



OAKLAND **OU** UNIVERSITY

# ALUMNI NEWS

Vol. III, No. 4 March 1966

## SECOND ALUMNI FUND DRIVE WELL UNDERWAY.. WITH GOAL FOR 1966 SET FOR \$3,000

Planning to surpass Oakland University's first Alumni Fund Drive which went over the top in its \$2200 total and with a significant 40 percent response from its graduates, the Alumni Council has set its sights for a \$3000 goal this year.

The Council recently named one alumnus from each of the University's three graduating classes to serve as a Class Agent for the 1966 Fund Drive. Ron Miller will represent the Charter Class, Phil Williams the Class of 1964 and Ed Windler Class of 1965. Letters from the three have already gone out to their classmates urging a 100 percent participation this year.

The Alumni Relations Office reports that pledges are coming in steadily but that participation to date is somewhat less than last year. In order to meet this year's goal by the end of May, all Oakland graduates are urged to send in their contributions promptly.

As Chancellor D.B. Varner expresses it, "No university can become great without the backing of its graduates." He points out that "being the alumnus of a university does entail responsibility, for the worth of your degree each year will largely be the reflection of what Oakland University has become--not what it was when you were here--but what it is at the moment."

If you have been on campus recently you can see what it is at the moment--and get some idea of what it can become with your continued interest and support. SEND IN YOUR PLEDGE CARD TODAY!

## LIBRARY ACQUIRES OUTSTANDING COLLECTION WITH 1965 GIFT FUNDS

Alumni will be pleased to learn that their \$2200 gift for library books actually bought 654 volumes and 200 records for the Library. A large number of these were acquired from the private collection of Frank Webber, which bridges several gaps in the Library's collections because of its broad scope. In addition to social and natural history volumes, such diverse authors as Charles Dickens and James Joyce are represented. Eighty-seven current books in the area of social sciences, science and the humanities were also purchased. Accompanying Mr. Webber's books was an extensive file of Life, the humor magazine which preceded the current publication of the same title.

The records are part of a 600 total of Folkways records including ethnic folk-songs of the world; labor and political action songs; poetry, speeches, plays and modern and classical language studies.

Each book and record purchased with the Gift Fund will be so designated and labeled.

NEWS OF THE ALUMNI

Jim Morrison '63 is in the U.S. Army Reserves and is presently stationed at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Jim and Kathy (Pyorala) Wolfe, '64, are living in Pontiac. Jim is teaching in the Bloomfield Hills School System and Kathy is teaching in Birmingham.

Penny Batts '64, Alumni Council Secretary, has announced her engagement to 2nd Lieut. Patrick M. Ward of San Marino, California. Pat is serving in Vietnam and is a graduate of the University of San Francisco.

James J. Weisenborne '63 is serving with the U.S. Air Force. His current address is A 2/c James J. Weisenborne, C.M.R.-3, Box 2616, Offutt AFB, Omaha, Nebraska 68113.

Nancy Jean Hough '65 married Howard Wieland last June. They are living in Rochester. Nancy is teaching French at Clarkston High School.

Sandra (McDowell) Crews '63 reports two outstanding events; a son, Brian, born October 15 last year, and an M.A. in English from Wayne State University.

Christina Lahy '64 is in the Peace Corps. Her address (until August 1967) is Ft. Johnston Day Secondary School, Ft. Johnston, Malawi, Central Africa.

Roger Finzel '64 is in India with the Peace Corps working in poultry development and teaching a course in international understanding. When his hitch is up in November he plans to work for the government somewhere near Washington, D.C. and to enter law school. His address is: Rajendra Society-Durga, Rajpipla District Broach, Gujarat, India.

Robert Roberts '64 and Rosemary Locher who attended OU for a year were married last October 22. Bob entered the U.S. Army in February and was sent to Fort Knox.

Jonathon(John)and Tana(Smith) Rakich '64 are parents of a boy, Carey Norman, born January 13. John is working for McDonnell Aircraft Corp., St. Louis and they are living in Florissant, Missouri.

Jacqueline (Sheehan) Noonan '64 plans a trip to Europe with her French class from Bloomfield Hills High School, spending six weeks in France and a weekend in Rome. Jacqueline took one of the first graduate courses offered at OU, a French course last semester.

Patricia Ferrell, Charter Class, was married November 20, 1965 to Lieut. Burkhard Scheper, a former OU student. They are currently in Columbia, South Carolina where Lieut. Scheper is with HQ Reception Station, Ft. Jackson. Pat is a clinical social worker at the Columbia Mental Health Clinic.

Louis Buchanan '63 will begin work on his Ph.D. in English Literature at the University of Toronto this fall. He received a fellowship. He received his M.A. from Wayne in 1965 and was a teaching fellow in 1964 and 1965.

Christine Kifer '64 and Harrell P. Sundberg '64 were married last May and are living in Rochester. Christine is teaching in the Warren Consolidated School System and Harry is working at GMTC, Pontiac.

Keith Bateman '64 is one of four students admitted to a new State House of Representatives fellowship program. He is serving as full time assistant in the House through June of 1966.

## PROJECT LIFELINE

Lieut. Dick Stier, Charter Class graduate, who was commissioned in the U.S. Marine Corps on Commencement Day, has been serving in Vietnam since last July where his battery guards the airfield at Chu Lai. In a recent letter to Mrs. Hope, Director of Alumni Relations, Dick asked for help for the orphans of a Vietnamese battalion that was wiped out at a village two miles from base.

As a result of the appeal, Project Lifeline was organized on the Oakland University campus March 10 when a students' committee headed by Maggie O'Reilly rallied to the cause. Circle K, Women's Service Group, Dorm Council, Pickwick Club and Newman Club were among the organizations represented.

Three dances are being held with admission a bar of soap, a toothbrush kit, etc. to aid the orphans.

Other campus clubs have pledged cash support of the project and The Hole has been designated as ingathering location for needed supplies such as clothing, sewing materials, soap, combs, candy, toys, pencils, towels, and so on.

Already contributed are several cases of paper toweling, plastic toys, soap, dextrose and lollipops.

Any alumni interested in contributing to Project Lifeline may contact the Alumni Relations Office for further information. Donations will be packed and sent directly to Dick for personal distribution to the Vietnamese children.

## THIRTY-THREE RECEIVE DEGREES

Thirty-three Oakland University students completed requirements for their bachelor's degrees at the close of the University's fall semester in January. Patricia V. Koslofsky of Royal Oak and Paul D. Patent of Sylvan Lake both graduated magna cum laude and were awarded departmental honors in sociology and mathematics respectively.

## EXCERPTS FROM DICK STIER'S LETTER

"I am writing tonight with a heavy heart. As a friend, not a counselor, I am wondering if you could help me, and in turn, help many young Vietnamese children.

....An entire battalion of South Vietnamese Rangers was wiped out...I inquired as to where the orphans and widows of the decimated battalion were located. They are at the village of Thang Binh, which is two miles from my present location. I see these children every day and cannot help but notice the results of war. They have the bare minimum of clothing to wear. They are undernourished, dirty, destitute, and have very little to live for.

This morning I met a young girl that has tragedy written across her face. She is 12 years old, an introvert, and both parents were killed by the VC two years ago. Her days were spent at the trash dump looking for food and items of value. Now she is fed by us, is clean and has a new set of clothes. It hasn't worked. She is an empty shell.

The point is that there are many hundreds of children just like this one.... Would you forward this letter to...anyone that might help? Send anything at all. Children's clothing and soap are especially needed. First aid supplies are non-existent. Money can be used to build orphanages and to equip them. Anything, no matter how large or small, will be appreciated. The local Army Advisory Group will distribute any donation.

If anyone is interested in adoption, I will be happy to arrange it and act as liason. The children are bright, quick to learn English and would adjust quickly to an American family.

If we are to win this war, we must win the next generation."

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OAKLAND UNIVERSITY ALUMNI NEWS  
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## A GRADUATE LOOKS AT THE BUSINESS WORLD

(Following are excerpts from a recent letter to Mrs. Dorothy Hope, Director of Placement and Alumni Relations.):

"The article in this month's Fortune (February) about the college man's attitude toward a career in business again brings to my mind the failure of industry to communicate its challenge to the campus. One reason for this failure, I think, lies in the fact that in past years we did not have to compete for recruits with so many attractive (and often draft-exempt) alternatives....

My rise in the field of insurance has not been as meteoric as I could imagine it to be, but I have no doubts about my choice, and certainly find no dearth of new challenges to my abilities. "Assistant Supervisor, Central Key Punch Dept." sounds like the ideal phrase a college man would use to mockingly describe the young man in business. Let me spend the next few lines defending our world of business; most important, in my opinion, is a defense of life at the lower echelon, because it is at this point that it must all begin.

The first months are at once very dull and very exciting. They are dull when you are "learning the language" of the business: the first projects given to a trainee are always the simplest and most idiotic jobs the management can dump on to the training ground. The New Man's patience and temper are stretched to the breaking point. Only the incompetent help is offered to him. Very soon one develops the capacity for accepting the limitations of others, a willingness to explain a point over and over to a worker who doesn't give a damn whether he works on your project or some other job for his eight hours. The man who can't stand these first projects generally jumps back into graduate school and spends his coffee-shop time deriding the Harris Tweed group, wondering out loud, "How do they stand it?"

This learning period can be exciting though, especially for the man who is interested in doing a bit more than his assigned duties. Management is really starved for help. Perhaps an illustration from my own brief career can show this...

In the Spring of 1963, before I had joined the Company, a major revolution in their method of processing insurance documents for premium billing, accounting and statistical reporting had been undertaken. The management was so involved with the day-to-day problems of getting the work done that small inefficiencies crept into their methods... About this time, I was working on what must be the stupidest project ever conceived by the mind of man; I was taking a batch of documents, removing the recap (a sheet of paper which summarized the total premium involved in these documents) and attaching a portion of continuous computer listing... the stupid part of the job was that no one ever looked at this listing once this stapling operation was done... By asking a few questions of a few people I was able to find a "better way". Simple? Sure it was, but the point I hope to make is that in the dullest jobs there is opportunity for a little initiative.

In any event I am now responsible for the direct supervision of about 250 people..."

Hartford, Connecticut

Jim Isler