

WOSC BOARD CANDIDATE BIOS 2023

Fred Merrill



Presently I'm the 2022 Big Sir (president) for the Oakmont SIR's Chapter 92, sergeant of arms for Oakmont Rotary and member of its speaker committee, Oakmont Pickle Ball Club past president and now a member on the pickle ball court usage committee. Last 40 years of my career I owned a 140 persons call center and before that I owned and operated small restaurants for 15 years.

I would love to put my energy (at seventy-eight I still have plenty) toward helping with the affairs of the Wild Oak Saddle Club, its operations, its properties, and most important its staff. Having this great club in my Oakmont neighborhood is a blessing for me and my wife Susie.

Stephen Olsen



I have been a member of WOSC since the 90s. I am a past member of the Board, past president, and chair of the Governance committee in 2015/16 during the time we overhauled the Club Bylaws. My committee also prepared updates to the Policy Statements. I have served as president of my Rotary Club. I served as president of the Carriage Association of America and as the United States representative to the International Driving Presidents' Council. I have been a board member of the Santa Rosa High Foundation and am currently on the board of the 6th Street Playhouse. I am a third generation Santa Rosan. My uncle, Bob Clark, was a founding member of WOSC. My experience will contribute to fostering transparency and increasing member participation in Club governance.

Jim Henderson



The board experience that I bring to the WOSC board includes 16 years on the board for a large social club with a membership that hovered around 200 members. During that time, I served as committee chair for every committee in the organization and held every position on the executive committee including two separate terms as president. I also served for 14 years as the architect member on the Sonoma County Design Review Board.

In addition to the regular dining activities at Wild Oak, my interests include playing tennis, pickleball and, enjoying the swimming pool.

I bring this experience to the WOSC board to continue to improve, for all members, the already wonderful Saddle Club experience.

Cristie Joy Marcus (Brodey)



I was born and raised in the Bay Area. After graduating from Cal Berkeley, I traveled anywhere I could go. Upon returning to San Francisco, I worked as an actor and in Radio (K SAN - music director, KYA), then the Record business. Moving to Sonoma County in 1983 was one of the best things I've done. In 1986, I got my Real Estate license and have been a Top Producing agent ever since. My career has afforded me extreme familiarity with our County and its people. I was elected to the Advisory Committee of Realtors, have served on the Board of Kid Street Theatre and the Board of The Villages of Wild Oak where we live. Many new WOSC members are a result of my (and Brodey's) recommendations. I feel I'd be a new voice and great contributor to the WOSC Board and look forward to serving our great club.

Herbert Inestroza



I have been a club member since 2017, am currently a board member, served as Board Recording Secretary for four years, have worked with six presidents, and am chairperson of the Social Committee. I believe in the spirit of the club as envisioned by Henry Trione as "an extension of home, where friends gather to create fun and fellowship and to celebrate life." However, to further this vision, the club needs good governance, attention to finances, and regular communication to members from the board. I have excellent communication skills and enjoy collaborating with all members of the club. My working background is in retail and business development; therefore, I understand finance and "the bottom line." I also am interested in governance and updating club rules and regulations to reflect changes that occur over time. I want the club to prosper and adapt thoughtfully to growth and change.

Pam Kersch



My husband and I joined the Saddle Club in 2017. I am seeking a seat on the Board of Directors 2023 to assist the efforts to keep the Saddle Club financially viable and be supportive of all the various activities outlined in the Club's Bylaws. I am pleased to write to the nominating committee of the WOSC. I appreciate the work of all the volunteers who share their time and effort to continue the great legacy of "promoting good fellowship through recreational and social activities for the members...".

I am an honest, forthright person. I have enjoyed successful careers in business communication system sales and in real estate. I am a managing director of a real estate investment LLC. I have served on many boards and volunteer organizations and advised on many committees over the years.

I believe that it is important to the health of the Club to hear and understand the concerns of all the members while making decisions on the governance of the Club. I support the addition of new Board Members each election period as a means of checks and balances for the well-being of the whole Club. I thank the nominating committee for the work of reviewing the nominees for this year's positions.

Barbara Katona



I have served on the board of two HOA's in which I previously lived. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Finance. I worked in commercial banking for years before being trained by Bank of America as an appraiser. I became their senior appraiser before starting my own appraisal firm 30 years ago. I employed nine people and had the private banking accounts for B of A, Citibank, and Wells Fargo. I also have a real estate broker's license and have sold real estate in the past.

I recently retired and now have time to give back to the Saddle Club. I have some innovative ideas which I have already shared with Lori and believe she supports.

Scott Bartley



I have served on the WOSC Board and as President. I have chaired the Long Range Planning Committee since joining the Board and believe it has made valuable additions to the Club; having coordinated all renovations starting with the interior renovation of the Club House and the addition of the pergolas and bocce court along with the revisions to the main entrance making it ADA compliant along with the rebuilt deck.

I believe my skills have served the club well and wish to continue to serve. I am a former mayor of Santa Rosa and currently serve on the SRJC Foundation Board of Directors, the Family Justice Center Foundation Board and the Santa Rosa Rotary Board of Directors.

It's amazing what a fantastic and fun place the Saddle Club has become over the last few years and want to do whatever I can to help it to continue to thrive!

John Meislahn



I have been President of the WOSC Board in 2020 and also served two terms on the WOSC Board. I have volunteered as Treasurer for the Derby Day committee and been instrumental in adding many new active members into the Club. I have served as President and Board member for at least six other non-profits in Sonoma County and I am currently on one other Board as Treasurer-The California Theatre Company of Santa Rosa. I feel my past experience with this and other boards adds value to the WOSC as my interest is in making the club continue to be the best social organization in the North Bay!

Mark Randol



Retired in May 2011 after 35 years of military and Federal civil service and moved with his wife Fran to Oakmont. They have been members of the Saddle Club for over five years. Mark has been active in the Oakmont community. In 2021, he was elected to the Board of Directors of the Oakmont Village Association (OVA) and today serves as its vice-president. In this role, he and his board colleagues oversee the operations of a \$4 million association serving 4,000 residents. Also in retirement, Mark provides security consulting and training services. In addition, he gives TED talks to community groups on topics ranging from history, homeland security, intelligence, terrorism, and immigration. Mark is veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and earned a Masters Degree in Government from Georgetown University.

Doug Pavese



I have been a member of the WOSC since 1979 and President in 1993. While President I made a bylaw change that would allow a female to become a Board Member-Florine Heck. Since then, I have been voted three years periods several times. I was with Morgan Stanley for 38 years as a Senior Institutional Consultant. I have served on the WOSC Finance committee many times and participated in Long Term Planning Committees with transparency. I helped many non-profits in Sonoma get legally started and continue helping them develop Endowments. I helped start the SR High School Foundation and served as their President and Chair of the SRJC Foundation Investment Committee. I have worked hard to bring an output of success and people call me a "Board Junkie".

Tom Hinde



Tom is an independent winemaker working in California's famed Sonoma and Napa wine regions. Tom is Director of Winemaking for Prestige Wine Co – 2009-Present. From 2005 to 2010 Tom was President / CEO and Director of Winemaking for Flowers Vineyard and Winery. In 2008 Tom successfully transitioned Flowers to the Huneus Vintner's group and stayed on to oversee the integration of a new wine making team.

Tom previously spent 16 years, from 1989 to 2005 as Vice President / General Manager for Kendall-Jackson Wine Estates. Tom managed day to day farming and winery operations in Sonoma and Mendocino County. Tom was General Manager for The La Crema Winery and Hartford Family Winery where he helped build La Crema into one of Sonoma County's most prominent Pinot Noir producers. Tom worked on the winemaking team for Cabernet Producers; Lakoya, Cardinale, Stonestreet and Verite. Tom brings with him knowledge of the industry from consumer to winery with a strong market perspective.

Tom was born and raised in Ohio, attended the University of Toledo and holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. Tom attended the University of California, Davis where he earned his Winemaking credentials. Tom makes his home in Santa Rosa and Truckee, CA. He is married to Kim, and they have three children.