

The Wesley Foundation at
Sam Houston State University
1632 University Ave, Huntsville, TX
77340

Stamp
Zone

The Wesley Bearkat

The Official Newsletter of the Sam Houston State Wesley Foundation

Summer 2017 Edition

A newsletter designed to be experienced in 7 minutes, for people on the go!



The Wesley Foundation at
Sam Houston State University
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A Few Quick Words from Greg

I am glad we are not doing another summer remodeling this year! Last year at this time, I was saying to myself: "Summer 2017 will be much more relaxed and chilled. Maybe I will read more, do some research and development, re-organize the office more."

With that said, it hasn't been a quiet summer. It has been an exciting summer. For that, I am happy.

For the first time in our Wesley history (alumni: help me out here), we have a weekly summer program. We have dinner on Tuesday, followed by Bible Study. We have a devoted group, and we have all been getting a lot out of our time together!

We had a summer board game night at our home again. I remember that was one of the first events we did for the Wesley when we came in 2012.

The orientations are going well. Our recruiting efforts are strong, our table at the student organizations expo is the best it has ever been. To add to the mix, we have repainted the interior of the Wesley to brighten up the space.

Time for me to breathe. And pray. And sleep. Fall is coming.

In Christ's Service,

Greg



Generosity Corner

Attention all Kroger shoppers! Remember: every year, you have to renew your preference to keep the Wesley as your beneficiary organization every time you use your Kroger card. If you do your shopping at Kroger, anywhere in the USA, you can set your Kroger card to tell them you want a portion of all purchases to go the Wesley. The bottom of your receipt will confirm this each time.



- 1) Call 1-800-576-4377
- 2) Select #3. You will then talk to a live person.
- 3) Ask to register- Community Rewards Program
Have Available: Zip Code, Name, Address, Your Kroger Card Number (which is the number under the bar code)
Our Organization Code is #43553

**Next Wesley Bearkat Newsletter:
Fall Edition
November 2017**

Dates/Events on the Horizon:

Aug 19: SHSU Move-In Day for Fall 2016

Aug 21-Aug 24: Welcome Week Events @ Wesley:
Sunday (8/20)- Ice Cream Feast (7p)

Monday (8/21)- Pancake Breakfast (10a), helping new students find their classes

Tuesday (8/22)- Pizza Party (6p)

Weds (8/23)- First Weds Dinner & Worship of the 2017-2018 Year (6p & 7p)

Aug 25-Aug 27- Fall Leadership Retreat at Conroe

Fri-Sun, Sept 15-17- Fall Retreat at Lakeview

Sat, Sept 23, 11a- Wesley Parents/Families Lunch (free) during SHSU Parents/Families Weekend

Sat, Oct 14- Wesley team at Buffalo Stampede 5k in Bryan, TX

Thurs, Oct 19: SHSU Homecoming Parade

Sat, Oct 21, 11am- Sixth Annual SHSU Wesley Alumni Lunch (cost: Free)

Tues, Oct 31- Wesley Halloween Party

Connect with us:



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Wesley Foundation Wins at the 23rd Sammy Awards!

Over 20 of us dressed up in our finest clothes to participate in the 23rd Annual Sam Houston State Sammy Awards. Each year, the university does an amazing job of putting together this two-hour program. Furthermore, I am proud of SHSU for having a category for "Outstanding Religious Organization." Most universities in the USA today would not be so cordial and welcoming to faith groups. We are even more proud to share that your Methodist Campus Ministry won the Sammy for that category, for the fourth time in five years. We were also nominated for "Outstanding Overall Organization" for the second time in five years.



All Paws In Service Project

Each year, we love to serve the local Huntsville community as one of many SHSU student organizations unleashed to do good works on a single Saturday morning. This year, we were assigned to help organize the storage warehouse of the largest church in Huntsville: Family Faith Church. We brought so many people to help from our Wesley, that Student Government felt no additional help was needed for our worksite. We hauled and hauled, filled a dumpster, posed with fun items, and worked hard. Your Methodist Campus Ministry is always at work in Huntsville to meet human need, and to be the serving hands of Christ.



College U.M. ARMY in Tyler

We love UM ARMY and all they stand for. This was the fifth year in a row that we served in the college student UM ARMY camp in Tyler, TX. Guess what percentage of the UM ARMY camp was from your SHSU Wesley? 25%! 1 out of 4. We brought 15 people for the camp, and did LOTS of painting projects this year. Most of the 15 we brought were new to UM ARMY. We served with college students from many different universities, and touched people in a powerful way. Texas weather was also cantankerous: raining most of Monday, a bit of Tuesday; lows in the 50s for the start of the week, and then back to hot in the mid-90s for Friday. Yet, much Kingdom work was accomplished!



Resurrection Week Service



A renewed tradition is going strong at Sam Houston: the Resurrection Week dinner and worship. It is our Easter service that we coordinate before the students, staff and faculty of the university depart from campus to celebrate Easter with their own families. This year, curve balls were thrown: bad, unpredictable weather, technology issues, you name it. Yet, over a dozen campus ministries still joined together to celebrate the risen Christ! Nearly 100 people were in the Wesley for dinner, and our worship in the Lowman Student Center's theater was truly inspiring, uplifting and encouraging.

Biggest Year for Potato Fundraisers



This year, each of our students were required to serve in one Potato Fundraiser. We expanded the number of churches to seven. The students worked hard, and the people of the seven churches were generous! Here is the breakdown of what we raised:

- Riverside UMC (2/24/17)- \$3,020
- Wesley Memorial UMC (3/4/17)- \$350
- Farris Chapel UMC (3/4/17)- \$850
- Madisonville UMC (3/26/17)- \$1,100
- FUMC Huntsville (4/2/17)- \$1,300
- Bays Chapel, Richards UMCs (6/11/17)- \$1,100

New 2017-2018 Student Council Hits the Ground Running!

Our newly elected 2017-2018 Student Council is an energetic, high-vision, hard-working bunch! In April, we were able to fill all positions on Student Council! There have been some years where finding leaders was challenging. This year, however, we have determined and experienced student leaders in all positions on Council. Please keep our student leaders in your prayers and ask God to provide direction, strength and wisdom as they lead us this academic year.

Student President: Ryan Zamboni
 Vice President: Kristi Buck
 Outreach/Promotions: Amy Bertsch
 Service & Mission: Brandon Whitmore
 Fellowship: Charlie Wallace
 Worship: Jessica Duke
 Prayer Leader: Lona Johnson



Launching Our Graduates / End of Year Event



We don't get to keep our college students; we get to launch them. At the end of each academic year comes the launching of our graduates who have served our Wesley ministry faithfully. We send them off with a beautiful cross to adorn the wall of wherever home will be for them. We present a Wesley chord to wear with their cap and gown on graduation day. We give them signed picture frames with well-wishes, good words and written support from our crew. We do a friendly "roast" of each one of them at our End of Year event, where great stories and memories are shared. And, boy, were there a lot this year! It is wonderful to be a part of a ministry that forges unforgettable memories between Christ-following friends.