

Focus

*on Friends of Woodstock School/WOSA - North America
a 501-c-3 non profit organization supporting Woodstock School*

An Occasional Newsletter

Issue No. 2 - November 2011

Year End Reflections

FWS President Glenn Conrad reflects on the past year.



IRA Charitable Rollover

If you are making a withdrawal from your IRA, consider this!



WOSA/NA Reunion

Plan to attend another great FWS/WOSA-NA Reunion in Seattle WA on July 20-23, 2012



You Make A Difference!
How your gift to FWS/WOSA-NA helps Woodstock!

2011 Year End Reflections

from Glenn Conrad '68 President FWS/WOSA-NA

I'm just back from WOSA's 100th anniversary *tamasha* in Landour. What fun! A vision of Principal Eleanor Nicholson doing a rap version of *Shadows* is still making me smile.

There is an optimistic, enthusiastic mood at the School this fall. It is infectious. And it is great to feel that the unified FWS/WOSA-NA is part of it. Over the past ten years we have been able to provide more than \$8 million in grants to help keep the Woodstock dream vibrant. I'm convinced the next ten years will be even more productive. In addition to our annual Woodstock Fund for Excellence, we are poised to begin building a general endowment to help support the School in perpetuity. With a \$1.5 million leadership gift, we have a historic opportunity, and

you'll hear more about the Legacy Endowment Campaign soon. In the meantime, our permanent FWS/WOSA-NA scholarship funds are supporting six particular kids at Woodstock, and your recent annual gifts have translated into another \$70,000 for scholarships.

Woodstock's new "2020 Vision" plan sets three themes – staff compensation, staff housing, and scholarships. As Woodstock hammers out the financial implications, one of our tasks here is to emphasize "where most needed" gifts so that we can support such strategic initiatives, instead of piecemeal projects.

We are planning next year's reunion in Seattle. We are looking at new ways of networking younger members. Woodstock and SAGE are joined in a new, cooperative

recruiting experiment. Principal Nicholson is earning great reviews for refocusing attention on teaching as she paves the way for Principal Designate Jonathan Long. The Woodstock Board is reconfiguring itself into a smaller, competency-based body. Against this dynamic backdrop it isn't surprising that Woodstock has been named the No. 1 International School in India by one media source, and one of the ten Best Boarding Schools in the world by another!

This is a worthwhile adventure! I hope you treasure being part of it. How fortunate we all are to be linked to such a multi-dimensional institution, and to such a idiosyncratic and exceptional community. Onward!

IRA Rollover Extended

Congress has extended the Tax-Free Gifts from IRA accounts for another year. If you are over 70 and preparing to make a withdrawal from your IRA, you can also support the mission and vision of Woodstock School through a gift to FWS/WOSA-NA

The transfer of your IRA distribution directly to FWS/WOSA-NA counts toward your Required Minimum Distribution for 2011. The gift qualifies as an outright charitable gift, making it tax deductible. For your gift to qualify for benefits under the extension:

- ◆ you must be 70 1/2 or older at the time of your gift
- ◆ the transfer must be made directly from a traditional or Roth IRA account to FWS/WOSA-NA
- ◆ the total cannot exceed \$100,000
- ◆ the gift must be outright. Distributions to donor-advised funds, supporting organizations and life income arrangements such as charitable gift annuities are not allowed

Your gift allows FWS/WOSA-NA to make grants to Woodstock School for:

- ◆ faculty recruitment, retention and continuing education
- ◆ scholarships for qualified and deserving students who could not otherwise afford a Woodstock education
- ◆ other grant requests to FWS/WOSA-NA from Woodstock for special programs and projects

Contact Jane Cummings at sjanecummings@gmail.com or 303-963-5427 for further details.

2012 FWS/WOSA-NA Annual Reunion in Seattle, WA

FWS/WOSA-NA has organized an annual reunion and conference in North America for the past 24 years. These events usually bring over 200 Woodstock alumni and friends together for a weekend of workshops, featured speakers on a variety of topics, entertainment, updates on Woodstock and a chance to meet with others who have shared the Woodstock experience.

The 2012 FWS/WOSA-North America Reunion Conference and Annual Meeting will be held at Seattle Pacific University in Seattle, Washington, July 20-23, 2012. The local planning committee, already hard at work on the arrangements, have selected "*Stewards of Our World*" as the theme. There will be arrangements for classes to gather before and/or after the main event. Details will be on www.wosana.org as they become available. **Plan now to attend!**

You Can Make A Difference!

By making a gift of **any amount** to the Woodstock School Fund for Excellence you can make a lasting difference to:

- a Woodstock student on scholarship
- a Woodstock teacher or administrator receiving a grant for educational development
- the quality of the music or science programs at Woodstock
- other grants from FWS/WOSA-NA that contribute to the continued excellence of Woodstock

AND your gift is tax deductible for tax year 2011 if mailed by December 31, 2011!

Please make your gift today to the Woodstock School Fund for Excellence.

- Mail your check to the Bank Lock Box of Friends of Woodstock School, PO Box 749780, Los Angeles, CA 90074-9780 *or*
- Donate online at <http://fwsfoundation.org> *or*
- Scan this code with your smartphone

