

GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

# Pioneer Update

Glenville State University Newsletter for Alumni & Friends | November 2024

## Alumni SPOTLIGHT



Bill Boyles '09, originally from Lumberport, West Virginia, is currently serving as the



Several Delta Zeta sisters returned to Glenville to take part in the Homecoming Parade.

## Homecoming Weekend 2024 Recap

Chairman of the Board of Directors for the West Virginia Italian Heritage Festival (WVIHF). He is retired from Pratt Whitney as a detail inspector.

He originally attended Glenville State in the late 80s and was a member of the Pioneer Football Team. Bill returned to GSC later and finished a Regents Bachelor of Arts program in 2009.

Since 2015, Bill has volunteered on various committees of the WVIHF including street committee, fritti committee, and fundraising. As chairman, he spent countless hours calling, texting, emailing, and meeting to help make sure this year's festival would be a success. Bill says that the West Virginia Italian Heritage Festival is one of the top ten festivals in northern part of United States with free entertainment and cultural experiences. The festival is in its 45th year. Bill was voted WVIHF Board Member of the Year in 2022.

In his spare time Bill enjoys spending time with his family and grandchildren (Luke, Boston, and Julia), riding horses and mules, gardening, and watching his daughter Chesnea golf. Bill and his wife Jackie (Mullens) Boyles '86 reside in Shinnston, West Virginia.

When asked what Glenville State means to him, Bill said, "Playing football at Glenville State taught me so much about life. I met some of the greatest people at Glenville and I am still friends with many of them. Tim Carney '62 was my advisor and I am blessed to say I still check on him and he does the same with me. I met my wife Jackie there; we have been married 37 years and have three beautiful daughters and three beautiful grandchildren. Glenville was

Glenville State University's Homecoming Weekend took place October 11 and 12. Pioneers of all ages came together to reconnect and enjoy time together on a beautiful fall weekend.

Students took part in various events leading up to the weekend, including Homecoming Court Coronation, a picnic, open mic night, mental health awareness walk, casino night and dance, chili cookoff, pep rally, and block party.

Homecoming Weekend kicked off with the annual Tim Carney '62 Golf Outing which consisted of 24 teams made up of 94 golfers. The winning team was captained by Matt Gissy; second place included Trae Sprague '12, Joe Evans '11, Matt Metz '15, and Derek Myers; third place included Tim Moore '85, Jim Brady '79, Steve Carney, and Scott Carney '85.

The parade in downtown Glenville took place on Saturday morning with Professor Emeritus Wayne deRosset acting as announcer. Recent GSU retirees Tom Snyder '82 and Professor Emerita Cheryl McKinney served as parade marshals. Several female alumni athletes – the 2024 Homecoming Honorees – rode through the parade along with GSU student organizations, athletic teams, and community groups.

The Pioneer Marching Band was supplemented by several Alumni Band members again this year. They joined the current band in the parade, to welcome the football team to Morris Stadium, and for pregame festivities.

Tailgating took place at Morris Stadium prior to the football game, allowing time for alumni and friends to reconnect. Several former female athletes took the field during halftime of the game to be recognized as Homecoming Honorees once again. However, it was a tough day on the field for the Pioneers as the team suffered a 41-9 defeat to the Frostburg State University Bobcats.

Click [here](#) to view a gallery of photos from Homecoming Week.

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## Glenville State Receives \$5,000 from BHE GT&S

BHE GT&S, a Berkshire Hathaway Energy company, has partnered with the Glenville State University Foundation to support education. Matt Lamb '06, vice president of eastern pipeline operations and a Glenville State graduate, Shawn Miller, vice president of engineering, and Gary Jedrosko, director of regional operations, all employees from their West Virginia locations, recently visited Glenville State's campus to present \$5,000 to be awarded as an Immediate Impact Scholarship.

During the visit, the group toured the Department of Land Resources with Department Chair Adam Black and discussed how the two organizations could work together.

"We are honored to contribute to Glenville State's efforts to prepare the next generation of land resource professionals," Lamb said. "We look forward to further collaboration as we continue to support aspiring professionals entering our industry, providing them



always a caring school with great professors and people.”

We are pleased to feature Bill in this month's Alumni Spotlight and are proud to call him an alumnus.

opportunities in a rewarding, safe and customer-oriented natural gas career.”

Representatives from BHE GT&S also sponsored a Lunch and Learn at Glenville State late last month for natural resource management students. During the event students learned about opportunities that are available through the company, including summer internships.



*A plaque dedicating the Burnsville Elementary School gym and climbing wall to Kelly Wagoner is on display during an event held on October 14. Kelly helped to secure funding for the climbing wall, which is pictured in the background.*

## Local Elementary School Gym, Climbing Wall Dedicated to Honor Alumnus

Staff and students at Burnsville Elementary School have dedicated one of their school gymnasiums and a traverse climbing wall to the memory of the late Kelly (Clevenger) Wagoner '08. Kelly worked at Burnsville Elementary for 16 years and, during her years of service, she worked to make real connections with her students and instilled healthy habits into their lives. She was also integral in securing funding for the traverse wall that is installed in the BES gymnasium, mainly through the Box Tops for Education program.

During the dedication event that was held last month, Kelly's family, friends, and coworkers shared memories and viewed the dedication plaque that will be on display inside the gymnasium. Kelly's husband Dustin Wagoner '08, parents Dick and Kathy (Hull) Clevenger '77, and her twin brother Kyle Clevenger '08 were all in attendance.



West Virginia National Guard Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Bill Crane stands in front of the Heflin Administration Building during his visit to campus on October 23. | WVNG photo

## WVNG Adjutant General Speaks at GSU

Maj. Gen. Bill Crane '91, Adjutant General of the West Virginia National Guard, made a special trip back to his alma mater for a talk to students, faculty, and staff on October 23.

Crane spoke about leadership qualities, the importance of communication, and his role as Adjutant General of the West Virginia National Guard. He also took questions from the crowd and recalled his years as a Pioneer, specifically his time spent with the track and cross country teams and in the chemistry classes of the late Professor Emerita Dr. Mary Jo Pribble.

Glenville State University President Dr. Mark Manchin has tapped Crane to deliver the keynote address at the upcoming winter commencement ceremony on December 14.



"Old Friends of the 60's" reunion attendees (back row, l-r): Roger Gosman '65, Bill Frost '69, Joe Fields '65, and Mark Downey '65; (front row) Larry North, Bo Ingram '68, Al Stewart, and Bill Casto '67.

## "Old Friends of the 60's" Hold 15th Annual Reunion

They say that "old friends are the family we choose for ourselves," and one group of Pioneers is certainly proving that adage to be true.

Back in 2008, a small group of Glenville State alumni and friends who had stayed in contact over the years got together for a weekend and then took a week-long road trip the following year.

The friends say it was like the forty years had never passed. They kept thinking of others they had lost contact with who they would have loved to see and share the experience with us. The group made it their quest to find and reunite with as many as they could. Over the years, some have traveled from as far away as Nevada, Florida, South Carolina, California, and Arizona to attend the reunions.

In 2024, they celebrated the fifteenth year of their reunion. There were eight Pioneers in attendance at the reunion, which was held at Bo Ingram's farm in Smicksburg, Pennsylvania.

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## Nominate a Glenville State Grad for an Alumni Award

Alumni Council is [accepting nominations](#) for alumni awards to be presented in April 2025. Nominations received by December 31, 2024 will be considered for the upcoming year's awards. Those received after that date will be saved for the following year's consideration.

Award recipients will be announced in the spring.





## Glenville State Sweeps MEC Women's Golf Titles

The Glenville State Women's Golf Team swept the overall and individual titles at the MEC Championships last month. The 2024 team title is the third consecutive MEC championship for the Lady Pioneer Golf Team.

Freshman Kerri-Anne Cook claimed the individual title and helped Glenville State to a one-shot team title over the University of Charleston.

Following a +21 first round, the Pioneers put themselves into second place with a +40 second round. Trailing late in the third round, the Pioneers were able to shoot their best round of the tournament (+19), beating out the Golden Eagles, who also shot their best round of the tournament in the final round at +23.

Cook was joined in the top ten by fellow teammates Maria Escobar, Kendall Wall, and Lizzie Bickar.

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## Delta Zeta Sisters Donate to Pioneer Pantry

True to the tenets of their sorority, the sisters of Delta Zeta sponsored a food drive to benefit the campus food pantry during Homecoming Weekend. The group collected enough items to fill several large laundry baskets that were then delivered to the Pioneer Pantry.

The Theta Xi chapter of Delta Zeta, an international sorority, was active at Glenville State between 1963–1999. Delta Zeta's vision is to inspire action and impact lives through philanthropy, scholarship, and service.

A huge thank you to the DZs for this generous donation and for supporting current students!







*Christopher Brown leads the 2024 GSU Honor Choir.*

## Honor Choir Held at Glenville State

Students from Calhoun County Middle/High School (under the direction of Josh Brennan '21), Lewis County High School (under the direction of Tina (Smith) Norman '93), St. Mary's High School (under the direction of Bridgette (Bowen) Casto '01 & '12), and George Washington High School (under the direction of Ellen Ramey) visited campus on October 16 and 17 for Glenville State University's 2024 Honor Choir.

Christopher Brown '97 served as guest clinician for the Honor Choir and was joined by GSU Choir Director Sarah Nale and accompanist Joshua Stubbs as they guided the students across the two-day event. Brown is Director of Choral Activities at the University of Charleston, is the Choir and General Music teacher at Horace Mann Middle School, is Artistic Director for the Appalachian Children's Chorus, and is the Choirmaster of St. Ambrose Choir at St. John's Episcopal Church.

A special concert took place on the final evening of the Honor Choir that included the high school students, current GSU students, and guest accompanists. The students also toured campus, heard faculty performances, and took part in various sessions.



## New Glenville State University Christmas Ornament Now Available

The holiday season is just around the corner and this year's GSU Christmas ornament, which features a wintery scene with the Alumni Center (aka Arbuckle House), is now available for only \$10.

The ornament is designed by Blair Fisher '04 and proceeds from its sales support GSU's Women's Leadership Circle.

Contact [Vada Woodford via email](#) or by calling (304) 462-6382 to purchase or for more information.



*(l-r) Donita Adams, Antonio Carter, Blake Tasker, Danny Williams, and Coach Gary Nottingham (who was on hand to accept on behalf of the late Clay Young) at the 2024 Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony.*

## **Glenville State University Inducts Five into Athletic Hall of Fame**

Five individuals were recently inducted into the Glenville State University Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame during a banquet and induction ceremony held on Saturday, September 28.

The 2024 inductees include: Donita Adams '11, Antonio Carter '06, Blake Tasker '02, Danny Williams '76, and the late Clay Young. Click [here](#) to download a program and read biographical information about each inductee.

The Curtis Elam Athletic Hall of Fame was established in 2001 through the generosity of the late Curtis Elam '49. Hall of Fame member plaques are displayed in the Waco Center.

*Show Your Spirit!*





Shop Now: [glenville.spirit.bncollege.com](http://glenville.spirit.bncollege.com)





Members of the GSU Track & Field and Cross Country teams are joined by the Women's Soccer team at the MEC Championship that was held in Wheeling, West Virginia. Women's Soccer was on hand at the event to help support the Cross Country teams.

## GSU Cross Country Teams See Historic Finishes at MEC Championship

The Glensville State Cross Country teams had a historic day at the Mountain East Conference Championship last month, as the women placed 5th in the 6k and the men placed 6th in the 8k. This was the highest finish for the women since 1993 and their highest so far in the MEC.

"Four years ago, we started out on a journey to have a sustainable distance program and, through some ups and downs, today showed that we have arrived," Head Cross Country and Track & Field Coach Dan Meyers said after the championship event.

Sophomore Natalie Barr placed 6th to take home All-MEC First Team (the first since 1988) and freshman Patrick Reilly was 13th, garnering All-MEC Second Team. Reilly, who has had a stellar freshman campaign, was rewarded with MEC Freshman of the Year.

"I'm very thankful to our seniors who have been through a lot with us, and to all the newcomers for believing we could make the biggest improvements in the league," Meyers added.

Click [here](#) to read the full MEC championship summary.

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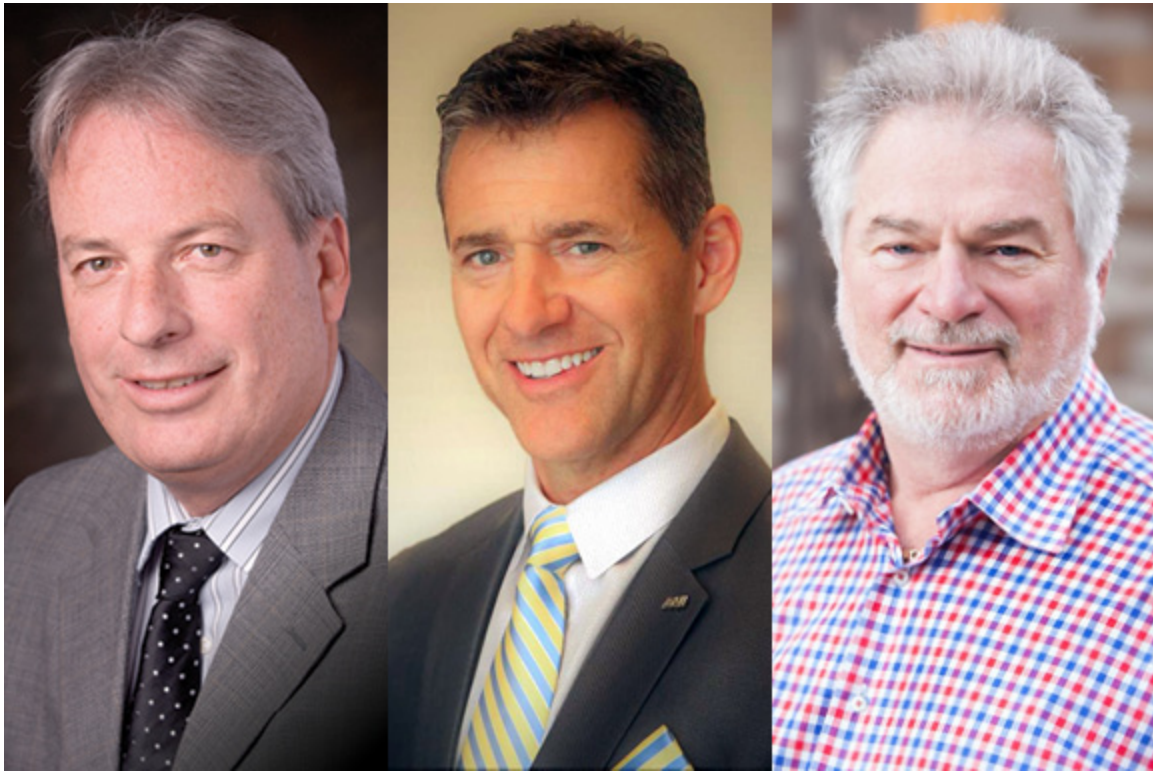
## Career Resources Available to Glensville State Alumni

Are you a recent graduate who is seeking first-time employment? Have you been working a while but are now looking to change careers? Simply searching for resources?

Click [here](#) to explore Alumni Career Services available to you.

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*The 2024 class of inductees into the Luke DeMarino Memorial Business Hall of Fame included (l-r) Dr. Kenneth Cutright, Bernie Rees, and Greg Smith.*

## **Three Inducted into GSU Business Hall of Fame**

The induction ceremony for the three newest members of the Luke DeMarino Memorial Business Hall of Fame took place on Saturday, October 26. The 2024 class of inductees included Dr. Kenneth Cutright '69, Greg Smith '76, and Bernie Rees '91.

The Business Hall of Fame at Glenville State University honors outstanding leaders and visionaries who have made significant contributions to the business world. Additionally, it aims to recognize individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, innovation, and business acumen.

[Download a program](#) to read biographical information about each inductee.

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## Women's Leadership Circle Holds Paint and Sip

GSU's Women's Leadership Circle recently held a paint and sip event where participants had the opportunity to paint their own fall-themed scene.

Working alongside instructor Donna (Moore) Fox '85 & '06, the group created their own unique paintings while enjoying a fun evening of fellowship.

For more information about the Women's Leadership Circle at Glenville State, contact [Vada Woodford](#) or [click here](#) to sign up.

## PIONEER ATHLETICS

*Check out these fall game schedules and come out to support the Pioneers!*



**Football**



**Volleyball**



**Women's Soccer**



**Men's Golf**



**Women's Golf**



**Cross Country**

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**Interested in Joining the Pioneer Athletic Club?**



As a member, you directly support Pioneer student-athletes through scholarship. Annual Pioneer Athletic Club membership gives you exclusive access to premium areas at Morris Stadium and the Waco Center, where you will have a bird's eye view of the football field and McPherson Court.

[Click here](#) or call (304) 462-6382 to learn more about membership benefits and how to enroll.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Saturday, November 2 - Cornhole Tournament**

11:00 AM-2:00 PM - Waco Center

Registration Begins at 10:00 AM

*Everyone welcome; sponsored by GSU's FBLA student organization*

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### **Saturday, November 9 - War in the Waco**

5:00 PM - Waco Center

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### **Thursday, November 14 - Little Kanawha Reading Series: Dr. Brian Johnston**

4:00 PM - Robert F. Kidd Library

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### **Wednesday, November 20 - Scholarship Donor Reception**

4:00 PM - Mollohan Campus Community Center

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### **Wednesday, November 20 - Concert Choir & Chamber Singers Concert**

7:00 PM - Fine Arts Center Auditorium

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### **Monday, December 2 - Campus Christmas Tree Lighting & Hot Cocoa Bar**

6:00 PM - Robert F. Kidd Library

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### **Tuesday, December 3 - [Mid-Ohio Valley Alumni Christmas Dinner](#)**

6:00 PM - Parkersburg Country Club

Tickets: \$35

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### **Friday, December 6 - Jazz Band Concert**

7:00 PM - Fine Arts Center Auditorium

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### **Saturday, December 14 - Commencement**

10:00 AM - Waco Center



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