



August 2021 Newsletter

40th Annual Pig Roast is ON – The 40th Annual Greater Susquehanna Valley Chapter Pig Roast is ON and we're looking to get energized after 18 months of pandemic. Two years removed from our last pig roast and our family. The Penn State Nittany Lion Cheerleaders have confirmed their attendance and are looking forward to performing in front of their first crowd since the pandemic brought college sports to a standstill. Because of the short turnaround, we are putting this together on the fly, much like the original pig roast many years ago when a few Penn State friends had a vision. Now 41 years later, we have come full circle and look forward to a new and reenergized Chapter. Festivities get under way at 12:00 p.m. with the meal being served at 1:30 p.m. Guests may arrive any time after 11:30 a.m. As in years past, we will have various raffles to include a new Football Ticket raffle, where you must be present to win and tickets will only be sold at the pig roast. This will be separate from the ticket raffle noted below. The cost of admission is \$12 per adult, \$5 for children 5-11 and under 5 are free. Guests are asked to bring their own table settings and a covered dish or two to share. Please remember, we are taking care of our special guests and want them to enjoy a great Susquehanna Valley pig roast. Any RSVP's to the Chapter website are greatly appreciated. We truly look forward to seeing all of you as we look to get things back to normal and enjoy a new season of Penn State Football.



Health and Safety Information – In an effort to support the existing COVID concerns, the Chapter is committed to providing a safe and sanitary environment for our event. While keeping with the history of providing a traditional pig roast and picnic setting, masks will be available along with food service gloves and sanitizer throughout the venue. We hope everybody will come out and enjoy a great time and understand the Chapter is taking any steps available to provide a safe and healthy event.

SPECIAL 2021 Season Ticket Football Raffle – The COVID-19 pandemic has caused people to do a lot of things differently and our annual ticket raffle is no different. Because we do not have enough time to sell the traditional raffle tickets, this year we will be selling ***100 tickets only at a cost of \$20 per ticket, for a chance of winning a pair of season tickets for all home Penn State 2021 football games.*** You do not need to be present to win but you do need to have paid for the ticket(s) prior to the drawing. The winning ticket will be pulled at the Pig Roast on August 22, 2021. To purchase your ticket(s), please contact Bob Barnasconi at 570-286-2272. These tickets are being sold on a first come first serve basis and once gone, no more tickets will be available. Good luck at finding a better chance to win a pair of great seats for all the 2021 Penn State football home games.

Ticket Office Changes – For the last number of years, our Chapter, along with a number of our members, has developed a great relationship with our friend James Grecco and the Learfield Ticket Office, which handled a large volume of Penn State ticket sales. Due to a business decision on the part of Penn State, Learfield and Penn State have separated, with all Penn State ticket sales now being handled through the Penn State Ticket Office. The Chapter is currently working to establish a relationship with the ticket office with the hopes we can continue to offer the same opportunities you have enjoyed for the past number of years.

2021 Fall Meeting Dates - As we continue to reorganize after 18 months of uncertainty, please pay attention to upcoming e-mails and available information on the Chapter website. We are committed to continuing the legacy started by those before us and want to build on all the work that we have previously completed.

GSVPSC on Twitter - I am pleased to announce that our chapter has our very own Twitter account up and running. If you are a Twitter user you can follow us at @GSVPSC to get the latest info about chapter events and happenings. If you aren't a Twitter user...give it a try. We will be sending out a lot of chapter information via this social media outlet as well as other fun stuff...just to make it interesting!

Adopt-A-Highway - Our Chapter is a 10+ year participant in this program and our stretch of highway is along Rt 45 just outside of Harleton. We will be picking up trash again this fall and the exact date and time will be sent to all Chapter members via email and will be available on our website. If you can spare a couple hours for this worthy cause, we would greatly appreciate your help! As we jump start a new football season with 107,000 friends and family strong; let's make sure they can enjoy a beautiful drive by cleaning up a section of highway represented by our name.

Penn State Football Bus – Stop fighting traffic and waiting in long lines for parking. Season ticket holders come join us on a comfortable motor coach. In and out quickly. NO HASSLES – STRESS FREE. Close to the field, all attractions and downtown. Curb side shuttle service for handicapped and elderly. Pick-ups available in Sunbury, Selinsgrove, Lewisburg and Mifflinburg. Single game ticket holders are always welcome as well. Call for additional information or to make your reservations!!! Gail Fisher 570-274-2594

2021 Penn State Football Schedule:

September 4 – @ Wisconsin 12:00pm kickoff

September 11 vs. Ball State 3:30pm kickoff

September 18 vs Auburn 7:30pm kickoff

September 25 vs Villanova TBD

October 2 vs Indiana TBD

October 9 @ Iowa TBD

October 16 BYE Weekend

October 23 vs Illinois 12:00pm kickoff

October 30 @ Ohio State TBD

November 6 @ Maryland TBD

November 13 vs Michigan TBD

November 20 vs. Rutgers TBD

November 27 @ Michigan State TBD

Endowed Scholarship Information - The Greater Susquehanna Valley Chapter endowed scholarship fund continues to grow and provide scholarships to area upperclassmen students already enrolled at Penn State. Our Chapter has made great strides to ensure our ability to award these scholarships for as long as our chapter is in existence. With our recent contributions and rollover interest from previous years, we have positioned our Chapter to be able to award a minimum of four \$1000 endowed scholarships from this point forward. If you would like to make a donation to the Chapter Endowed Scholarship fund, please make sure you are using the correct allocation code. The verbiage for this fund is “The Great Susquehanna Valley Penn State Chapter Endowed Scholarship Fund”. Our club allocation code is **SXXGQ**. If you have any questions about donating to the Endowed Scholarship fund, or any other scholarship questions, please contact Curt Rothermel at 570-966-7197 or rocktown91@yahoo.com.

2020 Recap – 2020 is a year many people would like to forget. It was a year that in a world of technology and a feeling that anything could be overcome, the world was brought to its knees. That being said, our Chapter faced numerous setbacks, as one of the primary aspects of our existence is the comradery of being together. At the onset of COVID, at a time when people were facing hunger concerns, The Greater Susquehanna Valley Penn State Alumni Association Chapter stepped up and provided \$2000 in donations to the local Food Banks. Specifically, the Chapter made individual \$500 donations to each of the Union, Snyder, and Northumberland Food Banks, along with the Lion's Pantry, which is the Food Bank located at Penn State to serve students. As COVID continued throughout the year, as a Chapter, we continued to wait and hope things would open; however, time continued to tick without any change. Many of you graciously asked about dues for 2020; however, as a leadership, we decided we could not ask that of our membership, as your money could be used in many other ways. This especially being the case, as we as a Chapter were unable to provide any type of service to you. As the Chapter President, I apologize for not doing a better job of communicating with you our members, with better information throughout the year. Again, 2020 is a year that has affected all of us in different ways; however, we as a Chapter never waivered in our commitment to supporting Penn State and the young men and women from the Susquehanna Valley who have chosen Penn State or the Penn Tech to continue their educational pursuits. The Chapter again provided a total of \$8,000 to local students through our scholarship programs. In addition, the Chapter will again be providing another \$8,000 in scholarships in 2021. As we've entered 2021, through the help and encouragement of our friends, The Penn State Nittany Lion Cheerleaders, WE ARE BACK. Please help our Chapter get back up and gain momentum as we start another 40 years of supporting Penn State and the Susquehanna Valley.

2021 Going Forward – As we have all learned from the past 18 months, there is a variety of changes coming our way. Our Chapter continues to navigate the new world we live; however, we will always build on the past and never lose sight of our mission. This starts with **WE NEED YOUR HELP**. If you have a talent, a skill, an idea or simply some time, please get involved.

As there are still many uncertainties; events we have traditionally enjoyed are still in the infancy stages. Whether it be Homecoming, Hockey games, Basketball games, the Annual Christmas Dinner or in person dinner meetings, we are still working to get things in order. In the event of any e-mail correspondences sent out, your input and responses or opinions will be greatly appreciated. Without your input, we have no idea what we can do better to move forward.

Chapter Communication – For years the Chapter has contemplated moving from traditional newsletters and information through snail mail procedures, to a more up-to-date e-mail and social medial presence. None of this is possible without your input. Please pay attention to future questionnaires, as the use of traditional mail is both cumbersome and expensive. The use of e-mail and social media allow us to put our resources to greater use, specifically scholarships and events to benefit our membership.

Membership Dues Information – In the past, information was always collected through our membership dues. That is the one area which will remain the same. Included with this newsletter is the membership dues information form. PLEASE complete this in full and return with your annual dues. Please know your annual \$15 payment supports our scholarship program and our ability to help young men and women from the Susquehanna Valley. The information you provide to us allows us the ability to give you up-to-date information and opportunities as they come available to us. Past examples include sporting event tickets, meet-n-greet opportunities and last-minute events. PLEASE give us the ability to do a better job to serve you and your local Penn State needs and opportunities.

Please fill out the information below and send to: GSVPSC, PO Box 402, New Berlin, PA 17855

If attending the Pig Roast, please complete and bring along

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Dues enclosed @ \$15 per family: _____

of Pig Roast Adults @ \$12.00 ea.: _____

of Pig Roast Children @ \$5.00 ea.: _____

Donation to Scholarship Fund: _____

Penn State Alumni: **Yes or No** If yes, Graduation Year: _____

Member of National Penn State Alumni Association: Yes / No

Survey Questionnaire:

How do you prefer to receive your information: Paper Newsletter or E-Mail

Do you attend GSVPSC events other than the Pig Roast: Yes or No
If so, what events: _____

Do you approve of the manner in which scholarships are awarded: Yes or No
If no, what can be improved: _____

If you are not a member of the National Alumni Association, would you like additional information
Yes or No if yes, would you like us have them contact you with more information? _____

Are you interested in becoming more involved in your local Chapter: Yes or No
If yes, what are your specific interests, please circle any current

Homecoming

Sporting Event Tickets

Wine Event

Pig Roast Program Booklet

Pig Roast Helper

Scholarship Committee

Other: _____

Again, please complete the above information. Our hope is to provide some various surveys in an effort to better engage and support our membership. We look forward to seeing you at our various offerings in the future.