



# Alumni Echoes

November 2017



Cover Photo  
Anya Hensel '19

April 22  
2018

Sept 28~30  
2018

Inside:  
2017 Homecoming  
Vietnam Monument

Spring Gala  
*Michael Card*

Alumni  
Weekend

## Alumni Echoes

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Happy Thanksgiving! As I write this, Thanksgiving vacation is near. I know our students and our faculty are looking forward to spending time with their families.

I have so many things for which I am thankful. I am very thankful for our YVA and UCA alumni and friends of UCA. There are many ways that you continue to bless our campus and students. I hear from alumni who daily lift up our students and teachers in prayer; that means more than you will ever know. I am thankful for those who give their time to physically come to UCA and volunteer, and for those who generously give their resources to better our campus and help students attend. Without you, UCA would not be what it is and many students simply would not be here. I am thankful for people who have a vision for making our campus a better place and make that vision a reality. One recent example of such a vision is the Vietnam Era Monument, that now stands on our campus.

Finally, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve this amazing school called Upper Columbia Academy and to meet so many of you each year who attended.

Thank you for the difference you continue to make for the students of UCA!

**Eric Johnson**

Principal

[principal@ucca.org](mailto:principal@ucca.org)



## Special Gifts

### Gifts made to UCA to honor cherished Memories \$1,225

Arlene Jane Reiswig, '55,  
loving wife for 52 years

Del Wiggins, '57, and two  
years with brother Al, '57.

Pester and Knowlin

Principal E. E. Bietz

Arlene Jane Reiswig, '55,  
who received her first  
airplane ride and the **heart**  
of Al Wiggins during their  
junior year at UCA

Don Latcha, UCA & Grainger  
Band teacher.

Ruth Beck & Elmer Wiggins,  
4-year YVA alumni who wed  
and had two sons

Elder Stratton

Past dreams

Verlyn & Bon Cole

### Estate-Planned Gift benefits UCA

We are saddened by the earthly loss of Harriet Hooper. One can imagine the jubilant heavenly music that awaits all who claim Jesus. UCA is honored to be one of the Adventist academies that promotes musical excellence as part of the legacy of Wayne and Harriet through the Wayne Hooper Brass Scholarship Fund, a FoundationONE named scholarship.





# 2nd Annual Spring Gala

April 22, 2018

Upper Columbia Academy  
presents

Changing lives for Jesus one experience at a time, UCA invites you, your friends, and family to join the Spring Gala, a Tuition Scholarship Benefit Dinner, April 22, 2018. The evening includes a sacred concert by Christian artist, Michael Card, and our UCA Choraliers. The transformed banquet hall is located on our UCA campus. Our goal is to connect with Jesus in a special way.

For silent auction donations & reservations, please contact Julie, [alumni@ucca.org](mailto:alumni@ucca.org)  
509.245.3692



Pledge to sponsor your table of eight:

Gold Level	\$5,000
Silver Level	\$2,500
Bronze Level	\$1,500

## Specific Scholarship Awards

### UCA administered immediate scholarships

Brenda Robinson Scholarships

Single Parent Scholarships

**\$81,000 of blessings  
for 42 families**

**FoundationONE is delighted to support students who desire a Christian education at UCA. We believe the spiritual climate, academic rigor, and social culture at UCA is second-to-none. In fact, it is our sole purpose to see as many students as possible enroll in this wonderful, life-shaping school.**

**Therefore, the FoundationONE board recently voted to allocate \$110,000 for grants this school year. The Scholarship Committee reviewed and prioritized 136 applications. We are happy to report that 121 grants were approved—52 percent of the UCA student body is currently receiving some level of grant funds from FoundationONE!**

**Our Named Scholarship Funds will distribute at least \$20,000 to qualifying UCA students. For information about FoundationONE, call 509-939-1716 or [www.foundationoneuca.org](http://www.foundationoneuca.org).**



Administered by

FoundationONE

Invested endowments generate  
repeating scholarships each year

Olin Peach Scholarship

Faye R. Kwapien Scholarship

Wayne Hooper Brass Scholarship

Eric Molstead Memorial Scholarship

# Blessings & Hopes



## Agriculture

An agricultural program as envisioned by Eric Johnson received a huge blessing of support, a **\$100,000 matching gift**. Agriculture can potentially integrate into the UCA academic and work programs. Planning, laboring, marketing, distributing, and learning from God's creation through horticulture all throughout the entire school year

**"Do not** be anxious about anything, but in **everything** by **prayer** & supplication with **thanksgiving** let your requests be made known to God."

Philippians 4:16 ESV

is a challenging but potentially rewarding undertaking for students to obtain important life lessons, knowledge, and skills.



## From Your Alumni & Development Director

As I get to know the UCA Alumni family, I continue to find warmth in your kindness. My current goals to best serve and keep you informed are as follows:

\* Provide three Alumni Echoes Publications a year

- One Summer publication
- One large, keepsake publication after Alumni weekend in Autumn
- One Spring publication

A **future** goal is to have UCA mailings appear in your mailbox at different times than the FoundationONE Connections magazine about UCA.

\* Meet as many of you personally as reasonably possible, including the Area Chapter meetings.

\* Improve our website.

\* Improve our alumni records, provide name badges with your senior picture for alumni weekend, make needed corrections for the composite class photographs hanging in the Administration Building.

\* Integrate students in the processes of Alumni and Development expressing thanks to both known and anonymous donors and being a connected part of what makes UCA a family for life, hopefully growing together in Christ.





## Weight Room Overhaul

On October 26, students flooded into the new workout space for an introduction and official ribbon cutting by Dr. Chad Harbour. Dr. Harbour recognized a need and committed his resources and recruited others to help update the UCA weight room that overlooks the gymnasium. The complete overhaul includes LED lighting, paint, rubberized flooring, workout mirrors, an exercise video screen, and some serious equipment. The floor plan maximizes the space for student and class use with sets of rowing machines that communicate with each other for racing games and stationary bikes overlooking the gym; both have man-powered cooling fans. There is an Octane Zero Runner ZR8, a suspended running machine. The X-Lab apparatus is the heart of the space with an incline monkey bar system, pull up assist bands, ninja grips, workout benches, and so much more. "We owe a huge 'Thank You' to Dr. Harbour," expresses Coach Reading. "This is amazing."



Students note gratitude for the investment in their health and strength.



What makes UCA a Jesus-focused campus is the staff. It is more than dedication and extra hours, it is personal strength to encourage each other and work together. The staff is strong in their beliefs, yet drama-free. Differences in opinion are less important than uniting as a school and supporting each other for the sake of the students. Acts of kindness around campus are so frequent you could not discover or begin to list them all, but you are constantly hearing of kind deeds. One example, Florence Lacey, vice principal for academics & registrar, collected student quotes during teacher appreciation week and presented them to the staff.

Thank you teachers for making UCA a place for young minds to build a personal foundation with God.



***I really find the new Pastor [Bryan Laue] interesting. He seems to have good ideas, and besides that he really thinks. I like that.***

Pastor Sid is just a fun person, and he just makes you smile whenever you think of him. He's great!

If you have taken a class from Pastor Fred, you know you are going to learn. His class isn't really hard but you always come away knowing you got a lot out of his class.

***I love Mr. Spano's workshops! Oh my goodness, they are so amazing.***

Mrs. Kramer just loves French! How can you not like a teacher who loves what she does?

The best thing about Mrs. Chavez is how she speaks so much Spanish to us. It makes it easy to learn.

*Mrs. Kravig is the sweetest person at UCA. If you want to have a good teacher, you should go talk to her. She is SO nice.*

***Mrs. Castrejon is great. She knows so much, and she can't wait to tell you about (Science) stuff. You just want to listen and learn.***

I just need to talk to Mr. Hartman. I love Physics more than anything, and he just makes me want to learn more even though it is my hardest class. I really like it!

***Calculus is my favorite class. I know it's hard, and Mr. Gladding likes to push us. I like that!***

*I love piano! There isn't a better teacher in the world than Mrs. Dalrymple. She just makes you smile every time you go to her office.*

*Mr. Starr is amazing. We learn so much without pressure. I think he is my favorite.*

***I really like Mrs. Melendy. She really wants us to learn, and she makes our class so fun!***

Mr. Lacey was so sweet to me yesterday! He's the nicest teacher I have. I was a little bit afraid at first, but he is so helpful! I'm pretty sure I'm going to pass his class.

***I really wasn't sure I wanted to be in choir, but I just love Mr. Anderson. He makes the class a lot of fun, and I can't stop singing the songs.***

Mr. Kravig is so busy! But he still takes time to talk to me. I always know he cares about me, but I think he cares about all of his students. Really, he does!

Mrs. Bacon is a really good teacher. She will always help you and always talk to you. I like her!

I've never seen as much excitement in the soccer team before. Everyone just knows Coach Reading is really good, and we all just want to work with him. He is the best PE teacher!

***You might think Health is not a good class, but Mrs. Williams really teaches us important stuff. I was so surprised at how much we learn in there. I like that class a lot!***

Mr. Lenz is just a good teacher. You learn a lot in his class, but you also learn from him when he's in his office. If you don't know something just ask him. He knows everything!



## A Growing Molstead-UCA Family

Richard and Anita Molstead are connected to Upper Columbia Academy in many ways. Richard '54 reflects on fond memories, recognizing the rules-oriented approach that permeated American life in the 1950's, yet he recognizes many good intentions of the faculty.

As educators, Dick and Anita continued to value the opportunities afforded them to impact the lives of young people. UCA's very own Mr. Johnson was one of those lives strengthened in the classroom of Mrs. Molstead.

The Molsteads appreciate the efforts made by UCA staff over the years, especially during the times when their children, Eric '80 and Michele '84 were in attendance.

Their UCA connection changed Alumni Weekend of 2005, leaving the Molstead family grief-stricken. Eric succumbed to carbon-monoxide poisoning during his flight home to Vancouver minutes before reaching his intended destination. It was when they committed their hearts to creating a scholarship fund to make a positive difference in the world, that they knew positive and true healing.

"Scholarships change people's lives and [that] warms your heart," shares Anita. "It's



*Michele, Richard, and Anita Molstead with the 2017 Eric Molstead Memorial Scholarship recipients, Molly Ahola '20, Grace Ahola '19, Hailee Huenergardt '18, and Emma Tucker '17.  
Photograph by FoundationONE*

like the shutters around me were opened." This scholarship fund could enable girls who excel in math, science and technology to pursue a career in those areas. Bearing the name of Eric Molstead on the scholarship, keeps his memory close.

Each year, the Molsteads work with FoundationONE and an Upper Columbia Academy Scholarship Committee to select a Freshman female to receive the UCA tuition scholarship, with eligible annual renewal each year until graduation. The first scholarship award began at \$500. In 2016, the fund principal balance surpassed \$100,000 and generated \$10,000 to be awarded to the four recipients. Richard and Anita express great joy in knowing that investing in these "shining stars" encourages

them to rise to their potential. They celebrate student accomplishments, whether they be in leadership, choosing Jesus, excelling in academics, or participating in outreach.

Student recipients become like extended family members, increasing the Molstead Family each year, they keep in touch and are so proud of their scholarship recipients. The financial and family-like encouragement from Dick and Anita provides inspiration to students to recognize their potential to excel in fields, to ignore the gender gap that might discourage them from a career that suits their abilities. Their ultimate goal is that more females will be empowered to contribute and potentially take leadership roles in the world of science, math, and technology.



# Alumni Homecoming







Download these pictures at [yogile.com/2017UCAalumni](http://yogile.com/2017UCAalumni) (or share your pics with us).





# Alumni Homecoming

Co-authored by Caleb Nelson, '18

You can't miss it, that beautiful new monument just to the west of the Administration Building. The masterpiece was erected to recognize the Upper Columbia Academy alumni servicemen (and one servicewoman) who served our country during the Vietnam era, 1960 to 1975. Currently 122 names are on the monument, including alumni who did not graduate from UCA but left to serve.

"Originally, we thought we would find 30 to 40 names. After a year we have 120 names, and more continue to appear," said Bud Smick '64. The names

purposefully lack order to enable the integration of more names after the stone is set. Since the placement of the monument, 21 additional names are undergoing research.

The monument and video project began as the vision of Dr. Michael Walter, MD Brigadier General (Ret), USAR, class of 1966. Classmates Bud Smick and Marlene Livingston Curry joined the effort. None of their names appear on the monument as servicemen, only as contributors. This shows the heart-filled motive behind the monument: to give tribute to the alumni who served our country during this anti-war era and to make this relevant to all UCA students. The UCA lion mascot is part of the monument floor to intentionally connect with current UCA students.

The beautiful piece of granite weighs 5,500 pounds and was imported from South Africa. The construction project, additional names, and accompanying video cost roughly \$50,000, funds raised by Curry, Smick, and Walter. The monument work is the finished product of a company named Tresko, also named on the monument contributor side.

Approximately 200 alumni, veteran families, and friends gathered about the monument on



*"Just like the rest of the veterans being honored last night, I can't remember a time feeling closer to my country, my duty, and my brothers and sister who were able to attend. Our hosts took upon a task that was not theirs originally, and provided a reconnection that was powerful and personal."*

*For me, Walker's soulful rendition of Taps was when emotion became more intense than composure could restrain. I have not heard Taps played in a live setting since my son's Navy burial 17 years ago. The impact of two histories, so many years apart, left me unable to do more than mouth the words of thank you to Walker and the music director. So many 'Thank-you's'... so few words to accommodate what was felt during yesterday's service for us... I am simply grateful to have been included."*

Dr. Michael Anthony