

Winter 2014

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Valparaiso University Guild

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VALPARAISO  UNIVERSITY

Guild Bulletin

Winter 2014 • Volume 83



Words from the Chair

by Deb Evans '89



Twenty years ago, if anyone would have told me that I would be chairing the Valparaiso University Guild, I may have laughed, and yet here I am entering my second year in that office. I am humbled by what others before me have done, and it has been an honor and privilege to serve Valparaiso University in this way.

I have met some amazing people within the organization and throughout the University community. One such group is the Guild Board. They are a very talented and dedicated group of women, and I am grateful for all they do and for the opportunity to work with them. They are highlighted within this publication, but I would be remiss if I did not include a special thanks to two board members who completed their terms at the conclusion of 2013: Allison Clark '07 and Kris Kolterman '85 Fox. Their dedication to Valparaiso University and the University Guild has been an inspiration, and their presence at our meetings will be greatly missed.

With the start of 2014, we welcome three new board members and are excited about the opportunities ahead. As the University continues to grow and thrive, we see tremendous potential for our organization to do more to serve the University and its students.

At the annual meeting this past September, we had the pleasure of announcing over \$20,000 in Campus Gift Grants and acknowledging the 2013-2014 Guild Scholars. You can read more about them [here](#).

You will also see an update on the Guild's strategic plan which we continue to work and adjust as necessary, as well as an updated financial report from our treasurer, Judy Fry '76 Mason.

We hope you will enjoy this current issue of the Guild Bulletin. We are grateful for your ongoing support and look forward to an exciting year ahead.

2014 Guild *Board of Directors*

The leadership and hard work of the University Guild Board of Directors is one of the reasons the organization thrives. As 2014 begins, we say goodbye to **Allison Clark '07** and **Kris Kolterman '85 Fox**, and welcome **Christine Ruppap '95 Blake**, **Barbara Speth '76 Dammann**, and **Ginger Wendt '88 Haas** to their first term.



Terms Ending 2014

- (1) Deb Evans '89, Wheaton, Ill.
Guild Board Chair
- (2) Kristy Paukner '02 McCann, Hoffman Estates, Ill.
- (3) Victoria Flood '92, Des Plaines, Ill.
- (4) Kim Mathews '83 Olsen, Snyder, N.Y.
Guild Board Vice Chair



Terms Ending 2015

- (1) Ann Harding '94 Ashmon, Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif.
Guild Board Secretary
- (2) Julie Neymark '74 Bohannon, Indianapolis, Ind.
- (3) Judy Fry '76 Mason, Chicago, Ill.
Guild Board Treasurer



Terms Ending 2016

- (1) Christine Ruppap '95 Blake, South Windsor, Conn.
- (2) Barbara Speth '76 Dammann, Roswell, Ga.
- (3) Ginger Wendt '88 Haas, Mt. Prospect, Ill.

Strategic Plan Update

In 2012, the University Guild Board developed a comprehensive Strategic Plan to lead the organization through the next five years. The process modeled that of the University's Strategic Plan and resulted in the identification of three primary goals focused around membership, student support, and endowment.

As with any good plan, ongoing assessment is integral to determine what is working, what has been achieved, and what has changed. Fortunately, the Guild Board incorporated an evaluation process into its planning, and each fall board members review and assess the plan making adjustments as needed.



Recently, the Guild Board identified some challenges within our plan that need further development. In the coming months, we as a board will be attempting to address these issues. If you feel your gifts and talents might be beneficial to any of these groups and you would like to volunteer your time, please contact the Guild office to learn how you can be involved.

In the coming months, we will continue to keep you updated on the progress toward our goals. Please watch for more information in upcoming publications and on Facebook.

I look forward to sharing our continued progress.

The Guild Board would like to thank all the members and volunteers that contribute their time and effort to raise funds for the Guild Endowment Fund, so that we can continue to enhance the student experience at Valpo. With your support, we will be successful in reaching our goals.

1. Goal | The University Guild will increase the Guild membership to 755 members by June 2017.

Status | Guild membership is 582. This is a decrease from 589 the previous year.

Activity

Last spring, the board action team and the Membership Growth Committee launched a membership campaign called "Spring into Action." It was designed to encourage members to renew and to recruit new members. We received very positive feedback from the campaign, which encouraged the group to initiate something similar in 2014. The group is also considering ways to engage the younger population given the fact that approximately 50 percent of our membership is over age 60.

2. Goal | The University Guild will be a robust system of support for all University students.

Status | This past fall, the Guild hosted Guild Week and care package assembly, participated in new-student orientation (FOCUS) and Grad Finale, and partnered with Career Services to host the Etiquette Dinner for junior and senior students.

Activity

The board action team is concentrating on partnering with other University organizations to continue and improve the Guild's outreach to students and its presence on campus. This group worked with a student advisory group to gather feedback directly from students on how the Guild can better serve them. The information collected will help the group consider ways to have a stronger showing of support for students.

3. Goal | The University Guild will increase the total of all endowed Guild accounts to \$5 million including outright gifts, pledges, and commitments by 2017.

Status | The total of endowed accounts is \$2.23 million (see treasurer's report). There is an additional \$1 million in commitments from planned gifts, bringing the combined sum to \$3.23 million.

Activity

The board action team attempted several communication pieces designed to encourage others to give and for members to expand giving. The team's Fundraising Committee conducted an assessment of existing fundraisers to determine how to improve upon and replicate successful opportunities (see article within). The group is working on new methods of reaching Guild donors in order to increase our endowments by a significant amount in a short time.

Treasurer's Report

by Judy Fry '76 Mason



The Valparaiso University Guild raised \$106,734 from membership dues, donations, matching funds, and fund-raising activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013. The Guild Office Endowment Fund provided a spending allocation of \$10,352 used to offset current operating expenses. Disbursements include the funding of the Guild Campus Gift Grants that were selected by the membership, payment of office operating expenses, and allocation to the Guild Office Endowment Fund.

Receipts and Disbursements

	2013	2012
Membership Dues, Other Donations, and Matching Funds	67,002	72,714
Gift Annuity		30,500
Fund Raising Gross Proceeds, net	39,732	32,376
Endowment Fund Spending Allocation	10,352	
Total Receipts	117,086	135,590
Allocation to Guild Endowment Fund	73,400	100,500
Campus Gift Grants	20,955	16,892
Guild Office Operating Expenses	24,718	22,688
Total Disbursements	119,073	140,080

The scholarship and other Guild endowment funds totaled \$2,230,304 compared to prior year balance of \$2,023,079. From these funds a total of \$63,431 was used to fund scholarships and other student activities.

Valparaiso University Guild Year Ended December 31, 2013

Endowment Fund	FY 2013 Account Balance	FY 2012 Account Balance	FY 2013 Distributions	FY 2012 Distributions
Cookbook Scholarship Fund	580,482	558,902	25,000	30,290
Other Scholarship Funds - Donation	303,063	290,600	14,934	12,434
Undergraduate Research Fund	259,370	241,697	2,542	2,325
Guild Endowment Fund	924,514	769,529	10,352	
Campus Gift Grants			20,955	16,892
Norma May Encourager Fund	19,353	17,754		
Other Designated Funds	143,522	144,587		
Total	2,230,304	2,023,069	73,783	61,941

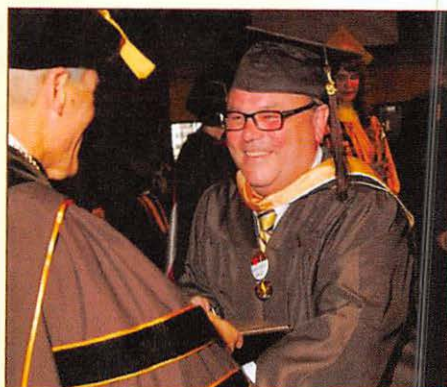
Meet A Member

Bob Wichlinski '82, '13 MALS

Bob lives in Valparaiso with his wife of 27 years, Lynnette. They are the parents of four children, David, Morgan '12, Neil, and Abigail. He has been an active member of the Guild since 2008, and became involved as a way to give back to the University in a tangible, meaningful way. His favorite aspect of the Guild is the people he encounters and works with to help our Valpo students. As a student, he recalls Christmas Vespers and Easter on campus as two of his favorite memories.

In addition to being a member of the Valparaiso University Guild, Bob is an active member of the Valparaiso community and is currently Porter County Auditor and managing partner at ON-SITE Computer, LLC.

As Bob crossed the stage to receive his diploma in 2013, he proudly wore his "I Love the University Guild" button on his graduation robe. His hope for the future of the Guild is that the organization continues to thrive and prosper with increased contribution of time, talent, and treasure from all members, male and female, of our Valpo community.



Guild Campus Grants

by Kristy Paukner '02 McCann

When you think of how your membership in the Valparaiso University Guild helps to enhance the student experience at Valpo, what comes to mind? Maybe you submit the Guild Day of Prayer to your parish office to print in the Sunday bulletin, allowing your congregation to pray for the students, professors, and staff of Valparaiso University. Or maybe you come back to campus in the fall and volunteer in the football concession stand run by the Valpo Guild. But what better way to help the Valpo students than by providing funding for their campus organization or department in areas that might otherwise go unfunded by the University? Talk about making a difference!

During the past academic year, Guild members once again took time to read and vote on 16 grant requests. Requests ranged from updating old equipment to covering the cost of student events and trips. Requests were received from various departments including music, social work, and recreational sports, as well as from student organizations such as Engineers Without Borders. In the end, six grant recipients were awarded funding totaling almost \$21,000.

Tristan Leonhard, Assistant Director of Recreational Sports, let the Guild know that,

“We are extremely excited to have received Guild Campus Gift Grant funds to help upgrade the Fitness Center. The students will be thrilled!”

Affirming statements like Tristan’s show how vital the need is for Campus Gift Grants.

But what if the Guild could have funded all 16 requests? Could the Guild award \$60,000 in Campus Gift Grants? Could the Guild fund even more? The Guild can, and will, with your continued membership and financial contribution!

2013 Guild Campus Gift Grant Recipients:

Chancel Reupholstery

Refurbish and update the upholstered materials in the Chapel of the Resurrection's chancel.

Chapel Choir Retreats

Fund the Kantorei and Chorale off-campus retreat during which rehearsals and training for their roles in the worship services are given.

Fitness Center Treadmill

Purchase an additional treadmill for the Fitness Center, which is used by more than 300 students each day.

MessageNet Connection for Heidbrink Hall

Connect Heidbrink Hall with campus through the message system giving students updates on campus activities and events, as well as emergency information.

Shoulder and Rehabilitation Equipment

Purchase an Airdyne bike and body ergometer (shoulder bike) for rehabilitation sessions taken by more than 500 student-athletes each year.

International Film Collection Upgrade

Update the International Film Collection housed in the Language Resource Center from VHS to DVD format to allow students to screen films about and from their target-language countries.



Student recipients of the 2012 Guild Campus Gift Grant for American Concrete Institute Certification.

2014 Guild Scholars

The University Guild has recognized the importance of scholarships since 1972 when the first Guild cookbooks were created, with the proceeds going toward a scholarship endowment fund. In 1975, the Guild created the Past National Officers Scholarship to honor the women who have served as Guild officers or directors. In 1990, the Guild created a third scholarship, the Shirley Ayers Jud Memorial Endowed Scholarship, to honor a dedicated Guild member.

Today, 10 students are recipients of these awards totaling nearly \$45,000.



Mackenzie Allen

*freshman electrical
engineering major from
Oconomowoc, Wis.*



Madalyn Harvey

*sophomore social work
major from Arcadia, Mich.*



Catherine Long

*sophomore exercise science
major from Katy, Texas.*



Elena Lutze

*junior vocal performance
and English double major
from Valparaiso, Ind.*



Shannon
Segin

*sophomore Christ
College mathematics
major with a minor
in psychology from
Hoffman Estates, Ill.*



Rachael
Tiemann

*freshman theology
and ministry, pre-med
major from Valencia,
Calif.*



Jacob Unger

*junior exercise science
major from Apex, N.C.*

Graduating Scholars



Andrew Denecke

senior psychology and humanities double major from Brown Deer, Wis.

Andrew is exploring two routes after graduating in May, one through a master's program in International Disaster Psychology at the University of Denver and one with AmeriCorps in the Smoky Mountain range. This past fall he served as Passions Group Coordinator for the Social Action Leadership Team (SALT), facilitating groups that focused on social justice concerns. He has been house manager, philanthropy chairman, pledge educator, and chaplain of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. This semester he hopes to return to volunteering at Shultz-Lewis Youth and Family Services in Valpo, where he held a previous internship. Andrew says his Guild scholarship has been an enormous blessing to both him and his family, and it has allowed him to focus more on his studies and what he can do to make campus and the community a better place for others.



Emily DeVries

senior elementary education major with a minor in Spanish from St. Charles, Ill.

After graduation, Emily hopes to either teach locally, teach abroad (Spain or Latin America), or pursue her ESL certification, in order to work in schools with students who don't speak English in their homes. She is involved in College Mentors for Kids, Study Abroad Peer Advising, and this spring will student teach in Merrillville, Ind. When asked about her Guild Scholarship, she responded "I feel incredibly blessed. Looking back on my education here at Valpo, I am so thankful to have been able to have this opportunity to pursue what I love, to study abroad, and to be a part of a community as unique and inspiring as this one. My scholarship has helped to make that a possibility, and I feel very lucky to be a recipient."



Noah Finegan

senior German major with minors in English and fundamentals of business, from Ishpeming, Mich.

After graduation, Noah will either teach English abroad in Austria or Germany with Fulbright, or he will intern at Concordia Language Villages working to run year-round German immersion programs. This year he is the newly elected social chair of the Valparaiso International Student Association (VISA), is a member of the Kantorei, and participates in German Club events. Noah says he is deeply grateful for the financial assistance given to him by the Guild and for all that the Guild does.

Meet A Member

Shirley Nelesen '58 Honold and her daughters, Kathy Honold '84 Brodin and Kris Honold '86 Krueger



"Like mother, like daughters" is certainly the case when it comes to the Valparaiso University Guild and Shirley Nelesen '58 Honold and her daughters, Kathy Honold '84 Brodin and Kris Honold '86 Krueger.

Shirley has been a member of the Guild for almost 50 years. Kathy and Kris joined the Guild shortly after graduation, becoming actively involved in the former Golden Gems chapter in Milwaukee, and both served as Area Director for Wisconsin.

The sisters also followed in their mother's footsteps when pledging a sorority, Alpha Phi Delta, at Valpo.

Shirley joined the Guild in the late 1960s in Sheboygan, Wis., where she still resides. Not long after, she was elected president of the Wisconsin State Unit. Before her first two-year term was complete, she was elected National Treasurer of the Guild, serving from 1972 to 1975. She was chairwoman of the Guild Cookbook Volume II committee (1976-1978) and Person-to-Person chair

(1980-1982). She also has served as president of the Sheboygan chapter many times.

She has been a longtime member of Trinity Lutheran Church and is currently an officer in three of four committees on which she serves. She has also been treasurer of the Sheboygan Concert Association since 1976.

In 2009, Shirley was honored to be the recipient of a Distinguished Alumni Award from the University. Today she continues to coordinate pecan sales for the Sheboygan area and the sale of "Valpo Bean Soup," a mix she puts together, with proceeds benefiting the Guild.

"For all three of us, Guild membership has provided the opportunity to give back to the University we care deeply about while at the same time forging lifelong friendships."

Kathy lives in Barrington, Ill., with her husband, Per, and their children, Nicholas, 11, and Erica, 9.

She was also actively involved in the Guild in St. Louis before moving to the Chicago area. Recently she has served on the Nominating Committee.

Learning the importance of volunteerism from her mom, Kathy is a member of the Board of the Barrington Junior Women's Club and the Roslyn Road Elementary School PTO and is the director of parish

music and organist at her church, Christ the King Lutheran in Palatine, Ill.

"My hope for the future of the Guild is that membership will expand, and that members will continue to find creative ways to share their talents, educational background, and professional experience to add value to the Guild and to the University as a whole."

Kris and her husband, Tom (also an '86 grad), live in Plano, Texas. Her Guild legacy extends to her mother-in-law, Marilyn Krueger, who served as National President from 1988 to 1990. In fact, Shirley and Marilyn knew each other through the Guild long before their children met at Valpo.

Kris has fond memories of visiting campus on weekends when her mom was attending National Conventions in the '70s, and she

later attended Conventions herself. She served on the Guild Board of Directors from 2009 to 2011 and more recently on the Campus Gift Grants and Nominating committees.

She enjoys volunteering in the church library at Prince of Peace Lutheran in Carrollton, Texas, and is a member of the steering committee for the newly formed Dallas-Fort Worth Valpo Club.

"My favorite aspect of the Guild is that it keeps students at the forefront, always working to benefit them. I think the Campus Gift Grants are a very important way the Guild serves the University."

Calendar of Events

March 29

Milwaukee Suburban Area Luncheon and Basket Auction

March 31

Board of Directors Nominations Due
Guild Campus Gift Grant Proposals Due

April 13

Guild Day of Prayer

April 26-27

University Guild Board Meeting

May 5

Spring Finals Care Packages Delivered

June 30

2013-2014 Membership Deadline

For more information on these events and others in your area, visit valpo.edu/guild/events.

Fundraising Committee Update

In the fall of 2012, the Guild Strategic Planning members focusing on the Endowment Goal identified a need to review current Guild fundraising initiatives. They formed a Fundraising Committee that included Julie Bohannon (Guild Board representative), Lois Mitchum, Dee Stritof, Bev Wick, Linda Ertel (committee chair), and Deb Evans (ex-officio member). This new committee was charged with identifying and assessing existing fundraising programs and creating a process/tool kit allowing new programs to replicate current successes by developing guidelines or standards for existing programs. The committee completed its work in fall 2013 with the following results.

The group contacted dozens of Guild volunteers for information about existing activities and identified several successful projects that could serve as model programs. For each of these activities, the committee included suggestions and concerns, and they made a strong case for marketing resources.

They identified two different successful fundraising programs as models for future initiatives — one for products and another for activities. For each of these successful projects, the committee identified a mentor willing to provide plans and guidance based on their experience with the growth of each of their respective projects.

Fundraising Product Model – Evergreens – Bev Wick, mentor

Fundraising Activity Model – Basket Luncheon – Sandy Paukner, silent auction

The process has also begun for developing support for two other fundraising projects with the goals to share some of the work load of the Guild office, add to greater Guild participation, and increase the success of each project.

Pecan Project – Lois Mitchum, coordinator

Homecoming Kringle – Julie Thomas, coordinator

Finally, the Fundraising Committee also developed key components of a Guild Fundraising Tool Kit which include: Check List for Proposed Guild Fundraisers, Qualities of a Successful Guild Fundraiser, and a Guild Fundraising Project Plan (formerly known as a Member Originated Activity Project Proposal). These tools will be available soon on the Guild website.

If you are interested in learning more about planning or participating in a Guild fundraiser, please contact the Guild office for more information.

Prayer for the Guild

This prayer was shared with members for the Guild Day of Prayer on April 13, 2013. Please continue to pray for the mission of the Guild, its members, and – most importantly – the students and mission of Valparaiso University.

Guild Day of Prayer 2013

Dear Lord, in whose Light we see Light, thank you for the rich blessings you bestow on your people. Thank you especially for the men and women who serve Valparaiso University and the University Guild as they support Valpo students.

We ask you to direct and strengthen us to walk with you in faith. Help us to pursue scholarship, not as an end in itself, but as a way to learn about your world and serve your people. Help us to stand for freedom, as your Son, Jesus Christ, died and rose again so that we might be free from sin and freed to love our neighbors. Most of all, we thank you for the gift of faith, which daily guides and sustains us.

We ask that you bless the efforts of the Guild in the year ahead. Grant Guild members and leaders wisdom to lead effectively, strength to support one another in love, and steadfastness in our efforts to serve the students of Valparaiso University with our prayers, time and talents.

In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY

University Guild

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The Guild enhances the student experience while exemplifying the University's ideals of scholarship, freedom, and faith.

Guild Office

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