



PennState Alumni Association Dayton Chapter

NITTANY NOTES – May 2024

www.psualumdaytonoh.org

President’s Message

Yet again, it has been a while since I last wrote. I would like to say the past 10 months have been uneventful but that isn’t the case. One thing I can say is I had a phenomenal experience with the Cleveland Clinic and I lived to tell about it! I’m back on track to try and give you the best support I can. The Board has met a few times over the year and we are looking forward to engaging with you. One of the things we did was elect a new member to the board. When you see Bruce Foster please congratulate him on his new position. Bruce is bringing a fresh perspective and energy to us. He set up the March Penn State Presents and is actively working towards June’s. Unfortunately, we also lost two board members as they pursue other activities. They are both still active in our community but retired from the board. We certainly miss Debbie Downes and John Glaser at our meeting.

Officers
Christine Bahry, President
Vacant, Vice President
Deb Crusan, Secretary
Edie Kreider, Treasurer

Board Members
Michael Anthony
Bob Kreider
Randy Gallas
Jim Valeri
Bruce Foster

WE ARE continuing to host **Penn State Presents**. We had a great time in November meeting with Tracy Langkilde, Dean of the Eberly College of Science. Dean Langkilde works closely with Penn State President, Neeli Bendapudi. She shared general Penn State news and the invaluable roles science, education, and research will play in the future. You may have seen Dean Langkilde in recent Penn State news as she was named interim Provost. We are extremely happy for her. We continued with a March Penn State Presents hearing from our very own Debbie Downes on her journey with native plants. As we moved towards spring/summer, Debbie brought us invaluable information regarding the benefits of considering planting native plants in our gardens.

WE ARE awesome! We joined forces with Heritage Financial for December 2023’s **Wreaths Across America!** We bought 34 wreaths both individually and as a chapter. Thanks to Heritage Financial, we were able to buy 2 and get 1 free therefore we honored 51 veterans with wreaths laid at Dayton National Cemetery. Members of the chapter also participated in laying of the wreaths. It truly is a humbling experience and would be a great civics lesson for our children and grandchildren. I hope you will consider joining us this year on December 14th.

WE ARE looking for a Chapter Vice President and new board members to bring their perspective forward. If you are interested in helping us reach out to our local alumni, more info can be found in the newsletter.

For the Glory!

Christine

Christine M Bahry, President

Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com

What's Up?

WE held (I can't think of how to say WE ARE to a past event) a free membership appreciation picnic on Aug 19, 2023. Participants were able to enjoy grilled hotdogs, hamburgers, salads, and Penn State Creamery ice cream! Unfortunately, the only week we could host was the same week students were returning to college. Turnout was less than I expected. This year, we are going to have the Penn State ice cream at the student sendoff picnic, Aug 7th (see below). The picnic is free, though bringing your favorite picnic dish is always appreciated as are donations to the scholarship program (absolutely no pressure is applied for donations).

We would love to meet you!! If you don't like going somewhere alone, and would like a safety net at one of our events, I'll be happy to meet you there and hang out. Just let me know prior to the event (Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com). If for some reason I can't attend that event, I'll hook you up with someone who will be happy to engage with you.

WE ARE holding our third **Penn State Presents** with the Brew Master at **Carillon Brewery**, adjacent to the Carillon Historic Park in Dayton from 5:00 – 7:00pm on June 12th. The Brew Master will conduct the tour and explain the processes used to brew their beer. Our Chapter will reserve tables for beverages and dining. If you have questions, desire additional information or to respond with your RSVP, please reply to Bruce Foster, bfos73c@yahoo.com not later than June 5th. Please make sure to include the number of people who will attend. This is a GREAT opportunity to meet other Penn State fans and alumni.

WE ARE doing **Trivia!** Come join us on Monday, July 15th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm at the **Wandering Griffin**, 3725 Presidential Drive, Beavercreek OH. Dennis Bova is our host for the evening. Come on out and win some Trivia. The Lion's pride takes on all other participants. If you have any questions or plan to attend, please reach out to Dennis, dennisbova51@gmail.com. We will plan to save seats. This is another opportunity to meet fellow fans and alumni!!

WE ARE hosting our **2024 Student Sendoff** on Wednesday, **Aug 7th**. We look forward to spending an evening with alumni, Penn State fans, returning students, and incoming freshman. It gives us an opportunity to wish several students good luck and hope they have an enjoyable time at University Park or their Commonwealth campus. We had 7 new freshman this past year, whom we are hoping will share their experience with us. We enjoy good food, icy beverages, and camaraderie while sharing true (cough) Penn State stories with the PSU students from the local area. We also plan to announce the winners of the two Carl Stravinski Scholarships at this event. Watch your email for more information from Edie Kreider at KREIDERFAM@Prodigy.net.

WE ARE supporting **Crayons to Classrooms** again this year. If you would like to donate notebooks, pens, pencils, rulers, colored paper, colored pencils, crayons, etc, please reach out to Bruce Foster, bfos73c@yahoo.com. We will post a list of items on our website, and in our emails. **WE ARE** happy to find a meeting place to retrieve your donations or you can deliver them in person at any of our summertime events. The Student Sendoff picnic on August 7th will be the final day for donations.

WE ARE on Instagram. You can connect with us @ [pennstatedayton](https://www.instagram.com/pennstatedayton).

Scholarship Applicants

WE ARE awaiting information from University Park regarding students eligible to apply for our scholarship. Current Penn State students should start looking for their email invitation to apply for our scholarship on or about Jun 10th. Responses will be due on or about Jun 24th.

In 2019, we petitioned the PSAA to change our charter to allow World Campus students and graduate students to apply for our local scholarship. Last year, we had the largest pool of eligible participants since I have been president of the chapter. There were 20 eligible students at University Park or Commonwealth campus and 20 eligible World Campus students. The two scholarship winners received \$3300 each. **WE ARE** Penn State strong!

Other News

WE ARE continuing to support **THON!** Thanks to all who donated to our local dancer, Justine Buell, or directly to THON. You contributed to the \$16,955,683.63 raised to support the childhood cancer fight! This is the third year in a row THON has had record breaking donations.

WE ARE still looking for events that interest you! If you know of an event or a community service that would interest local Nittany Lions, please let me know at Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

If you can spare 2 or 3 hours once every 3 months, we can always use fresh blood on the board, and it looks good on your resume (you have to be a member of the Penn State Alumni Association for a board position). Let me know if you are interested or would like more information. You can reach me at Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com.

Survey Results

In November 2023, the Board sent out a 6 question survey (#6 was optional – your name). Below is a summary of the other 5 questions and the results:

1. Were you aware there is an active Dayton Chapter of the PSU Alumni Association (DCPSAA)? **85% of the respondents were aware of our organization.** While this isn't a bad number, we ask you to spread the word to your neighbors, friends, co-workers who love Penn State. They do **not** need to be an alumni to belong to our organization. **WE ARE** here for all Penn State fans!
2. What are you passionate about? The DCPSAA currently supports Crayons to Classrooms, Wreaths Across America, THON, the Carl Stravinski Scholarship (DCPSAA provides 2 scholarships to local PSU students) and Montgomery County Sleep in Heavenly Peace.
 - a. Would you like information on any of the above charities?
 - b. How can we help you support your passion?

Passions ran from PSU sports/Thon/our scholarship, to Crayons to Classrooms, Food Pantry Volunteering. We were asked to expand our social and networking. We need your support to make this happen.

3. Location is always important for any gatherings. Recently we have been meeting in Miamisburg and Beavercreek. In order for you to more easily attend events, where would you prefer we meet? **Responses varied from Troy to Miamisburg with the majority asking for the Beavercreek/Greene County area.** We are more than happy to try different locations, but ask that someone familiar with the area host the event.
4. In addition to the Student Sendoff Picnic, “Penn State Presents”, and football watch parties, what other activities would you like us to do (e.g. happy hour, group outing to away game, Young’s Dairy outing, wine tasting, other)? **We received a plethora of responses from Group Volunteering activity with Five Rivers Metro Parks or other organizations to Young’s Dairy, to beer/wine tasting, to Meeting other Penn Staters who own business in the area.** As you can see above in the “What’s Up” section, we are trying to implement your ideas.
5. “Penn State Presents” is a quarterly opportunity to provide insight to many occupations and crafts. Our 1st event is being held Nov 30th (invitation from Kade Crittenden PSU Eberly College of Science). What other topics would you like presented (interested in a spring discussion with Greene County Master Gardener, a robotics instructor, financial support, long term health insurance, other)? **Responses included the topics above along with Food Pantry Volunteering, Weather and recent pattern changes, Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain Technology, Virtual Reality, Robotics, or other advance technology, brewing, cooking, and baking.** You have some great ideas! I have reached out to individuals/organizations to try and cover your topics. Stay tuned and watch your emails for more information as we schedule events. Note these topics are for your enjoyment. We ensure all speakers know requesting donations is not acceptable.

In the survey, someone asked how to make school more affordable for their child. We offer the following suggestions:

1. An online search will yield sites for scholarship opportunities.
2. Consider:
 - a. attending a Commonwealth campus for the first 2 years and then transferring to Main Campus; or
 - b. pursue part time enrollment and employment to balance college expenses and income; or
 - c. attend World Campus for the first year or two.
3. Most of the colleges have positions for students to work in their offices/labs/etc. The student should check with their advisor for opportunities.
4. Are one of the parents active duty or retired military? PSU has a program to treat military families as “in state” residents which translates to “in state” tuition costs. [Admissions Information for Military and Veteran Students at Penn State - Undergraduate Admissions \(psu.edu\)](#)

WE ARE listening and trying to accommodate our local supporters. We need your help if we are going to be successful. Consider volunteering to host an event or fund raiser. We will take care of sending out emails for you, but having volunteers makes us able to accomplish more. Hosting normally consists of receiving the RSVPs and dealing directly with the location of the event. Interested? Send me an email at Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com.

Football Parties

We are still homeless for football watch parties. Everyone please stay tuned to find where we plan to meet this year. **WE ARE** open to your suggestions on a meeting place (reach out to me at Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com). No matter where it is, we would love for you to join us as we watch football amidst Penn State's Blue Band music and cheers. In addition, the infamous Lion's Roar will ring out throughout the game. Prepare to have fun!

The Kreider's have opened their home to us for those games when we don't have an alternate location. Look for emails from Edie Kreider at KREIDERFAM@Prodigy.net for information prior to each game.

Future Newsletters & Chapter Communications

Do you have any news or information you would like to share with the Chapter? If so, please contact me at Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com or any Board member. Our newsletter is published three to four times each year. Would you like to keep up with what **WE ARE** doing? Be sure to visit our website, www.psualumnidaytonoh.org for all the up-to-the minute news and links. Also, check out, "Like", and share our Facebook page! You can find it by searching for the Dayton Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association. Don't forget to follow us on Instagram!

Membership

Come be part of the family!

Is it possible you planned on joining and just didn't know how or it slipped your mind? Grab your phone or your computer and visit www.psualumnidaytonoh.org. If you have questions regarding membership, please contact Edie Kreider at KREIDERFAM@Prodigy.net or 937-572-6821.

Thanks to the new program, membership is **FREE** – what a great price for a lot of fun! After all, **WE ARE.....**

Scholarship Donations

Scholarship donations declined this year. No pressure, but if you are so inclined, **WE ARE** asking everyone to **please** consider donating towards the Carl Stravinski Scholarship. You can donate at www.psualumnidaytonoh.org or reach out to Edie Kreider at KREIDERFAM@Prodigy.net or 937-572-6821.

Upcoming Events

June 12, 2024: 5-7pm Penn State Presents with the Brew Master at Carillon Brewery.

July 15, 2024: 6:30 – 8:30pm Trivia at Wandering Griffin

August 7, 2024: Time TBD (watch your email) **Student Sendoff** picnic and last day to provide donations for **Crayons to Classroom**.

December 14, 2024: Wreaths Across America at Dayton Cemetery.

TBD: All other events

