Spiritual Triumphs and Transitions Celebrated on Campus

"A wonderful, blessed, inspirational weekend!" was a comment shared on one evaluation by a Christian Women's Conference attendee. This sentiment was expressed by many of the 180 women joining together the first weekend in May to learn and grow spiritually, and to strengthen their relationship with friends, family and foremost, God.

The conference began on Friday with keynote speakers Dr. Susanne Harvath and Nancy Olson. Their presentation, "Renaissance: Identity, Priorities, Money, Career and Relationships" inspired women to "realize, rethink and restructure" to bring Christian values into often hectic lives. Evensong in the Gloria Christi Chapel ended the evening.

On Saturday, attendees chose from a variety of breakout sessions focusing on specific faith-based topics ranging from family relationships and theology to health and career. During lunch, the women had the opportunity to get to know each other and to explore their faith through round table discussions.

A Valpo graduate, Gail Beckman, entertained the group with Broadway hit songs at Saturday evening’s "Dinner and Dreams" banquet.

Judy Waetjen led a Bible study on Sunday morning to close the weekend. Many women then worshiped in the Chapel of the Resurrection before heading home feeling both personally and spiritually renewed. "Having women of all ages, from all over the country, taking the time to worship, share and grow spiritually made the weekend enriching for all," said Lorraine Dorough, the Christian Women's Conference Chairperson. Her committee, Debra Albers, Kathy Allen, Jackie Jungemann, Marjorie Nagel and Julane Swank had been preparing for this weekend for over two years. "It was gratifying to see it come together so successfully and with such a positive response."

The conference, sponsored in partnership with VU's Office of Church Relations and with support from the Jay and Doris Christopher Foundation, was filled soon after the registration brochures were sent out.

Planning will soon begin for the next Christian Women’s Conference, tentatively scheduled for Spring 2003. Limited topics from this year's conference will be presented again as part of the Guild convention.
With

ONE

Voice

by Judy Mason

Do you remember the 1981 Guild Convention? Members came together that September weekend to celebrate the organization's 50th jubilee anniversary. There were over 500 members who attended that convention. Remember the banners in the Chapel? Remember welcoming 17 new chapters? Remember the Guild run? Remember the five-tier cake with 50 candles? Lee Kleinhans offered the following prayer for that convention “O God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, for the grand venture of faith that has been the Guild’s first 50 years, we give jubilant thanks; for new adventures awaiting us, for new chapters welcomed, for new members all over the country, we give jubilant thanks; for chapters 5, 10, 15 years old... for each of the thousands of Guild members who have served you, often with laughter, sometimes in tears, always in love.”

This September, we celebrate our 70th anniversary at the 2001 Convention. We have chosen as an organization to celebrate this milestone in a much more quiet and reflective way. Not because we are tired of loud celebrations but because we have become a mature organization - an organization that is comfortable with its past accomplishments and confident of its future. In our 70th year we have chosen to celebrate not only our rich history but to also celebrate the essence of what binds us together, and to Valparaiso University - our Christian faith and our need as Christians to pray. During this anniversary year we embarked on numerous activities that have promoted this theme.

As our 2001 National Project, we chose to provide monetary support for the production of the book titled, Our Hope for Years to Come - A Valparaiso University Prayer Book. This prayer book, the first book of this magnitude to be created by a Lutheran University, will provide a common devotional resource for those connected to VU. It will serve as a symbol of the University’s commitment and our commitment to the importance of spiritual life. The money the Guild raises this year will be used to publish 9,000 copies of the book. This gift will allow for free distribution to all current students and future freshmen classes. The project may not be the brick and mortar of many past projects, but it is keeping with our mission to provide for the spiritual needs of the students.

The Guild embarked on an entirely new venture this year. We hosted Triumphs and Transitions: A Christian Women’s Conference on the VU campus. It was co-sponsored with the VU Office of Church Relations and made possible by a generous grant from the Jay and Doris Christopher Foundation. Over 180 women attended the three-day conference. Many were Guild women, many were not. There were young and old women alike. Many came with friends and many with family members to talk, celebrate, cry, and pray together about life and Christian faith. Those who attended the conference left VU feeling closer to God and having a greater sense of sisterhood with their fellow Christian women.

On April 13th, the Guild Day of Prayer, we launched the Guild E-mail Prayer Network. Each month Guild women and others have the opportunity to provide prayer petitions for this network. The petitions are compiled and e-mailed to Guild members who are asked to incorporate the requests into daily prayers. The use of e-mail provides a wonderful communication tool to streamline our organizational operations. Now we are using it to share prayers of concern, support, and thanksgivings.

We praise God for His many blessings bestowed upon us throughout the past 70 years. Lee Kleinhans’ prayer of Thanksgiving is still applicable 20 years later. We give thanks for the Guild women who have gone before us and for those who will come after us, to maintain the vitality and purpose of our organization.

But God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer.

- Psalm 66:19.

Three Goals,

One Promise Campaign

Goals Being Achieved

By President Alan Hurte

Wonderful news continues to develop on campus. As of May 11, 2001, the face value of outright gifts, pledges and deferred gifts given, pledged and promised to Valparaiso University as part of the campaign publicly launched a year ago totaled more than $86 million. This is a very impressive total since the campaign goal was $75 million and since the campaign does not conclude until December 31, 2001.

Through the campaign, we have reached a new level of financial support to Valparaiso University. This record was achieved because of the generosity of many individuals. It is particularly noteworthy that members of the Board of Directors of the University have contributed more than $25 million in pursuing the University’s goals. This total represents outstanding support for Valpo from these 36 individuals. Many other people, organizations, and corporations also have been very generous in contributing to the campaign.

The campaign has benefited greatly from the leadership of co-chairs Phyllis and Richard Duesenberg, who also are models of generosity in providing $7 million to the campaign. Their gift is the largest ever received by the University from an individual or a couple.

While we celebrate the total support to the University, one campaign goal needs our continued attention. The principal capital project represented in the campaign is construction of the Center for Library and Information Resources. Construction of this new building is an important component in our commitment to academic excellence. Currently the dollars given and pledged to this project are less than the cost of the building. Vice President Richard Maddox and major gifts officers in the Office of Institutional Advancement, volunteer area coordinators and volunteer solicitors on the campaign staff, our academic deans, Provost Roy Austensen and I continue to make calls on potential donors in this endeavor. We must secure funding for this facility.

It is anticipated that there will be more good news to share as the campaign comes to its conclusion.
Plan now for Convention 2001

“...but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer.” – Psalms 66:19

Make plans to join in on the fun being planned for the 70th Guild convention, taking place on campus September 28-30, 2001. Highlights for this year’s convention include:

• A celebration of the Prayer Book project and completion of the Endowment for Undergraduate Research project
• Election of National Secretary and Treasurer
• A culmination of prayer requests sent this year through the Guild’s Prayer Network
• Launch of the 2001-2003 National Project to raise funds for the Center for Library and Information Resources
• More breakout workshops giving Guild members an opportunity to learn while on campus
• Recognition of faithful Guild members who have served the Guild for 35 years or more
• An enhanced Bazaar and Silent Action featuring the new Basket Boutique – with regional baskets prepared by Guild chapters all over the country
• The 70th Convention Banquet
• And, plenty of time to share with Guild members and friends!

Be on the lookout for the convention registration brochure and remember to register soon!

Silent Auction and Basket Boutique Registration Deadline: August 15th
Bazaar Registration Deadline: August 25th

Get Ready...Be Creative...

It’s Time for the VU Guild Bazaar & Silent Auction 2001

In early May, packets of Bazaar & Silent Auction information were mailed out to Chapter Presidents and the Guild Roster. Hopefully all of you are busy putting together great items for both.

Hopefully you also noticed the new idea, THE BASKET BOUTIQUE. This idea was given to the Bazaar/Silent Auction Committee by Valparaiso chapter member Jennifer Jones-Hall. We hope each Chapter will take the opportunity to put together a basket of regional goodies to be sold as part of the Silent Auction! It should be lots of fun!

• Silent Auction and Basket Boutique Registration Deadline: August 15th

Contact: 219-462-8955; dceat2508@yahoo.com
• Bazaar Registration Deadline: August 25th

Contact: Candy Kilpinen; 219-531-0234; ckilpinen@hotmail.com

Graduates Enjoy Lunch & Cookbook

Thank you to the chapters and individuals who purchased Guild cookbooks for the graduating senior women who attended the Graduating Women’s Luncheon on May 15.

There were more than enough cookbooks for the 65 women who attended. In fact, 400 cookbooks were purchased.

Volume IV was given to the seniors because of its cookbook index and it has the most in inventory. Many of the women were impressed with the gift and that it was given to them by Guild members. Several women were overheard to say, “I can use this!” Guild women are to be commended for their generosity.

Graduating women who didn’t attend the luncheon were contacted by e-mail to pick-up a cookbook at the Guild office. The remaining cookbooks will be distributed at future luncheons.

The lunch itself was also a success. Dot Nuechterlein, Director of Graduate Studies and former Guild Executive Director, spoke to the women about dealing with the changes that will be taking place in their lives. There were 20 members from the Valparaiso chapter on hand to help with the luncheon and answer questions about the VU Guild. Bar cookie desserts were donated by several Valpo chapter members.

National Officer Candidates

Kathy Bardenhagen
Sue Mullen
Lois Mitchum
Marjorie Nagel

NATIONAL SECRETARY
NATIONAL TREASURER
Guild Open House

The Guild office will host a Homecoming Open House on Friday, October 12, 2001 from 2-4 pm. Guild members and guests are invited to stop by to see the office, meet the staff and hear the latest Guild news. The Guild office is located in Kretzmann Hall.

Prayer Network

On April 13, Guild Founders Day, the Guild successfully launched the Prayer Network. Prayer petitions continue to be submitted. Each month, the Guild office will send an installment of prayer requests via e-mail.

If you have not been receiving the Guild’s Prayer Network, it is either due to technical difficulties (which are being solved this summer), or it is because we don’t have your e-mail address. If you would like to be included, please send your e-mail address to Tina.Richie@valpo.edu – and we will promptly add you.

You may be a part of the network even if you don’t have e-mail! Just let the Guild office know and we will send you a printed copy of the requests.

Thank you for continuing to keep the needs of others in your prayers and for sending in your prayer requests.

Congratulations

Blessings to former Guild Executive Director Rebecca Balko who will marry Mark Duesenberg in September. She appreciates the many gifts toward the Valpo prayer book that were made in honor of her wedding.

Valparaiso University Prayer Book

Progress continues to be made on “Our Hope for Years to Come – A Valparaiso University Prayer Book.” The book will be available this summer and distributed to students at fall registration. Information on the book and how to order has been sent to chapter presidents.

This 220-page prayer book consists of a collection of devotions following both the liturgical and academic year. The co-editors, Gail Efrig and Fred Neidner, state in the introduction that “it puts into tangible form the twin ribbons of two calendars – the secular and the sacred – and weaves them together in much the same way that life at Valparaiso University is lived out.”

The book also features excerpts from select sermons/homilies given on-campus throughout the University’s history.

The VLI Guild is providing the funding to support the writing, printing and distribution of the prayer book. Participating in the publication of the book fulfills the Guild’s mission to provide for the students’ spiritual needs and encourage the creation of future Christian leaders.

If you are interested in purchasing a copy of this book, please let your chapter president know. The Guild office is planning to fill chapter orders at convention. Additional books can be ordered through the Guild office. The book will cost $10 each, but a 20% discount will be given for orders of 10 or more books.

Summer Projects

We all have a “to do” list of summer projects and the Guild office is no exception! One of the projects on our list is to create a listserv e-mail system. With this system, Guild members with e-mail will be able to receive periodic updates from the Guild office and the prayer network. Recently, e-mail messages have been in a traffic jam on the Information Super Highway. The Guild office anticipates that having a listserv will allow messages to arrive to their destination.

If you receive a message from the listserv and would prefer to either be removed, or receive mail at another e-mail address, instructions will be available to make these changes.
The chapters of Area I have come up with many creative ideas for meetings and get togethers. All of these ideas are wonderful opportunities to foster friendships and fellowship within the Guild chapters.

Both the Baltimore and Rochester, NY chapters arranged trips to local art galleries. These trips were enjoyed by all participants and were a fun way to spend time together. The Baltimore chapter also had a silent auction during its May meeting. The Southtowns of Erie County chapter got together in May for its annual chapter dinner.

A member of the Northern Virginia chapter gave a slide show presentation on interior design at one of their chapter meetings. The Northern Virginia chapter is also planning a tour of the White House for later this year. Many of the chapters are also planning summer gatherings, meetings, or new student picnics. These chapters include Baltimore, Buffalo, Central New Jersey, Nassau-Suffolk, Rochester, and Southtowns of Erie County.

Area I chapters have also been busy with different fundraising opportunities such as Nassau-Suffolk's pecan sales and Southtown's June garage sale. Many chapters are also considering participating in the regional gift basket portion of the silent auction to be held at convention.

The Rockford chapter had a nice turnout at their annual Guild cookbook potluck where they enjoyed a Pampered Chef demo and an evening of fellowship. They had a rummage sale in May and are thinking ahead for items to include in their chapter's basket for the new Basket Boutique at convention this fall.

The Quad City chapter had its final meeting of the year and celebrated Mother's Day by sharing about mothers, daughters, and grandchildren. They proudly voted to send over $2,000 to the project fund as the result of pecan sales, Scrip orders, and their spring salad luncheon.

Judy flew to California and got Zach into a hotel, but hotel costs were exorbitant and area hotels were over-booked. That is when Kathryn called Carol Baker, president of the Santa Clara Valley chapter, to find out the Guild Bed & Breakfast possibilities.

Judy went back and forth for Zach's doctor appointments and chemo treatments and eventually she found an apartment for Zach. At age 25, stem cell research is now Zach's only chance at life. Zachary is on the Guild's prayer network and Carol is still in touch with the family.

Thank you to Carol Baker for her compassion and bravery, taking in this homeless, young man and seeing to his needs. We expect no less from Guild women, daughters of Christ.

Orange County chapter has been celebrating their 25th anniversary all year. They began collecting coins in silver bags last spring for the national project. A 25th anniversary party was held at the lovely home of Sandy Jurkowski. It was, of course, a Guild cookbook potluck.

Former area director Vi Brejle presented a brief history of the chapter. Many scrapbooks were also available with "funny" pictures of long ago chapter events. Kathryn Hronec presented news from the national Guild and President Kathy Eckstaedt talked of present chapter news. Kathryn also recognized chapter members and the many members that held national Guild positions over the years. Orange County is a vital chapter and continues to contribute on the national level. Orange County chapter member, Rebecca Otte, is the current Guild Membership Chair. We commend the women of Orange County for 25 years of service to the VU Guild.

Wisconsin State Unit officers are (from left to right) Treasurer Cindy Russler, Secretary Virginia Kohneke, President Peg Olson, and President-Elect Sally Hostvedt.
New officers for the St. Petersburg chapter: Lois Mae (Gehrke) Hannenwald (President); Christine Hartman-Glave (Vice President); Sharon (Rau) Panuette (Secretary); Foy Grinstead (Treasurer) and members were able to see what the VU campus looks like today as they viewed several VU promotional videos. Their annual corn roast is planned for the end of July.

The Saginaw chapter listened to a wonderfully uplifting program by Rev. Joel Kaiser in March as he explained his life as a partially blind chaplain. In May, the members invited their spouses to hear Larry Elliott, a diver, speak about exploring the wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald.

Ann Arbor chapter members, spouses, and friends enjoyed a dinner together in early spring at a restaurant with Victorian decor. Several prospective members were in attendance. The chapter presented a farewell tribute to Pam Sieving, a longtime member and past national vice president, who is moving to the Washington, D.C. area in spring. A donation by the chapter to the future VU library was made in Pam’s honor.

The Detroit chapter held their annual Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show at the Gross Pointe War Memorial on the shores of Lake Huron. Guild members of all ages modeled the latest spring styles from Talbots for a crowd of over 150 women. All Guild members are invited to the Detroit chapter’s 70th anniversary celebration on October 19, 2001. The program will include an interesting presentation entitled “Lunch with the First Ladies” in addition to honoring the past presidents of their 70 year history.

All Guild members are invited to the Detroit chapter’s 70th anniversary celebration on October 19, 2001. The program will include an interesting presentation entitled “Lunch with the First Ladies” in addition to honoring the past presidents of their 70 year history.

The Kentuckiana chapter had its 4th annual bookfair at Hawley-Cooke Booksellers during the week of April 2-8. The AAL Branch will match the profits, so almost $200 will go to the project fund. The chapter ate lunch and had a meeting at a restaurant near the bookstore on April 7. Cheryl Schultz, a Valpo graduate, joined the group for the first time.

Several churches in the Mishawaka-South Bend area participated in VU Sunday. The Mishawaka-South Bend chapter had a spring luncheon at Knollwood Country Club and met Area Director Karen Looney who installed new officers. The final fundraiser of the year was a Port-A-Pit Chicken & Rib Sale in May. The chapter is looking forward to a family picnic in July.

The Valparaiso chapter had a “Home Interiors” Party in January earning $104. The March business meeting included a presentation by nurse practitioners from the University Health Center discussing various women’s health topics for the first time, the chapter had a Worship Together Sunday on April 29th at the Chapel. On May 10th the group had a docent tour led by a docent of the Ansel Adams art exhibit at the Brauer Museum of Art.

The Sunday after Easter the Hammond chapter had a successful fundraiser in conjunction with Pizza Hut. It is becoming a tradition and people look forward to it. The final meeting of the year was a Salad/Desert Potluck with installation of officers.

Bed and Breakfast is alive and well in New Orleans. It was great that recent Valpo grads are using the B&B.

The Treasure Coast chapter's new President is Ann Mertz. She is an alumna of VU (‘60).

The Orlando chapter's annual July 4th concert is their largest fundraiser. Offerings from the concert are matched by AAL Branches in the Orlando area. Organizers are alumni Vida Ann Schultz, David Ludwig and long time faithful supporter, Vic Freudenberg.

This year, the St. Petersburg chapter celebrated a very successful year at their meeting in April. At the Cookbook Taster Luncheon they sold more cookbooks than ever, sold out of pecans and Bear Peak (Sheila’s Select) take place at the WJ Green Lodge in the Metro Parks near Berea.
Accepting Scrip Orders

The Great Lakes Scrip program offers non-profit organizations an opportunity to earn money by buying items they already shop for with scrip certificates. The gift certificates from national and local retailers are sold at the face value. Then, a percentage (the percentage of profit varies by merchant from 3-18%) is returned to the Guild. The certificates include many popular stores and restaurants including JC Penney, Olive Garden, Blockbuster Video, gas stations, and grocery stores.

Chapter Presidents should have received information about the program in a recent mailing. The information includes a list of participating stores, an example of how the program works and an order form. This year, Judy Rullman will collect the orders to distribute the gift certificates at Convention. To be part of this order, please return your order form by September 20.

Last year, Judy piloted this program at convention and with only 10 participants earned $150 for the Guild. So this year with more time and information we look forward to much greater involvement. If you would like to receive more information on this program, a list of participating stores or would just like to know more, please call the Guild office at 800-748-4538. It is a simple fundraiser - and better for the Guild when more people participate!

Congratulating the new 2001-2002 recipients of the Guild scholarships!

Cookbook Scholarship
Katherine Berg, Corvallis, OR
Warren Jones, Madison, WI
James McBride, St. Clair Shores, MI

Shirley Ayres Jud Scholarship
Leah Engfehr, Collinsville, IL

Past National Officers
Ann Dawson, Milwaukee, WI
Andrew Engfehr, Collinsville, IL

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Katherine Berg, Corvallis, OR
Warren Jones, Madison, WI
James McBride, St. Clair Shores, MI

Shirley Ayres Jud Scholarship
Leah Engfehr, Collinsville, IL

Past National Officers
Ann Dawson, Milwaukee, WI
Andrew Engfehr, Collinsville, IL
SAVE THESE DATES

July 20 – August 2  Baltic Cruise - Valpo Voyages “Treasures of the Baltic”
July 22  Washington D.C. - Summer Send-off at Rock Creek Park
July 29  Chicago, IL - Summer Send-off at Ravinia
July 29 – 30  Frankenmuth, MI - Golf Outing
August 4  Hobart, IN - Summer Send-off at Deep River Waterpark
August 11  Indianapolis, IN - Summer Send-off at Indians Baseball game
August 12  St. Louis, MO - Summer Send-off at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church
August 27  Minneapolis, MN - Golf Outing at Island View Golf Club
September 28-30  Guild’s 70th Convention
October 3 – 11  Tuscany – Contona, Italy - Valpo Voyages “Alumni College”
October 12-14  Homecoming 2001 and reunions
October 19  Detroit chapter’s 70th anniversary luncheon
October 20  Rochester, NY chapter’s 50th anniversary luncheon
October 27-28  Parents Weekend
October 28  Houston, TX - Homecoming Picnic
Oct. 27 – Nov. 3  Mexico City, Mexico - Valpo Voyages “Travel Immersion to Mexico”
November 9-11  Guild’s Targeted Leadership Forum
December 12  Valparaiso University Christmas Concert at Symphony Center, Chicago

If you are aware of a Guild event that you would like other members to know about, please send it to the Guild office.

Valparaiso University Guild
Kretzmann Hall
Valparaiso, IN 46383-6493

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.