

Wright State University Retirees Association

Issue 71

**Summer
Quarter 2011**

The Extension

Service-Learning at Wright State

Marlene Bireley

At the May Board meeting, **Cathy Sayer**, Director of Service-Learning for the university, described her work and the projects that are ongoing as part of service learning. Service learning involves both institutional and community service projects that enhance the student's academic experience. For the second year, the Wright State program has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, one of 114 institutions that received the honor this year. Honorees are selected based on the scope and innovation of the projects, the extent to which service-learning is embedded in the curriculum, the school's commitment to long-term campus-community partnerships and measurable community outcomes as a result of the service.

During the 2009-10 academic year, 8,655 students were involved in academic-service-learning. They contributed over 900,000 hours of service and touched the lives of nearly 60,000 people.

A number of projects involved volunteering at non-profits or local schools. This year the schools have included Westwood K-8 where tutoring, both in and after school, and school ground clean-up have been successful activities; Thurgood Marshall High School where members of the Black Men on the Move organization have mentored students and Belmont High School where students have assisted in the ESL program (all second language students in Dayton attend Belmont). During spring break, other students traveled to Appalachia to assist senior citizens and people with disabilities complete home repairs.

On campus, the Friendship Food Pantry has been established to assist students who are in need of emergency food and baby care items. Over one hundred WSU students have been assisted. Please see page 3 for more information on how you can help this endeavor. If you wish to get involved in other service-learning projects, please contact **Cathy** at cathy.sayer@wright.edu.

The Extension

The Extension is published quarterly for the WSU retirees by the Wright State University Retirees Association (WSURA).

Cut off dates for articles:

- Nov. 1—Winter Quarter
- Feb. 1—Spring Quarter
- May 1—Summer Quarter
- Aug. 1—Fall Quarter

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President's Message

Peggy Bott

This really is my last year as President and as it draws to a close, I have to admit that being President was easier than I anticipated. This is largely because most of the real work and planning for WSURA is done by the various committee chairs and I am very grateful to them. **Marlene Bireley**, Director of Communications, is truly indispensable. We hope that she wants to continue in this role for years to come.

We are all grateful to **Abe Bassett** and **Joanne Risacher** who for years have planned wonderful activities for us, but now believe it is time for others to assume this responsibility. **Gerry Petrak** continues to contact new retirees and develop our membership in a variety of ways. **Judy Rose** keeps our by-laws up to date and recruits candidates for the Board and different offices. **Lou Falkner** and **Rich Johnson** keep us up to date with what is happening with STRS and OPERS. **Leone Low**, as Secretary, manages to capture all that is discussed and decided at our Board meetings. **Barbara Eakins-Reed** has served for several years as our Scholarship Chair and has made sure the WSURA Scholarship funds were sufficient and were awarded to worthy recipients. She resigned this position in January, so she could spend more time traveling to see her children and grandchildren. **Paul Wolfe** has agreed to take her place. **Law Shupe** continues to interview people and add to the oral history that is housed in Archives and available online. Our liaison members to other organizations (**Chuck Willis** and **Mary Kenton** to Athletics Council and **Gary Barlow** to Friends of the Library) keep us apprised of activities in those two organizations. We regret that **Emmett Orr** will not be continuing on the Board with us, but he has a number of other obligations that are taking his time.

We all grieved the passing of **Nick Davis** who had been our Treasurer for a many years. We are so glad **Carol Stevenson** agreed to be treasurer since she has done a great job figuring out the intricacies of Banner and our budget. All of the board members do a great deal to keep WSURA an active and worthy organization and since **Jim Uphoff**, our incoming president, has served in this position before, we are in good shape to have a successful 2011-12.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the picnic on June 23.

Election Results

Judy Rose

Election results have been counted and the following Board members have been elected:

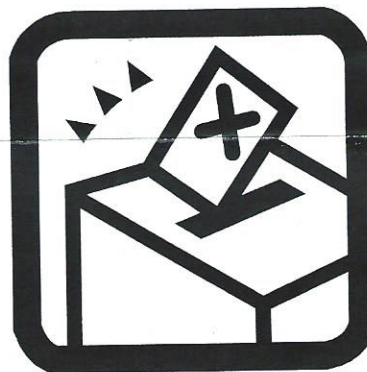
Paul Wolfe - 2 years

Gail Whittaker - 2 years

Amy Hopkins - 2 years

Don Swanson - 1 year

Gary Pacernick will be our new president-elect and **Leone Low** will continue as secretary. Other officers for 2011-12 will be President **Jim Uphoff**, Past President **Peggy Bott**, Treasurer **Carol Stevenson**, and Communications Coordinator **Marlene Bireley**.



Deaths

Roger Moritz, Chair of OB/GYN, SOM, March 2011

Perry Hall, Professor, Rehabilitation Counseling, CEHS, April 2011

Marvin Manker, Purchasing Manager, May 2011

Annual WSU Retirees/Staff Picnic Garden of the Senses Thursday, June 23, 11a.m. to 2. p.m. (Raindate June 24)

Watch for your formal invitation from WSU Events office.

As always, WSURA is sending a special invitation to all retirees who have retired in years that are multiples of 5 (this year it will be those who retired in years ending in 6 or 1.)

WSURA is sponsoring a food drive at the picnic to support the on campus Friendship Student Food Pantry that serves needy students. Containers will be next to the sign-in table. **Cathy Sayer**, Director of Service Learning, suggests the following high need items:

pasta
pasta sauce
cereal
canned chicken/tuna
canned and dried fruit
granola/cereal bars

diapers
baby wipes
baby formula
pre-natal vitamins
toilet paper
toothpaste
men's and women's razors
men's and women's deodorant

Soup is not needed! This is an easy way for retirees to continue supporting the university community and our students who are most in need. **Cathy** reports that many are single mothers or young families.

WSURA Fall Picnic



If you find it difficult to find your friends or have in-depth conversations at the summer picnic, consider joining us at a more informal setting at the home of Mary and Mike Gromosiak on Sept. 10. The start time is 2:30 p.m.

Meat, beverages and tableware will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. You will receive a reminder closer to the time, but please mark your calendars now for the fall picnic.

Directions:

Hosts: Mary & Mike Gromosiak
Address: 3204 Seton Hill Drive, Bellbrook
Phone: 937-848-2911



From the intersection of Wilmington Pike and Feedwire Road [Feedwire will become Upper Bellbrook], travel east 2.8 miles and turn right onto Seton Hill Drive - 3204 is on the right-hand side of the road.

Please note that it is Bellbrook [Greene County]. There is another Seton Hill in Centerville [Montgomery County] just a few miles away.

Honorees

The following WSU retirees will be invited to be special guests at this year's picnic. Drop by the retirees' area and say hello:

25 Years

Julia Adkins

15 Years

Henry Davis

Sue Cummings

Willis Stoesz

Dennis Denlinger

Rick Wheeler

Nancy Kern

Herbert Neve

Rosina Arnold

Carl Maneri

Roy Owens

Harry Lipsitt

Richard Humphrey

Margaret Szojak

David Garrety

Shigeru Honda

Faye Schwelitz

10 Years

Nancy Schneberger

Robert Clark

Donna Covert

Robert Wagley

Cecile Cary

Patti Briner

Sandra Carlson

Shelly Smith

Wayne Griffin

Joe Casto

H. Fritz

Benjamin Richard

Clarence Day

Thomas Koebernick

Dee Childress

Elsie Fenic

Barbara Gamstetter

Hjalmar Pompe van Meerdervoort

5 Years

Ana Maria Douglas

William Snyder

Frances Hilderbrand

Dezna Pitts

Donna Deane

Stephen Renas

Donald Sorrells

Bonnie Vandenbos

Cedric Harris

John Kessler

Tracy Miller

Justine Dewitt

Suellen Grieshop

T. Stevenson Hansell

Terry McKee

William Nahhas

Manley Perkel

Harold Godsey

Brenda Eck

Allen Hye

Roger McDermott

Kathleen Bidne

Eugene Hern

Bryan Huff

Paul Newman

Holly Rabith

Kay Wick

Lynn Morgan

Joy Heishman

Donald Jentleson

Rhonda Jones

Sharon Murray

John Boles

Joyce Kannan

Carolyn Walker

Ann Silcox

Gust Bambakidis

Anna Carone

Carl Gamble

Leona Miller

Going to the Dogs

Robert Wagley

When Lorraine and I were first married we obtained a Border Collie from a farmer in Indiana which we named Thor. Thor made us fall in love with Border Collies as he was a very sweet dog. During his time with us, we had our first child and Thor decided it was his duty to protect his little "sister" whose name was and still is Jennifer.

The first time we had a baby sitter, Thor would not let the baby sitter check on Jennifer. He stood in the hallway and let the baby sitter know she was not to enter Jennifer's room. She had to put Thor outside to check on Jennifer and then let him back into the house.

On another occasion, we were living in a rented house with a large front room where we kept the playpen. Jennifer was in the playpen near the front door when a bread man came to the door with a basket of bread and rolls to sell. Thor lunged at the screen door hard enough to knock it open and bit into two of his buns (bread). We purchased the two plus the other things that were knocked on the porch floor. He was a little shook up, but accepted our purchase and apology in good humor.

The third occasion was when Jennifer was again in her playpen when our landlady came to the door. This time Thor hit the door hard enough to break the latch. He didn't bite her, but she wasn't at all pleased. That was the last straw and we took Thor home to my parents who found a farmer who was thrilled to get a great dog.

Our second child, Jocelyn, was a high school exchange in New Zealand who told us about the Sheep Dog Trials she attended there and loved watching the Border Collies herd the sheep. A few years later we got to attend our first Sheep Dog trial. We were traveling a back road in Wales when we saw a homemade sign reading Sheep Dog Trials. We followed the sign to a farm where several men dressed in British waxed coats, tweeds and wellies.

Each man also had one or more Border Collies standing next to him. Out in the pasture was a man, a dog and three sheep. The men on the sidelines were talking to each other, but all of the dogs were intently focused on the man and dog herding the sheep.

We asked what was going on and were told that each dog had to go to the far end of the field and herd three sheep around a pattern of gates, finally getting them into a pen. Once in the pen, the sheep were released and the dog was responsible for separating one of the sheep from the other two. The role of the dog's handler was to direct the dog via various whistles and/or verbal commands. A funny thing to us was that most on the handlers gave their commands in Welsh.

Our next experience was at the Great Yorkshire Show in Yorkshire, England. The Great Yorkshire Show is like a giant county fair, but very low key with none of the rides and amusements of U.S. county fairs. It was geared toward educating the Dalesmen (something like our Farm Bureau or Grange) about animals and farm management. One program in the grandstand was the British Sheep Dog championship, featuring the champion dog from Wales, Ireland, Scotland and England.

When we returned to the US, we looked on the internet under Border Collies/Sheep Dog trials in the U.S. and found a long listing of both sheep dog trials and cattle dog trials. Up until March of 2011, we had attended Sheep Dog trials in Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky. Before a trip south last March, I looked to see if I could find a trial during the time we were traveling and near where we were going.

I found out that there would be a cattle dog trial just a few miles off our route so we decided to go. It was being held on a farm near Atlanta, Ga. We really didn't know what to expect, but it sort of followed the same pattern as a sheep dog trial. The dog is sent out to bring the three half grown cattle (calves) from

the far end of a field. The dog then has to herd the calves around a series of gates, through two different narrow openings and finally into a pen. While sheep tend to stay together and are not aggressive, these calves don't like to stay together and will kick and butt the dogs with their heads. The day we attended the ground was very muddy. We took our seats on the bleachers and watched several dogs do their thing. However, one set of calves was very unruly and gave the dog and its handler fits. At one point, the cattle decided to have a drink in the water trough that was about five feet in front of us. Around the water trough was a giant mud puddle. The dog did not like the calves drinking and became very aggressive causing the three to take off fast, one actually going through the water, and all three splashing a torrent of mud our way. Both of us were splattered from head to toe with some very muddy Georgia red clay mud. We were the only people there without a dog and the only people there who were dumb enough to sit by the water trough. After being splashed, the other people there said they knew enough to stay away but didn't bother warning us.

As a side note, when I found the cattle trial information on the internet I emailed the person in charge asking for information. I didn't email her until the day before the event and didn't expect an answer, but thought we should tell her we planned to attend. She sent us an email the day after the event and apologized for not answering and explained that she hadn't checked her email for several days prior to the trials. We answered her telling her we did attend and were the spectators who got splashed with the mud. We also told her we were able to get the mud off all but one piece of clothing and it would be our trial trophy. She answered saying it was her dog was the one responsible for us getting splashed!

Anyone interesting in this activity can look on the internet site, usbcha.com, for details and a complete schedule of trials. Sheep and cattle dog trials are also popular in the

United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand and Australia so you trials need not be limited to the U.S.!

Analogies of High School Students

(Courtesy of Leone Low)

Her eyes were like two brown circles with big black dots in the center.

He was as tall as a 6'3" tree.

Her face was a perfect oval, like a circle that had its two sides gently compressed by a Thigh Master.

From the attic came an unearthly howl. The whole scene had an eerie, surreal quality, like when you're on vacation in another city and Jeopardy comes on at 7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30.

John and Mary had never met. They were like two hummingbirds who had also never met.

The ballerina rose gracefully en pointe and extended one slender leg behind her, like a dog at a fire hydrant.

He was as lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck, either, but a real duck that was actually lame. Maybe from stepping on a land mine or something.

Her vocabulary was as bad as, like, whatever.

The lamp just sat there, like an inanimate object.

His thoughts tumbled in his head, making and breaking alliances like underpants in a dryer without Cling Free.

The little boat gently drifted across the pond exactly the way a bowling ball wouldn't.

Her hair glistened in the rain like a nose hair after a sneeze.

The hailstones leaped from the pavement, just like maggots when you fry them in hot grease.

They lived in a typical suburban neighborhood with picket fences that resembled Nancy Kerrigan's teeth.

Even in his last years, Grand pappy had a mind like a steel trap, only one that had been left out so long, it had rusted shut.

The plan was simple, like my brother-in-law Phil. But unlike Phil, this plan just might work.

The young fighter had a hungry look, the kind you get from not eating for a while.

It hurt the way your tongue hurts after you accidentally staple it to the wall.

It was an American tradition, like fathers chasing kids around with power tools.

He was deeply in love. When she spoke, he thought he heard bells, as if she were a garbage truck backing up.

The politician was gone but unnoticed, like the period after the Dr. on a Dr Pepper can.

WSURA Activities

We would like to hear from you. What activities would you prefer from the ones listed below? Copy the form and email to mkbphd@aol.com, or mail to Marlene Bireley, 2242 Matrena Dr. Beavercreek, OH 45431.

Dining Out

- ☐ Brunch
- ☐ Lunch
- ☐ Dinner

Dining In (Private Homes)

- ☐ Ethnic themes
- ☐ Potluck

Sports (Spectator)

- ☐ WSU Basketball
- ☐ WSU Baseball
- ☐ Cincinnati Reds
- ☐ Dayton Dragons

Sports (Participate)

- ☐ Bowling
- ☐ Cards

Plays and Lectures

- ☐ WSU Theatre
- ☐ WSU Lecture Series
- ☐ Local Lecturers

Short Trips

- ☐ Local museums
- ☐ Nearby Cities

Other

If you would like to volunteer to arrange any of these activities, please include your name, email, and phone number.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____