



ISSUE 01 | MAY 2023

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

### AS AN ALUM OF ORME, YOU HAVE A SPECIAL PLACE IN OUR HISTORY AND OUR HEARTS

Your achievements, contributions, and memories are an important part of our story, and we take great pride in the impact that you have had on our community and the world at large. That is why we want to keep you informed about the latest news, events, and accomplishments happening on campus and with your fellow alumni.

We also want to take this opportunity to invite you to reconnect with your fellow alumni and with the school. Whether it's attending our upcoming Reunion, visiting with our Advancement Team when we are on the road, or making a donation to support our Focus the Future campaign, there are many ways to get involved and help shape the future of Orme.

So please, read on, and stay connected with us. We value your input, your feedback, and your ongoing commitment to our community.

Thank you for your continued support, and we hope to see you back on campus soon.



Sincerely,  
**Kristin Durow**  
President

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## REVIVING CONNECTIONS: OUR FIRST ALUMNI NEWSLETTER IN YEARS

We believe we can do better in creating opportunities to enrich your lives and for you to enrich the lives of our current students and your fellow alumni alike. This Alumni Newsletter is the first of many ways we will be working towards that goal. This is a journey we will take together, and we can only be successful with your engagement and support.

Thank you to all who participated in the survey I sent out a few months ago. It was extremely helpful in creating this first edition, and my hope is that we have hit the mark on much of what you desire to see in this publication - much more to come in future editions. I welcome your comments, constructive

criticism and ideas on how to improve. I appreciate your patience and support as I embark on this journey with you.

The results of the survey for frequency of publication are: 53% of you would like to see a newsletter biannually, 37% quarterly, 10% monthly. The results for method of delivery: 68% would like by email, 32% would also like to receive a hardcopy. Per the survey, highest to lowest levels of interest were noted:

1. How past traditions are carried out today
2. Future plans for Orme
3. Alumni spotlights and historic reflections
4. Current student spotlights

5. Newer programs at Orme i.e. Sustainability, Orme Games.

I hope you enjoy this first edition of the Alumni Newsletter reboot!



**Elizabeth Ellis**  
Director of Alumni  
Engagement



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS



## LIFE IS GOOD!

I've been a professional music composer since college.

**Where does life find you at the moment i.e. location, career, family etc?**

I write the music that you hear when you turn on a TV, whether it's a TV theme song, a car ad, or the background music that supports the action in a movie. That's what I create. Over the last 20 years I've scored countless films, tv shows, video games, and commercials, and recorded quite a few solo albums as well.

**How did you/your family end up selecting Orme?**

I grew up in Crown King, Arizona which is a tiny town in the Bradshaw Mountains near Orme. The town is so small they have a one-room school for K-8th, but no high school. There simply aren't enough kids to keep a high-school open! When kids graduate from 8th grade, they either have to go live with family elsewhere, or their parents have to move with them. I didn't want my folks to leave Crown King, so I decided boarding school was the best option. I feel very lucky that Orme was nearby.

**What is your earliest Orme memory?**

My earliest memory is getting a campus tour from Susie Koestner. Her parents worked at Orme (librarian and English teacher) and she was in my class, the Class of '98. She was very welcoming and we became friends. Twenty-five years later, we're still good friends! In fact, she and her husband Shawn Kelley are coming to visit me in a few months. Shawn is also from the Class of '98 and remains one of my closest friends.

**What is your best memory of Orme?**

I have too many to recount. Most of them just involve the funny, dumb stuff we did to keep ourselves entertained. But I also have great memories of playing football, which I was surprisingly drawn to, and then eventually good at. When football season was over, I would go rock climbing in the desert every day after school. It was a peaceful and beautiful way to end the school day.

**In what way did Orme prepare you for advanced education?**

The curriculum at Orme was as hard or harder than anything I studied at The U of A, so I wasn't particularly phased by the amount of work, or the difficulty involved with college classes. I think the biggest advantage though, was that by the time I went to college

I had already lived away from home and learned some basics of taking care of myself. I saw a lot of college freshmen struggling to get by, and felt like I had already gone through some of those growing pains.

**How did your Orme experience impact your life?**

Having grown up in a fairly sheltered environment, the diversity of the Orme student body at that time was really good for me. The exposure to cultures from all over the country and the world, as well as the different socioeconomic backgrounds was enlightening and refreshing. Academically I was prepared for college classes, and the dorm experience prepared me for living on my own. But most importantly, many of the friends I made there became lifelong friends who I consider family.

**Name one thing you are looking forward to in the coming months/years.**

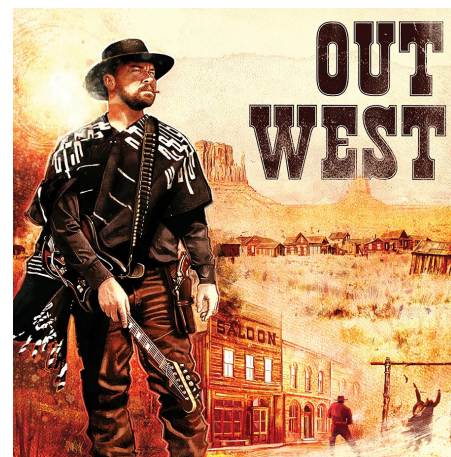
I had an album of original music come out on May 2nd. The album is called *Out West*, and it was definitely influenced by Orme and growing up in Arizona. Musically it is a nod to classic Spaghetti Western film soundtracks, as well as all the musical influences I've absorbed in my time living in the Southwest.

**Is there anything else you would like to share?**

Here's my website if you're curious about my music career:

[www.SilasHite.com](http://www.SilasHite.com)

Feel free to reach out and connect with me on social media. I always love making new Orme friends!







## I ENJOYED ORME

I am fascinated by the varied impact it has had on my life.

### What year did you graduate?

As a member of the Class of '71 (yes, that is 1971) it has been over 50 years since we graduated and I will be turning 70 shortly. That is unless one wants to deduct the 3-year Covid sabbatical we all took, then I'll only be 67, so young.

### How did you/your family end up choosing Orme?

A family friend had mentioned Orme and when we visited, we all fell in love with it. My criteria were very high - in order - NO uniforms, must have horses and boys. My parents obviously had a different set of criterions. Not to give my male classmates too much credit, but I have found it extremely easy throughout my career to work with men of all nationalities and attribute it in part to having gone to school with them.

### What was your career path?

I had a very interesting career path - starting with a year doing social events for an international chamber of commerce, several years in New Mexico with an oil exploration/refining company, and then back to New York and the cosmetic industry, that certainly smelled much better than the previous job. I was fortunate to work for several different companies and got to live in Paris and London, and ultimately settled with Estee Lauder and worked on the development and launch of Origins Natural Resources traveling worldwide.

PICTURE OF LIZ AND  
JAMIE BOSWELL SHARP '71  
"STANDING ON A CORNER IN  
WINSLOW, ARIZONA"

### Where does life find you at the moment?

I "retired" in 2006 and was able to spend the last 10 years of my father's life with him. He passed away at 102 (and 7 months - when you are over 100, like when you are under 10, months are very important). We were fortunate he was in excellent shape, and we traveled extensively - as he said if I could dream it up, he would do it. Fingers crossed I inherited his genes. I am spending most of my time now in the country at a farm I inherited, located on the NY/Vermont border. I still have my little co-op in Westchester so am able to indulge in all that New York City has to offer.

### How did your Orme experience impact your life?

I enjoyed Orme and am fascinated by the varied impact it has had on my life. As an only child, my parents felt that time away from the nest would bring me more in touch with the real world - no more spending weekends plowing through 10 murder mysteries. (I must confess Orme didn't cure me of binge reading - I got through over 300 books during Covid lockdown and not all were murder mysteries either.)

I have been lucky to make lifelong friends from each era of my life - playpen pal, elementary school chum and Orme friend. Jamie Sharp '71 (nee Boswell) and I just revisited Monument Valley in February and reminisced about the Orme Caravans.

### What was your earliest memory of Orme?

I arrived at Orme to find my trunk sent the month before, with sheets/towels etc., hadn't arrived and my luggage had gone astray to Argentina/Atlanta/ or Antigua, anywhere but Arizona. What an introduction to roommates - having to borrow everything. Oh well, luggage arrived, trunk arrived and off we were on an orientation camping trip. Nobody told me it could get cold in September in Arizona - I remember sitting by the fire the whole night wondering whether this was going to be one big mistake. IT WASN'T.

### What was the most important lesson you learned at Orme?

Probably the most important lesson taught was an Independent Study with Mr. Whitney my senior year. I don't remember what the exact topic was, but the discipline of planning and then budgeting time against a deadline was so important in college and then in business.

With a focus on not just academics, Charlie had us celebrate the first Earth Day by picking up trash along the Black Canyon Highway and I am proud I still do something constructive every Earth Day - this year was a déjà-vu event picking up garbage along my local highway.

### You have been incredibly generous to Orme over the years. What motivates you to give?

I donate my time and talents where I can and funds when possible to organizations that I believe add to the world we live in. It has been my pleasure to support Orme, and my annual contribution allows me an opportunity to reflect on the positive impact it has had on me and my hope that it has had a similar effect on the students that have come after.

### Anything more you would like to share?

Life has a habit of being unpredictable - taking advantage of a momentary opportunity is important. I am always amused by contemporaries who bemoan the "difficult world" young people live in today. Yes, there is so much more technology out there than when I had to put a dime in the phone booth at Orme and call home collect once a week, but then human nature hasn't changed all that much - learning to listen first and then converse saves many upsets and misunderstandings.



## LEGACY ALUMS MOTHER/SON

**DIANE, where does life find you at the moment i.e. location, career, family etc?**

I am currently living in Los Cabos, Mexico. Two of my children live here with their families. I am fortunate to have my part of my family near me.

**How did you/your family end up choosing Orme?**

My parents were friends with Charlie and Mimi. At that time, many of my grade school friends were attending private school...so, off I went!

**How do you think your experience differed from that of your son Tyler?**

I think we had similar experiences even though we are talking about different generations.

My experience at Orme was great and I had hoped Tyler would have the same experience I had at Orme.

**What was your earliest memory/best memory of Orme?**

Having to deal with the entire ranch "thing". I was not an outdoor person. I made good friends, the staff was amazing and really cared. I am still in touch with one of my roommates (Beth Lowe). We are talking over 60 years ago.

**How did your Orme experience impact your life?**

I had a great experience at Orme and learned to be self sufficient, live with all types of people, respect my

elders. Orme gave me a sense of discipline. It taught me good study habits which carried on thru college. Attending school at Orme was one of the best experiences of my life.

**TYLER, where does life find you at the moment i.e. location, career, family etc?**

I have been the owner of a Vacation Rental Management company on St. John in the US Virgin Islands named Catered To Vacation Homes (cateredto.com) for the last 15 years. I currently live in Venice Beach in Los Angeles, California. I am a single dad to dogs, and work remotely, which allows me to balance a city and Caribbean lifestyle.

**How did you/your family end up choosing Orme?**

I believe that my grandparents were good friends with Charlie Orme in the 1950s. My mom and my uncle Marty both went to Orme. In all honesty, I was not exactly an exemplary student at Aspen High School in Colorado, so it was suggested that I might be better off at a boarding school. My grandmother and mom knew the Ormes, so that was that.

**How do you think your experience differed from that of your mother?**

I believe that Charlie Orme and Buck and the teachers and sports coaches really did keep the Orme traditions and history alive. From chapel to Caravan to the Fine Arts Festival, I like to believe that we had a similar experience.

**What is your earliest Orme memory?**

I arrived in the middle of the school year in 1985. It was not easy to show up in the middle of the school year, but I do remember that there were a few kids that made friends with me right away. We are still close today.

**What is your best memory of Orme?**

My first girlfriend Mandy Beattie 1985. Caravan Grand Canyon rafting trip 1987. Oh, and I was surprised to be named Prom King my senior year 1988. I was not a jock, so that was unexpected (LOL).

**In what way did Orme prepare you for advanced education?**

I went from a full-on D student to a straight A student. I was actually given the "Most Improved Student Over 4 Years" award at graduation (I thought it was a gag and I'm not sure if that still exists, but I still have it). I learned how to study and to focus. I also had teachers that inspired me to prepare to be a young man. Specifically, Stanley Natchez in the art program inspired me to know that I could be whatever I want to be. He changed my life, and I am blessed to have had him as a teacher.

**How did your Orme experience impact your life?**

I learned a lot about myself. There was trauma during my time there, and my friends and I had to pull together and support each other at a very young age. In such a small community I also learned to be friends with everyone.

**Name one thing you are looking forward to in the coming months/years?**

As I am getting a bit older, I am looking forward to maybe retiring and working with kids or animals in need.

**Anything else you would like to share?**

Orme was a special place for me. I learned how to be a friend. I had a difficult start, but I found my best friends, I experienced my first love there. I also graduated with my mom's roommate's daughter Andrea 28 years after they graduated together.

I WENT FROM A FULL-ON D STUDENT TO A STRAIGHT A STUDENT. I WAS GIVEN THE "MOST IMPROVED STUDENT OVER 4 YEARS" AWARD.





## WARRIORS IN THE NEWS

### ALUMNUS GARY TSO ('86) OPENS HOPI GROUNDS COFFEE SHOP ON SECOND MESA

Click [here](#) for full article: *Hopi Marine veteran opens a coffee shop, becomes his own boss.*  
Article published in [www.AZcentral.com](http://www.AZcentral.com) in April 2, 2023 edition.

### WERONIKA SWOJAK ('23) #1 GIRLS' BASKETBALL PLAYER IN THE STATE

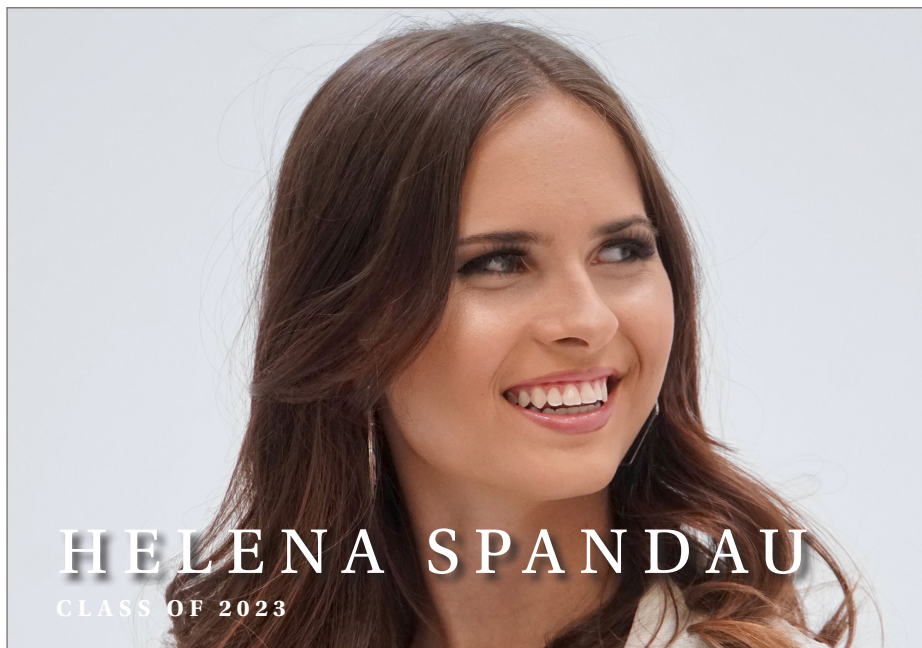


We congratulate **Weronika Swojak ('23)** who was named the #1 Girls' Basketball Player in the state and will be playing on the all-star team!

In addition, **Jacob Golston ('23)** and **Cem Kose ('23)** also had the honor of making the State All-Star boys team. Go Warriors!



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



HELENA SPANDAU

CLASS OF 2023

## MY FAMILY AND I CALL IT "OUR LITTLE OASIS."

## How did you/your family end up choosing Orme?

My time with The Orme School started at a random event (I think it was a, Outdoors and Sportsman Convention), and we saw an Orme stand that was giving out pamphlets of the Summer Camp. At the time, I was too young to go to the summer camp, but they made an exception for me because I knew how to ride. I believe I went to the Horsemanship Camp four years consecutively and I shadowed Peyton Calmes during the school year. We thought about joining the school in 8th grade and then again in 9th grade, but I wasn't ready to leave my friends. We went to the graduation ceremony this past May to congratulate Peyton, and my mom and I just fell in love with the place all over again, so we made the decision to move schools during this past summer.

## What was your first impression of Orme?

My family and I call it "our little oasis" because of the dirt road that leads to large oak trees that are always green.

## What has been your best memory at Orme so far?

My favorite memory at Orme so far has been Vespers and the formal dinners afterwards. Also, the advisory dinner nights because it gives off a family vibe.

## What has been your greatest challenge?

It was definitely overcoming my fear of not being able to fit in. That fear quickly dissolved when I met all of my amazing friends who were so kind and inviting. Even from day one, they all came up to me and offered for me to sit with them during lunch or dinner, and asked where I was from and how I found Orme.

## What do you think will leave the biggest impression on you about your time at Orme?

The people that I have met. It is cool being able to meet kids from all over the world. It is incredibly eye opening about how big the world is and that experience will always stay with me.

## What are your plans after graduation?

Plans after Orme are the WP Carey School of Business at ASU with a major in Business Entrepreneurship and a minor in Luxury Marketing. I would love to move to Germany afterwards.

## Name one thing you are looking forward to in the coming months/years?

I am looking forward to traveling this summer. I will be going with one of my friends from here at Orme to her hometown in Poland. I would love to visit everyone that I have become friends with in their home countries at some point in my life.

## What advice would you give to a student who is considering studying at Orme?

The biggest piece of advice that I would give to a new Orme student would be to embrace the diversity at Orme. It is an experience that no other school can give you. And participate in every activity that Orme offers because it may become your new favorite hobby and bring you closer to your friends.

## Anything else you would like to share?

My parents are originally from Germany with my dad being born in South Africa and my mom near Cologne, Germany. We are actually the only members of both sides of my family that live outside of Europe. I have dual citizenship in Germany and the US and we visit family every year. We all compete at a national level in horseback riding. My mom has earned 10+ Top Tens at Nationals, my dad has been Reserve National Champion (2nd Place), and I have been 2x National Champion and 2x Reserve National Champion.

IT IS COOL  
BEING ABLE  
TO MEET KIDS  
FROM ALL  
OVER THE  
WORLD.





## I WAS RECRUITED TO PLAY VOLLEYBALL FOR HOBART & WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES.

### Where are you from and how did you/your family end up choosing Orme?

My name is Andy, class of 2023 and I am from Vietnam. I had the pleasure to know Orme from a friend who also helped me with the applications.

### Tell me a little bit about your family.

I'm the first one in my family studying abroad. My parents have been working really hard to support my dream as my mother works for a healthcare and cosmetic company, and my father provides transportation.

### What was your first impression of Orme?

I still remember the day Mr. Newell picked me up from the airport - 3 years ago. When we entered the road to Orme, I thought the school went camping for orientation, because I couldn't imagine there was a school which was located in the middle of nowhere. Then, I loved Orme at first sight. I was impressed by this wonderful campus and it made me feel at home.

### How easy/difficult has been adapting to American culture and to life away from home?

At the beginning, I was worried that I couldn't adapt to a new life, another culture which is totally different from my culture such as language, food, and so on. However, Orme faculty really welcomed me and helped me with everything they could, and friends were really friendly as well. I had to start doing everything myself. My mother has always done things for me such as doing laundry and folding clothes.

### What has been your greatest challenge at Orme?

My greatest challenge was my English. My English wasn't good enough when I just came, and I actually just started learning English 2 years before coming to Orme.

### What has been your best memory at Orme so far?

I don't have a best memory at Orme, because everything I have been through here deserves to be memorable, and all of them are the best to me such as Caravan, coffee house, living with people who are from everywhere in the world, and I can spend all day talking about countless stories at Orme.

### What do you think will leave the biggest impression on you about your time at Orme?

Orme has been watching me grow, becoming mature, contributing to everything I could for the school, and making people here happy, so I think those will leave the biggest impressions on me about my time here.

### What are your plans after graduation? College??

I was recruited to play volleyball for Hobart and William Smith Colleges. I'm planning to go back to Vietnam this summer, because it's been almost 2 years since I left home. Since leaving Vietnam and my family, I've realized I need to spend more time with them, because it is the most valuable thing for an international student like me.

### Name one thing you are looking forward to in the coming months/years?

I'm looking forward to continuing my journey as a new chapter where I will discover more wonderful things about myself and the world in college, reaching more limits in the coming years, and hoping my parents will always be healthy and happy when I'm away from them.

### What advice would you give to a student who is considering studying at Orme?

If somebody who is considering studying at Orme asks me for advice, I just want to say "Orme is not only a school, but it is a family. Come and you will love it."

"ORME IS NOT ONLY A SCHOOL, BUT IT IS A FAMILY.  
COME AND YOU WILL LOVE IT."

I LOVED ORME  
AT FIRST  
SIGHT. I WAS  
IMPRESSED  
BY THIS  
WONDERFUL  
CAMPUS AND IT  
MADE ME FEEL  
AT HOME.

## COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE SPOTLIGHT



### HALEY GAVINO ('23)

Haley was accepted into Smith College. "When I found out I got accepted, I couldn't believe I got into one of my top schools. I learned about Smith during a summer visit with the Student Diplomacy Corps. During this visit, I got to witness the beauty of the school firsthand and learn about the amazing resources that this school has to offer. At this moment, I knew that I would want to go to an incredible school like Smith. I applied because I wanted to go to a school that would allow me to establish close relationships with my teachers like Orme, and I wanted to go to a school that had an open curriculum and pushed its students to be the best versions of themselves. I am planning on Majoring in Biology and Anthropology while also being on the pre-med path. I am excited to be a Smithie and embark on this journey."

## KEEPING UP WITH TRADITION

### FINE ARTS FESTIVAL 2023

Dr. Ilcen Reyes, Spanish Teacher

The 55th Fine Arts Festival was a success celebrating 55 years of Dorothy Swain Lewis's Dream to have students learn from professional artists to instill the thirst of creativity into each and every student at Orme.

Under the direction of Dr. Ilcen Reyes, whose commitment to return the FAF to the traditional event it had been for many years with core artists who had participated for numerous years together, this was a very special and memorable festival. Their work began in September and continued throughout the year. Ilcen and several other teachers, Ryan, McKenna, and Jennifer, had a group of students during the after-school activity working on the many facets of the Festival. Ryan and the Digital Design 1 class created the FAF T-Shirt design and sold many. Students were tasked with selecting workshops and artists as well as the student division for the workshops.

We welcomed alumni as well as folks from the surrounding communities to a lovely cocktail reception to kick off the Festival featuring a beautiful gallery curated under the volunteer direction of Orme parent, Tatia Fick and Director of Advancement Jessica Calmes. They gathered more than 50 pieces of artwork by various artists including our special alumnus artist, Ray Roberts, bringing many of his different artform paintings. This was a successful event, and our goal is to maintain this level of quality for future Fine Arts Festivals.

We had many workshops for the students including Jewelry Making, Oil Painting, Music, Latin Dance, Photography, Videography, Glass Blowing, Watercolor, Printmaking, and Quilting. One of our most famous artists, internationally recognized Bassim Al Shaker, comes back every year to teach the students Oil Painting. His artwork has appeared in the Venice Biennale and the 2022 Documenta fifteen (Kassel, Germany).

[SLIDESHOW OF FAF 2023](#)

[VIDEO OF FAF 2022](#)





## CARAVAN NATURAL WONDERS OF THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST

The students split into groups (due to the strict maximum per group capacity limits in place at national parks) and embarked on their caravan adventures spending the week camping and exploring some of the most stunning natural wonders of the American Southwest.

One group's journey took them to the breathtaking location, **Fool Hollow AZ** and **Chaco Canyon NM**, where they learned about ancient cultures and explored the stunning desert landscapes. Another group visited the impressive **Hoover Dam** and **Lake Mead**, marveling at the engineering feats that created these man-made wonders. A third group of students were awed by the natural beauty of **Zion National Park** and **Bryce Canyon Utah**, hiking through the towering red rock formations and discovering hidden canyons and waterfalls. In **Moab Utah** and **Kanab Utah**, a group hiked the rugged terrain, explored the stone arches and spires and appreciated the dramatic scenery. A final group took an adventure in the serene **Verde Valley AZ**, taking in the stunning views of the red rock formations - cliff jumping and exploring nearby ruins.

Overall, Caravan week was an unforgettable experience for all the students, who learned valuable lessons about teamwork, resilience, and the beauty of the natural world.

### Caravan 2023, Lauren Sperber ('25)

#### Day 1

Today we drove through Pine and went to the **Tonto National Bridge State Park**. Our group hiked down and watched a waterfall. It was super peaceful and pleasing to get out and far away from the city. As the day passed, we went fossil hunting, and it was quite a joy. My favorite part was setting up camp and starting to really get to know each other. Later at night we shared secrets and ghost stories.

#### Day 2

This day was one of the harder days of the caravan. We woke up and got ready to start off a fun and exciting day. We drove over to The Crack. But, to get to The Crack you have to hike the Bell Trail... a 3.5-mile hike. Not that bad. It was nice being in nature. And, it was rewarding. I jumped off a 30-foot cliff, super fun. After we hiked back and headed to camp to just hangout and such.

#### Day 3

Out of all days I struggled with, today was the most. It was still super fun! We were K] kayaking. I have never been kayaking. I really enjoyed it however. I flipped over twice, but it was still super fun. Later that night some friends and I filmed a movie called... *The Claire Witch Project*. It was super fun to make and I enjoyed it.

#### Day 4

Sadly, this was our last day. I had a great time, but it was time to go. We all packed up and went for our last and final swim of Caravan in the creek. It was super refreshing. I found a rock and named him Carl. I chucked Carl back into the creek. Goodbye Carl, goodbye caravan.







## CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

### THE ARCHIVES: A LABOR OF LOVE

BRITTA BLOOMBERG ('73)



#### BRITTA WITH SUSAN FARRAND, CLASS OF 1959

The Orme School Archives recently found a new home in the Phillips Library. With space to spread out and work, and a safe, dry environment for an impressive collection of materials, we are poised to make the archives more accessible and to unpack the rich stories housed there. How we arrived at this point is the story of a labor of love.

Credit for the early efforts to preserve the story of the school and camp and assemble an archive for Orme belongs to Susan and Alex Farrand, both former teachers and Susan, an alumna of the Class of '59 and former camper. By the time I met the Farrands they'd already been working on preserving and telling the story of Orme School for decades. I joined their efforts after meeting them at Reunion in 2013. They were eager to tap the professional experience that I could bring after my years of work at the Minnesota Historical Society.

Our goal was to locate and organize the materials that would preserve and tell the story of The Orme School and Camp, and to ensure that they are preserved and made accessible to future generations. After corresponding over the summer months that year, it became clear that I needed to see what the Farrands had collected and organized at their home in Albuquerque, and then to assess the condition of the materials located at the school before we could begin to make a plan.

***Our goal was to locate and organize the materials that would preserve and tell the story of The Orme School and Camp, and to ensure that they are preserved and made accessible to future generations.***

I visited the Farrands at their home in Albuquerque in the fall of 2013 and from there, the three of us headed to Orme. What I found at their home was nothing short of a mini-archives of Orme materials. Susan had worked with Charlie Orme in the 1980s to write a history of the school, and it was that assignment over an extended period of time that led to the accumulation of a variety of materials. The items that they had collected at their home for safekeeping were a rich variety of primary and secondary source materials, ranging from yearbooks, alumni bulletins, photographs, recordings of interviews, largely conducted by Susan during her research, copies of printed articles about the school to other items and memorabilia. Their intent was to transfer the materials to Orme when a suitable place for their long-term care had been identified. Much of that material was transferred to the school recently and forms an important part of the archives recently rehoused in the library.

After a few days in Albuquerque that fall, we spent the next several days at the school to find and begin to preserve archival materials at the school. The largest trove was in Mort's House, which had been a catch-all for archival materials as well as other items that were being stored there. The rooms were not in any semblance of order and the materials were subject to extreme conditions in terms of temperature and humidity, not to mention dirt, insects, and other pests. Mort's House was where our attention was most needed: there began our salvage effort. We were on a rescue mission.



Over subsequent visits during the next several years, both independently and as a threesome, we assembled a large body of materials that we housed in file cabinets and archival storage boxes in a back room at Old Main. Every time we wrapped up our time on-campus, we would leave a little anxious about what the future held and the safety of the materials we'd worked hard to identify and save. Each time, however, the materials were better organized than they were the previous time. Now that the archives have found a more permanent home in the library, the next phase of our work can begin.

When I look at the work ahead, a couple observations will help guide our work. The first is that an archives is not the project of one or two people. It must be a project which involves the larger community at some level, and it's important to envision an archives that will function long into the future. To make that happen we're striving to invite and build on the entire community's support and contribution.

How can the community be involved? By contributing materials, or by suggesting what to save. Or by reading or listening to or looking at the materials and then making use of those in lesson plans, school projects, newsletter articles, web postings, to name just a few ideas. Or by telling each other the stories which surface from using the materials.

Second, the value of an archives is measured by its use. While it is a worthy effort to gather important papers and publications, if no one uses them, their value is greatly reduced. Once materials have been collected, it is important to describe them so that someone else can find a needed document. Describing the contents in an archives can be rewarding, but it too can require a lot of time. This is work in which I hope to eventually enlist the help of students and other volunteers. **In future newsletters you can expect to see a showcase of some of the treasures that can be found in the archives.**

Lastly, an archives needs to be built to last. Developing a system which is simple and self-sustaining is important. Frequently there may be enthusiasm for starting a program, but the long-term isn't as high a priority. This is not a short-term project. Securing space, gathering, sorting, arranging & describing, and even stimulating preliminary use is short-sighted if we haven't built a means to continue gathering, sorting, arranging & describing, and encouraging use. From the start, we must maintain a vision to carry it forward by those who will come after us.

Our work with the Archives is never done, yet our love for this place is what keeps us pressing on. I invite others to join us and always welcome the opportunity to show what we've been able to accomplish.

**The Farrands put years of work and passion into this effort and we must now carry that work to the next stage. If you wish to get involved, let us know.**

Please contact Britta [here](#).



Alex Farrand

**DESPAIN DORM** - Central air conditioning has been installed.

**DIAMOND E DORM** - Renovations starting this summer.

**FLOWERPOT DORM** - Nissa Rymer ('92), her husband Jeffrey, and Melissa Collins ('94) and Roy Collins (along with their families) SO GENEROUSLY spent their holidays on campus last year using their time, money and talents to replace shower floors in Flower Pot.

**GUEST HOUSE** - Nissa Rymer ('92), her husband Jeffrey, and Melissa Collins ('94) and Roy Collins (along with their families) will again be SO GENEROUSLY spending part of their holidays this year on campus leveling out the floors of the guest house. If anyone is able to join them in these efforts and/or support this project and others they are planning, please contact [Elizabeth Ellis](#). They (and Orme) would be so grateful!

# FOCUS THE FUTURE

SUPPORT ORME TODAY FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

The Focus the Future capital campaign provides an opportunity for donors to invest in the growth and development of The Orme School as we approach our 100th birthday.



## Capital Improvements and Projects:

- Net-Zero outdoor theater/classroom.
- Dorm remodels/upgrades: Stirrup Dot and Despain have been completed, and we have funding for HVAC for Diamond E this summer.
- A telescope for our Up Top Observatory deck: this important initiative will provide students with the opportunity to explore and study the wonders of the universe.
- Club 60 Renovation.
- Greenhouse Rehab Project.



## Annual Fund for Operations:

• Horsemanship:	\$115,000
• Caravan:	\$40,000
• Athletics Program:	\$95,000
• New Marketing & Advertising Initiative:	\$50,000
• Sustainability Chair:	\$60,000

By contributing to this initiative, you ensure that the school can continue to provide students with a world-class education and a transformative experience that will prepare them for success in all aspects of life.

Let's have a conversation! Contact Jessica Calmes [here](#).





## THE ORME SCHOOL ALUMNI PHOTO ARCHIVE

Discover Orme again through our photo archive [Folio](#). Some years are better populated than others, but our gallery is always growing. If you have pictures from your years at Orme that you would like added, please email them [here](#) so we can add them to the collection.

## KEEP US UP TO DATE

Have you recently earned a degree? Won an award? Changed jobs? Written a book? Reached a milestone? Got married? Had a baby? Accomplished a dream?

We want to hear about it. Keep your classmates up-to-date on what's happening in your life by submitting a [Class Note](#) or [email](#) us.



## RANCH NEWS

### PAUL ORME ('70)

Hello to all friends and alumni of The Orme School from Orme Ranch and the Orme Family. There is a new addition to the 6th generation of Ormes to follow John Pinckney (JP) Orme to the Salt River Valley in the 1860s. This new addition is also a JP - Joseph Paul Orme Del Vecchio, is the son of Katie Orme ('03) and David Del Vecchio. JP joins Carys Orme, daughter of Charlie Orme ('99) and Mira Raab, daughter of Alexandra Orme (summer camp) and Greg Rabb.

As many of you know, the Ranch owns approximately 1,200 deeded acres which surround Orme School. In addition to its private land, the Ranch leases 20,000 acres from the United States Forest Service and 5,000 acres from the state of Arizona for purposes of cattle grazing and improvements to wildlife habitat. The Ranch continues to be an active cow/calf business, just as it was when Chick and Aunt Minna arrived in 1929. Enoch and DeDawn Malouff (and son Giles) do a wonderful job of overseeing this operation.

#### CONSERVATION EASEMENT

The most significant recent Ranch endeavor is the effort to place a conservation easement on 900 of the Ranch's 1,200 deeded acres to include the mesas and much of Ash Creek. The easement will ensure this land is protected and will forever remain open space and suitable for agricultural production. Held by the Central Arizona Land Trust, the easement will protect agricultural and wildlife areas surrounding the School, and enhance conservation values along the I-17 corridor and Yavapai County. The project has broad public support and is part of a federal program through the Department of Agriculture to preserve agricultural production and landscapes which have environmental

value. The Central Arizona Land Trust has described the values of preserving areas surrounding Ash Creek as follows:

*"This lush corridor provides a rare perennial water source and is important habitat for native fish and wildlife...The Arizona Fish and Game Department estimated that the Ash Creek corridor could provide habitat for upwards of 50 Species of Greatest Conservation Need."*

Hopefully, this 6-year effort will be completed this summer. Many thanks to those of you who supported the project in a variety of ways.

#### CANDELA AGUA FRIA SOLAR PROJECT

As stated above, the Ranch leases 5,000 acres of State Trust lands. Approximately 4,200 of these acres will potentially change ownership to Candela Renewables for the purpose of developing solar energy. Candela will partner with both the Ranch and School to enhance water and energy efficiencies and ensure the Ranch is not financially harmed by the loss of key grazing land.

#### ADDITIONAL UPDATES

Natural resource conservation continues to be a priority for the Ranch. Partnering with Arizona Game & Fish, the Ranch has completed solar conversions on three wells, and installed two additional drinkers to increase water availability for native wildlife. The Ranch is pleased to continue its good neighbor relationship with the School. Two students recently participated in spring cattle work; an experience many of you recall.

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS



## JUNE 2ND-4TH

- **Reunion Round-Up.** Classes ending in '3 and '8 are celebrating benchmark year, and '73 will be inducted into the Half-Century Club. Details [here](#).

## SUMMER / FALL

- We will be on the road this summer/fall to the following cities. Chicago, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Los Angeles, Napa, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Fe, NYC and Upstate NY. Please reach out to us if you would like to meet for coffee/lunch/cocktail as we would love to see you! Contact us [here](#).

## TBD

- **Orme Community Volunteer Campus Work Day.**

## NOVEMBER 3RD-5TH

- **Miller-Barrick Celebration.** Please join us to pay a well earned tribute to Coach Miller and Coach Barrick (deceased) and relive so many cherished memories. Details [here](#).



## MAKE IT AN ORME SUMMER

We invite you to consider enrolling your children/grandchildren in our Summer Camp. As a member of the Orme community, you know firsthand the transformative power of the Orme experience. We believe that our Summer Camp is a wonderful opportunity for your loved ones to enjoy the same level of adventure that you experienced as a student and/or camper.

More information [here](#).

### Horsemanship Camp

Ages 12-16  
July 6th-12th

### Fine Arts Camp

Ages 12-16  
July 6th-12th

### Caravan Camp to Hawaii

Ages 14-17  
July 14th-23rd



## IN MEMORIAM

- Seth Atwood Class of '68, Former Trustee
- Kathleen Bandhauer Camp Counselor
- Brian Bausch Former Faculty
- Ann Arnold Castle Co-Founder Champagne and Sagebrush Ride, Camp Counselor, Former Alumni Board member
- Sean G. Heard Class of '88
- John C. Jerome Class of '63
- Roy E. Licklider Class of '59, Camper
- Rusty Keely Trustee Emeriti, Former Faculty, Vaquero, Camp Counselor
- Julia S. Marshall Class of '76
- Samuel W. Off Donor/Founder of the Bobbie Childs Off ('75) Friendship Scholarship

(Orme regrets if we have inadvertently omitted anyone. If you know of any alumni/campers/faculty who have recently passed, please click the button below to notify Orme)

**DECEASED NOTIFICATION**

## GET INVOLVED

- Alumni in the Classroom: We are always looking for outstanding alumni in various fields to share their expertise and wisdom with today's students. [Contact](#) us.
- Would you like to become a mentor to a current student or Orme graduate attending a college in your area? [Contact](#) us.
- Volunteer for Reunion. Please contact [Elizabeth Ellis](#).
- Volunteer for the Miller-Barrick Celebration. Please contact [Allen Miller](#).
- Stay connected to your classmates and network professionally - join the NEW [LinkedIn Orme Alumni Group](#).

## PLANNED GIVING

A bequest to The Orme School is a powerful way to demonstrate a commitment to supporting young people and investing in their future. Not only will it provide lasting support for the school, but it can also have significant tax benefits for you and your estate. Your generosity will make a meaningful difference in the lives of countless students for years to come. By leaving a legacy gift to The Orme School, you can play a vital role in shaping the future of education and helping to create a brighter world for generations to come.

Please contact Director of Advancement Jessica Calmes at 928-632-7601 x1564, or [email](#) about creating your Orme legacy.

## STAY CONNECTED



Orme School



Alumni Group

Please reach out with any comments and please pass along any suggestions for alumni spotlights for future publications.

**Elizabeth Ellis**

Director of Alumni Engagement  
[eellis@ormeschool.org](mailto:eellis@ormeschool.org)  
 312.543.0296