Exemplifying the University’s Ideals

The Guild’s mission has two parts. Part one recognizes the Guild’s commitment toward “enhancing the student experience.” This is carried forth through funding grants, awarding scholarships, supporting undergraduate research, distributing the Valparaiso University Prayer Book, and providing tender, loving care.

Part two, “exemplifying the university’s ideals of scholarship, freedom and faith,” is intrinsic to the Guild’s culture and possibly more difficult to define. Describing how Guild members exemplify the university’s ideals is as easy as describing the color blue.

The term scholarship, freedom and faith comes from the university’s mission statement to express its Lutheran tradition. Faith reflects an abiding trust in God; freedom demonstrates God’s forgiveness which frees people to serve others; and scholarship challenges those in the university setting to create, discover, share and apply knowledge, again in service to others. Faith and freedom are God’s gifts that foster Valparaiso University’s commitment to scholarship.

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Eighty-four Guild members participated in the campaign to purchase new hymnals for the Chapel of the Resurrection. Students Andrew Stoebig, Katie Benjamin, Matt McCuen, and Lora Rehbein break in the new books.
With One Voice
by Candace Kilpinen

What inspires you to enhance the experience of students through the Guild? What might inspire others to join us in this commitment?

Each of us has our own Guild story to tell. Many join because of a warm invitation from a friend. Some join to maintain Valpo connections in new locations. Others feel a strong debt of gratitude to Valpo that the Guild helps them pay back. In the end, however, our commitment is tied directly to the Guild’s purpose and accomplishments.

As Guild members, we purposefully support Christian higher education. We believe in the power of education. We also value our Christian faith as embodied by the university’s mission to prepare students to serve in both church and society.

As Guild members, we witness the Guild’s impact on students. We see clearly that our time, talent and treasure enhance the experience of Valpo students as they discover their vocational calling.

Through the Guild, we empower students to serve. Valpo’s students touch more needy souls—those Jesus describes as the “least of these”—than we could ever serve as individuals. Through students, we have fed Jesus. We have visited Jesus in prison. We have invited Jesus in from the streets.

Understanding this long, loving arm that the Guild extends—through us, through Valpo and its students, to God’s children—we are anxious to encourage others to join by committing to enhancing the experience of students while exemplifying the university’s ideals of scholarship, freedom and faith. Together we are collaborating to change the world, share our godly gifts and make a difference! ♦

UNIVERSITY NEWS

Beginning May 18 selections from Valpo’s permanent collection will be displayed in the Brauer Art Museum through the fall. For more information, visit valpo.edu/artmuseum.

The Baccalaureate Service will be on Sunday, May 20 in the Chapel. The Conferring of Degrees will take place in the ARC at 1:30 p.m. with Bill Kurtis, a Chicago news anchor and A&E channel host, as the guest speaker.

June brings new students and their parents to the FOCUS orientation. There are a total of four FOCUS sessions scheduled. The Guild co-hosts a parent reception and staffs a booth at a Student Services Fair.

The placement rate of 2006 Valpo graduates was 95 percent. This is the 14th consecutive year it topped 90 percent. The Career Center surveys members of the class to determine results.

Valparaiso University’s student newspaper, The Torch, and its staff were cited for excellence and took home 25 awards from the Indiana Collegiate Press Association’s annual contest and convention in March.
Keeping the Mission Alive
by Jill Lyons

On a campus where faith and life coincide, the student organization Social Action Leadership Team (SALT) makes an impact. SALT's members seek to be the "salt of the earth" (Matthew 5:13) by encouraging a Christian response through service and an awareness of social justice issues. Their most ambitious project, the World Relief Campaign, will raise $10,000.

SALT chose "Mission Nutrition" as this year's project. The funds will help combat hunger in Bundibugyo (pronounced: boon deh boo gee oh), Uganda. SALT is working together with World Harvest Mission, a Christ-centered non-government organization, to implement this program. Through this partnership, SALT and World Harvest Mission expect to feed 1,800 malnourished or at risk children from June 2007 to May 2008.

"Most of the money raised will be used to run recipe trials to create nutritional recipes using local foods. Community members will be trained in the distribution process, and finally, funds will be used to purchase local foods that are self-replicating in order that the community's needs can be met," said chair of SALT, Megan Jesperson.

SALT fundraises by hosting events such as an educational dinner, an Iron Chef Competition, a Mission Nutrition 5K race and a Bundi-boogie-o Dance Off. Paula Maust, SALT's advocacy chair, feels encouraged at the progress saying, "I am excited to see the various activities that we will participate in to help us achieve our goal of raising $10,000. SALT is a wonderful learning experience that I am privileged to be a part of!"

With their energetic personalities and unfailing determination, SALT leaves a lifelong impression on its members. As members graduate they leave Valparaiso University equipped to not only serve God, but to serve as activists and community leaders.

For more information on Mission Nutrition, visit SALT's website valpo.edu/chapel/salt.

Guild Volunteers Wanted

Guild members may get involved by testing new fundraisers and sharing "how-to" information with other Guild members.
Guild Survey Results

As the Guild implements a new structure, one common concern is how members will continue to work together. To address this concern, the Guild Board of Directors formed a Member-Initiated Activity committee to define procedures on how to plan, fund and promote Guild-sponsored activities. Recognizing that by June 2008 local bank accounts will be closed, this committee intends to develop guidelines to encourage successful activities.

In addition, the board has identified three primary objectives for the Guild. The organization needs to build the Guild Endowment Fund to ensure the funds to fulfill its mission, build the Guild’s network to have more members to count upon to serve, and build the organization’s image to distinguish the Guild as an intergenerational and contemporary network of Valpo supporters.

The activities that Guild members choose to be involved with will demonstrate the Guild’s commitment. Fundraisers will need to be profitable and a good return on a volunteer’s time. Activities should attract a wide audience to grow support beyond Guild members. The quality that people expect from Valparaiso University should be reflected in all Guild functions.

The survey confirmed an interest in participating in local Guild activities, though fewer members seek to lead local activities.

Outreach to new members is an attractive service opportunity. Many members feel most comfortable inviting prospective members to an event. This reinforces the need for members initiating activities.

A third significant conclusion is the need to educate members about the Guild’s new structure. Future publications will continue to provide information to help members understand their roles within the new structure.

Thank you to the 140 members who completed this survey.
Kate Wurster

> Home: Eagleville, PA
> Family: Mom (Guild member); sister (Valpo grad)
> Valpo Connection: 1995 graduate
> Member of Guild since: 1997

How Kate became involved with the Valparaiso University Guild is a classic example of how easy it is to join an organization when the members truly care about their friends.

"I was looking for a way to stay connected [with Valpo] and I knew there was a large alumni base in Rochester, NY. My mentor was an alumna and she invited me to come to a meeting. About that same time another Guild member hosted a Super Bowl party for area alumni, which I went to and had a great time. Over time, I slowly got more involved." She continues, "Since I moved, I have gone back a couple times for the annual wine tasting fund-raising event. It's a chance to catch up with everyone and have a wonderful multi-course meal."

Kate works in a marketing department. She admits that because of attending Valparaiso University, she is where she is today. She would like to see other students succeed because of their experience at Valpo.

> Read more about Kate at www.valpo.edu/guild

Exemplifying the University's Ideals

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Richard Baepler characterizes Guild members in his history of the university titled Flame of Faith, Lamp of Learning as "tenacious in supporting the deep links between academic and churchly aspects of the University." Throughout the lifespan of the Guild, members have helped others to understand the university's church-related environment by hosting Valpo Sunday, promoting church music programs and prayerfully supporting the university community. Events such as the Guild's Christian Women's Conference provide an opportunity to exemplify the university's ideals where attendees experience scholarship, freedom and faith first-hand.

New Web Page Launched

The Guild launched a redesigned web page in March. Members will appreciate the information and forms available online. Visit valpo.edu/guild today!
Three Decades of Guild Scholarships

Guild scholarships fulfill the dream of the Guild's most enterprising members. The Guild provides over $50,000 in scholarships annually through three funds: a Cookbook scholarship, a Past National Officers scholarship and the Shirley Jud scholarship. The total fund value of the three funds is nearly $1 million.

Since the mid-1970s, 77 Valpo students have benefited from a Guild scholarship. The stories of the students who received the scholarship are as inspirational as the stories of how Guild members generated the funding for the scholarships.

The sale of Guild cookbooks funded the Cookbook Scholarship. When the cookbooks were originally sold, each $3.00 book earned a $.50 profit. The profit was intended to support the Project Fund, however a committee recommended the funds be used for scholarships. The membership approved the allocation of proceeds to fund four annual $500 scholarships in 1974 with the first scholarship awarded the following year. Today, eight students receive $5,000 per year, a total of $40,000 given annually. The sales of four cookbook volumes (around 80,000 books total) have allowed this fund to grow.

The significant need for scholarships also prompted the Guild to form its Past National Officers scholarship in the name of all who have served on the Guild's board of directors. Commemorative gifts have been a significant source of funding for this scholarship. This scholarship assists students in their junior and senior years. With tuition projected to increase 5% per year, this scholarship can offset the financial burden upperclassmen face.

Stephanie Lehman, a Cookbook Scholar, looks forward to graduation in 2008.
In 1990, the family of Shirley Jud, a long-time Guild member, initiated a Guild scholarship in her memory. One student receives $4,000 annually for four years.

On average, the Guild receives 18 applications annually, which the Guild office keeps on file until the students graduate. When a scholarship is forfeited (for example, a student withdraws from the university), Financial Aid chooses an alternative recipient from the pool of applications on file.

Guild scholarships are awarded to relatives of Guild members based on financial need and academic achievement. The Office of Financial Aid determines the recipients after evaluating the financial package for each applicant. Guild scholarships can influence a prospective student’s ability to attend Valpo.

A student must meet certain criteria to retain a scholarship. The criteria includes being enrolled at Valpo, the relative’s Guild membership being current and maintaining a 2.75 grade-point-average.

Many university scholarships are intended to attract the highest academic achievers and not let students who deserve a Valpo education slip by because of a lack of funding. The Guild scholarships assist the university in attracting quality Valpo students whom without the scholarship may have been forced to go elsewhere. Assisting students through scholarships furthers the Guild’s mission of enhancing the student experience; for without the Guild scholarship, 77 students may not have had the Valpo experience at all.

Hilary Gebauer (VU 2001) chose to attend Valparaiso University because of the quality of its academics, especially in Christ College. The excellent financial aid package, including a Guild Scholarship, made Valpo the obvious choice.

After graduation, Hilary volunteered with the Lutheran Volunteer Corps, working with an urban housing organization in Minneapolis. She was then hired by the same organization and worked for three years as their Director of Development. She is currently the Grants Administrator at the Lutheran Community Foundation.

"In this position I am privileged to spend my days working with donors from across the country to help them realize their charitable goals."

Her fondest memories of Valpo include late night study breaks with her friends, singing at Christmas Vespers, going to the Dunes, researching interesting Biology topics and going out with friends. "The common theme of my memories is the solid community of friends, professors and staff who surrounded me."
GUILD SCHOLAR – MARK BROMANN

The financial aid package confirmed Mark Bromann (VU 1977) would attend Valparaiso University. Mark is still grateful for the Guild scholarship saying, "The sole reason that I graduated in 3-1/2 years was to save my parents a semester’s worth of tuition. So the money was a Godsend, but truly I felt honored to be a Guild Scholar and to speak to the Guild women when they came back to Valpo. It is something that still brings back very good memories."

While on campus, he worked in the Union cafeteria and spent a semester abroad in Cambridge, England. Thirty years after graduating from Valpo, he operates Rally Fire Protection Services out of Wheaton, Illinois. Mark has published fire protection engineering articles and has authored a textbook titled "The Design and Layout of Fire Sprinkler Systems."

GUILD SCHOLAR – MARK MIELKE

Mark Mielke (VU 1983) was drawn to Valparaiso University by its prestigious engineering department and its Lutheran foundation. He remembers studying for exams with other engineering students, trudging across the tundra to Gellersen in all types of weather and walking through old campus.

Since graduation Mark has occupied various Electrical Engineering positions and is presently in a management position in the field of wireless communications. He returned to campus just a few months ago and was surprised at the amount of construction and how much open space is being consumed. "It certainly suggested the university is 'on-the-move'."

The Guild impressed Mark as a hardworking group genuinely interested in 'bettering' the university. He was thankful for the scholarship because, "I was better able to concentrate on studying and obtaining my degree and less on worrying how to pay for it."

"I've always been impressed with the long history of the Guild and the idea of a network spread out across the country who support Valpo in so many ways." - Hilary Gebauer

Cookbook Scholarship
Founded: 1974
First Award: 1975

Past National Officers Scholarship
Founded: 1974
First Award: 1987

Shirley Jud Scholarship
Founded: 1990
First Award: 1993
Letter from Valpo Student

Dear Sandy and VU Guild members,

I am a senior at Valparaiso University and for the past several years I have received the mid-term survival packages from the Milwaukee Suburban area women of the VU Guild. I wanted to write and thank you for all your efforts in this project. It means a great deal to me to know that VU has such a supportive network of people who are concerned for the well-being of VU students. Going home is not always an option for me and sometimes families cannot afford to support their students while at school. In this light, receiving a survival bag full of hygiene and snack items is a huge encouragement. It is so comforting to know that someone outside of VU is looking out for us and is willing to exhibit interest in our college experiences even though they may not know us personally. Thank you for making this project possible and for the many kind thoughts and efforts the VU Guild sends to campus every year. Your presence is felt on campus and at home as the VU Guild provides a caring hand to VU students throughout the year. Thank you again and God bless you all!

Sincerely,
Kaitlin Honeyager

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Debra Albers – Valparaiso, IN
John Albers – Valparaiso, IN
Christine DeBruzzi – Carlisle, MA
Diane Eberhardt – Vernon Hills, IL
Joyce Horn – Dyer, IN
Don Hostvedt – Merrill, WI
Bill Karpenko – Valparaiso, IN
Marlise (Molly) Halvorson Nagel – Bronxville, NY
Karen Naumann – New Berlin, WI
Sarah Severson – Carbondale, IL
Kathleen Siepman – St. Louis, MO
Shannon Steuber – Hilo, HI
Debi Valstad-Lund – Naperville, IL
Abby Weiss – Valparaiso, IN

Luncheon Tradition Continues

The Guild will host a Senior Women’s Luncheon on Thursday, May 17 in the Guild Lobby of the Center for the Arts. This event will feature keynote speaker Dr. Dorothy C. Bass, Director of Valparaiso Project on the Education and Formation of People in Faith at Valparaiso University. Dr. Bass, a speaker at previous Guild events, will present “Leading Lives that Matter” based on the book she wrote with her husband, Dr. Mark R. Schwehn, published under the same title.
And He said to them, ‘Why are you afraid, O men of little faith?’
Then He rose and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.
~ Matthew 8:26

Changes in life can be terrifying. The instability of change, the disruption of comfort zones and the propulsion into the unknown have a way of gutting us to the core. We panic, we waiver in faith and we lose trust in those who support and guide us.

As a graduating senior, I am making one of the most significant life changes I will ever make. I am ending the era of dependency and the life of a full-time student to embrace the world of chaos, uncertainty and responsibility. In many ways change, especially this one, resembles a storm. We feel like we have lost control and are in a whirlwind of confusion.

Through these times we need to stay strong in our faith, remembering that Jesus is here to calm our storm. He is our rock on solid ground. He holds our hand along life’s pathway, both through the sunny days and the stormy ones. As we make life-altering decisions and feel unstable, we can take comfort through His Holy Word knowing that behind all things is our loving, sovereign God.

Joanna Bender graduates from Valparaiso University in May 2007 with a degree in Public Relations. Her hometown is St. Louis, MO.

Fun Facts About Guild Members

Guild members like to have fun. For laughs, here are some interesting tidbits on the Guild.

• The most common first name (26 members) in the Guild is a version of Kathy or Catherine. Rounding out the top five most common names are variations on the names Carol (20), Susan (19), Lois (18) and Ruth (16).

• Nine percent of members’ first names begin with the letters MAR.

• There are Guild members in 37 of the United States. The most Guild members live in Indiana.

• There are 52 members who are neither a parent of a Valpo grad nor a graduate.

• 75% of members have e-mail.
**Meet a Member**

**Liz DeMik**

> **Home:** Arlington, VA  
> **Family:** Husband; four children (all Valpo grads; three of them married grads)  
> **Valpo Connection:** 1969 graduate  
> **Member of Guild since:** 1973

"The reason I joined the Guild was because I loved Valpo so much and I wanted to give back and I could not afford to give big bucks. The Guild was my way to give back."

So says long-time Guild member Liz DeMik, a proud grandmother and newly consecrated deaconess who has enjoyed being part of what she calls "the strongest Christian organization I have been involved in."

Liz considers herself part of the "old school" Guild as she vividly recalls the days when ladies came to campus wearing hats and gloves and stayed in Scheele Hall when they visited. Things are a little different now, and Liz feels a bit of nostalgia for the past.

Although times have now changed and Liz will miss the old days, she is trusting in God to lead the Guild in the right direction.

> Read more about Liz at www.valpo.edu/guild

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**Upcoming Events**

Contact the Guild office at 1-800-748-4538 for more information on any of these events.

- **May 15** — Saginaw, MI area Spring Meeting, 12:30 pm, Horizons Conference Center. Contact Bonnie Johnson (989-673-6965).
- **May 15** — Milwaukee Suburban’s 50th Anniversary celebration, 5:30 pm, The Pines Restaurant, Hartland, WI. RSVP and $30 fee is required. Contact Barbara Meyer (414-421-1187).
- **May 17** — Guild’s Senior Women’s Luncheon, on campus
- **May 19** — St. Louis area Spring Meeting, 11:00 am in Crestwood, MO. Space is limited. Contact Jan Duesenberg (314-842-6007).
- **June** — New Student Orientation (FOCUS), on campus
- **June 30** — The **absolute deadline** for funds to be received to count toward the 2006-2007 fiscal year.
- **July** — Member renewal notices and ballots mailed
- **July 23** — Guild Board of Directors Strategic Planning Retreat, Chicago
- **August 28** — Fall 2007 classes begin
- **October 3-4** — Guild Board of Directors Meeting, on campus
- **October 5-7** — Homecoming / 1957 & 1982 class reunions, on campus
- **October 19-21** — Family Weekend, on campus
Ways a Member Can Serve the Guild

Guild members have always been counted on for their dependability and willingness to step up to serve Valparaiso University. Here are some ways that Guild members can actively participate in the Guild.

1. Read information that is sent by the Guild and Valparaiso University to know the most up-to-date information (and pass along publications to inform others).

2. Plan or attend one Guild event annually to encourage the one-on-one relationships that are formed between Guild members.

3. Read the student blog on the Guild's webpage to better understand the lives of current Valpo students (valpo.edu/guild/blog)

4. Attend athletic and music events when Valpo comes to a nearby town. Say “yes” to providing housing or meals to students when asked.

5. Keep the extended Valparaiso University community in your prayers.