



October 2006 Newsletter

26th Annual Pig Roast a Huge Success – The 26th Annual Greater Susquehanna Valley Chapter Pig Roast was, again this year, a huge success despite the rainy weather. The Penn State Cheerleaders, The Nittany Lion, Roger Williams – Executive Director of the Penn State Alumni Association and Alan Janesch – Director of the Penn State Grassroots Network were all in attendance along with over 300 Penn State Alumni, fans and supporters. Many thanks for your continued generosity benefiting our Annual Scholarship fund. We hope to see you again for the 27th Annual Chapter Pig Roast, Sunday August 26, 2007.



Chapter to Participate in Homecoming Parade – Again this year we are planning to march, as a chapter, in the annual Homecoming parade, which is scheduled to begin at approximately 6:00 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20, 2006. All alumni groups are encouraged to participate in the parade, as this is one of the elements recognized as being an Alumni Group of Distinction. October 20th is full of various activities open to anyone wanting to participate and have fun. The day begins with an Ice Cream Social at 3pm at the Hintz Family Alumni Center before the parade. Formation for the parade begins at 5pm with the parade beginning at 6pm. Upon completion of the parade there is an invitation only party being held at the Hintz Center for all parade participants. Please keep in mind that this is a by invitation only event and registration with our chapter is required. Please contact President Curt Rothermel at 966-7197 about any questions or to sign up. If you have never participated in this University sponsored event, it is truly an evening to remember. In addition to all the parade related activities, there is the traditional Guard the Lion vigil and the coronation of the Homecoming King and Queen. Other than the timeline for the parade, this is a very informal event that people can come and go as they please. Just come dressed for a night of Penn State pride. For those concerned about the distance required to walk, DJ Mapes has graciously agreed to drive his “Nittany Jittany” in the parade so that people can take a break throughout the parade walk or simply ride the entire route and enjoy everything the festivities have to offer. Don’t be shy, sign up, and we’ll see you at the PARADE.

Donation made to Endowed Scholarship Fund – At our October monthly meeting, chapter members voted to make a contribution to our Endowed Scholarship fund. This donation brings our principal contributions to over \$25,000.00. Through this Endowed Scholarship Fund young men and women from this area will always benefit through the awarding of Annual Scholarships. Through the last several years we have been able to award at least one \$1000 scholarship to a deserving student entering either their Junior or Senior year at Penn State. Thanks to your continued support of our chapter fund raising activities, we will be able to continue the tradition of awarding Endowed Scholarships for generations to come to deserving area students who have excelled in their continuing education at our beloved **PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY**.

2007 Spring Meeting Dates – Chapter meetings for the spring of 2007 have been scheduled and are as follows – February 7, 2007 at the Towne Tavern in Lewisburg – March 7, 2007 at Villa Roma in Mifflinburg – April 4, 2007 at Vinnie’s Pizza in Middleburg and May 2, 2007 at La Primavera in Lewisburg. If you need any more information about monthly chapter meetings, please contact secretary Tony Barnasconi at 988-6615.

Atlantic City Bus Trip – The chapter is planning on taking our annual bus trip to Atlantic City to a casino for the day on either May 5, 2007 or May 12, 2007. Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us for a day of fun and gambling in Atlantic City. More details on this trip will be available in our spring newsletter. If you would like more information on the Atlantic City bus trip, please contact DJ Mapes at 966-1141.

Annual Christmas Party – Our chapter’s annual Christmas Party will be held again this year at the Carriage Corner in Mifflinburg on Wednesday December 13, 2006 at 6:00pm. We would like to again this year offer a buffet dinner, as opposed to ordering off the menu. The price of the buffet is \$16.00 per adult, \$8.00 per child (small children may order off the menu) and includes beverage and dessert. Hors d’oeuvre will be provided by the club. Also our annual donation of Christmas gifts for the Women in Transition organization will be collected at this event. If you would like to make a reservation or have any questions concerning this event, please contact President Curt Rothermel at 966-7197. Please mail your reservations including number of adults & children, with a check made out to the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chapter, by December 6, 2006 so we can provide an accurate count to the Carriage Corner.

Officers Elected for 2007-2008 – At the October Chapter meeting, the following people were elected officers for 2007-2008. Curt Rothermel – President, DJ Mapes – Vice-President, Tony Barnasconi – Secretary, Larry Weader – Treasurer and Mary Depietro - Historian. Chapter officers serve a term of 2 years and will be elected again in October 2008.

Email Database – Our chapter email database currently has over 100 members and is used frequently for communication purposes only. Monthly meeting reminders, upcoming events, special announcements and all chapter newsletters are emailed to all chapter members in our current database. If you would like to have your email address added to the database, please email chapter secretary Tony Barnasconi at Anthony.Barnasconi@verizon.net.

Winter Basketball Getaway – The Greater Susquehanna Valley Chapter is currently planning a Winter Basketball Getaway day to the Men’s Basketball Game on Saturday January 20, 2007 vs. Michigan State. The Michigan State Spartans are one of the best teams in the Big Ten and a regular qualifier for the NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament. The day would consist of going to the game as a group and being recognized as being one of the groups in attendance. The cost of the ticket is \$13.00 per person and you would be required to provide your own transportation to the Jordan Center for the game. We would meet as a group at a pre-determined location several hours before tip-off and travel to Penn State as a group. Tip-off for the Michigan St game is set for 4:30pm that afternoon. If you are interested in tickets for the Penn State vs. Michigan State Men’s Basketball game on Saturday January 20, 2007, please contact chapter secretary Tony Barnasconi at 988-6615 or via email at Anthony.Barnasconi@verizon.net.

Alumni Association Awards – Our chapter was recently awarded the Penn State Alumni Association national award for Networking and Fellowship for our annual Chapter Pig Roast, now heading for its 27th year, and all other chapter events throughout the year. This award is given to any affiliate group that has distinguished itself through an outstanding fellowship or networking program or event. A program grant of \$500 is awarded to the winning group to be used in future programming.

Grassroots Network now nearly 39,000 strong – In response to a recent recruitment letter, nearly 1,600 new Penn State graduates have joined the Penn State Grassroots Network, boosting the Network’s total membership to more than 38,950. “This is an all-time high in membership for the Grassroots Network,” said Roger L. Williams ’73, ’75g, ’88g, executive director of the Penn State Alumni Association. “To us, this strong response indicates how much our alumni believe in Penn State and its mission and how committed they are to making their voices heard in Harrisburg and Washington, D.C.”

This latest surge in membership puts the Grassroots Network only about 1,000 away from its goal of 40,000 members. Currently, an estimated 130 Network members live in the Susquehanna Valley area.

“The Grassroots Network is always looking for new members,” said Alan Janesch, Network director and member of the Greater Susquehanna Valley chapter. “I hope my fellow chapter members will help boost interest in the Grassroots Network by pointing friends and colleagues to the Grassroots Network Web site and urging them to sign up online.”

An especially interesting feature of the Network Web site, Janesch said, is its “Tell a Friend” feature, which enables Network activists to tell others about specific actions they’ve taken on Penn State’s behalf.

On the Web: The Network’s “Tell A Friend” feature can be found at: <http://capwiz.com/psu/taf/>

The Penn State Grassroots Network Web site can be found at: <http://alumni.psu.edu/grassroots/default.htm>