

# Focus On...

Friends of Woodstock School, Inc.

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

## Saint Paul, MN University of St. Thomas



A beautiful campus, a chance to visit with friends, delicious meals, much to see and do, we hope you were there! Many, many thanks to EVERYONE who made this year's reunion possible with special thanks to:

### Our 2015 FWS Annual Meeting & Reunion Planning Committee

- Lorrie Doman-Sheydayi '87, Chair
- Sophia Anema '82
- Jan Davidson '76
- Sarah Doebler '94
- Clem Douglass '54
- Nancy Lindell Garrison '64
- Kathy Hoffmann (S)
- Jessie Lacy '65
- Hank Lacy '63
- Bette Dean Larson '69
- David Sorley '59
- And...
- Li Chu '59 and David Wheeler (S)

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# Oasis Global

Classmates and guests at the 2015 Reunion will not soon forget **Andy Matheson's keynote address – *Stop Human Trafficking***. Mr. Matheson is a Board Member and the International Director of Oasis Global. He began his Woodstock teaching assignment in 1979 and continued until 1992 in various positions. In the 1990s he pioneered work for Oasis among street children in India, individuals who were ostracized from their communities because of their HIV status, and girls trafficked into prostitution. Over the past 10 years he has led the growth of the organization across the world. Mr. Matheson speaks in churches, at conferences, and leads seminars around the world on the subjects of both holistic mission and leadership. Andy and his wife, Joan, have three grown children who also have international interests.



Oasis works in communities in Bangladesh, Belgium, England, India, Kyrgyzstan, North America, Mozambique, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe. In every country, activity is developed in a way that is relevant to the local context and each base is managed by the community. The work is overseen by a global executive and a global council, which reinforces Oasis' vision of creating communities of wholeness where everyone can realize their God-given potential.



If you would like to learn more about Oasis Global, visit their website: [www.oasisglobal.org](http://www.oasisglobal.org)



## 2015's Alumni Enrichment Activity

**Canoeing the Boundary Waters** was a fun, five-day trip. **Bruce Amstutz '44** set the record for oldest to go on trail at the Wilderness Base Camp outfitters. On trail, thanks to Kennedy Reed we soon learnt the rhythms of paddling with each other, swamped several canoes, recovered, learnt the protocol of the three or so portages, and completed our approximately 22-mile route. Weather was favorable, campers were companionable, water temperature suitable for swimming, and the campfire stories richly diverse spanning a full 70 years between the youngest, Eliza Edlund (a "swamper" 17-year-old volunteer), and **Bruce Amstutz**. We had beautiful camp locations with the last one at American Point looking across the channel towards Canada. Liz Hereford, **Bruce Davis' '73** daughter, demonstrated fire skills which son-in-law John Hereford assured us were not an anomaly. We learnt an important new term "GL" (you had to be there). Mosquitoes were nearly absent for which **Brothers Schoonmaker '62 and '67** were grateful. Upon return to Base Camp we met **Laura Bunkowksi**, Camp Chaplain, who announced she had been the Woodstock School Chaplain for a year! You never know where a Woodstock connection lurks around you. Next year Yosemite!

— Submitted by **Marlin Schoonmaker '67**



## 2016's Alumni Enrichment Activity

**Yosemite Hiking Trip!** Three days, four nights for up to 30 people in shared cabins, July 11<sup>th</sup> – July 15<sup>th</sup> immediately following the 2016 Annual Meeting and Reunion in Los Angeles. With three optional day hikes, all skill levels are welcome! Each hike will focus on a different section of the park: Tuolumne Meadows, Yosemite Valley including Vernal or Mist Falls, and Mariposa Grove including Glacier Point. Hikes will be led by alum and hiking enthusiast **Shalini Prakash Agarwal '72**. The price (TBD) will include housing and food for group-prepared meals. You will be responsible for travel to Yosemite and the park entrance fee. Whether you want to hike or simply "kick back," don't miss this opportunity to enjoy the grandeur of Yosemite National Park and the camaraderie of fellow alumni. More details to come. Registration will open in November 2015 at [www.fwsfoundation.org](http://www.fwsfoundation.org) or call (425)353-8422.





*Visiting Glenburn is like arriving in a little corner of heaven ~ and almost as remote.*

- CONDÉ NAST TRAVELLER

If you attended this year's Khana Banquet, you'll remember the impromptu, exciting live auction for four days and three nights at the absolutely stunning Glenburn Tea Estate. Many, many thanks to **Sudhir Prakash '67** and **Shalini Prakash Agarwal '72** for their generosity and wonderful donation! Three Prakash Family siblings and two children have attended Woodstock School. **Marjorie Clayton**, mother of **Jamie Clayton Ledford '69** and **Janine Clayton '72** was the successful bidder for this amazing getaway package.

**Mr. Prakash** has written, *"Sometime around 1930 my grandfather and his brother, who were grocers in Dehra Doon, persuaded the spiritual leader and ruler Mahant of the Gurudwara, Guru Rami Rai, to lease Goodridge Tea Estate to them. From these humble beginnings they took over tea estates from the departing British in the 40's and 50's and eventually came to own tea estates in nearly every tea-growing area of India, and were known as the Chaiwala Family. I have personally looked after gardens in Dehradun, Assam, Darjeeling, Dooars, Palampur and South India. I am a third generation tea planter. I have already passed the baton to the fourth generation, my son, Anshuman (Class of '91) and hope the fifth generation, Arjun, his son will carry on the legacy."*



*"Tea is the second most consumed drink in the world, surpassed only by water. All teas including black, green, oolong, white & pu'erh come from the same plant. All other beverages that are often referred to as tea are not actually teas but "tisanes" or herbal teas. In recent years there have been many studies showing the health benefits of tea, including aid against some cancers, lower cholesterol, weight loss, anti-inflammatory, anti-viral, and as an anti-oxidant. But tea is not only good for the body but for the soul as well. Tea rituals, the social aspects of afternoon tea and the personal way of incorporating tea into your daily life causes one to slow down and relax."*



**Ms. Agarwal** writes, *"Tea purchases in the USA have been rising for the last 20 years, while coffee has been in decline. Consumers are discovering the taste, experience and health benefits of tea. According to the Tea Association of the USA, tea sales are forecast to double over the next five years. Producers of teas from India and other tea producing countries have begun to market directly to consumers. This has led in the recent past to the mushrooming growth of specialty tea shops throughout the country. We are stocking teas from our family farms in Darjeeling and Assam in Los Angeles and supplying to the specialty tea shops for the last four years. I see a bright future for tea in USA."*



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

# Class of '87

## CHAOS – Class of '87's 38<sup>th</sup> Reunion

At the FWS Annual Meeting this past summer in Saint Paul, the Class of '87 gathered together for their 38<sup>th</sup> reunion. Others may ask, why gather for your 38<sup>th</sup> reunion? But in our Chaotic world – it was a logical choice. Classmates **Merryn Glover**, who is the author of "A House Called Askival," led one of the weekend's breakout sessions and **Christabal Kiangte Corazza**, a professional singer, performed beautifully at both the Khana Dinner, as well as in the Sunday service. And the Class of '87 has a strong leadership presence on the FWS Board of Directors with **Chris Morris**, **Molly Seiders** and **Lorrie Doman-Sheydayi**, and with **Marcus Shaw** on staff at Woodstock. The joy of the gathering was seeing old friends, which expanded beyond the nucleus of our class to beloved teachers, student teachers and surrounding "adopted" classmates.

Our class went on an evening Pedal Pub tour of downtown Saint Paul. Envision sitting at a picnic table with pedals, as the contraption slowly wheeled around town, stopping at the local favorite brew pub called Great Waters. Hilarity ensued with a police escort through a busy intersection - flashing lights and all! The next morning, we went on a casual stroll, enjoying Minnesota's wildflowers and the great Mississippi River.

We would like to thank **Kathy Hoffmann** for sharing her love of Saint Paul and suggesting great activities for our class reunion. So, who's going to join us for our 39<sup>th</sup> reunion on the West Coast next year in 2016? We truly don't need an official invitation to enjoy the company of old friends – come one, come all!

— Submitted by **Lorrie Doman-Sheydayi '87**



## Classes of '60, '65, '67

These classes also held special reunions. **Class of '60** had 15 alumni, spouses and guests attending with **Edith Theis-Nielsen** traveling all the way from Denmark, **Class of '65** had nine alumni plus spouses and guests, and **Class of '67** had 25 alumni and spouses. Get your classmates together for 2016!!



## Upcoming Events

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### **2015 Worldwide Woodstock Day**

**Saturday, October 17, 2015**

Don't miss out!

For information about Woodstock Club events in your area, check out

<http://friendsofwoodstockschool.org/info.php?R=FOW&L=&P=Info&S=TOP:Clubs> or let us know what you have planned, and we'll post your upcoming gatherings!! Contact **Lorrie Doman-Sheydayi '87** at [Ldomansheydayi@yahoo.com](mailto:Ldomansheydayi@yahoo.com)

### **Mussoorie Writers Mountain Festival**

**October 22 – 25, 2015**

This year's Festival will focus on "Women and Mountains." Thanks to the donation from the Paul and Suzanne Hanifl Foundation, Friends of Woodstock School is supporting the Mussoorie Writers Mountain Festival. Entrance is free, but all guests are asked to register online through *Eventbrite*. Pre-registration links for each day:

October 23, click on this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mussoorie-writers-mountain-festival-india-23-october-registration-15663522016>

October 24, click on this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mussoorie-writers-mountain-festival-india-24-october-tickets-18111675509>

### **2016 Annual Meeting and Reunion – Mark your Calendars!**

**July 8 – 11, 2016**

**Los Angeles, California**

- Meet **Woodstock Principal Dr. Jonathan Long** and **K. Krishnan Kutty, Director of Hanifl Centre**
- Filmmaker **Mike Singh '71** will debut "Riding the Tiger," an autobiographical account of upheaval surrounding Indira Gandhi's assassination in 1984
- **Nandita Amin '73**, will give an account of her travel in Tibet at the FWS Well-Traveled Alumni Series
- Sunday service led by **Rev. Cheryl Beachy Paulovich '69**
- Friday catered **California Cuisine** dinner
- Saturday **Khana Banquet** and **Live Auction** featuring,
  1. **Five nights at a beachfront condo in Port Alfred, South Africa**, with 18-hole golf and one-day photo safari
  2. **Three nights at historic Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Canada**
- **Class of '66 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion** • **Class of '81 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion**
- Optional Sunday afternoon excursion to the **Getty Center**



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WOODSTOCK SCHOOL

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Marlin Schoonmaker '67 – President  
Woodrow Turner '61 – Vice-President  
David Schoonmaker '62 – Secretary  
Chris Morris '87 – Treasurer  
Pritam Advani '76  
Lorrie Doman-Sheydayi '87  
Virgil Miedema  
Molly Seiders '87  
Jonathan Long – Principal, Woodstock School

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