Let's Celebrate 150 Years!

Valparaiso University's 150th academic year has begun. Throughout the year, sesquicentennial events will honor the past, celebrate the present, and share the excitement about the future.

Valparaiso University's launch into the future is evident in its new president. Mark A. Heckler assumed his role as the 18th president on July 1 and was formally installed during inauguration ceremonies on campus Oct. 17.

Already presiding over Opening Convocation and the Popcorn Fest Parade, Mr. Heckler has jumped into Valpo life. At Convocation, he inspired the campus community with the words, "You and I have been called here." He explained that within the word convocation is the word vocation which means being called and having the discernment to use God-given talents.

Without pause, Mr. Heckler has embraced Valpo's mission which allows the University to offer students something greater than just a degree. Guild members will have the opportunity to meet Mr. Heckler and his wife, Veronica, at many of the special events the University has planned this year.

Beyond the 150th anniversary celebration and inauguration, a sense of renewal is being felt on campus. This renaissance is visible when the football players compete on the renovated Brown Field as well as seeing the final touches being applied to the new Union which opens in January.

In Valpo's 150th year, we celebrate the blessings we've enjoyed and the blessings to come!
With One Voice
by Julie Thomas

Connections have always been critical to the Guild’s success. As ambassadors for Valparaiso University, we connect others to this amazing place. We connect with Valpo by being on the inside track of information. We connect with others who share our values and passion for the Lutheran higher education that Valpo provides.

Recently we introduced “virtual” connections. The internet has opened a number of possibilities to distribute and receive information. The Guild has jumped on this information “superhighway” through its web page, monthly e-update, online giving and by hosting its first web conference.

In April, 25 people connected to hear Mark LaBarbera, Director of Athletics, share an update on Valpo athletics (page 8). The conference gave people the opportunity to learn about the University without having to travel beyond their computer.

In the near future, Guild supporters will gather locally to view and participate in web conferences. All it will take is people willing to identify a central location where they can gather to log-on. Then people will be connecting to Valpo, face-to-face and to Valpo friends all over the world. A national fundraiser committee is exploring the possibility of offering more web conferences.

The Guild has a vision for enhancing every Valpo student’s experience. To learn more about how the Guild will achieve this vision, read about Mapping Out the Guild’s Future (page 6). Opportunities to create connections—whether through functions such as the Christian Women’s Conference (page 4) or upcoming events (page 11) or via our computers will only further the Guild’s success!
Valpo’s Accomplished Leader Retires

Students who use wireless laptops exist a generation removed from the students who brought typewriters to campus when President Alan F. Harre took office in 1988. For two decades, Harre provided leadership to enhance the reputation of Valparaiso University. The list of accomplishments during the University’s 17th president’s tenure is extensive. Memories include the opening of the Center for the Arts and Christopher Center for Library and Information Resources, numerous building renovations and the University’s significant endowment growth which has been supported through the Guild-Endowment Fund and scholarship endowments.

Diane Harre’s role in bolstering Valpo’s success was significant as well. As Valpo’s first lady she interacted with thousands within the Valpo community. Together they established the Alan F. and Diane C. Harre Endowment Fund to provide funds for scholarships and faculty development. Gifts to this or other funds in honor of the Harres may be made at valpo.edu/givetovu.

At the Harre tribute celebration, it was announced that the union, scheduled to open in January 2009, will carry the Harre name serving as a testimony to the progress achieved in the past 20 years. The Board’s decision was announced by the Reverend Mark Helge of Rockford, Ill., an alumnus and a member of the Board, who along with his wife, Kathy, a Guild member, and his aunt, Marion Breen of New York City, are major donors to the $74 million union project.

During Convention 1988 the Guild offered a resolution asking God to guide and bless Harre as he serves his Lord. We certainly ask the same as the Harres enjoy retirement in Nebraska.

Students experienced teaching in the school and orphanage in Bluefields, Nicaragua thanks in part to a $2500 Guild Campus Gift grant. As one student states, “This was an amazing cross-cultural experience.”
2009 Christian Women's Conference

Plans are underway for the Guild's fifth biennial Christian Women's Conference taking place April 24-26, 2009 on campus. The theme, Live in the Light: But if we live in the light, as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another... 1 John 1:7, brings attention to the University's motto "In Thy Light, We See Light" in celebration of the University's 150th year. Valpo's president, Mark Heckler and his wife, Veronica, will join conference attendees on Friday for a reception titled "Celebrate the Light: Reflections on Valpo's 150 Years" which is followed by evening worship.

New this year is an optional early bird class led by Valparaiso University professor Lisa Driver. Also new is having both keynote sessions offered on Saturday. Sue Steege, Director of Transformation Ministries at First Trinity Lutheran Church in Tonawanda, NY, has been chosen as the keynote speaker.

Attendees will be able to choose from 12 breakout sessions divided into four tracks: Light in the Word (Bible study), Light in the World (missions), Light in My Soul (personal growth), and Light in My Life (interacting with the world).

Members will be receiving registration materials and are asked to promote the conference locally. Registration will begin in early 2009. Updates will be posted at valpo.edu/guild/cwc.

2008 OUTSTANDING STUDENT LEADERS

Each year, faculty and staff nominate students to be recognized as outstanding student leaders. The list of 2008 awardees demonstrates the wide variety of Valpo students' hometowns and areas of study.

Hannah Cartwright (Indianapolis, IN)  
Middle Eastern Studies

Matthew Cavin (Roanoke, VA)  
International Business, Economics and Individualized Chinese

Jeffrey Field (Sugarloaf, CA)  
Environmental Science and Geography

Ryan Freeman-Jones (Jonesboro, GA)  
Economics and Individualized Information Technology

Sean Jesse (Buchanan, MI)  
Meteorology and Political Science

Kathleen Lindahl (W. Chicago, IL)  
Public Relations

John Nevergall (Elmore, OH)  
Music

Alison Ramsdell (Flandreau, SD)  
IECA, Spanish, Public Relations

Matthew Riley (Indianapolis, IN)  
German, Theology

Cody Shumaker (Lena, IL)  
History and Political Science

Kerri Steelman (Grand Rapids, MI)  
Elementary Education

Brandon Tomlinson (Omaha, NE)  
Mechanical Engineering

Heather Wickstrom (Valparaiso, IN)  
Theology
MEET A MEMBER

Linda Derryberry

> Home: Port Orange, FL
> Family: Children—Beth Krauss ('04), Tom Krauss
> Valpo Connection: 1979 graduate
> Guild history: Became a Guild volunteer soon after graduation. She served as an Area Director.

“I followed a high school boyfriend to this area for college,” is not what most parents like to hear. For Linda, however, that boy led her to just the right place. Valpo felt like home and was an easy choice for her college career. She went on to achieve her degree in Home Economics.

In the Guild she enjoyed her travels around Illinois and Iowa as an Area Director and meeting other Guild members. To her, spreading the word of what a great experience Valpo provides can be a valuable function of the Guild.

These days Linda works as an assistant to a real estate agent and a secretary and scorekeeper for two men’s baseball teams. When she is not quilting with her friends, she loves riding motorcycles and spending time with her cockatiels.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Laura Abbott
Wright City, MO

Linda Beals
Plain City, OH

Jessica Botello
Chicago, IL

Beverly Chapin
Danville, CA

Sharon Cornwell
Schererville, IN

Jennifer Culkin
Bainbridge Island, WA

Lynne Gerfen
Huntington Woods, MI

Renee Hartmann
St. Louis, MO

Stephanie Lehman
Dundee, IL

Lorraine Muller
East Middlebury, VT

Keith and Kathleen Odegard
St. Louis, MO

Terri Overbey
Swedesboro, NJ

Keith Paukner
New Berlin, WI

Susan Rajcok
Bethlehem, CT

Sarah Stevenson Cook
Brown Deer, WI

Sandy Voerman
Milwaukee, WI

Ruth Walsh
Fredonia, NY

Kylie Wiltjer
Aurora, IL

Julie Winkler
Naperville, IL

Please send names of prospective members to the Guild office so we may send them information.
Imagine taking a vacation. Let's call it a road trip! It starts by deciding where to go, then getting out a map to determine what roads to take. One way may take less time, one path may be more scenic, and one route may have better rest areas. With a location in mind, it becomes a matter of working through the details on how to get from the starting point to the destination.

For organizations, strategic planning is similar to planning a trip. The organization decides its destination as an ambitious goal then it maps out what it will take to get there.

The Guild’s goal is to affect all students during their journey of vocational discovery at Valparaiso University. This service of students will inspire others to join the Guild’s philanthropic efforts.

Through the campus spaces that the Guild has funded and the scholarships and grants distributed, the Guild influences every student. This long-term vision, however, seeks undeniable evidence that the Guild makes a significant impact on every student’s experience. Imagine every student graduating being able to articulate that the Guild enhanced their experience in a specific way. Further, because of this impact, every student will seek to “pay it forward” to future generations of students by supporting the Guild.

Suddenly a simple road trip becomes as far reaching as a mission to Mars! A proper vision propels organizations forward. Without it, we'd just stay home and never go anywhere. How boring for a vibrant group such as the Guild!

With a destination in mind, it is time to start packing. For every trip, it is advisable to have a map and directions. What else to pack varies. What will the weather be like there? How will basic needs such as food and shelter be accommodated? How much can fit into the suitcase?
For organizations, the suitcase contains the day-to-day tasks.

To know what to pack, the Guild must remain mindful of the ever-changing business environment needs to be considered. The atmosphere within higher education, as well as the economic and political climate, will establish how the organization can move forward.

Based on the information currently available, the Guild commits to making room for the following five priorities.

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**Generate Growing Financial Resources**
The Guild will need spending money. The goal is to have a Guild Endowment Fund that will generate income to satisfy the maximum contribution the Guild can make to Valparaiso University. The endowment fund will grow with generous contributions, strong fund-raising, and planned gifts designated to the Guild Endowment Fund.

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**Foster a Vibrant, Growing Membership**
For this journey, the more the merrier! The Guild experienced 8% membership growth in 2007–2008. With more member support, there will be more resources to fulfill the Guild's mission including a larger pool of leaders.

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**Create and Reinforce Opportunities for a Member Network**
Though many may choose to travel solo, opportunities to travel together add value. The vision for the network no longer depends solely on a local structure. Connections may evolve around a need or interest. A flexible network makes the Guild more nimble and able to respond to new opportunities.

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**Build the Guild's Image**
Think of the postcard that says “Wish you were here!” When people see what the Guild has to offer, they will want to be a part of it. The right picture is needed on the postcard to entice people to come along.

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**Ensure the Legacy of the Guild**
By planning beyond today, nurturing members, and being responsive, the Guild can ensure its role in serving Valparaiso University.

Having these five priorities doesn't guarantee that the voyage will be smooth. Detours or flat tires can cause changes in plans. The Guild board will monitor turbulence and make adjustments. As time goes on, the plan will evolve and new roads will open.

We can embrace Walt Disney’s philosophy that “We keep moving forward, opening up new doors and doing new things...and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths.”

We have the destination. We have a map. Now, let’s hit the road and embark on the journey of serving Valpo students.
The University Guild's Strategic Commitments

These five statements are the foundation of the Guild's Strategic Plan. More details are available online at valpo.edu/guild/about.

> Generate growing financial resources through the use of various forms of giving and fund raising to support philanthropic gifting indefinitely, while simultaneously striving to become a self-supporting organization.

> Foster a vibrant, growing membership that enables the Guild to most fully achieve its mission.

> Create and reinforce opportunities for a member network that unite members around our shared commitment to the mission of the Guild which in turn impact external constituencies and expand our circle of influence.

> Build the Guild’s image as an effective, volunteer and philanthropic organization assisting Valparaiso University students.

> Ensure the legacy of the Guild through effective planning, management and communication.

More Web Conferences to be Offered

The Guild board established a National Fundraising Committee to pursue fundraising options around web-based programming. The committee consists of Kate Kilpatrick (Chair), Christine DeLooze, Sylvia Luekens and Bonnie Ornat.

In the spring, the committee sent an electronic survey and learned that while only 35% of respondents have experience with web conferences, 63% would be willing to pay to attend a web conference that raised funds for the Guild Endowment Fund. Many responded enthusiastically with suggestions of who they would want to present. Topics of appeal included current events, Bible study and Valpo news.

Though there are many technical questions to be ironed out, with each web conference more is learned. In the coming year, the Guild intends to host more web conferences at no cost to test the capabilities and introduce more people to this technology. Later, a fee will be charged to cover speaker fees, materials and ideally, to raise funds.

It is quite possible for members who do not have computer capabilities at their home to find a location in the community such as a church or business to host the web conference. This would allow more people to participate.

Through a live web conference, Mark LaBarbera, Director of Athletics, provided a workshop on Valparaiso University's Athletics program. The program was recorded as is available at http://interactive.ihets.org/p94825987/ or through the Guild webpage. Attendees participated from coast to coast.
Union Board Livens Up Campus
By Emily Trimble

The new Union becomes a reality for Valpo's campus in January 2009. This building is not only located at the heart of campus, it will be the center of activity, too. The Union Board sponsors many of these activities to bring fun to fellow students (often for free!) in the form of the Midnight Brunch, Ukrainian Easter Egg Decorating, free milkshakes and more!

Union Board has nine committees including Traditional Events, Homecoming, Concerts, Out and About, Diversity, Entertainment, Hot Topics, Productions and Publicity. They work together to provide entertainment such as comedians, hypnotists, and even a date doctor. Together, the activities attract 16,000 participants over the course of the school year.

Big programs are planned for the University's 150th anniversary celebration. Jenny Halbert ('10), 2008-2009 Union Board President, said, "The 150th anniversary will be a great way for students, alumni and staff alike to see how far Valpo has come in 150 years."

Matt Riley ('08) anticipates Valpo's new president will contribute to Union Board bringing, "a new set of ideas towards student activities, and he will hopefully be excited to be a participant in some of the Union Board events."

Union Board provides a learning experience for the 30 students who serve on it. Halbert encourages students to get involved saying, "Being involved in Union Board has created friendships that I may not have had if I hadn't joined."
Valpo Prayer Book Distributed

“In Thy Light We See Light - The Valparaiso University Prayer Book” is the second edition of the University prayer book. It builds off the success of the first prayer book, “Our Hope for Years to Come,” which was published in 2001.

This edition involved Valpo students. It features prayers and devotions that reflect both the liturgical and academic year.

Bill Karpenko ('61) served as the editor. He enlisted the assistance of students. Professors George Heider, Fred Niedner and university pastor Joseph Cunningham were assistant editors.

The book provides a method for private devotion, however it is complemented by online resources which will give the campus community an opportunity to submit prayer requests and journal. The campus community can also use the book in the Chapel as it has been distributed throughout the pews.

The book, to which the Guild contributed $25,000, is dedicated to Guild members. It was distributed this fall and is available for purchase through the University bookstore.

For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart. 1 Samuel 16:7

In my sorority, we have a symphony that describes what it means to be a sister. Each day we strive to demonstrate those values in our lives. One of my favorite lines is, to be democratic rather than exclusive and lovable rather than popular. When campus life seems superficial this symphony guides us to let others in on a deeper level.

Our symphony is not the only place where I receive this motivation. 1 Samuel 16 compels me to really give people a chance; to look at them the way the Lord does. It is my job to get to know who they really are, and to appreciate them for that.

Last year during recruitment, I met a shy girl. I remembered thinking it would be hard to be friends. With our symphony and the verse from Samuel in mind I let down my guard. Soon I realized the quiet girl was outgoing, kind-hearted and hilarious. If I had kept up my guard, I may have missed out on meeting one of my best friends.

Life is about more than just outward appearances and first impressions. When we give people a chance to show us what is in their heart, we might be surprised with what we find.

Emily is from Carlisle, Indiana. She plans to graduate in May 2009 with a degree in Public Relations.
MEET A MEMBER

Linda Ertel

> Home: Wauwatosa, WI
> Family: Husband, Thomas ('70); Children—Andrina ('05), Nate
> Valpo Connection: 1969 graduate; Parents Council
> Guild history: Has been active in the Milwaukee Suburban Guild

On a trip to New York from Nebraska, Linda (Olsen '69) Ertel happened to stop at Valparaiso University. She immediately loved it and, despite the fact her parents had not seen campus, decided to attend Valpo.

Valpo prepared Linda for life. "A lot of me developed at Valpo," she said. She was most inspired by the Lutheran faith of the faculty and students, and even met her husband, Thomas, at Valpo. She pursued her passion for education that led her to teach for 36 years. Her sorority, Kappa Psi Omega, developed her organizational and social skills which she still utilizes daily.

She nurtured her love of music at Valpo under the direction of Larry Fleming, who served as Valpo's Director of Chapel Music from 1966-1974. The Milwaukee Choristers, to which Linda now belongs, performed Fleming's Lord of the Dance. This piece was composed and performed when Linda sang at VU.

Upcoming Events

November 1, 6 pm – Milwaukee, WI
150th Anniversary Regional Celebration

November 7–9 – Family Weekend

November 8, 1 pm – Football Stand*

November 13 – Grad Finale for December 2008 grads

November 15 – St. Louis, MO 150th Anniversary Regional Celebration

November 22, 12 noon – Football Stand*

November 22 – Washington DC 150th Anniversary Regional Celebration

December 6 – Denver, CO 150th Anniversary Regional Celebration

December 20 – Chicago, IL 150th Anniversary Regional Celebration

December 20–21 – Valpo in Chicago Weekend

January 10 – Houston, TX 150th Anniversary Regional Celebration

January 17 – Phoenix, AZ 150th Anniversary Regional Celebration

January 30–31 – Union Dedication Weekend and Guild Board Meeting

April – Fifth Biennial Christian Women’s Conference

* Call the Guild office at 800-748-4538 to volunteer in the football stand

Guild members who renewed by September 2 received a Valpo luggage grip.
Assistant Professor of Communication Law, Jason Paupore, took nine undergraduate students to compete in the Joliet American Mock Trial Association regional competition in Illinois. The Guild provided a grant to cover the team entry fees, travel expenses and other costs related to preparing exhibits for the mock trial. Paupore said, "We would not have been able to do this without the Guild's generosity."

For several months the students prepared a fictional court case to present before professional judges and trial attorneys. There were 25 teams competing from the region. This was Valpo's first appearance.

The student participants learned to work as a team under pressure and to think on their feet. The "defense team" ranked second place in the region, however they lost in the final round to University of Michigan.

Paupore added, "I witnessed first-hand the personal growth of every student who participated ... and that growth is attributable directly to the Guild's contributions. Please pass along my gratitude and that of our students and parents."

2008 Guild Board, guild@valpo.edu
Julie Thomas, Director
Karen Nichols, Administrative Assistant
Emily Trimble, '09, Ashley Summar, '09, Interns
K Creative Group, Inc., Chicago, IL, Design

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Valparaiso University admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, or sex. For full statement, see www.valpo.edu.

The Guild enhances the student experience while exemplifying the University's ideals of scholarship, freedom and faith.

Support the VU Guild by making a gift at valpo.edu/givetow/