



SNAT CHAT

The Official Newsletter of the All Campus Radio Network Alumni Society

ACRN Mourns Archie Greer

Dr. Archie Greer, founder and father of ACRN, passed away on December 20th at his home in Athens. He was 87 years old.

Dr. Greer witnessed the growth of on-campus radio at Ohio University, from its very beginnings in a Quonset hut where Alden Library currently stands to the current campus-and-beyond reach made possible by the World Wide Web.

Greer earned a BFA from Ohio University in 1949 and an MFA in 1953 and taught broadcasting until 1994. He was the General Manager of WOUB-FM from 1953 to

1964, and Rock Lobsters know him as the innovative broadcaster who united several dorm-based carrier-current stations into what became the All-Campus Radio Network on April 4, 1971.

Established in 1986, the Archie Greer Scholarship gives preference to students making significant contributions to ACRN.

ACRN dedicated its new Baker Center studios to Dr. Greer in 2007. At the ceremony marking the event, Greer said, "I think everybody, no matter who they are ... probably would like to be somehow remembered when it's all over. This is your way of showing

me that you remember and that I will not be forgotten. That's a distinct privilege."

In a 2008 interview, Fox News Channel President Roger Ailes hailed Dr. Greer as his favorite mentor while he was a student at Ohio University.



"Without the work that he did with WOUB and with ACRN, hundreds if not thousands of students wouldn't have had the opportunity that they did while they were in school to get real broadcasting experience," said Jason Robinaugh, ACRN General Manager. "I know I wouldn't have had that opportunity if ACRN

didn't exist. It's in large part his doing."

Viewing will be Tuesday, January 5, 2010 from 2pm-4pm and 6pm-8pm at Jagers and Sons Funeral Home, 24 Morris Street in Athens.

Services will be Wednesday, January 6, 2010 at 1pm with burial to follow.

ACRN will be making a floral donation. To contribute, please contact ACRN General Manager Jason Robinaugh at gm@acrn.com. Additional condolences can be mailed to Dr. Greer's home address, care of his children Bonnie and Bill: 192 Longview Heights, Athens, Ohio 45701.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- A message from Alumni Society President Wendy Sheridan
- Where Are They Now? Catching up with ACRN alum Marah Eakin
- Recaps of ACRN events from the last few months.

What would you like to read in the next issue? Let us know at acrnalumni.com.

ACRN Society's 2009 in Review



Wendy Sheridan

Visit us online at www.acrnalumni.com to learn more about the ACRN Alumni Society and to get back in touch with friends!

Hello everyone and Happy New Year! I can't believe it has been 12 months since we published our first ACRN Alumni Society Newsletter...time flies! So much has happened, I felt it necessary to highlight a few things, as well as offer some more in-depth information about how the society works.

Our mission is to bridge the gap between current students and alums while strengthening old friendships and pursuing new ones. I am so proud of the current board members for their creativity and dedication toward achieving that goal. They are a terrific group with a lot of ideas. Here are just a few accomplishments I feel are worth mentioning...

This year we had several meet-ups all over the country including Athens, Los Angeles, Columbus, and Chicago. We marched in the OU Homecoming Parade, attended Pitchfork and hosted happy hours. All proved very successful! We are in the process of planning more gatherings for 2010, especially family-friendly events. If you are interested in hosting a gathering in your town, please contact us.

In May, the ACRN Alumni society won the "2008-09 Outstanding Society Award" presented by the OU Alumni Association. We were so honored and thrilled to be recognized with such a prestigious award. This award was "Established to distinguish societies that demonstrate initiative, exhibit quality, and contribute to the overall participation of alumni in renewing affiliations with the alma mater." Looks like all our hard work paid off!

Speaking of work, you may be wondering about the responsibilities and commitments of our members. There are 10 board members (including four officers and two non-voting students) who meet once a month via conference call. Since members are all over the country, our calls are late in the evening and each lasts approximately 90 minutes. Terms are staggered so that there are never more than 2 board members leaving in a given year. Any ACRN alum is eligible and nominees are accepted in the fall. If you or someone you know is interested in joining the board, please get in touch with the Society. We would love to hear from you. And from all of us to all of you, have a safe and wonderful 2010!

New Alumni Welcome Event

On Friday, July 10, at 6PM, the Central Ohio Chapter Network, the ACRN Alumni Society, and several other Alumni Societies welcomed new graduates to the Columbus area!

The Lodge Bar's private VIP room was host to an evening of learning about all that is OU in Columbus. Representatives from several Alumni Societies and local businesses were in attendance so folks could become acclimated to what Columbus has to offer graduates.

The event gave everyone an opportunity to learn about alumni networks in Central Ohio and the different activities that occur.

Door prizes were be given away, and free pizza and drink specials were provided by the Lodge Bar. ACRN Alumni raffled two sets of CD101 Summerfest tickets to raise money for ongoing Society costs and programs.

Where Are They Now?

Once a Rock Lobster, always a Rock Lobster. What are some of your fellow alums doing with themselves? Think of this feature as a station reunion, one person at a time. Kristi Coffin-Dezentje got in touch with Marah Eakin to find out what she's up to these days:



Name: Marah Eakin - and I didn't really have an airname. I was just Marah.

Age: 28

Year you graduated and major:

I graduated from Scripps in 2003, with a soul-crushing major in Magazine Journalism. I got a Masters in 2004 in Cultural Studies in Education, with a focus on youth media/social status. Both of these I use tangentially, but not wholeheartedly.

Positions held at ACRN and years you were there: I was at ACRN from 1999 to 2003. I was a Programming Assistant under Jen Bacher, and then Programming Director my Junior year, I believe.

Current Location: Currently, I'm residing in Chicago's Ukrainian Village

Current employer and title/responsibilities: I'm currently Head of Publicity at Bloodshot Records - the label that launched ACRN faves Old 97s, Ryan Adams, and Neko Case. I'm working with some

amazing artists - Exene Cervenka (from X), Justin Townes Earle (son of Steve. Seriously, check out his 2009 release. I love it, and I'm speaking unbiasedly), Detroit Cobras, Jon Langford (Mekons, Waco Bros.), and a ton more. Before I was here, I was a publicist at Touch and Go Records, where I worked with Shellac, Calexico, Pinback, Enon (Athens favorites), and so on. This is all, of course, until the record industry and publishing industry implode—probably sometime in 2010.

What did you learn from your time at ACRN?

Other than how to push the boundaries of my body's alcohol tolerance? A lot - a ton about music, people, radio, and how to network. A general sense that you could talk to anyone and not be hated on. How to find my place in the world, and why not to nap on a gross leather couch.

Greatest achievement since you graduated:

I'm proud of where I work, and where I live. I lived in NYC for a bit after graduating, and I totally enjoyed that as well. I think maybe I'm just proudest of my ability to do what I want, and ACRN definitely helped shape that.

Where do you see yourself in 10 or 15 years?

Right now, I'm just trying to figure out if I can get home for the holidays. Hopefully, beyond that, good things and a vacation at some point. I don't want to work away my youth.

What was your favorite way to spend OU's winter break? A lot of the time, I just spent it in Athens, hanging out. At least one winter break and a couple summer breaks were spent working a pretty sweet promo job for Kiss FM/Mix 106.5 in Cleveland, running a money machine and hanging out in the sun at Blossom. I think I have former ACRNers Keith Hotchkiss and Dan Mason to thank for that.

ACRN at Homecoming 2009

Ohio University Homecoming Festivities had a big ACRN presence this year, from the OU Alumni Association's Friday night barbecue being DJ'd by ACRN's mobile services to ACRN-affiliated house shows at The Spacement and Brown Town, to parade float prep to the finale of the Homecoming Parade, themed "Travelling Through Time."

Construction of the parade float started Friday, October 16 around 7PM at Promo Director Aaron Vilk and Music Director Ty Owen's residence on Brown St. Using banners, various lobster decorations from the promo closet, scrap vinyl albums, and signs reflecting the origins of ACRN in 1971, ACRNers and alumni decorated the truck that was to be used as the parade float. From there, the gang moved to the Spacement (Columbus Rd) for an evening of electronic music provided by ACRN's own Jason Wright, and then split off for uptown activities (including pitchers with the 110). The gang regrouped across town at an ACRN house party, but when that got invaded by too many non-Lobsters, the decision to finish the night at the Union was made.

After-hours at Brown Town (back on Brown St) kept Lobsters going most of the night, getting a short reprieve for a nap before heading to parade lineup on May St on Saturday at 8am. The gang was treated to hot chocolate by homeowners on the block (and tea from a nearby Lobster's kitchen) to keep warm till the parade started a few hours later. Thanks to advisor Greg Newton and the quick thinking of GM Jason Robinaugh, a stereo system was attached to the truck for tunes from the 1970s to be played.

Being that it was too cold, the gang dressed in layers over their red ACRN hoodies, but still marched the whole parade route. Snat Rocklobster marched as well, greeted by both hugs and drunken punches from the parade watchers. The parade route went from East State down Carpenter to Court Street (the wrong way) to the New Baker Center for judging, and across past Alden Library to the spot formerly known as the Oasis.

The float (and especially Snat) drew cheers from alumni, friends and fans in the crowd all along the route, and definitely let the community know that ACRN was here to stay.



LEFT: Vintage-themed ACRN artwork, classic vinyl and lobsters a'plenty decorated the ACRN Homecoming float in 2009.

ABOVE: Current Lobsters and alums gather at the start of the parade route.

Toys For Tots Challenge

ACRN Alumni Society issued a challenge to alumni to bring a toy to the Central Ohio “Flippin’ for Toys” charity event at the Lodge Bar in downtown Columbus on December 4, or to give to Toys for Tots in their area. In exchange, the ACRN Alumni Society would provide either two toys for an in-person gift made at the event, or one toy for a gift announced on the ACRN Alumni Facebook event or on ACRNAlumni.com message boards. We're happy to announce \$50 in cash and 40 toys have been given so far thanks to charitable contributions and matching donations.

Over 150 people turned out for the Central Ohio “Flippin for Toys” Flip Cup Tournament and Fund-raiser (and MAC Championship Game Watch), seven of whom had an ACRN connection. For wearing their ACRN gear, Bryan Stroud, Matt Tibbs, Matt Latham and Jason Wright earned 4 bonus toys for the kids, while their presence plus that of ACRN Staffers Alisha Bicknell, Megan Burke, and Erin Schroettinger earned another 14 gifts. Posts by alumni on both online venues earned even more toys, and generosity of everyone who participated earned the grand total of 40 gifts.



Next year, we hope to challenge the Post and other student organization alumni to beat this year's totals! Go Rock Lobsters!

LEFT: ACRN's party people and a guy in a bear suit.
BELOW: ACRN's Chicago meetup



ACRN Meetup in Chicago

Over two dozen Lobsters, Alumni, friends and spouses invaded Chicago for the second annual Alumni Brunch and the Pitchfork Music Festival, July 17-19.

Several folks met up at the Festival to enjoy the variety of music and inexpensive ticket prices over the three-day event, and saw performances by many ACRN-friendly artists. The weather was beautiful and the festival started with shows by seasoned ACRN favorites Built to Spill and Yo La Tengo and closed with a show by the Flaming Lips.

Saturday morning, a sleepy throng of alumni and students alike descended upon Wishbone, a soul-food restaurant near both the Pitchfork venue and Oprah studios, for a brunch-and-learn session with ACRN staff and execs, and Alumni Society members. Between bites of an amazing breakfast, the current state of the station was discussed and a trivia contest was held with prizes from the ACRN Alumni Prize Bag. Deepest thanks to Drew Perfilio and Jen Bacher who arranged the brunch for us!!

1st Annual ACRN Holiday Potluck

On December 13, current ACRN staffers, ACRN Alumni Society Board Members, and recent alumni gathered in Clintonville for the first annual Central OHIO ACRN Holiday Potluck. In attendance were ACRN General Manager Jason Robinaugh, Sales Director Megan Burke, Alumni & Investment Relations Director Sal Frisina, Promotions Director Alisha Bicknell, Webmaster Alan Schaaf, and staffer Danielle Mouhlas. From the alumni side, Matt Latham and partner Toddmichael (hosts), former GM Jason Wright and girlfriend Katie, former Traffic Director (and ACRN Alumni Society VP) Jay Kulpa, and former Music Director Ty Owen.

Orange Maple Glazed Sweet Potatoes

6 large sweet potatoes, peeled and diced
3 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
2 tbsp kosher salt
fresh ground pepper to taste
juice of 1 lg orange, zest reserved
1/2 tbsp lemon juice
2 tbsp maple syrup

Preheat oven to 400. Place sweet potatoes on baking sheet, drizzle with olive oil, season with salt and pepper. Bake 30 minutes, stirring once. Combine juices and maple syrup, and drizzle over potatoes, baking for another 10-20 minutes, stirring to coat. Remove potatoes to serving dish and sprinkle with zest.

QUOTE

“Amidst the spiral cut ham, sweet potato soup, and lobsters old and young, memories were made and friendships were strengthened. The potluck was a great way to bring everyone together to celebrate the holiday season and I can see it becoming a staple event for future generations.”

Megan Burke, ACRN Sales Director

Dinner started around 2pm with guests reminiscing about their time at ACRN and listening to holiday mixes from alumnus Scott Smith of Chicago. Dessert was provided in the form of a birthday cake for GM Jason Robinaugh (aka Power 105's Jason Stone). After dinner conversation focused on obscure music and camera lenses (TechTalk, anyone?) The event wrapped up around 6pm with guests taking home lots of leftovers of the fantastic food. Below, we've shared a couple of the recipes.

Sweet Potato Chorizo Soup

3 Tbls extra-virgin olive oil
6 cups low-salt chicken or vegetable broth
2 medium onions, chopped
2 large garlic cloves, minced
2 lb. sweet potatoes, peeled, quartered, cut 1/4 inch pieces
1 lb. white potatoes, peeled, quartered, cut 1/4 inch pieces
1 9oz bag fresh spinach
1 lb chorizo.

Heat 2 tablespoons oil in heavy large pot over medium-high heat. Add sausage; cook until brown, stirring often, about 8 minutes. Transfer sausage to paper towels to drain. Add onions and garlic to pot and cook until translucent, stirring often, about 5 minutes. Add all potatoes and cook until beginning to soften, stirring often, about 12 minutes. Add broth; bring to boil, scraping up browned bits. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer until potatoes are soft, stirring occasionally, about 20 minutes. Using a potato masher, mash some of potatoes in pot. Add browned, 1/4 inch slices of chorizo to soup. Stir in spinach and simmer just until wilted.