

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

**A REASON TO CELEBRATE!**

Holiday parties are an annual tradition for lots of organizations, but most everyone is sure to clear their calendar for the Penn State Montgomery County Chapter celebration at The Great American Pub in Conshohocken, Pa.

This year's gathering on December 6th lived up to the reputation of years past. Members and their families caught up over a delicious dinner and cocktails, while raffle prizes such as a Joe Paterno signed football and various Penn State attire and gift cards, were bestowed upon the guests.

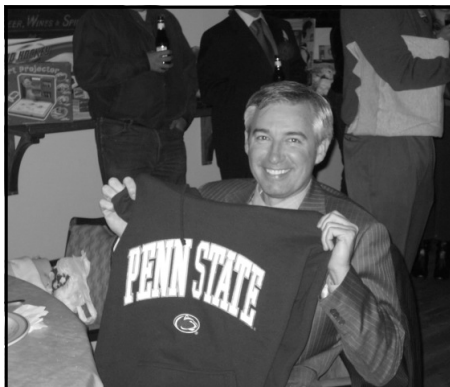


There was extra reason to celebrate, because of the generous donations made to Toys For Tots. A tremendous effort from members became a great achievement when representatives of the U.S. Marine Corps were able to take away bags upon bags of holiday presents for children in need.



**What a success!**

Clockwise (from top): 1. President Martin Cepeda announces the raffle prizes and winners. 2. Kevin Steele, has won a classic Penn State sweatshirt. 3. Members of the U.S. Marine Corps stop by to collect all of the Toys For Tots donations.



**CONGRATULATIONS: A WINNING WEBSITE**

At a recent Penn State awards ceremony, designated to honor volunteer organizations and individuals, PSU MontCo was recognized for its hard work to re-launch the chapter Web site. President Martin Cepeda and Vice-president Julie Diehl repre-

sented the organization to accept the 2007 Web Site award.

The chapter received the honor because according to the selection committee, "The site connects alumni through the membership database,

message boards, business advertising and more. It not only keeps area members informed, but it also helps in the outreach to other local alumni by informing them about chapter happenings and upcoming events. Since *(continued on page 2)*

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# IN THE NEWS...

## SOCIAL EVENTS

### Penn State Night at the Phillies Ball Park

Join fellow Penn State classmates, alumni and friends as we cheer on the Fightin' Phils to victory against the Chicago Cubs on Friday April 11, 2008 at 7:05 p.m. Sections 417-419 on the Terrace Deck will be reserved for Penn Staters, and all proceeds go to THON. Don't forget to wear your white! Visit <http://philadelphia.phillies.mlb.com/phi/ticketing/group/psu.jsp> to order tickets.

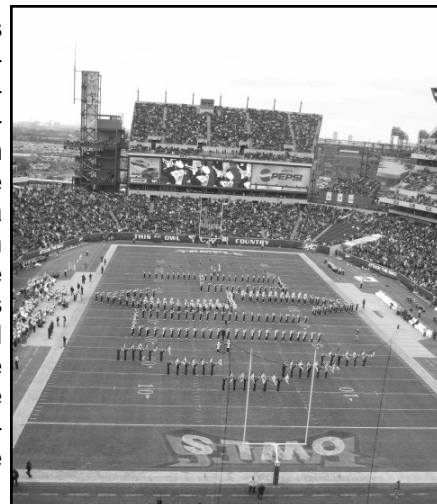
### Check the Web site for upcoming information on...

Chaddsford Winery Summer Nights Under the Stars Outdoor Concert Series

Freddy's Family Fun Center event with miniature golf, a driving range, batting cages and parties in Lansdale, Pa.

Monthly Happy Hours  
TV Tailgates

PSU MontCo is always planning new and exciting activities. Members recently congregated at events such as the day of free bowling at Facenda Whitaker Lanes on March 15, where more than 20 members played the lanes, and the tailgate for the Penn State v. Temple game held on November 10 to cheer on the football team.



## WEBSITE AWARD (CONT'D)

(continued from page 1)

launching the site, the chapter has seen its paid memberships increase by 42 percent. The chapter now can easily communicate through e-mail and newsletters."

Upon acceptance, Cepeda expressed his gratitude for the award. "On behalf of the MontCo Chapter Board, we thank you for your support of our new website since its launch on January 2, 2007. Please feel free to send us your comments and suggestions for improvements. We hope you enjoy the features that our site adds to your alumni experience," he said.

The Volunteer Awards, part of the Alumni Association's comprehensive recognition program, acknowledge outstanding individuals and groups for service to their communities, the University and the Penn State Alumni Association. The Alumni Association

honored four individuals and 21 groups for their outstanding work the past year at an Oct. 26 ceremony at The Nittany Lion Inn on Penn State's University Park campus.

Each affiliate group recognized for a group award receives a certificate recognizing their organization's achievement and a \$500 grant to be used for future programming. Individual award winners receive a crystal Nittany Lion to commemorate their achievements.



Martin Cepeda and Julie Diehl accept the "Web site Award" on behalf of PSU MontCo at the Volunteer Awards on October 26, in University Park, Pa.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Penn State Friend,

Happy New Year! As our Chapter website moves on to its second year in operation, we have seen tremendous improvements in the way that we bring Penn State to you. New members are joining our Chapter week after week. We are also seeing an increase in the number of chapter members and supporters that want to get involved in volunteering their time and resources for chapter events. As I stated in my speech at the 2006 Annual Holiday Party, "What you decide to put into this alumni chapter is what you will get back in return." In translation, the more local alumni that participate in events, membership, and support of our chapter, the greater the experience and benefits will be for all of us.

I encourage you to tune into [www.psumontco.com](http://www.psumontco.com) for up-to-date information on our chapter news and events. The website is often updated 2-3 times per week and provides you with a central hub to connecting to your local Penn State community. As we move forward into 2008, our emphasis is still on connecting local Penn State Alumni in the Montgomery County areas. I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events, and on hearing your thoughts and suggestions for our chapter.

We are...Penn State,

Martin R. Cepeda, Jr., President  
PSU MontCo Alumni Chapter

**RELAY FOR LIFE**

A cancer survivor's recovery involves much more than medical treatments - it takes hope to heal. By participating in the American Cancer Society Relay For Life, those touched by cancer can feel empowered to fight back against this disease. All of this is made possible because of activities like Relay for Life.

whose lives are touched by cancer. The Society has contributed to almost every major discovery in cancer research. Millions of lives have been saved as a result, including people you may know. For those people and countless others, the research the Society has funded is resulting in better ways to prevent, detect, and treat cancer.

Are you ready to get involved? It's easy! You can **join** the PSU MontCo Relay Team to **participate** in this year's event and/or **donate** money by using our Relay For Life secured team website.

If you're a survivor, you can participate in the opening ceremony and walk alongside fellow survivors in a victory lap. Relay For Life is about being a community that takes up the fight! For additional information on Relay For Life, contact Doug at [community@psumontco.com](mailto:community@psumontco.com).

Every dollar you raise makes a difference to people in your community

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

**When: May 30—31, 2008  
Fri. 1p.m. — Sat. 1 p.m.**

**For more information:  
[www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org)**

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



**YOUR CHANCE TO JOIN THE BOARD**

Becoming a member of the Penn State MontCo chapter board is a great way to get involved and have a part in the planning and direction of the organization. There are currently two positions that are vacant and need your creativity and dedication to make a great chapter even better!

The **Social/Athletic Chair** will manage and organize the fun social and sporting events throughout the year (happy hours, ski trips, homecoming football bus trips, holiday parties, etc.). The **Public Relations/Newsletter Chair** is responsible for promoting chapter events, developing flyers and publicizing events on local Web sites, and aiding in preparing the chapter listserve e-mails. He or she will also develop and coordinate a quarterly newsletter to inform members on chapter information. If this sounds like an opportunity for YOU e-mail Martin at [president@psumontco.com](mailto:president@psumontco.com). There will also be more chances coming up to run for a different board position. Please also inquire with Martin to learn more about what the board has to offer.

Want to get involved but not ready for as much commitment? **Join a committee!** There is always a need for people on the **Membership, Social/Athletic, and Community Service** committees. E-mail the corresponding chairperson to find out more information. See page 1 for their e-mail addresses. You can also stop by a happy hour or event to find out more.

**Penn State Alumni  
Association  
Montgomery County  
Chapter**

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Are you connected?  
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## Upcoming Events 2008

### April

3—Happy Hour, 6 p.m. @ The Great American Pub in Conshohocken, Pa.

11—Penn State Night at the Phillies Ball Park

20—Monthly Chapter Board Meeting

### May

1—Happy Hour, 6 p.m. @ The Great American Pub

18—Monthly Chapter Board Meeting

30—Relay for Life, 1 p.m. @ Upper Merion High School

### June

5—Happy Hour, 6 p.m. @ The Great American Pub

22—Monthly Chapter Board Meeting

*Do you have an idea for an event? E-mail Martin at [president@psumontco.com](mailto:president@psumontco.com)!*

*Check [www.psumontco.com](http://www.psumontco.com) for up to the minute details!*



Treasurer John Baranauskas stays warm at Lincoln Financial Field, during the Penn State v. Temple Game on November 10, 2007.