

Alumni news



Wildcat Night Across the Country was shaping up to be the largest in NMU history. At press time, 22 parties were planned to watch the NMU hockey Wildcats take on the Michigan Wolverines at restaurants and bars from Atlanta, Ga., to Los Angeles, Calif., from Naples, Fla., to North Pole, Alaska. Thanks to the alumni who organized their local gatherings! Here's a group in Bay City at last year's Wildcat Night.

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as the president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. The board is composed of dedicated alumni who have made a commitment to give back to NMU with their time, treasure and talents. While it has been 30 years since I first walked across the stage at Hedgcock Fieldhouse, in many ways it seems like just yesterday. Did you ever have the feeling that you never left?

What has NMU meant to you? We all have a different story, but there are some universal themes. One is that NMU has had a powerful and positive influence in determining where and who you are today. Where would you be if it were not for the experiences you had at Northern? Personally, I would never have gained the knowledge, experience or many of the friends that have enriched my life. As NMU alumni we have acquired and share some common bonds. Take a moment to think back on ways that Northern has enriched your life.

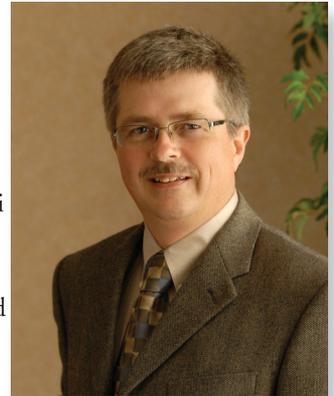
One of our goals at the Alumni Association is to connect and reconnect with NMU graduates. Let us know where you are

and what you're doing. Visit the Alumni Association website and update your contact information. Go to nmu.edu, click on "Alumni and Friends", then "Keep in Touch" and then "Update Record." It only takes a minute and we would like to hear from you.

Another goal is to develop and engage the next generations of alumni. Some alumni contribute by participating in mentorship programs and others through financial support. Some offer internships or hire NMU graduates. One thing all of us should be doing as demographics and the financial landscape continue to evolve is letting Northern students and others know how great we feel about NMU; something to think about the next time you have an opportunity to recommend a school or join a conversation related to higher education. Nothing is better than testimony from the hearts of Northern alumni.

We can all contribute to, build and share the culture of NMU. We hope you will all reach out to other alumni and help the association grow in numbers and strength. As I was often reminded by an influential school teacher—also an NMU graduate —“never forget where you came from.”

And remember: It's always a great day to be a Wildcat.



*Alumni Association Board president
Jim Jenkin '81 BS, '84 MBA*

NMU Alumni Association Board of Directors

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