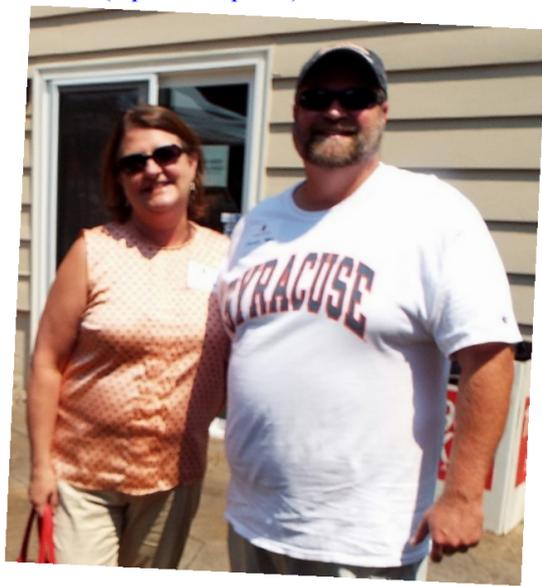


# A Red Letter Day to be Orange!

August 2, 2014



One of the highlights of the **Stumptown Orange** year is the annual Student Send-off when we wish the newest members of the Syracuse family well as they prepare to head off to campus. This year, our eighth Send-off turned out 40 people, including six area freshmen and their families. We also had four returning students or recent grads who were able to share their experiences with the newbies (top middle photo).



Early on it was the calm before the swarm. Our host, **Rich Meneghello ('93)** had a chance to chat with Pauline Saraceni from SU's Office of Alumni Relations (above left). Behind them, prospective student Halle Cook, daughter of club Co-president **Michael Cook ('82)**, chatted with the Office of Alumni Relations' Tina Casella. This was the second Send-off for Heidi and Garrett New (above right), who now have two Orange kids: Redford ('16) and Hailey ('18). In fact, they're so invested in Syracuse, they've joined our club!



Soon, the sign-in table was stacking up with guests, where they were greeted by club Co-president **Mary Dickinson Jensen ('13)** and her mom, Paige (left, seated). Not long after that, on this 90-degree day, the students demonstrated their smarts by retreating to the air-conditioned basement, where they swapped tips, dorm assignments and contact information (below right)



But there was conversation outside, too. For example, **Carrol Tama ('77)** (below left, seated) caught up with Mary Kweit. And Rich had a lawyerly chat with Maxwell Mafioso **Christie Martin ('99)**.



It was mostly laid back and fun, but there was a little business to conduct. Pauline told the new students and their families a little about what to expect during orientation weekend later this month. And the club's Student Grant Chair, **Ted Bunga ('61)**, presented the prizes for our annual essay contest.



The top prize, a \$200 SU Bookstore gift card, went to John McClory. This honor will henceforth be known as the Bob Gates Memorial Student Grant Award, in honor of our recently deceased Treasurer and founding member of our club.



Thanks to everyone who came and especially to Mary Dickinson Jensen for organizing the event, to Ted Bunga and the Student Grant Committee, to Ken Kane for working the grill and the camera, and to our hosts, Rich and Kirsten Meneghello. And another shout-out to Kirsten for also being an impromptu photographer. Kudos to Tina Casella and Pauline Saraceni for coming out from Syracuse for the event.

And, most particularly to our guests of honor, our six first-year students (left to right): Jaleh Kermani, Joel Sherman, Elle Wentross, Katy Kawasoe, John McClory and Hailey New. The very best of luck as you begin your college experience!