

VOICE

Spring
2015



FROM
GO-GETTER
TO GO-GIVER

ROB
FUKUZAKI





THE NEWEST EDITIONS to the Leo Family line up outside the Sports Science & Athletics Pavilion moments before ceremonies begin at the 2015 Winter Commencement.

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ROB FUKUZAKI

A love for sports and the drive to succeed paved the way for L.A.'s most recognized television sports news anchor and generous La Verne supporter.



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One commonality unites them in their quest for making a difference in the U.S. government — La Verne.

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FROM THE EDITOR



Giving Back, Best Lesson of All

When I was a little girl, I remember running errands with my grandpa. If we ever came upon someone who needed help, be it a person asking for loose change or food, my Papa always gave. “You have to always give back, Mija,” he would tell me, “because you never know when it’s you who will need.”

Throughout high school and college, I volunteered enthusiastically wherever I felt needed. I never understood my Papa’s advice until my sophomore year in college, when I was not sure if I could afford to keep attending La Verne. I had two choices: apply for scholarships or transfer to a public university.

With every scholarship essay, I asked for financial help, trying to describe myself as not only needy, but also as someone who had promise and potential. My Papa’s words rang in my head – it was my turn to ask because it was my time to need.

The scholarships came through and I was able to stay at La Verne. When I read through this issue of VOICE, I cannot help but smile at KABC 7 Eyewitness News sports broadcaster and fellow alumnus Rob Fukuzaki’s story, because I know from firsthand experience that people like him allow dreams to transform into realities.

It is this spirit of giving back that is evident at La Verne and there are countless examples in our students, faculty, staff, administrators and alumni. Rooted in our mission and threaded in our curricular and co-curricular programs, the impact of civic and community engagement is truly lifelong.

Indeed, my Papa knew what he was talking about; today, nothing makes me prouder than to know such words of wisdom are a way of life at the University of La Verne.

Alisha Rosas '02
Executive Editor

VOICE MAGAZINE IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS.



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UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE MAGAZINE

VOICE

PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS
VOL. 95 NO. 2 SPRING 2015

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Our dedication to civic and community engagement empowers and inspires our students, faculty, staff, trustees, alumni, and community partners to continue to do great works.

The work of all University of La Verne students, faculty, staff, Trustees, and alumni is rooted in our four core values: lifelong learning, ethical reasoning, diversity and inclusivity, and civic and community engagement. Each of these values is close to my heart and I am especially a proponent of civic and community engagement. I am incredibly proud to be a part of an institution where ‘giving back’ is not only part of our mission, but one that continually and consistently lives and acts on its commitment to serving others.

This issue of VOICE focuses on La Verne’s numerous civic engagement efforts, ranging from our students’ participation in the University’s annual Martin

Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, to our Board of Trustees working together to fill backpacks with school supplies to donate to David & Margaret Youth and Family Services. The idea to give back is not something apparent only in our students, but also in our alumni. In this issue, you can get to know KABC 7 Eyewitness News sports anchor, Rob Fukuzaki, who not only founded a nonprofit organization to help improve the lives of underserved youth, but also gives back to his alma mater through a scholarship he created for communication students who have the same dreams as he did.

The University of La Verne is continually making progress and building on our reputation and

successes. However, we have not – and will not – lose sight of the roots that ground us. Our founding values are the essence of this institution and have guided us to where we are today. Our dedication to civic and community engagement empowers and inspires our students, faculty, staff, trustees, alumni, and community partners to continue to do great works. It is these values that our students carry with them long after they graduate to go on to make significant positive impacts in their communities and the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Devorah Lieberman'.

Devorah Lieberman, Ph.D.
President

WHAT'S NEW

FAST FACTS WITH

MINDY BAGGISH, ASSISTANT DEAN
OF CAREER SERVICES AND
EMPLOYER RELATIONS



Q What is the primary purpose/ main goal of Career Services?

Career Services helps students achieve their professional goals. We offer individual career counseling; workshops on targeted career topics such as resume and cover letter preparation, interview skills, mock interviews, and networking; online resources, including job and internship searches; information sessions and job fairs.

Q Where is Career Services located and what hours is it open?

The Career Services Center is located in the Abraham Campus Center on the second floor. We are open from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Q Who can utilize Career Services? Are there any fees involved?

Students, alumni, and employers can all utilize Career Services to achieve their goals. There are no fees.

Q What is one thing about Career Services many would not know?

We enjoy collaborating with faculty, student organizations, and other campus departments. One of the most important goals we share is fostering productive mentoring relationships between alumni and students. Collaborations with faculty are also invaluable, especially when we are called to speak to students about the services we offer.

LEO ON THE STREET



**Kathryn (Kat)
Simonelli '16,
Campus Times
Editor in Chief**

**In February 2015,
a graphic video
surfaced on the**

Internet of Jordanian pilot Muath al-Kasaabeh being burned alive by ISIS rebels. Some media outlets chose to share the video while others did not. When should sensitivity override the public's right to know?

The public's right to know isn't even in question here. That right would be fulfilled by the mere fact that news outlets are reporting on the subject at all. There is absolutely no need for news outlets, such as Fox News and later TheBlaze.com, to have embedded the full-length video on their sites. These news outlets are not considering the consequences of their actions. They are not taking the feelings of Muath al-Kasaabeh's family into consideration; they are not considering that they are contributing to the overall state of terror that ISIS is imposing on the world. We do not negotiate with terrorists, so why are we operating as their media outlet?

 [Read More Online](#)

SAVE THE DATE

MAY 30, 2015

SPRING COMMENCEMENT

CITIZENS BANK ARENA,
ONTARIO

Join the University of La Verne in celebrating the newest additions to the Leo Family.

JULY 21-24, 2015

HOST TOWN FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES

The University of La Verne and City of La Verne are hosting more than 100 athletes from Pakistan and the US Virgin Islands as the athletes prepare for the 2015 Special Olympics World Games. For more information, please visit la2015.org/host-town/la-verne.

AUGUST 31, 2015

2015 GOLF TOURNAMENT

HACIENDA GOLF CLUB,
LA HABRA HEIGHTS

Join Amy Alcott, LPGA & World Golf Hall of Fame inductee for a day of fun, fellowship and purpose at University of La Verne's annual golf tournament. Funds raised directly benefit athletic programs or the student scholarship fund.

OCTOBER 9-11, 2015

HOMECOMING WEEKEND

The Alumni Advisory Board invites you to continue the tradition of recognizing the quality and excellence of University of La Verne alumni and faculty with a celebratory dinner for our 2015 Distinguished Alumni and Professor honorees as well as a weekend of homecoming activities.

MY PERSPECTIVE MARISOL MORALES

“AS IT GOES BUT TO GIVE, AND IN SERVICE TO LIVE...”

These words from our 1921 alma mater manifest our mission and value of service to the community as part of the ethos that makes us the University of La Verne. These words still hold true today as we continue to expand and develop our community engagement efforts to go beyond giving and propel us towards more meaningful engagement.

The Office of Civic and Community Engagement, founded in August 2013, seeks to harness the history of service and engagement that has been the cornerstone of a La Verne education by providing a support unit to assist students, faculty, staff, alumni and community partners in connecting around both curricular and co-curricular civic and community engagement efforts.

For students, this means offering academically rigorous service learning courses that integrate academic content with meaningful service and critical reflection. For faculty, this means supporting their interest in developing and teaching community engaged service-learning courses through one-on-one meetings and faculty development workshops. In addition, this also means supporting faculty who are interested in engaged scholarship, community-based participatory research, and assisting departments to be intentional in the way they integrate community engagement into their curriculum.

For community partners, this means including them as co-educators through service learning courses, developing mutually beneficial partnerships, and serving as a point of contact to connect them to students and faculty. In the co-curricular realm, we support student organizations, clubs, fraternities and sororities and residence halls that have an interest in community service and engagement with connecting to organizations. We support a Federal Work-Study Community Service program and provide training and development for students. Our role in supporting community engagement is university-wide and includes our regional campuses where the impact of



our University's engagement can then be felt throughout Southern California and reflect the diversity that exists in this region.

The Office of Civic and Community Engagement is a place where interests, values, and mission connect to highlight community and university assets and address challenges. We promote the University's core value of community and civic engagement through community partnerships. We see our office as a space that promotes experiential learning and theory to practice by connecting and involving our students with community-based service learning opportunities and promoting engaged scholarship for our faculty. We support co-curricular civic and community engagement activities through the Freshman La Verne Experience Community Engagement Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, supporting student clubs and organizations and offering community service employment opportunities.

Our engagement philosophy draws from Asset Based Community Development, giving students, faculty and staff opportunities to address community challenges, while recognizing the gifts, talents, abilities and assets of those communities. This model is important because many participating students are either from these communities or relate to them. The paternalistic model of engagement, the norm for engagement in higher education, tells a story of what is broken, missing and lacking — not what is present, possible, and working. Our philosophy is rooted in appreciation and respect. We create the best opportunities for relationships this way, which is a necessity if we are to build sustainable and transformational partnerships that create the meaningful learning experiences that help us prepare our students to be career and community ready.

READERS CORNER

READ THE VOICE ONLINE

Did you know that VOICE Online contains exclusive web-only stories, videos, slideshows and other interactive media? Stay connected! Visit voice.laverne.edu

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TWITTER WALL

Like a story or have a comment to share? Tweet to us @ULaVerne using hashtag #TheVOICEMag

 twitter.com/ULaVerne



KGI President Schuster and @ULaVerne @PresLieberman signed Masters of Bioscience articulation agreement today.

@KECKGRAD



The @ULaVerne #CEO summit is going to be an amazing day with 150+ CEOs sponsored by @vistage #leadership #vistage

@JAYBATEMAN



Had an amazing opportunity to visit University of La Verne today, great football program! #ALLIN #BAM

@ULV_Athletics

@JJLOVESUSC

Big day ahead! I'm speaking about my reporting career to the broadcast/communications students at my alma mater, @ULaVerne!

@RICKMONTANEZ

TAKE LA VERNE WITH YOU

Traveling the world? We are calling on all students, alumni, faculty and staff to share their trip with the rest of us by sending a photograph of themselves on location wearing La Verne garb (hat, shirt, sweater, etc.). Please send images that are at least 1MB to proffice@laverne.edu.



Monse Cruz '09 crossed the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, California, with spirit.



Michael Chaoui '15 sports his Leo gear on the slopes of Mt. High in Wrightwood, California.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

We want to hear from you! Submit comments on VOICE at voice.laverne.edu. Please include your full name, class year, degree and the city in which you live. We reserve the right to tailor submissions for style and length.

 Write Online

“ I am eternally grateful for the outpouring of support I have received from telling my story in the last issue of the VOICE Magazine. Many have pledged and contributed funds for **The Not Forgotten Project** thanks to the article that was written. Thank you. ”

CHARLENE MARIE KING '87

“ I enjoy keeping up with my alma mater whenever the new VOICE Magazine arrives in my mailbox. Makes me proud to be a Leo for life! ”

KIMBERLY CALDWELL '14



SAVE THE DATE

MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2015

SPECIAL APPEARANCE

Amy Alcott
LPGA & World Golf
Halls of Fame Inductee



Hacienda Golf Club

718 East Road, La Habra Heights CA 90631

For reservations or to sponsor the event
please contact **Cindy Gaytan** at
(909) 448-4670 or cgaytan@laverne.edu
or visit laverne.edu/golf15



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NEWS & NOTES



DR. JONATHAN REED NAMED PROVOST

On January 1, a nationwide search for a permanent Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs for the University of La Verne resulted in the selection of Dr. Jonathan Reed, who served as interim provost at La Verne since January 2014. Dr. Reed came to La Verne in 1992 as an assistant professor of religion. A respected authority on archaeology and early Christianity, he has authored and co-authored numerous books, researched and worked on countless excavations around the world and has appeared on numerous radio and television networks as a religion scholar.



STUDENTS VOLUNTEER AT ENSENADA ORPHANAGE

The University of La Verne Enactus Team spent a weekend in February building a greenhouse and planting fruit trees at the City of Children orphanage north of Ensenada, Mexico. The 45 volunteers, including students and faculty, also held workshops with the children on healthy nutrition and the importance of education during the trip.



WINTER COMMENCEMENT

It was a day to reflect, celebrate and look at the journey ahead. With music, inspirational words and the ringing of the spirit bell, hundreds of students joined the ranks of Leopard alumni during 2015 Winter Commencement ceremonies Jan. 31. More than 1,000 students were cleared to graduate for Winter Commencement and many participated in one of three ceremonies at the Sports Science & Athletics Pavilion on campus.





TRUSTEES PARTNER FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

More than a dozen University Trustees and administrators donated their time on February 7 to help stuff 50 University of La Verne backpacks with essential school supplies for the children at David and Margaret Youth and Family Services. All school supplies were donated by Yoobi, a new school supplies company that promotes social responsibility through its unique business model. For every item purchased, a Yoobi item is donated to a classroom in need. Alumna Monse Cruz '09, Yoobi's marketing coordinator, helped facilitate the unique partnership.



LITERACY CENTER

The College of Education & Organizational Leadership's Literacy Center has provided critical literacy services to hundreds of students from local communities for the last 14 years. Using La Verne's graduate students who are working toward their Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credentials, students work with children for 10 weeks, which on average boosts a child's reading skill level one whole grade.



FLETCHER JONES FOUNDATION GRANTS \$1 MILLION

The Fletcher Jones Foundation awarded La Verne a \$1 million grant to recruit and fill an endowed chair faculty position in computational biology, allowing the University to expose its students to new approaches in biological research. An endowed chair brings significant recognition and visibility to the University and the Natural Science Department. Introducing computational biology into La Verne's curriculum will help the University address issues of sustainable food production, environmental protection and renewable energy.

MLK JR. DAY OF SERVICE UNITES COMMUNITY

Volunteers tilled soil, planted seedlings, pulled weeds and rolled on paint around the Inland Valley during the University of La Verne's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service on January 19. By the successful day's end, hundreds of students, faculty, staff, alumni, community members, family members and board of trustees gave 1,225 hours of service in honor of Dr. King, which had a total economic impact of \$28,175 to the nine community partners served in the Inland Empire.



m ment

BY **ALISHA ROSAS '02**
PHOTOGRAPHY **JEANINE HILL**

Sometimes there was a tension in the room, with someone not in agreement with a plan or a decision. Other times, it was just the way she wanted to start her meetings.





She would walk in with her gong and ask everyone to stop what they were doing for a few minutes and just breathe together. “I would establish a sense of presence for us as well as a commitment that we were going to not only work together on this, but we were going to do it mindfully.” That is how Professor of Education Dr. Laurie Schroeder described how she led her team when she served as program chair for the Educational Counseling Program.

“These practices help improve focus and foster the ability of participants to be present in the moment, non-judgmentally and engage more fully with themselves and others,” she said. “That is why I am an active participant in the ongoing development of mindfulness as a university-wide focus at the La Verne campus community.”

“Mindfulness” has been a trending topic lately, as more people attribute it as a great way to beat stress, stay balanced and perform better on the job. In fact, this practice has even started taking place in elementary schools, as a way to help children stay more focused on their studies.

“I would establish a sense of presence for us as well as a commitment that we were going to not only work together on this, but we were going to do it mindfully.”

At its core, mindfulness is about staying rooted in the present moment, by quieting the mind through meditation. For Dr. Schroeder, it is simply how she lives her life.

GROWING UP IN South Pasadena, Dr. Schroeder was the second of six children. Her parents were hard workers and when she graduated from high school, she received a full scholarship to the University of Southern California (USC). She was the first person in her family to attend college.

She stayed one year. “I met my husband, we were engaged, and I was going to get married,” she remembered. “It’s funny, no one ever tried to stop me from dropping out of USC or told me that I could be married and finish school. Instead, everyone was thrilled that I had met such a nice guy.

“Now, don’t get me wrong, my husband Larry and I will be celebrating our 43-year anniversary this year so yes, he is a great guy, but that really is not the point.”

Dr. Schroeder describes herself as someone who thinks of the bigger picture and connects that as another reason she did not feel connected to her first college experience. “I did not really have a vision of myself as part of the bigger world or a sense of my possibilities when I was 18,” she said.

It was the birth of her first child, Twilight, that connected Dr. Schroeder to her place in the world, first as seen through her daughter’s eyes, but then how she began to see herself. “I realized how powerful I was and I gained confidence in what I could do.” She started teaching childbirth classes, early pregnancy classes and working with couples through their pregnancies, doing birth visualization work and working with couples from all backgrounds and faiths. In time, she started working with a doctor and created an entire childbirth education program for a hospital.

At the same time, she went back to school. Thinking she had to complete her undergraduate degree, Dr. Schroeder went to Pacific Oaks College in Pasadena. She learned of a MA ABLE



LAURIE SCHROEDER
Professor of Education

Dr. Schroeder takes mindful walks daily and uses her phone as a meditation tool to focus on the moment.



What books do you turn to for wisdom and inspiration in the classroom?

From top: Leading From Within, The Way of Mindful Education, The Courage To Teach, The Heart of Higher Education, The Compassionate Classroom

program offered, where essentially, one has to show the body of their work and experience in the world is equivalent to a bachelor's degree. Dr. Schroeder underwent the rigorous process, where she met all requirements and was accepted into a Master of Arts program, where her passion working with couples during pregnancies sparked her interest in becoming a Marriage and Family Therapist.

She completed her master's degree, while working full-time and raising three children with Larry. Once she received her license, she opened her own practice, offering counseling services to families. She also worked with school districts managing counseling interns and trainees who were sent to different school sites to work with children.

"I saw the challenges were real for these kids, and I just became pulled in

to work with them more," she said. "So, I decided to go back to school and get my credential in school counseling."

That decision brought her to the University of La Verne. She earned her Pupil Personnel Services credential, worked as an adjunct professor and was eventually hired full time in the College of Education & Organizational Leadership.

"Once I was hired, I knew I needed to begin a Ph.D. program," Dr. Schroeder said, smiling. "I had my MA, my credential and there I was thinking of a doctorate degree. It was never a goal in my life until that moment, but once I set my mind to do something, I finish it."

Indeed, she finished her Ph.D. in Education at Claremont Graduate University in just three years.

"My research agenda is focused

"Laurie is an effective leader because she leads with compassion. She is the type of individual who identifies the strengths of those she leads and is able to establish the collaboration necessary to move innovative and important programs to the next level."

on two areas: the efficacy of social emotional learning and mindfulness practices and its impact on student academic success," she said. "And, working to create classroom environments that promote emotional well-being for students and their teachers as well as training school counselors to be engaged social agents."



DR. SCHROEDER HAS WORKED at the University of La Verne for 15 years. During that time, she spent seven years as Program Chair for the Educational Counseling and Pupil Personnel Services Credential Program and has served as Department Chair of Advanced Studies in Education and Human Development since 2009. Her background also includes serving as a Cultivating Awareness and Resilience in Education (CARE) Facilitator, where she works to help educators provide social, emotional and instructional support to their students.

Her experience working with school

districts and seeing her La Verne students work at various school sites as well as her tenure working as a director and clinical supervisor at a community center in Monrovia, showed her the growing need for student counseling services in underprivileged communities.

“There needed to be a mindful focus on developing ways to serve all the students and their families, and that meant bilingually, too. If we know the primary language spoken at home for a large number of students at a particular school is Spanish, then we have a responsibility to provide

information and communicate with students and families in Spanish, especially in crisis situations. We needed to do better.”

A former classmate of hers at CGU, Associate Professor of Education Dr. Adonay Montes, shared this same vision. Together, they worked together to apply for Title V funding to create La Verne’s Spanish Bilingual Bicultural Counseling Certificate, which is now offered as a concentration at La Verne and is the only program like it offered in California.

“THE BILINGUAL BICULTURAL

Certificate is of great significance to our profession as it provides future school counselors with specific skills they can use to work effectively with Latino/a students and families,” said Dr. Montes, who attributed the successful implementation of the program to Dr. Schroeder’s leadership.

“Laurie is an effective leader because she leads with compassion,” he said. “She is the type of individual who identifies the strengths of those she leads and is able to establish the collaboration necessary to move innovative and important programs to the next level.”

Dr. Schroeder considers the implementation of the certificate one of her proudest moments at La Verne.

When asked what has allowed her to find the balance in her home and work life, while she works tirelessly at whatever her current life goal is, she sits back and takes a breath.

“Perhaps for me, it’s about being OK with what I am doing and why I am doing it. It is about having a profound trust in myself and my instincts. It took time to build that confidence, and I savor it. I also know that in order to do anything well, one needs to be able to focus and be mindful – that’s the power of staying open in the moment.”



RISING STARS

What do a future submarine officer,
missile contract manager and press
assistant have in common?

BY MELISSA PINION



Anthony Juarez

Lorena Hurtado

Nick Sloat

They all work for the U.S. government, joined Greek organizations at La Verne and are showing marks of success in short time. Their backgrounds are very different, but their current paths share similarities. This is the story of three University of La Verne alumni — Nick Sloat, Lorena Hurtado and Anthony Juarez.



Nick Sloat was drawn to the wonders of outer space as a child. That passion came, in part, from Star Wars movies. And his mother caught him reading one of her college astronomy books when he was 10-years-old. “Ever since I was a kid, I just loved science,” Sloat said.

The 2012 La Verne graduate has his sights set in the opposite direction of the sky. He hopes to be a division officer aboard a submarine for the Navy next year.

The Navy Ensign – an entry-level officer rank – is currently at the Navy’s Nuclear Power School in South Carolina. It is a rigorous program with 40 to 45 hours per week in the classroom, more than 10 hours a week of studying and weekly tests as tough as college finals. Others at the school describe the experience as “drinking from a fire hose” due to the volume of complex information trainees have to absorb.

Sloat, 24, a Buena Park native, dove into student life at La Verne – pledging with Sigma Alpha Epsilon and joining the Associated Students

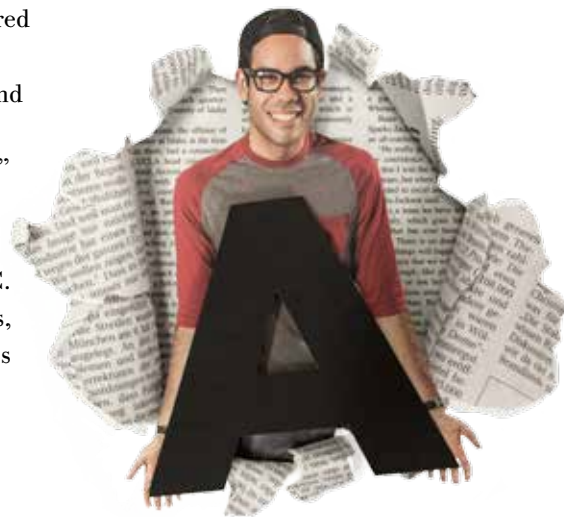
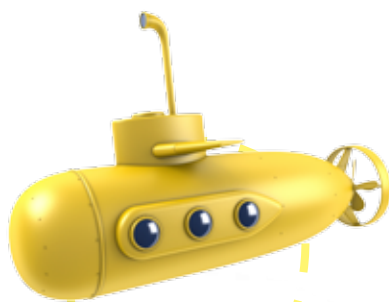
of the University of La Verne. He had pondered a military career, but was not sure whether he wanted to be a pilot or pursue nuclear school. Either way, he promised his mother he would graduate first. A Navy recruiter steered Sloat toward Nuclear Power School after seeing he was a physics major and had good grades.

The process of becoming a “Nuke” is difficult and has a considerable wash-out rate. After he met with a four-star admiral in Washington D.C.

for interviews and tests, ten of the 30 candidates in his group were sent home, Sloat said. He endured 12 weeks of officer candidate school soon after. He said leadership skills he learned at La Verne have helped.

As Eminent Treasurer for his fraternity, he helped the organization get out of the red

financially. He won an Outstanding Eminent Treasurer of the Year award for all chapters of the organization. Sloat also participated in the Landis Leadership Scholar program, which he credits with shaping him into the person he is now.



Anthony Juarez’s elementary school teachers considered him an excellent student. But that compliment came with a caveat. “I had a talking problem,” he said. Through grade school, people considered Juarez chatty. So when he had to pick a major at La Verne, he chose communications.

Being a first-generation student, his parents urged him to pursue business instead. “I told them public affairs is a type of business and every business does need it,” he said.

His motivation to connect with others has propelled him into early success in the world of public relations.



Juarez, 22, of Ontario, graduated from La Verne in 2014 and works as a press assistant for the Department of Justice's Office of Public Affairs. The coveted position is sought by new college graduates across the nation, and Juarez found himself competing against Ivy League and other top-ranking school graduates.

"I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for La Verne," he said.

Juarez embraced cocurricular activities in college, joining Phi Delta Theta, the Campus Activities Board and the Associated Students of the University of La Verne. He worked as a graphic designer for the University's marketing department, an on-air radio host for Leo FM, as well as a writer and editorial cartoonist for the *Campus Times*.

He was one of five La Verne students nominated to go through the political appointment process with the White House administration his senior year. The Department of Justice eventually offered Juarez a job. He is one of six press assistants who help with press conferences, press releases, graphic design, and website and social media content, primarily for the Environment and Natural Resources Division and the U.S. Attorney's Office.

What he learned at La Verne in and out of the classroom has carried over into his new job. Even the Associated Press stylebook he used at the *Campus Times* sits on his new desk.

Juarez wants to continue working in public affairs in the future because it is needed everywhere.

"You can go in any field of interest whether it is corporate, entertainment or political, and everything does need public affairs," he said.



Lorena Hurtado remembers the day she and her Phi Sigma Sigma sisters joined hands for their sorority song during Greek week in 2007. They paid tribute to Neddie Iniquez, a sister who died of leukemia two years earlier.

Suddenly, the emotional moment became magnified. "Everybody in the audience stood up and started singing with us," Hurtado said.

Hurtado, 28, describes her time at La Verne as one of self-transformation – from a shy, quiet student, to an outgoing, well-spoken leader. Hurtado credits the change to Greek life.

Hurtado lives in Tucson, Ariz., overseeing \$11.5 billion in Raytheon missile systems contracts for the Defense Contract Management Agency, which manages missile defense contracts for the Department of Defense. Most people in her rank are in their mid-40s.

Hurtado, 22, was raised by a single mother, whose countless sacrifices taught her the importance of independence and ambition. The first-generation student knew a lot was at stake.

She majored in business administration and joined Phi Sigma Sigma her freshman year at La Verne.

Hurtado considered Greek life more than a source of life-long friendships. She became comfortable at public speaking, something she loathed. Wendy Lau '98, Board of Trustees member and advisor for Phi Sigma Sigma advised the women how to dress professionally and gave them confidence to pursue their career aspirations.

Hurtado praised Gail Horton, Director of the Professional Success Program, with teaching her skills such as business etiquette and networking.

During a senior-year internship with the U.S. Department of Commerce in Ontario,

Hurtado discovered another internship for the Defense Contract Management Agency. The three-year paid position was in Arizona – away from everyone she knew. She made the sacrifice.

"I wanted to give back to the public as much as I could and make differences where I could," Hurtado said.

She obtained a Master's in Public Administration in 2014, opening the door to an administrative contracting officer position within the DCMA. Hurtado won Employee of the Year for 2015 for the Tucson office. She also got married in October 2014, becoming Lorena Malcolm.

"I've definitely accomplished a lot in the couple years I've been in Tucson," she said. "But I wouldn't be where I am today without the influential people I met at ULV and my mother."

SERVING THE ONES WHO SERVED ALL

COUNTLESS HOURS OF HEART-WRENCHING

conversations have forever changed Dedra Booth. Working for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for a decade has exposed her to the struggles and heartaches that military men and women face upon returning home after serving overseas.

"They give up everything so that we can have freedom. They are truly heroes. My work at the VA is one way that I can give back to them for all that they sacrifice for us," she said.

As a Senior Contracting Officer at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System, Booth is responsible for the development of Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) and provides healthcare resources for five medical centers: Las Vegas, Long Beach, Loma Linda, San Diego and West Los Angeles.

While primarily working on the logistical development of CBOCs, her responsibilities also include working with contracts designed to provide housing to homeless veterans. Booth takes pride in her work. "My hours and hours of work are worth it, to make sure that they have a place to stay."

In 2004, Booth began working for the VA in the business office as an accounts receivable technician. It took only a short time before she realized she wanted to do more and that a college degree would help her advance her career. She took classes at three colleges to complete her undergraduate degree, often taking 22 units per semester while working full-time. She ultimately earned her MBA from the University of La Verne in 2012 and is currently working toward a second master's degree in Healthcare Administration, which she expects to complete at La Verne this summer.

"I am ambitious, enjoy the challenge and have a love for education. I know there are numerous opportunities available; therefore, I push hard to conquer them," Booth



said. Her goal is to get into health care management with the VA as well as become a university professor.

Her La Verne degree has been instrumental in helping her develop professionally. She credits her academic and professional accomplishments to her professors who understood all that she had to juggle on a daily basis just to get by. On many occasions, she would have to take her homework with her on business trips and ask professors if they would work around her schedule, especially when she had to take care of her mother in the hospital. "I really appreciated that they would extend the deadlines and work with me. It's one of the many reasons that I love La Verne," Booth said.

In addition to taking care of her mother's multiple health needs, Booth helps to take care of her two nieces, Aniah, 7, and Asia, 3. She also gives back to the community as a licensed missionary. "It is so fulfilling, and fills my heart with joy," she said.

Despite a hectic schedule, Booth continues to be inspired by the work she does and her family who motivates her cause. "I see the sacrifice that our service men and women have made," she said. "I want to do my part to make sure they are taken care of when they need it."

4:45 a.m.

Wake up, read Bible verses and get ready for the day.

the
HOLY
BIBLE

10 p.m.

Arrive at home, in time to watch her favorite Channel 7 KABC newscast.

UNIVERSITY OF
LA VERNE

Health
Administration

4 p.m.

Finish work and head to the University of La Verne Irvine campus, where she is working toward her second master's degree; this one in Health Administration.

6:30 a.m.

Arrive at the office. Check and respond to e-mails, work on pending and secondary actions, conference calls etc.

9:30 a.m.

Take a 15-minute walk.

12:30 p.m.

E-mails, prepare for site visits, work on contracts, do market research, obligate funds and assist others.

11:30 a.m.

Lunch break, sometimes at her desk.

OUT TO LUNCH



INTERNATIONAL INTENTIONS: A STUDENT'S LOVE FOR CULTURE & EDUCATION

FOR AS LONG AS ANA ARAGON CAN REMEMBER,

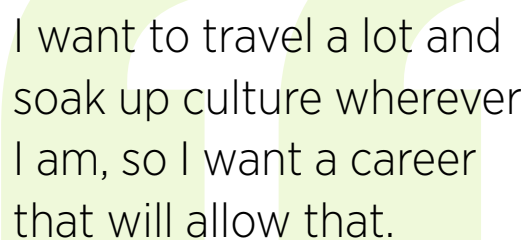
Korean culture has fascinated her. From its upbeat pop music (K-pop) to the cult-classic television shows she first discovered on YouTube, there was something about the art, the colors and the language that she loved.

"Little by little, I started picking up the language just by watching videos online. The more I understood, the more I wanted to learn and experience firsthand," Aragon said.

The possibility of traveling 6,000 miles to South Korea seemed a far reach for the first-generation business major. Her mom and dad had already made a sacrifice sending her away to college; studying abroad was a luxury that was not in the cards for her. Then, she heard about the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program.

Aimed at diversifying undergraduate students who have a desire to study abroad, the Gilman Scholarship is a competitive award that gives highly-motivated students like Aragon the opportunity to fulfill their international dreams. Thanks in part to her academic advisor, Michelle Kechichian, Aragon was introduced to the scholarship. After a grueling application process that included her submitting a project proposal and letters of recommendation, she was accepted. "Being awarded this scholarship is a big deal," Kechichian said. "I am so proud of her growth and achievements. Ana is inspiring and I admire her tremendously."

Aragon is spending her spring semester studying at Yonsei University in South Korea, where she will participate in an intensive language study in Korean and immerse herself in Korean culture and business practices. She believes a global educational experience will help make her more marketable when she graduates from La Verne next year.



I want to travel a lot and
soak up culture wherever
I am, so I want a career
that will allow that.

"I want to travel a lot and soak up culture wherever I am, so I want a career that will allow that," Aragon said. "I'm really going to take this time and find out what kind of jobs are out there [South Korea] and gauge if I would want to work there after I graduate. I am the type of person who wants to venture out."

Aragon took the first step in her quest of venturing out when she chose to attend the University of La Verne. "I am originally from San Diego County and I wanted to get out of my shell a little bit. La Verne is far enough for me to find myself but not too far away that my parents can't visit me. I'm very attached to my family."

As the second oldest of four siblings, Aragon is focused on setting an example that following your passion is not out of reach, no matter how far-fetched it may seem. She believes her parents' support has resulted in her sense of empowerment to follow her dreams.

"My parents are my support system," Aragon said. "They didn't get to attend college, so they want us to do better and build a career so that we can have a great life. That's what I am going to do."



ROB * FUKUZAKI

FROM GO-GETTER TO GO-GIVER

He has stood alongside some of sports' greatest heroes. From Michael Jordan to Shaquille O'Neal to Tiger Woods – he has told the stories of legends. When the L.A. Lakers won the NBA Championship, he was there. When the L.A. Kings won the Stanley Cup, he was there.

***Certain moments of Rob Fukuzaki's career are unforgettable.



CAMERA 2



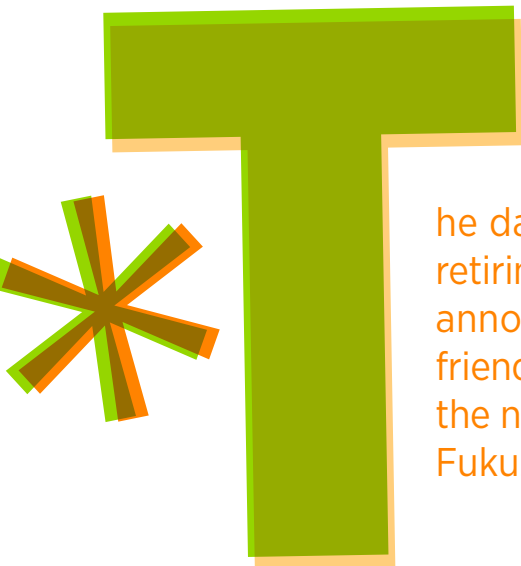
CAMERA 3



BY MARK VIDAL '10
PHOTOGRAPHY JEANINE HILL

CAMERA 4





he day the nation learned that Tommy Lasorda was retiring from the L.A. Dodgers or when celebrated Lakers announcer Chick Hearn passed away, their personal friend Rob Fukuzaki was the man of the hour, delivering the news as it unfolded. The moments that mattered to Fukuzaki also mattered to the rest of the sports world.

As the weekday sports anchor for ABC7 Eyewitness News in Los Angeles, as well as host of post-game show Sports Zone, Fukuzaki has established himself as one of the most recognized faces in sports television news over the last 20 years.

Comedian Jimmy Kimmel was on point when he declared National Rob Fukuzaki Day on live television on February 17, 2014. His impact is felt by many. But he does not measure the impact of his illustrious career by the number of stories he has covered or by the moments spent in the spotlight. “It’s the satisfaction of knowing you have worked hard and are working toward making a difference,” Fukuzaki said.

Working hard and being a “go-getter” has been a way of life for Fukuzaki, long before he was offered his position at ABC7 in 1994. The young aspiring sports enthusiast from Honolulu, Hawaii, had his eye on the prize from an early age.

After graduating high school from Mid-Pacific Institute in 1984, Fukuzaki made the strategic move to Los Angeles, not only to be near one of the largest metropolitan market regions for TV news, but to attend the University of La Verne.

“My goal was to find a small private school because that is the atmosphere I was used to and I knew there would be a lot of opportunities to be involved,” Fukuzaki said. “I wanted to get into sports broadcasting and also play baseball. La Verne offered what I was looking for.”

It was not until after a shoulder injury late in his freshman year that Fukuzaki hung up his baseball glove and focused 100 percent on his goal of becoming a sports broadcaster. But he knew in order to make it big, he would have to work hard in school.

It was 1985, Fukuzaki’s freshman year at the University of La Verne, and the ceremony for departmental awards in communications was underway. One by one, students made



Rob Fukuzaki takes advantage of time between his on-air shifts to support the rest of the ABC7 Eyewitness News team and work on upcoming story ideas.



their way up the stage, accepting awards for best news story, writer of the year, photographer of the year and broadcaster of the year. Sitting among his peers in the audience, Fukuzaki was not in the running for anything.

As a freshman, he did not yet qualify for any of the categories. Still, he sat there with a gleam in his eye and imagined what the future could hold. He made up his mind that next year he would be the one walking up the stage to accept the award for broadcaster of the year.

Throughout the following year, he spent several late nights in the studio and several long hours studying, perfecting his craft on the school's radio station, KULV. Through hard work and determination, Fukuzaki did not miss a beat on his journey to winning the coveted broadcaster of the

"The market I worked in was number 80 so it only made sense to move into the next size up, not the number two market in the country!"

year award. Not only did he become the first sophomore to achieve this feat, he became the first to do so consecutively during sophomore, junior and senior years. By the time his senior year concluded, his peers were sad to see him go, yet happy the competition was moving on.

"Rob always exhibited the passion for the broadcast industry," Professor of Communications Mike Laponis recalled. "He always put his heart and soul into the campus radio station. He was instrumental in the leadership of KULV and worked hard at making

our programming something students wanted to listen to."

After his time at La Verne, Fukuzaki returned to Honolulu, where he landed a part-time job as a sports reporter for KITV. And by the early 1990s, he would move on to become the station's weekday sports reporter and weekend anchor. Fukuzaki found success at KITV, where his infectious personality helped move him up quickly in the ranks. He won an Emmy for a special on sumo wrestling and developed his own sports segment called "Fuk's Follies," which focused







on the lighter, humorous side of sports bloopers and clips. “You always want to put a few sprinkles,” Fukuzaki said. “You don’t want to read the news so plain that it sounds boring.”

As Fukuzaki grew in popularity, so did his aspirations of venturing

for them, but the financial means are not there. Or maybe they don’t have parents at all – I just want to help.”

As he began taking the steps necessary to start his foundation, however, he received a call out of the blue from an acquaintance in

the number two market in the country!” Fukuzaki said. “But they flew me up for an interview, which I could have sworn I blew because I was such a nervous wreck.” After a grueling four months of follow up interviews and several broadcast

YOU DON'T WANT TO READ THE NEWS SO PLAIN IT SOUNDS BORING

into philanthropy. He told himself that if he ever had the opportunity to use his name for good, that he would start a foundation geared toward offering opportunities for disadvantaged youth.

“Growing up, my mom and dad worked really hard to make sure I had opportunities to succeed,” Fukuzaki said. “I feel that there are so many kids whose parents may want the best

Los Angeles. There was an opening for a weekend sports anchor position at ABC7.

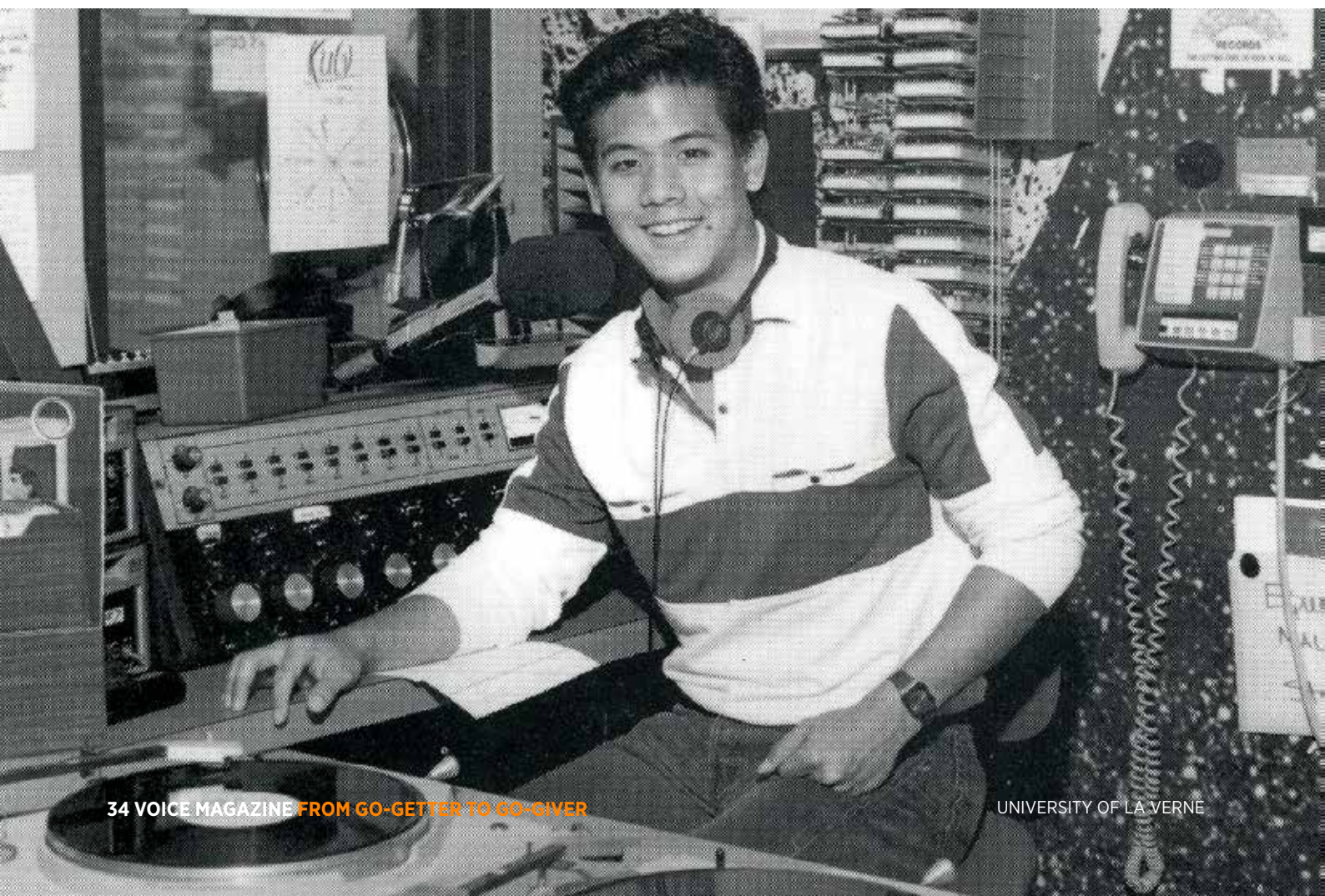
It was a golden opportunity, one that could catapult his career and provide even more incentive to start his foundation. But it all sounded a little far-fetched.

“The market I worked in was number 80 so it only made sense to move into the next size up, not

tape recordings, Fukuzaki was offered the position.

“I was elated. I was in shock. It was such a relief but I knew I had a lot of work ahead of me. I felt like I still had to work hard to prove that I could do this. It didn’t help that I looked like I was 16 years old.”

Not only did he feel pressure from being the first Japanese American male anchor delivering news in Los





Left: As a student Rob Fukuzaki put in long hours at the campus radio station, formerly called KULV.

Right: Rob often volunteers his time on campus speaking to current communications students about the field of sports broadcasting and shedding light on what it takes to make it in the industry.



LAVERNE



Jimmy Kimmel declared National Rob Fukuzaki Day Feb 17 2014



Interviewed Shaquille O'Neal, Michael Jordan and Tiger Woods



First male Japanese American television anchor in L.A.

Angeles, but he had to get used to doing it live – all the time. Back at K1TV, where he would report on location, footage was typically recorded and edited for the broadcast. Los Angeles was a whole different animal. “It was a huge transition for me. It took about two years for me to get my footing and to feel both accepted and confident that I can do this,” Fukuzaki said.

He soon found his groove and in a short amount of time the Los Angeles metropolitan area knew the familiar name and face of Rob Fukuzaki.



Remaining true to the promise he made himself, Fukuzaki pursued the establishment of his own nonprofit foundation in 1997. Today, the Heads Up Youth Foundation exists to raise funds for disadvantaged children and young adults who lack basic necessities and educational opportunities.

Through support of sports and youth organizations throughout Southern California, the Heads Up Youth Foundation offers the extra financial and mentoring needs of students who demonstrate both the need and the desire to pursue their educational goals.

“Nobody on our staff gets paid. It is run by family and friends because it is important that all monies raised go directly toward youth organizations and scholarships.”

“It has been a very consistent organization that is completely voluntary. Nobody on our staff gets paid. It is run by family and friends because it is important that all monies raised go directly toward youth organizations and scholarships,” Fukuzaki said.

Since its inception, the Foundation has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support local youth and young adults through its signature annual charity golf tournament and through Fukuzaki’s relationships with sports teams such as the Los Angeles Lakers, Clippers, Dodgers, Kings and Anaheim Angels and Ducks.

One of the Foundation’s most recent beneficiaries is Julian Mininsohn, a journalism student at the University of La Verne and an intern at KABC7. “The scholarship has helped me chase my dream of pursuing a career in sports journalism, which isn’t easy or

cheap. Earning this scholarship is helping me become just like the person it’s named after.”

Mininsohn is the first recipient of the newly endowed Rob K. Fukuzaki’s Heads Up Youth Foundation Communications Scholarship benefiting La Verne students. “As someone who wants to be in the sports media business and goes to La Verne, Rob is the ideal person I aspire to be,” Mininsohn said.

“Julian is a great kid. Over the years we have interns that sort of stand out. He’s one of them. He has a great attitude and works really hard,” Fukuzaki shared. “I enjoy providing this mentorship to students like Julian, just like Mike Laponis and George Keeler provided for me when I was a student at La Verne.”

For more information on the Heads Up Youth Foundation, visit headsupyouthfoundation.org.



Broadcaster of the year
3 consecutive years as a student



Recently celebrated **20th Anniversary** working for KABC7

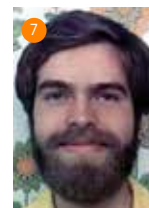
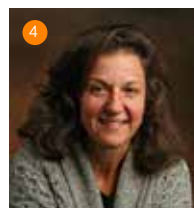


Raised in Honolulu, Hawaii
from the age of 3



Senior journalism major Julian Mininsohn works as an intern alongside Rob Fukuzaki at ABC7 Eyewitness News.

WHAT'S NEW ALUMNI NOTES



Little Leos

1 Laura (Perales) Campos '04 and her husband Oscar welcomed Xander Kai on Sept. 24, 2014. Xander was a healthy 8 pounds, 6 ounces and 19 inches. He joins big brother Dominic, 12.

Renee Deming '00, is enjoying time with her first grandson, Lucas Scott Deming, born on Oct. 3, 2014. Deming volunteers for the University as a member of the CBPM Alumni Affinity Group Board.

Manuel '06, '09 and Christina '08 Lopez welcomed their second child, daughter Cameron, on Dec. 15, 2014. Cameron joins big brother AJ, who is thrilled with the new addition. Manny currently serves as President of the University of La Verne Alumni Advisory Board.

Natasha Richardson '13 and her husband, Jeffrey welcomed daughter Mara Marie Richardson on Sept. 24, 2014 at Kaiser Permanente Moreno Valley. Mara weighed in at 7 pounds and 2 ounces.

Rosa Asencio '01, '06, was elected to a second term as President of the California Placement Association in May 2014. Rosa received the Joan Crocker Service Award for Excellence in Leadership at the California Placement Association's Annual Conference in March of the same year. She currently works in Career Services at Mt. San Antonio College and serves on the Dean's Advisory Board for the College of Business and Public Management.

Benjamin Balderrama, Jr. '12 graduated from the University of Southern California on May 16, 2014 with a Masters of Education degree in Postsecondary Administration and Student Affairs. He accepted a job offer at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, VA. as their Coordinator of Student Life. Balderrama started on Aug. 11 and lives on campus.

Shannon Beets '98 was appointed interim president of Sierra Nevada College on Dec. 16, 2014. In his announcement, the chairman of their Board of Trustees described Beets as "bright, energetic, collaborative in her management style and decisive when necessary." Under her tenure as the executive vice president and provost, a position she held prior to the current appointment, Sierra Nevada's student population has grown and the institution has improved outcomes in performance of graduating students. She plans to focus on ensuring faculty maintain a policy of active learning, fundraising, and increasing fall enrollment during her service as interim president. She continues to hold the post of provost.

2 Randy '73 and Jean Bjerke recently crossed the Arctic Circle in both the Yukon and Alaska, camped on Alaska's North Slope in the shadow of the Brooks Range and drove to the edge of the Arctic Ocean. During their travels, they

walked on arctic tundra, and saw drunken forests and strange permafrost features like pingos and frost mounds. They also explored Dawson City, heart of the Klondike gold rush — including cabins that authors Robert Service and Jack London lived in.

Ted Cox '69 recently released his Peace Corps memoir on his time in Sierra Leone and British Honduras (Belize) from 1969 to 1973. The book, *When British Honduras Became Belize 1971-1973*, begins with Cox's graduation from La Verne in June of 1969, and focuses on his work in Belize as the National Track and Field Director. This is a positive story about the Peace Corps and Belize, a Central American country many people are learning about today as a place to visit. *When British Honduras Became Belize* has a five out of five star rating from the San Francisco Book Review, and is available on Createspace as well as at Cox's website, oldworldpublications.com. Since 1977, Cox has owned and operated the Old World Deli in Corvallis, Ore., and has also owned the shopping center in which the deli is located since 1986.

Arsen Danielian '82, '84 was presented with The Pontifical Encyclical of His Holiness Karekin II Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians Bestowing The Saint Nerses Shnorhali (The Graceful) Medal on Oct. 12, 2014. The Church Ceremonies were officiated by His Eminence Archbishop Hovnan Derderian, Primate of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America, and took place at St. Leon Armenian Cathedral in Burbank, Calif. Following the conclusion of services, family and friends celebrated with a champagne reception.

Dorothy Darnell '96, '12 was promoted to Senior Manager, Employee Benefits at Korn Ferry on Aug. 1, 2014. Korn Ferry is an executive recruitment and talent management company



headquartered in Los Angeles, and Darnell has been with the company for more than 20 years.

Joseph Davalos '73 is the Superintendent of Schools for Suquamish Tribe in Washington state, founders of the first independent public tribal school in the nation, Chief Kitsap Academy. The academy, which previously operated as an extension of the North Kitsap School District has, with the assistance of a 2013 law that allows Washington's 29 federally recognized tribes to negotiate directly with the state, won state approval to become a tribal compact school. State and federal education funds now go directly to the school, the tribe controls all aspects of the educational program, and graduates will receive a Chief Kitsap Academy diploma instead of one from North Kitsap.

Debra De Graw '84 recently received the 2014 Exemplary Service Award from the Redwood Empire Fair Board at their annual director's dinner. She was also recognized by Assembly member Wes Chesbro, Senator Noreen Evans and Congressman Jared Huffman with certificates of recognition for Exemplary Service. De Graw is the CEO of the Mendocino Coast Chamber of Commerce and the Mendocino County Film Commissioner. While taking a class at the Mendocino Art Center in 1999, she fell in love with the Mendocino Coast and opened her own art gallery in 2000, where she gained first-hand experience toward what it means to be a small business owner. During this time, she was on the Chamber Board of Directors as well as the Arts Council of Mendocino County. She is engaged to Ray Alarcon, a small business owner in Mendocino, and they enjoy the company of their 2.5 year-old German shepherd, Mozart.

Angela Haick '03 became superintendent of the Penn Valley Union Elementary School District in California in August 2014. Haick completed her doctorate while raising two small children as a single mother and working as an assistant principal at Murrieta Unified School District. Family members, along with a lot of motivation from La Verne faculty and alumni, helped her through the program. As she climbed the ranks to her current position, she survived cancer, divorce, and the challenges of being an openly-gay single parent. In her new position, Haick oversees a district of 700 students and four schools, and she hopes to eventually work on a college dissertation committee and teach in higher education.

Sascha Heckmann '11, Principal of the Shanghai American School, welcomed Director of International Admissions Adam Wu during his recruiting trip to China in October. Heckmann looks forward to helping recruit the next generation of Chinese scholars to the University of La Verne!

Glenda B. Hetrick-Parker '83 is in Manzini, Swaziland volunteering as a consultant to Administration in the RFM Hospital, a 350-bed hospital.

Inge Hobo-Scheinfarb '90, '93 and her husband David were selected as "Local Heroes 2013" for making a difference in their community, and for their work with wounded veterans and local youth via the Challenges Foundation. Each month, the Veterans Administration sends groups of in-patient, wounded veterans from West Los Angeles and Long Beach to participate in the Challenges Sailing Program. The participants go out on a historic 1924, 60' wooden yawl named Emerald, a first-time experience sailing and being on the ocean for many. The trips are a therapeutic, healing and peaceful experience for the veterans, and for community youth, it shows them an entirely new world and way of life that exists on the water. Hobo-Scheinfarb is the owner and managing broker of her own West Los Angeles realty and asset management firm, and her husband David proudly serves as an active reservist in the U.S. Navy. They have three beautiful children they adopted from South Korea in 2006, 2009 and 2010.

DeAntwann Johnson '12 married Britney Morris on Sept. 5, 2014 at The Grand in Long Beach, Calif. The day before their wedding, Johnson interviewed for a job with a foster care mentoring organization called Reach Out, and upon return from their honeymoon in Puerto Vallarta, was offered the position as a Professional Youth Mentor. Johnson was entertaining offers for positions in athletics working at several higher education institutions, but feels called to his current role and truly enjoys teaching curriculum to children who are close to being expelled or suspended from school, and helping to alleviate their behavioral issues.

Avedis "Avo" Kechichian '80, '82 was named CFO of the Year in the education category by the Los Angeles Business Journal in September 2014. Kechichian is the CFO at the University of La Verne, and worked his way up from his first position on campus, picking up trash and vacuuming as one of several odd jobs he took to pay his tuition. "As a first generation international student who arrived at the University of La Verne in the fall of 1977, I could have never imagined to be in the position I am today, living my American Dream," Kechichian said.

Mary (Butters) '64 and Noble "Mitch" Killinger celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Aug. 22, 2014. They were married at the Congregational Church in Ramona, San Diego, Calif. on Aug. 22, 1964 and have lived in Ontario, Calif. for all 50 years of their marriage. Their son, Greg, is a 1991 graduate of La Verne.

Jamie Laffey '97 graduated Cum Laude after attending the Burbank Regional Campus, and achieved his goal of working for Toyota Motor Sales. He went on to be stationed working as a field manager in Alaska, Montana, Washington, Oregon and Idaho before returning to Toyota Motor Sales USA HQ in 2001. After several years in Market Planning, Laffey again returned to the field in the San Francisco Regional office working as District Manager, Field Truck Manager, Business Manager, Merchandising Manager and finally Scion Regional Brand Manager. He has just announced his early retirement, effective Jan. 30, 2015 and looks forward to "captaining his own ship" in new endeavors soon. "None of this fantastic ride would have been possible without La Verne! Onward and upward...!"

Patrick Lee '08 graduated with a Masters of Science in Accounting from the University of Connecticut in May 2014. He was appointed an Assistant Professor of Accounting at Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas in August 2013, and was selected to the Kansas Society of CPA's 20 up to 40 Leadership Program last year.

3 Dobbie DeStefani Madeyski '85 and Tom Madeyski were married in Ramona, Calif. in November 2014. University of La Verne roommates supported as bridesmaids: Kristina Way Staley '85, Julia Wheeler '86 and Christi Stanford Bowman '84.

Johane Metellus-Surpris '03 married Jean Felix Surpris, Jr. on Feb. 15, 2014 in Hollywood, Fla.

Robert Miller '79, '14 was named Interim Superintendent-President of Pasadena City College (PCC) on Sept. 4, 2014. He brings to his new position more than 30 years of experience in higher education, and has been associated with PCC since 1973. Miller's accomplishments include leading and participation within project teams that raised over \$30 million to produce various national and international distance-learning courses designed for adult and college students. He has successfully managed complex national development and marketing campaigns, projects, and teams throughout his career. Among his community interests is the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association, where he will preside as President of the 2021 Rose Parade and Rose Bowl Game.

Paul Navarro '09, '14 married Amy Gutierrez '11, '14 on Sunday, Sept. 28, 2014 at the Los Angeles County Fair as one of four winners of the Fair-y-Tale Wedding contest. The contest, which resulted in more than 80 entries, offered couples a wedding package that included a wedding cake, flowers, a champagne reception, and a one-night stay in the Sheraton Fairplex's honeymoon suite. Navarro wanted to get married in 2012 but plans changed when he was deployed to the Middle East with the Navy. The

WHAT'S NEW ALUMNI NOTES

two Navy reservists exchanged vows in the area where Luminasia, an exhibit of colorful Chinese lanterns, was located.

Charlie Neff '10 is an experienced television personality, website entrepreneur and social media butterfly who currently works on the News Desk at TMZ, the syndicated entertainment and gossip television show. She is also known for creating POPinionz.com, and for her frequent appearances on the Logo Network television show, the Gossip Queens. While at La Verne, Neff reported for the city's local news channel, LVTN, as well as for LeoFM and was a staff writer for the *Campus Times*. She is recognized in her field for her spunky personality and natural affinity to connect with people from all walks of life.

4 Gina L. (Ceron) Piellusch '91 was named associate vice president for communications and marketing for McDaniel College in Westminster, Md. At McDaniel, she leads the design, staffing and implementation of McDaniel's comprehensive communications, public relations and marketing program playing a critical role in advancing the institutional brand. An award-winning communications professional, Piellusch brings more than 20 years of experience in developing and administering communication strategies. Prior to joining McDaniel, she served as director of communications at Northrop Grumman. She has been named a YWCA Phenomenal Woman and honored by Northrop Grumman with the President's Leadership Award. She has also served on a number of nonprofit boards, including Gender Justice LA, The Outreach Center and as a media circle member of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

Pearl Raya '01 and her husband, Leon Raya '98, are proud to announce that their son, Aaron C. Raya, is now a freshman at the University of La Verne. Aaron is a mathematics major and hopes to teach at the intermediate or high school level. He is enjoying his time on the football team. Pearl and Leon are so proud of Aaron and know he will enjoy his next four years with the La Verne family.

Reza Sabahi '03 and Courtney Schnepf Sabahi were married on Saturday, May 24th, 2014 at American Martyrs Catholic Church in Manhattan Beach, Calif.

Amanda Seibert '10 was featured in the cover story of the Winter 2015 edition of the California Athletic Trainers' Association Newsletter. The story notes that Seibert was honored with an Lifesaver Award from the National Athletic Trainers' Association for her actions during the 2012 Fairplex Half Marathon in Pomona, Calif. At the event a man collapsed near the finish line. After checking his vitals and discovering he was not breathing, Seibert immediately began CPR, and continued to do so until paramedics took over and transferred him to an ambulance. At

the Holiday Half Marathon in December 2013, she was greeted and thanked by the man whose life she had saved.

5 Jeffrey Sissung '06 has been practicing family law since his graduation from the College of Law, and is currently a partner with Holstrom, Sissung & Block, APLC in Corona, Calif. On Aug. 1, 2014, he became certified by the California Board of Legal Specialization as a Family Law Specialist.

M. Louise Stanley '64 was recently awarded a 2014 Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant in Painting in the amount of \$25,000. The Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Inc. was established in 1985 for the sole purpose of providing financial assistance to individual visual artists of established ability through the generosity of the late Lee Krasner, one of the leading abstract expressionist painters and the widow of Jackson Pollock. After completing her BA at La Verne, Stanley went on to the California College of Arts and Crafts where she received a BFA and MFA in Painting. To view images of her work visit mlouisestanley.com.

Chunjuan "Nancy" Wei '01 has been working at the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut since earning her Ph.D. in Political Science in 2008 from Claremont Graduate University. As Chair of the East Asian and Pacific Rim Studies program, she recently received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor at UB's College of Public and International Affairs. In April, she was named a Fulbright Scholar. In mid December 2014, she began conducting research in Taiwan and Mainland China for eight months toward her new book. This work will elucidate factors that eroded Cross-Strait relations between 2000 to 2008. She will also conduct preliminary research on the history of Taiwan's claims on the South China Sea.

6 Cynthia Worthen '05 was named Dean of Academic Affairs at the Southern California Campus of the Chicago School of Professional Psychology by National President, Dr. Michele Nealon-Woods in January 2015. Dr. Worthen most recently served as the Vice President of Academic Affairs at Argosy University, Washington, DC (2008-2014). An accomplished educator, Dr. Worthen has taught both undergraduate and graduate courses in business administration, business management, public administration, education and oral communications at various institutions across Southern California. She is a recipient of the Excellence in Research Award (Argosy University) and Regents Opportunity Scholarship; a Presidential Management Intern Finalist; and has been recognized in the United Who's Who. She has presented at numerous conferences on topics ranging from education and diversity to team motivation and leadership.

In Memoriam

7 James Lyndon Beebe III '73 was born to James Lyndon Beebe, Jr. and Shirlevon Brintel on Aug. 22, 1947. His death, on Oct. 1, 2014 was sudden and unexpected. As a child, Beebe enjoyed being active in 4-H. He had a mustang stallion named Tex, and as a team the two excelled at barrel racing. Beebe followed his father to USC, but he liked classes that were small and more personal, so in 1969, he transferred to the University of La Verne. Here, the shy James was transformed by acting classes and roles in plays such as "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." Beebe graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre Arts. He met his future wife, Marcia Anne Hood, while studying drama at La Verne. In 1983, Beebe took classes at Founders and Beverly Hills Science of Mind Churches, and he became an Ordained Minister and achieved a Doctor of Divinity degree from Science of Mind College. In 1994, right after the Northridge Earthquake, the Beebes relocated to Camarillo. Besides his loving wife of 42 years, Beebe is survived by siblings. His loving kindness, humor, intelligence and compassion will be dearly missed, however for those closest to him, he'll be remembered for his twinkling eyes, heart-felt smile, and wonderful bear hugs.

Roger Michael "Mike" Greenlees '92 passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2014 after a lengthy battle with Frontal Temporal Dementia and Primary Progressive Aphasia. Greenlees had worked at Honeywell for 42 years before his retirement in January 2009. He is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Charli; his daughter, Jennifer; son Jason; his wife Lianne, and their beautiful identical twin 2-year-old girls; two sisters and their families; two brothers and their families; his mother and his step-mother.

Robert J. "Bob" Olive '81 was born in Pasadena, Calif. on Oct. 4, 1938 and passed away on June 25, 2014 at his residence in Upland, Calif., where he had lived for the past 31 years. Olive attended Eliot Junior High, graduated from John Muir High School in Pasadena, and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He worked briefly at AeroJet General Corporation until moving on to the Covina Police Department, where he rose through the ranks during his 31-year career, achieving the rank of Police Captain. Olive was an avid woodworker and a member of the Upland Hills Men's Golf Club and St. Joseph's Catholic Church. He was preceded in death by his parents, Orval B. Olive and Suzie Owens Petrons; and his sister Patricia E. Young. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Clarice; his son Daniel; step-mother, Edna Olive; grandson Robert A. Patton; and nephews and nieces.

HEART OF LA VERNE UNIQUELY LA VERNE

THE ROARING ENGINES
of the NHRA Full Throttle
Drag Racers remind the
students, faculty and
staff at the University
of La Verne about their
booming neighbors
down the road.



Defer Human Rights





Political Activist Ann Wright

Ann Wright, a former United States Army colonel and retired U.S. State Department official, looked around the room. “How many of you have your cell phones on? If so, the government is tracking you. Not only that, consider yourself in trouble because they know you are associating with me.”

An advocate for human rights, Wright has lectured around the world, advocating for awareness of human rights violations and a better understanding of social justice. In February, she lectured at the University of La Verne, as part of its annual Frederick Douglass Human Rights Lecture.

“I am honored to be at the University of La Verne, a place with great spirit and concern for the world.” Wright’s topic of discussion “Are Human Rights for Everyone?” touched on issues of domestic as well as international human rights violations.

Students listened attentively as Wright gave her thoughts on the Patriot Act and the government’s surveillance of citizens’ daily lives. She stressed staying involved with government affairs and elected officials.

“There are massive human rights violations presently going on all over the world,” she said and paraphrased historic icon Frederick Douglass, “if we do not protect our human rights, someone is going to take them from us.”

ATHLETES GIVE BACK

FOOTBALL TEAM SPEAKS AT ORANGEWOOD CHILDREN AND FAMILY CENTER

Before the 2014 season started, Lorenzo Marks, Travis Sparks and Justin Gomez of the La Verne football team spoke to children who were the victims of abuse, neglect and abandonment at the Orangewood Children and Family Center.

What made it even more inspiring was the players set up the service on their own initiative and approached the coaches about the opportunity.

Marks, who was introduced to the foundation by his mother and had been volunteering for about a year, says he was moved by other guest speakers—including former Major League Baseball player Jim Abbott and fellow collegiate athletes—and decided to share his story with the kids.

He then asked Gomez and Sparks if they wanted to join him and his teammates jumped at the opportunity.

The three Leopards spoke about life in college, football and their future. After each of them spoke, they held a Q&A session during which the kids asked about their favorite foods, “planking,” and much more.

Afterwards, they tossed the pigskin, shot hoops and danced with the children.

Marks recalled a young girl who was too shy to approach him to say hello. He says it made him realize how much he and his teammates’ being there meant to the kids.

“At first, we didn’t even realize she wanted to talk to us,” Marks said. “But a volunteer came up to us and told us that she had been trying to get our attention five or six times. It’s really special to the kids that people come and talk to them.”

WOMEN’S SOCCER READS DR. SEUSS

In Spring 2014, La Verne women’s soccer team read Dr. Seuss books to students at the Lopez Elementary School as a part of the celebration of Read Across America Day, also known as Dr. Seuss Day.

Members of the team and the coaching staff each put on the signature tall red-and-white striped hat worn by the Cat in the Hat in Dr. Seuss’ books and read to students of grades K-6.

After a welcoming assembly and a remark from the principal, each member of the team headed to different classrooms, read along with the students and talked about the books.

“Community service is a big part of what we do and who we are as a part of the women’s soccer team,” head coach Lauryn Pehanich said. “To take the time and go and be a part of something like

Read Across America is very beneficial for the women — it allows them to bring joy to others and represent the University in a positive way.”

LEOPARDS VOLUNTEER AT SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Each year, La Verne student-athletes across all sports spend a day helping out at a local Special Olympics event. In 2014, more than 40 student-athletes, through the efforts of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, were on hand as volunteers at the Special Olympics track meet hosted by Lanterman Developmental Center and Pomona Valley Special Olympics at Boys Republic in Chino Hills.

Events included track, walking, long jump, bocce and other athletic competitions.

The Leopards cheered on the participants during the opening ceremonies, coached the athletes on how to hold and throw a ball, and bonded with the participants over the experience of playing a sport.

Also on hand was La Verne swimming and diving head coach Pat Skehan. “It was great to see so many athletes from so many teams really engaged with the Olympians,” Skehan said. “Everyone seemed to have a great time and no one appreciates a solid athletic performance as much as athletes.”

Top row: Natalie Vasquez
(women's soccer)
Second row left: Alexa Smith
(women's soccer)
Second row right: Lyndsay Godwin
(softball), Mackenzie Dutton (softball)
Third row: Isabel Torres (women's soccer)
Fourth row: Travis Sparks-Jackson
(football), Justin Gomez (football),
Lorenzo Marks (football)
Third/fourth row big picture: Felipe
Avendano Vela (swimming & diving)





GREEN & ORANGE SOCIETY



“University of La Verne was a life changing experience for me and continues to influence my life everyday.”

Martina Miraflor '15
Alumna
Staff member
Green and Orange
Society member

THIS SPRING, THE UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE is preparing to honor several new members with a Lifetime Membership to the Green & Orange Society for consecutively giving financially to the University of La Verne for 25 years. They will be joining more than 40 members who hold this exclusive membership for faithfully contributing something to support La Verne and its students. The Green & Orange Society exists to honor consecutive giving of three years or more, at any level. Now, the Green & Orange Society will be honoring these longtime heroes of La Verne at a special ceremony where they will be inducted as lifetime members.

“The University of La Verne was a life changing experience for me and continues to influence my life everyday” said Martina Miraflor, alumna, staff member and Green & Orange Society member. “La Verne is not only a respected institution of higher education where we earn our degree, but a place where we learn and grow as human beings and become valuable members of our

society. We want to give back so that the University can continue to grant students with amazing scholarship opportunities.”

“It is because of the consistent generosity of people like Martina that La Verne is continually able to do more for our students,” said President Devorah Lieberman. “Unfailing support each and every year allows us to better plan and prepare for our students’ needs.”

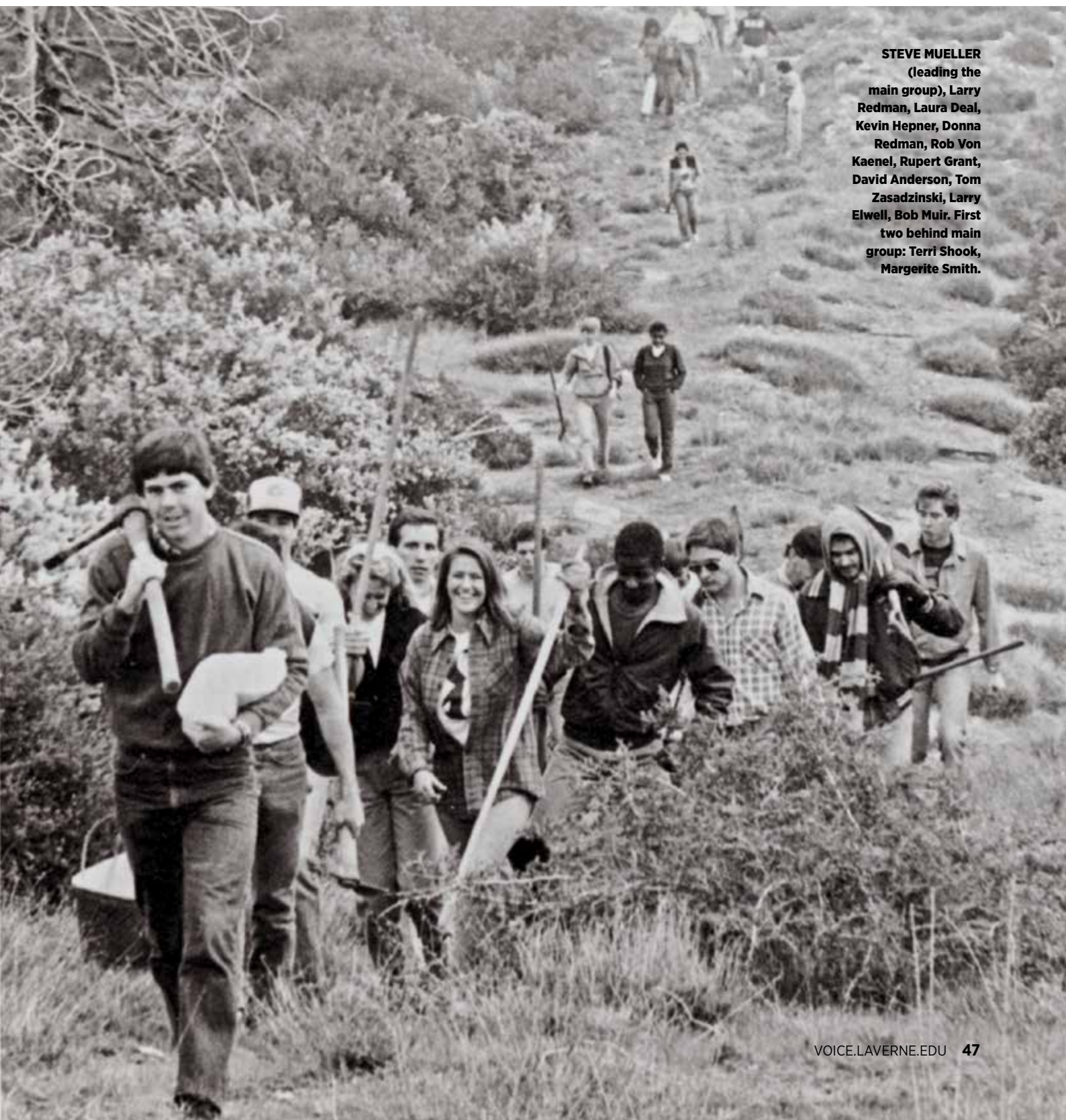
It is with much gratitude that La Verne is able to celebrate this kind of dedicated loyalty. Started in 2009 as a means to acknowledge the long-term support of donors, the Green & Orange Society has been valuable in recognizing every level of giving. Each member is acknowledged in the annual Honor Roll of Donors and invited to the annual Green & Orange Society celebration. Members receive special invitations to campus events and concerts.

For more information on the Green & Orange Society, log onto: laverne.edu/giving/green-and-orange-society.

WAY-BACK-WHEN TRIVIA

In 1985 a group of students return from cleaning _____ in La Verne.

STEVE MUELLER
(leading the main group), Larry Redman, Laura Deal, Kevin Hepner, Donna Redman, Rob Von Kaenel, Rupert Grant, David Anderson, Tom Zasadzinski, Larry Elwell, Bob Muir. First two behind main group: Terri Shook, Margerite Smith.





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