a message from the president

I am so excited for what 2013 will bring! I am proud to have been elected co-president of the club along with Susan Munthe. We have continued to be one of the premier clubs in the country and we have no plans to slow down now.

2012 was quite a turbulent year for us, with our club president relocating to Seattle to take on a new professional challenge and with sanctions against the football program that kept us out of out of the post season (oh to just imagine what might have been). Urban renewal and the start of a new era in an already rich football history has motivated us all to keep the club strong.

2013 holds many challenges ahead as well. For one, our beloved Buckeyes will be playing in the state we call home. We hope many of you will be able to make the trip to the Bay Area to support the team. We will have events throughout the year that will be fun for individuals and families alike….some centered around sporting events, other not. The Young Bucks are continuing to be very active.

Most importantly, we will continue to support and represent our university with class and dignity, showing others what it means to be a BUCKEYE! So I hope all of you are excited as I am for what 2013 and beyond hold for us as a club and as a family of Buckeyes.

But For Ohio State…What does it mean to you?

Will Gronek
Scholarship Update
by Alexis Pacholski

The Orange County Alumni Club recently held our annual scholarship interview process for incoming freshman from the OC area.

The $6,300 you helped us raise throughout the football season by participating in 50/50 raffles and other fundraising efforts helped us award two new students for the 2013-2014 school year. We were also able to reward our 8 returning upper classmen this year with some additional funds as well.

Our interview process has become more competitive with more and more students from the area interested in Ohio State.

The scholarship committee did an excellent job of evaluating and choosing students for this year’s awards.

awards to OC Buckeyes
by Susan Munthe

It certainly takes a great number of exceptional volunteers to keep an alumni club running. For 2012, the Orange County Alumni Club was recognized by the Alumni Association as a Gold Star Club which is the highest award available. While the club has been recognized as an Outstanding Alumni Club many times, this was only the second time in the club’s history to receive the Gold Star Award. Many thanks for your support as dues paying members of the club and for your participation in club events.

For 2012, two special individuals from our Board were recognized as Buckeye All Stars. Outgoing President Guy DiPasqua was recognized for his service as a Buckeye while here in Orange County. And, Bob Schmahl was recognized for his long term service to the club and his mentoring of new volunteers.

The Club recognized Sandy and Henry Munoz at the Holiday Party in December for their support of the club as parents of one of our past scholarship students Robert Munoz. While Robert has graduated and is now living in Tampa, Sandy and Henry have continued to support the club and participate in events. They have served as mentors to parents who are sending kids to Ohio State as freshmen, they have helped the club with the Student Send Off in the summer, and they have helped distribute student recruitment materials to area high schools. Sandy and Henry are a special part of our Orange County Buckeye family.

Thank you to everyone who completed our survey and offered their time and talent to assist the club. Without all the volunteers, we would not be as strong a club as we are.

2012 financial recap

We had an Urban Myer turn-around year in club finances for 2012! What a season and what a great group of Game Watch supporters. After 12 Game Watches, we ended the season generating just about $8,000 in income ($7,977 to be exact) from the 50/50 Raffle, other raffles, memberships, and merchandise sales. This is an 85% increase over last year’s total of $4,283. We exceeded our $3,500 scholarship goal by almost 30% - and are thrilled to be able to send $4,500 back to Columbus for our 2013 contribution to the club’s Scholarship Endowment fund.

2012 membership revenues were up 75% over last year ($1866 vs. $1065) in part from a $5 price increase in the annual fee and several more life-time memberships sold.

From the two main club events held this year (guest speaker Corney Green in June, and the Holiday party), all costs were covered from ticket sales.

The club’s finances are solid as we head into the New Year and 2013 football season. This past year was a success because of great weekly Game Watch attendance (86 average at Dave & Buster’s, 47 average at Daily Dose), the highest 50/50 Raffle total in four years, and good success with our football ticket raffles and the football give-away. We hope to do more raffles this year and to keep this great momentum going.

Thanks again to everyone for your support of our club . . . Go Bucks!
Young Bucks
by Alexis Pacholski

The Young Buckeyes of Orange County have gone through quite a few changes this year and all for the best. This past football season we expanded our game watch options to a second location at The Daily Dose in Irvine for more of a bar atmosphere with great specials and an amazing crowd. We weren’t sure what to expect but the outcome was incredible. This has helped us welcome many new members to our club & helped raise extra funds for the scholarship program. We will continue our game watches at The Daily Dose until we outgrow it.

The Young Bucks are engaged in yet another softball season. Over the past two years, the team has grown significantly & improved dramatically. We were contenders for first place last season and hope to win it all this time!

Other events and activities include another Holiday Cruise event and go-karting at K1. This year we plan to have our 2nd Annual Young Buckeyes Las Vegas trip, another round of go-karts, laser tag, a trip to the races, and much more. Stay tuned, get involved…come join us.

membership 2012: into the unknown
by Will Gronek

Many questions were on our minds as we entered the 2012 campaign. How is the team going to do with the new head coach? How will the restrictions impact the team? Is there REALLY going to be no bowl game? As we got together week after week and watched Urban renewal unfold between our eyes we knew we were onto something big. Something that is going to be special for years to come.

As a club we had to figure something very important out: How do we continue to show value for memberships when one of the biggest benefits we have discussed over the years has been Bowl tickets? Well, the new ticket policy took care of that concern. Continue your membership and you will be rewarded with greater opportunities for tickets.

But there is more. Membership means belonging to an organization that represents something we all love. The Ohio State University means something to each and every one of us. Whether it is our Alma Mater, our parent's Alma Mater, or we are a friend of the university, it is something that each and every one of us represent in some way every day. Being a member of the Orange County club, as well as the Alumni Association is something in which we all take pride. We love being part of the Buckeye Nation and part of the Buckeye Family here in Orange County. I hope to maintain that level of pride for the rest of my life. I hope each and every one of you do as well.

Our overall membership was strong in 2012 and I know will only grow as we continue to represent the greatest University in the World!

GO BUCKS!

student recruitment activities 2012
by Keri Hellinga

Student Retention Incentive Program

Last March we welcomed future Buckeyes to the Ohio State family and converted admitted students to enrolled students through personal contact. We did so by contacting the 2012 admitted freshmen, congratulating them on their admission and encouraging them to pay their acceptance fee. We sent a personalized postcard to students in our area as a cheerful reminder to pay their acceptance fees. 25 Orange County students are in the 2012-2013 freshmen class at Ohio State.

Student Sent Off Event

In August, the OC/IE board members hosted a Student Send-Off BBQ for incoming and returning students attending Ohio State in the fall of 2012. This Buckeye BBQ was held to congratulate students on their admission to Ohio State, provide a means for them and their parents to meet current students and alumni, and to connect with other new freshmen and parents who will be part of the Ohio State family in the fall. Of the 116 current and incoming students from Orange County and the Inland Empire, eleven freshmen and eight current students attended the event. Many of them brought their parents and siblings into our buckeye family, bringing the total attendance to 80 people. The students made instant friendships, exchanging phone numbers and making plans to meet up on campus. The time flew by and well after the food was devoured, plates put away and the decorations collected, the student continued to stay and chat with their new friends.

College Fairs

We visited 11 district fairs averaging 3 high schools per district with a thousand students and parents in attendance. Thank you to all of our alumni volunteers who took time out of their busy schedules to represent Ohio State at fairs in Temecula,
Fullerton, Mission Viejo, Newport-Costa Mesa, Laguna Beach, Santa Ana, Tustin and Orange. Thanks to their recruitment efforts we had exposure to over 11,000 Orange County / Inland Empire high school students.

**Spring Yield Events**

Our recruitment efforts continue this spring with our first yield event on March 11th. Alumni volunteers, current students and parents represented Ohio State at a reception for newly admitted autumn 2013 freshmen and their parents. Yield events are designed to give students all the information needed to determine if Ohio State is the right fit for them. Alumni mingle at the event and speak to students and parents.

**Regional Recruitment Manager**

The University loves attracting the best and brightest students from southern California. To further recruitment efforts in California, Ohio State hired Alyson Welsh to be the full time Regional Recruitment Manager based here in Irvine. Our club works with Alyson to represent Ohio State at college fairs, student receptions and yield receptions in the fall and spring. Alyson has been instrumental in providing training sessions to our volunteers and explaining the new admissions process for 2012. Ohio State has moved to a common application process and is now on a semester schedule.

If you would like to get involved in the student recruitment process please do not hesitate to contact Daniel Katz at katzd2007@gmail.com (our new Student Recruitment Chairperson).

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**club and Buckeye year reflections**

by Christie Brockhage

**Urban Renewal...** a great Buckeye season! We can hardly wait to do it again!

**New** memberships and participation at all of our club events. You too can sign up today to support and join our club at www.osuocie.org

**Dave & Busters** at Irvine Spectrum-the newly remodeled home of our game watch events! Plan to join us this fall to cheer on our Buckeyes every Saturday!

**Events....** hundreds attended our weekly game watch events, we had our special guest speaker event with Cornelius Green, and our annual holiday brunch where our current scholarships students share their stories and experiences at OSU!

**Fun!** When we gather together as one big Buckeye family...we have a great time!

**Education...** we are focused on supporting our local scholarship students by raising thousands of dollars each year to help support their Buckeye education.

**Action...** we raised funds for our scholarship students, Team Brutus participated and raised money to support Susan G. Komen 5K Race For The Cure for breast cancer, our club donated toys and gifts to our motel kids local charity, Bring A Smile, to literally bring smiles to children in need in the Orange County community!

**Team...** our Orange County club always works together to spread our Buckeye spirit all over the OC and beyond!

**Excellence...** our alumni club was awarded with top honors and recognized as one of the leading clubs for The Ohio State University! (Thanks to YOU!)

**Dedicated...** to serving our local alumni, family and Buckeye friends and our amazing OC student Buckeyes! But For Ohio State...What does it mean to you?

Thank you ALL for another brilliant Buckeye year! Here’s to a great season ahead!