



The Midwest Mountaineer

The Greater Cincinnati-Dayton Chapter
of the WVU Alumni Association

Spring 2022 Vol. 46

Bob Huggins 5k Cancer Research Fundraiser Sunday, June 5th By Justin Bond



Greetings Alumni & Friends. Please save the date for the 2022 Huggins Homecoming 5k in Cincinnati on Sunday June 5th. The 5k run/walk will start at the Fleet Feet location on Wooster Pike and finish at Fifty West Brewing. We will share further details as they become available.

This will be the 2nd time for this event although last year was limited due to the pandemic. The event still raised more than \$150,000 to bolster cancer care and research at the WVU Cancer Institute. Fortunately, this year we are full steam ahead. The proceeds from the race will benefit the Norma Mae Huggins Cancer Endowment through the WVU Cancer Institute.

Pete Zulia, co-founding partner of Oxford Physical Therapy and WVU alumnus, and his wife Linda have committed to raise \$1 million dollars to support the Norma Mae Huggins Endowment Fund. Let's all try to support this great event in early June. As the race draws near, we may have an opportunity to not only represent our chapter by participating in the 5k but there could also be volunteer opportunities to consider. Additional information can be obtained from the links below. Stay tuned!

<https://www.oxfordphysicaltherapy.com/>

<https://www.fleetfeet.com/s/cincy/>

<https://fiftywestbrew.com/>



Annual Summer Picnic and Cornhole Championship at Sharon Woods Sunday, August 7th By Jason Smith



Our **annual picnic** will be held in the **Great Meadow Shelter** at **Sharon Woods Park** in Sharonville, OH on **Sunday, August 7th**. **Admission is free to dues paying members, current WVU students, and their parents**. Non-members pay a small admission fee. An entire picnic meal and beverages will be provided to all Mountaineers, big and small. The Chapter will also be holding our 20th annual cornhole tournament for both WVU-themed prizes and more importantly bragging rights until next year's champion is crowned. As has become tradition, members and guests are invited to bring their musical instruments (guitars, etc.) as we will tap into our WV musical heritage. Vehicle permits are included with our pavilion rental. The festivities begin at 1pm. Come and join us for this annual family event

Midwest Mountaineer Social Media Update

Hello Mountaineers! As many of you know, the chapter strives to keep up with the ever-changing social media landscape to ensure our members have every opportunity to participate in chapter activities. Get involved in one or all of our social media and email groups to keep up with the latest Midwest Mountaineer happenings.

FACEBOOK GROUP: Midwest Mountaineers is one of the primary ways we communicate chapter events such as game watches, Annual Spring Dinner, Summer picnic, etc. It is an easy way to RSVP to events you plan on attending so that we can get a head count and make sure to have you accounted for!

TWITTER: @WVUAlumInCincy has been another tool to communicate game watch and other festivities. We follow various WVU alumni chapters, WVU athletes, WVU academic programs, and general state of West Virginia accounts to ensure we have a good flavor of interaction with our alma mater.

LINKEDIN: WVU Alumni – Midwest Mountaineers A great networking tool for professionals in the area. This has been a great resource for meeting and recruiting local Mountaineer talent.

INSTAGRAM: WValumInCincy

CHAPTER WEBSITE: www.midwestmountaineer.com We recently upgraded the website and will look for future upgrades as we progress throughout the year.

EMAIL: The Chapter utilizes the WVU Alumni Association's Luminare system. If your information is up-to-date with the Alumni Association then you will receive our Chapter emails.

Here are our latest social media numbers. We are always looking to expand our reach, so please follow us, join our group, or link in with us ASAP! Refer your friends, family and anyone with an affinity for or with WVU.



407 Group Members: Our goal is to reach 425 members by the end of 2022.



@WVUAlumInCincy: 179 Followers – Our goal is to reach 200 followers by the end of 2022.



WVU Alumni-Midwest Mountaineers: 265 Group Members. Targeting 300 members by the end of 2022.



103 followers. Targeting 150 followers by the end of 2022

2022 Football Schedule

Thurs., Sep 1 @ Pitt Panthers
 Sat., Sept. 10 vs. Kansas Jayhawks
 Sat., Sept. 17 vs. Towson Tigers
 Thurs., Sept. 22 @ Virginia Tech Hokies
 Sat., Oct. 1 @. Texas Longhorns
 Thurs., Oct. 13 vs. Baylor Bears
 Sat., Oct. 22 @ Texas Tech Red Raiders
 Sat, Oct. 29 vs TCU Horned Frogs
 Sat., Nov. 5 @ Iowa State Cyclones
 Sat., Nov. 12 vs. Oklahoma Sooners
 Sat., Nov. 19 vs. Kansas State Wildcats
 Fri., Nov 26 @ Oklahoma State Cowboys
 Sat, Dec. 3 Big12 Champ, Arlington TX

Greater Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter Scholarship

For the past 21 years the Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter has provided at least one \$1000 per year scholarship to a local student who attends WVU. The scholarship is one of the ways our chapter gives back to our alma mater and to the local community. To date our chapter has given out over \$22,000 to help support local students. Our endowment provides approximately \$2000 each year in perpetuity for a deserving student in our area to attend WVU. This year we gave out three scholarships (two from the endowment and one funded primarily from annual chapter membership dues). Our goal is to continue to build our endowment so that additional scholarships can be offered. The current value of our endowment is over \$50,000. The near term goal to grow our endowment to \$75,000 so that we can offer an additional scholarship.

You can help make the goal of additional scholarships a reality by making tax deductible contributions directly to the WVU Foundation. By including the information below any donation sent to the WVU Foundation will be added to our endowment.

Donations can be made via the WVU Foundation website (<http://www.wvuf.org/>) or by mail using the order form below. Always refer to Greater Cincinnati-Dayton Chapter WVU Alumni Association Scholarship Fund #3Z308 on the check memo line or in the online comments section.

Contributions totaling over \$3000 were made to the Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni scholarship fund by chapter members and local corporations last year. We, and future Mountaineers would like to thank the following members for their generous support: John T. Ach, Deborah Felzien, Fredrick Lucas, Susan Ridgway, Dianne and David Sherrard, Jason Smith, Larry Utt, Neal Watzman, Howard and Ann Withrow, and Kevin Wright

Support the Cincinnati/Dayton Chapter's Scholarship Fund #3Z308 with a Tax Deductible Gift

Name _____ Class of _____

Street/PO _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please indicate amount contributed \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1000 \$other _____

Please make your check payable to *West Virginia University Foundation, Inc.*, and mail directly to One Waterfront Place, PO Box 1650, Morgantown, WV 26507-9939

Specify "*Greater Cincinnati/Dayton Chapter WVU Alumni Association Scholarship 3Z308*" on the check memo line

A Mountaineer Memory **By Tyler-Blair Sheppard**

From the beginning, being a Mountaineer has been a family affair for me. I grew up going to WVU football games. Long before I became a student, I had seen a lengthy list of home games of both the memorable and soul crushing variety; Penn State, both 1984 and '88, Miami '93, whatever that last minute against Virginia Tech was in '99; all before I stepped foot in a classroom, and in the same seats my family has had since Mountaineer Field opened. I don't imagine that I am unique in this – there are plenty of WVU fans out there, each with their own stories. The aspect of mine that is likely rarer is that I grew up in Canada, and even there, there is a WVU connection.

It was on a student-teacher exchange to Montreal the summer after her senior year at WVU that my mother met my father. They settled in Canada and Morgantown became the place where I got to see my grandparents. Being a little more than halfway to southern WV, and my grandmother being a passionate football fan and alum herself, it was somewhat natural that football would become the driver for a schedule and excuse to make the trip. I was fortunate to see a lot of my American grandparents, but the frequency was notably higher in the fall.

So it is difficult to settle on a favorite moment or event – WVU has been ever present in my life. What stands out as a thread is the impact the school has had upon my life, the opportunities that it provided, and that shaped who I am today. From a being able to go on a 4-month research exchange to China during my junior year, to being on the microgravity research team and flying on a NASA sponsored microgravity flight from the Shuttle Landing Facility at Kennedy Space Center, to extending a never-going-anywhere-but-fun-while-it lasted hockey career for just a few years more on the club team, WVU was a place where I was able to expand my horizons and where interesting opportunities were always around the corner. At many other schools, I suspect those opportunities would not have all been available for a single student, but for me they led to my first job out of school at Johnson Space Center, and to some lifelong friends.

A Mountaineer Legend is Honored **By Jason Smith**



Recent additions to downtown Morgantown landscape include a bronze statue and plaque dedicated to Morgantown native and WVU alumnus Don Knotts. The statue and plaque can be found on 371 High Street at the renovated Metropolitan Theatre. Opened in 1924 'The Met' was where Don started his career performing as a ventriloquist. The next time you are in Morgantown venture downtown and take a selfie with one of Mayberry's and Morgantown's finest.

Spring 2022 Order Form

Please return this form to RSVP for the picnic, to pay Chapter dues, or to comment to the officers.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

SUMMER PICNIC Sunday August 7th, Sharon Woods Park

Free to dues paying members, current WVU students, and their parents

Number attending: _____

CHAPTER DUES for 2022

I wish to become a member or renew my membership with the Greater Cincinnati/Dayton Chapter of the WVU Alumni Association. Dues are \$20.00 per individual or \$25.00 per family.

Amount enclosed \$ _____

BECOME INVOLVED!

Are you interested in helping with events sponsored by the Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter? We are always looking for chairpersons and coordinators to help with our fun social activities. It's a great way to meet fellow Mountaineers!

_____ Check here if you would like someone to contact you about how you can help

Please return to **Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter, 4091 Reemelin Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45211.** Call (513) 290-7351 or E-mail *jsmithWVU@gmail.com* if you have questions. Make checks payable to the **GREATER CINCINNATI/DAYTON CHAPTER, WVU ALUMNI ASSOC.**