



## Annual Summer Picnic and Cornhole Championship at Sharon Woods, Sunday August 1st By Jason Smith



Unfortunately our annual dinner had to be canceled once again due to the pandemic and the resulting WVU faculty and staff travel restrictions. However, our **annual picnic** is still on and will be held in the **Great Meadow Shelter at Sharon Woods Park** in Sharonville, OH on **Sunday, August 1st. Admission is free to dues paying members, current WVU students, and their parents.** Non-members pay a small admission fee. An entire picnic meal and beverages will be provided to all Mountaineers, big and small. The Chapter will also be holding our

19<sup>th</sup> annual cornhole tournament for both WVU-themed prizes and more importantly bragging rights until next year's champion is crowned. As has become tradition, members and guests are invited to bring their musical instruments (guitars, etc.) as we will tap into our WV musical heritage. Unlike previous years vehicle permits are included with our pavilion rental. The festivities begin at 1pm. Come and join us for this annual family event.

## A Mountaineer Memory By Peyton Panger class of 2019

Ever since I could barely walk, I've been tailgating in the Blue lot in C1 (formerly C3). Although I wasn't at THAT Backyard Brawl in 2005 (we always decorated the Christmas tree while watching the Brawl, a family tradition), I've experienced brutal cold and snow and 100+ degrees all in those stands since 2001. However, my college years (2015-2019) were not dominated by football like the bulk of my life. No, you'd find me waiting in line to be courtside at the Coliseum, throwing ripped up paper and cheering on the full court press close to that one guy who dressed up like the Pope and a minion from 'Despicable Me'.

Some of my fondest memories of my college experience happened within the Coliseum. I stormed the court when we beat Kansas in a snowstorm in 2016; you know, the one where the entire city was shut down for over a day. I was in line at 6AM to watch us play Pitt when they finally came back to town in 2018. I have a good friend who was in WVU Pep band who is a fellow basketball lover like myself, and you'd often find me going back and forth between my spot courtside to go cheer alongside him until the fire marshal made me get out of the aisle. He'd often sneak me a water and a slice of pizza from the band's personal stash, too!

I got to do the Kroger shopping cart shootout my senior year (after my friends forced me), and I won \$100 that I used for my first grocery trip here in Cincinnati. You're not supposed to save seats, but if I was coming from work up at engineering for weekday games, those same friends would stand a little further apart to save me space. Those are the kind of friends who really understand my love for WVU basketball. The fact that I got to watch the legendary duo of Jevon Carter and Daxter Miles Jr, arguably one of the greatest duos in basketball of all time, courtside will forever be cemented in my memory. I only missed two home basketball games as a college student, and even went to a 9PM game right before an exam...sorry Mom. I am so thankful to that team, the University, and my friends for making those moments core to my WVU experience.

## **Midwest Mountaineer Social Media Update**

Hello Mountaineers! As many of you know, the chapter strives to keep up with the ever-changing social media landscape to ensure our members have every opportunity to participate in chapter activities. Get involved in one or all of our social media and email groups to keep up with the latest Midwest Mountaineer happenings.

**FACEBOOK GROUP:** **Midwest Mountaineers** is one of the primary ways we communicate chapter events such as game watches, Annual Spring Dinner, Summer picnic, etc. It is an easy way to RSVP to events you plan on attending so that we can get a head count and make sure to have you accounted for!

**TWITTER:** **@WVUAlumInCincy** has been another tool to communicate game watch and other festivities. We follow various WVU alumni chapters, WVU athletes, WVU academic programs, and general state of West Virginia accounts to ensure we have a good flavor of interaction with our alma mater.

**LINKEDIN:** **WVU Alumni – Midwest Mountaineers** A great networking tool for professionals in the area. This has been a great resource for meeting and recruiting local Mountaineer talent.

**INSTAGRAM:** **WValumInCincy**

**CHAPTER WEBSITE:** [www.midwestmountaineer.com](http://www.midwestmountaineer.com) We recently upgraded the website and will look for future upgrades as we progress throughout the year.

**EMAIL:** The Chapter is going away from the Yahoo email group we used previously. We are transitioning to the WVU Alumni Association's Luminare system. If your information is up-to-date with the Alumni Association then you will receive our Chapter emails.

Here are our latest social media numbers. We are always looking to expand our reach, so please follow us, join our group, or link in with us ASAP! Refer your friends, family and anyone with an affinity for or with WVU.



386 Group Members: Our goal is to reach 400 members by the end of 2021.



176 Followers – Our goal is to reach 200 followers by the end of 2021.



266 Group Members. Targeting 300 members by the end of 2021.



103 followers. Targeting 150 followers by the end of 2021

### **2021 Football Schedule**

Sat., Sept. 4 @ U. Maryland Terrapins  
 Sat, Sept. 11 vs. LIU Sharks  
 Sat., Sept. 18 vs Virginia Tech Hokies  
 Sat., Sept. 25 @ Oklahoma Sooners  
 Sat, Oct. 2nd vs. Texas Tech Red Raiders (HC)  
 Sat., Oct.9th @ Baylor Beats  
 Sat, Oct. 23rd @ TCU Horned Frogs  
 Sat., Oct. 30th vs. Iowa State Cyclones  
 Sat., Nov. 6th vs. Oklahoma State Cowboys  
 Sat., Nov. 13th @ Kansas State Wildcats  
 Sat., Nov. 20th vs. Texas Longhorns  
 Sat., Nov. 27th @ Kansas Jayhawks  
 Sat, Dec. 4th Big12 Champ, Arlington TX

## Greater Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter Scholarship

For the past 20 years the Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter has provided at least one \$1000 per year scholarship to a local student who attends WVU. The scholarship is one of the ways our chapter gives back to our alma mater and to the local community. To date our chapter has given out over \$24,000 to help support local students. Our endowment provides approximately \$1000 each year in perpetuity for a deserving student in our area to attend WVU. This year we plan to give out three scholarships (two from the endowment and one funded primarily from annual chapter membership dues). Our goal is to continue to build our endowment so that additional scholarships can be offered. The current value of our endowment is over \$50,000. The near term goal to grow our endowment to \$75,000 so that we can offer an additional scholarship.

You can help make the goal of additional scholarships a reality by making tax deductible contributions directly to the WVU Foundation. By including the information below any donation sent to the WVU Foundation will be added to our endowment.

Donations can be made via the WVU Foundation website (<http://www.wvuf.org/>) or by mail using the order form below. Always refer to Greater Cincinnati-Dayton Chapter WVU Alumni Association Scholarship Fund #3Z308 on the check memo line or in the online comments section.

**Contributions totaling \$4150 were made to the Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni scholarship fund by chapter members and local corporations last year. We, and future Mountaineers would like to thank the following members for their generous support: John and Carolyn Ach, Valerie and Bill Cross, Deborah Felzien, Andrew Komanecky, Fred Lucas, Susan Ridgeway, Diane and David Sherard, Jason Smith, Neal Watzman, Larry Utt, Beth Withrow, and Howard and Ann Withrow.**

*Support the Cincinnati/Dayton Chapter's Scholarship Fund #3Z308 with a Tax Deductible Gift*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class of \_\_\_\_\_

Street/PO \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate amount contributed \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1000 \$other \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your check payable to *West Virginia University Foundation, Inc.*, and mail directly to One Waterfront Place, PO Box 1650, Morgantown, WV 26507-9939**

**Specify "*Greater Cincinnati/Dayton Chapter WVU Alumni Association Scholarship 3Z308*" on the check memo line**



## Spring 2021 Order Form

Please return this form to RSVP for the picnic, to pay Chapter dues, or to comment to the officers.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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### **SUMMER PICNIC Sunday August 1st, Sharon Woods Park**

Free to dues paying members, current WVU students, and their parents

**Number attending:** \_\_\_\_\_

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### **CHAPTER DUES for 2021**

I wish to become a member or renew my membership with the Greater Cincinnati/Dayton Chapter of the WVU Alumni Association. Dues are \$20.00 per individual or \$25.00 per family.

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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### **BECOME INVOLVED!**

Are you interested in helping with events sponsored by the Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter? We are always looking for chairpersons and coordinators to help with our fun social activities. It's a great way to meet fellow Mountaineers!

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you would like someone to contact you about how you can help

Please return to **Cincinnati/Dayton WVU Alumni Chapter, 4091 Reemelin Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45211.** Call (513) 290-7351 or E-mail *jsmithWVU@gmail.com* if you have questions. Make checks payable to the **GREATER CINCINNATI/DAYTON CHAPTER, WVU ALUMNI ASSOC.**