

Class of 1976 50th Reunion Newsletter

Alumni Weekend June 4-7, 2026

April 2026 Edition



REGISTRATION FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND IS OPEN

Register online at: www.juniata.edu/alumniweekend

At the link above, you'll find online registration, the full schedule of events, accommodation details, a list of attendees, and more. Through the registration portal, you can sign up for Class of 1976 reunion events and other activities. All Class of 1976 reunion events are free for members of the Class of 1976.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the Alumni Office at 814-641-3443 or alumni@juniata.edu. Clara Jeske, Alumni Engagement Coordinator, will be happy to help.

IMPORTANT NOTICE! THERE'S STILL TIME TO WRITE YOUR BIO!



Don't worry! You still have time! Although the original "deadline" passed for submitting Bios for the **50th Reunion "Class Notes" Booklet**, the time has been extended. We've received 47 Bios so far and the stories are heartfelt and fascinating. We continue to welcome your input! Whether you can or cannot come to the reunion, please participate in the Class Notes booklet. There is no pressure - you can write as little or as much as you want. Please submit your **BIO** and your then & now **PHOTOS** directly to Karen at bkorr77@gmail.com. Thank you!

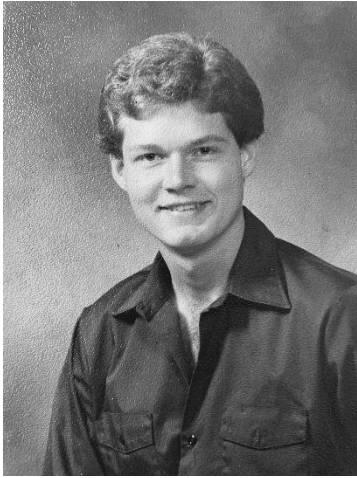
Grab some of your Juniata mementos ... that we know you have somewhere in a box!

The time for our 50th reunion is now in sight, and our goals are to make it very **special** for all attendees. Our memorabilia room will be a place where you can come view, read, and reflect on physical items and photos from when you were a student at Juniata.

Please forward any photos that you would like to include in our display. Also, if you plan to bring any other special items, drop me a note so I know what to plan for in our room. We hope to create a space where you may have a conversation starter or spur a memory from other classmates as they visit the display. This is **our** room, please help share the memories with fellow classmates. Looking forward to seeing you all in June and capturing those special days we shared from 1972-1976!

Please send info and/or photos to Nancy (Nordberg) Glaeser at jonord117@gmail.com. Thanks so much and see you in June!

BIOS!



THEN



NOW

Bio – Phil Klippert '76

“Lately it occurs to me...”

I grew up on Juniata’s campus. Literally.

Home was a block and a half away. Matchbox cars in the dirt at the construction site for what was to be the new science building in 1965. Sled riding and wiffle ball on round top. Stomping mustard packets at the back door of the “Totem Inn” that was in the basement of the old women’s gym on 18th Street. The improvements of Juniata’s landscape are truly marvelous. And more are coming. I walk almost daily through campus.

My first year out of High School found me in Pittsburgh in Art School where SAT scores were not a prerequisite. I was not enjoying the program. It was pointed out to me that by the benefit of my Dad’s employment (Campus Security), I could attend Juniata for free and only a fool would pass up that opportunity. But pathetic SAT scores made it seem impossible at best. When asked at my interview “how did I think I could handle the academic work load” my response was “I guess I’ll never know if I don’t try”.

Juniata taught me how to try. When to try, and why. Wise Advisors guided my personal progress and academic failures but much of what I was being taught didn’t become clear until later in life.

The last (and best) advice I got was from Prof. Bill Hofelt, who in no uncertain terms suggested that I needed to get out of Huntingdon. He was right.

The following seven years I worked in retail, in one form or another in Bucks County and got most of my impetuous youth out of my system, and came back to central PA. I found myself the Director of Advertising for a small locally owned Department Store chain based in Lewistown. By 1995 it was time for change. I'd spent my energy convincing people to spend money they didn't have on things they didn't need.

Gratefully, I found myself back in Huntingdon employed by the County Court in the Domestic Relations Section. It opened my eyes to a world that I'd never acknowledged.

I retired from the County six years ago and now live right back where I started from, a block and a half from the campus. I'm quite content and happy and have everything I ever needed. Including the match box cars and my partner, Tim...my roommate from Juniata with whom I joined forces in 1973. But you knew that.

“What a long strange trip it's been.”





THEN



NOW

Bio – Mary Ackroyd '76

Life After Juniata

"What a trip it's been!" I volunteered in Central Africa with the Peace Corps for two years directly after graduation. Having grown to love the tropics, I moved to the Florida Keys where I established a native plant eco-friendly landscape business. Ten years later found me cruising the western Caribbean, Cuba, Bahamas and Eastern seaboard on our renovated 35 ft sailboat, taking truly odd jobs as needed. A brief shoreside interlude allowed me and my Dalmatian to take an 8 month road trip out west. What a wondrous country!

I'm presently back aboard a smaller boat and enjoying retirement by, of course, volunteering! I lead a high intensity workout, a nature journaling group and assist in an immigrant support network ...could say I've come Full circle.

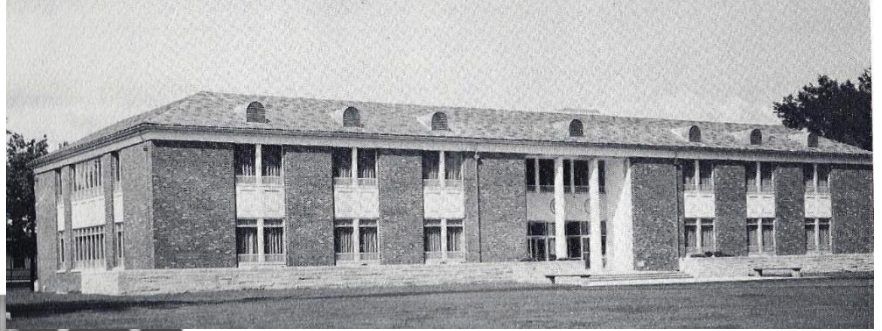
Juniata genuinely started me on this journey by inspiring curiosity, inquiry and activism.

Then & Now

Then: Beeghly Library

See the inside and outside of Beeghly Library in the 1970s.

Dr. Donald Rockwell, dean of academic affairs, and Dr. Charles Schoenherr, dean of student affairs, talked with 200 students who supported the move to keep Beeghly Library open until midnight. Under a new agreement the building will be open every evening except Saturday. (PHOTO BY WILLIAM DAVID '72).



Now: Statton Learning Commons

See the inside and outside of the building after a recent renovation and renaming to Statton Learning Commons.



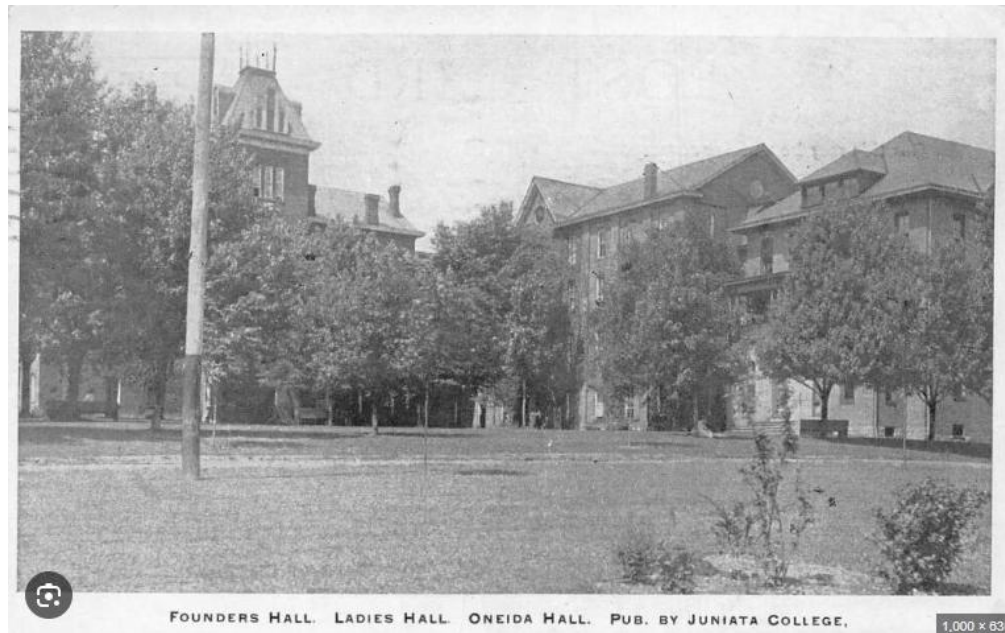
Then: Totem Inn
Reminisce on the entrance to Totem Inn



Now: Eagle's Landing
Check out the new student snack center and hang-out spot



Then: Founders, Ladies, and Oneida Halls



Now: Founders Hall and von Liebig Center for Science Check out the new student snack center and hang-out spot



Memory Question: What was your favorite place OFF campus? Send answers to Nancy at nancyep76@hotmail.com for next newsletter.



Want to know who's coming to the Reunion? Check the official registration attendee list here:

<https://my.juniata.edu/s/1809/16/interior-1col.aspx?sid=1809&gid=2&pgid=1825&cid=5302&fid=5301>

You can use the search feature to search for names, or type in "1976" to see all of your classmates that have registered so far!

Encourage your friends to come, too!

Questions? Contact one of our committee chairs

Legacy Committee

Brad Sterl
bsterl@bradsterlassociates.com

Social Committee

Guy Cooper gcoops3@gmail.com
Cheryl (Dettmar) Stites
cdettmarstites@gmail.com

Communications Committee

Cindy (Hill) Valko, geocin@aol.com



Celebrating 150 years of Inquiry, Integrity, and Service