

## Aloha, Sooner Magazine

Let me join in praise of the return of *Sooner Magazine* — and so well done. Summer 1981 just arrived here in Honolulu; but surface mail comes to us via Cape Horn!

Your photography is excellent; and I hope you'll continue to insist on photos that are so well done. A magazine like this must have content (*Sooner* does!); yet photographs are the difference between having it read and glanced at.

We publish a magazine six times a year, *The New Pacific Magazine*, with between 80 and 112 pages each issue — so you have our sympathy. This does, though, allow me to comment about your format: it's good. We use mostly b/w, some spot color, and a four-page-wrap-around in the interest of cost control. I feel your magazine's current use of black and white is just fine; and hopefully you will consider carefully before going to color . . . maybe the budget control has already done so?

Keep up the good work. You are helping remind us former, yet proud, Sooners to think of our University.

Willis Henry Moore, '62BA  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Hawaii Geographic Society  
Honolulu, Hawaii

*Sooner Magazine* art director, George Dotson, returned from the September national conference of the University and College Designers Association with the award of merit for cover design for the Summer, 1981, cover featuring Gil Jain's photograph of dance director Miguel Terekhov.

When I entered the University as a freshman in 1928, I applied to Mr. Emil R. Kraettli (University secretary) for part-time job to support me in school. I was given a job in the relatively new or reactivated Alumni Office, . . . located in . . . the Administration Building. Mr. Frank S. Cleckler was the secretary of the association and this office was also the office of Joseph Brandt. . . .

One of the projects under way was the launching of the new *Sooner Magazine* to be published by the Alumni Association. As I remember, Joe was to be the editor of the Univer-

sity Press, which, of course, was to print and get out the magazine.

. . . When the final day came it was necessary to work through the night until daylight the next day to get all copies addressed and packaged to go to the post office. Mr. Cleckler, Mr. Brandt, Sam Crawford, head pressman, his son, perhaps several others, and I worked all night. When the shipment finally arrived at the post office later in the day, I remember there was difficulty with the postmaster because the "Contents" listing was not located properly within the magazine . . .

I always remember with gratitude the chance to go to the University by working my way in the Alumni Office; and knowing well Mr. Cleckler, Mr. Brandt and Faye Barnhill and later Mrs. Mary Turnbull, who took Miss Barnhill's place when she married, left Norman for Ardmore.

Good luck to you and your staff in reviving the new *Sooner Magazine*.

Ralph V. James, '34BA  
Oklahoma City, OK

## Neither Rain nor Sleet Nor Missing ZIP Code

*Normally changes of address are not considered letters-to-the-editor. However, the case of Francis L. Grable of San Antonio was somewhat extraordinary:*

I have no idea how this arrived in my mail box, *Grable writes*. The postal people must be better than most of us think.

*Alumnus Grable, '67M.Ed, enclosed a mailing label from the Summer issue of Sooner Magazine which contained only his name and street address, no city, no state, not even a ZIP code.*

## Dr. Boyd's Tree

The front cover picture (*Sooner Magazine*, Spring 1981) shows the big Elm Tree in front of Evans Hall. A picture some time back did not show the tree, and I figured Dutch Elm Disease had claimed it . . . I once broached the subject to Bob Rucker — grounds superintendent — about "Air Layering" certain trees.

As you should know, the original Washington Elm where George

Washington assumed command of the Continental Armies was "air layered" to place this tree in other locations. Particularly the University of Washington in Seattle had one, and as it showed signs of beginning to die, it was "Air Layered" so as to perpetuate it.

It is my suggestion to you — in memory of Dr. Boyd — that this Elm Tree in front of Evans Hall be air layered, perhaps on a number of branches so that you could be sure of getting a good tree to stand in the spot of the parent tree when the time comes for its demise and removal. I think it would be a fitting tribute to Dr. Boyd to have such a tree in perpetuity on this spot in his memory.

Herron V. Dawson, '62BS  
Enterprise, AL

*Editor's Note: "Air Layering" is a type of botanical cloning in which a twig or shoot attached to the parent tree is wrapped in moist sphagnum moss so that it will form roots and can later be removed and replanted. Although the Evans Hall elm is in no immediate danger, the OU landscape department is planning to air layer it, as Alumnus Dawson suggests. The sons and/or daughters of David Ross Boyd's tree will live on. After all, if it's good enough for George Washington . . .*

## Remembrances Wanted

For a study of the career of Kate Barnard, Oklahoma's First Commissioner of Charities and Corrections, I would appreciate hearing from anyone (especially former OU students) who may have heard her speak as guest lecturer in the sociology classes of Professor Gilbert H. Smith approximately 1916-1917. Others with information about Miss Barnard are certainly welcome, too.

Connie Cronley  
100 Center Plaza #1508  
Tulsa, OK 74119  
(918) 587-2272 home  
(918) 585-2573 business

*Editor's Note: Ms. Cronley, who is managing director of the Tulsa Ballet Theatre, is a free-lance writer whose by-line has appeared in many publications in Oklahoma. Her OU alumnus husband is Tulsa Tribune columnist and author Jay Cronley.*



*Joe Taylor often had company on the scaffold.*

## One Last Finishing Touch

More than 30 years have elapsed since OU Sculptor Joe Taylor first put chisel and hammer to the massive block of Bedford limestone that eventually became the Bizzell statue on the University of Oklahoma's Van Vleet (south) Oval. This fall Taylor finally got around to putting the last touch to his most famous work.

To those sidewalk superintendents who faithfully followed Taylor's progress for more than two years, from December 1949 to March 1952, the project certainly had appeared to be finished. But Taylor had omitted one small detail. He had never signed the statue.

So, one day in September 1981 he returned to the base of the Bizzell memorial and chiseled a discreet "Joe Taylor" for the sake of posterity.

The idea for the statue originated with the Class

of '43. The estimated cost was \$60,000. Taylor agreed to work for whatever the class members could raise. With \$500 from Ponca City philanthropist Lew Wentz and several smaller gifts, the class fund reached \$1,100, not even enough for the stone.

The University community was committed to the idea of OU's first memorial statue, however, and some special funds were found to supply the block of limestone. The physical plant employees put up the pedestal and rigged the electrical equipment. The carpentershop workers erected the scaffolding, and the OU plumbing shop loaned Taylor an air hammer. The professor furnished his own tools, all his spare time from classroom duties and his sabbatical leave.

Early in the project, Taylor's sculpture class helped chip away the stone. "That was when we were just beginning, and I could spare the stone," he commented dryly. But he had lots of other assistance as well. A steady stream of students, faculty and passersby kept him company — some even climbing up on the scaffold to sit with him. He answered their questions, acknowledged their suggestions and kept on working.

Uncooperative weather slowed progress. Then Taylor injured a nerve in his hand, and work halted altogether until he recovered. But for Taylor the Bizzell statue was a "labor of love", and when he climbed down from the scaffold for the last time, his feelings of relief and accomplishment were mixed. "In a way, I'm sorry that the job is done," he remarked.

Taylor had shaped the block of limestone into a 21-foot-high, 18,000- to 20,000-pound tribute to the scholarly administrator who had been president when young Joe Taylor first came to OU in 1932 as an art instructor. Through Taylor's talent and dedication, the statue of Bizzell, clad in its academic robes, would stand forever facing the library Bizzell had worked so diligently to build.

## Retirees Respond

How good of you to include me in your mailing list for the summer edition of *Sooner Magazine!* I have read it from cover to cover, from your beautifully written "Prologue" to the very last page, which has something to do with "U.S. Postage Paid".

This particular issue includes a predominance of articles either by or about many of my favorite personalities. I have always thought that the Terekhovs were two of Oklahoma's greatest cultural assets, and of course, Dr. Cross is a guy whom we all respect and admire more than we can say. Even though I left the campus before I had an opportunity to know Dr. Banowsky too well,

personally, it is good to see that my old friend Blanche Sommers is keeping such good company.

Thanks again for your thoughtfulness and please accept my congratulations for such an attractive, well written publication . . . I am glad to see that (Gil Jain) is maintaining his usual standard of excellence in the photography department.

Robert W. Ross  
Professor Emeritus of Music  
Weslaco, TX

As a student and faculty member I have been associated with the University since the summer of 1919. I sometimes feel I more or less grew up with the University. It is a source of pleasure to recall some of the things

that have taken place and be remembered for some of the things one has taken part in.

Should there be some way I can still serve the University, please let me know.

F. F. Gaither, '21BA, '26M.Ed  
Professor Emeritus of Education  
Norman, OK

Elderhostel. For the elders, like persons over 60 who want to spend a week on campus. Courses designed especially for them. No prereqs. No exams. No credit entanglements. Just a bit of brain working, sharing and learning. Plus some intermingling with normal aged students for a touch of better understanding.

*Continued on Page 32*

Alice Spann in OCCE will coordinate Elderhostel in 1982. Alice is already probing minds for subjects to be offered and faculty to do the job. She would be glad to have your suggestions, either subject or instructor, or both . . . about 7.5 hours (of instruction) during the week. And with three topics offered. The cost for one week — board, room, instruction — for 1981 was only \$140. How many nights in motels can you match that?

Whether you choose to Elderhostel at OU, you can find the national program has many offerings and alternatives. You Oldsters, why don't you consider incorporating Elderhostel somewhere, sometime in your vacationing and traveling? But you youngsters, just drool until you mature enough to enjoy this kind of a week back in familiar surroundings.

Horace Bliss

Professor Emeritus of Chemistry  
Norman, OK

## The Sooner Story

Through the kindness of my friend Jack Brandenburg of Taos, I have just had the pleasure of reading *The Sooner Story* with its accounts of many of those whose memory I cherish. I am also honored to be mentioned despite my too brief term of a decade on the faculty of the University. Incidentally, I am just a year older than that amazing institution.

For your record I take the liberty of noting that on page 54 my term of service is recorded as 1927-1928 instead of 1927-1938. In the event that the *Story* is reprinted, a correction would make me look less like a hit-and-run operator.

Paul B. Sears  
Taos, NM

*Editor's Note:* The Sooner Story (see "Books for Christmas" on Page 30) was prepared by the Sooner Magazine staff and published by the University of Oklahoma Foundation in November, 1980, in celebration of the University's 90th anniversary. Dr. Sears was featured as one of the faculty giants whose renown lingered long after he had left the campus. His colleagues always considered his tenure at OU as too brief, but not as brief as our proofreading would have it appear.

of Northern Ireland should not be changed without the consent of the Northern Ireland parliament. That guarantee now runs that there shall be no change without the consent of a majority of the *people* of Northern Ireland, and it remains the chief protection of the the Unionist position.

In other ways, however, the north has proved more mobile. While it has remained very vulnerable to economic depression, it has benefited since the war by sharing on equal terms in the British reforms in health, education, and the social services. This has had two important consequences. One is that the incentive to emigrate was reduced, and this kept many young people at home who in other times would have gone elsewhere. The other is that these young people were more educated and better able to articulate minority grievances than previously. Out of this semi-emancipation came the Civil Rights movement of the late 1960s which, as the world knows, prepared the way for the violent upheavals of the last decade.

The end of that story is not yet, and how it may all turn out no man can predict. I shall content myself with venturing a few propositions in conclusion:


- (1) The present troubles are of greater duration and intensity than any that have gone before. Therefore, they will not die away through exhaustion, so that a radical solution must be found.
- (2) It will have to be a solution that involves both communities in the six counties, which probably means that it may have to be imposed from without.
- (3) If that be so, and since Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom, the British government has an inescapable responsibility. Just as now it has a duty to maintain order, so also in the future it has a duty to propound a solution.
- (4) Although such a solution will doubtless take account of the whole Irish situation, the role of the republic in the foreseeable future must be extremely restrained — partly because of northern resentment at the anti-partition policies of the past, and partly because the preoccupation

of the south with its own economic and social problems seems to preclude a dynamic or dramatic intervention.

The question is always asked, but must remain open, whether a solution will involve the final undoing of the Treaty and the reunification of the whole island. In the short term this appears highly unlikely and has in any event been rendered almost impossible by the campaign of the Provisional I.R.A. If there is to be a solution through reunification, it cannot come by force. It has to come by consent, and it has to take account of the deep and genuine differences of culture and outlook between the two parts of Ireland.

In this most fundamental sense, the involvement of Britain in the crisis, though historically a necessity, is at the same time almost a distraction. For the issue is not simply, or even mainly, one of 'Brits out' of Northern Ireland — it is much more a question of what will happen when they go, which sooner or later they will. Then, very different kinds of Irishmen will be face to face as might so easily have happened in 1914.

Will that encounter be a civil war which will make the earlier one pale into insignificance? Or will it result in a process of reconciliation and enlightenment spread over many years and leading north and south nearer to that 'common name of Irishman' with which Wolfe Tone wished long ago to counter sectarian animosities?

Time alone will tell — and time is running out. 

---

*ABOUT THE AUTHOR:* Irish scholar and educator F. S. L. Lyons retired this fall as provost of the University of Dublin to devote full-time to his teaching and writing. He does both admirably. With historical objectivity and scholarly wisdom, he has been a force for calm, sympathetic understanding of the complex "Irish Question." His acclaimed works on 19th and 20th century Irish history and politics have striven mightily to "separate myth from reality," as one reviewer has stated.

---