

Alumni Award

E. Gay Johnson Grossman

Class of 1988

It is a pleasure to honor Gay Johnson Grossman with this 2008 Alumni Award for service to Ohio Wesleyan as an exemplary volunteer and for her lifelong dedication to her alma mater.

Gay Grossman graduated in 1988 with a B.A. in Economics Management and English. From her first days on campus, Gay became involved in many different campus organizations, such as the *Ohio Wesleyan Literary Magazine*, the sailing team, Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority and Panhellenic Council, and held numerous leadership roles on campus. One of her most memorable and important achievements as an undergraduate was starting the President's Ball, an all-campus dance and social gathering for students, faculty, staff and trustees, during her sophomore year. The President's Ball continues as a favorite OWU tradition.

In 1989, less than two years after graduating, Gay was able to take her experience planning the President's Ball on campus and use it to re-establish the "Snow Ball", a winter Alumni dinner and dance in the Cleveland area hosted by the Northeast Ohio Alumni Chapter. The event has now expanded to include an auction that benefits the Northeast Ohio Alumni scholarship fund and other University initiatives.

Gay's involvements as an alumna have been both meaningful and plentiful. From 1994 through 2004, Gay served on the Alumni Board of Directors – the last six years as Vice-President, President, and Past President. During her tenure as President, she launched "Munch & Mingle", an effort jointly sponsored by Career Services and Alumni Relations that yearly brings alumni from varied professions back to campus to "mingle" with students and offer career advice and networking opportunities.

Since graduation, Gay has also been actively involved with the Alumni Admissions Program (A/PART) in northeast Ohio and California. She and her husband Steve have opened their home countless times to host Admission gatherings for prospective students and their parents.

In addition to all this, Gay has found time to stay involved in regional alumni committees, including a stint as Vice-President of the Northeast Ohio Alumni Chapter, the Cleveland Monnett Club, Friends of Andy and local Kappa Alpha Theta alumni chapters.

Gay, today we join your reunioning classmates, as well as your husband Steve, class of 1987, in saluting, thanking, and applauding you for years of devoted service to Ohio Wesleyan University. You are a truly valued member of this community!

17 May 2008