

Alumni in touch

Missing Alumni

We know they're out there. Can you help us locate these people?

Donn L. Hakanson '62

Sharon L. Hall '68

Laurie Aasterud '69

Glen R. Bremer '73

Kathleen M. (Hart) Chellew '73

Susan V. (Kangas) Eberth '73

David J. Adams '82

Joann M. (Lafountain) Brey '84

William Chevalier '87

Alphonso L. Eason '89

William P. Lakenen '90

William M. Baumann '91

Sidong Chen '92

Debra L. (Jackson) Eberhardy '94

Todd J. Ogea '96

Lifetime Members

We'd like to thank the following people who have recently joined as lifetime members of the NMU Alumni Association.

Madelyn M. (Hale) Young '43

Grant M. Hales '72

Mark D. French '81

Beth (Gauthier) '83 and

Richard Tegge '85

Peter W. Meyer '86

Aaron Cadman '03

Amanda Wallace '03

Did you know benefits of being a member of the Alumni Association include discounts on:

- Group insurance
- Lodging and car rental
- NMU merchandise and events
- Office supplies
- Cellular phone service
- PEIF recreation passes

Join today! www.nmu.edu/alumni

What happened to 2007?

If you're like most of us, as we get a little older the pace of our life seems to go faster and faster with each passing year.

I am excited to be writing my first note to you as the president of the Alumni Association. As you read this, I encourage you to take a moment and think about your appreciation of Northern Michigan University. If you do not have the time to do it right now, set this magazine aside and come back to it in a few days when you have some reflection time. When you reflect, ask yourself this very fundamental question: "What would my life be like if not for NMU?" Heavy question, I know. But be honest with yourself as you reflect. I'm quite sure you are going to say that your life today would be significantly different without NMU. For many of us, NMU gave us a chance. Now here is the tricky part—unlike others who

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ask for something from you in exchange for some future benefit, I'm going to ask you to give something back to NMU, in consideration for what NMU has already given you—that something special which we want to maintain for today's students and future generations.

From my perspective, you can give back in one of three ways (I'm sure there are others that you can



Alumni Association Board President
Joe Evans

think of, too). First and most obvious, I encourage all of you to become active in your Alumni Association. The NMU Alumni Association Board of Directors consists of 30 alumni spanning graduation years from 1955 to 2006. Board members have diverse

backgrounds and professional responsibilities. This board is a very creative, high-energy group of dedicated professionals from across our nation who volunteer their time and skills to bring you the best value that membership in an alumni association can provide. We are constantly benchmarking ourselves to provide the greatest value possible and will continue this process throughout my time as president.

Maybe you would consider serving your alma mater by becoming a board member? I encourage you to visit our Web site (www.nmu.edu/alumni) to learn more.

Second, please stay connected to the department in which you studied and participate in its activities whenever possible. Many departments and colleges are well organized and frequently engage with their alumni. All are very interested in rekindling their relationship with you. Homecoming weekend is a great time to get re-connected and maintain these relationships. I know you would enjoy being back on campus. Many of us are gaining valuable workplace experience that can very easily be shared with current students. I remember when I was a student and working professionals came to speak to my class. It enabled me to connect the academic foundation with the practical experience. That's an important aspect of a college education.

Third, and perhaps most importantly, given the current state of Michigan's economy, reach out and assist NMU by articulating to your elected officials the value of your NMU education and the impact it has had on your quality of life. Each and every year, the battle for higher education funding in Lansing gets tougher. Even living outside of Michigan, I have been personally involved in supporting NMU to members of the state Legislature and remain convinced that support from the university's alumni is very important, if not absolutely essential, in ensuring that NMU remains an affordable place to secure a quality education. As alumni, we have a responsibility to speak up.

I think by now my passion for Northern is evident. Before 2008

becomes 2009 (yes, it's going to happen that fast) please find your own personal way to support NMU and its important mission. Time has not stood still at NMU. Under the impressive leadership of Dr. Wong, NMU has been very busy providing a quality education to our current students and laying the foundation

for an impressive future.

If each of us contributes even just a small amount of energy to "our NMU" we can all feel proud when we look back and realize that we helped make it the great place it is.

Thank you, and best wishes for 2008.

—Joe Evans '81 BS, '83 MA



Last Call for Italy!

Plans for the NMU Alumni Association's exclusive educational travel experience to the Tuscany region of Italy are well under way. The growing group of NMU alumni and friends who committed to the trip is excited to start finalizing details for the May 7-15 excursion. It's not too late for a few more adventurers to join in!

Sandy Maclean '56, says, "My friends tell me that Tuscany is especially beautiful in May. Judi (wife) and I are so looking forward to the trip. We have been on Alumni Holidays International (AHI) tours in the past and have found them to be professional, well organized, and very enjoyable."

Whether a first-time or seasoned visitor to Italy, travelers will experience unique excursions with fellow alumni, spending seven nights in the ancient Etruscan city of Cortona, in the heart of Tuscany, the setting and inspiration for the book *Under the Tuscan Sun* by Frances Mayes. Each day, trips to distinctive nearby towns will deepen one's understanding of this historic hilltop region.

Please contact the NMU Alumni Association (1-877-GRAD NMU) for further information or to receive a brochure. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to travel with your fellow alumni and experience Tuscany.