

SUAA Annual Report

SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2006-2007

A Year of Transition

Message from 2007-2008 SUAA President

This past year has been a year of transition at Shippensburg. The university has welcomed a new president in the person of Dr. William Ruud, and the SUAA has worked diligently toward making his introduction to the SU family as smooth as possible.

The SUAA purposely chose not to pursue additional programs this past year. Rather, we took the time to evaluate where we are and what we do to help the university fulfill its mission. Each of our board committees was asked to evaluate their purpose and accomplishments. We wanted to introduce ourselves to the new president with a sense of purpose and fulfillment.

Our accomplishments this past year included establishing a legacy scholarship to be funded by the SUAA Board of Directors, involving ourselves more directly in the budget process, and arranging a meeting with other state-affiliated universities this fall for the purpose of sharing ideas and strategies. The underlying messages from SUAA continue as before — giving back, adding value, and creating a network the university can depend on in changing times.

It is important for the SUAA Board of Directors to be accountable to the alumni family on the activities we have undertaken on your behalf. The board is the association's governing body and the primary source of exchange of information and ideas between the university and alumni. The board is composed of 27 alumni—24 members elected for a four-year term and three officers who serve on the board and are part of the Executive Committee. I served as your president during the 2006-2007 term, along with Past President Ron Points '69 and President-Elect Ed Herr '55.

As you review the next few pages, you will have an opportunity to get a feel for the SUAA's activities. As a board we are proud of what we have accomplished over the last several years. We are hopeful you share that pride and come to a better understanding of what has been done at the university on your behalf. You will find highlights of our activities throughout this publication. I hope you find the information informative and that it encourages you to become active in alumni activities.

If you are not participating in the many activities available to alumni, perhaps now is the time to reconnect. Those of you who have been enjoying the many alumni activities available know the benefit of staying connected. I would encourage you to reach out to classmates so they may join you in the joy we have all found in being a part of the extended family of Shippensburg University.

Sincerely,
S. Eugene Herritt '72M

*Get Connected...
Stay Connected!*

The Ship community doesn't end at the borders of campus.

During the 2007 fiscal year, the SUAA continued to expand its powerful network of volunteers, as well as the number and variety of events that support SU. Increased online communications, especially e-mail messages, complemented traditional methods of informing the Ship family of SU news and events. Here are some examples.



Homecoming

A campus-wide celebration to welcome home alumni and friends!

More than 5,000 alumni and friends of the university attend this yearly event that includes a parade, the ROTC 10K run, home football game (with tailgating before the game and a dinner following the game), and a performance at the H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center.



Showcase of Shippensburg

Networking and information sharing—before and after enrollment!

Alumni, students, area employers, and prospective students join together for networking and information sharing with past events held in Pennsylvania—Bethlehem, Lancaster, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Reading, and York—Frederick, Maryland, and Washington, D.C.



Freshman Welcome – Senior Send-Off

Students say hello in the summer at special gatherings at homes of alumni and goodbye four years later in May at a gathering that transitions students into the SUAA.

Alumni Days 2007

SU: Ever changing...ever the same.

Regardless of what they do, alumni expect to have fun reconnecting with old friends, classmates and Ship during Alumni Days weekend. Held June 1, 2 and 3 this year, they did just that with events that included class parties, the Pubs & Grubs tour, SU Night, wedding vow renewal ceremony, ice cream social, reunion class dinners and meetings, a performance at the H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center, and the 19th Annual Alumni Days Golf Outing, which raised more than \$5,500 for student scholarships.



Gifts and scholarships

What impact has your Ship education had on you? Has it changed the way you act, think, see the world...or even the way you live your life?

Gifts to the university create an immediate and personal impact, enriching the lives of every student and faculty member, every day, in all areas of the university. Through the generosity of our alumni community, we are able to continue the mission of providing students with an education that shapes them into the leaders of tomorrow.



From the local area and locations around the globe...

Academic Success and Summer Start Program

Students learn from alumni who share their personal experiences—and motivate them to succeed in college and beyond!

SUAA members take an active role in freshman orientation and mentoring of students in this program.

Regional planning committees

Stay connected near home—and when you're on the road!

Regional programming of the SUAA is conducted through these committees. These alumni groups are made up of Ship graduates and friends of the university who live within a designated geographic area. Each alumni group is led by a volunteer leadership team or steering committee that works with the university relations office to plan, implement and evaluate programs and activities in that geographic area.

The SUAA has active regional councils in central Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, the Lehigh Valley, Reading, and Washington, D.C. Other states holding events include Florida, northern Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, Texas and California.

our alumni stay connected!



Alumni web site

Reunite with classmates and keep the campus community at your fingertips!

Make Ship your own — your own account on the alumni web site will strengthen your connection with the Ship community. Did you take a job in another city? Let us know where to find you. Just married? Change your name or tell us about the lucky person. Looking for a classmate or two? Is there anyone you'd like to reconnect with? Search for them in the alumni directory. Take advantage of everything we have to offer.

Alumni awards

A program that recognizes and honors Ship alumni whose accomplishments personify the Ship spirit!

Through the graduates it has recognized, the SUAA hopes to generate alumni pride and to reflect the excellence of a Ship education. The SUAA awards committee administers the program. Awards include the Distinguished Alumnus Award, the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award, Exceptional Service Award, Athletic Hall of Fame Induction, Humanitarian Award, and the Regional Council Leadership Award.



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The SUAA mission: to expand alumni/university friendship, engage alumni, and advocate the common interests of alumni!

Our programs, activities and services are aimed at helping you stay connected to your alma mater even if you are halfway around the world. As a graduate of Shippensburg University, you are automatically an SUAA member; there are no membership dues.

Ship alumni serve as ambassadors to the world. We invite you to become connected, to stay connected, and to help us shape the future.

Call 717-477-1218, e-mail alumni@ship.edu or visit our website at www.ship.edu/alumni



Message from Executive Director of University Relations

The SUAA board members and University Relations staff work diligently throughout the year providing many activities and programs for alumni, staff, friends, and students. This past year has seen an even greater presence of the Alumni Association—and especially the board representing it—at events both on campus and off. SUAA Board President Gene Herritt presided over the Humanitarian Luncheon at Homecoming, participated in both the December and May graduation ceremonies, handed out door prizes at the Senior Send-off party in May, and emceed presentations during Alumni Days Weekend. His leadership and passion for Shippensburg University was superb.

Shippensburg University has nearly 54,000 alumni members with 74 percent residing in Pennsylvania. This past year many alumni connected with faculty, fel-

low alumni, and students through different campus programs. Our alumni career services program is continuing to grow with the addition of Lorie Davis '98M, assistant director for alumni outreach and career services. The alumni admissions program, Showcase of Shippensburg, continues to offer alumni the opportunity to share their Ship experiences with prospective students in the spring.

Volunteerism has continued to prosper throughout the campus and the SUAA. Numerous Ship alumni have given of their time and money to better enhance the educational experience of our students.

The Alumni Days Committee, under the guidance of Joyce MacAdam Burger '60, Dr. Joan Aughenbaugh Crouse '74-'76M, and Larry Rotz '81-'73M, has continued to provide many opportunities and programs for all alumni during our celebration of Alumni

Days Weekend. The Golf Committee, under the leadership of Mae Latsha Sobczak '60, is another example of an alumna giving back. Mae has chaired the golf committee for the past 19 years while also serving the athletic department as the Lady Raiders golf tournament chair. The volunteerism, love, passion, family, and commitment of these individuals to the university and the SUAA are what Ship represents.

I hope in the future you will consider sharing your experiences—both from the past as a student and in the present with your career path choices and accomplishments. Giving back to the university can be accomplished in many ways—financially, mentoring, and as a volunteer. Thank you, and I hope to see you at future events.

Tim Ebersole '83-'00M
Executive Director, University Relations
Shippensburg University