Ode to my hometown

An assignment in Public Speaking class seems to have struck a Spring Fever nerve this quarter. Normally, “the roast to your hometown” is a tolerant classroom assignment at best, but this quarter there seemed to be sincere enthusiasm marked by an excellent quality of work, noted 11-year veteran Professor Quentin Moser. “Usually, I don’t see this sort of excitement unless they are roasting or toasting friends or the high school they’ve so happily left behind.”

Students in unexpected class benefits “Something else I’ve noted this quarter is an increase in the number of former students who have stopped me in the hall and confirmed my prediction that sooner or later they would be called upon to offer some sort of roast,” Professor Moser added. “It seems the traditional wedding toast is not the only venue for this age-old speaking opportunity.” He notes that many business dinners and social gatherings now offer a forum of verbal honorarium to set the mood for the occasion. A former student following the theme of adding “humor and rhyme” to their business toast, has been asked by her supervisor to now prepare one for the beginning of every weekly business meeting as an icebreaker—especially for new employees.

Moser remembers that several years ago another student told of discussing the weekly classroom assignment to provide a “toast or roast” at a cocktail gathering only to have a Nashville song-buyer at the party ask to see some examples work and subsequently bought some of the material. “You just never know where this particular talent will take you,” noted Professor Moser.

“I chose Sullivan because I didn’t like the U of L. I made small class sizes and honeyfoot food. I had met high school friends who attended Sullivan. Public Speaking is a class most people dread, however we roast and toasts and quotes have gotten me comfortable and quite entertaining... It will have become a lifelong skill.”

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Pharmacy Tech students develop first aid kits

Although a young organization, the Student Veterans of America Chapter 227 at Sullivan University has been very active. They fed veterans at an Elvis Lodge, connected with Flags4Vets, placed flags on graves at Cave Hill Cemetery, and became partners with Patriot Guard Riders of Kentucky who escort fallen veterans to the cemetery and welcome returning soldiers at the airport.

Gifts were collected at Christmas for a student veteran returning from two tours in Iraq. In January, the General Meeting included Navy Veteran Compensated Work Therapist, and David Moore, Peer Support Specialist from the VA hospital. Marsha Taff took photos and a wonderful story appeared in the Neighborhood section of the Courier-Journal (Available on-line).

A Valentine’s Day Rose sale and Dress Down event raised $275 and identified several veterans on campus. Chapter 227 partnered with Career Services for the ONE Knox Federal Job Hiring Symposium. The March General Meeting hosted Kristen Simmons, Patient Advocate at the VA Hospital, Brigadier General James Shane from Sullivan University, and Dave Moore from VA Hospital Services. A Veterans Recognition Day was held to ID vets at Sullivan. Veterans received permanent 25% discount cards to the alma mater café. In April, NAVETs awarded (V of A) an I.M.A.G.E. Award (below left). Mr. Shedrick Jones made the Presentation. The first Annual Leadership and Success Symposium was held. Special guest speakers included Dr. Renee Rutt, Brigadier General Jane L. Bond, and Medal of Honor (MOH) Recipient Hershel Woody Williams, the last surviving MOH recipient from the WWII Battle of Iwo Jima. A Reception, with food prepared by Chef Instructor Allen Akmon, staff and students, followed by a silent auction raising $580. The $300 honorarium given to Mr. Williams as the Commencement speaker was donated back to the Student Vets. A Student Veterans’ Success Forum was recently held. Ms. Heather French Henry, former Miss America and renowned veteran’s advocate was guest speaker.

Photos from these and other Student Veterans of America Chapter 227 events can be viewed at Sullivan.edu/loophotography/sva/

Current Board Members are: instructor Richard Robert, Sponsor, Admission Officer James Bond, Co-Sponsor, Instructor Mike King, Project Management Advisor; Brent Casey, President; Bob Peterson, Vice-President, John Obetson, Secretary, Tom Lynch, Sergeant of Arms; Stephen Doughty, Treasurer; Treavor Deitch, Public Affairs Officer; and Jimmy Churchill, Chairman, Hospitality & Special Events.

Vanna White and Alex Trebeek have met their match!

“As an Army Veteran I had taken some First Aid and Combat Lifesaving courses at Ft. Knox and I thought it would be fun to attend a class. I already knew a lot about CPR but it was a different course. It was a lot of fun and I received my certificate to be a CPR instructor. I was very happy with the class and I’ll be volunteering with the American Red Cross.”

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Above, front to back and left to right: Sarah Pryor, Kunta Kinte, Lindsay Jason, Lindsay, Jason Kurtz, Kimberly Kunta and Dyami Valdespin.

“Vanna I must say I had high hopes for the class and I thought bones would be a difficult class but I was very happy with the class and I’ll be volunteering with the American Red Cross.”

“I chose Sullivan because it didn’t feel like U of L. I had small classes and honeyfood food. I had met high school friends who attended Sullivan. Public Speaking is a class most people dread, however we roast and toasts and quotes have gotten me comfortable and quite entertaining... It will have become a lifelong skill.”

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“Really great class and the Americans are really nice people. I don’t want to be a cook, they put on really good meals. I think the class will be a lot of fun. I made many friends in the class and we have stayed in contact.”

SARA PLOW潜 that they did get to showcase what they learned during the quarter, but they also found it was a fun way to review the material learned and prepare for their finals. Some valuable lessons included discovering organizational strategic approaches to conflict management and realizing the value of implementing conflict management systems. They also found that the life skills learned in the class helped them interact more productively in both their personal and professional lives.

“Much to their delight they did pretty well on the final exam, too,” Dr. Wilkin shared.