



Strokewatch

Inside This Issue

- FOUR President's Message* 1
- Coach's Corner* 2
- 2015-16 Race Schedule* 2
- 2015-16 Donors* 3
- 2016 Alumni & Parent Reception* 4
- 2016 Alumni Racing* 6
- About FOUR & Your Contribution* Back

FOUR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

1 I thank you for your commitment to the
 2 Friends of UCLA Rowing (F.O.U.R.) over
 2 this past year. During the recent Banquet
 and Alumni weekend (February 27th –
 3 28th), many of you saw firsthand that your
 4 purposeful generosity has inspired our
 6 remarkable student-athletes, coaching staff,
 parents, and fellow alums, and contributes
 to F.O.U.R.'s historic mission and purpose:
 To help noble and deserving young people
 climb up the ladder behind us to become
 leaders in their respective fields of
 endeavor, and to live honest and honorable
 lives.



Every member explained how U.C.L.A. Crew made all the difference with themes summarized as: To dream big and to master the art of the possible; to become brave; to become humble; to discover that character and wisdom are finally realized through working alone and collaboratively. I listened to snippets of each man and woman's personal library of knowledge, triumph, and struggle.

The yearly F.O.U.R. Board meeting filled the U.C.L.A. Plaza View Conference Room to capacity. Alumni and students left briefly to find folding chairs. Binders were circulated with a year's worth of monthly corporate Board meeting minutes (thanks to Secretary Brad Stapleton '08), financial reports (Treasurer Kevin Still '83), the quarterly Strokewatch (Sheila Parker Tolle '78, Rodd Talebi '14), drafts of the Articles and Bylaws (Robert "Fritz" Frassetto '78, Chris Cole '86, Bart Carter) – and the work by so many committed hands. You should have received a copy of this report in your email; if not, simply request one from me.

We discussed plans for the proposed \$12 Million boathouse and aquatic facility, and the creation of a F.O.U.R. business plan. Director of Development Laura Adler '02 and Program Director Brian Smith continue to provide thoughtful guidance and are wonderful assets to our beloved UCLA Men's Rowing program.

At the onset of the February 27th Board meeting, I asked the 20+ assembled alumni and students to introduce themselves and to speak to something great in their lives.

The Banquet unfolded at the Pauley Pavilion V.I.P. Club like the acts of a play with a "Playbill." I was worried about the large venue – too large? We filled it – 200+.

Follow UCLA Men's Rowing!

Website: www.uclamensrowing.com

Follow us on Facebook: UCLA Men's Rowing Alumni/FOUR



Follow the team on Facebook: UCLA Men's Rowing

FOUR Board of Directors

- Bob Newman '68
- Jim Jorgensen '70
- Norm Witt '75
- Andrew Jacobs '75
- John Dipol '77
- Robert "Fritz" Frassetto '78
- Dr. Scott Goodwin '78
- Sheila Parker Tolle '78
- Kevin Still '83
- William Palmer '85
- Christopher Beeckler '05
- Brad Stapleton '08
- Nic Smith '11
- Rodd Talebi '14

Strokewatch is the newsletter of the UCLA Men's Crew. Its editor is Sheila Parker Tolle '78

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Keynote speaker Matt Smith ('81) flew in from Lausanne, Switzerland. Matt is now the Executive Director of FISA (*Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Aviron*), endorsed by 148 countries to oversee the international sport of rowing. Matt was preceded by Coach Scott Charette with the student-athlete awards directed by undergrads President Maddie Avjean and Team Captain Dominic Pardini. Then followed by the first Julian Wolf Award for Alumni Excellence presented by Mary Gray, Julian's life partner, to Norm Witt '75. A masterful auction by Geof Strand '70 closed the evening with wine tasting and a silent auction directed by John DiPol '77, supported by Jim Jorgensen '70 and Bob Newman '68. Slideshows, music, an open bar, silent auction, wine tasting. Old friends reconnecting after decades, the '81 Team assembling for Matt, new friends.

Sunday the 28th saw races between alumni and undergraduates, burgers and beer for the alums who chose not to climb into a boat. The race season is now upon us, with events being organized in San Diego (April 2nd – 3rd), the San Francisco Bay Area (March 26th), and Sacramento (April 30th – May 1st).

It is a pleasure to serve as the volunteer President of F.O.U.R. I may be easily reached on my mobile telephone at (916) 396-4266 and email at wpalmer@palmercorp.com.

- FOUR President Bill Palmer '85

COACH'S CORNER



It's hard to believe that we are two weeks into our spring season. Alumni weekend began on Saturday with a scrimmage against LMU, followed by the alumni reception, and the alumni row and barbecue on Sunday morning. The weekend went very well, it was so nice to have so much support from parents and alumni on both days. As a result of the

auction support at the banquet, our new set of oars has been ordered. This will give us 3 sets of the most up-to-date technology in oar design; they are called "Fat2Skinny," which combine the look of the big blade together with the flex of a wooden oar.

Our racing campaign began on March 5th with the UC Challenge Cup which featured crews from UCSD, UCSB, UCI and UCLA. Unfortunately, the Varsity team was simply outgunned, but were only in contention for the first thousand meters. While technically

proficient, the Varsity crew just needs more horsepower, which we are working to gain, so that we can close that gap as the season progresses. The Novice eight showed quite a bit of promise, finishing third behind the UCSD's third Varsity eight and just shy of one second behind the UCSD's Novice eight. The good thing about racing fast crews early is we have time to adjust our line ups and training.

Next up is the Newport Regatta on March 12th - the Bruins will be fielding a smaller team, a Varsity eight and one Novice eight, due to conflicts with final exams. With a very tough schedule this season, the team is focused on working hard each week while progressing towards the WIRA Championship in Sacramento at the end of April. The goal is to take home some hardware from Sacramento and, from where we sit right now, that goal is definitely realistic.

We should have quite a bit of support at the San Diego Crew Classic, April 2nd and 3rd, and the WIRA Championships, April 30th and May 1st, so come out and catch up with old teammates and support the Bruins.

- Coach Scott Charette

2015 - 2016 RACING SCHEDULE

An up-to-date racing schedule can be found on our website: <http://www.uclamensrowing.com/schedule/>

SUPPORT THE 2015-2016 TEAM! Donations from July 1, 2015 through March 8, 2016
National Team**(\$5,000+)**

Mary Gray
 (Julian Wolf '47)
 John Nelson '81
 Robert Newman '68

IRA Champ**(\$2,000 to \$4,999)**

Barry Berkett '74
 Joel Breman '58
 Brendan Busse (parent)
 David Grant '86
 Duncan Henderson '71
 Michael Karp
 Tim Powers '77
 Sheila Parker Tolle '78

Pac12 Champ**(\$1,000 to \$1,999):**

Anonymous
 Stephen Bohlmann '75
 Scott Case '82
 Evan Faucher '05
 Jeffrey Huckaby (parent)
 Charles Jackson '72
 Mark Klein '90
 Bruce Kroyer '75
 John Lopuch '68
 Richard Maire '80
 Terry Oftedal '70
 William Palmer '85
 Edward Phelan '72
 Robert Sitzman '60
 Kevin Still '83
 Geoff Strand '71
 Norm Witt '75
 Raymond Yen

Varsity Boat**(\$500 to \$999):**

Patrick Barnes '61
 Lawrence Benison '60
 Edward Bold '59
 Walter Brennan '70
 William Brilliant '98

Barton Carter '94
 David Cooke (parent)
 Steve Dalzell '85
 John DeFede '77
 John DiPol '77
 Brian Donnelly
 David Fahrner '82
 Mark Fall '83
 Robert Frassetto '78
 Nancy Graves
 (W. Graves '53)
 Jacob Harker '02
 Richard Hartnack '67
 Steven Kokoda '75
 Jeffrey Horner (parent)
 Charles Hughes '84
 Ted F. Humphrey '86
 Chris Inserra (parent)
 Andrew Jacobs '75
 Clare Jarvis '70
 James Jorgensen '70
 Brian Knapp '83
 Ariel Maffei
 Christopher Metz
 Jamie Sadler (parent)
 Scott Saylor '77
 Kevin Sherwood '80
 Brad Stapleton '08
 Kina Turner (Kerry '78)
 Guy Weaser '78
 Steven Wolf '64
 Todd Wulffson '86

Blue Chip Recruit**(to \$499):**

Blake Addeman '14
 Leopold Andreoli '80
 Anonymous
 David Arnold '82
 Jeffrey Avjean (parent)
 Rita Bakalars
 Bob Baldwin '80
 Jeffrey Baus '59
 Barry Bilder
 Alex Blaseio '09
 David Boldt
 Kurt Boyd '74
 Geoffrey Bremer '77

Carol Brown
 Barbara Bushman
 Robert Butler
 Joseph Carlson '82
 Sandra Carrigg
 Frank Cesario
 Richard Choi
 Sheffield Clarke (parent)
 John Cooper '57
 Patrick Cotter '84
 Kevin Curran '75
 Harry Daglas '82
 John Daglas '81
 Patrick Delaney '53
 Thomas Dietrich
 (parent)
 Jonathan Dietrich
 (parent)
 Suzanne Dietrich
 (parent)
 Paul Donnelly
 Chris Dudley (parent)
 James Everett '75
 Fred Feldman '61
 Rhonda Foster
 Philip Goulding '73
 Martin Graham '55
 Charles Haughey '72
 Scott Hayes
 Duvall Hecht (coach)
 Patricia Heer (parent)
 Matthew Henderson
 Byron Horner (parent)
 Trina Horner (parent)
 William Houghton '55
 Diane Hubener
 Gordon Hunter '64
 Linda Hurst
 David Janes
 Craig Johnson '81
 Thomas Keller
 Bruce Kerns (parent)
 Mary King
 Bryan Kitch '05
 Cindy Kline (parent)
 Steve Kline (parent)
 Marshall Knight '09
 Arthur Kochman '53
 Brian Knish

Frank Kovacs '80
 Eric Landoll '06
 Douglas Large '72
 Thomas Larson '74
 Jeffrey Latham '13
 Craig Leeds '76
 Lowell Linden '60
 Fred Lonsdale
 Thomas Lumsden '74
 Patrick Lynch '87
 Pete Marchewka '70
 Richard McAteer
 Kim Medina '72
 Andrew Metz '15
 Michael Meyer
 Lee Miller
 Barton Morrison
 Annette Murdaca
 Robert A. Nelson '62
 July Nichols
 Brad Norris (parent)
 Larry Offner '76
 Gregory Opegard '91
 Anthony Osmundson '62
 Richard Paritzky
 Donald Pierro '76
 Justin Price '06
 Mark Rhee (parent)
 Charles Rinck '76
 Gregory Rinehart '86
 Russell Rowell '82
 Carlene Salonites '80
 Glenn Sherman '74
 Daniel Shumow
 Benjamin Sigman
 James Sims '66
 Pam Singh
 Robert Sire '78
 Sherman Spitz '74
 Jeff Stapleton
 Craig Tilson '80
 Thomas Turner
 Kirk Urata '85
 Lynne Welch '55
 Kirk Wojno (parent)
 Helen Wong
 Peter Zandbergen
 Arthur Zey '05

2016 ALUMNI & PARENT RECEPTION

article submitted by Brad Stapleton, photos by Joel Coster and Jim Jorgensen

On Saturday, February 27, over 200 alumni, coxswains, parents, and oarsmen came together at the Pauley Pavilion Club to meet friends old and new at the 2016 FOUR Alumni & Parents Reception. Every year is a memorable occasion, but this year was extra special – we had a huge turnout and filled the Pavilion Club almost to the brim.



*Mary Jo & Bob '68 Newman and
Terry '70 & Krysten Oftedal*

The evening was kicked off by FOUR President Bill Palmer '85, who gave a brief overview of FOUR, its mission, and welcomed FOUR Treasurer Kevin Still '83 to the stage, who briefly discussed the state of our fundraising campaign (year-over-year, our funds raised have increased dramatically!). Bill then introduced head coach Scott Charette, who gave a recap of the 2015 season, and described what the 2016 crew will be undertaking this year. Coach Charette then introduced the rowers to the attendees – and each rower went on to introduce themselves to the crowd and call out their majors. The year's group is an impressive bunch, with the lions' share boasting engineering, medical, pre-law, biology, and chemistry majors.

Following introductions, team President Maddie Avjean and Captain Dominic Pardini addressed the crowd with thoughtful, passionate remarks about their love of the sport, how it's made an impact on their lives, and expressed gratitude to everyone who supported the crew with their time, energy, and monetary contributions.



Madelyn Avjean



Dominic Pardini



Julian Wolf Award Recipient: Norm Witt '75

Following team remarks, Keynote speaker Matt Smith '81, executive director of FISA (the governing body of Olympic rowing) and travelled all the way from Lausanne, Switzerland to address the audience and give a masterful presentation about the the past, present, and future of the sport.

Following Matt, the inaugural Julian Wolf Award for Alumni Excellence was presented to long-time UCLA Men's Rowing supporter Norm Witt '75 by Mary Gray, life partner to Julian.

Geof Strand '75 was brought onstage to conclude the evening with the time-honored tradition of the live auction, where the evening's biggest items – including inscriptions for the newest set of oars for the crew – were auctioned away in the spirited, high-octane style that Geof is famous for. In a surprise curveball, Barry Berkett offered to match any donations made that evening to the scholarship fund – after matching, over \$5,000 was subsequently raised, adding to the over \$15,000 that was raised from the live and silent auctions alone.

The weekend was a massive success thanks to the consistently generous support of the friends, family, and alumni of UCLA Men's Rowing.

WINE & SILENT AUCTION

Donors:

Miguel Arias & Geri Yoza
 Barry & Martha Berkett
 Walt & Krysten Brennan
 Chris & Tara Dudley
 Dave Fahrner
 Bob Frassetto
 Scott Goodwin, MD
 Duvall Hecht
 Jeff & Trina Horner
 Jeff & Michelle Huckaby
 Charles Hughes
 Andrew Jacobs
 Bruce & Judy Kerns
 Marshall Knight
 Frank & Heather Kovac
 Bill Lachmar
 Bob & Mary Jo Newman
 Brad & Cindy Norris
 Terry Oftedal
 Don Pierro
 Kevin Sherwood
 Jeff & Cindy Stapleton
 Kevin & Sonia Still
 Kevin Thompson
 Sheila Parker Tolle
 Raymond & Mary Yen

JW Marriott - LA Live
 Marriott - Marina del Rey
 UCLA Athletics
 Wells Fargo Capital Finance

Winning Bidders:

Barry & Martha Berkett
 Alex Blaseio
 Walt & Krysten Brennan
 Steve Dalzell
 John & Linda DiPol
 Chris & Tara Dudley
 Dave Fahrner
 Bob Frassetto
 David Grant
 Chuck & Mary Haughey
 Jeff & Trina Horner
 Charlie Hughes
 Andrew Jacobs
 Michael Karp
 Frank & Heather Kovac
 Bruce & Judy Kerns
 Bill Lachmar
 Jeffrey Latham
 Patrick Lynch
 Richard & Krista Maire
 Lee & Sheila Miller
 Bob & Mary Jo Newman
 Brad & Cindy Norris
 Jeff & Cindy Stapleton
 Kevin & Sonia Still
 Sheila Parker Tolle
 Norm & Monica Witt
 Raymond & Mary Yen

**LIVE AUCTION
 WINNING BIDDERS**

Barry & Martha Berkett
 Walt & Krysten Brennan
 Scott & Laurie Case
 Dave Fahrner
 Clare Jarvis
 Jim Jorgensen
 Michael Karp
 Mark Klein
 Richard & Krista Maire
 Andrew & Chris Metz
 Geof Strand



Walter Brennan '70



Kevin Sherwood '80 & Matt Smith '81

**BERKETT
 SCHOLARSHIP
 CONTRIBUTORS**

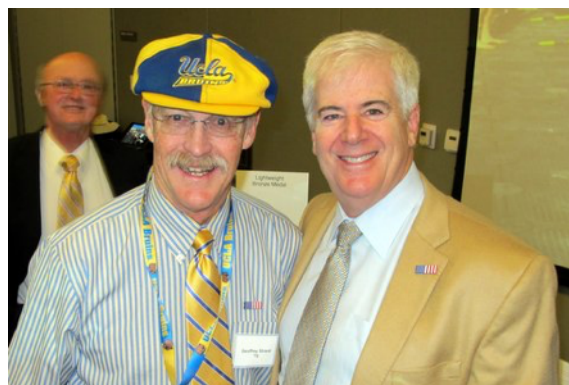
Alex Blaseio
 Scott & Laurie Case
 Dave Fahrner
 Bob Frassetto
 Tom Larson
 Bob & Mary Jo Newman
 Kevin & Sonia Still



Dave Fahrner '82 & Scott '82 & Laurie Case



Kevin '83 and Sonia Still & Peter Zandbergen



Geoff Strand '70 & Barry Berkett '74



1978 Alums: Monica Witt, Bob Frassetto & Scott Goodwin



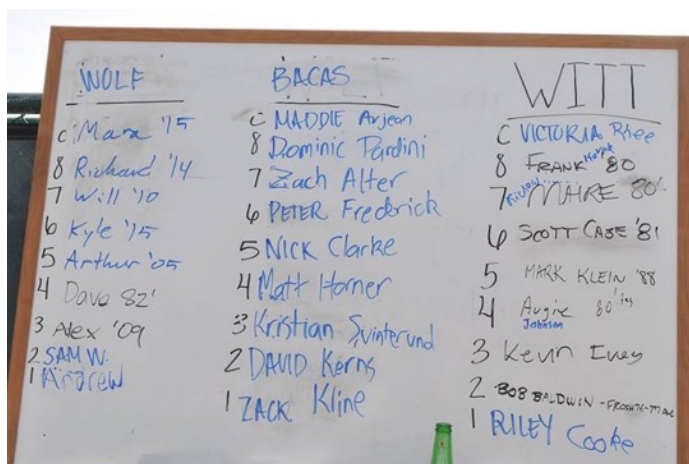
Erin McMaban '99 & Kevin Curran '75

ALUMNI RACING *article submitted by Norm Witt, photos by Joel Coster*

The day began as a cold, foggy morning. However, by the time the boats were launched, the sun was burning off the fog and everyone was in high spirits.

Of the 73 loyal Bruins gathered, only two alumni boats could be organized. They boated in the Julian Wolf and the Dr. Witt shells. The Bruin Varsity manned the Richard Bacas.

Geof Strand assumed announcing duties, taunting the current oarsman, while urging the alumni to be creative with any dirty trick that might give them an advantage. The boats paddled toward the Pacific Avenue bridge, turned around and were off with a fair start. The crowd roared with appreciation as the three shells raced past the boathouse.



Geof led the Eight Clap, “row to win”.

The “old oars” composed of eighties alums, pictured below, (Frank Kovac '80 stroke, Richard Maire '80, Scott Case '81,



Mark Klein '88, Augie Johnson '88, Kevin Ivey '80, Bob Baldwin '80, Riley Cook '18) were declared by Geof to be victorious, although there was significant doubt voiced by those on the shore. The three boats ran several more pieces, while the unofficial shore side referees reviewed what turned out to be “irrefutable” video evidence that in fact the “old men” had won! Dazed and confused, the winning alumni boat returned to the dock.

An awards and picture taking ceremony was followed by a delicious barbecue hosted by our current student athletes. A good time was had by all.



'00 & '10 Alumni Boat



Marshall Knight '09, Poppy Carlig & Alex Blaseio '09



Mitch Henderson '76, Matt Smith '81 & Duncan Henderson '71



Frank Kovac '80 and family



Norm Witt '75 & Brad Stapleton '08



Angie Johnson '88 & Bob Baldwin '80

Friends of UCLA Men's Rowing
c/o Sheila Parker Tolle
970 Cloud Ave.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

ABOUT FOUR AND YOUR CONTRIBUTION

The Friends of UCLA Men's Rowing (FOUR) provides financial support and assistance to the UCLA Men's Crew. The Men's Crew is wholly self-financed by oarsmen, alumni, and friends. For the program to continue to grow and prosper, it is vital that new sources of revenue be found.



Current Funding: Today each UCLA oarsman must pay roughly \$1200 per year to row. This figure covers approximately half of the per-oarsman cost of equipment, travel, salaries, uniforms, etc. The balance of the annual operating budget must be made up with contributions from donors. To ensure the young men who want to row have the same rich rowing experience we had, you can help by sponsoring an oarsman for a year through a donation of \$1200.

Future Funding: One of the most important functions of FOUR is building an endowment. A gift to the Endowment will provide for the program in perpetuity.

How You Can Donate:

Online: You can give online by clicking the link "GIVE NOW" in the upper right corner of our website at www.uclamensrowing.com.

By Check/Mail: All checks should be made payable to "UCLA Foundation," please indicate on the memo portion of your check either:

- Men's Crew Current Expenditure Account
- Men's Crew Endowment

Mail to: Friends of UCLA Men's Rowing
c/o Kevin Still
5 Ivy Place
Hartsdale, NY 10530

You will be mailed a receipt from The UCLA Foundation specifying the amount and specific fund designated. Please verify that your donation was directed according to your wishes.

FOUR is a non-profit organization as defined in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (Tax Identification No. 95-3426607) and is affiliated with the UCLA Alumni Association. Operational and endowment funds raised by FOUR become part of the UCLA Foundation. Your donations are tax deductible.
