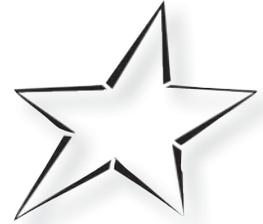


Telescope

The Newsletter for Northern Star Alumni

Vol. 20

Summer 2018



President's Message

Adaptation necessary to thrive

I'd like to introduce myself to you as the new president of the Northern Star Alumni Association. I take over for Kevin Sheldon, who served us



Greg Clemens
'03

NORTHERN STAR
ALUMNI
PRESIDENT

well for two years.

Kevin brought a lot of excitement and did a great job keeping our group connected.

Mike Korcek steps into the role of vice president.

I graduated in 2003 with a communications degree. I worked at the Star after playing football for the Huskies.

My football experience included a couple years of wins and losses but ended by helping build a foundation for continued success under Coach Joe Novak.

I started with the Star in delivery and worked my way up in the sales department, where I finished as advertising manager.

Fundraising campaign

As the environment for newspapers continues to evolve, we have had to continue to adapt to keep a thriving learning environment. We had a fundraising campaign that a lot of you contributed to

Northern Star Alumni Banquet

The dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 12 in the Barsema Alumni Center. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Dinner is \$50. A cash bar will be available.

Name(s) of attendees: _____

Email address: _____

Postal address: _____

Phone number: _____

What years did you work at the Star? _____ Department: _____

_____ Number of people attending the event

Dietary restrictions: _____

To make your reservation, contact Maria Krull at mkrull@niu.edu or 815-753-0707 to pay via credit card or make check payable to Northern Star Alumni and mail it with this completed form by Sept. 20 to:

Northern Star
Campus Life Building, Suite 130
DeKalb, IL 60115

in 2017.

The Star received \$7,000 toward our \$10,000 goal.

However, we always are in need, so if you put your donation off and just need a reminder, please let us know, and we can tell you how to maximize your donations.

We have a group of kids that continues to work hard to build upon the Star's great legacy.

The sales side continues to fight a tough battle for those ad dollars while receiving no advertising revenue from

the university. This is a far cry from full-color double trucks from the University Bookstore that we used to receive in addition to all the other departments that used to purchase advertising.

The editorial side continues to churn out great reporting and proves to be more relevant than ever in today's changing political landscape.

Student fees

Our mission of fighting for student fees from the university has come to fruition. The

university approved a portion of the student fees to be used by the Northern Star.

This money allows the Star to continue to operate by filling budget holes for another year.

Although this is good news, the Star will continue to need donations as the student fees only cover a small portion of the Star's operating budget.

Save the date

Our Hall of Fame/Alumni Banquet will be Oct. 12 along with a Tri-Swine reunion, so put it on your calendars now.

President: Greg Clemens, '03
Vice President: Mike Korcek, '70
Treasurer: Laura (McHale) Dodd '97
Secretary: Maria Krull, business adviser
President Emeritus: Barry Schrader, '63
Past President: Kevin Sheldon, '80
Members:
 Mark Brown, '77
 Matt Bute, '99
 Mary Butler, '85
 Tom Collins, '96
 Sabryna Cornish, '92, '95
 Jeff Farren, '70
 Jack Goldberg, '90
 Jerry Huston, '86, '97
 Shelley Hendricks, adviser

 Joelle McGinnis-Rivara, '89
 Greg Rivara, '92
 Jim Slonoff, '80
 Jerry Smith, '72
 Zach Smith, '96
 Jerry Thompson, adviser, 1971-1995
 Jim Killam, adviser, 1995-2012
 Dave Timmersman, '77
 Mark Polzin, '78
 Richard A. Nelson, '58

Telescope is published annually, both in print and online at www.northernstaralumni.org. Our mailing list includes about 800 Northern Star alumni around the world. Please contact others from your era at the Star and tell them to get in touch with us.

If you have ideas for articles about Star alumni or would like to get involved in writing articles or planning events, please contact us.

Contacts

Greg Clemens
 Northern Star Alumni President
greg.clemens.rt50@statefarm.com

Shelley Hendricks
 Northern Star Adviser
815-753-4239/shendricks@niu.edu

Maria Krull
 Northern Star Business Adviser
815-753-0707/mkrull@niu.edu

'Like,' share, follow content from Star on social media

The future of the Northern Star is digital, and I am excited to see the transformation.

There exists a misconception that print journalism is dying and careers in the industry diminishing along with it.



Angela Pagan
 FALL 2017
 SPRING 2018

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

My response to this is that print journalism is evolving, not dying. While the physical print product of the Northern Star will always be something I value as having given me the most professional experience possible before entering the

job market, it is evident the Northern Star is on its way to becoming a fully digital publication.

The primary audience of the Northern Star — NIU students — crave engaging media.

College students do not just want news given to them.

They want to see themselves in the news, have their voices heard and know the university they attend is being held accountable for its decisions.

The Northern Star now has the opportunity to bring students into stories through more than one medium.

As technology advances, the Northern Star's social media presence is vital to promoting the future and sustainability of

this publication.

While it may seem like an insignificant gesture to like, follow or share content produced by the Northern Star, it is key to keeping this amazing publication going.

As a new alumna, I plan to give back to the Star in whatever way I can — big or small.

I know sharing content, liking posts, following the Northern Star's accounts and visiting the site to stay up-to-date on what the staff is producing is a small way for me to support a place that has given me so much.

I encourage all former Northern Star kids to help build the Star's social media presence by doing the same. I look forward to seeing the Star go fully digital.

New top editor ready for challenges

Hello, my name is Tatianna Salisbury, and I recently took over as editor-in-chief of the Northern Star for the 2018 summer and fall semesters.



Tatianna Salisbury
 SUMMER 2018
 FALL 2018

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

My predecessors left behind a tremendous legacy at the Star, and I intend to uphold our values and mission the best I can, further adding to the registry of truth-seekers. Our motto, "The truth shall bear all light,"

becomes clearer to me every day. I remember sitting in the bullpen as a section editor, staring at the corner desk and thinking of all I wanted to accomplish, change and improve.

As an editor, I feel as though there are a million tasks to accomplish with every hour spent in the office ... and sometimes outside of work as well.

There's no such thing as an off day, and the constant pressure can prove too much for some people. However, I choose to perceive the pressure as a tempting challenge, a challenge I take on with pride and diligence.

I am eager to learn, to improve the Star as a paper and

myself as an individual.

Sometimes, I hear students or faculty speak poorly of the Star, saying the writing has gone downhill or we can't hold on to advertisers because of low readership.

I hear each comment as an opportunity to challenge ourselves, to change and evolve with society. We should grow with the student body, not away from it.

I look forward to my time as editor-in-chief and strive to ensure we put the pursuit of the truth at the forefront of every action, every bit of research and every written word.

There is greatness on the horizon. It's just a matter of figuring out how far we are willing to sail.

Tri-Swine still alive at 55

The Paddle.

It's almost like The Monolith in Stanley Kubrick's movie "2001: A Space Odyssey."

An artifact from an advanced civilization, hidden for



Mike Korcek
VICE PRESIDENT

centuries? Almost.

The venerable, hand-carved Tri-Swine-Omega paddle — along with the group's charter — has been on display for over a

decade in the "Alumni Corner" of the Northern Star office in NIU's Campus Life Building. The Paddle was in storage before that at the Regional History Center in NIU's Founders Memorial Library.

Saved for posterity in 2007 by Star business adviser Maria Krull, The Paddle is a symbol of the 1960s campus life, student angst and Baby Boomer values. Tri-Swine was part "Mad" magazine satire, part NIU Greek-life protest and two parts realization that sometimes adulthood maybe wasn't much different from childhood.

All Swine are invited to campus on Friday, Oct. 12, at NIU's Barsema Alumni Visitor Center for a gala 55th reunion along with the 10th Northern Star Alumni Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet. And, all is forgiven.

Tri-Swine spawned from the radioactive crucible named Kishwaukee Hall on College Avenue. The former "Jimmy's Tea Room" (nee student union) housed the crowded, 24-7 offices of the Northern yearbook, the Star, and two



radio stations, WNIU-FM and the college current carrier in the resident halls.

Offices? More like a commune springboard for media-related trainees. There were interoffice romances, feuds, rivalries, and lifelong friendships. Many members of Swinedom carved out wonderful J-related careers, some becoming Star Alumni Hall of Famers or recipients of the J-department's prestigious Donald Grubb Distinguished Alumni Award.

The TSO tri-founders? The guilty: the Star's Bill Hetland, the Northern's Bob Richardson, and photo service's Barry Stark.

"Bill used to go around

and call everybody 'swine.' Swine-this, swine-that," recalled Stark, similar to "dude" or "BFF" today. "The three of us would be friends forever. The three swine. The night we decided to do this (the day after President John Kennedy's assassination), Bill was the only J-major (among the founders) and was always upset at the Greek system because they ran everything at NIU." Why not the Greek letters? Tri-Swine-Omega was born. "It was fun, sarcastic," Stark added. "Our own frat thing. Yeah, it was a joke."

Read the original Tri-Swine charter. Can you say "irreverent?"

"By the order of his most

holy and corrupt mind, William D. Hetland, on this great and glorious 23(rd) day of November in the year 1963, do(es) establish this insane and scum sucking organization which shall be forever known throughout the land as Tri-Swine-Omega and forthwith is a list of those most honored and idiotic enough to agree to be associated with this most unholy and tragic group."

The charter includes about 90 original pledges — and several J-faculty. The document proudly displays the official TSO logo — two pig heads and a swine rear end, created by Stark, a photographer and cartoonist.

Jon Lawrence made the paddle, Stark said. "We had no idea. He was a freshman, a kid with all this varied, strange talent in photography, cartooning, embroidery, woodworking, whatever. Jon came back from semester break (1964) with this beautiful paddle."

Painted with a red border, varnished with an intricate and exact pink-colored copy of Stark's tri-piggy TSO logo, the almost 5-foot-long paddle is a symbolic NIU artifact of the 1960s.

The Paddle is cracked but repaired. All Swine members have sworn not to reveal the identity of the pert female behind on which it was broken. Sorry, TMZ.

TSO sweatshirts were hot items (made and sold by Secor's bookstore in downtown DeKalb). There have been Tri-Swine "pignics," even a TSO football game — refereed by former Star adviser Roy G. Campbell. For more information, contact Maria Krull (mkrull@niu.edu) or myself (mkorcek@niu.edu).

1982

Philip Jurik has been promoted metro editor at the Chicago Tribune. Pjurik@chicagotribune.com.

1984

Scott Williams is editor of the Lake Geneva Regional News in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, where he lives with his wife, Marie Williams. Scott celebrated 30 years in the newspaper business last year. "I want to be in the Northern Star Hall of Fame. I'll buy the first round!" swilliams@lakegenevanews.net

1985

Lori Botterman is director of marketing and communications for NIU's College of Health and Human Sciences. Lori lives in Batavia, Illinois, with husband Kevin and rescued dogs Betty and Otto.

1989

Sean Noble is state director of ReadyNation Illinois/senior policy associate of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Illinois. He lives in Chicago with wife Mary and two hooligan house cats. "Hello, Star-Types from 1987-89 and beyond: I hope all's well by you. No big updates here — just sharing some Northern Star love with y'all. As our newsroom banner declared, 'Print the news and raise hell!'" noble-s@sbglobal.net

1991

Claudia Corina Curry is education reporter for the Rockford Register Star in Rockford, Illinois, where she lives. Corina recently won Peter Lisagor awards for best investigative reporting and best education reporting from the Chicago Headline Club. She also won the 2017 Sigma Delta Chi award for excellence in journalism. ccurry@rrstar.com

Greg Rivara is deputy director of communications for the Illinois State Treasurer.

**2013**

Taurean Small is a multimedia journalist at ABC 57 (WBND-TV) in South Bend, Indiana. Taurean was named the 2018 Donald R. Grubb Distinguished Alumnus of the Year by the Department of Communication at Northern Illinois University. He accepted his award April 13 at the 71st annual Donald R. Grubb Journalism Banquet in the Ellington Ballroom of the Holmes Student Center.

He lives in St. Charles, Illinois, where son Quinn is a freshman in high school and daughter Gianna is entering seventh grade. Greg says he enjoys a good book, a dirty martini and minor league baseball games. "The Boss and I will be married 25 years this year. I still remember the day I met her inside Campbell Hall." g_rivara@hotmail.com

1993

Jim Murphy is senior vice president, client development — central region at Conversant LLC and is based in the Chicago area. Jpmurphy@conversantmedia.com.

1994

Kelly Kniewel is a sales representative at H2 Vino in the greater Chicago area.

Jami (Peterson) Kunzer is an editorial writer for the NIU Office of Institutional Communications. Jami lives in Marengo, Illinois, with her husband, Patrick, and five daughters, Summer, Anna, Lilly, Rowan and Finley, dog Piper and cat Rory. jkunzer@niu.edu

1998

Amy (Murar) Sabel is regional director at Brilliant Financial Staffing in Schaumburg, Illinois. Asabel@brilliantfs.com.

Mike Logan is vice president of strategic accounts at OpenInfluence. mike@openinfluence.com.

1999

Kevin Dean is account director, global commercial

operations at Abbvie Business Service Group. The company is based in North Chicago. Kevin.a.dean@abbvie.com.

Heather (McLindsey) Dean has been promoted vice president of national specialty sales and accounts, at Takeda Pharmaceuticals. Heather, husband Kevin and their two children, Logan and Noah, live in the northern suburbs. Heather.dean@takeda.com

Wade Duerkes is photography manager at Northern Illinois University. He lives in DeKalb with wife Pauline, daughter Lillian and son Joseph. Wade is starting his third year as an adjunct photojournalism instructor at NIU. wduerkes@niu.edu

2000

Joe Biesk has been promoted to the Chicago Tribune's political team. Jbiesk@chicagotribune.com.

Katie Scrivano Naze is senior vice president, earned media planning and strategy, at Edelman in Chicago. Scrivano Naze lives in Clarendon Hills, Illinois, with her husband, David Naze. "Grateful every day for my Northern Star experience!" ksnaze@gmail.com

Justin Steinecker is employed at One Medical as regional director enterprise sales. Previously Justin was vice president of sales at CuraLinc Healthcare. Jsteinec_1999@yahoo.com.

2002

Josh Albrecht is executive director for Saugatuck/Douglas Convention and Visitors Bureau in Saugatuck, Michigan, where he lives with his wife, Kelly, and his children, Owen, August and Dashiell. albrecht.joshua@gmail.com

Melissa Westphal is communications strategist for Chartwell Agency in Rockford, Illinois, where she lives with her husband, Andrew Wright. melwestphal@hotmail.com

THE STAR LEGACY FUND

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Personal Information

Name _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Graduation year: _____ Cell phone: _____

- I would like to visit the Star and share my experiences with students.
- Please send me information about how to make a recurring annual donation.
- Please send me information about how to remember the Star in my will/trust.

Donation Information

(Contributions are tax deductible to extent allowed by law.)

Check

- Enclosed find my check for \$_____ payable to NIU Foundation (Memo: Star Legacy Fund)

Credit card

(The Star must pay a portion of donations processed via credit card to outside NIU Foundation accounts.)

For a secure credit card donation, please log on to www.niufoundation.org/give and do the following:

1. Enter the \$ amount.
2. If applicable, check the "matching gift" box.
3. Click on "Search for other designations"
4. Scroll to "Designation: Student and university services"
5. Select Northern Star
6. Proceed to payment

Donation is in honor of: _____

Donation is in memory of: _____

Please send acknowledgment to: _____

- This is an anonymous donation. Don't publish my name.

Please return completed form to:
Northern Star
Campus Life Building, Suite 130
DeKalb, IL 60115

NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR A STAR AWARD

Hall of Fame Making A+ Difference

Rising Star Star Innovators Award

Nominee: _____

Year(s) worked at Star: _____

Nominee contact info: _____

Department (circle one): News Ads

Business Circulation

Your name and contact info: _____

Reason for your nomination (additional pages welcome): _____

Rising Stars: Alumni with five to 15 years of professional experience. Recipients will show outstanding promise in their fields.

Making A+ Difference Award: Alumni who have made a difference through charitable work, inventions or social programs. This award recognizes outstanding work outside or related to the recipient's career.

Star Innovators Award: Alumni who make a difference in their career through innovations such as creating improvements or new ways of conducting their work to the betterment of the profession or industry.

Hall of Fame Award: This very special award honors Star alumni, advisers and others who have significantly influenced the Northern Star, journalism and related fields or who have otherwise achieved success as a result of experience gained at the Northern Star.

Please return completed form to:
Northern Star
Campus Life Building, Suite 130
DeKalb, IL 60115

NIU funding unavoidable but no magic bullet

I have a slip of paper from a fortune cookie on my desk at Northern Illinois University that I just can't seem to throw out. It reads, "You will be free of the heavy burdens you have been carrying." The prophecy came with



Shelley Hendricks
NORTHERN STAR
ADVISER

the combination fried rice I ordered when I decided to work through my lunch on a Friday in October. The timing of the fortune was so uncanny it gave me the creeps. I had just learned my long-awaited chance to make a case for university funding for the Northern Star was set for 8



a.m. the next Monday. The moment in front of the fee review board was three years in the making, and the stakes couldn't be higher. The Star was approaching a financial crisis, and we wouldn't survive without university support. The Northern Star faces the same financial challenges as any newspaper. It operates just like a real newspaper because it is a real newspaper. We have the added responsibility of training the next generation. For years we survived on ad sales and asked little from

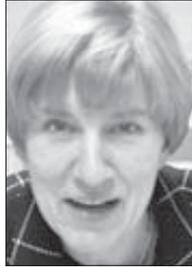
the university. Like many professional newspapers, we've cut staff, printing frequency and training opportunities. And like many college newspapers, we are trying to find a financial model that is sustainable. The desperate search for funding is a constant companion. According to a 2014 survey of 379 members of the College Media Association, to which the Northern Star belongs, only 7 percent are supported totally by advertising revenue, down from 10 percent four years

earlier. The fee for the Star was approved in December. We will receive about \$85,000 annually from students to make up the gap between what we bring in and what we spend. We have to continue to sell ads at current levels to ensure the Star's future. I was relieved we got the funding, but something else made me happy. I was told the students on the fee review board were the strongest supporters of funding for the Star. They valued news enough to pay for it. I've heard many times about how this generation of journalism students will be the one to figure out how to make the news business viable. However, I never realized that our paper was training the next generation of news consumers. Ultimately, it was our readers who helped lift that burden.

Maria's Corner

New crew, new initiatives

We ended another Northern Star year, and it has been a mixed one: challenging on one hand and gratifying on the other. Despite



Maria Krull
NORTHERN STAR
BUSINESS ADVISER

its mission again. Many thanks to all of you

who have given your time and treasure to help our kids. The fall 2018 crew is in place, and a few have already started training. We have planned new initiatives designed to expand our client services and hopefully increase revenues. We are committed to keep the print product, but we will focus on our online/digital presence. On another note, I just spoke with former adviser Jerry Thompson. He mentioned he enjoys hearing from his "kids." The best way to reach him is by phone at 815-825-2393.

ALUMNI UPDATES

2004

Jaime Swanson is Washington night editor for The New York Times D.C. bureau. Jaime lives in Washington. j.e.swanson@gmail.com

2005

Mark Bieganski is vice president of brand marketing at Edelman. **Mark Pietrowski Jr.** is director of NIU Continuing and Professional Education, DeKalb County Board chairman, DeKalb County Forest Preserve president and owner of Belle & Herbie's in Cortland, Illinois. Mark received the SPS Presidential Award for Excellence from NIU in 2017 and was selected to participate in the Jim Edgar Fellows Program, a five-day executive leadership and

IN MEMORIAM

Former Northern Star editor-in-chief **Ken Trantowski** died Dec. 5, 2017. Ken received bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism from NIU. He worked for 30 years in public relations firms including Edelman and Burson-Marsteller. He started his own firm in 2001, which he directed until his death.

governing training program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Mark is one of 40 fellows chosen from nearly 170 nominations this year. markpietrowski@gmail.com

2007

Billy Kulpa is senior user interface developer for Fabricator & Manufacturers Association, International, in Elgin, Illinois. Billy lives in Roscoe, Illinois, with his wife, Stephanie, and sons, Grant and Jude. This year Billy started a new career as a full-time web developer and celebrated five years of marriage. "I love the Northern Star and am grateful for the opportunities my time at the Star has provided me." billykulpa@gmail.com

2009

Jake Bute is the director of business operations at Aerotek in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He married Jayme O'Brien June 9, 2018. Jake, Jayme and daughter Gracie live in Wisconsin. jbute@aerotek.com

2010

Ben Gross received his Ph.D in political science in August 2017 from the University of North Texas. He is an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama. Gross1@example.com

Jenny (Whitney) Lyell is a sales executive at CSS Industries, Inc., in the Chicago area. Jenny is also the owner of Jenny's Cake Dreams. She lives with her husband and daughters in the Chicago suburbs. Jenny.lyell@cssindustries.com

2011

Matt Liparota is a senior designer for Lee Enterprises in Madison, Wisconsin, where he lives with his cats, Sam and Rhett Butler. mrliparota@gmail.com

2012

Kim Skibinski works for The Nature Conservancy, where she is associate editor. Kim lives in Little Rock, Arkansas. KimsKibinski@gmail.com

**2018**

Lindsey Salvatelli (from left), **Ian Tancun** and **Madison Kacer** celebrate April 13 after the 71st annual Donald R. Grubb Journalism Banquet. Lindsey and Ian have been accepted into the Public Affairs Reporting program at University of Illinois – Springfield and expect to start in August. Madison has accepted a position teaching English at Hinckley-Big Rock High School.



Angela Pagan, Northern Star editor-in-chief for the fall 2017 and spring 2018 semesters, accepts a plaque April 13 from instructor Aimee Barrows after being named NIU's Student Journalist of the Year at the 71st Donald R. Grubb Journalism Banquet. angelapagan@gmail.com

2013

Jesse Filadelfia was promoted to cluster senior sales manager for White Lodging Services. He is based in Austin, Texas. Jessi.filadelfia@whitelodging.com

Andrew Hop is regional sales director for Concur near Minneapolis. Andrew was employed at Oracle. Andrew1226@gmail.com

2014

Ryan Foley is a branch account manager at Allegion, PLC., in the greater Chicago area. Ryan is engaged to Ashleigh, and the couple plans to marry April 2019. Ryanfoley1@icloud.com

2015

Kelly Bauer is a reporter/video producer for Block Club Chicago. She lives in Chicago.

Jim Killam, adviser 1995-2012, is a freelance writer and consultant in Rockford, Illinois, where he lives with wife Lauren. "We're back in Illinois after three years in Texas, still sorting out what's next, but we think it still involves journalism and ministry." jimkillam@gmail.com

2016

Anthony Szudarski is a substance abuse counselor at WestCare in Sheridan, Illinois. He lives with wife Haley and dog Zeppelin.

Anthony Mahaz is recruiting and engaging software engineering leadership at Facebook. Amahaz22@gmail.com

Derek Noel has joined Piper Jaffray as an institutional fixed-income sales representative. ereknoel22@gmail.com

Johnny Nguyeng is a sales executive for Vivid Seats in Chicago. Johnny93@gmail.com

Maria Pokorski is a consultant at BrideSide in Chicago. Mpokorski03@gmail.com

2017

Krystal Gonzalez is an account coordinator at Collabera in greater Chicago. K.gonzalez22@gmail.com

2018

Vinny Barra is a sales executive at C.H. Robinson in Chicago. Vinny.barra@gmail.com

Maysea Miller has joined TekSystems in the greater Chicago Area. Mayseamiller@gmail.com

Antonio Rosado is a sales rep at Medix near Chicago. Arosado96@yahoo.com

Michael Terrell is sales coordinator at CARS.com, Chicago. Michaelterrell@gmail.com

Taylor Scott joined TekSystems as a recruiter. She is based in Schaumburg, Illinois.



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