



# WOMEN *for* OSU

2012 Fall Newsletter

*When Women Give Back*



2012 WOMEN FOR OSU SYMPOSIUM





# Ann Hargis

## First Cowgirl

As First Cowgirl of OSU, I am honored to have a voice, but I believe we all have the opportunity to be involved in organizations designed to benefit this community, like Women for Oklahoma State University.

These women are not in it for themselves but are zealous about giving back and forging relationships with other women. I am passionate about the work Women for OSU does in the form of scholarships, leadership and giving back to the community.

One of the best aspects of Women for OSU is the sense of inclusiveness, regardless if your degree is from here. Some may assume that you need to be an alumna of OSU, but I have found that many of these women, like me, are not Oklahoma State graduates. However, they bring value to the group, whether it's in the form of ideas, time or new connections. They are women from all over the United States, not just Stillwater, and I'm also excited to see the numerous others we will reach with the new OSTATE.TV get involved.

The encouragement of my husband, Burns Hargis, has been especially important to Women for OSU. He was responsible for the first woman member of the Oklahoma City Rotary Club when he was president, so it's evident that he has always celebrated women's contribution to society.

I see Women for OSU complementing everything we are doing at OSU, and I am thrilled to be a part of it.

Sincerely,

*Ann Hargis*  
Ann Hargis



visit [osugiving.com/women/annhargis](https://osugiving.com/women/annhargis) for Ann's video interview

# Trish Houston Prawl

# Q&A

## **As the organization's new chairwoman, what plans do you have for Women for OSU?**

We are continuing to strengthen and solidify the organization. We want to become part of the institutional memory and culture of OSU. To do that, we must make relevant, significant contributions.

## **At the top of that list must be the scholarships the organization supports.**

Yes. It's our responsibility to give back and provide opportunities – leadership opportunities, education opportunities, work opportunities – to young people. We want to inspire them to make our world a better place just as we strive to do. I think it's critical that we lead by example, and I'm willing to put in the time and effort to make that happen.

## **What do you say if someone asks you why you are so willing to give to help others?**

Why not? You're only here for a short time. I feel like God has truly blessed me with so many things in my life. I just feel like we need to give back. We're not Albert Einstein. We aren't going to change the entire world, but we can change it a little bit. We can make our piece of the world better. We're doing that by helping young people, providing opportunities, inspiration and leadership.

## **Regional events are a new outlet for the group to inspire difference-makers. How are those going?**

They are a terrific way to spread the word about Women for OSU. We are "Making Friends for OSU" at every event. Those and the annual symposium are such vivid reminders of how passionate these women are about Oklahoma State University. As an organization, we harness that energy to make a difference.

## **I know you are pretty passionate about OSU.**

I think that the mission of Oklahoma State is so much greater than any one of us. I've been blessed with an education from Oklahoma State. I've been blessed with so many things in my life and I just want to give back, not only to Oklahoma State but also the state of Oklahoma. I think it's the greatest state in the union, and at OSU we have the greatest students.

## **Clearly you are a woman for OSU, but you also say that term applies to women who aren't official members of the council.**

All women who love "the brightest orange" are Women for OSU. Oklahoma State has a mission of educating our students to go out and do greater good, improve the world and give back. The land-grant culture of our university commands each graduate to do exactly that. My life is richer because I am involved with a group of women with high ideals, strong work ethic, moral principles, and who are also a lot of fun. I hope other passionate women will come to our events and join in this effort.



# OSU benefits from unique women

*with shared passion*

Women for Oklahoma State University's success shows that when women give back, change happens. While this diverse group of alumnae and friends share a passion for inspiring leadership through their support of OSU, they know that every philanthropist has a unique heart – *and consequently makes a unique difference.*

**Judi Baker** is a two-time alumna whose family connection with OSU began when her grandfather became a professor and later dean in the veterinary college. Also, her grandmother was an English professor, and Baker's parents, brother and her two children are all alumni.

Her contributions to OSU reflect three values she was taught from a young age – the importance of philanthropy, appreciation for art, and the beauty of orange and black. That is why she financially supports and serves on the committee for the Doel Reed Center for the Arts in Taos, N.M.

“My father was an amateur artist and museums were always a destination on family outings,” says Baker, who is also a member of the Women for OSU Council. “My parents knew the Reed family well because they lived next door. Like many Stillwater families, they collected Doel Reed's artwork as well as works by other regional artists and OSU art professors.”

Baker has decided to honor her family's legacy by leaving a gift for the Doel Reed Center in her estate.

“OSU has provided my family and me with so many opportunities, treasured memories and friendships,” Baker says. “I have such a sense of pride for the progress and strides OSU has made

over the years in so many areas and I'm especially proud of the more recent emphasis on the arts with the Doel Reed Center for the Arts, the Performing Arts Center and the downtown Postal Plaza Gallery. I know my family would want to wholeheartedly support the opportunities the Doel Reed Center for the Arts will provide for OSU students and faculty as well as continuing the legacy of their friends, the Reeds.”

Another alumna passionately supporting OSU is **Suzanne Myers**. She and her husband, Norman, are both Spears School of Business graduates, and they make significant contributions reflecting their education. Their largest gifts have named the dean's suite in the new business building and endowed a chair for excellence in business administration, held by Dean Larry Crosby.

“We started coming back to campus when Norman was inducted into the Spears School Hall of Fame,” Suzanne says. “We have been able to interact with students and professors, and it has really shown us the need. As students, we weren't privy to fundraising going on. Tuition was unbelievably low then. I couldn't have gone to OSU if it hadn't been so low.”





JUDI BAKER



SUZANNE MYERS



ROXANNE POLLARD

Suzanne and her husband both grew up in middle-class families that instilled a giving spirit, and they consider themselves fortunate to be in a position to be so philanthropic. They sometimes give to areas where their passions don't overlap, but they both have OSU at the top of the list. Suzanne encourages others to return to campus and see how they might be able to make a difference for current and future students.

"On one of our visits, we both spoke to a class," Suzanne says. "The students were hungry to know what it would take to succeed in the great unknown. Their eagerness and questions made an impression. We want to help students come out of college with the ability to communicate, to speak, to write, to have the skills needed in the workplace."

**Roxanne Pollard** married into the OSU family through her husband, Dr. Barry Pollard. Now she clearly bleeds orange and serves on the Women for OSU Council. In fact, she proudly tells the story of being deemed an adopted alumna by another council member.

"Joining the OSU family is one of the best things that has ever happened to me," Roxanne says. "Barry and I have done a lot and been able to give a lot, and not just money. **Philanthropy is a lot more than just writing a check. It's making a difference in someone's life.**"

The Pollards do that in many ways. Barry founded the OSU Medical Cowboys scholarship program and is past chairman of the OSU Foundation Board of Trustees. He says Roxanne's support is why he can add service roles to his busy schedule as a neurosurgeon, rancher and owner of a chain of John Deere dealerships.

Meanwhile, Roxanne is active in Women for OSU and Medical Cowboys. She also joins her husband in financially supporting both programs and other OSU needs. Their largest contribution is an estate gift divided between an agribusiness professorship and scholarships for agronomy, animal science, football players and future health care professionals.

Roxanne says of all of her philanthropy, she is proudest of her affiliation with Women for OSU.

**"These ladies give so much of themselves and offer so much for others with all that they do," Roxanne says. "It is such a rewarding and inspiring group that really does a lot at Oklahoma State in many ways."**

# WOMEN *for* OSU

## 2013 Spring Symposium

*featuring*

### Holly Robinson Peete

Thursday, April 4, 2013

9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

ConocoPhillips OSU Alumni Center

The Women for OSU Symposium is a unique opportunity to gather in Stillwater to gain valuable knowledge about philanthropic decision-making and leadership while connecting with one another and the university. This annual sold-out event honors women who are making a difference by celebrating and recognizing the accomplishments and important roles they serve in the community.



**Holly Robinson Peete** is scheduled to deliver the keynote address for the 2013 symposium. Peete is an actress, activist, author and philanthropist, best known for her work on TV shows such as “21 Jump Street”, the CBS daytime talk show “The Talk”, “Hangin’ With Mr. Cooper” and “For Your Love”

In 1996, Peete and her husband, Rodney, a former NFL quarterback, formed the HollyRod Foundation, a nonprofit organization with a mission to help improve the quality of life of people plagued with devastating circumstances. The foundation was inspired by her father’s battle with Parkinson’s Disease, which ultimately took his life in 2002. HollyRod has expanded its mission recently with the formation of HollyRod4Kids that benefits many children’s causes, focusing on improving the quality of life for children in the Gulf Coast post-Katrina, Kenya and South Africa.

Peete has received numerous awards and honors for her philanthropic deeds. She believes profoundly in the power of philanthropy and lives by the motto, “Service is the rent you pay for living.”

At the symposium, Women for OSU also celebrates members of the OSU family who display leadership in philanthropy by naming a Philanthropist of the Year and awarding scholarships to Student Philanthropists of the Year.

If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities for next year’s symposium, please contact **Deb Engle** at [dengle@OSUgiving.com](mailto:dengle@OSUgiving.com) or 405.385.5600.

**Sponsorship opportunities** range from \$1,750 to \$10,000 and help support program costs and scholarships.



visit [osugiving.com/women/2013event](http://osugiving.com/women/2013event) for more information about the symposium



# Recap of 2012 Symposium

## Student Philanthropists of the Year

-in order from left to right



**Amelia Wilson** is a member of the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology Student Council and is the president of Engineers Without Borders, which is a program where participants design, build and test water purification technologies.

**Katie Haning** is active in the Community Health Fair, Junior Girl Scout Day, OSU Student Foundation and World Changers. She spent time in South Asia working at a girls' school through a cultural exchange program.

**Kelsey Cottom** serves as the president of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Student Council in addition to volunteering with Breast Cancer Awareness Week, Clean the Campus, Eskimo Joe's Juke Joint Jog, Morrison Funny Farm, Red Cross Community Blood Drive, Salvation Army Angel Tree and the Special Olympics.

**Rachel Benbrook** is a senator and vice chair of the Sustainability Committee for the Student Government Association. She is also active in Big Event, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Eco-OSU, Into the Streets, International Justice Museum, Mortar Board, OSU Student Foundation, Pencils of Promise, Relay for Life, Thanda, The Wells Project and TOMS Shoe Club.

**Mallory Ross** interned for Into the Streets, is a member of the OSU Student Foundation and volunteers with the Methodist Conference Church Camp. In high school, she organized Rock N Run Philanthropy, which is a fun run and carnival event supporting the regional food bank.



## Philanthropist of the Year

**Martha Burger**, senior vice-president of human and corporate resources at Chesapeake Energy, was named Philanthropist of the Year. Burger is a 1973 medical technology alumna who gave two record-setting gifts to OSU-Oklahoma City and FFA leadership officers attending the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.



## Keynote Speaker

The keynote speaker for the 2012 Spring Symposium was **Jennifer Buffett**, co-chair and president of the New York-based NoVo Foundation, a philanthropic organization focused on creating a more just and balanced world based on cooperation and partnership, primarily through the empowerment of girls and women.



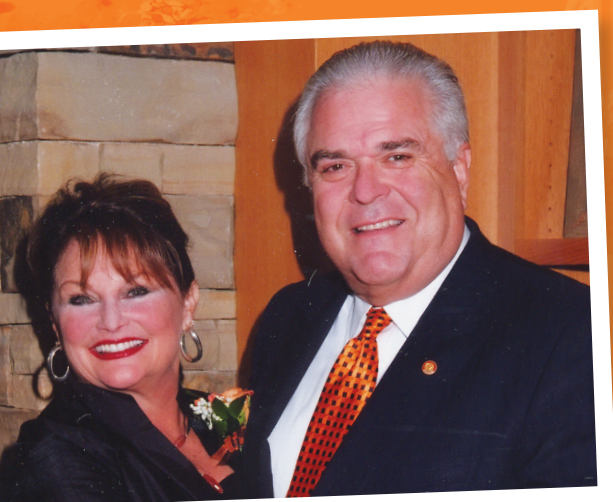
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## WHO WILL YOU REMEMBER?



Cathy and John Jameson were both born into OSU-loving families. They met on campus and later married. They passed the OSU gene onto their son and daughter, who also attended OSU and married fellow alumni. The love of orange and black also carried on to their successful company, Jameson Management, which employs 12 alumni.

John and Cathy make time in their busy schedules to serve OSU through various organizations, including her role as a founding member of Women for OSU. They also give to the university, highlighted by the Jameson Family Endowed Scholarship for future teachers.

"Staying involved with OSU keeps us connected to the university," Cathy says. "Our roots are deep in OSU tradition and loyalty. It's good to be able to give back."

Their estate will enhance the fund. Such generosity ensures the couple's passions continue to help others long after they are gone.

If you, like the Jamesons, have chosen to share your legacy with the OSU Foundation through an estate provision, we invite you to join the Heritage Society. Your generosity deserves recognition and the greatest possible benefits. When we know of your charitable designation, we can ensure your wishes for its use are met.



For more information, please contact the OSU Foundation at 1.800.622.4678 or visit [OSUgiving.giftlegacy.com](http://OSUgiving.giftlegacy.com).