DISTINGUISHED AWARDS 2006

TOP: Libby Williams ’56, Dr. George M. Veloudis, D.O. ’87 and Dr. Chris Reber; Richard Malacarne ’63 and Hope (Henry ’69) Miller; Dr. Gus Johnson ’53 and Angela Groom-Brown ’80
MIDDLE: Wendy Clayton-Gonzalez ’85 and Roger Oxendale ’76, ’77
BOTTOM: Fred Port ’89, ’99 and Dr. James Pesek; Dr. Pete Dalby and Bob Dandoy ’74; Dr. Frank Rocco ’62 and Dr. Robert Arbuckle ’64
Clarion University alumni, friends and family are making a significant impact annually through gifts to the Clarion Fund. Most gifts received by Clarion University are directed toward the Clarion Fund, where they support the university’s areas of greatest need. While Clarion University is a member of the Pennsylvania System of Higher Education and receives funding for some programs from the state, gifts to the Clarion Fund sustain programs not supported by state subsidies, or for which state subsidies have been cut.

The Clarion Fund also supports programs not directly supported by tuition. They include funding for faculty and student research; the acquisition of new and cutting edge technology for teaching and learning; and the development of library resources.

Finally, the Clarion Fund is a primary funding source for scholarships, honors, leadership and athletic scholarships that attract students and help Clarion build enrollment. Because of gifts to the Clarion Fund in fiscal year 2006, for example, Clarion University Foundation, Inc. has been able to:

- Help the university develop a master plan that has positively affected enrollment growth
- Provide $4 million in support to the university
- Develop a third student housing building at Venango Campus
- Give nearly $1 million in student scholarships
- Complete the building of the Advancement Center
- Raise money for restricted funds and endowments
- Provide nearly $100,000 specifically for athletic scholarships
- Support student leadership development
- Assist in the accreditation process
- Help Admissions conduct student recruitment phone drive
- Plan and conduct homecoming activities, and alumni reunions and gatherings nationwide

Donors who make a gift to the Clarion Fund are helping change the face of society by investing in growth, not only within the Clarion community but throughout the world. Clarion can count among its alumni, thousands, who through their education and experiences at Clarion, have gone on to shape the future of society. We hope you, too, will consider an investment in the future through a gift to the Clarion Fund.

Special Appeals
Throughout any given year, there are also special appeals that run congruent with annual giving. These special appeals provide support for many additional projects and endowments at Clarion University. If you haven’t received information on any of these projects by mail or phone and you would like to designate a gift to any of these funds, please contact the Clarion University Foundation, Inc., at 814-393-2572:

- Jack Blaine Memorial
- Harry Manson Memorial Fund: For natural science laboratory in new science building
- Locker Room Legacy Project: For renovations to the football locker room
- President’s Commission on Women Endowment: For assistance to female students in preparing for their profession
- Theatre Scholarship Fund
- Honors Program Scholarship Endowment
- Debate team Scholarship Fund
- Class of 1956 Endowment
- Koonan Endowment

Clarion Alumni Board Adds Five Directors

Five new members have joined the Clarion University Alumni Board of Directors:

Patrick Kahle ('92) has worked at Zacherl Motor Truck Sales in Clarion, Pa., for 17 years as an inventory control/IT. He earned a bachelor’s degree in communication from Clarion. He resides in Sligo, Pa., with his wife, Diane (Benn ’92).

Mary Rose (Vescio) Reno ('55) used her bachelor’s degree in library science to serve as a librarian for Quaker Valley School District, South Park School District, and Bethel Park School District. She resides in Bethel Park, Pa., with her husband, Donald ('55). They have two adult children, David and Elizabeth.

Paul Palmer ('61) is retired from 3M Company where he worked in sales, marketing, and sales training. He has also worked as a character actor for the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera. He received a bachelor’s degree in English from Clarion and completed post-graduate studies at Duquesne University and Gannon University. He resides in Eagan, Minn., with his wife, Paula.

Peggy (Norris) Frye ('67), serves as the coordinator of volunteer services for Auberle for Children and Families in McKeesport, Pa. An elementary education graduate, she has also been a teacher in Cambria County in Pennsylvania, Fairfield County in Connecticut, Burlington County in New Jersey, and Manassas County in Virginia. She resides in Pittsburgh and has two grown children, Meg and Marilyn ('02).

Brian Schill ('88) is retired from the U.S. Air Force where he served as a KC-135 Instructor Pilot for 17 years. He received a bachelor’s degree in information systems from Clarion and a master’s degree in geography and regional planning from California University of Pennsylvania. He resides in Pittsburgh, Pa., with his wife, Linda, and children, Derek and Brianna.

The Clarion University Alumni Board of Directors is a 25-member board designed around two-year renewable terms. The board is strong because it changes but keeps enough member stability to be a force within the Clarion University community. The members are a diverse group of individuals ranging from new graduates to those who graduated 20-plus years ago. The commonality all the members share is their love and pride for Clarion University.

New Alumni Board members from left: Patrick Kahle ('92), Mary Rose (Vescio) Reno ('55), Paul Palmer ('61), Peggy Frye ('67), and Brian Schill ('88).

The board is charged with helping direct Homecoming, Alumni Day, the Distinguished Awards Banquet, the Golden Eagles Scholars Extravaganza and scholarship programs. The board provides university administration with input on the direction of the university and makes life at Clarion and beyond better for the alumni.
A $100,000 corporate gift by S&T Bank for Clarion University of Pennsylvania’s new Science and Technology Building marks another important commitment in fund raising efforts for the new building.

S&T has a strong history in its support of Clarion University and numerous special events resulting in scholarship endowments, providing opportunities for current and future students.

“As a community bank, we are very excited about this opportunity to partner with Clarion University and assist in providing its students with the resources needed to help them pursue their future careers,” said S&T President Todd Brice. “Clarion is an important market for S&T. We are committed to providing its residents with quality financial services as well as avenues such as this donation that directly impact the futures of tomorrow’s leaders of business and industry.”

The $31 million project is expected to be one of few LEED-certified science buildings in the country and possibly the first certified public university building in Pennsylvania. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, requires meeting national standards and reflects facilities that best meet sustainable environmental energy concerns.

The new Science and Technology Center will provide the best learning environment for students. Emphasizing student research, the new building will boast 40 laboratories, seven classrooms and two seminar rooms. Some classes also will be taught in the laboratories. The 98,000 square foot building will also house 55 offices.

The current planetarium and auditorium also will be renovated and add another 8,000 square feet to the complex.

Smart classrooms will be available throughout the building with wireless Internet inside and outside, allowing students and professors to connect with the entire world through video, computers, and the Web.

The bidding process and awarding of the bid is expected by this November, with construction to begin after December and last until June 2008. The current classroom section will be demolished between July and December 2008, with the existing Peirce Planetarium and Auditorium remaining as part of the new Science and Technology Building.

Headquartered in Indiana, Pa., S&T Bank, the principal subsidiary of S&T Bancorp Inc., operates 50 offices within Allegheny, Armstrong, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Clarion, Clearfield, Indiana, Jefferson and Westmoreland counties. With assets of $3.3 billion, S&T Bancorp, Inc., stock trades on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol STBA.

For additional information on supporting Clarion’s building program, please contact Development Officer Chuck Doch at 814-393-1926.
Talleri Promoted To Brigadier General

Brigadier Gen. Peter J. Talleri (’79), former assistant chief of staff, G-4 (Logistics), Marine Corps Forces Central Command, was promoted to his current rank during a frocking ceremony held in front of the MARCENT headquarters building.

The newly promoted general requested his daughters, Dana and Anna, come forward to remove his “eagle” chevrons. He then requested his wife, Debbie (Lupko ’80), and son, Adam, come forward to pin him with the silver stars that represent his current rank. Presiding over the ceremony was Brig. Gen. Anthony L. Jackson, deputy commanding general, MARCENT.

Along with his immediate family, Talleri was pleased to have his father in attendance. In noting he was raised by a retired Air Force master sergeant, Talleri credits much of his success to the leadership he received at home. According to Talleri, he was, “raised the right way.”

The frocking ceremony truly turned out to be a family affair, as many of his friends and other family members were on hand to congratulate him. Along with the Marines and Sailors of MARCENT who stood in formation were service members from other commands who also came to congratulate the new general. A proud Talleri expressed his gratitude during his closing remarks. He thanked the Marines and Sailors of MARCENT, along with the Marines he’s served with in the past, for the role they’ve all played in his success.

Following his graduation from Clarion, Talleri began his career as a platoon commander and supply officer for 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. In 1982, he reported to Recruiting Station Pittsburgh, Pa., where he served as an officer selection officer and the executive officer.

He returned to the supply field in 1986 as a supply analyst, and was subsequently reassigned to Washington, D.C., where he served a fellowship with the Office of the Secretary of Defense. In 1991, he reported to the Installation and Logistics Department at Headquarters Marine Corps, where he served as an operations officer and occupational field sponsor.

In 1994, Talleri flew overseas to join the “Wing,” where he served as the supply and logistics officer for Marine Air Control Group 18. 1st Marine Aircraft Wing on Okinawa, Japan. He left Japan in 1997 and relocated to Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., where he served as the deputy assistant chief of staff, Logistics. A year later, he assumed command of 2nd Marine Division. In 2001, Talleri transferred to U.S. Central Command. During that tour, he deployed to the Middle East in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom as the chief of the Logistics and Transformation Automation Division. In 2003, he assumed command of 2nd Supply Battalion, 2nd Force Service Support Group. During this assignment, he returned to the Middle East in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and also deployed to Haiti for Operation Secure Tomorrow.

Talleri arrived at MARCENT in August 2005, and served through June 9, 2006. Although the Tampa tour was short-lived, Talleri made a significant impact on the MARCENT command. His accomplishments are highlighted in the award citation that accompanied the Legion of Merit he received for the contributions he made while serving there. On behalf of the MARCENT commander, Lt. Gen. John E. Sattler, the DCG, presented the medal to Talleri just moments before welcoming Talleri to the general officer ranks and then wishing him a, “Hail and Farewell.”

Brigadier Gen. Talleri assumed command of 3rd Marine Logistics Group, Okinawa, Japan, on July 7.

DeFilippo Leading One Of New Jersey's Newest Schools

Wallace DeFilippo (’70) prides himself on being a student advocate. He has found the pinnacle of that achievement in the newly constructed Frank R. Conwell School Campus in Jersey City, N.J., where he is Middle School 4 principal.

The state-of-the-art, four-story school, which opened in January 2006, is a showcase for education for at risk students, and Academic Emulation for me.”

“I was not a stellar student,” DeFilippo said. “Clarion was better suited to elementary education,” he said. “I was not a stellar student,” DeFilippo said. “Clarion was better suited to elementary education,” he said. “I was not a stellar student,” DeFilippo said. “Clarion was better suited to elementary education,” he said. “I was not a stellar student,” DeFilippo said. “Clarion was better suited to elementary education,” he said. “I was not a stellar student,” DeFilippo said. “Clarion was better suited to elementary education,” he said. “I was not a stellar student,” DeFilippo said. “Clarion was better suited to elementary education,” he said. “I was not a stellar student,” DeFilippo said. “Clarion was better suited to elementary education,” he said.

“Once I got into my mainstream classes, I found I was better suited to elementary education,” he said. “I knew from my first art and music classes that I took that middle school is where I wanted to be. Many of the faculty members served as focal points of emulation for me.”

DeFilippo also met his future wife, Cydney (Zylo ’71) at Clarion when they were in the same philosophy class. He had to be away to attend a wedding and asked her to take notes for him. Cydney earned her degree in secondary education/social studies and is a guidance counselor for the Bayonne School District.

Following his graduation, DeFilippo, who was in the U.S. Army Reserves, went to basic training and then was assigned to Virginia where he taught an automotive class. When he was released from the reserves, he spent six months teaching sixth grade language arts in East Orange, N.J. He joined the Jersey City School District the following year, and has remained there for the past 35 years, teaching mathematics and science for grades five through eight.

He also took additional classes in science and library media at Montclair State and completed a master’s degree in administration from Jersey City State College, now New Jersey State University. He served as an assistant principal for three years before getting his first principal’s assignment in the newly built school.

This year, the Conwell School Campus was one of four finalists for the Broad Foundation Recognition Award, a $1 million prize awarded to urban school districts that have made the greatest increases in student achievement. A school in Boston, Mass., received the award, while Conwell joined school districts in Miami, Fla., New York City, and Bridgeport, Conn., in receiving $125,000 apiece in scholarship money for its students.

“It was great to be recognized by the Broad Foundation,” said DeFilippo. “We gained experience and knowledge through the process and will apply for the award again.”

Wallace and Cydney DeFilippo reside in Bayonne, N.J. They have a grown daughter, Lauren, a photojournalist.

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Classrooms at the school have a minimum of five to six computers, LCD projection mounted in the ceiling of each room, and the school maintains its own close circuit TV studio.
There is a new coach at Clarion University and alumni throughout the country are banding together to show their support. The Clarion University Football Alumni committee has been hard at work to introduce head football coach Jay Foster and assist him in advancing Clarion University’s football program.

The Clarion University Football Alumni Committee formed from one man’s desire to volunteer his time and efforts so that everyone who comes home to Clarion University feels they are invited guests, and they are personally greeted by their teammates and welcomed by the group.

Is it working? E-mails and phone calls have multiplied by the hundreds between alumni, many whom have not been back to Clarion since graduation. While attending a banquet during alumni weekend, Bo Garritano (‘66) was moved by reuniting with his former classmates, but asked himself, “Where are my teammates?” That was the spark that ignited what has since become the fastest growing alumni group at Clarion University.

After being introduced to head coach Jay Foster, Garritano and a small group of interested volunteers formed in a crossing of talent, fate and technology, discovered through those now infamous emails a large group of alumni just waiting to be asked to join in. They continue to demonstrate how the power of volunteers can spark interest and excitement in others. The group started by introducing coach Foster to alumni throughout the area by hosting Coaches Caravans throughout the summer. They are also a presence at every home game, located just inside the gate under the blue tent.

Through their desire to bring the Golden Eagles back to their traditional spot as one of the elite programs in the PSAC and in the nation, the group created a grass roots campaign to refurbish the 42-year-old lockers still found in Memorial Stadium. The project is called the Lockerroom Legacy Project. The project allows alumni to make a gift to rebuild pride in the sport and in the team by renovating the locker room.

The campaign is “an every man’s campaign, providing everyone with a chance to do what they can.” The campaign allows alumni and friends to participate at varying levels. To date, the project has raised a total of $10,226.00 with a goal of $70,000 by July 1, 2007.

In addition to the Lockerroom Legacy Project, the group has goals for furthering existing athletic scholarships. One such scholarship, The Golden Eagle Scholarship fund, is now in its second year and has raised $115,978.30 to date. The bronze eagles commissioned by Michael Hamby are proudly displayed by alumni throughout the country in support of athletic scholarships.

To learn more about supporting Clarion University athletics through the Lockerroom Legacy Project or any of the athletic scholarships, please contact the Clarion University Foundation, Inc. at 814-393-2572. And to learn more about the Clarion University Golden Eagle Football Alumni Committee, please contact Bo Garritano at robertgarritano@comcast.net, or call 724-863-8406.

Members of Clarion University’s undefeated 1966 football team held its 40th reunion on Saturday, Sept. 16. President Joseph Grunenwald hosted a reception for the team at the official residence. The team was honored at halftime during the Clarion-West Chester football game. The 1966 Golden Eagles defeated West Chester 28-26 to complete its 10-0 season and win its first PSAC title.

From left: Jim Levey (‘68), Bob Crystol (‘68), Lynn Armstrong (‘68), George Pasiernb (‘69), Dennis Atkinson (‘68), Bob Gevadan (‘69), Michael Catello (‘68), Joe Lavelia (‘69), Tom Kurts (‘68), Jim Jones (‘69), Jim Knowles representing his father, the late Joseph Knowles, head coach Al Jacks, retired athletic director Frank Lignelli (‘50), President Joseph Grunenwald, Jim Dobrancin (‘68), Tim Manka (‘69), Fran Siranni (‘69), Art Trageeser (‘69), Rich McWilliams (‘69), Daniel Bartel (‘69), Carl DeRiggi (’70), Don DeRiggi (’87), Ray Benvenuti, and Raoul Reisch (‘69).
Clarion University Receives EITC Contributions

Various Clarion University education programs for children reaped the benefits this year from a Commonwealth of Pennsylvania program that encourages businesses to make donations.

From private practices to small businesses to large corporations, businesses supported Clarion University’s K-12 educational programs.

Donors include: Dr. H.I. Desai of the Allergy and Asthma Clinic, Burns and Burns Agency, Charles P. Leach Agency, Crooks Clothing, Hager Paving, PNC Bank, RxXpress of Grove City, Pa., S & T Bank, Structural Modulars Inc., and Farmers Bank.

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development approved the Clarion University Foundation, Inc., as an Educational Improvement Organization under the EITC program. This designation allows business to contribute to Clarion University’s innovative educational programs and receive a Pennsylvania tax credit in addition to a federal charitable deduction as permissible by law.

The advantages to EITC participation include: a 75 percent tax credit for a one-year contribution (up to a $266,666 contribution); 90 percent tax credit for two consecutive years’ contributions (maximum $222,222 annually); maximum tax credit per fiscal year of $200,000; contributions are eligible for a federal charitable deduction; and helping local K-12 students. Contributions may be donations of cash, personal property or services.

Businesses interested in participating in the EITC program may contact Chuck Desch, telephone 814-393-1926, fax 814-393-1834, or e-mail cdesch@clarion.edu Information is also available on the Web at http://www.clarion.edu/foundation/eitc.shtml.
Alumni On The Road

1. The South Central Pennsylvania Chapter hosted Family Day at the Senators baseball game on July 20. Alumni in attendance were: David Bailey ’65, Stacy Henninger ’90, Susan Mazza ’01, Chapter President, Leslie Suhr ’00, Mike Chapaloney ’99, Randall Tenor ’73, Dawn Jarvie ’99, Lisa Love ’91, Lynn (Novakoski) Manganaro ’91, and Jean Wolf ’86, Clarion University Office of Advancement.

2. Six Clarion Alumni met at the Clarion Holiday Inn on June 24, for their third annual Get-Together. In the picture from left to right are: Lola Maxwell (’51), Barb (Faust ’51) Schierber, Marjorie (Dible ’52) Sheffel, Kass (Adams ’52) Judson, Glenna (Rose ’53) Mervosh, and Marty (Smith ’51) Willoughby.

3. Several alumni gathered at the home of Jeannie (’69) and Hank Spala in Las Vegas, Nev., on July 15. Pictured from left to right are: Robert O’Toole (’79), Tim Corbett (’75), Candy Corbett, Jeannie Spala (’69), Hank Spala, Twyla Lightowler (’74), Sam Lightowler, Kimberly Johnson (’90), and Sue and Bob Carlson.

4. The Clarion Clowns annual reunion luncheon was held at the Captain Loomis in July. Featured from left to right are: Front Row: Jean McCleary, Grace (Oakes ’52) Vogus, Julia (Hanna ’52) Eckel, Carol (Baker ’52) Mohney, Sally (Knight ’52) Tarr, Back Row: Dona (Daugherty ’52) Oviatt, Dona (Crubs ’52) Palagio, Twila Wassum (’53), Lois (Kindeberger ’52) Albrecht, Pat (Mock ’52) Rainey, and Margie (Dible ’52) Sheffel.

5. The Charlotte Chapter met July 29 at Dixie’s Tavern. Attending were: Eric West (’99), Joe Urban (’72), Staci Harris (’99), Mike Bates (’99), Bill Lehman (’05), Kate (Lehman) Lutz (’05); Ed Unittis (’90), Chapter President Debbie Huffman (’93), Shawn Taylor (’88), Jen Wright (’92), Jim Heckman (’93), Jeff Yurcak (’97), Megan Staab (’04), Jim Nesta (’95), Jennifer McWilliams (’02), Drew McWilliams (’01), Martin Wirth (’86), Star Davis (’00), Amy Dicesare (’00), Jessica Miller (’03); Sigmund Pehel (’06), Nikki Hefferin (’01), Nichole Iagnemma (Grimes) (’98), Carrie Lyle (’00), Tara (Molina) Iagnemma (’99), and Dean Rank (’88).

6. Colorado gathering (left to right): John Korb, Susan Emmett (’78), Saily (McNeil) Korb (’62), Clarion University President Dr. Joseph and Mrs. Janice Grunenwald, Rick (’82) and Patty (’83) Yaconis, Dave and Evie (Barne) (’82) Bodett, Janet Decker (’60), and Gwen and Barry Garbarino.
Alumni News

Alumni on the Road

Clarion University Alumni held a luncheon on July 11, 2006 at the Foxburg Inn in Foxburg, Pa. Attending were: Ed (’54) and Fran (Ernest ’57) Walsh, Dona (Cribbs ’52) Palaggo, Margie (Dible ’52) Sheffel, Dick (Helmintoller ’48) and Teresa (Helmintoller), Bill (’50) and Flo (Spak ’51) Brochetti, Ken Bailey (’51), Barb (Faust ’51) Schierbel, Cecil (’51) and Marty (Smith ’51) Willoughby, Don (’53) and Jackie (Lewis ’53) Stemmerich, Marion “Sam” (’56) and Gwen (Middleton ’55) Goodwill, Furman Curry (’56) and Mary Lou (Lobaugh Curry), Ron Botz (’60) and Judy Botz, Art Salemme (’51), Dave Dunn (’53), Dave Belevino (’53), Frank (’50) and Joyce (Simpson ’48) Lignelli, Chuck Krepps (’52), Lois (Singer ’56) Linnan, Mike (Petruska ’51), Jackie Smart, Trueman Mills (’55), Bruce Taylor (’52) and Candy Taylor, Chuck Weir (’56) and Shirley Weir, Peggy (Rearick ’52) Phillips, Sylvia (Varoto ’53) Moses, and Pete (’53) and Glenna (Rose ’53) Mervosh.

Alumni Spotlight

Woodel Named NHR Outstanding American Teacher

Tonya (Harding) Woodel (’03) was accepted as a member of the National Honor Roll’s (NHR) Outstanding American Teachers for 2005-06 for her work as a music teacher at Spaulding Middle School in Darlington County, S.C. NHR’s Outstanding American Teachers recognizes educators who have made a difference in their communities. Woodel teaches band, choir, and general music to the students at Spaulding.

Woodel also received a grant from the Mr. Holland’s Opus Foundation to purchase 28 instruments for the students to use. The school previously did not own any instruments. The students come from a minority and impoverished background, making band a class in which few could enroll. She was nominated for Teacher of the Year after only two years of teaching.

Spaulding, who received her music education degree and graduated with honors, resides in Hartsville, S.C., with her husband, Kenneth.

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