



The Pride of Annapolis

Annapolis Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association



Official Newsletter of the Annapolis Chapter Penn State Alumni Association

Fall 2014

A Message from the President

Dear Chapter Members,

As we start our 2014-15 membership year, I would like to salute our returning and lifetime members. *Thanks for making our chapter so successful!* And to our new members, I say “welcome”. Your membership supports our many chapter programs and promotes Penn State pride right here in the Annapolis area.

One of our most important chapter programs is our scholarship fund, which was established in 2003 to benefit local undergraduate students. Our program reached an important milestone this past spring. I am proud to announce that over the past eleven years, we have awarded a total of **\$50,000** in scholarships. ***What a remarkable achievement!*** You can learn more about our most recent scholarship winners in this newsletter.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season and a prosperous 2015. I hope to see you at our annual holiday party on December 3rd at Union Jack’s in Annapolis.

For the glory,

—George Gayno '87 '94g

President, ACPSAA



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FALL SERVICE PROJECT: *Wreaths Across America*™

Due to the overwhelming member support last year, the Chapter has selected *Wreaths Across America*™ (WAA) as its 2014 fall service project. Many of you may recall that this national charity honors veterans of past wars who have been laid to rest in national cemeteries, including our own Annapolis National Cemetery. Last year, Chapter members raised **\$2,180**, which accounted for the purchase of **218** of the 1800+ wreaths that decorated the gravesites in the Annapolis National Cemetery in December.



This year our goal is to raise \$3,000, which would purchase 300 wreaths.

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE? Donate and volunteer your time by unloading the wreaths on delivery day, laying wreaths at the Placement Ceremony, or picking up the wreaths on clean-up day in January.

SPONSOR A WREATH	VOLUNTEER
1 Wreath = \$15 Donation	Dec 8-12: Wreath Delivery Date TBA
2 Wreaths = \$30 Donation*	Dec 13, noon: Wreath Placement Ceremony, Annapolis National Cemetery
Make Any Donation**	Jan 2015: Wreath Clean Up Day Date TBA

**The Chapter participates in the WAA "3 for 2" option; we get 3 wreaths for every 2 purchased*

***The Chapter will pool all donations for maximum "3 for 2" participation*



Donations are requested by Thursday, 20 November, to meet WAA submission deadlines for 2014 donations. Donations will be collected at football viewing parties or you may use the paypal option on our Chapter website. All donations are tax deductible.

Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Happy Hour

Our final Happy Hour of the year will be on Thursday, 6 November from 5:30-8:00 pm at Heroes Pub, 1 Riverview Ave, Annapolis. Happy Hours will resume on 8 January and every first Thursday after that.

If you have a favorite pub, please email your idea to psuannapolis@gmail.com so we may consider it for future happy hours.

Football Viewing

Family-friendly football viewing parties are held at The Greene Turtle in Annapolis. We hope you will join us for great food, drinks, and fun.

Our New Website

psuannapolis.weebly.com



HOLIDAY PARTY



We will be celebrating the holiday season this year at Union Jack's in Annapolis. Mark your calendars for:

Wednesday, 3 December 2014
6:00– 8:00 pm

Appetizers will be provided. Cash bar. Bring your holiday spirit and Penn State cheer as we celebrate another successful year for the Chapter. We look forward to seeing you all there. **NOTE:** Extra parking is available in the garage under Whole Foods.

Questions? Contact Chapter VP Mike Long at immike01@hotmail.com.

THIS IS A MEMBERS-ONLY EVENT SO PLEASE RENEW YOUR CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP ON OUR WEBSITE NOTED BELOW.

SPRING SERVICE PROJECT

One of our Chapter goals is to be a leader in community service. Our fall and spring service projects are a means to bring PSU alumni together to help our communities, which aligns with PSU's mission of teaching, research and service.

We need a leader and committee members to plan and carry out our spring service project. Last year, members helped clean up Chambers Park in Annapolis. Any ideas are welcome!

Please contact us at PSUAnnapolis@gmail.com to volunteer.



Chapter Members pose for a photo at Chambers Park.

RECAP: Student Picnic 2014

One hundred people – including 22 local Penn State students and their families - attended our 17th annual chapter picnic on August 11.

The picnic is our way of welcoming local students into the Penn State family. Each student received a “goodie bag” of essentials, including notebooks, pens and a gift certificate from the Student Book store. More importantly, they got the inside scoop about life at Penn State from our student mentors: Brianna Callahan, Bryan Gardiner and Phoebe Neseth.



Congratulations to everyone who received special prizes for playing games, including our Nittany Lion version of Bingo.

Many thanks to Opportunity Builders Inc. in Millersville for allowing the Chapter to host the picnic on their spacious patio.

WE NEED YOU: The picnic is getting bigger every year. To ensure this event remains a special one for students, families and members, we are creating a



picnic committee to plan next year's event.

Please consider volunteering your time. We are also looking for recent alumni to serve as student mentors. For more information, please e-mail us at psuannapolis@gmail.com.



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

MEET THE WINNERS

Christina Kasmer is a sophomore forensic science major from Severna Park. She is a Lion Ambassador and a Morale Captain for THON. Her post-graduation goal is to work for the FBI or the Department of Defense.

Erica Kontson is a biomedical engineering major from Davidsonville. As a summer intern at NASA-Goddard, she worked on the James Webb Space Telescope project. For her junior year engineering project, she designed a phototherapy system to treat neonatal jaundice.

Michael Monaghan is a petroleum and natural gas engineering major from Annapolis. He is a Dean's List student and is interested in developing environmentally friendly fuels.

Jon Neseth is an advertising major from Severna Park. He is a Lion Ambassador and a member of the club baseball team. He is also the president of a fifty-member organization that raised \$35K for THON.

Cameron Rowe is a science major from Arnold. He is a Dean's List student and a Morale Captain for THON. After graduation, his goal is to become an optometrist.

Michael Venter is an industrial engineering major from Crownsville. He is a Dean's List student and his fraternity raised over \$300K for THON.



CONGRATULATIONS!

The Chapter is proud to introduce the six \$1000 scholarship winners for 2014-15.

Many thanks to you, our members, for supporting the scholarship program through your donations and your participation in football viewing party halftime raffles. Since 2003, our chapter has awarded a total of **\$50,000 in scholarships to local Penn State undergraduate students!**

We would also like to thank this year's scholarship committee members: **Judith Hoover, Dona Horst, Dick James, Marjorie Rawhouser, Keith Smith and Committee Chair Vicki Wuest.**

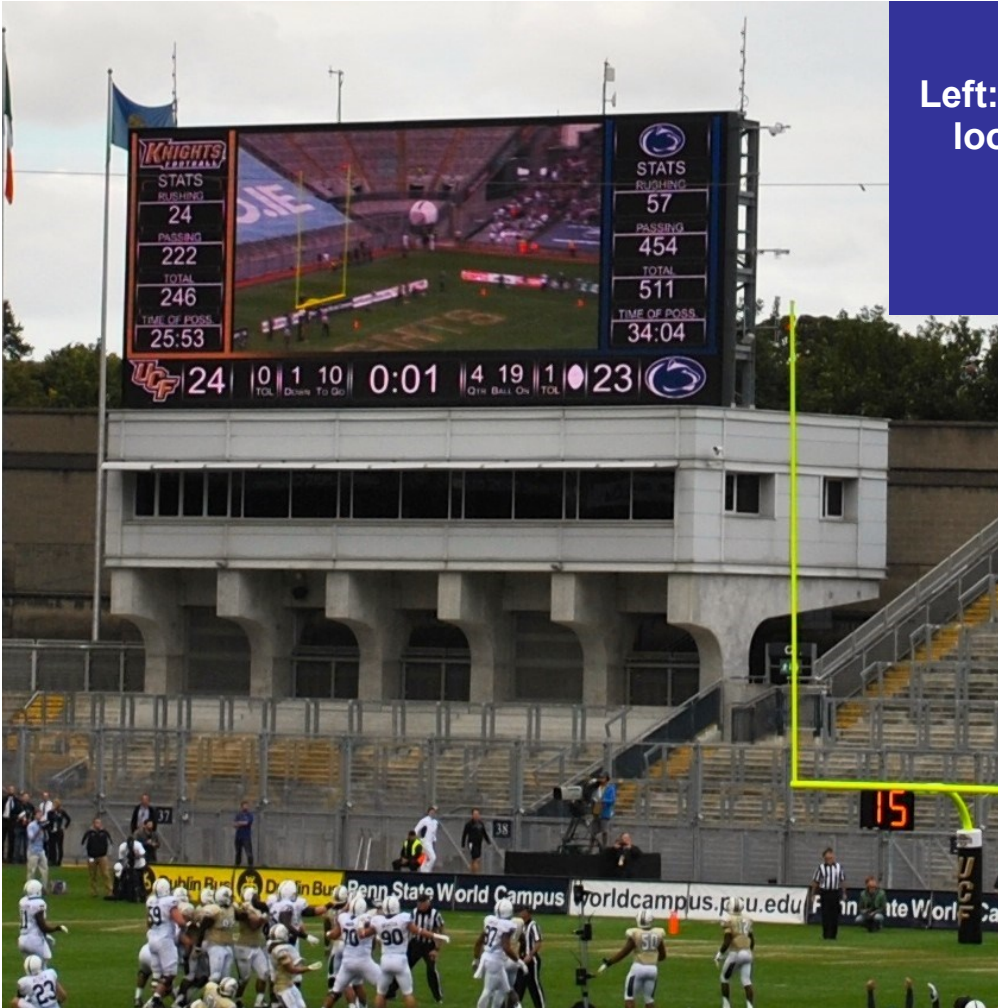
If you would like to serve on next year's committee, send a note to PSUAnnapolis@gmail.com.

Our New Website

psuannapolis.weebly.com

CHECK IT OUT!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: THE MCNEES FAMILY AT THE CROKE PARK CLASSIC 2014



Left: One second left. The team looks on as Ficken's kick is up...it's good! PSU wins 26-24!!!



Right: The McNees Family celebrates at the Croke Park Classic.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Meet Autumn and Brian

WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN.....TO GIVE!!!!

Wedding bells sounded on 18 October for two Chapter Members, Autumn Jadwin ('06) and Brian Ghigiarelli ('07). With white lace and promises, Autumn and Brian have only just begun their married life together. While the words to the old Carpenters song celebrate marriage with the sentiment "We've only just begun...to live," Autumn and Brian have only just begun to GIVE!

Autumn and Brian participate in The Hope Express 24-hour, 135-mile run that bridges the gap between THON and the patients and families on the 7th floor of the Hershey Medical Center. During the run, which is a symbolic way of tying the families at the Medical Center to THON, three teams of 46 runners endure the cold winter weather of a February night to bring letters from families at Hershey to the dancers in State College, like the Pony Express of old. Read the inspiring story of how the Hope Express came to be an important part of Penn State's most honored and unifying traditions—THON—at thehopeexpress.org.



As seen in the picture, Autumn and Brian recently won a Penn State ice tub in one of the Chapter's football viewing party raffles. While most couples would be thinking of filling the tub with six-packs for an upcoming party, Autumn and Brian's first thoughts were about how to use it to benefit their fundraising efforts for THON/The Hope Express. Their plan? To use the tub at their wedding to gather donations in lieu of gifts. So far, their fundraising efforts have raised \$3,360.

It is an honor to recognize such a selfless couple who do so much to support the fight against childhood cancer and we are proud to have such outstanding representatives of Penn State as members of our Chapter.

**Congratulations! We wish you many happy
years together.**

IN MEMORIAM: Chapter Founder Samuel Stinner



A year ago this month, we lost a cherished member of our Penn State Annapolis Chapter family: our founding father, Samuel Stinner.

Sam was a 1951 graduate of Penn State who hailed from Camp Hill, PA. Sam worked tirelessly for almost 2 years laying the foundation with the Penn State Alumni Office to get a local chapter set up here in the Annapolis area. From the streets of Annapolis he recruited a few other fellow Penn Staters, and together they planned the first chapter event in August 1996, a football viewing party at Buddy's Late Night.

Sam continued to serve as the Chapter President for two more years, leading board members who firmly established a local group with goals of increasing membership, providing a network for alumni to gather and communicate, and promoting Penn State in the local community.

Sam remained an avid supporter of Penn State and our local chapter long into his retirement years. Our chapter owes a lot to him and his dedication. For the Glory, Sam, rest in peace.



“For the glory, Sam, rest in peace.”

Help Wanted

The Chapter is in need of volunteers. If you have just a few hours or want to lead a committee, please contact us if you are interested.

Technology: Web, Facebook, Twitter information posts and updates

Spring Service Project :Committee Leader and Planners

Scholarship Committee: Members

Social Events: Spring Member Event Chair and Planners

Fundraising and Membership: Committee Members

Football Party Greeters, Raffle Ticket Sales

To Volunteer

Contact George Gayno at PSUAnnapolis@gmail.com

Can't volunteer? You can still help by making a tax-deductible donation to our scholarship fund. Use PayPal on our NEW website:

psuannapolis.weebly.com

Or mail a check to:

ACPSAA
PO Box 693
Arnold, MD 21012

LEAVE YOUR MARK! VOLUNTEER!

Show your Penn State pride wherever you go! Alumni Association members may order their very own Penn State License Plate. Request information and an application from chapter member Don Nork at norkpsu@gmail.com

NOTE: A new design (below left) is coming next year! If interested, contact Don at the address above. We need 25 people to sign up for the plate to get it into production.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

As we move into a new membership year, the Chapter would like to welcome all new and returning members. So far this year, we are 124 members strong from: Annapolis; Arnold; Arlington, VA; Bowie; Churchton; Crofton; Crownsville; Davidsonville; Edgewater; Gambrills; Glen Burnie; Harrington, DE; Linthicum; Millersville; Odenton; Orchard Beach; Pasadena; Port St Lucie, FL; Riva; Savannah, GA; Severn; Severna Park; and Stevensville. .

Through their membership forms, our generous members have donated \$2,205 so far this year to our scholarship fund which benefits local Penn State undergraduate students. We are extremely grateful for your generosity. **In each fall newsletter, we recognize those members who have donated \$50 or more, This year's exceptional donors are listed at right.**

The Chapter sponsors many events and service projects. We will soon be planning our spring member event (for ex, wine or beer tasting) and our spring service project (last year we helped clean up a local Annapolis park). We are always looking for new ideas. If you have a suggestion for any event, or would like to volunteer to assist in the planning, please contact any board member listed below or email psuanapolis@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you.

Again, welcome to all of our members. We look forward to seeing you at a Chapter event.

SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

Neal & Susan Baker
 Conrad Bessemer
 Raymond Blehar
 Ronald & Linda Bowen
 Todd & Jennifer Hall
 Randol & Donna Hoffman
 Judith Hoover
 Kent Huntzinger
 RADM John & Joyce Kersh
 Gary Mohls
 Charlotte Preece
 Sheila Proudfoot
 Julia Ross
 Kenneth & Janet Rumsey
 Steven Schmidt
 Keith, Marty, & Jennifer Smith
 William Winter
 Natalie & Harold Woomer

CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS

President	George Gayno	PSUAnnapolis @gmail.com
Vice-President/Social Chair	Mike Long	immike01@hotmail.com
Secretary	Doreen Vavrek	Doreenvavrek @gmail.com
Treasurer	Keith Smith	Pennstatefan1970 @yahoo.com
Membership Chair	Karen Cropper	jkcrop@comcast.net
Media Chair	Judith Hoover	judithintheuk@gmail.com
Scholarship Chair	Vicki Wuest	vickiwuest@hotmail.com
License Plates	Don Nork	norkpsu@gmail.com
Member	Charlotte Preece	Charlottepreece @yahoo.com
Member	C. Scott Davis	clydescott@gmail.com
Member	Rod Corbin	rcorbin@obiworks.com
Member	Dick James	djames221@verizon.net



Top: The Chapter Sends Off Local Students at the Annual Picnic



Top: Future Penn Stater Emma draws a raffle ticket; Below: Website Trivia featured a photo of member Ed Feen.



Middle and Bottom: Members Enjoy Football Viewing Parties



THE YEAR SO FAR...