



An Upsala College-Wirths Campus Alumni Newsletter

Greetings:

This spring a group of Upsala College Wirths Campus graduates came together to form an alumni association. Our committee has put together this newsletter to bring you up-to-date with all of the exciting changes that have taken place at the Wirths Campus, to inform you about the services that are available to you as graduates, and to invite you to become active participants in the alumni organization.

"OUR VISION"

Our vision as Alumni Association committee members is to offer a vehicle through which graduates of the Wirths Campus can be kept informed, involved, and in touch with our school. Towards this vision we will provide an environment where graduates can recommend, innovate and participate in activities designed to benefit our school, its students, and the surrounding community.

"OUR CREED"

To the students: We commit ourselves to anticipating student needs and responding with innovative recommendations that will enhance their educational experiences at Upsala.

To the graduates: We commit ourselves to attracting and retaining excellent and committed Alumni Committee members and providing them with an open and participative environment in which they can provide their expertise.

To the faculty: We commit ourselves to working towards achievement of our common goals, to help Upsala grow, prosper, and attract students interested in attaining an excellent education in a flexible environment.

To the community: We commit ourselves to actively initiating and supporting efforts concerning the health of society and the stewardship of the environment.

NEW VISION FOR WIRTHS CAMPUS

There is a plan, in the preliminary stages, to construct a college campus on Upsala's Wirths Campus site. The new vision, proposed by Dean Stam, is a three-fold plan comprising general education, a work program (working to construct the campus), and an arts program.

The direction, (not the actual program) for the curriculum as stated, has already been approved by the President, the President's Cabinet and the Fellows. Upsala has begun applying for grants and has received a \$20,000 award from the Fund for New Jersey for an ecological study of the Wirths Campus.

A pilot residential program is planned for Fall of 1994. The present program for commuting students will be increased as the full-time residential students are added.

James Jablonski, Mayor of Wantage and Wirths Fellow said, "A Wirths Campus, as envisioned by the administration and Fellows, will be a marvelous asset for Wantage Township and the entire region. Beyond educational opportunities I suspect that it will, as many colleges do, become a focal point for cultural and other activities of interest to the community."

Dean Stam sees the new campus as a country place, in harmony with the surrounding land. There may even be unconventional, energy efficient construction techniques employed; more of a rustic look to the building than the brick and greenery covered walls of the Ivy League. Students might even be expected to grow a portion of their own food. The reaction of many of the faculty to the new direction has been enthusiastic.

Dean Stam's vision of the campus is one built on innovation, offering the best in a liberal arts education, as well as in major areas of study. It will not be a curriculum seen in other colleges. It will be special, not specialized.

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NEW COMPUTER CENTER

In November a computer center was established at the "Barn." The centerpiece of the new facility, a Hewlett Packard Vectra 486/20 computer and a Laser Jet IIIP Printer, was purchased jointly by Upsala, a group of former Upsala students, and Hewlett Packard employees. Upsala alumna, Helen Amato, of Hewlett Packard's Rockaway facility, coordinated the effort. A plaque honoring Helen along with James Burnell, Kathleen Clark, Brenda Houghton, and Helene Malast was presented by Dean Stam. Also honored was Professor Denise Farley for all her work on the project.

The Computer Center is available for use by all alumni of Upsala and can be accessed anytime the "Barn" is open. Lab assistants are available to help you learn the uses of the new equipment and its expanded capabilities - including graphics.

Hours are: Monday 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Tuesday 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Wednesday 11:00 am to 4:00 pm
5:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Thursday 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Summer hours vary

The programs offered are Microsoft Windows software. The applications on it are Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, MS DOS and Q Basic. Various accessories go along with it such as a Date Book, Calendar, and Calculator.

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WIRTHS CAMPUS LIBRARY

The Wirths Campus Library at the "Barn" exists not only as a library for the students but also for the community at large. As a participant in a Five County Northwest New Jersey Interlibrary Loan Network (NUCILS) and in OCLC, a national network, the Wirths Library is served by and serves well over 2,000 libraries. In addition, students have direct access to the library collection at the Main Campus in East Orange.

The Wirths Library houses a collection of 15,000 books and 130 periodical subscriptions as well as audio-visual materials and microform reader/printers. The latest "toy" is Infotrac, a computerized CD based index to periodicals. Bibliographic instruction, reference service, and interlibrary loans are facilitated by a trained staff.

Alumni of Upsala are always welcome to use the services and materials available at both the Wirths and Main Campus libraries.

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Country Theatre Comes To Upsala

Country Theatre has recently established resident status at Upsala College. In existence for twenty years it has relocated to the Wirths Campus after outgrowing its premises in Branchville. This professional theatre group hopes to raise the quality of theatre in Sussex and also aims to enable Upsala and the community to become involved in their workshops and productions.

Along with monthly productions, classes in acting, dance, instrumental and voice are offered to both adults and children. A special summer symposium is being held for children thirteen and older. They will get the opportunity to learn, first hand, some of the skills needed to perform in theatre. Included in this popular program are outdoor survival skills, mock trials, sports and outdoor activities, film, dance and acting instruction.

Please contact Bob or Meredith Heineman at 948-6333 for more information.

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Wirths Campus Events

This past semester some interesting events were offered to students and alumni. A trip to the Cloisters and the Metropolitan Museum of Art was planned as well as a trip to Mystic Seaport. For Earth Day there was an exhibition of paintings by naturalist artists Robert Bateman, Carl Brenders, and John Seery-Lester.

Check the Community Bulletin Board on your cable station or the New Jersey Herald for future events. You can also call Linda Tunick, Wirths Events Coordinator, to keep current on the activities Upsala is sponsoring. Her number is 875-2108.

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Telescope Donated To Wirths Campus

The Montclair Astronomy Club has recently made the decision to hold their meetings at Wirths Campus. The members are bringing their telescope with them and hope to raise the funds for an observatory on the college site.

On July 24 there will be a Star Watch. It will start at sundown. Many members may remain until late into the night since the view differs from dusk to dark. Other astronomy clubs are being invited so there may be a dozen or more telescopes available, as well as informed stargazers who can answer your questions.

Alumni and supervised children are invited.

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Course Discounts Offered To Alumni

Those of you who have received your Bachelors Degree from Upsala can audit a course for \$95 or take courses for credit for \$265. For many of us, graduation signaled an end to long hours of study and the pressure of passing exams, but it did not signal an end to our desire to learn and grow. Why not allow yourself the pleasure of studying Shakespeare, poetry, or water color painting, or perhaps your interest lies in mastering computers. Look over the Fall 1993 schedule, there's bound to be something that will coax you back to Upsala.

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Apple Festival

For the first time, the Alumni Association will take part in the annual Apple Festival. This year it will be held on October 9. Please stop by our table, we are anxious to meet with you! Someone will be available to enroll you, and welcome you, as a member of our newly formed group. We will also have an alumni interests survey for you to fill out so that we can plan activities or events that will be of interest to you.

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Sussex County Farm And Horse Show

Look for us at the Sussex County Farm and Horse show on Tuesday, August 10. Alumni will be there to sign you up as association members. We've picked this day because our own Ron Nichols will be barrel racing on August 10 and 11.

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We hope that you've enjoyed this Alumni Newsletter and that you feel better informed about what's going on at Upsala. The College, which started as a dream fifteen years ago, continues to survive and prosper. We see concrete examples of this in the addition of the computer room and the telescope. Less tangible, but equally as telling, is the continued enthusiasm, excitement, and dedication of the Wirths Fellows, professors, and staff. We feel sure that you will want to participate in the exciting process of change that is happening at Upsala College Wirths Campus. Let us hear from you - become involved.

To more easily access the services offered to Upsala alumni at the Wirths and East Orange Campuses, please fill in the form below and an ID card will be issued to you.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

YEAR OF GRADUATION _____ **DEGREE EARNED** _____