

# ALLIANCE COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (ACAA)

## Open Meeting April 21, 2026

**Officers in Attendance:** Michael Anderson (1978), ACAA President; Aundre'a Cika-Heschmeyer (1985), ACAA Vice President; Lori Neese Kolin (1987), ACAA Director; Randy Polovick (1981), ACAA Director; Mary Ann Posanski (1976), ACAA Director and Membership and Merchandise Chair; Susia (Burgess) Styborski (1983), ACAA Secretary; Kathy (Polanski) Noce (1982), ACAA Director; Marcia Pilkiewicz (1975), ACAA Director; Basia Gdula Adams for Richard Day (1985), Chair of Alliance College Alumni Association Foundation.

**Officers excused:** Louis Sitnik (1986), ACAA Treasurer

**Alumni present:** Roberta Polovick (1982); Kristina Kwacz (1983); David Matejczyk; John Szympruch; Tessie Kurkowski; James Koscielniak; Felicia Bruce; Mike Pentland; Ben Kman; Ted Dudek (1983).

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by President Michael Anderson. President Anderson welcomed all members and shared the agenda for the meeting. An introduction of the Board of Officers was completed. A reminder that the reunion is being held in six months and we hope that many members will attend.

Minutes from the January 2026 meeting were reviewed. A motion by Mary Ann Posanski was made to accept the minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Marcia Pilkiewicz. Motion carried.

**Treasurer Report** Due to the absence of the Treasurer Louis Sitnik a copy of the financial report will be included in the written minutes and is provided below.

### Cash Position April 2026 (as of 4/26/26)

\$10,351.64    Checking

\$9,407.65    Savings

**\$19,759.29    Total**

### Expenses

\$75.00    Marquee Creative (Website Redesign)

**\$75.00    Total expenses since March 2026 meeting**

### Revenue

\$1,000.00    Memorial Donation (Tessie Rejman)

\$200.00    Reunion Payments (2)

\$100.00    Membership Dues (2)

\$38.43    Printful (swag sales)

\$0.08    Interest

**\$1338.51    Total Revenue**

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## **MEMBERSHIP (Mary Ann Posanski, Chairperson)**

Chairperson Mary Ann Posanski reported there has been 1 membership renewal; 2 new memberships, and 1 new lifetime membership. We currently have 111 active members and 2 eternal (lifetime) and 2 eternal members.

A total of 474 postcards were sent to a targeted list of members sharing website information and reunion news. There have been some responses to the postcards already. Question was asked how the targeted recipients were selected and it was noted that due to a large number of “bouncebacks with initial email deliveries to alumni with last names A-N, from classes 1965 -1987, it was decided to send postcards to those alumni that were not sent the initial email. That was a group of alumni that graduated/attended 1965-1987 with last names O-Z. Director Kathy Noce expressed appreciation to Mary Ann for taking on this big task of sending the postcards and to Anna Crone for sending the emails to the initial group.

## **WEBSITE UPDATE**

Randy Polovick reported on recent updates to the website. Those updates included: to increase security measures to decrease the “trolling” ability of nefarious users; secondly, an “upcoming events” tab (such as an upcoming open meeting) has been added; and to update member information. Work is underway to add an email that would send automatically to remind members about their membership dues.

Kathy Noce reported she has created a PDF of the reunion registration form for those people that prefer sending in a paper form to register.

Mary Ann Posanski reported that she has heard from Stan Kupinski about his work on researching the Alliance College soccer team. Mr. Kupinski has been asked to forward his findings to Randy Polovick for inclusion on the website.

Aundrea Cika-Heschmeyer reported that Lori Neese Kolin has received some Pi Lambda Phi materials and has forwarded to Randy Polovick as well.

There were no questions or additional comments.

## **NEWSLETTER**

Kathy Polanski Noce reported the April newsletter was sent out. Constant Contact is able to provide analytics on the newsletter delivery and we had an open rate of 55.6% and a click on rate of 9.2%. Interestingly, of the emails opened 67% were opened on desktop computers and 33% on mobile devices. This is a telling picture of the preferred technology of our membership. Of the 277 emails not opened, they were resent and 48 of those 277 were opened. Similarly, of the 48 opened emails in the second send, 75% were opened on desktop computers and 25% opened on mobile devices.

Mike Anderson asked if there are accepted “norms” for open rates, click rates. The open rate of 55.6% is well above the norma and a higher percentage than we have reached previously. The click rate of 9.2% is low and more work needs to be done to help improve in that area.

As with the emails that Anna Crone sent there were a number of “bounces” or emails that were not delivered. Kathy will compare the “bounces” pf the newsletter and those that Anna sent and use that information to update membership contact information.

Mary Ann Posanski reported in her work on updating membership information she used a paid for service to verify information. She will work with Kathy to compare information.

Kathy thanked alumni that have shared stories and articles for past newsletters and asked all those in attendance to consider sending her information and pictures to use in the future newsletters. Content for the June newsletter is needed by end of May.

## **2026 REUNION PLANNING AND UPDATE**

Members of the finance committee for the reunion are meeting weekly and the reunion committee is meeting monthly. The current plans for the reunion weekend are available on the website and more updates will be added as decisions are finalized.

It is important to note that all reunion activities are being held in the Sheraton Hotel and this should ease the movement between areas as no travel through the bay bridge to the Convention Center will be required.

The committee has been pleased with the generosity of alumni sponsoring portions of the reunion and it has made a big impact in our ability to keep the cost of the weekend at a lower pricepoint than the 2024 reunion.

## **2026 NOMINATION AND VOTING**

Improvements to the nomination and voting process have been a priority project for the Board of Officers over the last two years. Nominations and voting will take place prior to the October reunion via Survey Monkey. The only voting done at the reunion will be by active members (dues are paid and up to date) that did not vote via Survey Monkey ahead of the reunion and are physically present at the meeting. Only active (paid) members are able to nominate, run for, or accept an officer or director position.

All officer positions are elected every 2 years; a vacancy for the Secretary position is known. Director terms of office vary between 2 and 6 years for continuity. There are three director openings anticipated this year. A form has been created and will be posted to the website shortly for members to note their interest as a candidate for Board Position. Mike Anderson shared the interest form and a draft of the updated roles of the officers and directors as stated in the Alliance College Alumni Association Bylaws. A motion was made by Marcia Pilkiewicz to adopt the revised roles of the officers and directors as presented. Kathy Noce seconded the motion. The motion carried with 1 opposed vote noted.

It was noted the original bylaws were adopted in 2002 and the Board of Officers will be reviewing the bylaws in their entirety in the coming months for other possible updates.

Questions were entertained and more information will be coming as we get closer to the start of the nomination process.

## **FOUNDATION UPDATE**

Basia Gdula Adams reported for the Foundation as Richard Day was unavailable. Scholarships have been announced and press releases were sent out. Funds have been paid out except for one student who has asked to wait until the fall 2026 semester.

Applications are being accepted for the 2026-2027 year and one application has already been received.

Basia reviewed the completion of the IRS project to re-instate the Foundation's 501.c.3 status.

## **PRESENTATION BY DAVID "MOUSE" MATEJCZYK - MILAN CORTINA WINTER OLYMPICS – A JOURNEY THAT BEGAN WITH AN ALLIANCE COLLEGE ROAD TRIP**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Kristina Kwacz shared she has authored an article for the Polish Historical Association with a topic on Women Who Migrated from Poland. She was encouraged to submit the article for an upcoming newsletter.

## **NEXT MEETINGS**

Tuesday May 19, 2026

Tuesday July 21, 2026           Open Meeting

Saturday October 24, 2026    Open Meeting @ Reunion

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kathy Noce. Motion was seconded by Lori Neese Kolin. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.

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Submitted: Susia Styborski, Secretary