



WE ARE... Myrtle Beach Penn State Alumni Association

Alumni News

September, 2016

STATE OF THE CHAPTER MESSAGE

Jim Prisco, Chapter President

We have just completed our fifth fiscal year (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016) and started our sixth fiscal year (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017). We ended the last fiscal year with our membership reaching 182 members; in December 2015, our chapter was awarded the third highest level of excellence in the upper tier of the Penn State Alumni Association affiliate groups (Lion Level) which included a patch for our chapter banner; and we continue planning an event for each month of our sixth fiscal year.

We welcomed three new board members (Paula Brown, Tom Hendrickson and Steve Griswold) and said goodbye and thank you to Eileen Soisson who has served on our board since its inception in 2011; so, I ask all of you to say thank you to Eileen for her loyal service to our chapter, when you see her during our football tailgating parties at Milardo's.

The new fiscal year started with a gathering at The Boathouse for a team trivia event, which due to the Coastal Carolina University baseball team reaching the College World Series finals was changed to a chapter gathering to cheer for CCU who won the championship for the first time in their school history.

We volunteered at Jason's House during the month of August, to help process special families who have a child diagnosed with a terminal illness. These families were selected by hospitals in SC, NC, VA and GA treating these children to receive a free 7 day vacation in Myrtle Beach. We review the information with the parents, so they available to their family for their vacation, while other volunteers keep the children occupied with games, activities and rides in cars from the corvette club and even a fire truck. After the process is over, we escort the family to their hotel and make sure they get through registration with no problems.

Our 1st Annual Fundraiser Golf Outing was held on August 22, 2016 at Legends-Moorland Course and was a successful event. The photos and details of the outing can be found on our website. One of the most encouraging actions that took place was the formation of our chapter social committee. This group hit the ground running by decorating the Pine Lakes Country Club for our Annual Dinner with guest speaker Jay Paterno in April; coordinating the chapter attendance to a Myrtle Beach Pelicans baseball game in May; organizing our Annual Summer Picnic in June; and developing an ad hoc golf committee to plan our Golf Outing.

The Penn State football team looks awesome on paper and we hope they will be able to perform to their highest potential. We will start our football tailgate parties on September 3, 2016 at Milardo's; where Penn State fans are welcome with a private viewing area, special attention from the servers and discounts on food/beverages.

The Myrtle Beach Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association is being considered for receiving the second highest level of excellence (Laurel Level) for our accomplishments during our fifth fiscal year. We submitted our annual report and we will be notified of the results in December 2016.

As a member of our chapter, you should all be proud of our accomplishments and help us continue to achieve the recognition of remaining in the upper tier levels of the PSAA affiliate groups. You can do this by getting involved with our committees; participating in our events; and/or donating to our chapter. Always remember and never forget; this is your chapter

Inside:.....

#32 is coming!... P.2

*Membership
Form....p.3*

*New FY Chapter
Calendar..p. 4*

*Jason's House ... p.
5*

*Scholarship
Recipient ... p.7*

Golf Results... p. 8



Blair Thomas, #32, headlines our Annual Dinner for 2017...

Sooo, how do we follow last year's dynamic dinner speaker? Well, while Jay Paterno gave us a view of his father that only a son could deliver, our next speaker will give us a player's perspective. Blair was first and foremost a consensus All American in the 1989 football season and was tenth in that year's Heisman voting. He followed that by capturing the Holiday Bowl MVP award after rushing for 186 yards on 35 carries in that game. Blair finished his collegiate career by being named the MVP at that year's Senior Bowl.

Let's not forget how great a running back this first round NFL draftee (#2 NY Jets). Thomas rushed for more than 1400 yards in 1987 and 1989 for the Nittany Lions and was a member of the 1986 National Championship Team. His tenure in the NFL was a short one, but he played 6 seasons and averaged over 4 yards per carry, playing for 5 NFL teams. His professional career was beset with nagging injuries, yet he led all NFL and AFC rookies in total yardage in 1990.

After his playing career, he served as a running backs coach for Temple from 1998 through 2005. Thomas who hails from Philadelphia and Frankford (Philadelphia) High School, was elected to the Pennsylvania Hall of Fame in 2011.

Now 48 years old, Blair now lives in King of Prussia and runs a very popular Football Academy for youngsters in the Upper Dauphin area.

Tickets for the annual dinner will go on sale exclusively for members of the chapter and their guests from December 1 through January 15th. The dinner is scheduled for March 31 at Pine Lakes Country Club.

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**MYRTLE BEACH CHAPTER
PENN STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (2016-2017)**

Dear Fellow Penn Stater,

Hello! My name is Jim Prisco and I am the President of the Myrtle Beach Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association. As of May 2016, our chapter reached 180 members; and we would like you to either renew your membership or join our chapter.

Our chapter will continue to view all Penn State football games at Milardo's Pizzeria and Sports Pub at 3264 US-17 Business, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576 (behind the Inlet Square Mall, adjacent to Applebee's) where we have a separate viewing area for our group, averaging 50 - 60 attendees; large screen TV's with good visibility; volume set on the PSU game so viewers can hear the game; no smoking in viewing area; and great food at discounted price. We enjoy a tailgating atmosphere with Penn State enthusiasm that is loud and exciting...please come enjoy the fun!

On behalf of our chapter, we want to encourage new members to join and current members to renew their membership for fiscal year (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017). We also want to thank the active members during fiscal year (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016); because we appreciate your support and participation. Thanks to your generous contributions to our chapter and your participation in our 50-50 raffles; we were able to provide support to our community and university. Our goal is to top the 200 mark of active members before fiscal year end (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017) and we need your continued support. Our dues are \$15 for a member and \$25 for a couple. Simply fill out the short form below

WE ARE...PENN STATE PROUD!!

Jim Prisco, President

.....
(Detach this portion and return with payment)

Your (Name) _____

Spouse/Partner (Name) _____

Local Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Enclosed is my check for: Me Only \$ _____

For My Spouse/Partner and Me \$ _____ Additional \$ _____ included to go towards the Club's charitable causes. Anything helps.

Make your check payable to Myrtle Beach Penn State Alumni Association and send to:

Vicki Acri, 705 Hummingbird Drive, Murrells Inlet SC, 29576

Myrtle Beach Chapter Penn State Alumni July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 Calendar

August

- ♦ Volunteers helped the Surfside United Methodist Church with Jason's House each weekend in August as they welcome families for a free vacation at the beach.
- ♦ Our chapter sponsored our first annual Golf Outing at Legends—Moorland Golf Courses

September (all viewing parties held at Milardo's Restaurant)

- ♦ Our chapter will be selling a limited number (450) of raffle tickets throughout the football season. We are raffling off a Luxury Box tickets for two and Pregame Tailgate party for the September 16, 2017 Penn State-Georgia State Panthers game at Beaver Stadium. All proceeds will benefit THON and our other charitable efforts.
- ♦ 9/3 vs Kent State at 3:30 pm
- ♦ 9/10 vs Pitt at NOON
- ♦ 9/17 vs Temple at NOON
- ♦ 9/24 vs Michigan TBA

October

- ♦ 10/1 vs Minnesota TBA
- ♦ 10/8 vs Maryland NOON
- ♦ 10/22 vs Ohio State 8:00 pm
- ♦ 10/29 vs Purdue TBA

November

- ♦ 11/1 The chapter will collect toys and monetary donations with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve for local Toys for Tots Drive during the month
- ♦ 11/5 vs Iowa 7:30 pm
- ♦ 11/12 vs Indiana TBA
- ♦ 11/19 vs Rutgers 8:00 pm
- ♦ 11/26 vs Michigan State TBA (Toys for Tots donations)

December

- ♦ 12/1 Annual Dinner tickets go on sale through 1/15/2017)
- ♦ 12/3 BIG 10 Championship/Raffle drawing at Milardo's

January

- ♦ TBA Bowl Game
- ♦ 1/15 Annual Dinner ticket on sale to the general public
- ♦ 1/18 Winter Board meeting at Maggie D's Restaurant at 6:30 PM
- ♦ TBA Chapter Board Meeting

February

- ♦ TBA THON event

March

- ♦ TBA Nittany Lion Baseball Spring Training games at Pelican Field
- ♦ 3/31 Annual Dinner 6:30 PM

April

- ♦ 4/19 Spring Board meeting at TBonz Restaurant 6:30 PM
- ♦ TBA MB Pelicans game for chapter members "Night Out"

May

- ♦ TBA MB Pelicans game for chapter members "Night Out"

June

- ♦ 6/11 Annual Membership meeting and picnic

Penn State named No. 1 ‘powerful college network’ by College Magazine

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Penn State has been named No. 1 by College Magazine in its recent ranking of the “10 Most Powerful College Networks,” citing the University as top among institutions whose graduates “continue to shape their school’s reputation through career success, fame, and dues-paying alumni association in the world, gives its alumni a professional and social network that spans the globe.



College Magazine, a daily online magazine for college students, is written by student journalists and almentorships.”

The Penn State Alumni Association, with 140 chapters in cities across the United States and the largest umni from universities across the country.



Jason’s House at Surfside United Methodist Church... A Charity with a Big Heart

Jason’s House has been one of our chapter’s most cherished charities. Members volunteer annually to help families whose children are seriously ill with cancer. Each summer the Surfside United Methodist Church hosts families for a vacation of a lifetime, providing food, lodging, and tickets for area attractions. Our chapter makes an annual donation and supplies volunteers o help orient the families to Myrtle Beach and its vacation venues.

This year, Jason’s House hosted over 40 families and helped them put aside their concerns for a brief respite in our town. The photo above is the Evans family who were one of this year’s selected families for a Jason’s House vacation. Families are chosen by the medical staffs at regional (NC and SC) hospitals. We thought you would like to know how you help through your membership in the our alumni chapter.

From The Penn Stater online magazine....

*Horace Ashenfelter's Amazing Race**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P74DINxsh-M>

One of the highlights of our July/August 2016 issue is the story of **Horace Ashenfelter '49, '55g**, the only Penn State alumnus to win an individual Olympic gold medal. Ashenfelter won the 3,000-meter steeplechase at the 1952 Games in Helsinki with a world-record time of 8:45.4.

At the top of this post is a truncated version of the race, which includes the final water jump and Ashenfelter's sprint to the finish line. You'll notice that Ashenfelter's main competitor, Russia's Vladimir Kazantsev, stumbles in the water (around the 2:44 mark), which led to Ashenfelter pulling ahead. Ashenfelter explained in our story that he noticed that the water pit was getting "messy," so he tried to influence Kazantsev into one of the slippery areas with the hopes that he'd make a mistake.

Ashenfelter's lead was so large that his rather awkward approach on the final hurdle didn't cost him.



"He almost forgot to jump over it," remembers his wife, Lillian. "He didn't take it in stride. It was like, 'whoops!'"

Despite the unconventional approach, he managed to clear the jump before coasting to victory: Ashenfelter finished about six seconds ahead of Kazantsev and clinched the gold.

Bill DiFilippo, online editor

*See our article about current PSU Olympians on our website

The Chapters First Student “Send Off” Scholarship Recipient



Kristopher Caulder will be starting at Penn State Beaver Campus in August 2016, majoring in Biology. His ultimate goal is to become a Doctor of Internal Medicine. Penn State offered Kristopher a partial scholarship to attend Beaver Campus for the first year; then PSU will decide if Kristopher is eligible for additional scholarships \$500 to continue his pursuit of medical school.

Jim and Pat Prisco enjoyed a lunch at Sam Snead's Oak Grill with Kristopher, his grandmother and his cousin. Kristopher has been living in Mullins with his grandmother his entire life.

Kristopher spoke about being the first member of the Caulder family to go to college. He said he researched the colleges in South Carolina and compared them to Penn State and other out-of-state colleges; then determined that even though Penn State would cost more to attend, it was worth it—a tribute to Penn State's national reputation for excellence.

Our chapter presented Kristopher with some gifts from the alumni association and the chapter. He received a poster (WE ARE PENN STATE), alumni association pennant, water cup, balloons, brochure, PSU magnet and lion paw sticker from the alumni association. Our chapter gave him lions head decal, PSU keychain, water cup, bottled water, a Penn State canvas tote bag, Paterno Legacy book written and signed by Jay Paterno, an honorary membership in the Myrtle Beach Chapter and a Student Scholarship Check for \$500.

We invited Kristopher and his family to join us at any chapter event, whenever he is in Mullins, SC visiting his family. We told him to follow us on our chapter website and to reach out whenever he needs to network.



Ann Brigido served as the team leader for the registration ladies: Candy Crossley, Pat Prisco, Diane McCauley, Jan Bonadonna and Anne Blake. We are very grateful to these lovely ladies who sacrificed their time to arrive at 6:30 AM to help us with our golf outing!

The Chapter's First Annual Golf Outing at Legends-Moorland Golf Resort

**First Place Team
Steve Heisler and Sam Spicknall**

Our Chapter held its first annual golf outing on Monday, August 22, 2016 at Legends - Moorland Course. It was a beautiful day and the course was in perfect condition. Golfers started arriving at 6:30 AM and were met by six lovely ladies who volunteered to run the registration table and event stations.

After passing through the registration table, the 58 golfers enjoyed a breakfast buffet before warming up on the range and putting green; some even entered the putting contest. Then, everyone boarded their golf carts and were off to a shotgun start.

Throughout the day, you could hear the cheers and celebration of great shots and golfers having fun as they worked their way around the course, trying to win the big prize of the day. Adding to the excitement were skill contests throughout the course including long drives, straightest drives, closest to the pin and beat the pro events; we even had a hole-in-one contest (that, unfortunately, no golfer won)!

After the golfers completed their round, they submitted their scorecards to the pro shop and were treated to a great lunch and refreshing beverage of choice; waiting for the results of all the days contests.

Finally, the results were tallied and the winners were announced.

Team Winners:

First Place with a score of 57 (15 under par) was won by the Last-to-First team consisting of Steve Heisler and Sam Spicknall who each won a \$100 gift certificate.

Second Place with a score of 58 (14 under par) was won by the Myrtle Beach Pelicans team consisting of Ryan Moore, Kyle Guertin, Todd Chapman and Justin Bennett who each won a \$75 gift certificate.

Third Place with a score of 60 (12 under par) was won by the SUMC team consisting of Mark Cierzan, Al Fridley, Chester Albee and Alan Sipe who each won a \$50 gift certificate.

Skills Contest Winners:

Closest-to-Pin	Hole #13	Mark Johnson (Men's)
Closest-to-Pin	Hole #13	Lori Uhazie (Women's)
Straightest Drive	Hole #12	Steve Heisler
Longest Drive	Hole #11	Alan Sipe
Longest Drive	Hole #4	Geri Miller
Closest-to-Pin	Hole #5	Carl Blake (Men's)
Closest-to-Pin	Hole #5	Geri Miller (Women's)
Beat-the-Pro	Hole #17	Todd Chapman, Al Fridley, Larry Hane, Cathy Leader, Dick Mahany, Mark Richards, Sam Spicknall, Lori Uhazie



*A Sincere "Thank You"
to
Our Golf Sponsors*

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