

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow Varsity O Members and Buckeyes,

Welcome to 2019 and a year full of excitement and success ahead for Buckeye Nation! It is, "A New Day" with Ryan Day taking the helm as OSU's 25th Head Football Coach. With the opening of the state-of-the-art Schumaker Complex, many of our Olympic sports have access to a world-class training facility that benefits our Buckeyes. The 2019 opening of both the Covelli Center and The Jennings Family Wrestling Facility will provide new homes for a multitude of sporting events and practice facilities that will undoubtedly provide a whole new Buckeye experience! With more conference & national championships, All-Americans, and Buckeye graduates on the horizon, the future undoubtedly emulates *Excellence*.

As you know, the Varsity O motto is "Athletes Helping Athletes".

As the Varsity O Board, we are consistently looking for ways to engage our members and provide experiences and opportunities that constitute the value of being a Varsity O Member. We continue to provide unique and engaging events that provide an opportunity to reconnect with former teammates and friends, celebrate the years spent together, and welcome and attract newcomers and recent graduates to Varsity O. The Hall of Fame banquet and Homecoming Tailgate continue to be our signature events, and we continue to strive to expand and enhance those events for our membership.

We continue to help fund athletic scholarships, post-graduate scholarships, and recognize team academic GPA awards for our student athletes. We also connect with current-student athletes through opportunities such as the Scarlet & Graymies, Dinner for 12, seasonal Letterjacket ceremonies, and Bucks Go Pro internships- that provide meaningful opportunities to build ongoing relationships. We continue to utilize our funds, from your support, to help with capital projects for the Athletic Department. These investments are vital to ensure that our athletic programs can continue to offer our student-athletes access to world-class facilities.

As a former Women's Basketball player for the Buckeyes from 2002-2007, I had the privilege to play alongside teammates that became lifelong friends. I had the opportunity to play for a Hall of Fame coach, Jim Foster, who taught me lessons on the court that translate to life. And, I had the fortunate ability to win 3 Big Ten Championships along the way. Like many of you, Ohio State laid the foundation for my life and my career, and for that I will forever be grateful.

Fortunately, for me I have the privilege to be a member of another great Buckeye Team- Varsity O. My new teammates are our 15-member Varsity O board who are a phenomenal group of talented, successful, enthusiastic Buckeyes that work year-round to serve our membership and have helped VO earn accolades for being named an "Outstanding Alumni Society". Much gratitude is given to our former President, Ron Maciejowski, who did a stellar job leading us through 2018; as well as our Executive Board that continues to guide our mission. Additionally, I would like to thank Jonathan Sweet for his service as he transitions off of the VO board, and would like to introduce our newest Varsity O Board Member, Libby Graf O'Brien (WLAX) who will be a great addition to our board.

I look forward to serving you, our membership, over what undoubtedly will be an exciting and successful 2019! If you have thoughts, ideas, or suggestions that will continue to enhance Varsity O, please reach out to me or any of our board members.

Go Bucks!



Candace Dark
Varsity O President
Women's Basketball ('02-'07)

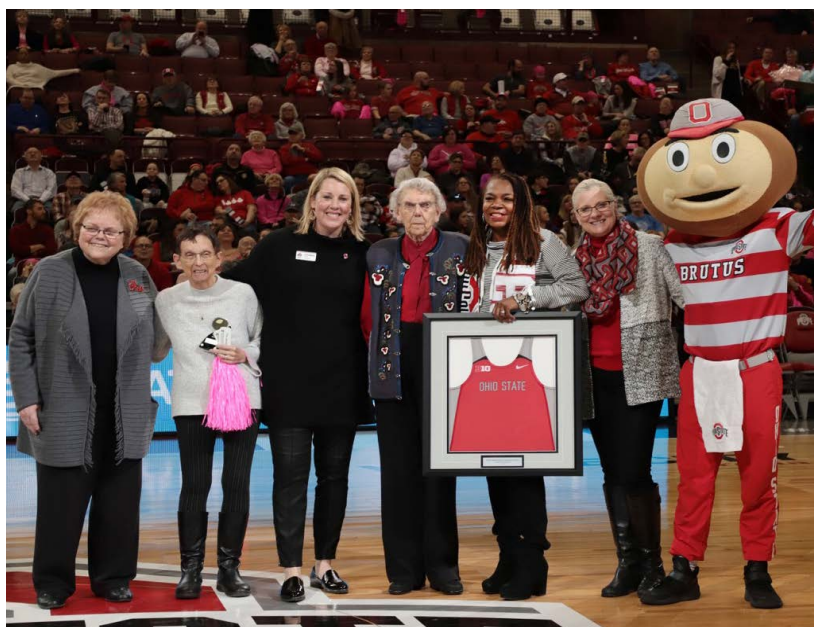


PHYLLIS BAILEY AND BARBIE TOOTLE CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Phyllis Bailey Career Achievement and Barbie Tootle Spirit awards were presented on Sunday, February 10th during the Women's Basketball game vs. Iowa. Theresa Bowers is the 18th recipient of the Barbie Tootle Spirit award. Theresa has worked for the University for 47 years, 28 of those in Athletics; serving in roles as an Administrative Assistant for WBB and the Ticket Office. She officially retired in 2012, but continues to work part-time in the ticket and event management office. She continues to be a huge supporter of all Buckeye Athletic Programs!

Stephanie Hightower, is the 12th recipient of the Phyllis Bailey Career Achievement award. An OSU Hall of Famer, Hightower was a world record holder, 1980 Olympian and was an NCAA and Big 10 champion in the hurdles. In four years at Ohio State, from 1977-1980, she was undefeated in Big 10 competition. Over the past 25 years she has served in leadership roles in public education and higher education, government affairs, and the not-for-profit human services arena. She currently serves as the first female President and CEO of the Columbus Urban League.

The awards were presented by VO President Candace Dark, Barbie Tootle, Phyllis Bailey, and Executive Deputy Director of Athletics, Janine Oman.



RYAN DAY MEET THE COACH NIGHT

Nearly 100 Varsity "O" Football Members, Board of Director Members and guests had the opportunity to attend "Meet the Coach Night", February 28th at the Varsity "O" Room in Ohio Stadium. Coach Ryan Day expressed his honor to be the 24th Head Football Coach of The Ohio State Buckeyes and he impressed the crowd with his excitement, his flair and optimism for the 2019 Buckeyes. After his talk, he stayed behind to "meet & greet" over 50 years worth of the former Buckeye players, whose playing careers spanned the early 1950s all the way to the recent 2000's. A great time was had by all, who left feeling confidence that Ohio State Football will continue to be in "Great Hands"



VARSITY O APPAREL & GEAR STORE

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 \$28.50 Nike Women's Legend Long Sleeve T-Shirt <small>Available in 1 other color.</small>	 \$31.75 Nike Women's Dry Tempo Shorts	 \$54.50 Nike Women's Dry Element 1/2 Zip Top	 \$35.00 Nike Women's Dry Shortsleeve Polo	 \$20.70 Nike Dry Visor	

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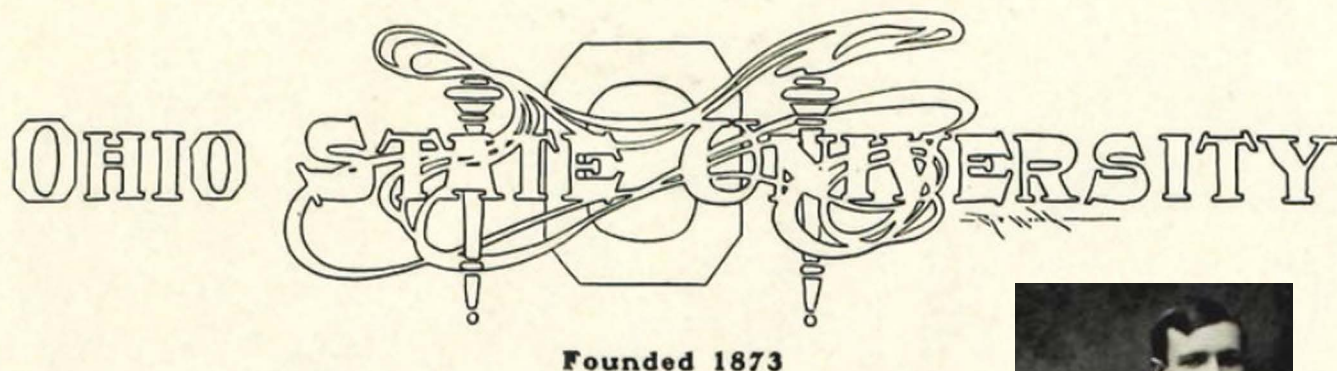
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GEORGE BELLWS



George Bellows was a very good athlete, scouted by professional baseball teams while still a student at Columbus Central High School. He chose instead, in 1901, to go to college. At Ohio State he remained an excellent defensive shortstop, entering the lineup of the varsity baseball team while still a freshman. In basketball he played at forward, leading his team in scoring as a sophomore. Ohio State being Ohio State, Bellows also tried out for the football team, at tight end. Yet baseball remained his favorite sport, his team regularly competing with Branch Rickey's Ohio Wesleyan team for dominance of the state. Meanwhile, baseball victories over Indiana (1902) and Illinois (1904) were among Ohio State's first over future Big Ten rivals.

Even more notable than Bellows's skills as an athlete, however, were his talents as an artist. His drawings quickly became in high demand, including a regular gig as the artistic director of the Makio, the Ohio State yearbook. A rave review in the Lantern said that his drawings alone made the books worth the price of purchase. Bellows was also a member of the glee club and the marching band, and he seemed to have an ear for poetry. When his best friend, Fred Cornell, was writing "Carmen Ohio," the song included the lines "While our hearts rebounding throb, With joy which death alone can rob." Bellows suggested changing the ending rhymes to "thrill" and "still."

Bellows left Ohio State before his senior year to attend the New York School of Art. With that training he became the greatest American painter of his generation. His fluid brushwork owed some debt to the impressionists, giving even his still lifes remarkable energy, but he was at heart a social realist, never turning a blind eye to the darker side of the human experience. His portraits of urban slum life remain strikingly poignant.

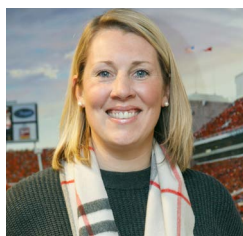
His greatest works, however, were his series of boxing paintings. His athletes in the ring appear brutal yet graceful, while the fans watching the spectacle appear to range between awe and a thirst for blood. The archetypal work in this series was Stag at Sharkey's, now in the Cleveland Museum of Art's permanent collection. These paintings are among the greatest contributions to American sports offered by any Ohio State alumnus.

Like James Thurber, who similarly became part of the sophisticated New York scene in this era, Bellows's memories of college life were never far from his mind. Bellows played baseball in New York's Central Park with an O.S.U. Alumni team well into his period of greatest fame, and, until his death from a ruptured appendix in 1925, he was the portraitist of choice for all Ohio State presidents. In 1912 he offered a new sketch to the Makio simply for old time's sake.

Robert J. Roman is the author of Ohio State Football: The Forgotten Dawn where additional stories such as this one can be found.

MEET THE BOARD

Varsity O Alumni Society Board of Directors



CANDACE DARK
President

Basketball ('03-'07)

Director of Outreach & Engagement at The James Cancer Hospital & OSU Wexner Medical Center

candace_dark@osumc.edu



STEVE CHAPPELEAR
President-Elect

Wrestling ('71-'74)

Business Trial Attorney at Frost Brown Todd

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JOE BUDDE
Treasurer

Swimming ('71-'74)

Private Practice Attorney

Joe@BuddeRealEstateLaw.com

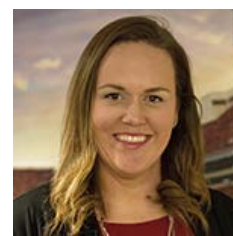


JILL (VINCENT) BURKE
Secretary

Synchronized Swimming ('76-'80)

Principal in Southwestern City Schools

jillvburke@gmail.com



KATY (CRAIG) SWATHWOOD
Past-President

Track & Field ('99-'02)

Executive Sales Representative, Eli Lilly & Company

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RON MACIEJOWSKI
Past-President

Football ('68-'70)

Executive Vice President, Greer Steel Company

rmace3166@outlook.com



IAN BETTS
Board Member

Swimming ('12-'14)

Attorney, Ohio Development Services Agency

ianbetts2011@gmail.com

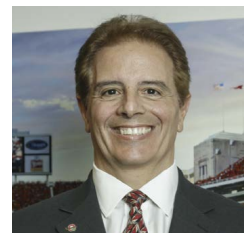


GARTH COX
Board Member

Football ('74-'77)

Partner at Harris McClellan Binau & Cox PLL

gcox@hmbc.com



ERNIE EPITROPOULOS
Board Member

Football ('77-'81)

Ernie Epitropoulos Agency, Nationwide Insurance & Financial

eeptropoulos@yahoo.com



TERESA FIGHTMASTER
Board Member

Swimming ('82-'86)

Pau Hana Swim Team Owner & Head Coach

TFightmaster23@gmail.com

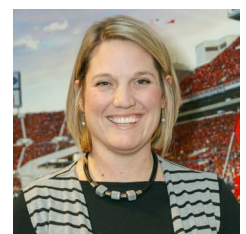


TOM LEVENIC
Board Member

Football ('78-'82)

President, PowerPlay Strategies, Inc.

tom@powerplaycorp.com



LIZ (HELICKSON) LUCAS
Board Member

Rowing ('97-'01)

High School Teacher, Hilliard City Schools

ehellickson@hotmail.com

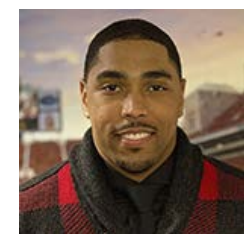


LIBBY (GRAF) O'BRIEN
Board Member

WLAX ('05-'09)

Special Needs Preschool Teacher in Southwestern City Schools

libbygraf@yahoo.com

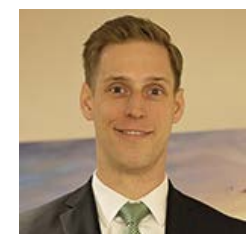


ANTONIO SMITH
Board Member

Football ('02-'06)

Vice President, Driven Foundation

asmith4485@aol.com



MATT TERWILLIGER
Board Member

Basketball ('04-'08)

Financial Advisor with The Edwards Group at Morgan Stanley

Matt.Terwilliger@morganstanley.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

For a complete listing of upcoming Alumni Association events, visit osu.edu/alumni/activities-and-events/events

Alumni events are filled with fun, festivities and, yes, sometimes football. The Ohio State experience doesn't stop with commencement, so come together with your fellow alumni to enjoy more time as a #BuckeyeForLife.

SCHOLAR ATHLETE BANQUET

April 10th | 5:30 pm
Archie Griffin Ball Room, Ohio Union

EXPLORE WHAT HAPPENS "WHEN SPORTS END"

April 11th | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Ohio Union

WINTER LETTER JACKET CEREMONY

April 17th | 5:30 pm
Football Recruiting Room, Ohio Union

As an active Varsity O member,
join us at the Third Annual



April 23rd | 5:00 am - 8:00 pm
Mershon Auditorium

"Oscars like" awards ceremony for current student athletes,
with a networking session for VO members

COMPETE WITH THE ELITE: ROTC WELLNESS BOOT CAMP IN THE 'SHOE

April 24th | 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Ohio Stadium, 411 Woody Hayes Drive

VARSITY O VOLUNTEER EVENT WITH SPECIAL OLYMPICS

May 11th | 6:30 am - 6:30 pm
Whetstone High School
Please check website for time slot sign-up and more information

HALL OF FAME WEEKEND

September 6th - 7th
September 6th Hall of Fame Banquet
September 7th, Football Game vs. Cincinnati

HOMECOMING WEEKEND

October 5th | Football Game vs. Michigan State

NEWS

SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH US to be shared in future newsletters!
varsityonews@gmail.com