



WOMEN *for* OSU

Celebrating Remarkable Women of OSU

2013 Summer Newsletter



Ann Hargis

First Cowgirl



Most philanthropists will tell you the positive feelings that come from giving are even stronger when the gift is sparked by passion. At OSU, the legacy of giving comes from people who are touched by this university and the emotion created by being on campus. Women for OSU clearly understands the passion and emotion that bonds those of us who bleed orange.

As First Cowgirl, I am often energized by our sense of family. Recently, I have witnessed a renewed sense of pride in the beauty of our campus, leading generous donors to help further enhance the vision.

The new Price Family Garden, which serves as an attractive entrance to campus in front of the Atherton Hotel, is an example of such generosity. Stuart and Linda Price, inspired by OSU's beauty and momentum, established this garden to honor mothers. The garden grows herbs, fruit trees, raspberries and other items that might have grown in your mother's garden.

Like many non-alumni, the Prices joined the OSU family because they felt the sense of nurturing, openness and compassion that defines us.

The diversity of our Cowboy family is one of our greatest strengths and is reflected in Women for OSU. These ladies help people unite their passion and unique opportunities to give back to the university.

Women for OSU continues the legacy of giving back by supporting our land-grant institution. In this newsletter you will read more about our history, including two women who helped establish it – Jessie Thatcher Bost and Angie Debo.

Together, we are continuing their work by making the world a brighter orange.

Sincerely,

Ann Hargis
Ann Hargis



visit osugiving.com/women/annhargis for Ann's video interview

HOW DO I BECOME A WOMAN FOR OSU?

To qualify for Women for OSU membership, donors are required to give \$1,000 or more annually to the Women for OSU Program or Scholarship fund.

There is power in our unity, and together we can make a significant impact on our students through philanthropy by providing an example of selfless giving.

THE BENEFITS OF BECOMING A WOMAN FOR OSU INCLUDE:

Special invitations to events such as the VIP sponsor reception with the annual Symposium speaker, regional Women for OSU events, and others; recognition on the Women for OSU website, on Symposium publications, in Women for OSU newsletters, potential ads in STATE magazine and other media sources; preferential seating at the annual Symposium; exclusive Women for OSU gift; and joint membership in the OSU Foundation's Presidents Club.

OSU has a long history of *Remarkable Women Worth Celebrating*

From the earliest days of Oklahoma A&M College to the modern success of Oklahoma State University, women have an unceasing legacy of enhancing this institution. They have led in official and unofficial capacities, given to help future Cowboys and Cowgirls, and served as inspirational examples of both personal and professional success.

Women for Oklahoma State University is kicking off the university's ongoing effort of "Celebrating the Remarkable Women of OSU" by highlighting historic and modern examples of this legacy such as Jessie Thatcher Bost, Angie Debo, Natalie Shirley and Diane Tuttle.

Natalie Shirley, a 1979 psychology and political science alumna, became the first female president in the OSU System when she was selected to lead OSU-OKC in 2011. She had been Oklahoma Secretary of Commerce and Tourism and director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. She was also president and CEO of ICI Mutual Insurance Group following a law career.



OSU-OKC PRESIDENT NATALIE SHIRLEY

Shirley grew up in Blackwell, where she remembers telling her high school counselor that she planned to attend law school.

"He actually laughed out loud at that," Shirley says. "I'm not sure if it was because I was a woman or because I come from a very modest background. When I got to OSU, I talked to Dr. (Robert) Spurrier about my plan and he said, 'Let's figure out how to get you there.' He never batted an eye, and I've found that to be the way it is throughout the OSU System."

She attributes the open attitude to the university's land-grant mission and a strong connection to the spirit Oklahoma forged during the pioneer days.

"After the land run, it took men and women standing shoulder to shoulder, working together to plow the fields, bring in the harvest, feed the cattle and literally make a life for themselves," Shirley says. "I don't think OSU has ever left that place – we know that it takes both men and women working side by side to move us forward." *continues*

The recognition will be for individuals only, not corporations, unless the business asks that an individual be recognized with its membership.

We will provide a complimentary Women for OSU T-shirt for those who write a check or pledge \$1,000 or more.

For more information, please contact Deb Engle at 405.385.5600 or dengle@OSUgiving.com.



Remarkable Women Worth Celebrating continued

Her husband, Charles Harrison, is also an OSU graduate. Despite the obligations of six children, they have generously given to many areas at their alma mater for decades. Since becoming an administrator, she has gained a deeper understanding of the importance of donor support.

"I now understand that it's more than just dollars," Shirley says.

"When someone donates, they affirm that you are going in the right direction. It is so helpful to know that the community believes we are addressing their needs and providing leaders."

Shirley is proud to say she is part of the long line of women OSU has helped mold into leaders, beginning with the first alumna of Oklahoma A&M College, **Jessie Thatcher Bost**. On June 9, 1897, Bost became the first woman to graduate from any college in Oklahoma.

Oklahoma A&M opened for enrollment in December 1891, offering courses from eighth grade through college. The first enrollees were 22 males and 23 females, including 16-year-old Stillwater native Jessie Thatcher. She studied the same subjects as the men and participated in required military drills. Only typhoid fever kept her from joining the inaugural graduating class of 1896.



JESSIE THATCHER BOST

Bost became a teacher, the first female president of the Alumni Association and a suffragette. When OSU built its first women's dorm in 1925, it was named Thatcher Hall in her honor. Today, scholarships and a room in the Edmon Low Library also carry her name.

In an 1898 paper titled "How I Worked My Way Through College," she wrote, "...any institution which brings up successive generations of young people with sound healthy notions of labor is a source of benefaction. Such is the college from which I graduated."

She added, **"I regarded all work honorable if honorably done, and a thing worth doing was worth doing well, and I was honored and respected by all."**

When she retired in 1946, OSU President Henry Bennett called her "Oklahoma's first woman of education." He added, "I like to think of her as a symbol of all that womanhood, womanly institutions and womanly courage have brought to our civilization."

That year, the legacy of successful women at OSU reached another highlight when Bennett hired famed historian **Angie Debo** to

teach summer classes. Debo published 13 books and hundreds of articles about Oklahoma and Native American history. In 1936, she wrote



ANGIE DEBO

“And Still the Waters Run: The Betrayal of the Five Civilized Tribes.” Its criticism of the treatment of Native Americans was controversial, delaying publication until 1940 and hindering her career.

“I am sometimes asked to state my ‘goals and ambitions in writing,’” Debo said. “I suppose I have only one: to discover truth and publish it.”

After Bennett hired her in 1946, she served as the library’s curator of maps from 1947-55 and taught Oklahoma history from 1957-58.

Gov. Brad Henry called Debo “Oklahoma’s greatest historian.” Bill Anoatubby, governor of the Chickasaw Nation, said she “did more for Native Americans than she probably ever knew. Her work enlightened America, not just those folks here in Oklahoma ... she told the truth in spite of having every reason not to.”

When Debo passed in 1988, she bequeathed her papers, books and literary rights to OSU, “with the sincere wish that anything which proves worth keeping in this bequest will be of use to future students of the university.” Her Edmon Low Library office, now named in her honor, houses this collection.

Her gift came just a few years after **Diane (Blackburn) Tuttle** worked in the library while completing a 1985 management degree in the Spears School of Business. Like Shirley, Thatcher and Bost, she found OSU supported everyone pursuing success.

“I had a rough first year there, because like a lot of kids going off to college, I had some struggles that piled up on top of each other,” Tuttle says.

“But it never occurred to me to leave — not once. I never gave up, and no one there ever gave up on me. They encouraged me, and I graduated in four years.”

Today, the Tulsan is proud to say she is a member of the Women for OSU Council, which is following the path many women have blazed.

“Angie Debo’s accomplishments were so wonderful, and she and Jessie Thatcher Bost really showed how to walk the talk,” Tuttle says. “They did things the right way and took care of future generations. You should always give back, and their example is priceless.”



DIANE TUTTLE

Tuttle had a “wonderful” career in the natural gas liquids industry, rising to a management position at ONEOK, but she has no regrets about giving it up to raise children.

Her entire family loves OSU, where her two daughters are now students and her husband, Stephen, graduated. The couple generously supports many academic and athletic projects at their alma mater.

“We feel very strongly that our educations really laid the foundation for our future success,” Tuttle says. “We’ve been very blessed, and this is our way of saying thanks.”

Debo, Shirley, Thatcher and Tuttle have each enhanced OSU both directly and as inspirational examples. Thatcher could have been writing about them and countless other Cowgirls when she penned the following line in “Who Rules the World,” her 1897 essay:

“With no desire for public renown, these mothers and daughters mold society into lofty ideals of manhood and womanhood yet still cling with loving touch to the traditions of the past.”

2014 WOMEN *for* OSU

Spring Symposium

featuring **Jean Chatzky**

Thursday, April 10, 2014

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

ConocoPhillips OSU Alumni Center

Jean Chatzky is scheduled to deliver the keynote address for the 2014 spring symposium. Chatzky is the financial editor for NBC's "Today Show," an award-winning personal finance journalist, AARP's personal finance ambassador, the host of "Money Matters with Jean Chatzky" on RLTV and a sought-after motivational speaker.

Among Chatzky's eight books is New York Times bestseller "Money 911: Your Most Pressing Money Questions Answered, Your Money Emergencies Solved." In 2009 her book "The Difference: How Anyone Can Prosper in Even the Toughest Times" received the personal finance Books for a Better Life Award. She is also the author of New York Times and Business Week bestseller "Pay It Down: From Debt to Wealth on \$10 a Day," which was featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show's successful "debt diet" series.

Chatsky has received numerous awards and honors for her dedication to personal finance education. She was the 2009 recipient of the Consumer Federation of America's Betty Furness Consumer Media Service Award, and was named one of the country's best magazine columnists by The Chicago Tribune.

She believes that knowing how to manage your money is one of the most important life skills and has made it her mission to increase financial literacy. She recently launched online classes on saving, budgeting, debt and retirement planning through her Money School program.

The University of Pennsylvania graduate serves on the board of the Children's Heart Foundation and the National Foundation for Credit Counseling. She is also a member of the Trustees' Council of Penn Women and sits on the board of the Kelly Writers House.

At each 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 or 405.385.5600.

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



visit osugiving.com/women/2014event for more information about the symposium



Recap of 2013 Symposium

Student Philanthropists of the Year

-in order from left to right

Rebekah Sook is a biochemistry and molecular biology freshman from Midwest City. She is active in Cru, The Biochemistry Club and the Pre-Health Club. Sook volunteers with organizations such as Feed the Children, Oklahoma Food Bank, Mission Arlington, i-Go Youth Ministries and numerous others.

Alysa Hooper of Norman is a human development and family science freshman with a passion for helping children. She embodies this through involvement in organizations such as Community Action Ministries, Teen Advisors of Norman, Cornerstone Kids' Ranch and several others.

Chris Stockton, a Duncan native, is a management and accounting sophomore. He volunteers with Pencils of Promise and Toys for Tots as well as being a National Fraternity Executive member, Dance Marathon Finance Director and OSU Top Ten Freshman.

Marti Going, a multimedia journalism junior, views philanthropy as giving part of yourself through time, talent or creativity to improve the quality of life for someone else. The Pryor native is a reporter for The Daily O'Collegian who volunteers for adult special education and Habitat for Humanity. She was a 2012 President's Honor Roll student and received the Top Multimedia Production Junior Award.

Hanna Langley, a biochemistry and molecular biology junior, also has a heart for children. The Winfield, Kan., native organized and participated in numerous events benefitting Children's Miracle Network and volunteered at several hospitals among many other activities.



STUDENT PHILANTHROPISTS OF THE YEAR



SUE TAYLOR



HOLLY ROBINSON PEETE

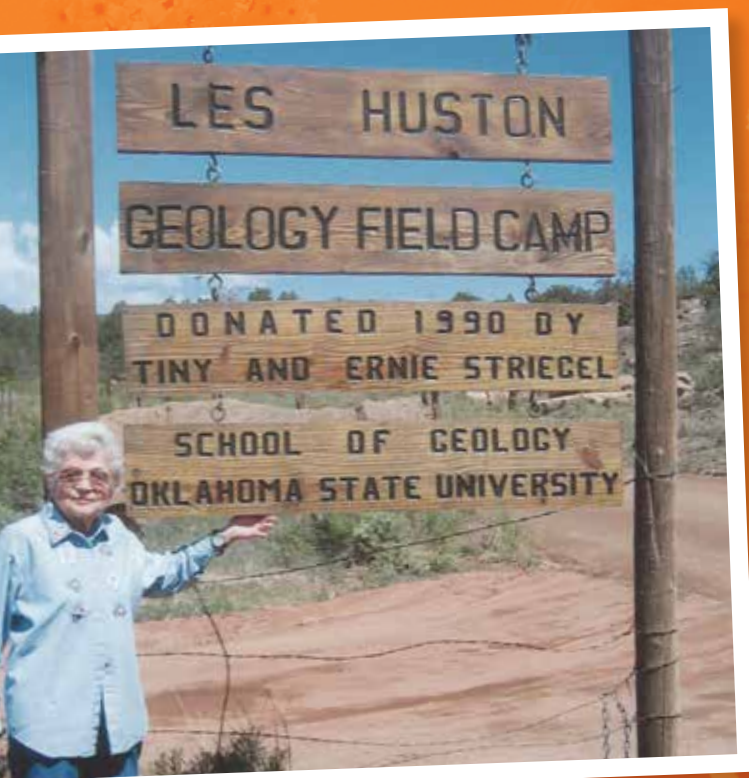
Philanthropist of the Year

Sue Taylor is an Enid community leader, supporter of many causes, homemaker and loyal Oklahoma State University child development and family sciences alumna. She and her husband, John, are responsible for establishing the College of Human Sciences' first professorship in 1990, endowing four President's Distinguished Scholarships, providing for the creation of Taylor's Dining Room, becoming Founding Partners of the Distinguished Chef Scholarship Series and providing a lead gift for Karsten Creek Golf Course.

Keynote Speaker

The keynote speaker for the 2013 Spring Symposium was **Holly Robinson Peete**, an actress, activist, author and philanthropist. In 1996, Peete and her husband, Rodney, a former NFL quarterback, created the HollyRod Foundation, a nonprofit organization with a mission to improve the quality of life for individuals and families living with autism and Parkinson's disease.

“TINY” PROVIDES UNIQUE SUPPORT



Les Huston began leasing his Canon City, Colo., land to OSU for geology camps in 1949. In 1990, his daughter, Dorothy “Tiny” Striegel, donated the land along with money and her services to help the camp thrive. She has also established multiple charitable gift annuities with the OSU Foundation, totaling \$155,000.

“With my annuities, I receive income for my lifetime and OSU will benefit on my death when they direct the balance of my account to the field camp endowment,” Striegel says. “This is a good deal for me and the school.”

She has also included OSU in her will, pushing her total contributions beyond \$500,000. OSU President Burns Hargis recently gave her a 13-inch bronze Pistol Pete statue with an inscription expressing the university’s “warmest appreciation for your gifts.”

If you are interested in following Striegel’s example of reflecting your unique orange passion through personalized support, please contact the OSU Foundation Office of Gift Planning at 1.800.622.4678 or visit [OSUgiving.giftlegacy.com](https://osugiving.giftlegacy.com).