my hometown.

Sports: I love Seattle sports. I admire Russel Wilson. I play soccer be-

New students for 2014-15 include, from front left, **Nils Bechtel '16 and Antonia Sigmon '18**; second row, **Kelsi Chavez '16, Liarucha Zahnke-Basucki '16**; third row, **Rachel Smith '18, Cayce Morrison '16, Rowan Fahl-Matlack '18** and **Joe Velick '18**; and fourth row, **Lichen Yang '18, Abraham Song '17** and **David Ulin-O'Keefe '17**.

cause team building is important. I enjoy physical challenges and want to compete at the highest level I can.

❦ **Liarucha Zahnke-Basuki, Junior**

Hometown: Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Nick Name: "Wookie" — I love it, but I don't know where I got it.

First impressions of Olney: It is a beautiful place with welcoming students and faculty.

Most important thing you bring to OFS: A trusting and energetic personality.

Student life: There is no typical OFS student. Each student is a different person. Each one has different thoughts and expressions; however, together we are capable of forming and building fulfilling relationships.

Dreams of Becoming: A lawyer with a psychology degree. Psychology is my favorite subject because it presents reasons for human emotion and reactions, and it explains the function of the human brain.

Favorite part of the new Stillwater Science Center: Large rooms with extra space.

Admire: I admire anyone who is able to stand up and voice their opinion.

❦ **Nils Bechtel, Junior**

Hometown: Steinheim, Germany

Why you chose OFS: I was looking to attend school in the United States. I chose to go to Olney Friends School because German Friends had attended Olney.

What is your favorite pastime: Juggling, because it is really awesome. I saw a girl juggling on stage, and it looked so epic that I wanted to learn. The night after the performance I started practicing in the basement of my house with apples. It is now a passion I bring everywhere.

OFS academic adventure: I enjoy chemistry and Spanish the most. Languages always get me excited. **Cory Mathieu (Hon.)** makes Spanish more than a language learning experience; it is a fun atmosphere where diverse linguistics and cultural backgrounds come together.

Community: Students have a voice at Olney. In Collection or Self Gov, everyone can say what they want without the fear of being judged. It is a friendly place built on trust, where everyone is willing to help.

Favorite part of the new Stillwater Science Center: The islands in the chemistry lab make for great, collaborative places to learn.

Favorite Historical figure: Dr. John Dee (a 16th-century mathematician and scientist).

Three things people should know about OFS: Fun time; good food; cool people.

STEM UPDATE

The Stillwater Science Center opened its doors to students on Aug. 25, 2014, the same day classes began all across campus. Students thrilled at the sight of modern new lab stations, a state-of-the-art fume hood for chemical experiments and the science- and nature-themed graphics on walls throughout the building. Furnishings in all classrooms are coordinated in color and style so they can be used interchangeably as class sizes change with each term. Multiple entrances give students and teachers easy access to the outdoors, where they have been identifying plants and conducting other projects.

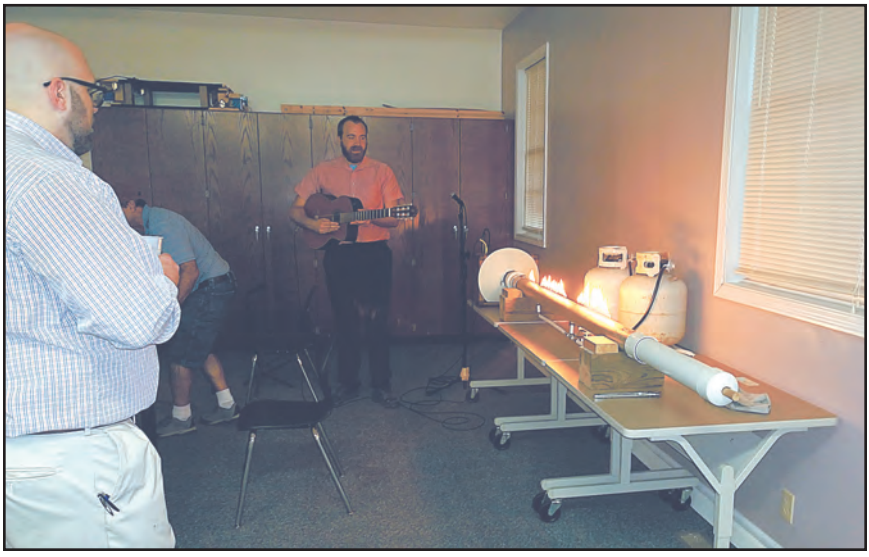
Loisanne (Hon.) and Bob Rockwell '56 chat with math/science teacher **Steve Martin** in his classroom at the Stillwater Science Center.

The weekend of Sept. 26-28 brought the Pumpkin Festival to Barnesville, and it also brought about 150 visitors to the Stillwater Science Center. Numerous guests gathered Sept. 26 to explore the center and to hear about the successful completion of the project from **Head of School Charlie Szumilas** and from Rick Milhoan of PCS Construction Management Services, the firm that oversaw the renovation process. Junior **Julian Sun** and freshman **Antonia Sigmon** entertained visitors by playing violin and cello selections, respectively.

Activities continued throughout the weekend at the SSC, with Magician Michael Strough donating his time to offer a magic show that attracted many members of the public on Sept. 27. And on Sept. 28, junior **Nils Bechtel** and senior **Noah Howells** performed juggling feats to entertain guests and even performed near the site entrance to attract passersby.

Delicious refreshments for the opening celebration were prepared by local restau-

ABOVE: **Julian Sun '16** entertains guests during the opening of the Stillwater Science Center. BELOW: Facilities **Director Dan Coppock** strums a guitar to demonstrate how a flaming Rubens' tube reacts to music. Powered by propane, the flames travel in waves in response to sounds.



Assistant Farmer Sandy Sterrett (Hon.) and **Farm Manager Don Guindon '74** visit with **D.R. Stanley '66** alongside a display of farm products and samples of squash soup during the opening of the Stillwater Science Center.

rant Food by Jane. This was made possible by generous contributions from the Friends of Ernie and Susan Fredericks. Captina Conservancy, which leases office space within the center, provided an informational display during the event, and several conservancy members were on hand to talk with attendees.

Belmont County Commissioner Mark Thomas, left, congratulates Head of School **Charlie Szumilas** on the completion and opening of the SSC.

Among those who visited the center over the weekend were: local government officials, such as Belmont County Commissioner Mark Thomas; Olney alumni; parents of current students such as Steve and Toni Kellar (also a past board member), who helped host along with daughter Kayla '15; representatives of local industry; past and current members of the Olney Board of Trustees, including **Ron Preston (Hon.)**, **Martha Giffen '57** and the recently retired **Ernie Hartley '57**; and many more.

Ohio Sen. Lou Gentile and Ohio Rep. Jack Cera, both Democrats representing Belmont County, were unable to attend but were thinking of Olney nonetheless. Both sent letters of congratulations to mark the opening of the Stillwater Science Center.

A message from

Ohio Sen. Lou Gentile:

SENATOR
LOU GENTILE
ASSISTANT MINORITY WHIP
30TH DISTRICT

Committees
Agriculture - Ranking Member
Transportation
Insurance & Financial Institutions
Energy and Natural Resources - Ranking Member
Rules
Finance – General Government Subcommittee
Reference

September 26, 2014

Mr. Charlie Szumilas
Head of School
Olney Friends School
61830 Sandy Ridge Road
Barnesville, Ohio 43713

Dear Mr. Szumilas & the Olney Community,

Congratulations on the opening of the new Stillwater Science Center at the site of the former Barnesville Independent Elementary School. Olney Friends School has established a tradition of preparing its students with creative methods centered in math and science. The skills students acquire during their time at Olney Friends School are necessary to meet the needs of an increasingly complex business and employment climate in the State of Ohio and beyond.

I am confident the new Stillwater Science Center will be an asset in the enhancement of the mission of Olney Friends School. The renovation project itself is a reflection of the themes Olney Friends School is defined by, particularly conservation, efficiency, and innovation. Though the school is rooted in the centuries-old Quaker tradition, I sincerely believe Olney will continue to be a leader in meeting the practical challenges we will face in the future.

Once again, congratulations on the opening of the Stillwater Science Center. I wish the students, faculty, and alumni of Olney Friends School the best moving forward. If I can ever be of service to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lou Gentile

Lou Gentile
Assistant Minority Whip
State Senator
District 30

Columbus Office: Ohio Statehouse • 1 Capitol Square • Room 050 • Columbus, OH 43215
Email: Gentile@ohiosenate.gov • Phone: 614-466-6508

A message from

Ohio Rep. Jack Cera:

JACK CERA
State Representative
House District 96

September 26, 2014

Stillwater Science Center
998 Shamrock Drive
Barnesville, OH 43713

Dear Teachers, Students, and Olney Friends:

This is just a short note to express my gratitude for the invitation to join you at your open house for the Stillwater Science Center. I sincerely thank you for the chance to join you this evening, but sadly must send my regrets due to a conflict with my schedule.

To the students, let me take this opportunity to wish you continued success, not only with the new science center, but with your education as a whole. Olney provides such a wonderful learning opportunity that showcases the rich surroundings of Appalachia. The challenges you meet and overcome, coupled with the learning experiences that you gather here, will help shape your future. I can tell you now, that as students of Olney--- you have a very bright future.

To the educators, I applaud your dedication and commitment to making the young lives you encounter accountable, hard working, and well accomplished. Thank you.

To the friends and family of those affiliated with Olney, you are to be commended for your continuous support of the school and of the individuals who walk through the doors.

Thank you again for the invitation..... I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

Sincerely,

JACK CERA
State Representative
96th House District

JC/PDW

Committees:

Agriculture and Natural Resources: Ranking Member
Policy and Legislative Oversight
Public Utilities

77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215
www.ohiohouse.gov

Contact Information:

Office: 614-466-3735
Toll-Free: 1-800-282-0253
FAX: 614-719-6995
Email: rep96@ohiohouse.gov

TOP: **Noah Howells '15**, left, and **Nils Bechtel '16** juggle near the entrance to the Stillwater Science Center to attract passersby to an open house. ABOVE: Colorful mums and historic items from the school and farm decorate the lawn of the SSC.

ABOVE: **Liarucha Zahnke-Basuki '16** conducts a demonstration in the new chemistry lab. BELOW: Magician Mike Strough entertains the crowd during an open house at the SSC. Among his volunteers on stage is former Board co-clerk **Ernie Hartley '57**, second from right.

ALUMNI NEWS

Class Notes

1947

❦ Ted Marshburn (tedmarshburn@aol.com)

We were saddened to hear of the passing of 3 members of our class of 1947 in this past year. Most of our class members have maintained fairly close ties with each other over the years and feel the loss of Perry Hunter, Chuck Murray and Herb Smith. I feel blessed with my journey through life beginning with the best parents one could have. The development toward maturity during 2 years at Olney was significant. I had the good fortune of taking a required class in art at Whittier College that I didn't want to take and meeting my wife-to-be in that class! On the day of my first date with her I was, against the odds, accepted.

The best gifts my wife gave me were our 4 children. Our first, Carol, became a Friends pastor, then pastoral counselor, and after raising 2 daughters with her husband, she is now a ceramic artist as she approaches retirement. Sons David and John are ophthalmologists practicing locally and Paul is a urogynecologist practicing in Phoenix. David has 2 children, John has 4 children and Paul has a daughter (plus 4 stepsons).

At the moment (at our age we don't look so far into the future), Mary and I are in fairly good health. We do count on helping host the yearly Olney reunion in Whittier each March. We have for many years been active in our Friends Church. Mary loves gardening and reading and I also like reading but too often just take it easy in my recliner.

I enjoyed practicing ophthalmology for over 40 years before retiring. We have been able to take several trips beyond the U.S. borders. Of special pleasure and satisfaction was working 2 short terms in an ophthalmology mission clinic in Kenya performing surgery as well as treating patients who had a number of eye diseases. 562-691-4075

❦ John & Martha Tanner (pust@datawav.net)

My wife and I still live in Idaho after 35 years. We do much the same outdoor activities, though much toned down — hiking (actually walking), canoeing, skiing, etc. I find I have more garden and lawn work than I want, all started when I had a lot more energy. Probably our most important activity is campaigning for state-of-the-art treatment of mentally ill persons, spurred on by trying to help our son, who lost his career and other joys of life to schizophrenia. I still have my finger in science, tutoring a few college students in chemistry and physics each semester.

❦ Paul and Carol Livezey (p.livezey@live.com)

Paul Livezey '47 and **Carol Livezey '52** moved this spring from their

1944

Members of the Class of 1944 gather for a reunion during Commencement 2014. They include, from left, Mary Iona Miles Aufrance, Art Stanley and Marie Smith Kirk-Hawkins.

home at Florida Flywheelers Tractor and Engine Club 14 miles east to a double-wide in a gated community. Paul can return to help at the tractor club whenever he wants to. It is also closer for Carol's weekly trips to Bok Tower Gardens, where she is a docent at their Pinewood Estate. Paul now goes with her on Tuesdays and drives a shuttle there. Phone numbers and email stay the same.

1952

❦ **Ruth Bundy Naylor (Bunnie) (renaylor34@gmail.com)**

What started in Teacher Bill Taber's English class has, over the years, grown to quite a file full of poems. In the past 12 months, two collections have been published. The first is a chapbook titled "A Family Affair" that deals with both happy and sad family relationships, memories and legacies. It's a reminder that although perfection eludes us, love survives.

The second collection is a paperback volume of Christmas poems written annually since 1969 — many of which have been previously published in a wide variety of Christian periodicals. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of either book can contact Ruth personally at: 615 Crimson Maple Court, Bluffton, OH 45817 or at the email address above.

1960

❦ **Lyn Cope (lyncope@gmail.com)**

I'm moving to the vibrant community Kendal At Oberlin (KAO) from my home of 30 years in Melbourne Beach, Fla. Print and eBook publishing for

1959

Antero Cortes, from left, Jim Haworth, Teacher Jane Zavitz, Brenda Bowdish Ponzani, Oliver Cooper, Wauneta Peacock Kerr, Luanna Rockwell Gamble, Gay Willson Wellman and Dorothy Stratton Churchwell come together for a reunion during last year's Commencement weekend.

Quaker Universalist Fellowship and for Southeastern Yearly Meeting will continue to occupy my time, as well as being active in committees for Friends General Conference and ProNica, Inc. However, this beautiful active retirement community on 70 acres with its activism, music and intergenerational approach to aging was a very strong draw, and I finally get to attend Oberlin College!

Contact me at: KAO #91, 600 Kendal Drive, Oberlin, Ohio 44074 or call 321-729-0078.

1963

❦ **Wendell W. Satterthwait (tomwndll@yahoo.com)**

This missive is being composed in the Blossom Rehabilitation Center in Salem, Ohio. I had planned a rather quick trip from my home in Manhattan, New York City, to my home state of Ohio. It seems there are no guarantees on the outcome of any person's "plans."

I thought I would drive to Winona, in Columbiana County, in northeast Ohio and visit with friends near the 78-acre dairy farm upon which I was raised by **Alice (Thomas) '24** and **Wilmer Satterthwait '20**. Mother and Father were each graduated from Olney, as were the two older sisters: **Martha Satterthwait Latshaw** was graduated in the Class of 1951; **Gladys Satterthwait Trzcinski** in 1956. My grandparents and very likely great-grandparents were

1964

Class of 1964 members Jerry Mikesell, Melinda Gamble Kramer, Jim Winder, Santha Bundy Farah, Harold Cooper, Janet Cooper Teets and Peter Carpey enjoy reconnecting during a recent get-together.

Olney graduates.

On this trip, I wished to join the celebration of Winona, Ohio, resident **Myrtle Bailey's (Hon.)** 95th birthday. Her birthday was Tuesday, July 29, 2014.

Driving to Ohio would offer the opportunity to have work done on my year 2000 Honda Prelude at Walt's Body Shop in Middleton, Ohio. Shop owner **Walt Cooper '56** married my first cousin, **Marlene Thomas Cooper '58**. Both Walt and Marlene are graduates of Olney Friends School. **Harold Cooper**, brother of Walt, celebrated his 50th high school reunion with the Class of 1964.

On Aug. 11, I told my hostess, Myrtle, that I did not feel well at all. I called my niece, a retired registered nurse. After only a minute or two, my niece said: "Uncle Wendell, you sound drunk. Go to a hospital, immediately."

Myrtle drove me to the Emergency Ward of the Salem Community Hospital. I was admitted with an increased white blood cell count, anemia, a fever of 104 degrees, confusion, loss of balance and difficulty walking.

On Aug. 13, doctors ordered a spinal tap. That was scary. The spine is a roadway for nerves. If some of those nerves are pinched or damaged, a person might lose control of a major part of the body.

On Aug. 14, more procedures found evidence of infection. A few days later,

I received two units of blood. Further tests confirmed an enlarged gall bladder. It was removed on Aug. 20.

After some recovery and further diagnosis, I was moved to the Blossom Rehabilitation Center for recuperation. I have also been put on a four-week schedule of a daily antibiotic drip.

It is quite strange to find oneself in a rehabilitation center, when one had no idea one needed to recuperate from anything. It is shocking to learn one could die within half a day to three days without proper and immediate care, even though one felt no pain at all. It is very reassuring that there are medical facilities with doctors and nurses and aides who can diagnose and treat such potentially fatal ailments.

1968

❦ **Jo Smith (crispysmithers@gmail.com)**

My new address as of Aug. 18, 2014, is: Jo C. Smith, 1724 Broadway, Apt. A, Oceanside, CA 92054. Cell phone: 650-483-7047.

We decided to set retirement plans into motion early, and I have moved from Northern California to Southern California to shop for a little bungalow close to the beach. Meanwhile, I am renting a small house and really enjoying the warm air and ocean breezes — no more year-round flannel sheets and wool socks of the San Francisco coast!

My son, Bruno (age 33), is going through the (grueling) fire academy training this summer and fall for the Los Angeles County Fire Department. He has been working toward this goal for about six years and has managed to stick it out in an original candidate field of about 6,000 applicants. He is in the final group of 50 in Academy Class No. 140.

I am having fun and making new friends, learning to play the ukulele and watching the surfers and the sunsets. If any of my Olney friends or classmates are in the area, please know that you have a spot to crash only two blocks from the beach. I will provide the earplugs needed because the train runs right by my front door, which is a bit of a bummer. The train whistles are so loud sometimes that they hurt my feelings. Flip flops are mandatory, tequila sunrises are optional, and you just might want to try strumming a uke! As Jake Shimakuburo says, the world would be a much nicer place if more people played the ukulele!

Saludos!

1969

❦ **David E. Nagle (davnagle@juno.com)**

My family and I now live in Tahlequah, Okla., and have a guest room. Olneyites of any generation are welcome! David teaches German, and Beth teaches Spanish. Joseph, 12, and Anika, 8, understand German pretty well and

1969

Class of 1969 members Mary Tipton, left, David Nagle and Mary Alice Cope Pino reminisce during a reunion event.

speak a little. Tahlequah is noted for float trips down the Illinois River.

1972

❦ **Julia Ryberg (julia_ryberg@hotmail.com)**

Greetings from Sweden! Mats and I still live on his family farm that has been my home since 1975. Along with farming, Mats is the head of a private secondary technical school. Our children are all grown, and all but the youngest have families.

After nearly 20 years in the USA, the eldest will soon be moving back with his children, following the death of their mother earlier this summer. It will be good to have all the children and eight grandchildren in the same country. I have traveled at least twice a year to the USA to support our son and to visit other dear family members.

I continue to work full time for Quakers in Sweden and more broadly in Europe and the Middle East, with teaching and retreat ministries, travel in the ministry, speaking and writing engagements both for and about Friends. I continue to play the violin actively in folk and chamber music contexts. A badly broken leg nearly a year ago was a huge learning opportunity but did hinder the biking and walking that I love. I am thankfully fully active again. A warm welcome is extended to anyone who comes to Sweden!

1974

Olney Class of 1974 members gathering for a reunion event are: first row from left, Jody Platt, Deb Shaw, Ken Hinshaw, Suzanne Krekler McClelland and Pete Vail; second row, Martha Laing, Don Guindon, Dave Warrington, Judy Reis Tsafrir, Pamlia Connell Graffe, Blanche Rybeck and Chris McClelland; and in back Rob Catlin, Tim Curtis and Chris Hallett.

1979

Members of the Olney Class of 1979 reuniting are, first row, from left, Jon Giffen, Pattie Mendoza Horner and Michael Sayles. Second row, from left, are Anne Cohen Kiel, Lyn Beede Gruber, Anne Marie Taber and Ruth Peck Brutz.

1983

Lars Etzkorn (lpe@LarsEtzkornLaw.com)

Lars Etzkorn, a member of the Olney Board of Trustees, launched Lars Etzkorn Law PLLC in Washington, D.C., a legal practice focusing on estate planning and administration, charitable giving and nonprofit board governance. He can be reached at 202-232-2112.

1989

Member of Olney Class of 1989 and former teacher Greg Mott smiles during an alumni gathering.

1999

Olney Class of 1999 graduates Carrie Hearne Farrar, from left, Sarah Cullens and Micah Guindon pause for a picture during the reunion.

2004

Members of the Class of 2004, from left, Katharine Brutz, Dan Crum, Megan Frazer, Jesse Joe Snyder-Ehrich and Mauricio Chavez were on hand for the reunion event.

2009

Olney Class of 2009 alumni, from left, Shannon Isaacs, Kayla Isaacs, Lily Crawford, Allison Guindon and Dennis Chavez smile for the Current.

1994

❦ **Jill (Speicher) Tikkun (jtikkun@me.com)**

I've had an exciting last few years. Our family has moved to DeKalb, Ill., as my husband received a full ride to get his doctorate at Northern Illinois University. I'm teaching classes at the university and homeschooling our youngest children part time. They are 5, 7 and 18 years old. We just finished writing an iPad cookbook, too, called "Vegan Kids Cook." It took five years, but we are done! In the summers we run a Quaker summer camp in Wisconsin, where my kids get to play outside, almost continuously, for two and a half months! This season my niece, **Tracey Speicher '96** and **Dan White's '95** eldest daughter will come to Camp Woodbrooke for her first time. I am so happy with where I am and what I'm doing! Hope you all are happy too!

HONORARIES

❦ **John J. Hanlon (fivechameleons@hush.com)**

Hello!

I have moved from Jackson Hole to the San Francisco Bay area. Here is my new address: 197A Lovell Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941. Phone: 203-558-2636.

FRIENDS WHO HAVE PASSED

❦ J. WILSON SIDWELL - 1935

J. Wilson Sidwell, 97, of Harrisonburg, Va., passed away June 25, 2014, at Sunnyside Retirement Home.

Sidwell was born September 1, 1916, in West Branch, Iowa, to the late Oliver F. and Emily C. Hall Sidwell. He was a graduate of Olney Friends School in Barnesville, Ohio, and farmed in Central Ohio for 35 years. He was active with the 4-H programs for 20 years and served as President of the Iberia School Board. His registered Holstein dairy herd was named outstanding in Ohio in 1950 and 1960; he donated prize heifers to Heifer International. The cattle were sent to the Dominican Republic to help a village become self-sustaining. He moved to Bedford, Va., in 1989 and served as an Elder in the Presbyterian Church and sang in the choir. He was a member of the Bedford Lions Club, and served as President.

His first wife, Virginia Rower Sidwell, preceded him in death.

Sidwell is survived by his wife, Joyce (Musser) Sidwell; six children, **Rolin '59 and Bridget Sidwell '59**, Carolyn and James Sipes, Elizabeth Sidwell, Phyllis Austin, Keith and Carolyn (Kay) Sidwell, **Lawrence '71** and **Christine Sidwell '71**; two step-children, Royce and Laura Musser, and Lucinda Dillon; eleven grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; twenty-five great-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren; a sister-in-law, **Rose Sidwell (Hon.)**; and many nieces and nephews.

❦ LOIS BARTON - 1935

Lois Barton died April 14, 2014. She was born in Salem, Ohio, on April 1, 1918, the daughter of Howard and Edith (Kirk) Holloway. She was second born of six children, four of whom lived to adulthood. Her early years were spent on a dairy farm where she learned to milk by the age of 6 and drive a tractor as soon as she could steer it. Her education included several partial school years south of Miami, Fla., where her dad was sharecropping. She later graduated from Olney Friends School.

Lois was a 12th generation Quaker. She was active in the Quaker Peace Movement from the age of 20. After three years in Philadelphia working as a mother's helper in a Quaker family, she spent one year as a substitute teacher at Tunesassa, a Quaker boarding school in western New York. She devoted three years to her elderly grandmother in Winona, Ohio, where she also worked as a local switchboard operator and attended business college. Lois attended Schauffler College in Cleveland then went as a summer volunteer to Byberry State Mental Hospital in Philadelphia. At Byberry in 1944, she met Harold Barton who was there doing alternative service work.

Lois and Hal were married in March of 1945. Their two oldest children were born in Philadelphia, where the family continued to live for three and a half years. In November 1948, they moved to Oregon, Hal's native state, where they were involved in the founding of the Eugene Friends Meeting. Lois was fully and richly involved in the Meeting for the rest of her life. Because of her spiritual strength and dedication, she was highly respected and loved. Lois Barton was the last surviving founding member of Eugene Friends Meeting.

In 1952, Hal and Lois moved to a farm south of Eugene where they raised their family, eventually including eight children. As her youngest reached school age, Lois' vital and inquisitive interest in life and history led to prolific writing. She edited the "Lane County Historian" for 13 years, wrote for magazines and published nine books. Her many interests and activities included drawing and painting, gardening, caring for animals, canning and freezing (on a major scale!), braiding rugs, cider and soap making, Reiki training, bird watching and much more.

❦ HERBERT LEWIS SMITH - 1947

Herbert Lewis Smith passed away in his home in Republic, Washington, on August 6, 2014, following an extended illness. He was attended by his loving daughter, Sara, and son-in-law, Bill Chamberlin, at the time of his death.

Herb was born in Ackworth, Iowa, to Edmund and Caroline Smith and was the youngest of their four children. He spent the first fourteen years of his life in the family home in the small town of Whittier, outside Cedar Rapids. At 15, he went away to boarding school at Olney. Attending Olney was a family tradition, and later he would send his own three children there as well. His Quaker upbringing and education instilled in him a very strong moral sense along the traditional Quaker philosophical lines of non-violence and peaceful protest. Following Olney, these beliefs led him to conscientious objection to the peacetime draft and in turn to an 18-month jail sentence, the majority of which was served in the Springfield, Missouri, prison for refusing to register for selective service. His moral compass and rigorous work ethic would characterize the rest of his life and were among his defining traits.

Following prison, Herb attended Earlham College, where at one point he roomed with Don Emmons and became acquainted with Don's sister, **Elisabeth ('57)**. Herb and Liz married in 1962 and both began working and teaching at Olney in the very early 1960s. After two years at Olney, Herb and Liz left to travel, visiting many places in the Northwest U.S. and British Columbia, living for about two years in Santa Monica, California, and eventually landing in the rural community of Celo, North Carolina, where they raised three children (**Sara '83**, **Josh '84**, and **Donald '86**). While in Celo, Herb worked at various occupations, including as Headmaster at the Arthur Morgan School and co-owner of World Around Songs, which owned the rights for and printed many iconic campfire songbooks.

After separating from Liz in 1978, Herb moved back to Ohio to a land cooperative called Raven Rocks in rural Belmont County. He had helped to found Raven Rocks in 1970, and the spirit of cooperative living and ethical land management that sparked the creation of Raven Rocks made it the perfect place for him to be. He lived at Raven Rocks for the next 30 years, working with other members of the community on a commercial Christmas tree operation, which paid for the purchase of the property. He made his living as a draftsman at Watt Car and Wheel Co., a mine car manufacturing company in Barnesville, and later as an owner/operator of a semi truck hauling cement powder for Raven Rocks Concrete.

Declining health caused by Parkinson's disease influenced his decision to move to Republic in 2009 to live with his daughter, Sara, her husband, Bill, and their two sons, Cole and Liam. His years in Republic were filled with peaceful rural living that included chickens, fresh garden vegetables, and family evenings with the Chamberlins.

Throughout his life Herb was a keen observer of the natural world. In his last years he spent many hours watching birds and other wildlife from his windows. He was also very interested in the events beyond his view and kept up on world news through radio and magazines. He was a thinker and writer. He was above all a deeply conscientious man who lived and died by his principles. In Herb's words:

"The important thing is to live truth as well as one can. Truth is in nature and love and beauty. It is in mathematics, poetry, science, art, psychology, and is the basis of religion. If we live truth as well as we can we are in harmony with life — life that mysterious force, energy, consciousness that is unquenchable and eternal."

Herb is survived by his sister, **Marie Kirk Hawkins ('44)**, daughter, Sara Chamberlin, and son, Josh Smith.

❦ ELIZABETH MARIE PARKINSON BABECKI - 1957x

Elizabeth Marie Parkinson Babecki of Doylestown, Pa., died after a long illness Thursday, November 14, 2013, at the age of 75. She was the beloved wife of the late Helmut Babecki.

Elizabeth, more commonly known as Betty, was born September 11, 1938 in Philadelphia to George and Virginia Smith Parkinson. Her ancestors go back to the 1600s and include family members who served in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars.

Elizabeth was raised Quaker. As a child, she attended school in Philadelphia until her parents purchased land in Ivyland, PA, where they built a home. She attended Olney Friends Boarding School in Ohio and graduated from William Tennant High School. While there, an art teacher took notice of her artistic ability, and after graduation she went on to art school.

Mrs. Babecki worked two summers as a counselor for children at College Set-

tlement Camp. She later went to school to become an EKG technician and went to work at Jeanes Hospital in Philadelphia.

Betty met her husband, Helmut, at the German club Cannstatter Volksfest-Verein. They were married April 23, 1960, at St. Petri's Lutheran Church in Philadelphia and had three children, Benz, Betty and Karl.

Elizabeth enjoyed doing volunteer work including at Vacation Bible School, on the Home and School Association, and as a reading aide at the elementary school. When the children were grown, she returned to work with Action Manufacturing and then Continental Bank.

Betty was always a very caring person to others. She helped care for her mother-in-law and her parents, and she enjoyed babysitting her six grandchildren.

Her hobbies included oil painting, gardening, canning, sewing, photography, swimming and reading. She shared a love for animals with her husband.

Elizabeth is survived by her son, Benz, and his wife, Cindy, of Gilbertsville, her daughter, Betty, and her husband, Dennis, of Doylestown, her son, Karl, and his wife, Anne Marie, of Lansdale; six grandchildren, Michael and his wife, Jaclyn, Joshua, Steven, Gregory, Matthew, and Alyssa; a brother, Charles of Rome, GA; and many nieces and nephews.

Olney Current Contributions

To help keep *The Olney Current* on track, please send your *Olney Current* contributions ($20 per person) to 61830 Sandy Ridge Road, Barnesville, OH 43713 or send them via the school's website: www.olneyfriends.org/giving.htm.

Olney Current by Email

If you have an email address and would like to receive *The Olney Current* by email, please send a note to jennifer@olneyfriends.org or alumni@olneyfriends.org. It is also helpful to have email addresses when communicating plans for reunions or sharing news with each other.

Olney Current Submissions

Please send your news (and photos) to jennifer@olneyfriends.org or alumni@olneyfriends.org, or write to: *Olney Current*, 61830 Sandy Ridge Road, Barnesville, OH 43713. The deadline for winter submissions is January 15, 2014.

Olney: Building for the Future

ABOVE:
Dozens of foam pieces are carefully arranged around the building. They were installed after waterproofing work was completed on the Stillwater Science Center.

LEFT:
Workers make way for new infrastructure at the renovated learning facilty.

Best wishes this school year from Olney Friends School!

ABOVE: **Joe Kingery '15** explores Captina Creek as part of an Environmental Science class. BELOW: **Kayla Kellar '15** gazes out over the Ohio Valley from a lofty perch at American Electric Power's Cardinal Plant at Brilliant, Ohio.

Olney Friends School

61830 Sandy Ridge Road
Barnesville, OH 43713