



Alumni Club of  
Southwest Florida

## THE LONGWALK

2013 EDITION

### The President's Corner

*By John L. Pilarski*

Oh how time flies, especially when you are having fun...

It was already a year ago that I was reassuring you all that our Buckeyes would return to greatness on the gridiron as surely as summer would turn to fall. True, it was a prediction about as bold as predicting that the sun will rise in the east tomorrow and set in the west. While my prediction might not have been that bold, it was extremely accurate. Our Buckeyes were a perfect 12 wins zero losses last year under the guidance of fellow (honorary) club member Urban Meyer.

In case you have not heard, Coach Meyer has the Buckeyes primed to chase the National Championship this year. Yes, it's a wonderful time of year. The Bucks are in camp right now! Braxton's back! There are a bunch of new Buckeyes! A great new season is about to start.

But I am getting ahead of myself! I don't want to wish it all away. There is so much fun to be had before we crush M\*chi\*gan. We might get to do it twice this year! Wow, now how about that for fun!

Last year the club had a great year also. We received a gold star award. Who can forget hanging with Meyers and Earle Bruce last spring? We were featured in the national alumni magazine. But we are not going to rest on our past laurels, we have big plans for the future.

So lets look ahead...

First off: we have a great new home for our game watch parties. Fade Away Sports Bar and Grill on College Parkway in Fort Myers near the Cape Coral Bridge is the place. See it and love it.

And to get acquainted with Fade Away, we are going to have a big party to kick off the new season in our new home. Its not just any party, it's a Buckeye Beach Bash. Coming right up on Friday, August 23rd at 6 to 8 pm we are going to party Tropical Buckeye style. Rumor has it a new Buckeye beverage is being concocted for the occasion. In addition to reconnecting with all of your fellow Buckeyes, there will be games, a raffle and the sweet Buckeye sounds of our own Rich Byrnes. Get there!

Also, we have a new project this year that all Buckeyes can get behind: supporting the troops and their families. New Club Secretary Kristin Miller fills you in on how you can help on the next page. Show the troops that the Buckeyes are thinking of them.

Of course, we will go BIGGER than ever for the BIG GAME TAILGATE on Nov. 30th.

Its going to be a great year. Get out and be a part of it.

**Go Bucks!**



### Membership Corner

*By Jami McGarvey*

Picture it, it's opening day of the 2013 season. Admit it, we have been waiting for this since the last season ended. You know who you're cheering for, **The Buckeyes!** You know what you're wearing, your finest scarlet and gray. You have your lucky Buckeyes from college around your neck. Do you know where you are going? Who will stand beside you cheering all season long? The Southwest Florida Alumni Club is who, and Fade Away Sports Bar and Grill is the place to be!

Join your fellow Buckeye fans every game day this season at our new Ft.Myers location. Become a member, and it will get you a 20% discount off your bill every time. Your best option is to sign up online at [www.swflbuckeyes.com](http://www.swflbuckeyes.com) **before August 20th** so you can be sure that your name badge and lanyard are ready and waiting for you opening day. You can also send in the cards that were mailed out in July as well as the one on the back of this newsletter, but please get those in by the 20th! The cost is \$15 for a single membership, and \$20 is our family price. Our annual membership runs from July 1st - June 30th. So, if you haven't joined yet, please do it now!

Always remember, that our main objective is to support the local kids with ambitions of going to OSU and make it happen. We have weekly halftime raffles that add to that bottom line. So, come on out and show your support. We will see you there!



**COMMUNITY SERVICE**  
*BY KRISTIN MILLER*

**Buckeyes are NUTS about our troops!**

SWFL Buckeyes & Lee Memorial Health System are teaming up to support soldiers and their families at home for our Community Service Initiative for 2013. We will have Military Support Days at our Game watch parties at Fade Away Sports Bar & Grill. We need your help in collecting items for the troops: September 21<sup>st</sup> 2013 – Game Watch Party OSU v FAMU and the November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013 Game Watch Party OSU v Purdue. Most of the men and women live out of their backpacks – so the items needed on a regular basis for our LOCAL troops currently deployed overseas include:

- Wet wipes– travel sized
- Unshelled Nuts
- Deodorant – travel sized
- White Socks
- Anything to do with the feet (foot powder, foot cream, etc.)
- Bubble gum / hard candy
- Toilet paper
- Disposable Razors
- Shaving Cream
- Meat in pouches: tuna, chicken, salami, beef jerky, pepperoni
- Snack packs: fruit, pudding, cheese and crackers

We will be collecting the items above at the **9/21** and **11/2** OSU Game watch parties at Fade Away Bar & Grill at 9061 College Parkway, Fort Myers, FL 33919. We will also accept cash, and check donations.

**GAME WATCH LOCATION**  
*BY JILL KLAUSING*

**Fade Away Sports Bar and Grill: Where All the Pretty People Go!**

What does Urban Meyer like more than a win over Michigan? A win over Michigan with a side of loaded waffle fries! And what goes better than a check in the dubya column over Penn State? A dubya and an order of Gulf Coast Nachos! Our new game watch location has everything your scarlet and grey belly desires! From pizza to a Rajun Cajun wrap, you can get it all! Better yet, get it all with a discount by becoming a club member!

Got little Buckeyes running underfoot? Fade Away Sports Bar & Grill is the perfect place to bring your crazed nuts! There is space to move, games to play, and prizes to be won! On the other hand, does your hearing aid need to be cranked up to level 10 every time you enter a restaurant? Good news, Fade Away has an atmosphere that allows you to converse with fellow Ohio Staters without having to say “what?” twenty-seven gazillion times because you can’t hear. It also eliminates the classic “nod and smile because you still can’t hear what is being said after the 28<sup>th</sup> gazillionth time. Cheer on TBDITL and chat with your buds!

Fun whippersnappers! The OSU Alumni Club of SWFL is targeting you! Fade Away Sports Bar and Grill is the perfect networking location for both your personal and professional lives! Connect with friends over a craft beer or perhaps play a round of corn hole with a potential match.com mate! Good times are sure to be had by all!

SWFL Buckeyes are proud to be a part of LMHS’ ongoing Military Support efforts. Did you know: LMHS Military Support Program has sent 47,000 pounds of care packages since May 2003? Over 1,009+ local troops and their families supported by Military Support Program. Any questions? Check out the Community Service Link of the SWFL Buckeyes Page <http://www.alumni-osu.org/swfl/wp/>. Or Call Kim at (239) 343-2045. Thank for YOUR support! GO BUCKS!

**COMMUNICATIONS**  
*BY JEFF FUSCARDO*

**Follow the SWFL Buckeyes on Facebook and Twitter**

The club now has over 160 "Like's" for our Facebook page (Search The Ohio State Alumni Club of Southwest Florida). That is up over 50 people in the past year. We will continue to update weekly events via the club Facebook page.

But do you know about Twitter? Twitter is an online social networking and micro blogging service that enables its users to send and read text-based messages of up to 140 characters, known as "tweets". We have set up an account for the club that allows us to pass information to you (no need to "tweet", you can simply read). But first you must sign up through one of two, very simple ways.

You can use the web at [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) (or click on the Twitter link on the club website) or you can download the free app to your smartphone. You create a free account, then start following. The club Twitter account (@swflbuckeyes) allows us to communicate with you in a quick and efficient manner.

For less timely information we will also continue to update the club website. You can check out the Urban Meyer page to get a recap and photos of the March event. Also use the website to renew your membership quickly and easily via PayPal.

Be on the lookout for our weekly eblasts with game specific information. If you are not on the list just email the club at [swflbuckeyes@yahoo.com](mailto:swflbuckeyes@yahoo.com) and we will add you promptly. Be informed members, it's fun and easy.



**The Big Game Tailgate Party**  
**Saturday, Nov. 30**  
**3 hours before game time.**  
**Fade Away**

**SCHOLARSHIP REPORT**

*BY CHAD GILLEN*

This year our student recruitment program ended up looking more like a student retention program. Although some area high school students expressed interest in Ohio State by sending in applications, none of those that were accepted ultimately chose to attend.

Despite the absence of an incoming freshman, we were still proud to award scholarships to two returning students, Chelsea Torres and Tate Nordgren. Both of these young ladies have been outstanding representatives for our club and we hope that our contributions will help them continue to be outstanding Buckeyes. If you attended the Urban Meyer dinner this past March, you heard Chelsea speak of her experiences at Ohio State and had a chance to see what fine students and ambassadors of our club Chelsea and Tate are. Congratulations to them both.

On Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> our club will send representatives on behalf of the University to two upcoming local college fairs; The Bishop Verot College Day at Bishop Verot High School and The School District of Lee County College Night.

If you know anyone considering undergraduate studies at The Ohio State University please contact me at 810-4231 for scholarship information. Thank you to our members who support the scholarship program that allows local students become Buckeyes. Remember you can go on-line to check out information about the Southwest Florida Scholarship Fund and see your contribution dollars at work. Please take a moment to visit the scholarship page at [www.swflbuckeyes.com](http://www.swflbuckeyes.com).

**Join our club each week for game watch parties!**



9061 College Pkwy  
Fort Myers 33919

239.277.9737

[FADEAWAYBAR.COM](http://FADEAWAYBAR.COM)

**BUCKEYE BEACH BASH!!!**

KICK OFF A GREAT NEW SEASON TROPICAL STYLE

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 23RD**

**6 TO 8 PM HAPPY HOUR BEACH BASH!**

**FADE AWAY SPORTS BAR & GRILL**

**FUN, MUSIC, GAMES, RAFFLE & BUCKEYES!**

**2013 Buckeye Football Schedule**

AUG 31	BUFFALO	12:00PM
SEPT 7	SAN DIEGO STATE	3:30 PM
SEPT 14	@CAL	7:00PM
SEPT 21	FAMU	TBA
SEPT 28	WISCONSIN	8:00 PM
OCT 5	@NORTHWESTERN	8:00 PM
OCT 19	IOWA	3:30 PM
OCT 26	PENN STATE	8:00 PM
NOV 2	@ PURDUE	TBA
NOV 16	@ILLINOIS	TBA
NOV 23	INDIANA	TBA
NOV 30	@ ANN ARBOR	12:00PM
DEC 7	BIG CHAMPIONSHIP GAME	TBA

**2013 Club Officers**

Find Bios & Contact info at  
[www.SWFLBUCKEYES.com](http://www.SWFLBUCKEYES.com)

**President**

John Pilarski  
jlpilarski@earthlink.net

**Past President**

Jeff Fuscardo  
fuscardo@ipapilot.org

**Vice President**

Jami McGarvey  
jatley5@gmail.com

**Directors**

Chad Gillen  
Cathy Hamilton

**Secretary**

Kristin Miller  
krabstin@hotmail.com

Melinda Shaw  
Jill Klausung

**Treasurer**

Dana Vidussi  
danav@dvcpa.com

Rich Byrnes  
Abby Allen

Bob Shope

**FOR SALE**

Look sharp, sport the colors & support your club!  
They are new and they are fast dry cool.....  
White Black or Scarlet  
Men's or Ladies Styles. \$40

*Get yours at the game watch parties!*

**2013/14 SWFL Alumni Club Membership Renewal**  
**\*\*\* ALL MEMBERSHIPS NOW RUN JULY 1 TO JUNE 30 \*\*\***

**Please renew online at [www.swflbuckeyes.com](http://www.swflbuckeyes.com)**

or complete this card, detach, and return with payment to:

**OSU Alumni Club of SWFL  
P.O. Box 61381  
Ft. Myers, FL 33906-1381**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Phone/e-mail changes only:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>OSUAA#</u>	<u>OSU Class</u>
1	_____	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	_____

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 Individual membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Family membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ Donation to the Scholarship Fund

For more information  
call or e-mail:  
Jami McGarvey  
(239) 898-3762  
[jatley5@gmail.com](mailto:jatley5@gmail.com)



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