



Stay Informed

Website :www.psuctvalley.org

Facebook :<https://www.facebook.com/PSUCTValley/>

Twitter:https://twitter.com/PSU_CTValley

Executive Board Members

President:
Kathryn Williams '06
Glastonbury
nittanykat2@gmail.com

Vice President:
Jessica Tucker '13
Hartford
jat5351@gmail.com

Treasurer:
Nina Webb '77
Rocky Hill
ninajim@sbcglobal.net

Secretary:
Deb Morck '74
Cheshire
dimorck@gmail.com

Alumni Admissions:
Lisa Sands '83
West Hartford
sands151@yahoo.com

Board Members:

Gwen Ashbaugh '88 New Hartford
ashbaugh_design@yahoo.com

Harry Best '71 '74G Avon
hbest001@aol.com

Dean Delach '76 Farmington
ddeach@comcast.net

Kate Fields-Wiltsie '94 Middletown
bonsante1@aol.com

Jeff Gartman '08 South Windsor
jeff.gartman@gmail.com

Chad Lausberg '05 Bristol
chadlausberg@hotmail.com

Greg Malone '95 South Windsor
gmalonepsu@yahoo.com

Tom Morck '75 Cheshire
tmorck@gmail.com

Steve Putterman '78 West Hartford
putterman.ct@gmail.com

Terry Schnure '63 Windsor
taschnure@aol.com

Penny Trick '74 '76G Newington
pennytrick@gmail.com

PSU Connecticut Valley Chapter Newsletter

April 2017

Annual Spring Dinner & Scholarship Fundraiser May 17,2017 at 6:00PM



*Keynote Speaker
Coach Sean Spencer*

Join us for our annual spring dinner on Wednesday, May 17th at 6:00pm at The Wethersfield Country Club in Wethersfield, Ct.

We are excited to welcome, as this year's Keynote speaker, Sean Spencer, who is in his 4th season as the Nittany Lions' Defensive Line Coach. He added the title of Run Game Coordinator in 2016. Sean is a native of Hartford CT, a graduate of Clarion University, with a BS in Political Science, and has coached at Wesleyan University as well as Vanderbilt before beginning his tenure at Penn State. Coach Spencer was selected a finalist for Football Scoop's Defensive Line Coach of the Year in 2014, as he led a unit that helped Penn State finish No.3 in FBS rushing defense and 2nd in total defense. Spencer's influence was front and center in 2015, as the defensive line paced a defense that led FBS in sacks and was 6th in tackles for loss and 14th in total defense.

The cost of the event is \$40 per person. Recent Alum (*last 5 yrs*) or current or prospective student \$30. Non-members \$45. The event will include a silent auction to benefit our Freshman Scholarship Fund. We will also have raffle prizes, great food, AND..... Creamery Ice Cream!!

- Cash Bar Available (*no credit cards accepted at the bar*)
- Cash, check, and credit cards accepted for silent auction and raffle items

Football News

This was an exciting year for the Penn State Football Team and fans, with a winning season and a trip to The Rose Bowl! We hosted several viewing parties at Black Bear Saloon in Hartford with great food, drinks, and fun! We held several community service drives at the parties, giving the events added dimension. We had events for a school supply drive, a toy drive for We Are The Children Charity and a hat and glove drive for a local homeless organization, among others. Please join us again this year , at Black Bear, as we support the Nittany Lions!

Football Tickets: The chapter will be applying for tickets to a 2017 PSU football game. Our top choice is nearly always the Homecoming game. Chapter members will receive first priority to purchase tickets, so please be sure to send in our membership form to become or remain a chapter member. We will post the information on our website www.psuctvalley.org and on social media when we receive notification of the tickets, so be on the lookout!



2017 PSU Football Schedule

9/2 Akron	9/9 Pitt
9/16 Georgia	9/23 Iowa
9/30 Indiana	10/7 Northwestern
10/21 Michigan	10/28 Ohio State
11/4 Michigan State	11/11 Rutgers
11/18 Nebraska	11/25 Maryland

Letter From the President

Earlier this month, the Penn State Alumni Association (PSAA) posted a message on Facebook asking, “what inspires you to be a member of the Alumni Association?” We all have our reasons for being a member and I would like to share how my life has been enriched as a member of both the PSAA and the Connecticut Valley Chapter.

The hashtag paired with that Facebook post was #PoweredByPride. As a student, and particularly as a member of the Blue Band, I felt great pride for Penn State early on. The first time I noticed how wonderful the PSAA was, happened on a trip to Wisconsin, on a tiny plane, that was powered by Penn State pride. The passengers were members of the Blue Band, the cheerleaders and Lion, and of course, PSAA staff. For those who don’t know, the PSAA hosts pep rallies at away football games. The reason I was able to travel and play with the pep band was because of the PSAA. If you have attended a pep rally, you know first hand how game day would not be the same without these events. I was proud to represent my university as a student, and I am even prouder to represent Penn State as an alumna.

Upon my graduation, I was gifted a life membership in the PSAA. It was my most precious gift. The obvious membership benefits include subscriptions to publications like “The Penn Stater” magazine and complimentary/discounted admission to the many events offered by the Alumni Association. However, when you dig a little deeper, there are countless opportunities to grow personally and professionally.

Professionally, I have seized opportunities provided by Alumni Career Services (ACS) both on campus and from my couch, as I did this past month when I attended a webinar to help me navigate LinkedIn. In the past, I have met with career counselors on campus to help guide me where I am today. ACS also provides networking opportunities, as does PSU CT Valley, and I have taken advantage of both and landed jobs because of my Penn State connections. Did I mention we have a networking event planned for June?

Personally, I have experienced tremendous growth through my involvement with our chapter. As a board member and chapter leader, I have been given the opportunity to develop my leadership skills and participate in leadership trainings through the PSAA. I have been allowed the freedom to try new things, making a few mistakes along the way, all while being supported by my board members and the PSAA staff. Through the Penn State Alumni Admissions program, I am able to represent Penn State at college fairs and student receptions, which I love, because I love talking about Penn State!

Perhaps the most meaningful opportunity afforded to me through my membership in both organizations is the connections I have made with other alumni. I have gotten to know some amazing people of various ages, from diverse backgrounds, across many careers, throughout the county. My life is enriched by the relationships I have formed with so many of you, who have become my extended family.

So, as you can see, there is something for everyone. I hope this inspires you to renew your membership or join our chapter, as well as the Penn State Alumni Association, and I look forward to hearing what inspires YOU to be a member!

Kathryn Williams,

President

Upcoming Chapter Events 2017

May 7	Foodshare Walk Against Hunger 12:30pm Liam E. McGee Memorial Park 140 Garden St Hartford, Ct
May 8	“Meet The Board” Pizza Event. Come have pizza with the Board and Maybe even stay for a board meeting! 5:30 Pizza...Arch’s Sports Bar & Grill (Board Meeting to follow) 632 Cromwell Ave. Rocky Hill, Ct
May 17	Annual Spring Dinner & Scholarship Fundraiser 6:00-10:00pm Wethersfield Country Club 76 Country Club Rd. Wethersfield, Ct
June	(Tentative Date)...Career Networking Happy Hour.....Details to Come!
June 10	A Day of Fun At The Giving Garden 9:00am Coogan Farm, Mystic Ct
August 13	Freshman Sendoff Time TBA Northwest Park, Windsor Ct

We have several new committees such as Membership, Social Events, and Admissions, among others. There are opportunities to volunteer for one of the committees or even on a single project. You can check your interests on the enclosed membership form or contact one of the board members to volunteer.

Alumni Admissions

2017 was a great year for Alumni Admissions. We were happy to welcome Nick Levine as Connecticut’s Regional Representative. Many alumni volunteers participated in college fairs around the region and holding both Accepted Students and Prospective Students Receptions this spring. There are currently close to 700 CT students attending PSU at University Park. That does not include all of the branch campuses or World Campus so we are well represented! If you would like to become a part of our chapter’s Alumni Admissions volunteer team, please check the box on the membership form or contact our chapter’s Alumni Admissions Volunteer Coordinator, Lisa Currie Sands, at sands151@yahoo.com or call/text Lisa at 978-314-8120. Join the admissions volunteer team and share your Lion Pride with future Penn Staters!

Connecticut Valley... A Chapter of Distinction



ELM LEVEL

PSU CT Valley Chapter achieved the highest level evaluation in its activity levels, outreach and supporting programs, giving us A Chapter of Distinction at the Elm Level! The participation of the alumni of our chapter made this possible.



Nick Levine & Lisa Sands

Member Spotlight by Lisa Currie Sands, B.S. Marketing '83

Rachel Leona



Whether from Western Pennsylvania or Western Connecticut, the reputation of Penn State and attraction of a big school atmosphere lead our two board members to Central Pa. Chad Lausberg, B.S. Chemical Engineering 2005, hails from Cabot, PA and Rachel Leona, B.S. Supply Chain & Information Systems 2010, from New Fairfield, CT. Both decided that Penn State was the place for them.

Since graduation, Chad has been working for over 10 years with Edison Coatings in Plainville. His company develops, designs and produces over 70 products like coatings, cements, and mortars used for restoring historic buildings. He is responsible for new product development, product improvement, consulting on projects, and visiting jobsites. Some of the famous buildings on which his company has worked include the US Capitol Building, Washington Monument, and Brooklyn Bridge.

Rachel started her career at C&S Wholesale Grocers in Keene, New Hampshire as a Business Analyst on a two-year job rotation which allowed her to explore different career options. After her rotation, she left the company and began working at LEGO in Enfield, CT as a Senior Distribution Analyst. In this position, she applied her Supply Chain degree by researching efficient ways to transport LEGO toys from the manufacturing plant, through the distribution center, and out to the retail customers. After 4 years in that role, she is now employed as a Demand Planning Manager. In this position, Rachel is responsible for forecasting how much the company plans to ship to its retailers, and how much they plan to sell to their end consumers (AKA all the kids who love LEGO!). She works with all the Girl's toys, including Disney Princess, and Super Hero Girls. Rachel also collaborates with her counterparts in marketing and sales to forecast how much they can sell in any given time period.

Both Rachel and Chad have fond memories of their time at Penn State and have been creating new memories as proud alums. Chad remembers when we beat Ohio State during the 2005 football season and was seated in the fifth row of the student section and one of the first people on the field after the game. He also traveled to the Orange Bowl that same year when we beat Florida State in overtime. "It was amazing because there were more Penn State fans at the game than Florida fans even though the game was in Florida!" Four years ago, Chad joined the CT Valley Chapter. As an active board member, he has volunteered with admissions at college fairs, attended student receptions and helped with the Freshman Sendoff. He planned the Bowl-A-Thon this year during Thon and created both a fun event and great fundraising activity. Chad is a regular at most chapter activities and has especially enjoyed the football viewing parties and Tanglewood outings. Most importantly, the chapter offers him an opportunity to meet new people, and make a difference in the community.

When Rachel thinks back to her experiences, it is the combination of football games, THON events, and shouts of "We Are" as she walked through the HUB, that offers a unique sense of community. As an alum, Rachel feels that same community still exists. When she wears her Penn State attire, she is approached by people who share stories about other alumni they know and the great experiences they had at Penn State. Rachel is happy to have connected with the CT Valley Chapter and has enjoyed meeting new people and being a part of Penn State again. Although she began just looking for a place to watch football games with other local alumni, she quickly became involved attending other events and serving as a Freshman Mentor. She is also the chapter's new Alumni Engagement Team Captain and will be working on recruiting and retaining new and current members.

For both Rachel and Chad, "WE ARE PENN STATE", means being associated with a group of people with similar values, who treat each other with respect and kindness, and want to live a full and meaningful life using all the time that they have to make a difference. They, like so many of us, believe that the future of Penn State will continue to grow more prominent and stronger with each graduating class. The fact that you can shout "We Are" at anyone wearing Penn State clothing, or driving around with a Penn State bumper sticker on their car, demonstrates how many Penn Staters there are, and how connected we all are. For Rachel and Chad, being part of the biggest alumni association in the world, means that no matter where your life, work or travels take you, there will likely be someone there who shares a piece of your Penn State experience and always someone close by who knows the nearly universal response to "WE ARE!"



Chad Lausberg



Connecticut Valley Chapter
 Penn State Alumni Association
 2017-2018 Membership Form



Name _____ Graduation Year _____

Spouse/Guest _____ Graduation Year _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Are you a member of the PSAA (Penn State Alumni Association)? _____

Email Address _____

Occupation (optional) _____ Employer (optional) _____

2017 – 2018 Membership dues (\$20/household) valid from June 2017-June 2018 \$ _____

Spring Dinner on May 17th @ 6:00 pm (\$40/person) # of attendees _____ \$ _____

Contribution to the Penn State CT Valley Scholarship Fund \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Please check off if you are interested in any of the following that the CT Valley Chapter has to offer:

- Become a member of the CT Chapter board of directors (planning and organizing activities)
- Join a part of a team within the board of directors (assisting in the planning and execution of activities)
- Alumni Admissions (providing information to current students, alumni, and recruiting new students)
- Homecoming Parade and/or Football tickets
- Community Service Events throughout CT
- Freshman Mentoring Program
- Group Events with other local chapters

We would love to hear what other suggestions you have! Please provide any new ideas below:

Please make checks payable to **“Penn State Chapter of CT Valley”**

Mail this form and your check to:

Nina Webb, 98 Rosewood Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-1071

Connecticut Valley Chapter
Penn State Alumni Association

Terry Schnure
34 Broadleaf Circle
Windsor, CT 06095-1633



*Bringing a Bit of
Happy Valley to the
Connecticut Valley*

This is our annual newsletter mailing to PSU alumni in the CT Valley chapter area. Part of the mailing is paid for by the Penn State Alumni Association. We keep members informed about our activities by e-mail the rest of the year, so please send your e-mail address to Kathryn Williams at nittanykat2@gmail.com if you'd like to be on the distribution and are not already. Our website and/or Facebook pages contain a chapter membership form, officer contact information, news about upcoming events and the student bus service, and more. Costs for many of our events such as the football TV parties and freshmen sendoff are supported by annual dues from members, so please continue to support the chapter!

If you would like to join the over 300 alumni and friends with official Connecticut Penn State license plates, please contact Steve Putterman at putterman.ct@gmail.com or 860-231-7710 to receive an application. The vanity plates feature a PSU shield and "WE ARE PENN STATE" slogan and a portion of the proceeds generated go towards our freshman scholarship fund.



Penn State CT License Plates