A Night of Fun with Cornelius Green!
June 14th • 6pm @ Dave & Buster’s
watch for more info!

ALUMNI LEADERS CONFERENCE

Last September 23, Alexis Pacholski and Willie Ito represented our Orange County/Inland Empire alumni club at the Alumni Leaders Conference held on campus. They not only shared what we do here but came back fired up with great ideas from other clubs and societies. They were able to represent us while accepting the club award as an Outstanding Alumni Club—one of only 10 awards given at that level. They also accepted the Buckeye All Star award for our very own Will Gronek for his exceptional service to our club.

President's Message:

What a year we’ve had and what a bright future ahead!

As I write this greeting we find ourselves in the midst of “March Madness”, during the “winner that never seemed to arrive” and at the start of a major “Urban Renewal” around our Campus and Football Team …

The Buckeye Basketballers head to Boston to take on the Cincinnati Bearcats while our 15th and 16th ranked Lady Buckeyes succumb to the crown of the Gators today, bringing to finish as well as the Women’s version of March Madness. Whatever happens congratulations to record-setting seniors, William Buford and guard, Samantha Prahalis who finish their outstanding careers as Buckeyes.

It is amazing how quickly and easily our attention and focus go right to those things that get our Buckeye Blood fired up and so ready to burst at the seams with pride ….. there really is something special about the pride we have in everything OSU ….. and rightfully so.

I have to tell you, however, that while I am as eager about our athletic teams and all that we accomplish each and every year, the commercials that have been playing throughout the year by the NCAA that draw attention to the fact that “there are over 400,000 NCAA student-athletes who will not get Pro in something other than athletics”. How real it makes me pause and realize why our University really exists AND, really, why we as an Alumni Club exists.

It is for the students and for scholarship!

At our recent Leaders meeting with our Officers and Board Members we spent a great deal of time talking about just that and how we, as a club must keep our focus on delivering the Mission of our Alumni Club, which is “OSU OC/IE exists to promote The Ohio State University through communications and community relations; student recruitment; fellowship; 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”.

With that, I have asked several of our leaders, including me, to come together in committee to brainstorm a new strategy and new ideas to frame our OC/IE alumni and friends of The Ohio State University in our Club. Our goal is to ensure that the Mission Statement says and do it while providing great social, community, and fun events for our membership to enjoy.

You can have a significant part in this effort as much as any of us, so please accept my invitation to you to let your voice be heard … we need ideas and it is important that the ideas of our membership are heard with equal measure … after all, it is you, our members, who give so generously to our Club and Scholarship Funds.

With another time of change, time of passing, and with another season passing and a time of change needed in our number and scholarship effort what could be more timely and give us more hope than ….. “Here Firm Thy Friendship, O-H-I-O!”

MORE STUDENT INFO

Last fall, two of our club’s sophomore scholarship students were able to share their stories before the Alumni Associations Capital Campaign committee at their October 28 meeting held at the Longaberger Alumni House. Lauren Pilz and Darren Spensiero volunteered their time to visit with the committee and tell what it is like to be from California and attend Ohio State. They shared their on and off campus experiences and the opportunities that they have found.

Lauren and Darren were so well received that the Committee has again asked for more of our students to come to the next meeting on April 27. Currently scheduled to participate are freshmen Sarah Barker, junior Nick Elliott and recent graduate Rob Manzo who, time permitting, will join us via phone from Las Vegas where he works as a reporter for KSNV News 3.

Officers & Board Members

Officers:
President: Guy DiPasqua
1st Vice President: Christie Brocklage
2nd Vice President: Will Gronek
Secretary: Susan Munthe
Treasurer: Connie Elliott
Student Recruitment: Keri Nollinga
Scholarship: Alexis Pacholski

Board Members:
Julie Bauchler
Todd Elliott
Ron & Audrey Delmore
Willie Ito
Rick & Peggy McIntosh
Saying Ariashek
Casey Sheo Golouka
Dick Gale
Bob Schmal
Julie Miner
Don Girard
Don Katsanam

Buckeye Bulletin Year in Review
A Publication of The Ohio State University Alumni Club of Orange County & the Inland Empire
www.osuocie.org

What a year we’ve had and what a bright future ahead!

As I write this greeting we find ourselves in the midst of “March Madness”, during the “winner that never seemed to arrive” and at the start of a major “Urban Renewal” around our Campus and Football Team …

The Buckeye Basketballers head to Boston to take on the Cincinnati Bearcats while our 15th and 16th ranked Lady Buckeyes succumb to the crown of the Gators today, bringing to finish as well as the Women’s version of March Madness. Whatever happens congratulations to record-setting seniors, William Buford and guard, Samantha Prahalis who finish their outstanding careers as Buckeyes.

It is amazing how quickly and easily our attention and focus go right to those things that get our Buckeye Blood fired up and so ready to burst at the seams with pride ….. there really is something special about the pride we have in everything OSU ….. and rightfully so.

I have to tell you, however, that while I am as eager about our athletic teams and all that we accomplish each and every year, the commercials that have been playing throughout the year by the NCAA that draw attention to the fact that “there are over 400,000 NCAA student-athletes who will not get Pro in something other than athletics”. How real it makes me pause and realize why our University really exists AND, really, why we as an Alumni Club exists.

It is for the students and for scholarship!

At our recent Leaders meeting with our Officers and Board Members we spent a great deal of time talking about just that and how we, as a club must keep our focus on delivering the Mission of our Alumni Club, which is “OSU OC/IE exists to promote The Ohio State University through communications and community relations; student recruitment; fellowship; 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”.

With that, I have asked several of our leaders, including me, to come together in committee to brainstorm a new strategy and new ideas to frame our OC/IE alumni and friends of The Ohio State University in our Club. Our goal is to ensure that the Mission Statement says and do it while providing great social, community, and fun events for our membership to enjoy.

You can have a significant part in this effort as much as any of us, so please accept my invitation to you to let your voice be heard … we need ideas and it is important that the ideas of our membership are heard with equal measure … after all, it is you, our members, who give so generously to our Club and Scholarship Funds.

With another time of change, time of passing, and with another season passing and a time of change needed in our number and scholarship effort what could be more timely and give us more hope than ….. “Here Firm Thy Friendship, O-H-I-O!”

MORE STUDENT INFO

Last fall, two of our club’s sophomore scholarship students were able to share their stories before the Alumni Associations Capital Campaign committee at their October 28 meeting held at the Longaberger Alumni House. Lauren Pilz and Darren Spensiero volunteered their time to visit with the committee and tell what it is like to be from California and attend Ohio State. They shared their on and off campus experiences and the opportunities that they have found.

Lauren and Darren were so well received that the Committee has again asked for more of our students to come to the next meeting on April 27. Currently scheduled to participate are freshmen Sarah Barker, junior Nick Elliott and recent graduate Rob Manzo who, time permitting, will join us via phone from Las Vegas where he works as a reporter for KSNV News 3.
In August the OC/IE board members hosted a Student Send-Off BBQ for incoming and returning students attending OSU in the fall of 2011. The event was a great success, thanks to the coordination efforts of Julie Miner, Susan Munthe, Bob Schmahl, Guy DiPasqua, Don Girard, Alexis Pacholski, Willie Ito, Jon Hellings, the Devores, Tabars, Elliotts, Golovkos, and the Munoz family. We were blessed with the presence of Kathy Crickel, Vice President of Outreach and Engagement from The Ohio State University Alumni Association. Kathy delivered a riveting speech of encouragement to our new students. The event was held on a beautiful Sunday afternoon and the 19 students and their families enjoyed making friends and meeting other students.

The fall student recruitment season was another great success. We visited 10 district fairs averaging 3 high schools per district with approximately 1,200 students attending each fair. Thank you to Robert Schmahl, Don Girard, Emmett Keith-Jones, Alexis Pacholski, Todd Elliott, Connie Elliott, Susan Munthe, Willie Ito, Christie Brockläge, Allie Toomey, and Barbara Hahn for representing Ohio State at the fairs.

Thanks to our volunteers recruitment efforts we had exposure to over 12,000 Orange County / Inland Empire high school students. We further extended our reach by asking volunteers to distribute information to an additional 15 local high schools that do not participate in the area College Fairs. Thank you to the Azukis, Elliotts, DeVores, and the Munze families for making a special effort to drop off the material to these schools.

Our recruitment efforts continue this spring with 21 prospective students scheduled to attend a yield reception later this month. This gives the students and their parents an opportunity to meet with Alyson Welch, the locally based Admission Counselor from the university, and ask questions about Ohio State. In addition, we look forward to attending the NACAC National College Fair in April.

Thanks again to all the volunteers who help with student recruitment! Talking to 12,000 students about our love of Ohio State is an amazing accomplishment. We’ve been able to recruit some of the best and brightest students in the area and somehow convince them to leave the sunshine and ocean air of southern California to attend Ohio State. This is a difficult task, but the results are worth the effort and we love all the dedicated Buckeye families we’ve added to our club over the years.

The club has been able to meet our OSU Alumni Club endowment commitment while continuing to support new and existing scholarship recipients as a vital part of our Mission Statement. As we head into this exciting 2012 season with Urban Meyer as our coach, I hope to see all of you back at our Game Watches and want you to encourage others to participate in our 50/50 Raffle and other events and fund raising efforts to help us ensure that our financial status remains strong.

As your new treasurer, I am excited to be able to support the group in this capacity and be a part of such a dedicated passionate alumni group. My husband (Todd Elliott, also a board member) and I have lived in the City of Orange for the past 23 years. We both grew up in Ohio and met at Ohio State. After graduation in 1984, we headed West and have been in California ever since. We have two children: Nick and Lindsey. Nick is currently a junior at Ohio State, earning his finance degree from the Fisher College of Business. Although born and raised in SoCal, Nick loves Ohio State and has become a passionate Buckeye! Lindsey is a senior in high school and enjoys being a Buckeye sibling!

From Your Treasurer

Connie Elliot, Treasurer

The Young Bucks group of our club is more active than ever and with all the activities there is something for everyone.

The Young Bucks are finishing up their 3rd Softball Season since last May and entering season number four. We are consistently improving our team and have built a great bond among the players. We plan to keep the softball team alive and strong but would love to start some new intramurals including kickball, basketball, and flag football. All alumni are invited play with us.

Since our last newsletter the Young Bucks have hosted a Snowboard trip, Paintballing at Camp Pendleton, and a bicycle bar crawl between Newport & Huntington Beach.

Up next we will be hosting an outing at K1 Speed to play with the go-karts!

Scholarship

In February the scholarship committee conducted interviews for the club’s participation in the Alumni Scholars Program. The committee this year consisted of Casey Golovko, Keri Hellings, Willie Ito, Susan Munthe and Alexis Pacholski who interviewed 6 students out of the 12 that applied. Of the six interviewed the committee awarded scholarships to four students.

This represents a change in procedure from the past due to the increased number of students we have applying for our club’s scholarship and reduced funds that we have to award. We sent applications to all 33 students accepted to OSU within the top 25% of their class. Among those, 12 applied, 6 interviewed, and 4 were awarded.

The committee felt that each student should be given the opportunity to apply and we would scale the numbers down from there. The committee reviews everything from grades, extra-curricular activities, employment work, and letters of recommendation prior to an interview. The students who were awarded money had BUCKEYE written all over them. Two have already made their decision to attend and they will make an excellent addition to our family. I can’t wait for you all to meet them!

Our current scholarship students are doing amazing things on campus

• Alexandra informed me of all the incredible things she has done and is getting ready to do in the future. Currently she is a member of SAC – Student Alumni Council. This is an organization that connects all students; past, present, and future.

• She is also a member of USG – University Student Government – where she sits as the Director of Student Advocacy. She is currently heading up a project that writes letters to eliminate students’ income tax for 5 years after receiving their degree. This will aim to solve this movement has received strong support from President Gee.

• Most recently she received the opportunity to intern with the Canadian Parliament during the 2012 Spring Quarter.

• Alexandra also works as a Page in the Ohio House of Representatives and is an active participant of the Chi Omega Sorority as well as the Politics, Society, and Law Scholars Group.

• Most recently she received the opportunity to intern with the Canadian Parliament during the 2012 Spring Quarter. Although she had many other things she wanted to share she stated “I will spare you and simply say that I firmly believe that there is no other university that could have given me as much as The Ohio State University has.”