



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Year-in-Review1 – 2

Volunteer/Service Sign-Up... 1

Save-the-Dates Calendar 2

Newsletter Name Contest.... 2

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2015 – Please send any ideas to OSUWestMI@aol.com – local neighborhood gatherings, Brew Tour, Euchre Night, Wine Tasting to help get us through to the end of winter. Weekend OSU B'ball games will usually find some Buckeyes at BWW.

March 7 – 6:00 pm - Sweet Suite at the Schott for OSU Men's Hockey vs. Minnesota – FREE Tickets as a Scholarship Fund Raiser. Details at: <http://www.wmibucks.com/>

March 8 – 5:00 pm - OSU vs. Wisc-Last regular-season B'ball game – tickets are still available – online or call OSU Ticket Office.

April TBD – Annual Spring Dinner – look for email with information as details are finalized.

June 28 – 12th Annual Golf Outing – The Committee is already working on this – possibly trying a new course this year. Registration / Sponsorship details will be emailed.

2014 - Year in Review: By Season, Numbers & FUN

Happy New Year and Happy National Champions from The OSU Alumni Club of West Michigan. We hope the past year has been as enjoyable for your family as it has been for our local Alumni Club. The summary below is a reminder of all that we have accomplished together and the many diverse opportunities our Club provides for your participation. None of these activities are possible without your support, and we look forward to seeing even more of our membership becoming involved in 2015.

Comaraderie & Engagement

Winter: Over 120 people enjoyed OSU B'ball Game Watches & 32 were present for 2014 Orange Bowl Football Game Watch. 16 people enjoyed Free OSU Hockey Tickets at the "Sweet Suite at The Schott" Scholarship Event.

21 people attended Buckeye Bash at The Blackwell & the OSU-MSU Final Regular-Season Men's B'ball Game.

Spring: 47 attended our Annual Spring Dinner at Stonewater Country Club – and were treated to Jack Park's amazing & fun knowledge of OSU Football History & Trivia.

Summer: We received OSUAA Invite to assist at Buckeye Bash at MSU Football game along with 70 available Game Tickets!

64 Golfers, 10 Volunteers and 3 Very Important Buckeye Football players enjoyed our 11th Annual Golf Outing.

10 FREE Tickets provided to Club Members for a Columbus band playing at The Intersection in GR.

55, including 3 First-Year Students & family, one Upperclassman and family attended Annual Summer Picnic – The Club provided the main dish and beverages.

BWW's Private Back-Room with Audio AND Sound was secured as Game Watch Location. A Game-Watch RSVP Link was initiated.

Fall: 612 West MI Buckeyes enjoyed 13 Game Watches at BWW, with 65 at The Sugar Bowl Game Watch & 74 at The National Championship Game Watch & 15 at Kalamazoo GW.

6 Members participated in The OSU Book Community – reading and discussing online, The Glass Castle, the same book that ALL First-Year OSU students read this year.

28 Club Members purchased Va. Tech Game Tickets.
30 Club Members purchased Cincinnati Game Tickets.



Over 70 Buckeyes enjoyed watching the Buckeyes win The College Football Playoff National Championship Game at BWW on January 12th.

15 Club Members purchased Away Maryland Game Tickets.
33 Club Members purchased Illinois Game Tickets.
64 Club Members purchased MSU Bash & Game Tickets.
Group-Ticket Request for Men's B'ball Tickets was submitted.
72 attended the new Beat Michigan - S Bash at Noto's. A "Three-Decade Trifecta" of former Buckeye Football Players, Sonny Gordon, Dick Wakefield and Cornelius Green busted our brains with Buckeye Trivia in a Team Competition!

Communication & Feedback

Year-Round: Weekly (as needed) Email Blasts, FaceBook & LinkedIn postings used to keep List Serve updated on all Club Activities and Events.

Spring: Post-Football Season Game Watch Survey sent. OSUAA Pelotonia Info sent in email.

2 Football Group-Ticket Requests Submitted to OSUAA (later increased to a total of 5 games for our Buckeyes in 2014).

Winter: OSU Bowl Game Ticket Info emailed to List Serve.

Join other Buckeyes in Giving Back and Paying Forward.

There are so many of us Buckeyes here in West Michigan – each with our own important beliefs and ways of Giving Back and Paying Forward. Perhaps you volunteer / organize or participate in any of the Charitable Walks/Races or Community Events here in West Michigan or elsewhere. Now you can easily volunteer / recruit other Buckeyes in Columbus, around the nation or more importantly, RIGHT HERE IN WEST MICHIGAN via the new OSU Office of Volunteer Relations. From ushering at the Wexner Center for the Arts to online career mentoring, to supporting your fellow Buckeyes here in West Michigan, you can learn about volunteer opportunities through the one-stop shop.

At <https://ohiostate.volunteermatch.org/> you'll find a wide variety of opportunities searchable by keyword, location, or Ohio State department. Opportunities are available in Columbus, across Ohio, nationally and virtually. Some volunteer opportunities are ongoing and others are one-time commitments. New opportunities will be posted regularly, so create an account and sign up for opportunity alerts based on your interests. Community members, fans and friends, as well as alumni, retirees, faculty and staff are welcome and encouraged to get involved with Ohio State.

Create an account, set up email alerts based on your interests and track your hours.

The OSU Alumni Club of West MI will use the New Volunteer Match Link – described on the right. We want to help promote the many Service & Volunteer opportunities in which so many of us are already involved here in West Michigan. Please submit your Activity to Liz at: lmcollver14@gmail.com Once we have received approval from OSUAA, you will be notified and we will post the link for your event in an email-blast and on our website

The Student Connection

Winter: 80 local OSU-Accepted students were contacted with our Club's Scholarship Information.

3 Bd. Members conducted 15 Skype Scholarship Interviews. Rankings were sent to OSUAA.

Bd. Members sent postcards to OSU-Accepted local students who had not yet paid OSU Acceptance Fee.

A Summer Chemistry Internship offered by Bd. Member.

Summer: OSUAA sent Picnic Invite to 33 First-Year Students & Families. Club also sent a Welcome Letter.

Mentor Program Letter & Intro of New Chairperson sent to the 33 First-Year OSU students from West MI. So far, we have 3 Alumni / Student Pairings.

A new Facebook Page was created just for our students.

The Club sent a Congrats Letter & Picnic Invite to all returning Upperclassmen.

Fall: 7 Bd. Members, representing OSU, hosted 4 College Fairs in Muskegon, Holland, Fremont and Grand Rapids.

\$3,800.00 from Raffles, Golf Outing, 50/50's moved to our Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Administrative – West MI & Columbus

Winter: Group Tax Filing submitted to OSUAA by Club Treasurer.

1 Bd. Member attended an OSUAA Branding Webinar—see new Logo in this Newsletter.

4 NEW Bd. Members attended February Bd. Meeting.

Spring: Officer Elections and Constitution Approved at Spring Dinner.

Club's Approved Constitution was sent to OSUAA. Attendance #'s, Officer/Bd. Rosters & Bd. Meeting Minutes are regularly sent to OSUAA.

Summer: Outstanding Alumni Club Criteria Worksheet sent to OSUAA.

Fall: 1 Bd. Member attended The OSUAA Alumni Leadership Symposium in Columbus and our Club was recognized as a **2014 Outstanding OSU Alumni Club!!**

Board Meeting held in October.

Winter: 2 Bd. Members attended OSUAA Volunteer Relations Webinar (see article on pg. 1)

Community Service

Winter: 3 tubs of Members' ABCD Buckeye Clothing donated in Columbus.

Spring: 5 Buckeyes participated in Grand River GreenUp.

Summer: Donations were solicited & a \$200 Contribution made to OSU Music Dept. Scholarship Fund in Memory of deceased former Club President.

Fall / Winter: 50 Hand-Made Greeting Cards were made by Game Watch attendees & \$300 of Wish List Items were collected at Game Watches for The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans and delivered by 4 Club Members.

6 Club Members volunteered at Telethon for WGVU Public Television.

Members & Membership

Spring: Membership Blitz email for Club Dues & OSUAA Sustaining Membership Contributions to Scholarship Fund - especially for Football Ticket Eligibility.

Summer: Mentor Program Letter & Intro of New Chairperson sent to our ListServe seeking Buckeye Mentors to be paired with our OSU Students.

Winter: List Serve was emailed info about "Giving Tuesday", as a reminder that Club Dues & OSUAA Sustaining Contribution could be sent to Scholarship Fund.



Our 3 Very Important Buckeyes – Cornelius Green, Dick Wakefield and Sonny Gordon at the NEW Beat M- ighigan – S Bash at Noto's .

2015 Save-the-Dates & Let's Add Some Dates

A Tentative "Work in Progress"

Calendar of Events

Your help is requested to fill-in the New Events. Please send your ideas for New Events in which our Club can participate: Local Gatherings, Tours, Comm. Service etc...

February – Group Football Ticket Application received
Make sure OSUAA and W MI Club Dues are current !!
February 13 - Scholarship Applications Due:
<http://www.wmibucks.com/osu-alumni-club-of-west-michigan-scholars-program>

March 7 – Sweet Suite at the Schott for OSU Men's Hockey vs. Minnesota – FREE Tickets as a Scholarship Fund Raiser. Details at: <http://www.wmibucks.com/>
March 8 - OSU vs. Wisc-Last regular-season B'ball game
March ? – New Event?

April TBD – Annual Spring Dinner
April – New Event?

May – Bucks Supporting Grand Rapids 5th 3rd Bank Run
May ? – New Event?

June 28 – 12th Annual Golf Outing
June ? – New Event?

July – Annual Summer Family Picnic & Student Send-Off
July ? – New Event?

August – Fenn Valley Winery Tour
August ? – New Event?

September – Football Season and Game Watches Begin. Watch for Group Ticket Details in Spring / Early Summer
September ? – New Event?

October 3 – Road Trip to Bloomington for Indiana Game
October ? – New Event?

November 16/17 – 2nd Annual Beat M- ighigan -S Bash
November ? – New Event?

December – WGVU Telethon



*Painting the Course Scarlet and Gray at the 11th Annual Golf Outing at Thornapple Pointe Golf Club.
75 Golfers and Volunteers enjoyed a great day of Buckeye Fun!*

Name the Newsletter Contest

Thank You for taking the time to read this "new" Newsletter of The OSU Alumni Club of West Michigan. We hope you will print it for future reference, mark your calendars with our listed dates of events, share your feedback about the Newsletter, possible future events and volunteer opportunities.

We also need a New Name for this New Newsletter. Please submit your idea(s) to OSUWestMI@aol.com. The Board will vote on the Top 5 and an online vote will be then be conducted. Winner will receive a National Championship Item!

Hopefully you see that we are trying to **reach out and engage an even larger of number of West Michigan Buckeyes in 2015.** We can't do it alone. We sadly lost 4 of our long-time Board Members in 2014. Many thanks to Mark Brattie, Dave Conrad, Becky Matlak & Don Williams for the MANY years that they served. Happily, 4 new members joined the Board in 2015. Thank you and Welcome to Liz Collver, Jim Jarvis, Amit Thakkar & Mark Vysocky. There are always more seats available at our table – so don't hesitate to volunteer in ANY way possible.

With thanks from the above mentioned Bd. Members and the rest of the Board: Sister Rosita Schiller, Lisa Baber, Sonny Gordon, Carolyn Hummel, Kristy Kieda, Dan LaVille, Rob Stefanowski, Barry and Donna Waters.

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