

Blue White Scholarship Foundation

January & February 2016

Baby It's Cold Outside, but Love is In the Air!

We may have lots of snow in the Northeast and of course it's cold in the Winter, but you all have such warm hearts! This Valentine's day the students and I wanted to make sure that we let everyone know how much we appreciate them. We said "thank you from the bottom of our hearts" and made Valentine's Day Cards for you, but after making 600 cards we ran out of time, and it was impossible to mail one out to all of our donors, so I thought I would send out a great big bear hug! I continue to be amazed at the outpouring of good deeds and support by all of you. My favorite part of writing this Newsletter is to feature special people. In 2017, our January Donor of the month will celebrate 50 years of "Giving" back to Villanova - from being the Villanova Athletic Team Physician for 23

years, as well as many other roles, such as the Alumni Association President in 1970, to raising money for scholarships as a member of the 2016 Board of Directors. The Blue White Scholarship Foundation's "Doc" is amazing! Our February Donor of the Month was a star on the Women's Softball Team and one of the student athlete's that "Doc" served. She caught the spirit to give in her 20's and is still hitting home runs for us! See page 6



One Big Bear Hug Goes Out To All Blue White Donors! Thank you for supporting the mission and Saving Our Students! We hope your Valentine's Day was Lovely.



In This Issue

How We Are Unique-Spread the Word! (Page 2)
The Franklin Pledge Ceremony (Page 3)
Meet Our Scholars (Page 4)
A Special Thank You (Page 5)
January Donor of the Month (Page 6 & 7)
February Donor of the Month (Page 8 & 9)
Pictures from Game Watch & Cigar Night (Page 10)
January - Acts of Kindness (Page 11)
February - Acts of Kindness (Page 12)
Donor News (Page 13)



Executive Director's Message

I was recently asked, Why is the Blue White Scholarship Foundation needed when there is a \$600 million campaign underway and how are we different? I thought it was such a good question that it is now the focus of our web-site's Home Page. By the way, please everyone "Like" our Facebook Page. It helps us with the statistics we need to get Grant Funding which we are going to try for the first time.. So.....

Why We Are Needed

After Villanova University has provided all of the financial aid it can, there are still many students who experience a gap in funding in their junior and senior years, putting them at risk of not being able to graduate. According to U.S. News & World Report 50% of undergrads determined to have financial need and the average aid package is \$33,845. Villanova reports a 20 % shortfall in what they can provide in financial aid. This makes the average shortfall to be about \$13,000. The Blue White Scholarship Foundation (B.W.S.F. also known as the Blue White Club) was started by Alumni that give not only to the University, but dig deeper into their pockets to help students directly, specifically these Middle Class students who don't qualify for enough financial aid from the school or those students who have encountered an unexpected financial hardship resulting in a "Short Fall" or "Tuition Gap."

Who We Help

B.W.S.F. helps those students from Middle Class families and students who have encountered an unexpected financial hardship such as a parent who has been laid off from work or is underemployed, or a parent or sibling who has become ill and the medical bills have created an extreme burden, or they come from a large family and the money has simply run out. In all cases the students are "Working their way" through school and in some cases are responsible for 100% of their tuition. In all cases the result is a "short fall" or "tuition gap" in funds available.

How We Are Unique

YOU and the Scholarship Monies you donate are truly appreciated. Giving Back is big lesson for our young students and now they all take the Ben Franklin Pledge to "Pay It Forward" to help another distressed student in the future. They also volunteer time back to BWSF. Go to

www.BlueWhiteClub.org or view



Watch Highlight Video
2015 Fund-Raisers



Watch Video Of
Pledge Ceremony



YOU become part of a national group of Villanova Alumni who help students directly. We work hard and play hard! We have over 24 Video's now!

YOU have numerous chances to Meet the students you help in person at Our events. YOU can also become a Mentor. There are many ways to help. Every Act of Kindness Counts!

YOU have the opportunity to be involved "Hands On" as a Judge to decide which students will receive a scholarship. The best honor we can ever bestow to our donors is that of "Judging" the scholarship applications. All who give at the Ambassadors Level are asked to be Judges . YOU have the opportunity to be featured



Blue White Scholarship Foundation Instills the Next Generation with the Ideal of "Pay-It-Forward" as Conceived by the Original Inventor

THE FRANKLIN PLEDGE

Our Scholarship recipients are invited to sign the "Franklin Pledge". Although the money awarded to the recipients is an outright grant, we hope to influence them to help others in the future, and that is why we have added the Pledge. Join us!

HISTORY

In 1784, Benjamin Franklin received a letter from an old friend, Benjamin Webb, requesting his financial assistance. Being of limited means, Franklin was hesitant to comply with his friend's request, but ultimately agreed to help, but under one condition – that his friend repay the debt, not to Franklin, but to someone else in similar need. He explained that his investment would then help not one, but would continue to help many until the rogue who might break the chain of good deeds. This charitable gesture has become better known today as "Paying Forward" an act of kindness / charity or "Paying It Forward"

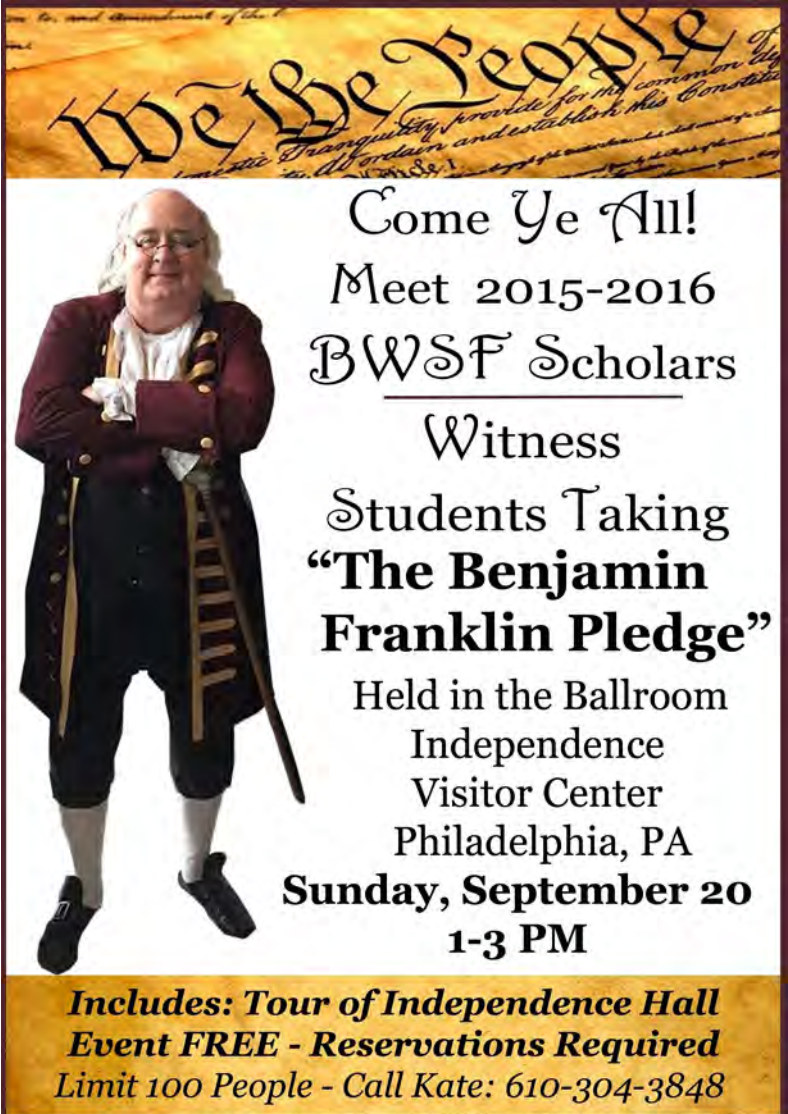
THE BWSF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT'S CHALLENGE

The genius of Benjamin Franklin inspired volunteer firehouses, free libraries, institutions of higher learning, and cooperative insurance companies, among many other innovations. In his honor and memory, the Franklin Pledge has been added to the tradition of BWSF.

By accepting a scholarship award from Blue White Scholarship Foundation, the scholarship recipient agrees to make a non-binding pledge to return the good favor of the award and "Pay It Forward" to someone else at some time in the future.

INVITATION TO YOU TO ATTEND THE FRANKLIN PLEDGE CEREMONY

The invitation above is from last years event.. The ceremony will again be held Parents Weekend which will most likely be on Sunday, September 18 or 25. Please try to support our signature event by attending or becoming a sponsor.



We the People

Come Ye All!
Meet 2015-2016
BWSF Scholars
Witness
Students Taking
"The Benjamin Franklin Pledge"
Held in the Ballroom
Independence
Visitor Center
Philadelphia, PA
Sunday, September 20
1-3 PM

Includes: Tour of Independence Hall
Event FREE - Reservations Required
Limit 100 People - Call Kate: 610-304-3848

"If a man empties his purse into his head, no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest." –Ben Franklin

Meet Our Scholars

These students are what drive the Blue White Mission year-in and year-out. We understand that not everyone can attend Blue White's events and it is hard to meet the scholars, so we are bringing them to you. Each month we will feature two of our outstanding scholars, sharing their background and showing you how your contributions are assisting them. Our goal is to inspire you to share our mission with other alumni so we may continue to help these students and our future scholars.

**Name:**

Kristin Lam

Hometown:

Queens, NY

Major:

Computer Science

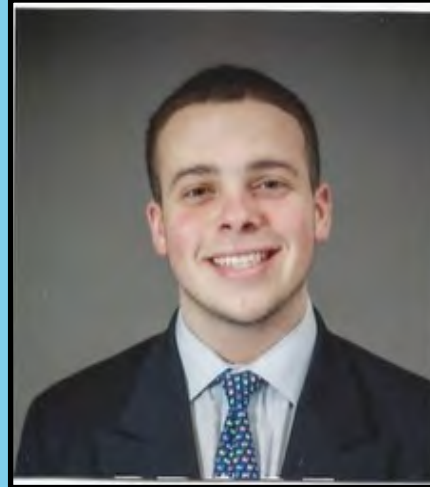
Extra-Curricular

Activities: Villanova Women in Computer Science, Student Consultant at UNIT's TechZone, Villanova Computing Scholars Program, Villanova CAVE Team, Rays of Sunshine

Career Aspirations: Web Developer

Favorite Quote: "Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle." – Ian Maclaren

Why or how the Blue White Scholarship is helping you: The Blue White Scholarship is helping me by easing the financial burden of attending Villanova University, making it possible for me to obtain my degree in computer science in my final year of college. It will go a long way towards helping me financially after graduation as well. But this scholarship doesn't affect only me. It has a real and important impact on my parents—immigrants who know the meaning of poverty very well, but did not allow it to stop me from attending a good college. Being awarded the Blue White Scholarship means I can focus less on student loans and more on giving back to my family.

**Name:**

Christopher Lucido

Hometown:

Staten Island, New York

Major: Comprehensive Science

Extra-

Curricular Activities: Alpha Epsilon Delta-National Honor Society for Pre-Medical/Dental Professionals, Pre-Dental Student Association- President, AED Honor Society, Sigma Phi Epsilon – Philanthropy Chair, Assistants to Dentists Dr. Ryan Galligan, Dr. Charles Picchioni, & Dr. Sirini from 2012 to present, Night Shift at A&J Produce- Summers 2008-2014

Career Aspirations: Dentist

Favorite Quote: "I can accept failure...I can't accept not trying." – Michael Jordan

Why or how the Blue White Scholarship is helping you: The Blue/White scholarship is helping me by supplementing funds for my education. It also will foster my fundraising skills for the benefit of the Villanova community.

Special Thanks to Chris for all of his help with BWSF fundraising this year. He's fantastic!

A Special Thank You from Kristin

You Saved Our Students. We wanted you to know just how important you are to them! All of our scholars wrote personal “thank you “ notes this past summer o our Judges and our Ambassadors. Here is a letter.

Kristen Lam’s letter to a donor...

“My name is Kristin Lam and I’m a rising senior at Villanova University. This summer, I won the Blue White Scholarship. You’ve helped me more than you know, and I’m writing to express my gratitude. After living in Queens, NYC all my life, going to Villanova University was my first time living on my own. Coming from a lower middle class family of first-generation immigrants, it was amazing for me to be able to afford a college as prestigious as Villanova University. I arrived undeclared and a bit lost my first year, but with the guidance of some kind counselors and professors, I decided on computer science in my sophomore year. My dream is to become a web developer because I love being able to take the programming I’ve learned and creating something pretty with it. After graduating, I want to live and work in California. I was able to attend Villanova University because the financial aid was very generous, but with the annually rising tuition costs and having to living off-campus for the first time, I was very worried about my senior year. When the Blue White family chose me as a scholar, I was so relieved and grateful to the donors and judges. Now I feel confident about graduating and less anxious about the future and student loans. The grant really helps and lets me focus more on the things that matter—my education, family, and community—in my last year of college. From the bottom of my heart, thank you so much for caring about current Villanovan students and for being part of what makes the Villanova community so unforgettable.” Sincerely,- Kristin Lam

Executive Director’s Message



I am simply amazed by the goodness in the hearts of our donors. My absolute favorite part of the day is any opportunity I have to speak with any of you over the phone or to meet you in person. Because this is a double issue month I have the pleasure of featuring four of you.

Dennis Kelly ‘84 C&F was chosen as the donor to feature for January Acts of Kindness because he called to tell me he was giving me a raise! Now that’s the way to start the new year!

Ken Gerg ‘58 C&F was chosen for February because this past summer he was the first person to check off on the Donation Envelope stapled into our Newsletter for the Endowment Fund. He is an amazing man and his athletic ability will have us all jumping off the couch this Winter & springing into Spring!

Dr. Ronald ‘Bud’ Russo ‘52 A&S is our January Donor of the Month. He is the ultimate “Giver” as you will read. He is featured because he is one of the 4 founders of the Wildcat Club which is the predecessor to the Blue White Scholarship Foundation and we would very much like to honor him. **A “Call to Action “ at the end of his article. Please help us spread the word to any 1970-1990 V.U. Athlete.**

Pamela Beatty Laudadio ‘80 A&S is the February Donor of the Month and is featured for her own donation of a Life Insurance Policy to BWSF and her expertise in the field of Life Insurance. We need to have a long term plan in place to keep these scholarships going and this is one tool to do so. Pam Has agreed to be a resource for anyone who has questions.

January “Donor of the month”

A Life Time of Service to Our Country, Our School and Our Community

The Colorful Dr. Ronald “Bud” Russo



There are people that have dedicated their lives to others and it is our fortune that Dr. Ronald F. Russo came to Villanova. Dr. Russo “Bud” was one of the four founders of the Wildcat Club, the predecessor to the Blue White Scholarship Foundation. He did it because he wanted to give back to the school and the students. So who is Dr. Bud Russo?

Growing up in the Bronx, Bud says he was a passing student. He wanted to apply to Villanova but everyone said “The school was so good” and they wouldn’t let him apply. Instead, at 17 years old, Bud volunteered for the United States Marine Corps. He was sent to China to serve with the 1st Provisional Marine Division, 5th Marine Regiment, ABC Company as a Browning automatic rifleman. When he came back. “I went down and looked at Villanova – 1946 – and I got goose bumps walking through the campus. Green grass! I came up the Paoli Local. I didn’t really deserve to be accepted, but with the GI Bill ... Hey, I’m very loyal to the Marines.” Thanks to “Uncle Sam” Bud would be able to afford college, however he’d be on his own to pay for his .M.D.

Bud married Mary Margaret Moore in his senior year at Villanova and immediately started a family. During his years at Villanova and the first 2 years at Temple, he worked at every possible job to support his young family while going to school. From driving a taxi, working at the ACME and A&P, caddying, mowing lawns, and working at a pharmacy, gas station, lumber yard, waiting tables and even painting houses, he did it all. Mary also worked both at home and outside jobs to help raise their eight children.

After graduating in 1952 from Villanova, Bud went to Temple Medical School. Upon graduation from Temple, Dr. Russo joined the Bryn Mawr Hospital staff after serving as an intern there. He then opened a practice in Ardmore and practiced for 30 years. Starting in 1967, Bud started to watch the football practices at Villanova and help out with any medical issues. Dr. Russo was in attendance at every football sporting event he could make. Then he attended the basketball games and all the other sporting events. His days and nights were jam-packed. He would watch the practices and check any injuries. His days were already busy with patients and family obligations but soon the university needed his presence to tend to all the team sports 8 months a year. Bud devoted his expertise to the student athletes, from 4pm-6pm every afternoon at the Jake Nevin Building. As the need grew, a physical therapist and orthopedic surgeon were added. In 1986 the NCAA rules changed requiring a paid Athletic Physician and Bud was asked to continue on as the Team Doctor for The Villanova Athletic Program. He was instrumental in establishing the sports medicine program that now exists for Villanova Athletes. What started with Dr. Bud Russo, a volunteer physician for 15 years, (1970-1985) and a paid physician for 5 years (1985-1990) has grown into a state of the art Sports Medicine Program.

In 1991 his “love of country” called him back to service and he volunteered for Desert storm at the young age of 59 years old. For the second time Bud volunteered to fight in a war. This time he went not as a Marine, but as a Navy Physician. Not only was Bud raising 8 children with Mary, and running his own practice and working at Villanova, but he also joined the U.S. Navy Reserve Medical Corps in 1982 to support the U.S. Marine Air Wing at Willow Grove. Eight years later in 1991 he volunteered to support Operation Desert Storm and served on active duty for 6 years. Bud a Private First Class in the U.S. Marines retired from the Navy in the Rank of Captain in September, 1997. He then went to work at Neumann Medical Center Emergency Department, in Philadelphia. When Neumann closed, Bud worked in the E.R. at Northeastern Hospital. He had an amazing personal and military career, all the while he was the Villanova University athletic teams physician from 1970-1990. Don’t you think for a minute he isn’t still a practicing physician! He now works one day a week for the Community Volunteers of Medicine and is taking care of the indigent. He will tell you “You miss out on life if you don’t volunteer”

In terms of service to the university, Russo has been most everywhere, serving as the Alumni Association president in 1970. His articles, for the alumni association's publications, were written with a certain tart frankness. During the 70's he sat on various advisory panels. Bud has served as the Chairman of, The Alumni Annual Giving Committee, The Planning Committee and Athletic Committee of the Villanova Senate, The Alumni Class Agent; The President of the VU General Alumni Association, President of The Villanova Educational Foundation (the "Wildcat Club" predecessor of BWSF), and now he currently serves on the Board of the Blue White Scholarship Foundation aka, The Blue White Club. His honors include the Alumni Medal, the coveted Loyalty Award, the Joseph Molinari award and the Varsity Club Hall of Fame award. Bud tells me now "Everything I dreamed and everything I have worked for has come true in the past 15 years for the University. We are on top academically and our sports program is outstanding. Our charismatic President, Father Peter Donoghue has now taken the school to a National University status and the Cats are ranked # 1. Now, I continue to help by raising money for students in need by supporting the Blue White Scholarship Foundation."

Bud Russo may have mellowed a bit over the years and may not be as much of a lightning rod as he once was. But, through the years, there is one unshakable truth that survives. Bud Russo is still a colorful character ... and his favorite colors are still Villanova Blue and White. A guy who is as Villanova as the twin spires, or Bartley Hall.

CALL TO ACTION

If you appreciate Doc's advice and all he has done to support Villanova for the past 50 years, please make a donation in his honor. Blue White Scholarship foundation will be establishing a scholarship in his name. If you know a Villanova athlete past or present, please share this article.

Please mark your donation with the following: "In Honor of Doc".



Members of the BWSF Board of Directors decide to honor "Doc Russo" by naming a scholarship in his name. Those in attendance at the February Board meeting include from Left to Right: Ken Christovich, Dr. Fred Wolanin, Mike Stephano, Joe Hare, Sean Morrissey, John Kroos, Dr. Bud Russo, Joe Cervini

February “Donor of the Month” Pam Beatty Laudadio

Yesterday morning I met Pam Laudadio for a cup of coffee. I wanted to meet this dynamic woman who was so enthusiastic about helping our Blue White Scholars. I had called her after our accountant told me I had to find out the face value of an insurance policy gifted to BBSW by Pam. All assets must be accounted and this policy had been around a long time. I wondered why Pam a Varsity Softball athlete who was a starting rotation Short Stop (1978-19800, had given us an insurance policy, so I asked her. Here is her reply:

“When I was new to financial planning and attending a motivational meeting, a speaker representing Special Olympics spoke to us about their organization. At 26 years old, I was familiar with Special Olympics, but to see the impact it made to the athletes was heartwarming to say the least. The speaker encouraged us to think about using life insurance to leverage donations not only to Special Olympics but to other non-profit organizations that are near and dear to us.

I decided to purchase two policies; one for Special Olympics and one for the VU Wildcat Club, now Blue White Scholarship Foundation. I continue to donate premium payments to each policy and someday, hopefully very far into the future, the Blue White Scholarship Fund, as well as the Special Olympics will be the recipients of a larger donation through the life insurance proceeds.”

I stayed to ask Pam about the Types of Life Insurance Charitable Gifts. She told me there are three basic choices in making a charitable Gift of life insurance.

- *One: The donor may give an existing policy to charity in which all incidents of ownership should be assigned to the charity and the charity named as the policy’s beneficiary.*
- *Two: The donor may apply to a new policy on his or her life with the charity as the original policy owner and beneficiary (subject to state insurable interest laws) and*
- *Three: The donor may designate a charity as the beneficiary of a policy that the donor continues to own.*

I then asked her what some of the advantages and disadvantages for each type. Here is the answer:

Gifts of Existing Life Insurance Policies

A donor may give an existing life insurance policy to charity and be eligible for an income tax charitable deduction, provided the donor assigns all rights to the charity (i.e., naming the charity as policy owner and beneficiary). A donor who retains any right in the policy after assignment will jeopardize the charitable deduction for the gift.

Gifts of New Life Insurance Policies

To make a gift of a new life insurance policy, a donor should transfer funds to the charity. The charity then should be the applicant, owner and beneficiary of the new policy issued on the life of the donor. The donor then receives two tax benefits:

- The initial premium amount donated may be deductible.
- The death proceeds of the policy will not be included in the donor’s gross estate at death (because the donor never held any incidents of ownership). State insurable interest laws should be checked to assure this is permissible. The great majority of states have enacted legislation to make it clear that a charitable organization has an insurable interest in a donor. **States do not consider a charitable organization to have an insurable interest in a donor. The question of insurable interest generally arises only at the time of policy issue, not when some subsequent assignment occurs.**

Designating a Charity as the Life Insurance Policy Beneficiary

If a donor does not desire to make an immediate gift with respect to an existing policy, the donor may retain ownership and control of the policy but name a charity as beneficiary. This will not produce an income tax charitable deduction at the time the beneficiary designation is made, but it will result in an estate tax charitable deduction for the death proceeds includible in the donor's gross estate and passing to the charity at the insured donor's death

Would you like to create your own Legacy? You can by Charitable Giving Through Life Insurance- Pam can walk you through the basics. She has not only made BWSF a beneficiary of a Life Insurance Policy but she has become an expert on the subject! Read what Pam has to say

"Most people could not write a check today for \$100,000 to their chosen charity. But through life insurance, it can cost you very little to be very generous. Life insurance enables you to make a substantial future gift by making small premium payments over time.. **Great idea for our scholars to give back!**

The advantages of using life insurance as the instrument to fund a charitable giving plan include:

- You may qualify for income, gift and estate tax deductions.
- The gift is given without disrupting other assets reserved for your family.
- Death benefits are paid promptly to the charity.
- Gifts of life insurance do not increase estate liquidity needs.
- The policy's growing cash value also may be borrowed by the charitable institution for special needs.

The federal government has structured income, gift and estate tax laws to encourage you to share your assets with charitable organizations.

The tax benefits you may receive include lower:

- Income tax liability
- Gift tax liability
- Estate tax liability

Options for funding charitable donations through existing life insurance. Great idea for older donors!

There are two common options to consider when making charitable donations through an existing life insurance policy or new one. Choose the one that best meets your needs.

- **Option 1** – Name a charitable beneficiary to receive all or a portion of the proceeds of a policy you already own or purchase a new policy, naming a favorite charity as beneficiary. In either case, you own the policy and you pay premiums. You cannot deduct the premium payments, but you maintain control of the policy (should you decide to change the beneficiary at some point).
- **Option 2** – Donate an existing policy* to a favorite charity, or make cash donations to the charity for the purpose of purchasing life insurance. This provides you with a current income tax deduction, while the charity pays the premiums and maintains ownership of the policy.

*Pamela J. Laudadio is a Financial Representative of Principal National Life Insurance Company and Principal Life Insurance Company and a Registered Representative of Principal Financial Services Corporation. Securities and advisory products offered through Principal Financial Services Corporation, 800/247-1737, member SIPC. Principal National (except in New York) and Principal Life are issuing insurance companies of the Principal Financial Group. Principal National, Principal Life and Principal are members of the Principal Financial Group Des Moines, IA 50392. **Pam can be reached @484-654-0758.***

The subject matter in this communication is provided with the understanding that The Principal® is not rendering legal, accounting or tax advice. You



Cigar and Game Watch Night! We Smoked the Owls



Eileen Kelly & Ashley Brede looking adorable!



Chris Lucido and Friends



We're "Smoking" the Owls!



Jesse Hatton, Pat Ciapciak & Chris Stanziale



Fred Wolanin, Dave Wadell, Peter Famiglio,
Bob Paolino— The 4 Docs!



Temple tried to hoot, but we gave them the boot.

Act of Kindness—January's Person of the Month

Dennis Kelly C&F '84, from the little town of Girardville in Schuylkill County.

A couple of weeks ago I was told by Dennis that he was giving me a raise! He proceeded to increase his donation by 10% He told me he was pleased to do it . In Dennis' own words, here is why!

"Villanova was a tremendous experience and it was important to me to attend a real, authentic, major Catholic university. I was able to earn my degree and a commission in the Navy, not to mention the incredible experiences (and I certainly DO mean Villanova Basketball!) and lifelong friends I made on the Main Line. After completing my active service obligation, I went on to graduate school and have been working for Sunoco Logistics Partners for the past 26 years, most of that time living and working in Pittsburgh (America's Most Livable City).

One of the unforgettable people I got to know was the former BWSF Executive Director, the great Bob Capone. Bob never knew it, but he had a major influence on me in his love for Villanova. I would love running into him at places like the Big East Tournament or other functions, he always remembered me and it made quite an impact.

I am blessed to be able to support the BWSF – it is so important to provide deserving students with the lifeline they need to complete their Villanova experience and obtain the all-important degree. I'm so pleased to support BWSF as a tribute to Mr. Capone (and now of course Kate), and I want to encourage my fellow alums to break out that checkbook and dig! All of us need to support these Young Cat's, so get on board!"

Dennis P. Kelly C & F '84
Senior Specialist – Health and Safety (Sunoco Logistics Partners LP)



John Kroos and John Cellucci discuss the finer points of Cardinal Mendoza Brandy



Michael Brennan and Asim Ahmed are psyched the Owls are going down, baby!

Act of Kindness—February's Person of the Month

Ken Gerg, Class of 1958, Discovers The Holy Grail

The Fountain of Youth has been discovered! It'd true! Just take one look at Ken Gerg. That's Ken Gerg docking after another day at the office. This photo was taken at the end of the Cameron County Canoe & Kayak Classic. Gerg, who captained this event for nearly two decades, still says the local course is his favorite. I'm not sure if he is jesting. Canoe News describes it like this—"About three fourths of a mile into the event the canoes encounter the confluence of Portage Creek and the Driftwood Branch. A whirlpool here sent numerous folks in for an early season swim. Three miles further along the survivors encountered "German Rock" rapids and many howling spectators hoping to witness and photograph their friends making the event a "biathlon" (to include swimming). Another two miles presented the paddlers with "Devils Elbow" with its fast unpredictable water and ROCKS just below the surface. About a half mile from the finish, "Sterling Run Rapids" always added an exciting end to those who may have thought that the fun was over. Despite the different challenges which the water/ice altered stream presented, the race is still always a roaring success. The best races occurred when there was a heavy winter snow blanket with a late thaw and good snow melt, runoff. The race has taken place in a blinding snow storm, in a drought, at flood stage and on one occasion, had to be "started" about three miles above Driftwood as it was the first "open water". The river from there back to Emporium was frozen solid. In fact, ice axes and picks were used the day before the event to open up a channel through which the canoes could pass, but the event went on!"



When I spoke with Ken he told me, "My claim to fame at Villanova is my Freshman roommate was Jim Moran (55), Captain of the world record track team. My sophomore roommate was Ron Delany (58) the Irish Gold Medal winner in Melbourne, Australia in 1956 and usher in my wedding. My junior and senior roommate was Joe Ryan (59), Captain of the Basketball

.....Since graduation in 1958 two of my daughters have followed me-Sharon Eggstein, who graduated in 1982, and Carolyn in 1987. Carolyn subsequently married "Number 32" of the 1985 NCAA Championship Basketball team-Harold Jensen...I started a manufacturing company in 1965 and retired in 1987," so states the very modest Gerg.

In actuality, Gerg has been a major force in Cameron County as an industrial entrepreneur. He and other visionaries began Pennsylvania Pressed Metals, a pioneer in the powdered metal industry. Its arrival was a godsend in Emporium after the fading of Sylvania left the county in near-economic ruin. Not only did Gerg's handiwork boost the economy and bolster the local labor force, he also involved himself in many community organizations, but his favorite are canoe organizations.



For the Gerg's, April through November is spent preparing for, and traveling to, as many as 15 races per season. Ken's wife JoAnne is the head of his "pit crew" and that's no joke. "She's a 'bank runner' and there's just no way you can make these long races without bank runners," Ken explained. "They are responsible for getting you your Gatorade, aspirin, Aleve, candy bars for a sugar boost and whatever other concoctions you need to get through the race." Bank running is no easy job because access points to the race course are sometimes difficult to find and when you do get to them, you never know if your paddler has already gone by. For the uninitiated, some of the races are long, REAL long -- close to 100 miles. That realization puts the bank runners' jobs in perspective. In 2008, Ken now 72 years old, was awarded the extremely prestigious United State Canoe Association Paddler of the Year Award. He has paddled and raced over 20,000 miles paddled over a career that spans 30 years. He told me that when he gets old he plans on taking up golf! I thank Ken for being the first to give money to the Endowment by using the Newsletter Giving Envelope's. Keep on paddling!

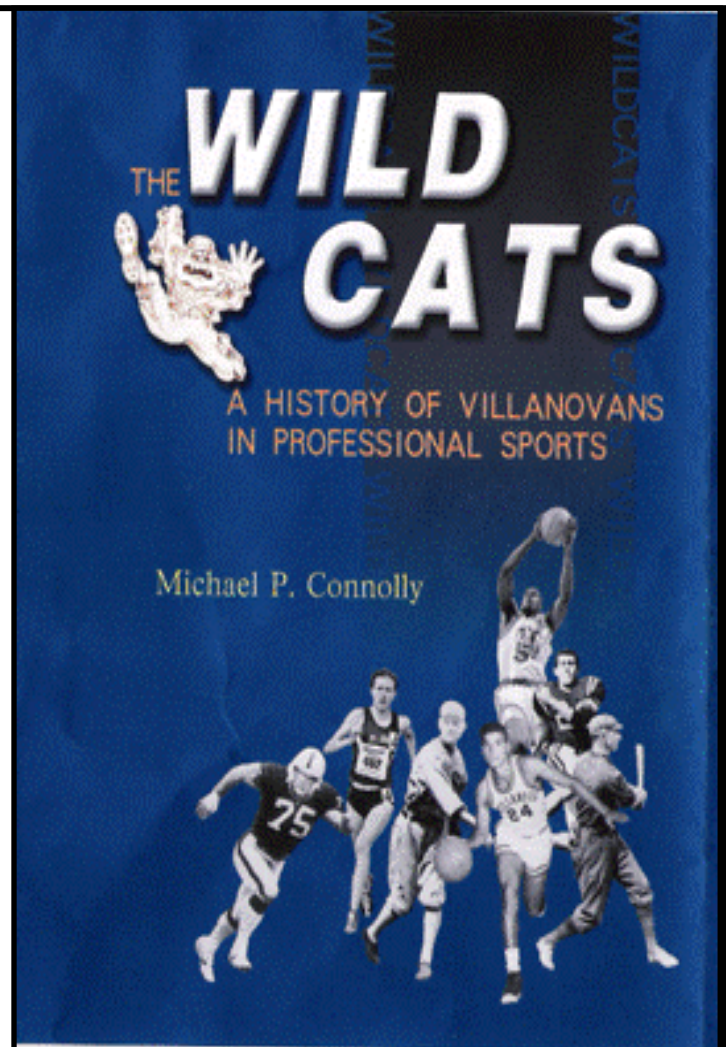
Trivia Questions:

Did you know, there were two Villanovans in the infamous Black Sox game? How many Olympians do we have? A Villanovan shot the NBA's first three pointer! There are two Villanovans in the sports Hall of Fame! Do you know who was our first professional athlete?

TREAT YOURSELF FOR FATHER'S DAY!

This book chronicles the history of 175 Villanova athletes, through individual biographies, who have participated in professional sports since the **1800s**.

Father's Day Special \$50
Normally only available for \$25 per month donors.



Donor News

- Richard Kennedy, Esq. '64 writes: "I was awarded the Distinguished Service Award and the Don Buck Lifetime Achievement Legal Award by Community Association Institute, Alexandria, Virginia"
- Jeffery Eisenburg posts on our Facebook page- "I'm engaged!"
- Bob Pesavento '74 writes: We have another Wildcat-my new grand daughter! Please see our next issue with a full spotlight on Bob's amazing family legacy! Including pictures of new granddaughter Caroline. V.U. class of 2037!

REQUEST

If anyone is able to donate airplane miles and / or hotel stays, please contact me. As I mentioned in the Fall, I would like to do events in other cities/towns, but there is no budget for travel. The trips to Florida and New York last year were out of my pocket. If you are able to help, please let me know. I can be reached @ (610) 304-3848. Also, if you have any items we can use for an auction please let me know. Timeshares would be incredible. Remember it is 100% deductible!

Thank you!-Kate





BlueWhite Scholarship Foundation

P.O. Box 412 Villanova, PA 19085
www.BlueWhiteClub.org

Back by Demand
Angelo Babbaro

Sinatra Night

Friday, April 22nd, 2016



YO!
Frankie
Wants to
See YOU
THERE!



Save the Date

The
Benjamin
Franklin Pledge
Ceremony



Parents Weekend
September 2016

To Register for our Events and Learn More, Please Visit:

www.BlueWhiteClub.org