

Standing Committee Annual Report

Name of Committee or Council:

2009 Homecoming Committee

Chair

Shelia Ross and Victor Felts*, Co-Chairs

Meeting Dates in Current Year:

8/10/09, 9/9/09, 10/8/09, 10/10/09, 3/24/10,
4/21/10

Major Actions or Accomplishments:

Homecoming 2009 Student programming evaluation

Step-Off

The step-off has become more popular each year. With over 500 students attending or participating, the step-off was a huge success. The organizations' routines and enthusiasm were better than ever due to the large turn-out and crowd interest. We plan on continuing this new tradition for years to come.

Bonfire, Pep Rally, Court Announcement and Cookout

Unfortunately, the inclement weather forced the event indoors to the Red Barn. Again, we had a great turn-out from our student population; with over 450 attending and eating free food from Zaxby's. The Governor's Own marching band and cheerleaders entertained before the football coach encouraged fans to attend the game and cheer loudly. Finally the court was announced by President Hall. All-in-all; a good event. Hopefully we will have better weather next year and get to actually have the bonfire.

AP Apollo

Wow! What a turnout. The Clement auditorium was packed to capacity with excited students watching their friends perform their talent. This event has become one of the most popular and anticipated events of the year. Next year we will be moving to a larger venue to accommodate more students.

Lady Antebellum Concert

With over 1000 students attending, this was indeed a successful event. The award winning musical group excited and pleased the crowd beyond most expectations. It is going to be difficult to top this event in the coming years.

Homecoming Parade

One of the less attended events was the Homecoming parade. Because of the timing (Halloween day), much of the community did not attend this year. The 300+ students who participated in the parade all really enjoyed the event. Plans are already being made to increase student and citizen participation for

the 2010 parade.

2009 Alumni Events

Friday events

Homecoming Golf Tournament

This event is a continual favorite, especially with the volunteer efforts of Frazier Allen as committee chairman and the support of Budweiser of Clarksville and Swan Lake Golf Course. Participants range each year from 60-100 players, with a total of 26 teams this year. This is one of two events that make a profit.

Alumni-Varsity Golf Match

Committee chair Jimmy Smith does an excellent job of coordinating this event each year and subsequently raising monies for the golf program. Unfortunately, alumni attendance is usually fairly small each year, but thoroughly enjoyed by all who attend. Twelve alumni participated this year.

African-American Alumni Chapter Mixer

This event was added a couple of years ago in lieu of the chapter reception that has been traditionally held on Saturday. The event has been well received and fairly well attended, averaging between 100-200 at the Friday night event that features light refreshments. The event was previously held at the Riverview Inn, but Chapter President Makeba Webb has expressed a desire to find a new location for 2010.

Dave Aaron Reunion

A devoted group of alumni continue to keep this group active, led by the spirited efforts of Hendricks Fox. Attendance averages about 50-75 each year and is composed mostly of the "older" alumni . . . those more familiar with Coach Aaron. The event features light refreshments and provides an excellent opportunity for socializing. This group has been very supportive of the Aaron Endowment and will celebrate their 20th anniversary event in 2010. Hendricks states that that will be the last "official" gathering of that group.

Homecoming Street Dance

Led by Terry Griffin of Budweiser of Clarksville and a small alumni committee, the Street Dance is always a popular and well attended (weather permitting) event for all ages. Terry handles practically all details, including providing the band and the beverages. The event is staged outside on Strawberry Alley downtown, a location that has been popular with those attending. We receive great support and involvement from the Front Page Deli and Black Horse Pub. Attendance ranges in the 200-350 range.

Saturday events

Scholarship 5K Run

An enthusiastic and dedicated committee (led by Mike and Lisa Kelley) works to obtain

sponsors and participants for this event, with the proceeds benefitting a track scholarship at APSU. A popular event in the community, participation ranges widely from 60-100. Corporate sponsorships make it possible for us to award cash prizes in the three major categories, with medals being presented to the winners in various age groups. Participants receive a race tee shirt and refreshments and are eligible for door prizes. In 2009, \$1925 was donated to the track scholarship.

Football Lettermen Chapter Breakfast

Since the establishment of this affinity alumni chapter, this event has been held to encourage involvement by football alumni and increase their affinity to the football program and APSU. The attendance has been fairly low (20-25) and ages vary widely. We continue to offer the event and feel that the visibility is good for the chapter. Alumni Chapter President Gary Shepherd serves as committee chair of this event.

Alumni Awards Brunch

A very special event at which time our outstanding alumni award winners are recognized. Six alumni award winners are invited to campus for a brunch, an engraved plaque and gift bag. Each award winner is introduced by a person of their choice and the recipient has an opportunity to make comments. There is a wonderful, positive atmosphere at these events. The presentations and comments are impressive and heartwarming, and it's an excellent chance to get the alumni back on campus and show our appreciation and recognition of their accomplishments. The event is enjoyed by all and highly regarded as probably the premier event during Homecoming.

Alumni Art Exhibit

This was the first year for this event in this particular format . . . an alumni art exhibit in the Trahern Gallery along with a cookout on the front lawn of the Trahern Building. The event was a great success and well attended. Department Chair Gregg Schlanger and others in the Art Department did an excellent job of promoting the event and soliciting involvement from alumni for the exhibit. Based on the great level of success, plans are to continue the event again next year.

The various alumni chapters have been encouraged to set up canopies at Tailgate Alley in support of those activities and the football team and program. This year, in addition to the main setup for the National Alumni Association, six chapters had individual setups. It provides great visibility for each chapter and those specific alumni and encourages their involvement and support (African American, Nursing, Lady Gobs Softball, Governors Band, Hispanic, Football Lettermen).

Post-Homecoming Social

This year's event was held immediately following the football game on Saturday evening at the Pace Alumni Center at Emerald Hill. We started out with a Greek Alumni Event several years ago, but never had great success with that format. In 2008 we expanded the audience to include all alumni, not just Greek alumni, but did not have great success. The same was true again for this year's event, with a sparse attendance of 10 alumni. I doubt that this event will be continued in 2010, or at least not in the same format.

Howard, Penny

From: Ross, Shelia
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:35 PM
To: Howard, Penny
Subject: RE: Homecoming Standing Committee 2009 Report

Aug. 10, Sept. 9, Oct. 8, Nov. 10 – 2009
March 24, April 21 -- 2010

Shelia Ross

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From: Howard, Penny
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:27 PM
To: Ross, Shelia
Subject: RE: Homecoming Standing Committee 2009 Report

everyone I've received reports from are including those, so yes if you have them.

Penny Howard
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You can't live a positive life with a negative mind.

From: Ross, Shelia
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:26 PM
To: Howard, Penny
Subject: RE: Homecoming Standing Committee 2009 Report

I forgot to include the meeting dates. Do you need those?

Shelia Ross

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From: Howard, Penny
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:04 PM
To: Ross, Shelia
Subject: RE: Homecoming Standing Committee 2009 Report

Thanks Shelia.

Penny Howard
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You can't live a positive life with a negative mind.

From: Ross, Shelia
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:03 PM
To: Howard, Penny
c: Felts, Victor
Subject: Homecoming Standing Committee 2009 Report

Penny,

Please see the report (attached) for the 2009 Homecoming Standing Committee. Thanks!

Shelia Ross

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