

The Spirit of Shenandoah

Campaign Update • Winter 2007

Gala Launches Public Phase of Spirit of Shenandoah Campaign

Shenandoah University launched the public phase of its Spirit of Shenandoah Comprehensive Campaign on Oct. 6, 2006, in the Armstrong Concert Hall. Over two hundred friends, volunteers, employees and students attended the gala. The event was an opportunity to thank volunteers and donors and to announce plans for the public phase that will ultimately take the university to its \$65 million campaign goal.

Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and desserts and danced to the music of Jump Alley, a swing band whose members include Shenandoah Conservatory alumni.

Lara Teeter, associate professor of theatre, Charles A. Levitin Chair in Music and Broadway performer, opened the evening's show with his takeoff on Stephen Sondheim's "The Frogs." "Smile on us," he implored audience members. "We offer you

song and dance, we offer you plans and blueprints..." setting the stage for a tongue-in-cheek version of the Academy Awards, with the spotlight on campaign volunteers. But instead of Oscars, the honorees received Spirit Awards.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of a Lifetime Achievement Award to Jimmy Wilkins by President James A. Davis, who said, "Jimmy personifies the legacy of SU, continuing the support initiated by his dad, who helped bring Shenandoah University to Winchester."

Bill Brandt was honored as Shenandoah's first executive-in-residence. The Brandt Student Center reflects the commitment of Bill and his wife Elaine to ensure a strong sense of community for generations of students.

Another award was bestowed upon Carolyn Glaize for, as Lara so aptly



Trustee Carolyn Glaize admires her Spirit award for her tireless volunteer work.

put it, "She works so hard for Shenandoah, we wonder when she has time to go home."

Jim Stutzman snagged a Spirit Award for "Best Actor in a Campaign Video." Given all he does for the university, most believe his role in urging others to support the campaign wasn't an act at all.

R.J. Turner accepted the Git-R-Done Award for his recruitment of Leadership Circle members. Lara said, "This local developer has adopted Shenandoah as his pet project – doggedly chasing every prospect."

John Stokely was recognized for his outstanding leadership during the nucleus phase of the campaign. During his tenure as chairman of the board of trustees, the campaign reached the 60 percent mark toward the goal and set the stage for the public announcement.

Harry Smith was recognized for his



From the left, Roni Wilkins, Trustee Jimmy Wilkins, Chairman of the Board Harry Smith, Debbie Smith and Trustee Bill Brandt join Janet and President James A. Davis at the public launch, Oct. 6.

Gala, continued on page 4

President's Message

It's wonderful to see the support our community has given to the Spirit of Shenandoah campaign this winter. Now I look forward to the promise of spring and the abundance it brings.

With just under two years to go, we've raised 73 percent of our \$65 million goal. I'm especially grateful to the volunteers who made this milestone a reality. To date, more than 160 trustees, community members, faculty, staff, students

and alumni have personified the Spirit of Shenandoah. Volunteers helped develop

strategy, introduce new friends, strengthen relationships, improve communications, support fund raising, and in all ways, have been instrumental in our quest to achieve our goal.

This spring, we will focus our efforts on raising funds for the new athletic center and the Armstrong Hall renovation. Again, we will look to our volunteers for their energizing spirit. On behalf of the students of Shenandoah – past, present and future – I thank all who have given of their time, talent and treasure to help propel Shenandoah University to a new level of prominence and excellence.

— Dr. James A. Davis, president



Campaign Volunteers Make 2006 A Groundbreaking Year

We dedicate this newsletter to the volunteers who have supported the university in this critical stage of its development. As of Dec. 31, 2006, volunteers have helped raise \$47.8 million of our \$65 million goal.

The success to date is unprecedented, already generating positive change and momentum. Halfway through the campaign, new buildings are rising, the endowment is providing increased support for student and faculty scholarship and the strengthened Annual Fund is supporting the educational growth of our students.

The total breaks down into:

- ☞ Capital gifts – \$14.4 million
- ☞ Endowment – \$8 million
- ☞ Operating funds – \$14.7 million
- ☞ Deferred gifts – \$9.2 million
- ☞ Government sources – \$2.5 million.

In 2006, Shenandoah dedicated the Edwards Residential Village, the

Kathryn Perry-Werner End-Zone Building at SU's Shentel Stadium and a new parking garage.

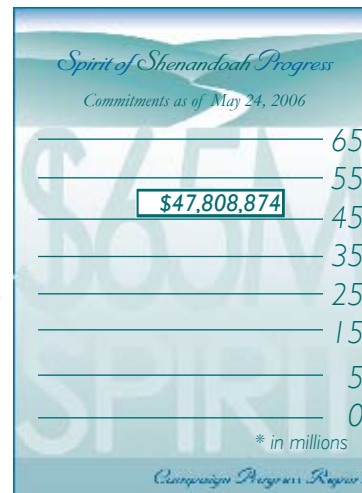
The university also broke ground for Halpin-Harrison Hall, the Brandt Student Center and the History and Tourism Center.

On Feb. 14, we will dedicate the Vickers Communications Center, which houses ABC's TV3 Winchester and Shenandoah Television Center.

We have achieved this level of success and will continue to progress to the goal because of the valued support of each and every volunteer.

We need your continued support, by going out on calls, serving on advisories, planning our initiatives and supporting our events. Thank you for all you do to strengthen Shenandoah University and support its students.

By Diane Melby, associate vice president for development and campaign director



Spirit of Shenandoah Calendar



TV3 Winchester Special Projects Manager Doug Stanford preps the TV3 Winchester set in the Vickers Communication Center.

A new date will be announced for the dedication and tour of the Vickers Communication Center, postponed due to snow.

March and April – Visit www.su.edu/development for the dates of regional gatherings of alumni, parents and friends of the university; events include briefings about campaign goals and successes.

Leadership Circle News



From the left: Eric Sillers, Shenandoah Conservatory Associate Dean of Graduate Studies Darla Hanley, Alan Willis, Robin Smith, Jennifer Goldsmith, Amanda Pulcini, Tonaé Burgess, Professor Michael Forest, Joel Northam, Emiliano Kaptain, Shenandoah Conservatory Dean Laurence Kaptain and Samuel Jones.

Leadership Circle gifts provide students opportunities for inspiring, hands-on learning experiences. For example, in October, Shenandoah Conservatory Dean Laurence Kaptain and eight students traveled to New York City for the Metropolitan Opera performance of “Rigoletto,” featuring SU voice professor and alumnus Michael Forest ’85, ’86 in the role of Borsa. Backstage, students met with cast members who told them how fortunate they are to study with Michael. Not only had the students never been to the Met, but it was also their first trip to New York City. One student said, “I don’t know what I did to deserve this, but thank you!”

Planned Giving: Gift Reflects Boxleys’ Love of the Performing Arts

Dr. Robert F. and Genevieve (Genny) Boxley recently made a planned gift to Shenandoah Conservatory through a bequest in their will. Although Bob is a graduate of Virginia Tech, he felt their gift would have a greater impact at a small university such as Shenandoah. “We wanted to make a difference locally,” he said.

The Boxleys moved to Winchester in 1993 after Bob retired from the Department of Agriculture. Genny, who grew up in Winchester, remarked on the positive impact Shenandoah has made on the area. “It’s the best thing that ever happened to Winchester,” she said.

When their friends in the Washington area comment that the Boxleys do not attend performances there, Genny tells



Genny and Bob Boxley’s planned gift will support future conservatory students.

them, “We don’t have to. The talent at Shenandoah is extraordinary, and student productions are as professional as anything we’ve seen.”

Bob said they want to encourage continued community involvement and outreach by the university through Shenandoah Conservatory.

Campaign Leadership

Mr. James R. Wilkins Jr., campaign chair
Mr. Harry S. Smith, campaign vice chair
Dr. Diane E. Melby, campaign director

Honorary Committee

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Dr. Bernard J. Dunn
Mr. Fred L. Glaize III
Mr. William A. Hazel
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Mr. Charles A. Veatch
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Featured Volunteer Committee

Staff Campaign Council

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Ms. Jean Swartz, co-chair
Mr. Kevin L. Anderson
Mrs. Patricia Anderson
The Rev. Rhonda VanDyke Colby
Mr. Lloyd Dickason Laird
Ms. Melissa W. Luttrell
Mrs. Karen E. Marshall
Mr. Kenneth J. Mickie
Ms. Kelly J. Rickert
Ms. Rebecca A. Rockwell
Mrs. Michele Wilson

Ways to Support the Spirit of Shenandoah

Contact Diane Melby at (540) 665-4936, dmelby@su.edu or go online to www.spiritofshenandoah.org.

Gala, coninued from page 1



R.J. Turner (right) accepts the *Git-R-Done* award from emcee Lara Teeter for his dedicated recruitment of members to the Leadership Circle.

ability to be everywhere at once – especially when it comes to helping Shenandoah – and always looking dapper. The current board chairman took the stage to the tune of ZZ Top’s “Sharp Dressed Man.”

Tom and Elaine Offutt were named Mr. and Mrs. Shenandoah because as emcee Lara explained, “They personify the values of Shenandoah.”

Kudos went to Walter and Elaine Aikens for their many contributions. Elaine is currently chair of the Armstrong Hall renovation

committee, and Walter is a trustee and former board chairman.

Helen Zebarth received accolades for her 20-year career at Shenandoah, during which her work as a nursing professor grew into the Mary B. Wilkins Wellness Center. Upon her retirement, a nursing scholarship was created in her honor.

Lara noted that the award winners were just examples of the scores of volunteers who “have gone beyond the call of duty – not only supporting the university through their gifts but by bringing in new donors, attending countless meetings and being involved in planning the Spirit of Shenandoah campaign.”

He called for honored guests Hal and Betty Demuth, Betty Jo

Dickerson, Bob Edwards and Polly Manuel to stand and be recognized.

Vice President for Development Harley Knowles captured the spirit of the evening when he told the audience, “Behind every dollar is a story: a student who can’t afford college, a professor who is inspiring, a program that is nationally recognized, a donation that makes history.”

We are over 70 percent toward our \$65 million goal. As the hard work continues toward that goal, we will continue to educate and celebrate the future of Shenandoah, continually improving our ability to serve students and arming them with the education and values that will transform their lives and the world.”

What’s New at Shenandoah

SU Dedicates End-Zone Building



Kathryn Perry-Werner and Rupert Werner joined President James A. Davis and Athletic Director John Hill (right) to cut a ceremonial ribbon Aug. 31, opening the Kathryn Perry-Werner End-Zone Building at Shentel Stadium.



The Spirit of Shenandoah

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