



Autumn 2011 Volume 5, Issue 1

FROM THE PRESIDENT

One of the best parts about being President of an Alumni Club is being able to interact with so many of our local alumni and fans at game watch parties. Getting to sit down (or as most of you know I tend to stand or pace a lot during Buckeye games) and talk with you is sometimes more interesting than the game itself. Of course that wasn't the case versus Toledo. I thought I was going to have to go pace around the parking lot...again!

So many new people come in to Austin each year it is difficult to get to meet and know everyone. Even people that have been here a while might not come out to every game watch, so I don't know them as much as I would like to. I think this applies to interaction amongst club members as well, so I encourage you all to introduce yourself to other club members. If you see someone that appears

to be looking for a seat and you have one at your table, ask them to sit down. Say hello and get to know them; after all, we are all Buckeye fans right? If you are reading this article and are someone new to the club, or if you just haven't met that many people, please feel free to come up to me and I will make sure you meet lots of people.

The other day I met two people who are new to Austin who signed up to be club members, but were leery of coming out to a game watch party because they would not know anyone. If you have never been out to a game watch let me know, and I will ensure that if you do you will have a fantastic time.

We really do have one of the best game watch parties. I have been to some in different cities over the years, several of which have been great, others have not been all that fun. So far this year

we have had people visiting from Dallas, Denver, Washington D.C., and Seattle; all of whom said they had a great time. That being said, there is always room for improvement, in my opinion. So if you have ideas for new activities, different games we could play, or anything that would make things even more fun, please let us know. You can contact us at osu.austintx@yahoo.com.

A couple people have recently emailed me and asked if a certain city to which they were traveling has similar game watch opportunities. It is a question I get every year so if you happen to be traveling for business or pleasure and can't make it back to Austin for football Saturday, there is almost always some place you can catch the game in other major cities. The best resource is The Ohio State Alumni Association's Game Watch page,

<http://ohiostatealumni.org/events/Upcoming/Pages/Game-watchLocations.aspx>. It lists every club that has a game watch, in cities all over the United States and in other countries as well. Where ever you go, there are Buckeyes. Just scream out O-H!! and you know you will get an I-O!! back. Go Bucks, and we look forward to seeing you out at our game watch parties the rest of the year.

Bruce Brandel
President

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FOOTBALL GAME WATCH - 2011

Football season is here again. Given the recent scandal that resulted in Jim Tressel's departure and player suspensions, it could be a tough year. But the Buckeyes are tough and talented, and so far, undefeated. Join us again this year to cheer on our team at our official game watch location, Bikinis, located on 6901 N IH 35 in Austin.

As always, we'll have raffles to raise money for our scholarship fund. Thanks to Bikinis and other local businesses and individuals for donating prizes. If you or someone you know would like to donate prizes, contact us at osu.austintx@yahoo.com or visit www.osuaustin.org.

Throughout the season, we'll be doing special events. At the Toledo game on September 10, we collected donations for those affected by the recent wildfires in central Texas. With your help, we filled an SUV with diapers, baby food and formula, personal hygiene items and more and delivered them to the Austin Disaster Relief Network (www.austindisasterreliefnetwork.org).

At the Miami game on September 17, in honor of founders day, we will be collecting non-perishable food donations for the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas (www.austinfoodbank.org).

Later this season, we will do our 3rd Annual Military Service Event. We will be collecting items like magazines, phone cards, and dvds to send to those serving overseas.

Our annual board member election will also take place later this season. We will send out an electronic ballot and announce the winners at the Michigan game.

For the Michigan game, we will do Kegs N Eggs again this year at Bikinis before the game.

Watch our e-newsletter, the *Austin Buckeye Connection*, for information on upcoming events.

We hope to see you out at the next game watch!

Remaining Games

09/17/11	at Miami	7:30 p.m. ET
09/24/11	vs. Colorado	TBA
10/01/11	vs. Michigan State	TBA
10/08/11	at Nebraska	8:00 p.m. ET
10/15/11	at Illinois	TBA
10/29/11	vs. Wisconsin	8:00 p.m. ET
11/05/11	vs. Indiana	TBA
11/12/11	at Purdue	TBA
11/19/11	vs. Penn State	TBA
11/26/11	at Michigan	TBA
12/03/11	Big Ten Championship	TBA



Young Buckeyes at the Akron game watch

If you do not currently receive our e-newsletter and would like to, visit our website (www.osuaustin.org) and click on the membership link.

EUCHRE TOURNEY

On August 7, the club held its first ever Euchre Tournament to raise money for the scholarship fund. Twenty people played in the tournament, and the club raised over \$375 for the fund. That's an additional \$375+ we have to give to high school graduates from the Austin area who attend Ohio State!

Tournament play was organized so that people switched partners and opponents after every 20 minute round, and the winner was determined by the person who had the most points after four hours of play. We also had a "loner pot" option. We put some seed money into a container guarded by Brutus Buckeye that grew when those who opted in did not get all five tricks during a loner. Brutus and the loner pot rotated among the opt-in players who won all five tricks in a loner. The last person to earn Brutus and the loner pot before the end of the tournament, won Brutus and the money.

After four hours of play, Rick Gabel and Wanda Smith won first and second place, respectively. Rick had 105 points and was awarded a \$15 gift card to Bikinis and an OSU-Austin t-shirt. Wanda had 98 points and won a \$15 gift card to Bikinis. Bob Joseph won the "loner pot," which ended up being \$21 - that's \$4 more than his entry fee. The raffle winners were: Wendy Joseph (OSU car flag), Mark Wabschall (OSU travel mug), and Carrie Proctor (OSU playing cards and koozie).

Before the event was over, people were asking when we are going to do it again. We have talked about doing it two to three times per year (outside of football season), with the next one being in January or February. If you are interested in being on the planning committee for future tournaments, please email us at osu.austintx@yahoo.com. All the hard work has been done, so future tournaments should be a breeze to organize!

We hope to see all of our card-playing members at future euchre tourneys!

Leslie Reid
Past President



Thanks for Volunteering - Food Bank

Thanks to everyone who volunteered at the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas on July 30. We helped process 6,520 pounds of food, which equals 5,216 meals. We appreciate your support of the club's efforts to help our community.



CLUB AWARDS

On June 25, the Austin Alumni club held a picnic at Brentwood Park. We enjoyed food, camaraderie and presented this year's club awards. The winners:

President's Award - Jack Swan

Spirit Award - Rita Kuntz

Volunteer of the Year - Beth Kite

Young Buckeye of the Year - Marin DeWeese

We want to thank these buckeyes for their contribution to the club. Congratulations!

GET TO KNOW THE BOARD

Our officers and board members are all volunteers. Along with you, the members, who come out to events and donate to our scholarship fund, they have helped make this club an award-winner. We thought it might be nice for you to get to know the board.

Officers

Bruce Bandel, President

Bruce graduated from Ohio State in 1995 and majored in Comparative Religion. His favorite memory of OSU is meeting all of the people that he still considers his best friends in the world. He has been in Austin 10 years. His favorite thing about Austin is being in the center of the Chili Cooking Universe.

Melissa Smith, Vice-President

Melissa graduated in 2003 and majored in Marketing and Transportation & Logistics. Her favorite memory of OSU is the feeling of watching Ohio State beat Michigan in the Shoe to secure a spot in the National Championship game against Miami. She has been in

Austin 14 years. Her favorite thing about Austin is the variety of activities and places to eat.

Rick Gabel, Secretary

Rick graduated in 1986 and majored in Computer Science. His favorite memory of OSU:

During Earle's last year of coaching at Ohio State (1987), a group of us had purchased tickets to The Game at Ann Arbor. Just days before The Game, Earle was fired and the athletic director, Rick Bay, quit due to the controversy. It was a big black eye for Ohio State just days before The Game. We rode the bus with the Ohio Staters club and it was a somber ride to Ann Arbor. Not all your usual shenanigans you would expect with a M*ch*g*n game.

At the start of the game, the team took the field lead by Chris Spielman. All of the players were wearing white headbands with the words "Earle" written on them. The fans were energized. The game was hard fought and the Buckeyes kicked a FG late in the 4th quarter to win the game against a heavily-

favored Wolverine team, 23-20. The Buckeye fans stormed the field at the end of the game and the team carried Earle off the field. It was an unbelievable feeling as a Buckeye after a stormy season.

Rick has been in Austin 17 years. He loves the active/young lifestyle of Austin, and it reminds him of Columbus except with nicer winters.

Bob Joseph, Treasurer

Bob graduated in 1992 and majored in Environmental Monitoring and Assessment. His favorite memory is of OSU graduation in the Horseshoe. He has lived in Austin 7 years and he loves the winters, no shoveling snow.

Cristina Crabtree, Scholarship

Cristina graduated in 1998 and majored in Business Administration - Finance. Her favorite memory of OSU is her first Michigan weekend - from crowding around Mirror Lake on a freezing cold Friday night to the game and after party at Mama's Pasta and Brew. She's been in Aus-

tin 13 years this October and her favorite things about Austin are the weather (except this summer), live music, relaxed and friendly people.

AJ Yowler, Student Recruitment

AJ graduated in 2004 and majored in International Studies with a focus on world economics & business. His favorite memory is of taking a road trip to Arizona and sitting in the 4th row for the national championship. He's been in Austin 6 years and his favorite thing about Austin is the outdoor recreation.

Board Members

Aaron Boehm, Webmaster

Aaron didn't go to Ohio State, but his favorite memory is watching OSU football with his dad since birth. He's been in Austin 7 years and his favorite thing is the fact that people are always happy here because everyone loves Austin. He says, combine that with good food, music, and tons of events, and it's the best place to live.

Emily Brandel,

Newsletter Editor

Emily graduated in 1992 and majored in Communication. Her favorite memory of Ohio State is working at the now-defunct campus radio station, WOSR. She has been in Austin 10 years and loves all the great people she's met here.

Patricia Kelly, At Large

Patricia graduated in 1998 and from grad school in 2004. She majored in African-American Studies and African Studies in grad school. Of her favorite memory, she says:

This is so tough to answer, I had so many great times at OSU, including many football games, interesting classes, long walks through the oval and across campus, outdoor basketball pick-up games, drinks on High Street, meeting the most incredible people and making life-long friends. But if I had to choose just one memory, it would be studying for finals in the library with my best friend, Jana Eyster (RIP), and catching a case of the giggles. The harder we tried to stop laughing the more

we giggled. When one of us got it under control, the other one would lose it. We must have laughed for half an hour. By the time we were done we had forgotten what was so funny.

She's been in Austin 6 years and her favorite thing is the Ohio State Alumni Club of Austin of course! She says, "I never felt like Austin was home until the first time I came to a game watch and saw all the people dressed in scarlet and grey, then I felt at home."

Emily Lloyd, Community Service

Emily graduated in 2006 and majored in Family Resource Management. Her favorite memory is of the first warm day of Spring when there were actually people outside again. She's been in Austin 4 years and says her favorite thing about Austin is how excited everyone is about their city. You never hear "OMG I can't wait to get out of Austin."

Lyndsey Hersha-Rojas, Young Buckeyes

Lyndsey graduated in

2003 and majored in Business Administration and Spanish Literature. Her favorite memory is when we won the 2002 national championship. "I watched it from my best friend's house in Findlay, Ohio with 3 generations of OSU alums.." She's been in Austin over a year and says her favorite thing about Austin is trailer park food. "Who knew it could be so delicious?"

Laura Chism, Scholarship Fund Development

Laura graduated in 2006 and from grad school in 2007. She has a BA in Social Work and an MA in Public Health. Her favorite memory is Beating M*ch*g*n in 2006. "It

was my birthday!" She's been in Austin 3 years and her favorite thing about Austin is there's always something new and different to do here. "You never get bored!"

Leslie Reid, Past President

Leslie attended Ohio State from 1990 - 1994 and majored in Spanish. She says, "I loved being on campus, whether it was with friends or by myself. The Oval, South Oval, and Mirror Lake are places I still visit each time I go back to Columbus because I find those areas very peaceful and beautiful." She's lived in Austin since she was 6 so it is home to her.

College Fairs

Here are the upcoming college fairs. If you would like to help out staffing our booth, please contact AJ Yowler at yowler3@yahoo.com.

Cedar Ridge High School	9/26
Pflugerville High School	9/27
Westlake High School	9/28
Lake Travis High School	9/28
St. Michael's Catholic Academy	9/28

SPOTLIGHT

This issue's Spotlight is on member Sean Sullivan.

Where are you from? Youngstown, OH

How long have you been in Austin? Since February 1990.

What brought you here? Work. Started at TXDOT appraising real estate for eminent domain. I Worked on 300 parcels toward the expansion of 183 and 290.

What do you do for a living? I left TXDOT to work at High End Systems where I am the Production and Planning Manager. High End builds intelligent lights for major concerts.

What is your connection to OSU? OSU grad 1989. I have been a life-long Buckeye fan.

What did you study? I have a BSBA in Finance with an emphasis on Real Estate.

Tell us about your band. For a hobby I play bass for a three piece electric blues band, SUIT, www.suitblues.com. Also have a facebook page, www.facebook.com/SUITblues. We are friends that started playing together 3 years ago. We play about twice a month in the surrounding area.

Any favorite memories of OSU? My favorite memories of OSU are meeting great people, with whom I am still friends, and attending football and basketball games.

What do like about the alumni club? I like that it gives us a place to meet and share our love of all things OSU. I first started gathering with Buckeyes in 1990 when there was about ten of us showing up at various venues; it's been fun to watch it grow.



CLUB MEMBERSHIP

The Ohio State Alumni Club is very excited about the 2011 football season. It has been a very rough road this past off-season for the Buckeyes and there are plenty of new faces on the sidelines this year. This should make the upcoming games very entertaining to watch as the new team grows.

When you visit, make sure you stop by the front desk and verify your personal information with us. We like to keep our information up-to-date so we are able to contact you during the year, such as mailers or via phone. If you have moved or changed your email address or phone number(s) in the past year, please stop by and fill out an update form. Also, if you cannot find your name on the sign in sheet, make sure you fill out a New Member form which is free to all Buckeye fans. This will get you added to our mailing lists. Reminder, your information is kept private and is never shared with anyone besides The Ohio State University. You can also visit our website, www.osuaustin.org, and click on Membership to update/add your information.

Also, I want to remind the members that we have the Scarlet & Gray membership option. This option provides each member additional benefits over the general membership, such as the ability to purchase Ohio State athletic tickets that the club acquires, discounted tickets to OSU-Austin events, and free raffle tickets. The purpose of the membership is to help the club defray some of the operating costs (such as postage, post office box, supplies, etc) that we encounter during the season. The cost is \$10 dollars for one year. If you are interested in becoming a Scarlet & Gray member, visit the front desk and fill out a Scarlet & Gray membership form or visit our website and click on the Membership menu. If you join early, Bikini's has provided us a limited supply of can koozies to be given out with each Scarlet & Gray membership!

We are looking forward to a fun and exciting season. I hope to meet all of the new Austin Buckeye Fans!

Rick Gabel
Secretary

CONGRATULATIONS!

Jackson Wayne DeWeese born May 24, 2011 to Kevin and Marin.

Kevin and Marin have been in Austin since November of 2007. They both graduated from OSU; Kevin BS Biology 2000, Marin BS Human Ecology 2005. Kevin is the Clinical Director of Operations for LifeLine Screening, Marin is the Human Capital Support Manager for Fast Switch, Ltd.

Marin says, “the love and connection the 3 of us experienced immediately is so strong, and simply amazing. I am astounded by how much he grows and develops every day. His little smile can brighten the worst of days.”



Young Buckeye Event

Young Buckeyes of Austin, come hang out with fellow alums, fans and friends to listen to a band that was an Ohio State main-stay for years: O.A.R.

Join us October 13th: at Stubb's BBQ (outdoors).

There will be a happy hour at 5:30 p.m. to network with local YB's, followed by the O.A.R. concert at 7:00 p.m.

To purchase concert tickets, visit: stubbsaustin.com/o-a-r/

Check our facebook page for updates on the event.

For more info, contact Lyndsey Rojas at lyndsey.rojas@gmail.com

SCHOLARSHIP

This year, the Ohio State Alumni Club of Austin offered partial scholarships to two students. We could not have done this without the generous support of our members. Our goal is to raise \$25,000, which will allow us to have an endowment fund with The Ohio State University. If each one of our more than 600 Austin Buckeyes donated just \$20 in 2011, we would be over halfway to that goal. Last football season, we raised \$3630 at game watches for the scholarship fund, and this year our goal is to raise \$5000.

All donations are tax-deductible, and there are several ways that you can donate.

Donate Online You can make a secure donation through OSU's online giving program. Go to OSU's Online Giving website, www.giveto.osu.edu, and search for Fund Number **312681**. Follow instructions to donate directly to our fund.

Write a Check Checks need to be made out to The Ohio State University with Fund Number 312681 written in the memo line. Checks should be mailed to the following address:

Leslie Smith
The Ohio State University Alumni Association, Inc.
2200 Olentangy River Rd
Columbus, OH 43210-1035

Check with your employer to see if they have a Matching Gift Program. These programs are a fabulous resource, and your benefits coordinator can usually provide all the necessary information to you so you can take advantage of their specific program.

Your contributions to the scholarship fund will help us make another local Austin student an Ohio State Alumni. We're counting on the help of the entire club to help us meet our goal of \$5000 during football season!

Laura Chism
Scholarship Fund Development

Newsletter Contributions Wanted

Do you have a wedding or birth in your family? Are you involved in a charity event or play in a band? If you would like to share news or just an Ohio State memory with the club, contact us at osu.austintx@yahoo.com.

On August 26, the Big Ten club held a football kick-off happy hour. OSU Austin club member Beth Kite took this photo.



The Scarlet & Gray Letter

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A chartered club of The Ohio State University Alumni Association, Inc.

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Bruce Brandel, President
Melissa Smith, Vice President
Rick Gabel, Secretary
Bob Joseph, Treasurer
AJ Yowler, Student Recruitment
Cristina Crabtree, Scholarship

Board Members

Lyndsey Rojas, Young Buckeye Coordinator
Aaron Boehm, Webmaster
Emily Brandel, Newsletter Editor
Paul Bloor, Game Watch Coordinator
Patricia Kelly, At Large
Emily Lloyd, Community Service
Laura Chism, Scholarship Fund Development
Leslie Reid, Past President

Game watches are held at Bikinis

6901 N IH 35, Austin 512-454-2247

www.bikinissportsbarandgrill.com



Buckeye Bands

Phonic Misfortune

Member Todd Knuth sings and plays rhythm guitar for Phonic Misfortune. Learn more about the band and view their schedule at www.phonicmisfortune.com.

SUIT

Member Sean Sullivan plays bass for SUIT, a three piece electric blues band. They regularly play in different venues in Austin. Go to the SUIT facebook page (www.facebook.com/SUITblues) to learn more about the band.

If you have a band and would like to be listed here, contact us at osu.austintx@yahoo.com.

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\$5 per column inch

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