

Focus On...

Friends of Woodstock School, Inc.

An independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization supporting the educational mission and purposes of Woodstock School

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T.Z. Chu '52

T.Z.'s family wrote on September 17, 2016:

"Dear Friends and Colleagues of T.Z.,

It is with great sadness that we share the news of T.Z.'s passing at our home on Thursday, September 15. He died peacefully surrounded by his family. T.Z. fought a valiant three year battle with first esophageal and then throat cancer. He was admired and beloved by people around the world and his legacy will live on through his generosity of spirit and support."

Along with many, many messages from alumni, friends, and others throughout the world, Jane Cummings, past FWS Executive Director, wrote to Li Chu and expressed what we all have felt and shared in our own personal ways:

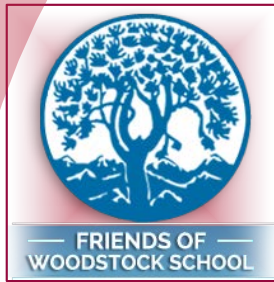
"Dear Li,

Even though we knew it was coming there is a finality to death that jars and disorients. No more the opportunity to share an idea, get an opinion, ask for advice, have a stimulating conversation. The voice of the friend, family member, loved one is forever stilled. And what a voice and presence in all our lives was TZ! How fortunate to have known him, worked with him, learned from him, been part of working toward the realization of our shared human values and ideals with him. Love and thoughts to all of you."

We were blessed to have T.Z.'s vibrant and often smiling presence at the July 2016 Annual Meeting & Reunion held on the UCLA campus just months ago now. Marlin Schoonmaker's tribute and recognition of Li Chu '59 during Khana was memorable for all of us, richly deserved, and deeply appreciated by T.Z.

As part of a larger document, Jane Cummings recently wrote a tribute to T.Z. which we'd like to share with you. It ends with, "You'll always be loved, and never be forgotten." Do take a moment to open [this link](#) and read it.

Los Angeles, CA UCLA



2016

We hope you were there!

A renowned university, beautiful campus, reconnecting with classmates and friends, amazing programs and presentations, a beautiful tribute to Li Chu '59, the bazaar, silent auction, live auction at Khana, what a wonderful weekend! THANK YOU to everyone who made this all possible. A year's worth of planning needs a special recognition of this year's committee who worked "above and beyond" to make it all come together!

Our 2016 FWS Annual Meeting & Reunion Planning Committee

Lorrie Doman-Sheydayi '87, Chair

Grace Jones (S)

Xina Kingshill '73

Kim Labinger '74

Hank Lacy '63

Jessie Lacy '65

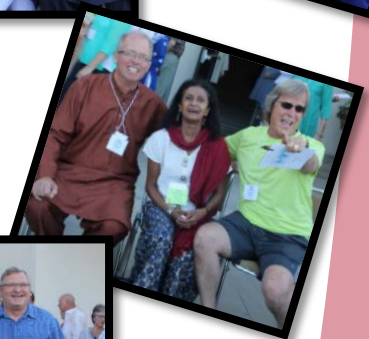
David Rand '80

Michael Singh '71

Norma St. John '62

And... FWS Staff

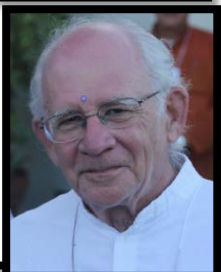
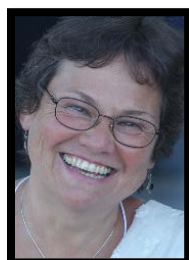
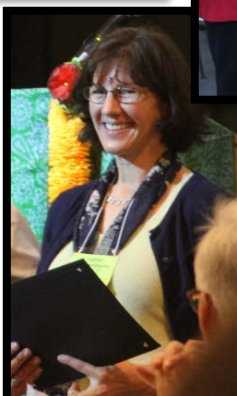
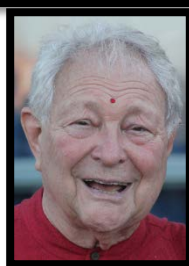
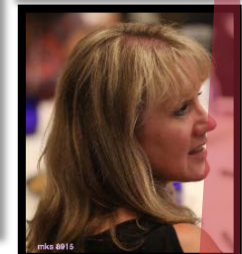
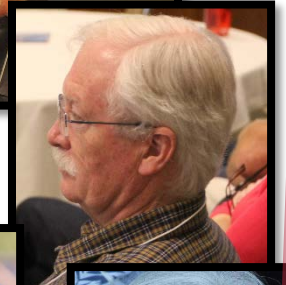
David Wheeler and Connie Wheeler



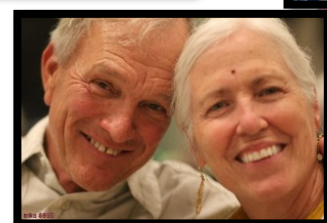
Many Thanks to Michael Singh '71
Michael Singh Productions, Inc.
All photos on this page courtesy of Michael Singh.



Happy Faces!



All photos on this page courtesy of Michael Singh '71.





And this is what you said...

Excerpt from T.Z. Chu's '52 weekly Class Letter

"Allow me to say that it was one of the best reunions I have ever had the privilege to attend – and, I have attended over 30. The weather was perfect, the facilities were great, the planning and executions in every detail by the FWS board members and local volunteers were super, and the program content was rich, diverse, meaningful, and striking. My only regret was that there were three sessions which took place in parallel with two others, which made it impossible to attend all. The reunion was energetically launched at 5pm Friday evening with warm welcome by Lorrie Doman-Sheydayi '87, Chair of FWS Alumni Committee, who will be greatly missed next year - because she has reached her term-limit - for the high standard she had set for the Committee. She most deservedly won this year's Glenn Conrad Volunteer-of-the-Year award. The standing applause cannot come close to reflect our appreciation and thanks."

Excerpt from Judie Landry's '51 Class Letter

"Hank Lacy '63 did a great job with the In Memorium video honoring those who have passed on since the last reunion. After lunch people were doing a variety of things in Los Angeles or going to the Creative Writing class led by John Alter '65. That night Charlene Chitambar Connell '51 and Hank led the gathering in Woodstock songs and memories of all kinds. I had to leave that afternoon to continue my journey, but it was a very good reunion. Next year Boston!"



Excerpt from Bob Fleming '54 as sent by Marianna McJimsey '54

"I had tears in my eyes. From laughing during the final moments of the 2016 reunion, a time when we enjoyed Woodstock songs interspersed with stories of the past. Some of the tales, especially as recounted by John Alter '65 and Tom Alter '68, had us cracking up. And that master musician Charlene Chitambar Connell '51 at the keyboard and as the lead voice led the singing of our favorite school songs. The UCLA campus, with good facilities and space, was a fine choice for the reunion and the organizing committee did a bang up job. I didn't hear one complaint – and had any surfaced would not have listened."



All photos on this page courtesy of Michael Singh '71.

2016's Alumni Enrichment Activity in Yosemite



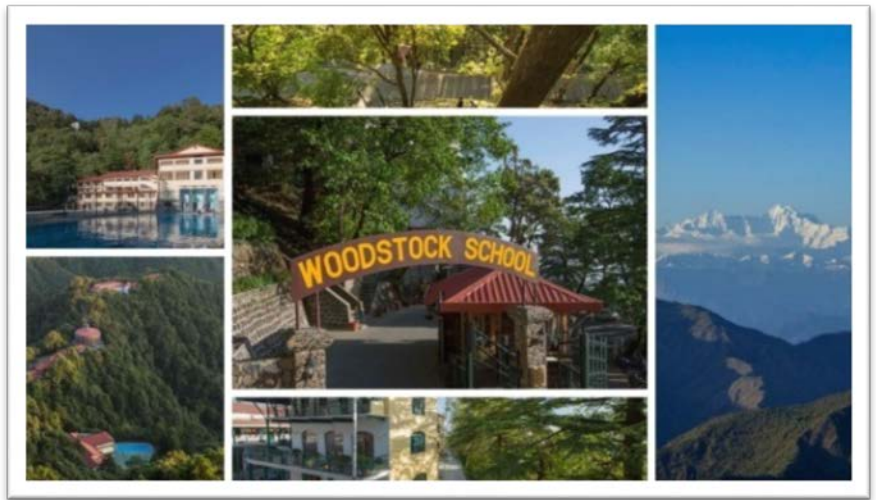
From Barry Gilmore '73

"I wanted to extend my gratitude to everyone who attended the Yosemite trip, and especially to Shalini and Janine, as it made my time there most exciting, entertaining and joyful. I had lost contact with a lot of people I had gone to school with in Woodstock along with the memories of the magic of Woodstock and Mussoorie. Having the privilege of living, hiking, talking, laughing and traveling with so many at one time refilled a hole that I wasn't fully aware existed. And now, after leaving Yosemite and California, I am overfilled with warm memories, with exciting dialogue and associations with new and old friends that, I have no doubt, will enrich my life for years to come, inshallah. Now if I can attend more of these reunions when possible in the future I'll be able to keep the "gas tank" full. Thanks everyone for being there and for the pleasure of all your company. Happy trails and exciting adventures, here's to future meetings."

Photos courtesy of Barry Gilmore '73, Marlin Schoonmaker '67, Alan Howard '81, Janine Clayton '72, Jim Rugh '60, Patricia Whitcomb Green-Sotos '72, Philip McEldowney '59, Bruce Davis '73, Deb Baur '74, and Rebecca Kose '72.



Upcoming Events



2016 Worldwide Woodstock Day

Saturday, October 22, 2016

Don't miss out!

For information about Woodstock Club events in your area, check out Upcoming Gatherings on the FWS website at <http://www.fwsfoundation.org/index.php/alumni/upcoming-gatherings> or let us know what you have planned, and we'll post your information!! Contact **Connie Wheeler** at Connie@fwsfoundation.org

Hanifl Center Mussoorie Mountain Festival

May 18, 19, and 20, 2017

The Mussoorie Mountain Festival was founded in 2005 by Stephen Alter in conjunction with Mussoorie Writers. It was initially established with the aim of celebrating Mussoorie's Literary Heritage. It has since redefined itself to become a broader Mountain Festival at the heart of which is a community celebration of Himalayan culture, natural history and exploration. The broad theme is "Conservation" as it relates to the Himalaya. The festival begins with a music/cultural event on the evening of May 18th and sessions on the 19th and 20th. During the 2017 festival, distinguished authors, photographers, filmmakers, mountaineers and conservationists will come together for panel discussions, story sharing and open dialogue on topics related to the theme of conservation.

2017 Annual Meeting and Reunion – Mark your Calendars!

August 4, 5 and 6, 2017

Babson College Executive Conference Center (Wellesley Campus)

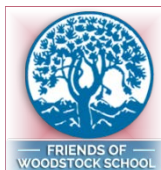
Wellesley, Massachusetts (A suburb 20 miles from Boston's Logan International Airport)

More details to come! Registration will open in late 2016. Watch the FWS website for updates.



FWS Board of Directors

Marlin Schoonmaker '67 – President
Virgil Miedema – Vice-President
David Schoonmaker '62 – Secretary
Chris Morris '87 – Treasurer
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Lucy Wilson Dorenfeld '67
Jonathan Long – Principal, Woodstock School
Molly Seiders '87



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