



## **NITTANY NOTES – August 2019**

[www.psualumnidaytonoh.org](http://www.psualumnidaytonoh.org)

### **President’s Message: WE ARE – but who am I?**

Well here WE ARE – one month into the Presidency. I want to thank the PSU Alumni Team for helping pull me along and for having confidence in my abilities. Let me start by telling you a little bit about myself. I grew up in Warminster, PA. I attended Archbishop Wood High School and when it came to college – well it was a no-brainer - PENN STATE! After all there is really only one university in PA with core ethical aspirations of integrity, respect, responsibility, excellence, and community (and my brother graduated from PSU). I graduated with a degree in Business Logistics in 1981. I worked in the private industry until 1985 when I became a logistics support contractor for the USAF at Hanscom AFB MA. In 1995 I transitioned from logistics to program management. While at Hanscom, I received my MBA at Western New England College in 1990. Imagine my despair during football season -- do I watch the PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS or WNEC Golden Bears. Decision – PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS!

Officers

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

Board Members

Michael Anthony  
Debbie Downes  
Bob Kreider  
John Glaser  
Randy Gallas  
Carolyn Spiller  
Jim Valeri

In 2009 I was offered the option to convert from my role as a support contractor to become a DoD civilian and so my career continued with a June 2017 promotion bringing me to Dayton. As the Iraq F-16 Security Assistance Program Manager, I work with the Iraq Air Force towards IqAF self-sufficiency. It is rewarding to watch the young Iraqis set aside their differences to maintain and fly the F-16. I hope their strength will teach the rest of their country how to be one.

I arrived at Wright Patterson AFB, not knowing a soul. So I reached out to the Dayton Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association and they exemplified “community” taking me under their wings and teaching me about the area. They gave me the stability I needed.

I am proud to call all of you family! I challenge you to make our family bigger and stronger. Let’s make this the Year of the Nittany Lion!

*Christine*

Christine M Bahry, President  
[Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com](mailto:Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com)

## **Year of the Nittany Lion!**

**WE ARE** reaching out to you, the friends and alumni of Penn State living in the Dayton area. We know you bleed blue and white. What we don't know is what would motivate you to join the Dayton Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association.

You don't have to be an alumnus to belong. You just need to be Penn State Proud!

No time in your schedule? We hold several events throughout the year, and are planning on expanding – come to one, two or all. Even I can't make every event.

Children's school and sporting functions make it difficult to come socialize with other Lions? Cubs are welcome to participate. Tell me how we can help!

We do a lot for the community: Scholarships for locals attending PSU, Crayons to Classrooms, Wreaths Across America, Food Bank, Supporting local economy for sporting events. Do you have something you would like us to support? Tell us!

Social events: Spring Banquet and Winter Holiday Dinner, Football Saturdays at the Fox & Hound, Quarterly Board Meetings, Student Send off. New to the lineup will be monthly or bi-monthly socials: ideas still percolating: Breakout Room events for friends and family, Dragon's game, Ice cream social (Graeter's, Young's, elsewhere?). Would it help if we held events around the valley to make it closer to your home?

Do you have ideas? Email Christine Bahry at [Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com](mailto:Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com). She looks forward to hearing from you.

Do you want to participate but aren't sure what help you could provide? We are looking for a webmaster as the Air Force decided the phenomenal Josh Gooch should be stationed elsewhere. We also need someone to step into the role of Vice President.

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](http://www.psualumnidaytonoh.org), you will see "Membership" on the left side of the page. Membership cost is \$20 each per year or \$25 for the entire family per year. If you have questions regarding membership, please contact Edie Kreider at [KREIDERFAM@Prodigy.net](mailto:KREIDERFAM@Prodigy.net) or 937-572-6821.

Come be part of the family!



## **What's New?**

A good time was had by all in attendance at our Spring Banquet, April 27<sup>th</sup>, at the NCR Country Club. In addition to a wonderful social hour and dinner with slide show, we held a short meeting to elect this year's board (1 Jul 2019 – 30 Jun 2020) and to recognize individuals for their outstanding support of the Dayton Chapter and the local community.

Welcome to our new board Officers – Christine Bahry moves up from Vice President to President, Vice President's position is currently vacant, re-elected to their current positions, Secretary Deborah Crusan and Treasurer Edie Kreider. Thank you for stepping up and continuing to serve our chapter. In addition to our officers, thank you to those members who continue to lead our committees. These include John Glaser, Membership and Awards; Dave Erich and Edie Kreider, Communications; Debbie Downes, Community Service; Michael Anthony, Scholarships; Jim Valeri, Sporting Events, and Carolyn Spiller, Student Recruiting. Any of these folks would appreciate your assistance and ideas for their committee work. We are in need of a chair for our social committee, and someone to step up and help our Webmaster on the website.

Although our Chapter is primarily a social organization, we also attempt and succeed in working with various community organizations to assist them in achieving their goals/projects. Our activities are varied to meet the needs of the members, and one can participate as much as one desires. These are just a sample of some of our past and current activities.

- Annual banquet in the spring with a guest speaker from the University.
- Meet weekly during football season for TV parties at the Fox & Hound in Beavercreek.
- Student Send-Off BBQ in July for local students prior heading off to Penn State campuses. At the send-off, we collect school supplies for Crayons to Classrooms here in the area.
- Awarded two scholarships to continuing students from our area.
- Holiday Dinner to help celebrate the season, Lay wreaths with Wreaths Across America.
- Volunteered at Children's Medical Center, cheered on the Air Force Marathon runners, volunteered at Habitat for Humanity, support the Dayton Food Bank, and helped victims of the Memorial Day tornadoes.

## **Awards**

We recognized Bob and Edie Kreider for their outstanding support of Dayton Chapter Activities. Their support and dedication for numerous Chapter events at their home has been a significant part of the success and warm fellowship of the Chapter and its members. Many board meetings were hosted by this dynamic duo as well as the annual student send-off. Bob's famous burgers and Edie's bubbling personality have been the hallmark of successful get-togethers and events.

Jim Valeri was inducted into the Chapter Hall of Fame. Recognized for his lifetime commitment as a chapter member, community leader and Penn State alumni, Jim Valeri's primary support of the Alumni Association mission has included a broad range of diverse services to the chapter and various community organizations. This included recruiting and informing potential Penn State students and their parents on the value of a Penn State education. He has served as Chapter president twice and has been an active member on the Board of directors for more than 20 years. Jim is one of the charter members of the chapter beginning in 1971. Jim has served as a committee chair on a number of occasions including his current role of arranging social gatherings to view Penn State football games. Through the years he has participated socially at regular events including many trips in support of Penn State sports. In addition he is an active member in his Church, serving in multiple leadership positions including the Finance Commission and Parish Council. In charitable outreach and assistance to others in need, Jim has volunteered his time with the Saint Vincent de Paul Society.

We thanked John Glaser for his two years of outstanding support in his role as president of the Dayton Chapter. He worked tirelessly to recognize the vital members of the chapter and to carry forth the Penn State mission. John was presented a blue and white Penn State bow tie, a fitting addition to John's bow tie collection. While John has stepped down from the presidency, he is still an active member of the chapter and the Board.

### **Student Send-Off & Scholarship Recipients**

At this year's Annual Student Send-Off, we awarded scholarships in the amount of \$2,575 each to two continuing students. The winners of this year's scholarships are Margaret Riggle and Elizabeth Noel. Congratulations and well wishes to them as they continue their education. We offer many thanks to the Scholarship Committee (Michael Anthony, Christine Bahry, Deborah Crusan, and Bob Kreider) for reviewing the scholarship applications and choosing wisely. There were about 25 in attendance, including a brief appearance of a former Nittany Lion Mascot. And his head! Additional thanks to Bob and Edie Kreider for hosting this year's outstanding send-off.

### **Football Parties**

It is almost that time again! Come cheer on the Nittany Lions at the Fox and Hound in Beavercreek for every Penn State football game. If you haven't been to one of these, you are missing out on a great time. We have a room reserved with a number of TV screens and it is a blast to watch the games with a bunch of Penn State fans and socialize. The Fox and Hound is a family friendly environment, so bring them along to cheer.

## **College Recruiting**

Every year we provide Penn State representation at various college recruiting programs. We have a core group of excellent recruiters, but we are always looking for more. If you are interested in a low commitment way to have some involvement in our chapter, the necessary training is all online. Just contact Carolyn Spiller [carolynspiller225@gmail.com](mailto:carolynspiller225@gmail.com).

## **Future Newsletters & Chapter Communications**

Do you have any news or information you would like to share with the Chapter? If so, please contact Christine Bahry at [Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com](mailto:Nittany.Lioness.DCPSAA@gmail.com) or any Board member. Our newsletter is published three - four times each year. Would you like to keep up with what **WE ARE** doing? Be sure to visit our website, [www.psualumnidaytonoh.org](http://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.

## **Membership**

If you have not yet paid your dues for the 2019-2020 membership year, there is still time. The dues are \$20 per person or \$25 per family and go to help defray the operating costs of the chapter, and to help fund our scholarship fund. If your newsletter contains a membership app, please consider filling it out and returning it to Edie Kreider. If it does not contain an app, you’re already paid for this year. You can also pay thru PayPal on our website. It is a small price to pay to enable our chapter to continue to function. After all, **WE ARE**.....

## **Upcoming Events**

**August 27, 2019: PRESEASON FOOTBALL KICKOFF.** Fox and Hound 6-8pm.

**August 31, 2019: FIRST FOOTBALL GAME OF THE 2019 SEASON.** Come join fellow alums and friends as we gather at the Fox and Hound in Beavercreek for a 3:30 PM kick-off to watch and cheer as the Idaho Vandals face our Nittany Lions in Beaver Stadium.

**December 4, 2019: HOLIDAY DINNER.** Enjoy a lovely night out with your Penn State family at TBD

**December 14, 2019: WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA.** As a community service project, we volunteer to place wreaths on veteran gravestones at the Dayton National Cemetery. It is a phenomenal experience for the entire family. As you stand at a military gravesite and place a wreath you ensure those who served will never be forgotten. For those who would like to support the event by volunteering to lay wreaths, or purchasing wreaths (\$15 each), please reach out to a member of the board.