

MUSINGS IN THE TURL

An Occasional Newsletter of the Northern California Branch of the Oxford University Society

Number 9

September 2001

From the Secretary

In the best Oxford tradition, change occurs slowly. While many if not most of you have been charging ahead on the Internet and beyond, your secretary has been plodding along happily with word-processing capability only on a 1989 computer. Now, however, twentieth century technology has been reached in the twenty-first with E-mail capability at OxfordUSocNCal@aol.com (rather long, but totally descriptive if someone is looking for us). It is planned that we will either have a web-site of our own or a page on the University's web site when it is opened up to us. In the meantime, information and communication will be available at the above address.

The New Directory

For those who have given their \$15 annual subscription for 2001, a copy of a new issue *Directory of Oxonians Residing in Northern California* accompanies this news letter. Many thanks to those who have subscribed. It needs to be emphasized, however, that subscriptions do not simply pay for the

publication of the *Directory*; they provide the support which makes possible our organizational existence, the maintenance of our mailing list, and the development of our annual program. The publication of the *Directory* is a service that we provide to subscribers. If you have subscribed and have not received a copy of the *Directory* please let the Secretary know, and your copy will be sent. Further copies are available, and the subscription period is always open. *The Directory* gives the name, college, year of matriculation, name of spouse or partner, address, telephone number(s), and E-mail address for the 589 Oxonians listed. All are also listed by college in a separate section.

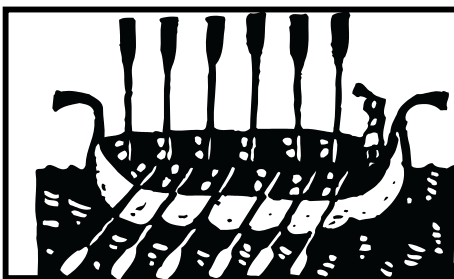
The Oxford University Society

As all but the most recently enrolled recipients of this news letter will know, we have recently undergone a transition in identity from the former Oxford Society. This was an essentially private, dues paying, alumni organization that has now become the Oxford University Society as the new and offi-

cial alumni association of the University. Membership in the new Oxford University Society is automatic, not only for graduates of the University, but it is also open to all who have studied there for a summer course or for a longer time short of a degree. Those of you who have received previous editions of our *Directory of Oxonians Residing in Northern California* will note that the asterisks (*) following the names of members of the Oxford Society as distinguished from other Oxonians on our mailing list have been removed for the reason that no such distinction further exists. The new Oxford University Society is a "friend raising" organization, to bring Oxonians to renew their ties with the University and with each other and to enhance their enthusiasm and commitment to advancing its educational values, and to serve the University in public relations. We are, explicitly in our charter, not a fund raising organ for the University. Our requested annual subscription is for internal use only.

College Coordinators

The Secretary seeks volunteers to act as college coordinators to maintain lines of communication between their colleges and this branch of the Oxford University Society and among old college members themselves. This will help fellow college members to keep in touch and will better enable us in



Moving?
Be sure to send
us a change of
address.

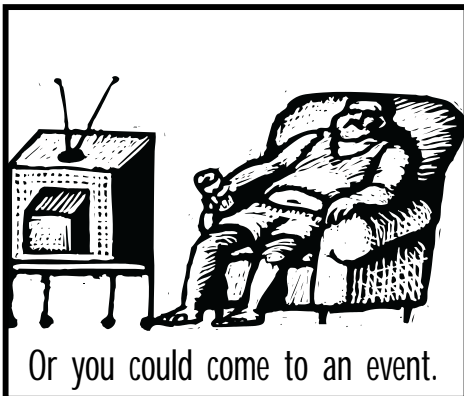
facilitating college gatherings in our area when a head of house or other senior member of a college comes our way. If you are interested in assisting please contact the Secretary (707-546-5391, or by E-mail as above).

New Oxonians Among Us

During the past few months, eighty new Oxonians have either identified themselves or have responded to an invitation to join us, and most have subscribed in support of our program. There are too many to name in this column, but they will be found listed in this new issue of the *Directory*. Many are fairly recent graduates of the University, and we welcome all of them to this branch of the Oxford University Society.

Vice Chancellor's Reception

You will have received an invitation from the New York office of the University to a reception for Dr. Colin Lucas, Vice Chancellor of the University of Oxford. It will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on Thursday, September 20th at the St. Francis Yacht Club at the Marina in San Francisco. It is hoped that many can attend to provide the Vice Chancellor with a warm welcome.



Or you could come to an event.

Inaugural Event for 2002

Our Inaugural Event for 2002 will be a group attendance at a play by San Francisco play wright Amy Freed, entitled, *The Beard of Avon*. It is a delightfully humorous treatment of the early years of the dramatic career of William Shakespeare, appropriately including among its characters the Earl of Oxford. We will attend the matinee performance (2:00 pm) on Saturday, February 2nd. A reception will follow in honor of the Artistic Director of ACT, Oxonian Carey Perloff, who will speak to us about the play and its production. Please put this event on your calendar now. You will receive a formal announcement early in January.

Boat Race Dinner for 2002

The Oxford Cambridge Boat Race Dinner will be held at the University Club in San Francisco on the evening of Tuesday, April 9th. An invitation will be sent by the Dinner Committee prior to the event. Row on Oxford!

Other Events for 2002

Plans for Society for 2002 beyond the Inaugural Event have not yet been made. A calendar of activities for the new year will be provided in early January. Please remember that we are always open to suggestions. All of our events arise from someone's bright idea.

Services Provided by the Society

It is called for in our new role as the official alumni organization of the University that we should af-

ford publicity and informational services to the public. None have yet been suggested to us by the University, but one that is obvious is to provide friendly orientational guidance to students in our area who will have been accepted to study at Oxford. The Secretary will welcome volunteers to serve on a small committee of this sort. It could well be comprised of both recent graduates and more senior ones, and also have available members of colleges by which the students are accepted.

Recent Events

The Black Diamond Mines tour in May was a pleasant and informative experience for those who attended, learning of coal mining history in California and sharing catered box lunches in an underground room of a mine tunnel. Wine tasting and touring in June at the Louis Martini Winery was capped by a very pleasant picnic social in the shaded winery garden. On August 26th, fifty-one Oxonians and guests attended a powerful performance of *Macbeth* at Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Oxonian Artistic Director Paul Whitworth (Christ Church), masterfully playing the part of Macbeth.

Coming Events

Coming Society events yet this year will be a group visit (with telescope viewing, weather permitting) to the Chabot Observatory in Oakland on Saturday evening, October 20th, and our traditional Pre-Christmas Party at the Huntington Hotel in San Francisco, following the Advent Carol Service at Grace Cathedral on Sunday December 2nd.