February 2000
Valparaiso University Guild

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1999 Targeted Leadership Forum

In November, VU Guild Board members, Area Directors, Committee Chairs, and members of the Amen Corner met in Chicago for this year's TLF. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the implementation of the current objectives and to identify goals that will take the organization beyond 2000. Chuck Werth, former Director of VU's Church Relations and now a member of the Schmeling Consulting Group from Milwaukee, WI, facilitated the discussion. The key topics discussed were: organizational changes, enhancing member involvement, expanding membership, and serving Valparaiso University in new ways. The results of these discussions reaffirmed that this Christ-centered community of alumni, parents, and friends of the University is moving in a direction that will continue to provide significant volunteer service to VU.

Many times throughout the weekend comments were made about the deep, sincere passion Guild members have for Valparaiso University. We encourage you to remain committed. Do not let that passion falter. Do all that you can through the Guild, so the outstanding young men and women at VU continue to have a rich educational and spiritual experience.

Guild Objectives for 1999-2000

Expanding Services to Valparaiso University
- Complete the national project, raising a total of $220,000 for the Guild Endowment Fund for Undergraduate Research
- Identify new fund-raising opportunities via e-commerce and traditional sources
- Expand matching-gift and planned-giving opportunities within the Guild
- Explore ways to expand volunteer opportunities for alumni, parents, and friends of the University to assist VU
- Support and strengthen campus partnerships: Church Relations, University Relations, Alumni Relations, Admissions
- Develop a unified plan for promotion of Guild items and programs at Alumni/Guild events

Improving the Function of the Organization
- Evaluate and expand existing marketing of Guild products and services
- Continue to improve the means of Guild communication (Bulletin, website, etc.)
- Create a unified look for Guild materials
- Implement a new "chapter handbook" that will provide direction
- Establish a new Chapter Development committee
- Develop and implement chapter project funds process to expedite forwarding contributions to the University
- Develop job descriptions for Guild leadership positions

Celebrating the Guild Community
- Complete preparations for the Christian Women's Conference to be held in 2001
- Monitor and assess new membership drive
- Develop member retention plan including the promotion of various membership categories and Four Winds membership
- Implement a welcome program for new members
- Initiate development of a Guild devotion booklet
- Explore participation in the 75th Anniversary of VU as a Lutheran University
- Publish the Guild history since 1981 on the web
by Lorraine Dorough, President

When the Atlanta Chapter met in early January, the devotion read from *Joy to the World* began with the words, "Epiphany means shining forth." How marvelous is the miracle that God sent His Son to be the light of the world in the midst of this darkest of seasons! In Thy light, we see light!

How do we as the Guild help to keep that light shining forth? A few years ago, as a result of the Guild Renewal effort, a fifth mission was identified to emphasize and reinforce the call of the University to provide highly educated and committed Christian leaders for the nation and the world. This was something that we always knew we did, but the time had come to state it openly and to add it to our bylaws as a purpose of the Guild. The activities that we do each year - Valpo Sunday, college fairs, endowments for scholarships and undergraduate research, assisting in our hometowns with University functions such as the Chorale tours - enable the University to continuously graduate outstanding young men and women who in turn bring their light into the world.

Not only do we support the University through this mission, I cannot think of a better definition of Guild women than "highly educated and committed Christian leaders." We have a great opportunity to share our fellowship and mission by participating in the current membership campaign. There are many women who are searching for ways to serve the community, the church, the University, and the Guild can be their means to serve. Many chapters have embraced this effort with success, bringing in new members who will ensure the ongoing health and vitality of the Guild. Anne Franklin, Membership Chair, and the Area Directors are available to provide help and encouragement for all chapters that undertake this challenge. To the light that shines forth from this fellowship of Christian leaders, let us add the sound of the bells we rang at Convention as we remember that God's promises ring true.

It is also in support of this mission that we undertake new programs such as sponsoring the Christian Women's Conference. Nurturing our individual spiritual well-being was identified by the Guild leadership team as important for the Guild as a whole. In May 2001 women from the entire Valpo community - Guild members, alumnae, faculty, staff, students, local residents - who are interested in personal renewal and spiritual growth will gather on campus. Learning is a life-long process. This effort, in partnership with the Office of Church Relations, will provide an opportunity for women to continue their learning and growth as Christian leaders, and for the Guild to further the call of the University.

As we celebrate throughout this season of Epiphany, remember the words spoken at baptism: "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

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**LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD WOMEN**

Names and qualifications of individuals you would like considered for nomination to the positions of national Guild President, Vice President for Guild Affairs, and Vice President for Marketing/Communication should be sent to the Nominating Committee chair Marlene Rakow, 309 Patterson Dr., Columbia, TN 38401, 931.388.0772 ~ mrakow@usit.net by February 29, 2000.

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"It's time to Invest in Tomorrow... Today!"

**Have you invested in the Guild Endowment Fund for Undergraduate Research?**

"I have been involved in Guild projects from selection to salesman to supporter, but never have I found a project that warmed my heart like this one. As I worked on my own undergraduate projects in college, the door to pursuing a creative avenue or idea inevitably closed over lack of funds. Just the encouragement of this kind of fund could trigger a budding genius, and won't we be delighted if our gift supports the genius that blossoms at VU?! We are proud of the University and the Guild for generating this good idea and now are proud to be a part of it."

Bobbie Wilson
Battle Creek, MI Chapter

"My son, daughter-in-law, and grandson graduated from Valparaiso University, so I have a very special place in my heart for VU. The University impacted their lives in such a positive way. I also have strong feelings for those students now and in the future who will benefit from all that VU has to offer. I want to invest in those students. Therefore, I decided to make a contribution to the Guild Endowment Fund for Undergraduate Research."

Mary Klenz
North East, PA Chapter

"Giving to the Endowment Fund for Undergraduate Research was a simple decision. It is an honor to support Christian higher education at a place that meant so much to me as an undergraduate. It is my hope that generations of students will benefit from the research opportunities now offered them."

Natalie Richard
Geiseman Memorial, IL Chapter
Message from President Harre

Ninety students participated in the commencement ceremony Sunday, December 19, 1999 that marked their individual fulfillment of the requirements of the programs of study in which they were enrolled. Fifty-five students received undergraduate degrees, 20 master's degrees, and 15 juris doctorate degrees. Faculty member Dr. Walter Wangerin, Jr. served as speaker for the event.

Students receiving their degrees at the May and December graduation ceremonies are generally the most visible and powerful symbols of the fulfillment of VU's mission. Bright, involved, able, and well-educated students take all that they were and all that they have become during their years at Valpo and are sent out from this place to share with family, friends, society at large, and their congregations the skills, attitudes, knowledge, and faith they have acquired.

In point of fact, the alumni of a college or university create the cumulative reputation of that college or university. While faculty, staff, buildings, books, programs of study, and a host of other factors all have their places in the enterprise, it is finally the excellence of VU's graduates that bears witness to VU's quality and character as a University.

In order to produce the very best alumni, adequate resources must be available to provide a first-class education. VU must attract able students, provide adequate financial aid for them, offer excellent programs of study that are guided by very competent and committed faculty, provide first-rate facilities, and model in all that it does the Christian intellectual tradition as influenced by VU's Lutheran perspective about matters of faith and life.

VU faces the ongoing challenge that it remain rooted in its faith tradition, yet be a place in which we are free to use the minds that God has given to each of us. Surrounded by change on every hand, VU must look outward to respond to the challenges that the changing environment creates. We also intend to remain loyal to the founders' vision of being a place where academic excellence is viewed from the vantage points of both faith and learning. The University is carried forward fully believing that it exists in the Father's world that has been redeemed by Jesus Christ.

As H. Broadlee Perry wrote, "The workaday world changes radically over time and doing things exactly the way we want to is often a prescription for failure in the current environment. It's one thing to celebrate the past and quite another to act as if we are living in the past."

Just as VU is complex and diverse, so also are the support structures necessary to maintain the strength and integrity of Valparaiso University as an entity. Student recruitment, endowment enhancement, outright gifts, speaking well of VU in every setting, and praying for VU on a regular basis are all important components of what make VU a great University that is a blessing to individuals, to society, to congregations, and to the church at-large.

On behalf of all of us at Valparaiso University, I thank each member of the VU Guild for what is done individually and for what is done collectively to support and sustain the mission of Valparaiso University.

God's Promises

Ring True

by Anne Franklin, Membership Chair

"For the Lord has promised good things...

Numbers 10:29

Our membership drive is running at full speed and is displaying promising results. In the chapters that have submitted 1999-2000 dues, we can celebrate 87 new Guild members.

What can you do to gain new members? Continue to follow up with the women in the target group you have chosen. Making phone calls, mailing information about your chapter, and making personal visits will keep VU and the Guild fresh in their minds. Do not get discouraged if you don't get immediate results...your persistence will pay off! Keep the bells chiming in your area about your pride and excitement for Valparaiso University and involvement through the Guild.

God's promises ring true!

DID YOU KNOW

... that the Guild has provided students with scholarships for 24 years (since 1975) from cookbook sales?

... that 36 Valpo students have received scholarships because of cookbook sales?

... that eight scholarships totaling $32,000 are awarded each year because of cookbook sales?

... that the sale of every cookbook goes directly into the endowment fund for future scholarships?

... that YOU can add to the scholarship endowment fund by buying a GUILD COOKBOOK?

The Guild national treasurer reported at convention that 5,900 UNSOLD cookbooks are still available! Every unsold cookbook represents money that is NOT available for student scholarships. In an effort to encourage sales, the Guild Board approved a special price to celebrate 2000!

BUY ALL 4 VOLUMES OF THE GUILD COOKBOOK FOR ONLY $25.00!!

(plus $5.00 shipping)

What a special deal!!

Just think of the possibilities...

Hostess gift

Valentine's Day gift

Housewarming gift

Graduation gift

Birthday or Anniversary gift

Mother's Day gift

Wedding Shower gift

"Welcome to the neighborhood" gift

If every Guild member sells THREE cookbooks, this excess inventory would be gone with 100% of the proceeds going to the endowed scholarship fund!! Let's do what we can to create as many scholarships as possible for future Valpo students!!!

by Carolyn Hanes, Cookbook Chair

How to order: Contact the Guild office at 800.748.4538 or guild@valpo.edu.
In Thy Light...

by Judy Waetjen

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

One of my favorite contemporary artists is Thomas Kinkade who is often described as "The Painter of Light." According to Kinkade, his prayer has been that somehow his work would be used to shine the light of encouragement and inspiration into the world around him. Today he stands in awe of the many ways that God has answered that prayer... opening doors to share his art with others, using the paintings themselves to encourage those who see them.

Like Kinkade, each of us is called to let her light shine. Light has one purpose: to dispel darkness. Jesus' admonition in Matthew is very clear. We are to let our light shine before men so that they may see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven. Our good works cause us to light up our world. But those good works are to be done not to glorify us, but our Father. If they do not point others beyond us to the Father, then something is wrong with the way we are letting our light shine. This does not mean that people should not love and appreciate us. This is naturally going to happen when GOD uses us in the lives of others. That love and appreciation should never stop with us. It should rather bring the focus around to the true Light, the Source of all Light... Jesus Christ. The lampstand is not significant, but the light that comes from the lampstand is. The lampstand is merely a vessel to bring light to those who are in its presence. Just as the moon reflects the sun's light, we reflect the Son's light.

The world has enough darkness... in all we do, may we as children of the Light, choose to reflect the Son's light... to each other, our families, our co-workers, the University... may we like the artist Thomas Kinkade stand in awe of the many ways God answers our prayers.

Thank-you Father for using us as vessels of your light in a darkening world. As your Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path, give us the direction we need to light up our corner of the world, using the gifts You have given us. Give us the power to let our light shine. Bless the work of the Guild... that we may reach our goals as we give you glory, honor, and praise. In the name of Jesus, the Source of all Light. Amen.

Valpo Sunday

Have you filled out and returned the "Valpo Sunday Opportunity Checklist" sheet? If not, do not delay. Do so today. Mary Burchfield, Guild Church Relations Chair, and Bill Karpenko, Director of Church Relations, value your input in this important program that promotes VU's church relatedness.

Are you looking for a stimulating topic for your next chapter gathering? What about...

"Friendship with God: Christian Ethics and Life"
"Long Range Financial Planning"
"A Brief Tour of the Universe"

Contact the Office of University Relations (219.464.5114) and ask for a copy of the Valparaiso University Speakers Bureau Guide. Many outstanding faculty and staff presenters are available to present excellent programs.

Creative Communications

The latest Grace Note designs by Creative Communications have been sent to your chapter president.

Don't miss out. Ask to see these cards that beautifully express your Christian faith on any occasion.

Y2KALEIDOSCOPE BAZAAR AND ????? SILENT AUCTION

by Julia Riess, Bazaar/Silent Auction Chair

Celebrate the first silent auction of the new century by giving the auction its own name. Send YOUR suggestion to Rebecca at the Guild office by April 1.

Plan to participate in the bazaar and silent auction with "favorite" items from last century and unique 21st century Millennium Merchandise.

What Can You Do with a VU Screen Saver Anyway?

Watch it,
Admire it,
Use it at work and home,
Show it to prospective students and youth groups,
Display it at Guild meetings, alumni events, VU Sunday,
Select one of its pictures as your computer desktop's background.
Give it to:
alumni,
roommates, friends,
new and current students,
fathers, mothers, sons, daughters,
sisters, brothers, pastors, youth workers,
people who say "Valpa-what?" or "Where is Valparaiso?"
As a gift for:
birthdays,
graduations, retirements,
just because I was thinking of you,
congratulations for a job promotion,
To say:
I love you,
Congratulations,
I'm so proud of you,
I'll always be your friend,
Thank you for supporting me,
See you at Homecoming this year,
Have you thought about going to Valparaiso?
by Christine DeLozier, Public Relations Chair

To order, contact the Guild office at 800.748.4538 or guild@valpo.edu.

Guild Market

By Judy Michaels, Guild Market Chair

Spring is fast approaching and with it comes bridal showers, weddings, confirmations, graduations, as well as the usual birthdays, Mother's Day, etc. Why not take a look at your Guild Market/B&B brochure for a very special gift? The lucky bride and groom will think of you every Christmas as they set up their three dimensional creche. Does your daughter, mom, or dad need a great Valpo apron? You get the idea! Do not forget the guild market as a source for that special gift for any occasion. You will help the Guild reach its project goal, too!

To order, contact the Guild office at 800.748.4538 or guild@valpo.edu.
The Baltimore Chapter will be hosting "Wedding Bells, Then and Now" this spring showing wedding gown fashions through the years and enjoying refreshments that would be served at an afternoon wedding reception. Pecans were sold again this year, and the word is that the chocolate ones "are wonderful!" The members have also begun to sell Creative Communications notecards. In working on their commitment to the "God's Promises Ring True" membership drive, they have sent letters to eight possible prospects and are praying for positive responses.

The exchange of ideas is so beneficial! At Convention, the Rochester Chapter reported that it had initiated a "Telephone Tree" among the members so that everyone can be contacted with little effort in a short period of time. The Baltimore Chapter has now adopted this process and reports that it is working great.

The Central New Jersey Chapter's charter member Mildred Raichle passed away on December 31, 1999. She was one of 26 who founded the chapter on February 15, 1948. At the chapter's 50th anniversary celebration in 1998, Millie was a featured speaker.

The Nassau Suffolk Chapter held its 45th anniversary celebration this fall with a cookbook luncheon at the home of chapter president Jackie Reinhard. Area Director Vicki Robisch was delayed coming from the airport by traffic jams in both New York and New Jersey, but kept in touch by cell phone and eventually arrived. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by all. This chapter adopted the Alternate Chapter Structure this fall. Each member signed up to be responsible for an activity or event the chapter decided it wanted to have this year.

The Elgin Chapter members held their annual fall tea and gift exchange. They look forward to their Taste of Valpo event in the spring. Members of the Geiseman Memorial Chapter held their annual Christmas party and gift exchange. They look forward to their Taste of Valpo event in the spring.

The Quad City Chapter members held an enjoyable Advent Brunch and look forward to their 45th anniversary celebration with a luncheon at the Quad City Botanical Center in March.

The Rockford Chapter members held their annual fall tea at which they welcomed mothers of current students. They will be together again soon for their cookbook potluck.

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The "worker bees" of the San Francisco-Bay Shore Chapter were thrilled when two new members recently joined. One is the mother of a new student and another came after many invitations. Gentle persistence pays off. President Caroline Weber said brainstorming ideas added excitement and energy to the group's plans for the coming year.

The Oregon Trail Chapter is gathering ideas and plans for the upcoming retreat March 24-26. All Guild members and friends are invited to attend this weekend of workshops, worship, and fellowship at the Waetjen B&B in Lincoln City, Oregon. For reservations contact Judy, 541.994.2337 or jwaetjen@wcn.net. See you there!

The Harbor Lights Chapter, along with all members of the Guild, greatly feel the loss of our member and friend, Bernice Ruprecht, but rejoice with her family that Ber has joined her husband Spitz in their heavenly home. In Christ all will be made alive.

The Milwaukee Suburban Chapter's holiday table settings luncheon was a big success. Two hundred and thirty tickets were sold with a profit over $3000. Members from the Appleton, Racine, and Sheboygan Chapters attended.

The Merrill Chapter enjoyed a Christmas luncheon at a local B&B garage sale, attending Convention, and gathering bazaar items were topics brought up by president Becky McFarland.

In December members of the Saginaw Chapter enjoyed their Christmas luncheon at the beautiful Saginaw Club. Rebecca Balko joined them for this annual event.

The Decatur Chapter, which recently observed its 50th anniversary, continues to cherish the time members spend together and looks forward to continuing its support of VU.

The highlight of the Indianapolis Chapter annual tasting luncheon in November was the program presented by the VU Handbell Choir. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn about campus life from the student musicians during lunch, and enjoy an excellent concert.

The Kentuckiana Chapter just concluded another successful pecan sale.

The Hammond Chapter instituted a very profitable new project, selling candles. The members are also diligently working on increasing their membership, recruiting several new members yearly.

The Michigan City Chapter's annual card party is still raising lots of money.

The Mishawaka-South Bend Chapter recently welcomed five new members, four mothers of students and one recent graduate who was a former Guild scholar. They once again had an extremely successful pecan and mixed-nut sale.

The Valparaiso Chapter members stay very busy baking cakes for students. In January the chapter hosted a "Pampered Chef" brunch where 100% of the profits went to the Guild project fund.

The Lorain Chapter is looking forward to the play it sponsors each spring. It's always a sell out!!

Members of Cleveland, Medina, and Lorain Chapters are working together to promote the VU Orchestra, Concert Band, and Chorale Concert March 12 at Severance Hall. Severance Hall is the newly renovated home of the world-renowned Cleveland Symphony Orchestra. It will be a wonderful event.

Did you see the excellent letter to the editor from a current Valpo student in the December 27 issue of the U.S. News and World Report regarding Valpo's honor code? President Lois Hannewald of the St. Petersburg Chapter did. It spurred her on to invite recent VU graduates to the next chapter gathering to share their favorite campus memories and greatest educational experiences while at VU. (The letter was written in response to the article "The Cheating Game" in the magazine's
November 22 issue)

The Treasure Coast Chapter welcomes Portia Nohel as its new president. Joan Lemke recognized Valpo Sunday by hosting a brunch for members after the church service. Valpo will be playing basketball against Belmont and the members of the Middle Tennessee Chapter hope to have a good turnout to cheer on the Crusaders.

When I e-mailed Sally Sirrine, the Winter Haven Chapter coordinator, she didn’t have any new chapter news, but she did say she had a wonderful birthday January 1. I won’t say what year it was, but it was a special year! Happy birthday, Sally!

Back to business, the Southern Piedmont Chapter led by Susan Dippold continues to bag groceries at Kohl’s. This small chapter raises $25 per person every 4 hours for the Undergraduate Research Endowment Fund with this activity.

Barbara Oster of the New Orleans Chapter reported the members had a great pecan sale. They sold out before they could fill all of the orders. This year chocolate-covered pecans became the “addiction” of her office.

The Christian Women’s Conference, “Triumphs and Transitions,” will take place on campus May 4-6, 2001. This conference will have two goals - personal renewal and spiritual growth. The program will feature inspirational speakers focusing on faith, family, career, and health. Watch for additional information in the near future.

In Memoriam

Gertrude "Trudy" Evans, Saginaw, MI Chapter
Lorraine Hoppe, Milwaukee Suburban, WI Chapter
Helen Kriston, Valparaiso, IN Chapter
Tillie Lisse, St. Petersburg, FL Chapter
Hershel Madoerin, husband of Beata Madoerin, Past National President, Omaha, NE Chapter
Mildred Raichle, Central New Jersey, NJ Chapter
Bernice Ruprecht, Harbor Lights, CA Chapter
Ruth Selle, Appleton, WI Chapter
Eleanor Urban, Wausau, WI Chapter

Thank You
A sincere thank-you to Katie Anderson for serving as the Guild office administrative assistant for the past two years. She recently accepted a full-time position with VU’s Electronic Information Services. We greatly appreciate all that she did for the Guild in her special caring way.

A Tribute to Bernice Lillie Ruprecht
Guild Executive Director 1952-1975
by Eunice Kennin Heinenderger, Minneapolis, MN Chapter

I grew up living next to Ber’s brother Hollis in Green Bay, WI. I still remember vividly the regular visits Ber and husband Spitz would make. Her cheerful, upbeat nature could not help but make an impression. It was that spirit and her enthusiasm that drew me to Valpo, sight unseen, as a student and later to join the Guild. For 23 years Ber was an example to all of us in the Guild by her deep commitment to Valparaiso University. She marked us forever with her strong Christian character, charm, and wit.

Ber’s motto from her first day in the Guild office until her very last was, “In my humble way, every passing day, may I glorify and serve the Lord.”
SAVE THESE DATES

March 3  VU Chorale and Symphony Orchestra Concert and Reception  Fort Wayne, IN
March 4-7  Mid-Continent Conference Tournament and Gathering  Fort Wayne, IN
March 4  VU Chorale and Symphony Orchestra Concert and Reception  Frederick, MD
March 6  VU Chorale and Symphony Orchestra Concert and Reception  Silver Spring, MD
March 7  VU Chorale and Symphony Orchestra Concert and Reception  Brookville, NY
March 11  VU Chorale and Symphony Orchestra Concert and Reception  Columbus, OH
March 12  VU Ensembles perform at Severance Hall  Cleveland, OH
April 13  Guild Day of Prayer (Guild Founders Day)
Sept. 15-17  Guild Convention  Valparaiso, IN
Sept. 22-24  VU Celebrates 75 years as a Lutheran University  Valparaiso, IN

VISION
The international community of Christian Women, using their gifts in volunteer service as unique and valued partners in the undiminished progress of Valparaiso University as the leading Lutheran University in the world.

MISSION
We create and develop a greater interest in the University as an institution of Christian higher learning.
We give financial assistance to the University.
We assist in increasing student enrollment.
We provide facilities necessary for the students’ physical and spiritual welfare.
We emphasize and reinforce the call of the University to provide highly educated and committed Christian leaders for the nation and the world.

Valparaiso University Guild
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Valparaiso, IN 46383-6493