

SUMMER EDITION | SEPTEMBER 2022



As the summer of 2022 turns into fall, another school year is underway. A new class of Falcons is learning their way around campus, navigating unfamiliar places, discovering newfound independence, and enjoying exciting academic and social experiences that will shape their futures.

In the weeks to come, these students will settle in to their new home and build friendships that they will cherish. Their lives are forever changed by the college experience at Fairmont State University.

What experiences do you remember fondly from your first weeks on campus?

Enjoy this issue of *Emeritus News*.

EMERITUS FEATURE: LOIS MUTO LAUGHLIN



The first memory that comes to Fairmont native, Lois Laughlin's mind when asked about her time as a student at Fairmont State are the beanies, faithfully worn every day. Whether in class, in the Big Nickel having lunch, or shopping in downtown Fairmont, she dutifully wore her beanie. It signified to the community that she was a Freshman at the College on the Hill and was just the very beginning of her journey as a Falcon.

Many of Lois' favorite memories as a student were activities with her sorority, Gamma Chi Chi. She was especially fond of Song Fest. Sororities and Fraternities would prepare a song to perform in the annual singing competition. She recalled dying the

daisy trim blue for the white dresses they wore in 1961 when the sorority won first place singing "Beyond the Blue Horizon". Other memorable activities with the group included the annual faculty tea complete with hats and gloves and making floats for Homecoming parades.

Lois stated that her favorite semester was the fall semester of senior year where she was able to be a practice teacher at East Fairmont High School. She recalled Neil Frye being a very impactful education professor during her college years. He was always very encouraging and made sure that his students were ready for life after college. A few years after graduation, Lois returned to Fairmont State and spent much of her career helping the next generation of Falcons gain the same quality education that she had.



2022 GOLDEN JUBILEE

This past spring, Fairmont State University, in conjunction with the Alumni Association and Foundation, welcomed back emeritus class members to the College on the Hill to reunite with friends and reminisce.

In April, the Class of 1972 celebrated the 50th anniversary of their graduation with a Golden Jubilee. Those in attendance enjoyed a reception at the president's house and then were honored at the Commencement Ceremony that evening. Emeritus class members were given the opportunity to once again (or some for the first time!) walk across the stage as the University president presented them with a graduation stole to mark the occasion.

Emeritus members were again invited back to campus in June for an All-Class Emeritus Reunion Weekend. The weekend began with a cocktail reception at the Erickson Alumni Center where they enjoyed the company of their classmates and past professors. Many enjoyed recounting memories brought back through the pages of yearbooks and the Fairmont State memorabilia displayed for the event. The next day featured campus tours, a luncheon, an opportunity to explore the Frank & Gabor Folklife Center and a dinner with live music.

When asked her thoughts on how it felt to be back on campus, Dr. Nancy Valentine Harper ('72) stated "Both weekends were awesome! Since I had not been back on campus since the 1970's, the buildings were spectacular to see and it was particularly great to experience the Folklife Center. Another highlight was being able to reminisce with former classmates and make new friends. It was deeply meaningful to have my degree reconfirmed, experience the graduation of several students, and sing the alma mater. Both events brought back all the warm thoughts, positive feelings and memories from my days as a student at Fairmont State. Those were some of the happiest days of my life."

Both the Foundation and Alumni Association thank everyone who came and were so willing to share both their time and their stories. The University looks forward to celebrating the Class of 73 at the Golden Jubilee next spring.



FAIRMONT STATE: THEN AND NOW



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Save the date for the fourth-annual Falcon Day of Giving on October 27.

This event is a 24-hour celebration of community and philanthropy. Our goal is to inspire alumni, students, staff, faculty, donors, parents, and friends to support the causes at Fairmont State University. One Day with One Goal to come together as One Fairmont State to raise \$350,000 for the university that means so much to all of us. When we combine our support, there are no limits to what we can accomplish!

Join us on October 27 at falconsgive.fsufoundation.org for 24 hours of celebrating all the best that Fairmont State has to offer.

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

A Sweet Choice

If your IRA is life's dessert, the thought of being forced to pay taxes on a distribution you would rather not take may leave a sour taste in your mouth.

It doesn't have to.

There is a sweeter choice. Rather than take the required minimum distribution, call your IRA administrator and ask them to gift all or part of the RMD to the Fairmont State Foundation.

Make sure the distribution comes directly to our mission and not to you.

When you do:



You do not pay income tax on the distribution



You satisfy your RMD up to \$100,000

You contributed to and saved your IRA all your life. Do not let taxes spoil it. Use your IRA's RMD to support the cause you love. Replace the disappointment of taxes with the delight of helping others.

May we help you?

To learn more, please contact us. We would welcome the opportunity to answer further questions and work with you and your advisors.

Phone: 304-534-8786

Email: fsf@fsufoundation.org

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EMERITUS NEWS



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