Sea Gull Century Benefits Nonprofits, Students

SU’s Sea Gull Century, an annual tradition on the Eastern Shore, has raised money for a number of local charities over the years.

Thanks to the 2012 event, the SU Foundation, Inc. donated $6,093.96 to Habitat for Humanity of Wicomico County. Total Foundation contributions have topped $120,000 over the years. "We are grateful for the support from the Century," said Joan H. Mulvanny, executive director of Habitat for Humanity of Wicomico County. "The University and its students have a longstanding commitment to Habitat, providing funds to build homes and also helping with construction."

SU students have also benefited. Proceeds from the 2012 Century and extra donations from riders provided $6,000 in scholarships for 11 students who participated or served as event volunteers. Selected annually by the Sea Gull Century Scholarship Committee and given through the SU Foundation, Inc., the awards benefit students who possess a 3.0 or higher grade point average, and are for use during the spring semester. Scholarships ranged from $250 to $1,000.

Guerrieri Family Kindness Continues to Benefit SU

The Guerrieri Family Foundation, one of the Eastern Shore’s leading philanthropies, has announced an $8 million gift for the construction of a sprawling new Academic Commons at SU. This is one of the largest private donations for a capital project in the campus’ history.

The gift is made in memory of Patricia R. Guerrieri, an SU alumna for whom the new complex will be named. At 234,000 square feet, the $115.8 million facility is the largest construction project ever undertaken at SU. Echoing the classical athenaeums of ancient Greece as a gathering place for intellectual, social and cultural pursuits, it is expected to become the hub of campus life.

The Guerrieris’ generosity has benefited the University for decades. In 1990, the family announced the gift of a $1 million scholarship fund, at that time the most generous endowment for scholarships in the history of the campus. A multi-disciplinary scholarship, the Guerrieri Scholars Program reaches across all four academic schools, benefiting students with a wide range of interests and concentrations. In the last 10 years alone, nearly 200 students have received some $725,000 in scholarships from the endowment, which has grown to more than $1.7 million. In appreciation, the University named its student center in honor of the Guerrieries.

In 2000, a $500,000 gift from the Guerrieri Family Foundation established the Guerrieri Research Fund for equipment and materials for students and faculty in the University’s Henson School of Science and Technology. The fund also provides student stipends and support for undergraduate research. In recognition of this gift, the Guerrieri Laboratory Wing in Henson Science Hall was dedicated in their honor.

The Patricia R. Guerrieri Academic Commons is scheduled to open in 2016. It will include a state-of-the-art library, the Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture, academic centers serving students, a flexible assembly hall accommodating up to 400, art display space and a Wi-Fi café.
The Salisbury University Foundation, Inc., established in 1973 to accumulate funds by gift and investment to enhance the University, celebrated its 40th anniversary this year.

The Foundation has enriched the academic growth and physical expansion of SU through the support of student scholarships, faculty research, new facilities and community outreach.

Earlier this year, the Foundation also welcomed two new members to its board of directors: Timothy Miller of Easton and Michele Thomas of Salisbury. An SU alumnus, Miller purchased National Premium beer in 2010 and reinvigorated the once-defunct brand. Thomas, vice president of business development at The Bank of Delmarva, follows in the footsteps of her husband, a past Foundation Board chair.

New Scholarships Introduced
The Salisbury University Foundation, Inc. launched two new scholarships in 2012.

The Salisbury’s Promise Scholarship was established by Dr. George Whitehead (below left) of SU’s Psychology Department after he received the community’s oldest civic honor – the prestigious Salisbury Award – for his work with area youth. Whitehead used its $500 prize to begin an endowment. Once fully funded at $10,000, the endowment is expected to provide an annual $500 scholarship for SU students.

The D. Page Elmore Legislative Memorial Award was launched to honor the memory of the late Maryland Delegate, and to and encourage public service among the next generation of civic leaders. His wife, Carolyn (below right), donated $10,000 to the Foundation to establish the award, which helps defray expenses for SU interns working in Annapolis through the University’s Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement.

SU Foundation Awards Internships, Scholarships
Two significant scholarships stewarded by the Salisbury University Foundation, Inc. benefited 20 students in 2012.

The Henry H. “Buddy” Hanna Memorial Award sent nine students to work as legislative interns in the Maryland General Assembly last spring. Established by Henry H. Hanna III and his wife Dara, the scholarship helps students develop their passion for government, politics and community affairs. It is named in honor of Hanna’s father, a longtime Eastern Shore legislator.

The Foundation’s 2013 Marshall W. Moore Scholarship awarded $1,000 to 11 SU students who demonstrated academic excellence and a desire to achieve. The annual award honors the Foundation’s longest-serving original member, Marshall Moore, a 1948 graduate of the University. Created in 2006, the scholarship carries an endowment of nearly $200,000.

The Hanna Scholars joined SU President Janet Dudley-Eshbach and Hanna family members for a luncheon in Annapolis.