

The Central Florida Mountaineer Messenger

Fall 2019



Game Watch Central...

Football Season Is Here! Our game watch partner again this year is our very own Friendly Confines-7025 CR 46-A, Lake Mary, located just off of I-4, Exit 101-A on State Road 46-A, just behind the 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 15% of food sales for our group during the season in the amount of \$1776.57. Yes, we do love these folks!

We averaged between 50-60 fans per game this past year.

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/continuing drink specials such as a Sunnyside Slurp-e, Old Gold-Schlagger Shot, Mountaineer Lemonade, Mountaineer-rita, and a special "couch on fire" drink.

Check out Friendly Confines online to get a head start on their menu and rewards program. Their website is myfriendlyconfines.com. Their link is also available through our website (WVUCFL.com) 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-sewn quilt.
- A hand crafted WVU lazy susan.
- An autographed Bob Huggins Jersey
- An autographed Geno Smith Jersey

2019 Football Schedule

Saturday	Aug 31	James Madison
Saturday	Sep 7	at Missouri
Saturday	Sep 14	NC State
Saturday	Sep 21	at Kansas
Saturday	Sep 28	Bye/Off
Saturday	Oct 5	Texas
Saturday	Oct 12	Iowa State
Saturday	Oct 19	at Oklahoma
Saturday	Oct 26	Bye/Off
Thursday	Oct 31	at Baylor
Saturday	Nov 9	Texas Tech
Saturday	Nov 16	at Kansas St
Saturday	Nov 23	Oklahoma St
Saturday	Nov 30	at TCU



President's Message 2019-20...

Welcome to the Central Florida WVU Alumni & Friends Fall 2019 *Mountaineer Messenger*. What a 2018 our Central FL Chapter had! Football, Basketball, and Baseball game watches, and even got to see our very own Jevon Carter play in Orlando with the Grizzlies. And a few of us traveled to South FL for their annual golf tournament and came in second place.

Within the pages of this newsletter you will hopefully 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 great start for our new Head Football Coach Neal Brown as he begins a new era in WVU Football.

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 just under 100 for the first game. 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, our President-Elect, 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! In this addition of our *Mountaineer Messenger* we have included an insert that has our membership application as well as a short survey to help us better serve our Central FL family. Please take a moment to provide us feedback to help us to continue to grow our engagement and represent our great State and West Virginia University.

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 years 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
for her assistance with the newsletter.



Special Events

We will be having special events throughout the year. We will be posting these events on Facebook (WVU-Central Florida), on our website (WVU-CFL) and via email. If you are not receiving our emails please see one of the Chapter Leaders or email us at WVU.kimabel@cfl.rr.com.



Once again, now our fourth year, we will be collecting non-perishables items for the Lake Mary High School Pantry. 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.

Both collections will be held the game watch weeks of November 16th and 23rd.

On November 9th we will again be honoring/recognizing our brave heroes of the armed forces.



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 (wvucl.com).

Our newest scholarship opportunity began 2 years ago 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, the Chapter deposited a whopping \$3,500 as a result of our first year's efforts towards the fund. Last year's efforts brought our current balance to over \$16,000. The scholarship opportunities within this fund will begin this year 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.

As we noted last year, a dear family member of the Chapter, Greg Rexroad, an avid Mountaineer passed away. The donations made in his honor were incredible. His partner in crime, best friend and wife Kathy, retired this year. Her boss, a Kansas Alumni, donated to our chapter scholarship in honor of her service and in memory of Greg.

I challenge all of our Central Florida alumni and friends to see if we can bring home the additional funding this year to reach our endowment level of \$25,000 for our academic scholarship.

Central Florida Mountaineer Memories

