

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Chapter NEWS

"Published as a benefit to members of the Penn State Montgomery County Alumni Chapter."

PENN STATE Montgomery County Alumni Chapter P.O. Box 1031 Blue Bell, PA 19422

## WHY WE RELAY: RAISING AWARENESS

We Are . . . includes you too

The Montgomery County Chapter is once again pleased to announce its full participation in the annual flagship community service event of Relay for Life held at Upper Merion High School on May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

There is great reason to be excited about this event, as it gives alumni the opportunity to participate in a well-known local charity event. In addition, because of successful fund raising activities earlier in the year, Penn State

Alumni can participate for FREE, allowing us all to focus on the truly important aspects of Relay.

The Relay for life event guarantees that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten; that those who still face cancer today will be supported; and that strives for the day, in the not so distant future, in which all cancer will be cured.

Each year a handful of alumni come support the 24 hour event, but this year we are aiming to increase

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## IMPORTANCE OF GROWING OUR MEMBERSHIP

As always I would like to thank you for your support these past few months, and hope you were able to enjoy our recent events.



We had a great turn out for our 2 bowling events, as well as support at the finals for our NIT Champion Nittany Lion Basketball team.



Our goal this year is to substantially increase our active membership, as well as retain our current members. We want to make sure, as a member you are seeing the benefits while attending events. Members will be able to attend events at a lower cost than non-members

and in some cases will have first option to attend an event for free. We want to ensure that the perks of being a member of this Chapter are fulfilled.

This year we are also pushing for new graduates



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### Board of Directors

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- > Vice President  
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## COMMUNITY SERVICE: RELAY FOR LIFE (CONT.)

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the amount of participation. Specifically we are targeting alumni that don't normally make it out to community service events. As we all know, the Penn State Alumni Association is made up of literally hundreds of thousands of alumni. But even though the numbers are vast, it takes the individual to make the effort. That is why we are encouraging you to stop by Upper Merion High School at any time between 1:00 p.m. Friday and 1:00 p.m. Saturday.

**The most inspirational portion of the entire event is the luminaria; a half hour at dusk with the only**

**light in the entire stadium coming from hundreds of candles dedicated solely to honoring those that have passed away or are currently fighting cancer.** It reminds us all that cancer is ever present, that everyone knows at least someone that has been affected, and that something must be done to curb this disease.

As a participant for several years now, I can tell you first hand that spending time at Relay is one of the most rewarding experiences I take part in each year. Having a younger brother with cancer I know how important Relay for Life is in the fight against cancer. And being at Relay allows you to meet other

survivors and see the positive impact you have in making a difference in their lives.

Relay for Life is a team event that takes an individual effort, We Are counting on individuals like you to make the difference. Please check the website for available time slots, or contact me at



[community@psumontco.com](mailto:community@psumontco.com). I look forward to walking a lap with you at the end of May.

**Where:** Upper Merion High School, King of Prussia

**When:** May 29th 1pm to May 30th 1pm **Cost:** FREE

**Event Website:** <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=63404045758>

**To get involved:** [community@psumontco.com](mailto:community@psumontco.com)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we enter the upcoming spring and summer months, our Chapter Board is constantly planning new and exciting events for Penn State Alumni and friends in and around Montgomery County. You, as a current active chapter member, receive significant benefits and priorities in attending each of our scheduled outings.

This includes, but is not limited to, priority ticket purchasing for the annual sold out homecoming bus trip and football game, below cost discounts to most ticketed events, and even free admission to various social events such as our bowling competitions.

I encourage you all to maintain

your active memberships with the chapter by renewing your membership before its expiration date. By doing so, our website is set up to automatically give you a pre-expiration renewal discount rate.

By keeping an active membership and participating in our chapter events, you add important value to the PSU MontCo alumni network.

If you have any questions about membership benefits or renewals, please direct them to our membership chair George Conway, at [membership@psumontco.com](mailto:membership@psumontco.com). Up-to-date chapter events can be found at:

[www.psumontco.com/events.html](http://www.psumontco.com/events.html)

If there is anything that you would like to address in person concerning our Chapter, please feel free to contact me at (201) 981-7133 or by email at [president@psumontco.com](mailto:president@psumontco.com). I look forward to your distinctive thoughts and to the upcoming year filled with good times and great memories.

"For the Glory"

**Martin R. Cepeda,  
Jr. '05  
President  
PSU Montgomery County  
Alumni Association**



## Bringing Penn State Alumni and Business Professionals Together

Last fall, the Montgomery County Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association decided to form a new group to connect with alumni in the Montgomery County area. While the Chapter has always made substantial efforts to connect with businesses as part of Chapter events, we believed that there was even more that could be done. After some discussion with our membership and Board members, the Board decided to form the Business Alliance.

The Business Alliance is a group of Penn State alums who own businesses or who are “entrepreneurs” in their fields. The organization strives to bring these folks together in the hopes that our alums have the chance to network with each other in a professional atmosphere.

Currently, the Business Alliance has members in the field of real estate, concierge and catering services, business travel, law, financial planning, and marketing. The members primarily conduct business here in the County, but they also have business networks in the greater tri-state area and New York.

The Business Alliance typically meets once every month at the offices of Flamm, Boroff & Bacine, P.C. in Blue Bell. The group usually has guest speakers but also invites its members to “host” a meeting so that the members can learn more about that member’s business. The atmosphere is always a mix between formal and relaxed, and the members enjoy the cordial chance to exchange business cards and contact information.

“It’s been a great experience for me,” says John Baranauskas, a Chapter Board Member and member of the Business Alliance. “I’m always looking to network with Penn Staters because you know that our alums are always active and motivated. In the business world, that translates into a lot of energy and positive business contacts.” Mr. Baranauskas currently works in New York City as a financial advisor.

Nothing says “energy and positive business contacts” like the Business Alliance’s April guest speaker, Gene Kolber. Mr. Kolber, president of Kolber Marketing, spoke with the

Business Alliance about his Penn State stories and his storied career in business and the entertainment industry. Mr. Kolber, a longtime friend and business associate of Dick Clark, entertained the Business Alliance as well as gave the members valuable advice about seizing business opportunities and taking the time to think about developing opportunities where others may choose to pass.

If you are looking for a networking opportunity with fellow Penn Staters in the Montgomery County area, the Chapter recommends that you give serious consideration to the Business Alliance. The Business Alliance is currently making arrangements for a guest speaker in June as well as setting a meeting date and time. For more information, email Bob Krandel at [secretary@psumontco.com](mailto:secretary@psumontco.com).



## MEMBERSHIP: WE NEED YOU! (CONT.)

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and new arrivals to Montgomery County. Did someone new join your company

and is an Alumni? Bring to an event let them know there are a lot of other Penn Staters in the area. Did your Son, Daughter, Niece, Nephew, or old roommate just graduate? Let them know about the local Alumni Chapter, bring



them bowling or to a Happy Hour.

I hope this year we see a lot of returning members, as well as a lot of new faces. As always I am open for suggestions, comments, questions, etc. Feel free to contact me at [membership@psumontco.com](mailto:membership@psumontco.com).

## EDITOR’S MESSAGE

As you can see, it has already been a busy 2009. The summer calendar is full of events to satisfy alumni of all ages. Starting with our next issue in August, a new feature called Member Spotlight will be part of each issue showcasing articles written about or by our chapter members. If you are an alumni with a story to tell or know another alumni that we should write about please contact me at [newsletter@psumontco.com](mailto:newsletter@psumontco.com)

**Penn State Alumni  
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Montgomery County  
Chapter**

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**president@psumontco.com**

**Are you connected?  
[www.psumontco.com](http://www.psumontco.com)**

**Montgomery County Chapter**



## On Your Calendar

### **May 2009**

29-30 Relay for Life, Upper Merion High School, King of Prussia, 1pm Friday through 1pm Saturday. Come out and support our team!

### **June 2009**

4<sup>th</sup> Happy Hour at PJ Whelihan's in Blue Bell 6 to 8 PM. Drink specials and complimentary appetizers.

<http://www.pjspub.com/bluebell/index.htm>

13<sup>th</sup> Valley Forge Park Revitalization 8am to 3pm,

19<sup>th</sup> Chaddsford Winery-Summer Nights Under the Stars 6:30PM to 9:30PM. Wine Tasting & Jazz Concert Featuring Budesza Brothers and Denise King. Members \$17 All Others \$22

<http://www.chaddsfordwinery.com/>

### **July 2009**

8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts, State College, PA

18<sup>th</sup> Tubing on the Delaware River! River Country Tubing 2:00 PM \$20 per person - includes free hot dogs! Check the website for more details and to sign up.

23<sup>rd</sup> Penn State Night at Citizens Bank Ballpark with the Phillies vs. Padres with Dollar Dog night!

25<sup>th</sup> 11th Annual Penn State Alumni Beach Happy Hour, Northbeach Bar & Grill in Dewey Beach, Noon-5pm. [www.deweybeachlife.com](http://www.deweybeachlife.com) (Co-hosted by the Delaware & Metro DC Alumni Chapters)

### **August 2009**

6<sup>th</sup> Happy Hour at PJ Whelihan's in Blue Bell

9<sup>th</sup> Freshman Sendoff

13<sup>th</sup> Night of Miniature Golf at **Freddy Hill Farms** on Thursday, August 13th at 7:00 PM! Price is \$5.50 per person for Mini-Golf

<http://www.freddyhill.com/ffc/home.php>