

Hospitality Happenings

JAN - FEB - MAR 2009

THE NITTANY LION INN ~ THE PENN STATER CONFERENCE CENTER HOTEL

In Touch

WITH THE GENERAL MANAGER



Dear Friends of Hospitality:

If you have been reading our newsletter for any length of time, then no doubt you have noticed that our calendar now lists dozens of cultural activities happening around State College. Thanks to two new theaters downtown and several other venues

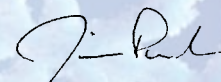
with live performances, Happy Valley has become THE place to see all sorts of shows, plays, lectures, and theater performances. In this issue, we'll take a look at these cultural treasures.

Also keep in mind that Valentines weekend is also one of the busiest sports

weekends of the winter season this year, so if you'd like a little romance mixed in with some great Penn State sports action, one of our Romantic Lion packages might be just the right mix for a great late-winter trip to the region.

Another great bit of news is that our lobby is now finished! We're very proud of it, and a picture speaks a thousand words . . . so see the photos presented here. We've also finished renovating more of our guest rooms at the Inn. There's a photo of one of them here as well. We think you'll like what you see and hope you visit soon to check them out in person.

As usual, be sure to check out the Wine Corner and delicious recipe from Chef Stout. Remember to send back your comments and we'll take them into consideration as we plan our publications for this next year.


Jim Purdum

THE NEW LOBBY COMES TO LIFE

The Inn's lobby is naturally blue and white, with beautiful granite counters and floors, and thick-pile carpeting. There's a quiet corner in front of the warm fireplace; there are comfortable couches, leather chairs, beautiful green plants, and huge windows looking out onto the front gardens. If you have yet to visit the new lobby, please take the time to do so. We think you'll enjoy meeting friends there or just sitting and watching the people go by.



PENNSTATE



Penn State Hospitality Services
200 West Park Avenue ~ State College, PA 16803
www.pennstatehotels.com

Wine Corner

Through the Grapevine...

DINNER THEATER AT THE INN? *by Robert Oeler*

Not really, but University President Graham Spanier put on quite a show at the 3rd annual Beaujolais Festival held in the Grand Ballroom in November. Dr. Spanier stomped Pinot Noir grapes while our guests clapped along enjoying wine and culinary treasures from Chef Andrew Monk.

Every third Thursday of November the Nittany Lion Inn celebrates the release of the new wine from Beaujolais, France. Crushed and aged for six weeks, the Beaujolais Nouveau is a wonderful, fresh wine and a reminder that the holiday season is right around the corner.

As promised in earlier issues, we would like to recognize Penn State Alumni who have a hand in providing the finest wines in the world, some of which grace the award-winning list in the dining room — Laura Kintigh from Tafelberg Imports in Chicago, Gary Eberle '66 from Eberle Vineyards in California, Thomas Coyne '63 from Thomas Coyne Vineyards in California, and Elizabeth Carroll '53 from Mt. Nittany Vineyards right here in Happy Valley.

Speaking of Happy Valley, Chef Stoudt put together a very tasty Pumpkin Soup from his kitchen at the Penn Stater (see inside for recipe). I tasted this recently and the first thing that came to my mind was sparkling wine. Pumpkin can be used in sweet or savory dishes, which can match with a variety of wines. There really isn't a go-to wine with pumpkin but this particular dish would call out for a rich Pinot Gris, 2007 Bethel Heights or a 2006 Adelsheim, both from Oregon. I would also try a Gloria Ferrer sparkling wine or one of the many Cava's from Spain. All are available at the local liquor store in the \$10-20 price range. The best way to enjoy this fine pairing is to stop in and have dinner at the Penn Stater. Make sure you say hi to Chef Stoudt. He loves the attention!

We would like to thank all of you for making our wine events successful and remind you of our upcoming events for 2009; Spring whites and roses in March, Grillin' and Chillin' with Chef Monk on the patio in July, former Penn State Defensive Tackle Gary Eberle '66 will kick off the football season as he hosts wine maker night in the fall, and of course the 4th annual Beaujolais Nouveau festival in November. If you'd like to receive e-mails about our events, book a Chef's Table with Chef Andrew Monk, or if you have any questions about pairings or what to serve at home, send me an e-mail at rwo10@psu.edu.

Santé

Cheers!



State College Downtown: More Than Just a Pretty Face

There was a time when most of the culture in State College existed on campus in one of the theaters, auditoriums, or museums. In fact, the Center for the Performing Arts, which brings world-class performances to campus, has been hailed as one of the best theater experiences in Pennsylvania. Its calendar is always chock full of music, theater, and other events. Hospitality Services has been a major supporter of CPA for many years and hails its efforts to continue its outstanding offerings year after year.

Lately though, a new and exciting trend is taking place – the culture is expanding and moving downtown into community theaters and coffee houses.

It's no secret that Penn State President Graham Spanier loves musical theater, and sometimes even takes part in performances. So when campus venues got crowded, Penn State took to the streets to find a new space.

The Downtown Theatre Center on Allen Street (in the former Danks Building) is the result of that search, with a 150-seat Citizen Bank Theater, the Waskob Family Gallery, and a Penn State Box Office contained in the space. Since 2003, this theater has been the first and only performing arts center in the downtown district. Penn State's School of Theatre and its professional arm, the Pennsylvania Centre Stage, use the theater for their performances. President Spanier has been a financial supporter of the theater by creating a Student Development Fund, and this year, he and his wife Sandra made another gift, bringing that fund up to the one million dollar mark.

Dr. Spanier notes: "I am very proud of Penn State's School of Theatre. It has been one of the University's great success stories in the last decade, expanding in scope and size and growing in quality. The Musical Theatre program is one example of a program that in its



short history has joined the ranks of the top programs in the country. Not only does the School of Theatre house excellent academic programs, but also it plays a key role in providing great entertainment through its performances."

Another top venue in State College is the State Theatre, on College Avenue. This is a non-profit community theater dedicated to providing a venue for local theater, dance, music, and film. Renovated several years ago from strictly a film theater to a performance theater, productions now include everything from free cartoons on Saturday morning for children, to live music, experiential learning performances, film, theater, and dance.













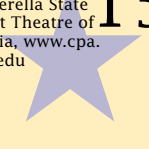








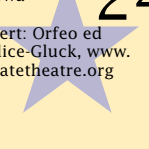
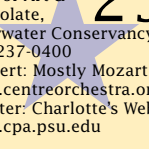






The State Theatre is owned and operated for and by the whole community, and even can be rented. It's a great success story in downtown State College – a testament to the community's commitment to such a cultural need, and with several performances each week, is sure to have something for everyone.

The Nittany Valley Symphony has been a staple of State College culture for many decades, first with concerts in the high school auditorium and now using Eisenhower Auditorium on campus. The Pennsylvania Centre Orchestra and the State College Choral Society offer concerts throughout the year, both on campus and around town.

If you prefer more intimate settings, Schlow Library now offers both live music performances and thespian productions. In addition, the many coffee houses in town sometimes feature musicians. First Thursdays in downtown State College feature exhibits and performances designed to showcase culture and provide entertainment around State College.

These days, the Centre Region can rival any city for cultural activities. Why not enjoy a beautiful winter weekend in Happy Valley?



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>HOT DATES/GREAT RATES</p> 	<p>Please note that this is just a sampling of the sporting events, exhibitions, and activities in the Centre Region. For a complete listing or information, see calendars on the web pages www.gopsusports.com or www.happyvalley.com.</p>	<p>Football: 95th Rose Bowl vs. USC 1</p> 	<p>2</p> 	<p>3</p> 	<p>Women's Basketball vs. Michigan, www.gopsusports.com 4</p> 	<p>Event: Holiday Lights on the Lake, www.lakemontparkfun.com</p> <p>First Night Festival, www.downtownstatecollege.com</p>
		<p>5</p> 	<p>Lecture: PA Military Museum, www.pamilmuseum.org 6</p> <p>Men's Basketball vs. Purdue, www.gopsusports.com</p> 	<p>7</p> 	<p>8</p> 	
<p>12</p> 	<p>13</p> 	<p>Men's Basketball vs. Michigan State 14</p> 	<p>Theater: Cinderella State Ballet Theatre of Russia, www.cpa.psu.edu 15</p> 	<p>16</p> 	<p>Concert: Nittany Valley Symphony, www.nvs.org 17</p> 	<p>Concert: The Capitol Steps, www.thestatetheatre.org 18</p> 
<p>19</p> 	<p>20</p> 	<p>21</p> 	<p>Women's Basketball vs. Wisconsin 22</p> 	<p>Men's Volleyball vs. Ball State, www.gopsusports.com 23</p> 	<p>Men's Basketball vs. Iowa 24</p> <p>Concert: Orfeo ed Euridice-Gluck, www.thestatetheatre.org</p> 	<p>Event: For the Love of Art & Chocolate, Clearwater Conservancy, 814-237-0400 25</p> <p>Concert: Mostly Mozart, www.centreorchestra.org Theater: Charlotte's Web, www.cpa.psu.edu</p> 
<p>26</p> 	<p>Concert: Chris Tomlin, www.bjc.psu.edu 27</p> 	<p>Lecture: PA Military Museum, www.pamilmuseum.org 28</p> 	<p>29</p> 	<p>Wrestling vs. Minnesota 30</p> 	<p>Men's Volleyball vs. Springfield, www.gopsusports.com 31</p> 	

FROM
Our Kitchen
TO
Yours



Chef Stoudt

Roasted Pumpkin Soup with Andouille Sausage and Wild Rice

- 6 oz Andouille Sausage Diced
- 2 oz Clarified Butter (bacon fat works well)
- 10 oz Diced Onion
- 5 oz Diced Celery
- 1/2 oz Minced Garlic
- 2 oz Flour
- 3 qt Chicken Stock
- 1 ea Crookneck Pumpkin
- 1 cup Heavy Cream
- 3 oz Pure Wild Rice (cook on side until tender)
- 1/4 cup Chopped Scallions

Caramelize Sausage with Butter

Add onions, celery and garlic. Add flour to make roux. Add hot stock and bring to a boil. Let simmer. Add roasted and pureed pumpkin, cream, wild rice and scallions. Bring to a simmer. Adjust seasoning with salt and white pepper. Enjoy!

Cut in half, remove seeds and roast for approx 45 minutes until tender. Let cool, remove skin and puree.

FEBRUARY 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						Wrestling vs. Wisconsin 1
2	Theater: Jesus Christ Superstar, www.cpa.psu.edu 3	4	Concert: Nittany Valley Symphony, Spanish Holiday, www.nvs.org 5 Women's Basketball vs. Minnesota, www.gopsusports.com	Men's Swimming vs. St. Bonaventure, www.gopsusports.com 6 Wrestling vs. Ohio State	Women's Gymnastics, www.gopsusports.com 7 Concert: Lucia di Lammermoor-Donizette, www.thestatetheatre.org Concert: Chanticleer: An Orchestra of Voices: www.cpa.psu.edu	Wrestling vs. Iowa, www.gopsusports.com 8 Men's Basketball vs. Wisconsin Event: Vienna Serenade, www.centreorchestra.org Event: AKC Dog Agility Trials, www.mndtc.org
Concert: Ladysmith Black Mambazo, www.thestatetheatre.org 9 Theater: Bunvaku Bay Puppet Troupe, Schwab Auditorium Event: Spikes Fest, Medlar Field, 814-272-1711	10	11	12	Concert: Ying Quartet, www.cpa.psu.edu 13 Women's Tennis, www.gopsusports.com Wrestling vs. Michigan Men's Volleyball vs. Harvard	Men's Volleyball vs. Ohio State 14 Men's Basketball vs. Minnesota	Women's Basketball vs. Iowa 15 Women's Lacrosse vs. Cornell Theater: Magic Tree House: The Musical, www.cpa.psu.edu
Event: AKC Dog Agility Trials, www.mndtc.org						
16	Concert: Nittany Valley Symphony, www.nvs.org 17	Women's Lacrosse vs. Lafayette 18	Women's Basketball vs. Purdue 19 Concert: McCoy Tyner Quartet, www.cpa.psu.edu	Women's Tennis vs. Oklahoma 20 Wrestling vs. Penn., www.gopsusports.com	Women & Men Fencing 21 Women's Gymnastics, www.gopsusports.com	Women's Tennis vs. Purdue 22 Men's Lacrosse vs. Notre Dame
23	Concert: Mariza, www.cpa.psu.edu 24	Women's Lacrosse vs. Bucknell, www.gopsusports.com 25 Men's Volleyball vs. St. Francis	26	27	Men's Lacrosse vs. Loyola, www.gopsusports.com 28 Men's Volleyball vs. NJIT Men's Gymnastics vs. Ohio State	

WIN!

A HAPPY WEEKEND IN HAPPY VALLEY!

All you have to do is fill out the form below, clip it, and send it in. We'll put all the names in a hat and in January, February and March, we'll choose one lucky person to enjoy a free weekend here in the Centre Region (certain weekend restrictions may apply).

If you would like to receive periodic announcements from us about dining and event specials, please fill in your e-mail address below. Your e-mail address will be kept confidential and will not be used for any other purpose nor will it be given to anyone else for any reason.

Comments about our newsletter/your wine suggestions:

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/E-mail _____

Clip this coupon and mail to:
Ms. Fran E. Levin, Director
Sales and Marketing
Penn State Hospitality Services
200 West Park Avenue
State College, PA 16803

MARCH 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						Women's Lacrosse vs. Colgate, www.gopsusports.com 1 Women's Gymnastics vs. Ohio State
2	Women's Lacrosse vs. Mount St. Marys Lecture: PA Military Museum, 814-466-6263 3	4	Men's Tennis vs. Ohio State, www.gopsusports.com 5	Men's Volleyball vs. George Mason 6	Men's Lacrosse vs. Ohio State 7 Concert: Madame Butterfly-Puccini, www.thestatetheatre.org	Event: Charter Day-Free Admission PA Military Museum, www.pamilmuseum.org 8 
9	10	11	Concert: Let the Circle be Wide, www.thestatetheatre.org 12	 13	Men & Women Gymnastics, www.gopsusports.com 14	15
16	17	Women's Lacrosse, www.gopsusports.com 18	19	20	Concert: La Sonnambula-Bellini, www.thestatetheatre.org 21 Concert: Nittany Valley Symphony, www.nvs.org Men's Lacrosse vs. Fairfield Men's Volleyball vs. Loyola	22
23	24	25	Women's Basketball vs. Northwestern, www.gopsusports.com 26	Men's Tennis vs. Minnesota 27	Concert: Bach to the Future, www.centreorchestra.org 28 Men's Basketball vs. Indiana	Concert: Artie Shaw Orchestra, www.thestatetheatre.org 29
Concert: The Three Virtuosos, Ax-Perlman-Ma, www.cpa.psu.edu 30	Baseball vs. Bucknell, www.gopsusports.com 31				Softball vs. Northwestern	
					Baseball vs. Ohio State, www.gopsusports.com	

DID YOU KNOW?

Again in 2008, the Penn Stater was named the Best Sunday Brunch and the Best Place for a Reception. Year after year, these two distinctions are owned by the Penn Stater, and for good reason. Fran Levin says, "People just rave about the Sunday Brunch. You can find just about anything you're looking for, from breakfast to lunch and back, all presented in fashionable and beautiful surroundings. . . . It has been described as being more like an upscale lodge than a hotel, with stunning views and greenery."

"People just rave about the Sunday Brunch."

WINNERS

Ms. Lucinda M. Kline
Indiana, PA

Ms. Jeanne Boltz
Hershey, PA

Mr. Steve Strauss
Lehighton, PA