



The President's Corner



Hello fellow Alumni! For those of you that haven't heard or have been made aware of, I have taken on the leadership role as your new local Chapter President. I look forward to the challenges ahead to continue to make this chapter better for everyone that is involved, and whom ever we might reach out to now and in the future. With all of this there is much work to be done, but more importantly I realize how vital each and every one of you is to making that happen.

Before I go any further, let me tell you a little about myself. I am not a native Clevelander but rather a transplant from Western Pennsylvania. I came up here about 10 ½ years ago for my current line of work in Aerospace research at NASA Glenn. I graduated from Penn State in 1996 with a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering. I will not speak for all of you but those years were the best times of my life, and helped shape me into who I am today.

It's my hope that every student that attends Penn State has same the opportunity to grow and experience many of the same things that we all did while at Penn State. From personal experiences, the time that I spent there was very fulfilling not just in the classroom but outside as well and I want to make sure that students in our area can still have that same opportunity. One of the best ways to provide that opportunity to students is to ease their financial burden.

With this in mind, let me speak about a great opportunity for all of us and that is the growth of our local chapter scholarship fund. There is a "For the Future" campaign by the University to help respective Alumni Chapters and Groups grow their endowment funds. With the cost of a college education forever increasing, our goal for the Greater Cleveland Chapter is to increase the value of the scholarships that we provide to our incoming freshman and returning upperclassmen.

This is not something that will just happen with the click of a finger but rather over the course of time. Contributions from events that our chapter organizes or supports such as the annual football bus trip, speaking engagements from people related to the university, general monetary and physical contributions from alumni and friends, and potential sponsorships are just a few of the ways that we can reach our goal.

What we can do is start small but reach wide. Here is our request to each and every one of you. If every Nittany Lion that reads this letter donates \$2, this will allow us to complete the first step in reaching our chapter goal. I can't say enough that helping local students offset the cost can be the difference between a good and a great educational experience. Thanks again for your time and please do not hesitate to reach out to me with questions. You can reach me via LinkedIn, visiting the local chapter website or attending a leadership meeting. WE ARE!!!

Robert C. Clark, President

2011- 2012 Leadership Group

President
Bobby Clark

Vice President/Editor In Chief
Akash Kapoor

Secretary
Kieran Repko

Treasurer
Jeff Vertosick

Admissions Committee Leader
Daron Boyce

Scholarship Chairman
Mark Eakman

The 2011 Penn State Football Bus Trip

Hello once again! As in years past our local chapter was part of the annual university ticket lottery for a block of tickets this coming season. The game which we were awarded tickets to is the game versus the Nebraska Cornhuskers in State College on November 12th. Brecksville Road Transit who our chapter has worked with previously will be providing the transportation. It should take us just about 4.5 hours to arrive in State College.

The cost of the package which includes a ticket, transportation, food, drink, parking, and a driver tip will be \$140. We will be providing food and attempt to make it as similar to what was available on previous bus trips for those that have attended. To make this enjoyable for everyone and to not have any bus issues no alcohol is allowed to be brought on board. We will be leaving from the Brecksville Road Transit parking lot and departing State College 45 minutes after the game is over. Details on exact timing will be provided later as game day gets closer.

With the bus we also have a small allotment of seats available for those that already have tickets but require some transportation or for that matter just don't want to drive to and from State College. This cost would be \$60. Seating for this option is limited so act quickly if this situation applies to you. To give everyone an opportunity at purchasing tickets a limit of 2 tickets will be placed for any single purchase. You must be a verified dues paying member with the local chapter to be able to purchase tickets.

Please contact me via email to register yourself and your ticket request. Requests are not on a 1st come 1st serve basis so that we can allow all the local alumni chapter members to have the opportunity to attend. Confirmation should be sent out prior to the season opener. There is no refund on the tickets once your check is cashed. Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me directly. As always I look forward to organizing this event and the chapter looks forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Robert C. Clark, President
robert.c.clark@nasa.gov



Concert Choir and Chamber Singers' Tour

In May, the Penn State Behrend Concert Choir and Chamber Singers kicked off their spring tour with performances at the Old Stone Church in downtown Cleveland and the Cleveland Clinic. Under the direction of Dr. Jason Bishop, the ensembles performed the Fauré Requiem along with a diverse variety of pieces ranging from spirituals, to contemporary French works, to film music from Shrek and Platoon. The concert concluded with the Penn State Alma Mater. Alumni in the audience were asked to join the choir on stage to sing this final number. Before departing for additional performances in Detroit and Chicago, a reception for alumni was held at John Q's Steakhouse.



Alumni Admissions Volunteer Experience

On May 11, 2011, Kieran Repko represented Penn State as part of the Cleveland Alumni Admissions Volunteers at the Saint Martin De Porres High School Academic Signing Day. Senior Mercedes Engle made her commitment to the Pennsylvania State University on this day. Ms. Engle graduated on June 5, 2011 with a 3.9 GPA.

Principal Mary Ann Vogel described Ms. Engle as a special class leader with an incredible amount of energy.

Ms Engle told Mr. Repko that her visit to Penn State gave her the feeling that she had found a new home. She has an interest in entrepreneurship.

Website: <http://www.psuclevelandaa.org/>

Alumni Picnic / Freshman Sendoff

One of our Chapter's biggest events of the year will be coming up early next month. Our annual Freshman Sendoff Picnic is scheduled for Tuesday, August 9th at the Cleveland Metroparks Chalet in Strongsville starting at 6 pm. This picnic is held to honor our newest young Lions, so we need their parents, current students and alumni and friends to help us celebrate.

One of the larger Freshmen classes in recent history—35 students-- accepted their offer this spring. As is typical, 21 of those students will be attending the University Park Campus this fall. Seven students are enrolled at other Commonwealth campuses under the two plus two program and seven others are listed under Penn State's World Campus. The World Campus (internet) option has become very well known around educational circles in recent years and has a very high reputation.

Plan to join us for this fun event. There will be ample time to get acquainted with our students and families, and to share our insights and "insider" information with them. We will also announce the winners of our Freshman and Upper-class scholarships. And of course there will be plenty of good food. So plan to join us on August 9th. Costs for the evening are only \$5

When: Tuesday, August 9th from 5:30 to 10 p.m.

Where: The Chalet, Strongsville Metro Parks

16200 Valley Parkway

Cleveland, OH 44136

<http://www.clemetparks.com/recreation/tobogganing/>

Cost: \$5 per family



Awards for the 2011/2012 academic year will be announced at the annual Freshman Send-Off and Alumni Picnic.

Need A Place to Stay While Visiting Penn State?

Are you looking for a place to stay when traveling to State College and don't like the standard hotels which are available all around town? Then check out, <http://PSUFootballHouseRentals.com> for a full listing of available houses for rent and when using the code PSU2011 you will receive a \$25 discount and the chapter scholarship fund will receive a donation of \$50.

Upcoming Events for 2011

2011 Football Schedule

9/3	INDIANA STATE	Noon
9/10	ALABAMA	3:30pm
9/17	@ Temple	Noon
9/24	E. MICHIGAN U	TBA
10/1	@ Indiana	TBA
10/11	IOWA	TBA
10/15	PURDUE	Noon
10/22	@ Northwestern	7PM
10/29	ILLINOIS	TBA
11/12	NEBRASKA	TBA
11/19	@ Ohio State **	TBA
11/26	@ Wisconsin	TBA
12/3	Big 10 Championship Playoff @ Indianapolis	

Penn State Football Watch Parties

Isn't it more fun to watch the games with fellow Penn Staters? For more information on upcoming football parties and other events, see the chapter website or contact one of the chapter officers.

www.psucllevelandaa.org

Events for 2011

August 9th - Student Send Off

November 12th - Penn State Bus Trip

Check out for more events

www.psucllevelandaa.org

Big Ten Day with the Aeros



On Sunday June 5th the Aeros promoted an event for all Big Ten alumni at Canal Park called Big Ten Day as the Akron Aeros defeated the Binghamton Mets 6-3. There was a pregame picnic available for those that could arrive early enough and a block of seats so that all Big Ten alumni could sit together. It was a great opportunity to network and socialize with other chapter leads and alumni both before and during the game. Some chapter leads expressed the opportunity to do joint functions so not only do we hope that can happen but at the same time we hope this can bring more of us together.

Silent Auction

To help raise money for our endowment, we have received a handmade quilt made by Kathy Fitzgerald, which you can bid and see an update status of the highest bid on the chapter website. Bid early, bid often. Winner will be declared after the bus trip. To see the quilt for yourself, come to the Alumni Sendoff or Bus Trip. If you cannot make it either event, there is a picture on the website. Bids can be submitted to Akash Kapoor (AkashSky@yahoo.com) with the Subject heading "**Silent Auction Bid for PSAA Cleveland**"

Website: <http://www.psucllevelandaa.org/>

Become a Sponsor



The Penn State Alumni Association – Cleveland Chapter is making plans to raise more money for our endowment fund. The success of raising money for this is credited largely to sponsors, who lend their names and financial support to the fund. The money we raise will go to our future alum, and this years goal is \$1000.

By participating as a sponsor, your organization will benefit from extended exposure through media campaigns and promotional efforts directed toward the supporters of The Penn State Alumni Association – Cleveland Chapter.

We have 2 levels of sponsorship packages, as detailed below. You can select the level of participation that best meets your needs, and be secure in the knowledge that your sponsorship fee will be used to help Penn State Alumni Association – Cleveland Chapter endowment's fund.

We're counting on your support, and will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you in advance for your willingness to support the efforts of Penn State Alumni Association – Cleveland Chapter and make a difference in our community. *More details are being put together by the Leadership team.*

Lion Paws Club

\$100

This level will entitle the sponsor to a mention in our Friends and Family section on our website. Sponsor will also receive 2 events for free and a free membership for a year. Note: this does not include the Bus Trip.

Blue and White Club

\$500

This level will entitle the sponsor to a mention in our Friends and Family section on our website. Sponsor will also receive 2 events for free and a free membership for two years. Note: this does not include the Bus Trip.

Website: <http://www.psucllevelandaa.org/>

2011 – 2012 Membership Application

Name _____ Class Year _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Email _____

() One year membership—\$15 per family. Membership from June 2011—May 2012

() Two year membership—\$27 per family. Membership from June 2011—May 2013

() Yes, I will be attending the Alumni Picnic / Freshman Sendoff.

How would you like the chapter to communicate with you?

Regular Mail ___ E-Mail___ Facebook___ LinkedIn___ Phone___ Website Only___

For the Alumni Picnic / Freshman Sendoff, the \$5 cost of food covers the entire family. A separate check is not required for the \$5, so it can be added to the association dues check. Make checks payable to the Penn State Alumni Association—Cleveland Chapter and mail check and completed form to:

Jeff Vertosick
Chapter Treasurer
10127 Hickory Ridge Drive
Brecksville, OH 44141

Contribute directly to the endowed scholarship fund—it's tax deductible! Send a *separate check* made out to **Penn State University** with a memo: Cleveland Chapter Endowment. We will forward your check to the University. Furthermore, students are awarded scholarships based on merit, so please aid our well-deserving future Penn Staters (and future alumni)! Every little bit helps!

\$

One of the most essential elements of the Penn State Alumni Association is membership and active participation. That is why it is one of the largest alumni associations in the United States.

The Cleveland Chapter is no different. We encourage **PARTICIPATION, FEEDBACK,** and **SUGGESTIONS** to help keep our chapter operating smoothly. Without our members, we wouldn't be here!

Please contact Mark Eakman (meakman@fuchs.com) if you are willing and interested in reviewing and judging applicants for the chapter scholarship.

Please contact Daron Boyce (daron.boyce@prodigy.net) if you are interested in assisting with student recruiting including college fairs.

Please contact Akash Kapoor (akashsky@yahoo.com) or any of the members of the chapter Leadership Group if you are interested in adding content to the chapter website or willing to become a sponsor.

Please contact Bobby Clark (Robert.C.Clark@nasa.gov) or any of the members of chapter Leadership Group if you are interested in assisting us with Chapter programs and events.

2757 Rising Meadow Drive
Akron, OH 44333

Cleveland Chapter

<Mailing Address>



Penn State
Alumni Association

We're on the web

<http://www.psuclevelandaa.org/>

Photos from 2010 - 2011

