

The Central Florida Mountaineer Messenger

Fall 2018



Game Watch Central...

Football Season Is Here! Our game watch partner again this year is our very own Friendly Confine-7025 CR 46-A, Lake Mary, located just off of I-4, Exit 101-A on State Road 46-A, just behind Marriott. We are very appreciative of our continued partnership with Friendly's and their committed space and outstanding hospitality to our group.

Last year Carmen Sr. and Carmen Jr. owners of Friendly's, provided us with a donation representing 10% of food sales for our group during the season in the amount of \$900. This year they have upped their game and committed to 15% of food sales! Also, once again this year, they are donating an end of the season give-a-way autographed Kevin White WVU football jersey AND adding an autographed Bob Huggins basketball jersey. Yes, we do love these folks!

As an added surprise to last year's Friendly Fish Bowls, (for those of us who can never get enough of Mario's) this year we will be adding several other drink specials such as a Sunnyside Slurp-e, Old Gold-Schlagger Shot, Mountaineer Lemonade, and Mountaineer-rita.

Check Friendly Confines out online to get a head start on their menu and opportunity to download their android or apple app for discounts and to join their loyalty club. Their website is at myfriendlyconfines.com-also available through our website by clicking their icon.

In addition to the game watch 50/50 drawings every week for prizes and money, we will once again be selling raffle tickets for a few higher value items at the end of the season. Tickets for the 50/50 drawings are \$1 each or buy \$20 worth and get an extra 5 tickets. Tickets for the end of year items are only \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Tickets for the end of season raffles will be sold at all game watches during the season. This year's end of season prizes are...

- A WV hand-crafted coal wall mount State of WV with the flying WV
- An autographed WVU football jersey w/certificate of authenticity by Kevin White
- An autographed WVU basketball jersey w/certificate of authenticity by Bob Huggins
- And who knows what other WV Mountaineer surprises we might have come game day!

2018 Football Schedule

Saturday	Sep 1	Tennessee
Saturday	Sep 8	Youngstown St
Saturday	Sep 15	at NC State
Saturday	Sep 22	Kansas State
Saturday	Sep 29	at Texas Tech
Saturday	Oct 6	Kansas
Saturday	Oct 13	at Iowa State
Thursday	Oct 25	Baylor
Saturday	Nov 3	at Texas
Saturday	Nov 10	TCU
Thursday	Nov 17	at Oklahoma St
Saturday	Nov 23	Oklahoma



President's Message 2018-19...

Welcome to the Central Florida WVU Alumni & Friends Fall 2018 *Mountaineer Messenger*. It seems like just yesterday that I was writing a message for the Fall 2017 addition. Hopefully in the pages of this newsletter you will find helpful and useful information to be a part of our Central Florida Mountaineer Nation.

As the football season is kicking off, we are all hopeful of a tremendously successful season for our Mountaineers and our Heisman hopeful, Will Grier and all the other hopeful awards watch list candidates. Of course, we don't want to forget all the other WVU sports teams that will be competing this fall and beyond as our Mountaineers seem to keep the spotlight on significant improvements and achievements in all sports.

Hopefully you'll be able to join our Central Florida family at our football game watches at Friendly Confines in Lake Mary, just off of I-4 on 46-A. We are expecting big crowds again this year coming off of last year where we averaged between 55-60 per game watch-not to mention opening the season last year with about 100 for the first game. (Anticipating the same for the WVU-Tennessee matchup on the 1st!) Make sure to come join us for a great time with great food and drinks, great prizes, and great friendships.

Also, after you enjoy this addition of our *Mountaineer Messenger*, please check out our website at www.wvucfl.com for up-to-date information year-round. A huge thank you to Donny Morehouse for building and maintaining our website!

Also, one of our focuses is to continue to ask folks to step up into a leadership role with our Chapter, so please consider stepping up so we can continue to grow stronger and explore additional opportunities outside of just football and some basketball game watches. We are still hoping to host a Central Florida golf outing in the Spring, but we'll need lots of help for something like that!

Lastly, please check out the following pages and find out more information on our two Central Florida Chapter scholarships. What great success we are having with both scholarships thanks to the continued support of our friends, family, and visitors to our game watches.

In closing, thanks for being a part of our Central Florida WVU Alumni & Friends Chapter and we look forward to seeing you in the coming weeks and months.

As Always...Let's Go...

Joe Abel, President
Central Florida WVU Alumni Chapter

Meet this year's officers:

President-Joe Abel
President Elect-Donny Morehouse
Vice President-Stacey Chipman
Secretary-Marian Berger
Treasurer and Director of Engagement-Kim Abel

And a very special thank you to...Charla Goff and Don Nester for serving our Chapter for the past several years as Secretary and Vice President respectively. Thanks for your continued leadership and assistance.



SUGGESTION BOX

We want to hear from you....any ideas for our chapter to get involved in or plan other events or activities other than football game watches. We would like to see our members



With all that is going on in our world I thought our group could help those in need. Once again we will be taking donations of non-perishable items for Lake Mary High School. Sadly, there are young adults who do not get 3 meals a day and rely on this service for meals.

For those with fur-babies, you know how important our 4-legged companions are to us. We will be collecting dog/cat food, toys, old blankets, and old towels to donate to the Seminole County Animal Shelter.

So everyone clean out your pantries and linen closets and donate to those less fortunate!

Stacey Chipman, Vice President



Giving back through our Central Florida Student Scholarships...

During our game watches we hold 50/50 drawings for cash and prizes with the net proceeds from the raffles going directly into the scholarship funds. Also, funds left over from our membership fees collected, after expenses, go directly into the scholarship funds.

Our Central Florida WVU Alumni & Friends group have been very fortunate to fully fund our Marilu Adams Student Athlete Scholarship and fund local Florida athletes for the past several years. To fully fund the scholarship, our chapter agreed to grow the fund to an endowed amount of \$50,000. I continue to be very proud to say that the fund currently has over \$60,000. You can find out more about the fund and how to donate at our website.

Our newest scholarship opportunity began last fall and is focused on those Central Florida students that are not attending WVU for athletics but rather academics. Named the Central Florida WVU Student Academic Scholarship, we deposited a whopping \$7,500 at the end of last year's efforts towards the fund. The scholarship opportunities within this fund will begin at \$1,000 per year once the fund reaches a balance of \$10,000 and will be endowed when it reaches \$25,000. You can also find out more about this fund and how to donate at our website.

On a sad but endearing note...this year we lost a true Mountaineer from our local family in Gregg Rexroad. I mention this for two reasons; 1. He will be greatly missed as part of our Central Florida Alumni Family and 2. Upon his passing, His wife Kathy asked that in lieu of flowers at Gregg's funeral, those that were interested were encouraged to make a donation to our Academic Scholarship Fund. I am both humbled and very proud to share that our Mountaineer family, in honor of Gregg Rexroad, is making a contribution of over \$2,700 and starting the next school year we will be able to begin funding our initial Central Florida Student Academic Scholarship recipient. Thanks Kathy...and Gregg, we'll miss you but always remember you fondly.

Follow the Mountaineers

Chapter Officers

President: Joe Abel
President Elect: Donny Morehouse
Vice President: Stacey Chipman
Secretary: Marian Berger
Treasurer and Director of Engagement: Kimberly Abel

It's that time of year again, time to renew your membership. Please get your memberships in early and encourage other fans you know to join. Help us make our goal of 100!

You can now join our Central Florida WVU Alumni & Friends Group two ways...

- 1. Fill out the form attached and return it to our group at the address listed below or give to one of the group officers.**
- 2. Go to our website and join online at wvucfl.com**

***Central Florida membership is separate from the WVU-Alumni membership.**

Please clip and return



2018-2019 Membership Form
Central Florida Chapter of the WVU Alumni Association

Annual Membership

Individual \$20.00 Dual \$30.00

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Cell _____ Email Address _____
(please print and write legible)

Please complete and make checks payable to: **CENTRAL FLORIDA WVU ALUMNI**
Forms can be turned in to any officer or mailed back to:

Kimberly Abel
2215 Earleaf Court
Longwood, FL 32779