

Winter 2007

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Valparaiso University Guild

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Welcome Home!

There is a time when a student begins to call Valpo *home*. It happens casually—perhaps at the end of a break—when the student tells his or her parents, “I’ll call you when I get home.” Home means back to Valpo.

Guild members strive to make Valparaiso University feel like home by providing for its students. The Guild adds warmth where students relax, such as in the comfy new furniture in the Center for the Arts lobby or by the fireplace in the Christopher Center reading room.

Students love homemade cakes delivered on a birthday or a care package arriving to satisfy the hunger induced while studying into the wee hours of the night. This tender, loving care cannot be underestimated.

In October Guild members *came home* to greet one another at a Guild reception to kick off Homecoming. The next day, while the crowd cheered the home team, members from Oklahoma to North Carolina worked together in the Guild’s football concessions stand. Guild-Memorial Hall residents welcomed members to their home to preview the courtyard landscaping funded in part by the Guild.

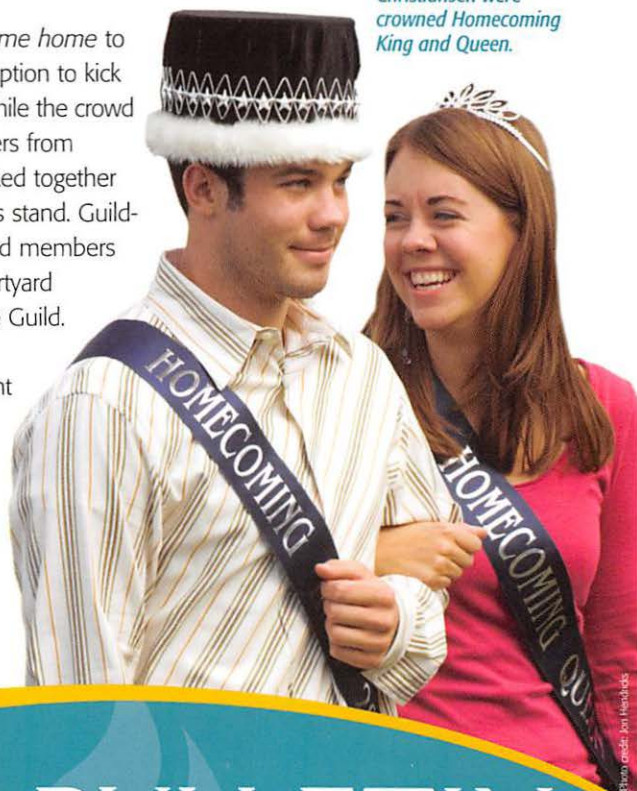
Being on campus and seeing first-hand the “home improvement projects” funded by the Guild reinforces why the group is needed. It is a collective effort, from members working together in every corner of the nation and a few beyond US borders, that results in Valpo students feeling more at home. ♦



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Ben Nice and Rachel Christiansen were crowned Homecoming King and Queen.



GUILD BULLETIN

WINTER 2007 • Volume 78 | Issue 2

With One Voice

by Julie Thomas



Photo credit: Alan Kessler

With all the talk about change within the Guild, perhaps it is time to talk about what remains the same.

- The Guild promotes Valparaiso University as

we exemplify the University's ideals.

- We support Valpo students' needs by enhancing the student experience.
- We serve as a national network of volunteers who passionately care about the University.

Groups of members, whether connected by local geography or a common interest, continue to fundraise together, serve together, and socialize with each other. Guild members support each other and provide a safe place to develop leadership skills and friendships.

The door to serving Valparaiso University through the Guild continues to be open to anyone whether they have a direct affiliation with Valpo (as a graduate or parent) or they willingly support our cause without ever setting foot on campus.

Our support continues to take shape in the scholarships the Guild provides to undergraduates.

The support expands by providing more grants to campus departments and student organizations as we have done since the 1930s through the Guild Special and the Guild Calendar funds. We will now provide more funding to immediate needs through the Guild Campus Gift grants.

Now is the time to remain optimistic, innovative, and faithful as we enter a new era. The Guild continues to be alive and full of spirit. This will not change. ✨

UNIVERSITY NEWS

Applications for the **Guild Scholarships** are due. Applicants need only apply once to be considered for all awards that they are eligible while attending Valpo.

Under the direction of Dr. Christopher M. Cock, the **University Chorale** will tour in Germany from March 5–18, 2007. This 48-voice ensemble is selected by competitive audition.

Valpo's final appearance in the **Mid-Con Conference Basketball Tournament** will take place in Tulsa, OK. The tournament runs from March 3–6, 2007.

Valparaiso University offers more than **70 fields of study** in its five colleges, graduate division and law school.

Valpo fans can **purchase apparel and gifts** (and gift cards) online through the University Book Center's webpage (www.valpo.bkstr.com).

VU's sororities and fraternities support a strong tradition of service to the campus and Valparaiso community. During the 2005–2006 academic year, Valpo's **Greek organizations** contributed over 18,500 hours of service and raised \$24,686 for charities.

The Current "National Project"

GOAL: \$1 million endowment by 2010

After years of working project to project, Guild members have chosen to invest in a Guild Endowment Fund. Endowment funds function similarly to savings accounts. Some of the earnings are available for spending and the other portion is reinvested.

This decision demonstrates the Guild's commitment to good stewardship. Funding national projects forced the Guild to drain its accounts annually, putting all that was raised toward completing the project commitment. With an endowment the Guild will spend funds to serve its mission while also reserving funds for the future.

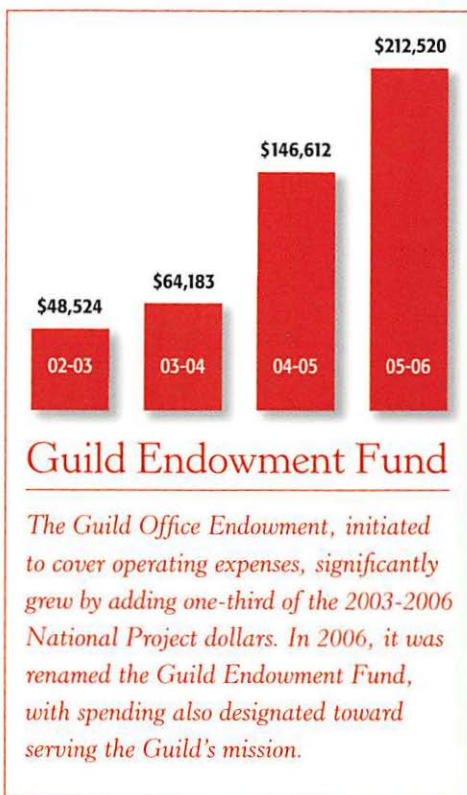
As the endowment grows, the Guild will be able to better enhance the student experience. When the Guild Endowment Fund reaches \$1 million, a goal that has been set by national leaders to be reached by 2010, the Guild will be contributing at least \$50,000 annually to the University.

"It will take time and generosity to grow the endowment to the point where it exceeds what the Guild had been giving Valpo annually," said Julie Thomas, Guild Director. "Yet we can imagine the Guild Endowment at \$10 million allowing the Guild to give \$500,000 annually—an amount much greater than the Guild could have done previously."

The endowment will grow through membership contributions, matching funds, fundraising, estate gifts and its interest.

"Some members have expressed concern that the contribution to qualify for membership increased, yet that is necessary to ensure that the Guild will have enough income to both grow the endowment and meet operating costs." Thomas added, "Generous contributions bolster this fund to meet student needs today while securing our support tomorrow."

The success of the Cookbook Scholarship Endowment illustrates this concept. By investing cookbook proceeds into an endowment, funds will be available for the cookbook



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scholarship—even though the Guild no longer sells cookbooks. The Cookbook Scholarship Endowment has grown to provide \$40,000 in scholarships annually. Had the proceeds been deposited into a checking account, there would no longer be any funds to award scholarships.

All of the Guild's endowments are managed by the University. A fund agreement ensures that funds from Guild endowments are distributed appropriately. The Guild Endowment Fund agreement specifies that spending may be allocated to Guild Campus Gift grants (which members choose), and that the Guild endowment may cover operating expenses so the University can receive the Guild's benevolence without expense.

"Growing the endowment is a priority for the University. I'm thankful that members accepted this shift in how we can support Valpo," said Thomas. "Designating a national project was right for the Guild's first 75 years, but the Guild Endowment Fund will perpetually ensure the Guild's contribution to Valparaiso University's success." ✨

Prayerbook Provides Spiritual Well-being by Erik Wieglos

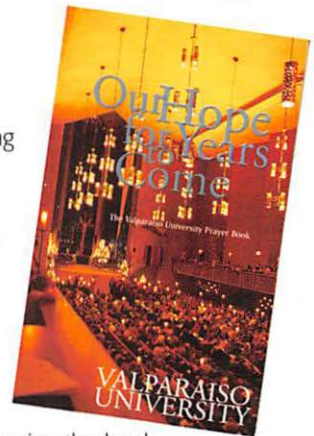
This academic year marks the fifth anniversary of *Our Hope for Years to Come*, also known as the Valpo Prayer Book. All incoming students receive *Our Hope for Years to Come*, making it one of the most recognizable publications on campus.

Joseph Cunningham, Dean of the Chapel, feels it offers "a forum for exposing students and others to the vast expression of faith known and heard throughout the years of VU as a Christian university." Many of the prayers and devotions in the book come from well-known leaders of Valparaiso University, including several homilies that were given in the Chapel.

One characteristic of the book is its ability to harmonize spiritual teachings with life on campus. For instance, a student using the book to seek spiritual support during Lent will also find readings recognizing the dreary weather in Valparaiso, IN during that time of year.

One freshman, Geoff Shorts of Pine Bluff, AR, describes the book as a "personal church service." He foresees using the book to have a personal devotional session. The book will provide suggested meditations, songs and Bible verses. This is one of the intents of the book's editors, Gail Eifrig and Frederick Niedner. They sought to offer the book as a spiritual guide through the complex journey of college.

A second edition prayer book is expected to be published as part of the University's 150th celebration. The Guild will provide the funding for the second edition using a reserve left from the 2001 project to fund *Our Hope for Years to Come*. ✨



MEET A MEMBER



Rebecca Otte

- > *Home: Metairie, LA*
- > *Her parents are Greg and Brenda Otte, VU grads from the 60s*
- > *Valpo Connection: 1995 graduate; grandmother and mother are Guild members*
- > *Member of Guild since: approximately 1996*

Rebecca's Peace Corp experience as a water and sanitation volunteer in West Africa eventually led to her current profession with the Environmental Planning and the Regional Planning Commission for the New Orleans metropolitan area. She is one of the many restoring New Orleans since the 2005 tumultuous hurricane season.

Despite a busy life, Rebecca has still managed to stay involved with the Guild in Orange County, New Orleans and through Four Winds. Because of her constant traveling, the decision to reformat the Guild is one that Rebecca is excited to experience saying, "For people like me who move, I much prefer the centralized Guild."

She remains active because she is proud of the women who work toward bettering VU and knows the Guild is a great organization.

- > *Read more about Rebecca at www.valpo.edu/guild*

Fundraising Ideas

Members seeking to fundraise to further strengthen the Guild Endowment Fund may consider the following ideas. Please share other fundraising options with the Guild office.

The **Longaberger Company** is America's premier maker of handcrafted baskets and offers pottery, wrought iron, fabric accessories and specialty foods. The company offers a fundraising form featuring 50 popular products. The Guild will receive 20% of the total product sales when using this form. Individual home consultants will work with groups seeking to host a Longaberger fundraiser using the form or ordering from the Wishlist.

Guild members may contact Bonnie Ornat (574-259-0559 or bonsbks@aol.com) for details. Guild members may also place orders directly with Bonnie who will donate 20% of product sales to the Guild.

Working with a local **Max & Erma's restaurant** in Middleburg Heights, OH, Georgiana Neumann raised both awareness about the Valparaiso University Guild and funds for the Guild Endowment. Max & Erma's provides flyers that individuals distribute (to co-workers, neighbors, and friends). On the chosen day, diners present the flyer to their server. Twenty percent of the food and beverage total is given to the Guild. Certain conditions apply, such as no weekend or holiday events.

Members in the Battle Creek, MI area clip and collect UPC symbols from **Spartan brand products** earning 2¢ per label. Spartan Stores, based in Grand Rapids, MI, owns and operates 87 supermarkets and drugstores in Michigan and Ohio under the D&W Fresh Markets, Family Fare Supermarkets, Glen's Markets, and The Pharm banners. Everyone is welcome to send labels to Evelyn Simpson (5359 Glenn Valley Dr. Apt. 1-A, Battle Creek, MI 49015) for processing. ✨

Guild Grants Benefit Students

For the first time in its history, all Guild members had the opportunity to select the recipients of the Guild's grants. Nearly 450 votes were cast which is four times the number cast during recent convention votes.

Funding grants furthers the Guild's commitment to meeting the students' most immediate unfunded needs. By putting the selection into the hands of the members, members have more ownership in how the Guild's funds are being allocated.

From the 24 proposals, the Guild funded seven.

With the Guild grant, an additional student will attend a **College of Nursing mission trip** to Central America. Janet Brown, Dean of the Nursing College, thanked the Guild stating that, "Students participating in the Spring Break trip will be excellent representatives of the University."

Another group that has been granted the opportunity to use skills in the real world is **Engineers Without Borders**. This is the third Guild Campus Gift grant they have received. The first two assisted in sending groups to build a well in Kenya. This year's grant will provide funding for one supervisor and one student to scout out the area of their next project. Indirectly, Guild support affords students life-changing opportunities to apply their knowledge.

Information Technology received funds to train staff to use the Windows for Eyes Program. This training equips staff to better assist students with visual impairments and those who are aural learners.

Grant funds also provide necessary equipment and furnishings. The **Health Center** will make renovations to the building and purchase thermometers. The Valparaiso University Center for the



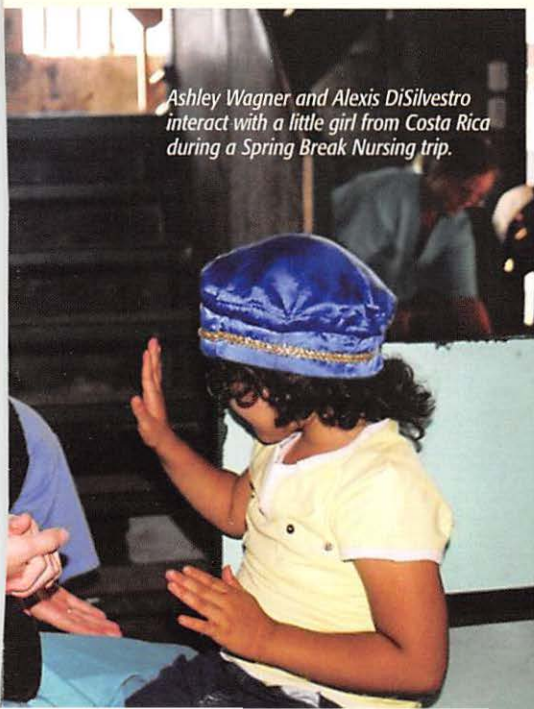
Arts will complete the purchase of new furniture for the Guild Lobby-Commons.

The Athletics Department will purchase an automated external defibrillator.

"This equipment saves lives and we are excited that we will now have five units throughout our facilities," says Rin Siebert, Assistant Director of Athletics for Recreational Sports.

In total, the Guild awarded \$20,750—over 30% of what was requested. Guild Board of Directors members Michele Karpenko and Dee Stritof had the opportunity to present the recipients with the grants. "It was so inspiring to personally present these grants to their respective recipients, hear their stories and experience their excitement and sincere appreciation. I wish every Guild member could have this same sense of how much these grants mean to faculty and students," Karpenko said.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE >>



Ashley Wagner and Alexis DiSilvestro interact with a little girl from Costa Rica during a Spring Break Nursing trip.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO...?

Past Guild grants have funded sewing machines for residence halls, typewriters and even a modem. When these were requested, the Guild was providing cutting edge necessities. Over time, many Guild gifts either went out of use, out of style or beyond repair. That admitted, some grants had more staying power and still enhance the student experience.

International Flags – Funded in the mid 1990s, over 50 of the world's nations were represented by their flags hanging in the first floor lobby of the Union. The full size flags highlight diversity and acknowledge many cultures. According to Union Director, Larry Mosher, the flags are to be taken to the site of the new Union.

Life/Form Auscultation Trainer & Smartscope – Fondly called Donald Trunk by College of Nursing students, this equipment, granted in 2000, gives the Virtual Nursing Learning Center a training device to differentiate between normal and abnormal heart rhythms and lung functions. According to Elizabeth Olejniczak, Director of the VNL, "This type of equipment allows students to practice both hands-on technique of placement of the stethoscope on the human chest and upper back as well as auditory refinement of both normal and abnormal sounds."



Sophomore Nursing student, Joel Koch, using a stethoscope on "Donald." This device, called a partial trainer mannequin, mimics the normal and abnormal sounds of the human heart.

While mattresses for Lembke Hall and Crusaderettes' costumes have been long discarded, it is comforting to know that the Guild rose to the occasion of meeting Valparaiso University's needs, and still does.

For a complete listing of all Guild Specials funded between 1934-2006, please visit www.valpo.edu/guild.

FEATURE STORY: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

The 2006 grants were funded through the 2003-2006 National Project. The amount funded for grants will increase as the Guild Endowment Fund grows.

Guild members may encourage campus departments and student organizations to apply for grants this spring. Applications are due March 23. As with the Guild Special and Calendar grants that were given in the past, all campus departments and student organizations may apply. ✨



Members Michele Karpenko and Dee Stritof present Jen Gregory with a grant to offer training for the Windows for Eyes program.

GUILD SPECIAL GRANTS FINISH STRONG

In its final Guild Special vote, members who attended the 75th Convention voted to fund three proposals, totaling \$1,885.

The Counseling Center received \$310 to purchase video recording equipment. Counseling sessions that are recorded are used to train psychotherapists. The new equipment will be up-to-date and less distracting.

To assist students with making career decisions, the Career Center received \$775 to acquire Sigi 3, a computer-assisted career guidance system. Students will be able to access career information 24 hours a day.

Tutors in the Writing Center were awarded \$800 to attend a National Writing Conference. The conference will provide training to improve the peer-to-peer tutoring that assists approximately 400 Valpo students within an academic year.

The Guild Special was initiated in the 1930s when each chapter funded a tree. It was funded through each chapter making a contribution.

NEW GUILD LEADERSHIP

2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ONE-YEAR TERM

Jennifer Campbell, Christine DeLooze,
Dee Stritof

TWO-YEAR TERM

Candace Kilpinen, Lois Mitchum,
Kristy Paukner

THREE-YEAR TERM

Linda Deal, Jackie Jungemann,
Sue Steinbruecker

Send the 2007 Board of Directors
comments at guild.team@valpo.edu.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Brenda Alexander
Decatur, IN

Joyce Barr
Ft. Smith, AR

Julie Bohannon
North Salem, IN

Christina Bru
San Ramon, CA

Bev Chapin
Danville, CA

Elle Gaulke
Sarasota, FL

Elizabeth Gehle
Davenport, IA

Janene Gordon
Byron, CA

Jan Hillmer
Tampa, FL

Mary Iffrig-Cooper
Valparaiso, IN

Donna Lynch
Naperville, IL

Ruth McConnell
Palatine, IL

Ani Miller
Shorline, WA

Andrea Mulzer
Santa Claus, IN

Linda Roettger
Marblehead, MA

Audrey Romberg
Menomonee Falls, WI

Margaret Schumaker
Chicago, IL

Rusty Seltz
Valparaiso, IN

Rick Thomas
Whiting, IN

Jill Wilson
Chesterton, IN

Linda Winkler
Montgomery, AL



Guild Hosts First Online Meeting

Guild to Fund Union's Main Dining Stage

During the Guild's first "online meeting" it was announced that the Guild's \$89,000 contribution toward the new University Union would fund the Main Dining Stage. The 2006 Guild Board of Directors made this decision at their October board meeting.

The stage will be located in the main dining area. It will bring the coffeehouse atmosphere found in cafes to campus. The space is large enough for a small acoustical group yet intimate enough for a single performer. For special occasions (think NCAA bracket announcement!) and major news events, a wide-screen TV can be viewed from the stage.

Larry Mosher, Director of the Union, presented renderings and details on the plans for the Union during the online meeting. Members from across the country had an opportunity to make comments or ask questions at the end of the meeting. ✨



(From Top): Entry to the building from the west; Dining Room; and Lobby.

Charitable Giving Opportunity

Tax-free gifts to the Guild Endowment Fund may now be made from IRA accounts. New tax legislation allows IRA owners to make tax-free distributions of up to \$100,000 per individual directly to a charity until December 31, 2007. This applies to individuals 70 1/2 years or older (at the time of the gift) who are required to take minimum distributions.

This new law provides a simple and convenient method of converting the required distribution into a charitable gift while avoiding having to pay income tax on the IRA withdrawal. Please note that this gift is not eligible for an additional charitable deduction. This law is only in effect until the end of 2007.

The IRA plan administrator will distribute the funds directly to a charity, possibly without the individual's name on the check. Please let Valpo know if you plan to take advantage of this option so we can ensure your gift is designated to the correct fund. Learn more at www.valpo.edu/givetovu/hr4/ ✨



In Thy Light

I awoke one morning to an unusually cold day in North Texas, and soon something seemingly miraculous began — snow! When you haven't seen snow in almost 10 years, it's an exciting event, recalling days of making snow angels, sledding, wet clothes, hot chocolate, and the crisp scent of the snow itself. I remember how I loved to go outside and just smell and feel the snow, loving the look of how it glimmered under the street lights and sparkled under the sun.

The sheer loveliness of a fresh snow can take your breath away. It falls from the heavens with such serene yet powerful beauty, making all things new. I walked outside into the small woods by my house and let myself be surrounded and covered by this pure and beautiful white gift, and I was overwhelmed with thoughts of all the extraordinary gifts God gives each one of us. I felt like I was experiencing a renewal of my baptism, when another form of water covered my head.

God comes to us in many ways...through prayer, worship, His word, friends, people we meet, acts of kindness, our work, the beauty of nature, and yes, even through snow. I suppose those of us who get to experience an excess of this gift of God may not wax as lyrically, but try letting it remind you of all God gives us, of his presence in our lives, and of the fresh clean start he offers us each day.

So the next time you feel fresh snow falling on your face, take time to thank God for his gifts, for his making all things new, and for a future of constant rebirth. And think of God's greatest gift of all, Jesus Himself. ✨

Julane Swank (VU '68) serves as the Associate Organist/Choirmaster at an Episcopal church in the Dallas, TX area. She has been a Guild member since the early 1990s.



A ceremonial blessing of project to construct new Union took place on November 3, 2006.

Guild Committees

The 2007 Guild Board of Directors has appointed the following standing committee chairs.

Audit: Judy Mason, Chicago, IL

Bylaws: Barb Meyer, Greendale, WI

A Nominating Committee has been appointed to identify candidates to serve on the Guild Board from 2008-2010.

This committee includes:

Jackie Jungemann, Aurora, IL

Leslie Paul, San Diego, CA

Kathy Sauer, Whitefish Bay, WI

MEET A MEMBER



Martha Hessler

- > Home: Westlake, OH
- > Family: husband, graduate of VU Law School; 4 children, all VU grads
- > Valpo Connection: 1965 graduate
- > Member of Guild since: 1982

A born teacher, Martha graduated from Valparaiso majoring in biology and education, and further pursued her studies in graduate school where she focused on arts and liberal studies.

Martha's mother was involved in the Guild, so when Martha received a postcard saying that a new chapter was being reorganized in Cleveland, OH, in she jumped. She became the chapter's treasurer and held that position until 2006.

"I've always tried to think of ways to raise money for the Guild," said Martha, noting her participation in selling fruit-cake, cards, dried flowers and soup. Recognizing that organizations need to evolve, she said, "I think [the Guild] needs a new, fresh outlook—a new start, and I think that's exciting."

Her service to her community and to the Guild has been extraordinary. She has no plans to stop her involvement any time soon.

- > Read more about Martha at www.valpo.edu/guild

Upcoming Events

Contact the Guild office at 1-800-748-4538 for more information on any of these events.

March 3–18 – Spring Break

March 15 – Book Discussion of *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom, 7:00 pm, South Bend, IN. Contact Bonnie Ornat, 574-259-0559.

March 15 – Board of Directors Nominations Due

March 16 – Tampa-St. Petersburg, FL area members will attend a performance of *My Fair Lady*, 8:00 pm, Largo Cultural Center. Contact Marian Haupt, 727-725-4647.

March 24 – Milwaukee Basket Auction and Luncheon, 11:00 am, Luther Manor (4545 N. 92nd St., Wauwatosa). Tickets are \$15 and must be purchased in advance. Contact Pat Maile, 414-871-9762

April 13 – Guild Day of Prayer

May 4–6 – Christian Women's Conference, on campus

May 6 – Guild Annual Meeting, on campus

May 10–15 – Final Exams

May 20 – Commencement

October 5–7 – Homecoming, on campus

October 19–21 – Family Weekend, on campus



ERIK'S BLOG

Interested in hearing more about the happenings of a typical Valpo student? Visit Erik's Blog at www.valpo.edu/guild.

ON TOWARD LOVE

A Christian Women's Conference

Registration brochures for the Guild's fourth Christian Women's Conference were mailed in January. Jan Struck (VU '66) will be the keynote speaker for this event which takes place on campus May 4-6, 2007. Breakout sessions include:



SERVICE TRACK

- Serving & Shining beyond the Usual (Becky Glenn)
- What If the Answer Had Been NO – Making Miracles Happen! (Elizabeth Gingerich/Lois Reiner)
- Encouraging Others through Hospitality (Raeann Kusch)

WELL-BEING TRACK

- Sabbath Keeping: God's 24/1 for Our 24/7 Lives (Peg Otte)
- Wholly Living: Mark 12 Health Challenge (Chris Eid)
- Growing in Your Affection for Christ and Others through Spiritual Journaling (Faye Hill Thompson)

GIFTS OF GOD TRACK

- Asset Mapping – There's More to Work Than You Think (Jill Schumann)
- Gospel Kills in a Legalistic World (Carolyn Schoenborn)
- The Gift of Leadership (Mary Hilgendorf)

NEW CHALLENGES TRACK

- There is No Such Thing as a Secular World (Jane Kunzie Brunner)
- The Heart of the Mother – Taking Back the Family (Sara Grivas)
- Yearning Souls and Lost Gospels: Challenges to Love within the "Faith We Profess" (Lisa Driver)

2006 Guild Board, guild.team@valpo.edu
Julie Thomas, *Director*
Joanna Bender '07, Jill Lyons '08,
Erik Wielgos '07, *Interns*
K Creative Group, Chicago, IL, *Design*

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VU GUILD



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1100 Campus Drive South
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