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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Second Annual Retirees’ Reunion
Marlene Bireley

Hugs, handshakes, smiles and the cacophony of laughter and talk of nearly ninety people heralded the success of the second annual Retirees’ Reunion luncheon. Once again, reconnections were made, memories were shared and a very good time was had by all. Becky Sommer, formerly of Human Resources, was acknowledged for coming the longest distance from her home in Arkansas.

The theme of the day was “A Sense of Time and Place—Then and Now” and the program reflected the theme. The first president of WSURA and one of the original employees of Wright State, Gary Barlow, related the history of the organization. His complete remarks are posted on our website, but the highlights of the early days included:

Continue on Page 2
The idea of a retirees’ group was conceived at an informal lunch attended by a few soon-to-be retirees in the spring of 1993. The idea was shared with others including Rich Johnson, then Manager of Employee Benefits. Rich reported that at that time the total retiree population was over 400. On October 3 a meeting was held to discuss the possibility of a “Retiree Club.” The response was enthusiastic and by-laws were solicited from other state retiree groups. Fifteen people served on a steering committee and the WSURA by-laws were approved on February 22, 1994. Elections were held (see the website for a list of the officers) and the first event was held on April 2 in the Upper Hearth Lounge of the Student Center. Our first office space was 151 Allyn Hall. During the past twenty-three years we have grown to nearly 400 members and have enjoyed the support of every administration. We look forward to many more years of presenting a balanced program of social activities for our members and service to our members and the university.

Our second speaker, President Hopkins, shared the status of his goals for the university during his tenure, details of the impact of the upcoming presidential debates, and the need for belt-tightening as state support of the university continues to shrink. He will be leaving the post next year as the longest serving current president of an Ohio state university. He pointed with pride to the increased presence of WSU in the community through partnerships with local businesses, research initiatives and the nationally recognized community service program. He credited Donna Schlagheck, incoming WSURA president-elect, with the idea of vying for the presidential debate and stated that it may be the most-watched debate in history. Over 4000 media representatives are expected and all rooms are sold out in an 80 mile radius of campus. C-Span will air a program on Wright State prior to the debate giving us nationwide exposure.

He recounted the impact of having the support of Tom Hanks for our arts programs and the ongoing Rise. Shine. fundraising effort. He credited a dinner in New York City attended by him, Mrs. Hopkins and some major donors with the introduction of Hanks to Amanda Wright Lane, grand niece of the Wright brothers. Their conversation that evening led to the idea of the upcoming Wright brothers documentary series that will be based on David McCullough’s book on the brothers. (Hanks and McCullough spent considerable time touring local Wright sites during their recent trip to the university.)

Finally, he congratulated the retirees for their continued support of the university through their donations to the Nick Davis WSURA Scholarship Fund and other university units and initiatives.

The day ended with more talk, awarding of door prizes, and perusal of some old photographs supplied by the university Archives. Promises to meet again next year were made as the happy group departed for home.

A Personal Note
Marlene Bireley

This issue of The Extension marks my last as editor. For more than a decade, it has been my pleasure to compile the news of the organization supplemented by articles contributed by members on various topics and reminiscences. I made the decision before the recent election that it was time for someone else to have this experience and to infuse the process with new creativity and vision. I hope you will support Frieda Bennett as she assumes this responsibility. In the meantime, I hope to remain on the Board in another capacity and I most certainly will remain an active member of the organization that has brought me new friends, maintained connections with old friends and supplied me with many good experiences. Thanks in particular to Mary Gronosiak and Carol Stevenson who have contributed major portions of the content of each issue and to the many student assistants who have supplied the technical skills that I lack to compile each issue into a readable and attractive format.
WSURA Summer Activities

Annual WSU Retirees and Staff Picnic
WSURA Open House and Annual Meeting
June 10, 2016

Come early and make a day of it! The WSURA Board is holding an Open House at our new office, followed by a short annual meeting. This is a good time to see our facility, meet the Board and enjoy a cup of coffee with your friends. The meeting will be completed in plenty of time to move on to the picnic.

9:30 -10:00 Coffee at the WSURA Office
10:00-11:00 Annual WSURA meeting, approval of By-Laws changes
11:00-1:00 WSU picnic, Garden of the Senses (Student Center in case of rain)

The WSURA Office is 210 Foundation Building which is across from the main road into campus, directly behind Wendy’s. There is adequate and easy parking in both the front and behind the building. The elevator is close to the front door. The back door is accessible.

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:

30 Years
Julia Adkins
Shigeru Honda
Richard Humphrey
Nancy Kern

25 Years
Owen Andrews
Harry Lipsitt
Carl Maneri
Roy Owens
Charles Payne
Faye Schwelitz
Margaret Szojak
Rick Wheeler
Cecile Cary
Dee Childress
Joe Casto
Donna Covert
Clarence Day
Elsie Fenic
Barbara Gamstetter
Jennifer Shank
Ruth Paige
Helen Klein
Chris Loney
Patricia Martin
Susan Smith
Linda Stutler
Gary Foland

15 Years
Gary Barlow
Patti Briner
Sandra Carlson

20 Years
Rosina Arnold
Billy Britton
Sue Cummings
Henry Davis
Dennis Denlinger
David Garrety

36 Years
Cecile Cary
Dee Childress
Joe Casto
Donna Covert
Clarence Day
Elsie Fenic
Barbara Gamstetter
Jennifer Shank
Ruth Paige
Helen Klein
Chris Loney
Patricia Martin
Susan Smith
Linda Stutler
Gary Foland
For additional information, please visit us at www.wright.edu/retirees-association

Enid Tangeman  
Wayne Griffin  
Thomas Koebernick  
Hjalmar Pompe van Meerdervoort  
Nancy Schneberger  
Shelly Smith  
Robert Wagley  

Bryan Huff  
Virginia Nehring  
Paul Newman  
Holly Rabith  
Kay Wick  
Lynn Morgan  
Joy Heishman  
Donald Jentleson  
Rhonda Jones  
Sharon Murray  
John Boles  
Joyce Kannan  
Khurshid Ahmad  
Carol Webster  
Ann Silcox  
Anna Carone  
Carl Gamble  
Leona Miller  
Paula Saunders  
Martha Teter

10 Years  
Ana Maria Douglas  
William Snyder  
Frances Hilderbrand  
Dezna Pitts  
Ernest Bozeman  
Woodrow Demmy  
Stephen Renas  
Donald Sorrells  
Bonnie Vandenbos  
Cedric Harris  
John Kessler  
Phyllis Pacifico  
Tracy Miller  
Justine Dewitt  
Suellen Grieshop  
Terry McKee  
Arthur Molitieno  
William Nahhas  
Manley Perkel  
Robert Thobaben  
Harold Godsey  
Brenda Eck  
Stephen Frederick  
Allen Hye  
Roger McDermott  

Melanie Williams  
Helen Liming  
Janie Bird  
Patrick Davis  
Barry Du Chesne  
Cynthia Harrison  
Leticia Miller  
Martin Moss  
Patricia Howard  
Diane Fitch  
Janet Jensen  
James Leasure  
Roger Owens  
Jeanne Fraker  
Janet Reuter  
Kenneth Schatmeyer  
Leslie Kepler  
Fern Freeman  
Dennis Moore  
Carol Snyder  
Marsha Alba  
Brenda Barnett  
Janice Belcher  
Judith Brewer  
Barbara Denison  
Robin Dodge  
Glenn Hamilton  
Lillian Johnson  
Michael Kepler  
Gregory Schumm

Election Results:

Congratulations and welcome to new and returning WSURA Board members:

President-elect Donna Schlagheck

Communications Coordinator-Frieda Bennett

Board Members:

New– Sheryl Provens (two year term)  
Ruth Schumacher (one year term)  
Returning-Jim Sayer, Gary Pacernick
News from WSURA

President’s Message
Dick Williams

With summer rapidly approaching (Summer Term A is already in session), I want to wish you all a good summer and hope your travels are enjoyable and your health remains unremarkable.

I know you have all been following the goings on at Wright State on the front page of the Dayton Daily News. Let’s hope that our university can overcome the unfortunate budget shortfalls without too many layoffs and that the upcoming Presidential Debate brings more favorable headlines and, maybe, spurs enrollment.

Let me thank all of you who attended the 2nd Annual Retirees Reunion Lunch on May 6. The turnout exceeded last year’s great start and everyone enjoyed the food. You can read more about the proceedings elsewhere in this issue. Let me remind you that the annual Retirees Picnic will be held on June 10, come rain or shine. In the event of rain the picnic will be moved inside the Student Union.

The University’s annual Campus Scholarship and Innovation campaign is underway. I encourage you to support CSIC and, especially, giving to our Nick Davis Fund that supports our annual scholarship awards. The specifics of the remarkable increase in giving by retirees is documented on page.

The news from STRS about healthcare costs is not good. STRS has already announced changes beginning 2017 that will increase out-of-pocket costs including, but not limited to, an increase in copays for emergency room treatment for Medicare plan enrollees, an increase in copays for diabetic prescriptions, and, an increase in the coinsurance percentage for specialty drugs from 10% to 13% with an increase in the per prescription maximum from $500 to $550. STRS is also reducing the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients to 1.8% per year of service from 2.1% and are phasing out the Medicare Part B premium reimbursement over a three-year period, beginning in 2017.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Board members who have supported me and the organization throughout this year. They volunteer their time and work endlessly to serve our members and the university and they have a great time doing it. I hope that some of you will consider joining us in this endeavor in the future. Good luck to our incoming president, Mary Kenton, and the new and returning Board members.

Deaths

Robert Silverman, March, 2016, Professor, Mathematics, College of Science and Mathematics

Douglas Longenecker, March, 2016, Founding Chair, Professor, Family Medicine, Boonshoft School of Medicine

Linda Smith, March 2016, CPR Instructor, Interdisciplinary Teaching Lab

Janavee Williams, March 2016, position unknown

Virginia Mary Byrd, March 2016, Administrative Specialist, Community Health, Boonshoft School of Medicine

Shirley Williamson, March 2016, Human Resources

William McCormick, March 2016, Professor, Electrical Engineering, College of Engineering and Computer Science

Joe Young, April 2016, Assistant Dean, College of Education and Human Services

H. Ira Fritz, April 2016, Professor, Biochemistry, Boonshoft School of Medicine

Peter Bacon, April 2016, Professor and Chair, Finance, Soin College of Business
Give Yourselves a Hand!
Abe Bassett

(The following information was sent to Rebecca Cole, President of the WSU Foundation, requesting that it be used as a news release. Increasing the percentage of retirees who contribute to the annual fund has been a particular goal of the WSURA Board over the last few years.)

Wright State University retiree donations in fiscal year 2015 have set an all time high in the number of donations, the amount of donations, and the average donation.

The past year (2015) has been the most successful in the past fifteen years, with 200 individual retirees donating over a quarter million dollars ($256,000)—an average gift of $1,281.

In the past four years, retirees have donated three-quarters of a million dollars ($756,270). The average annual total donations of the past four years have been $189,000. Total giving since 2001 stands at $885,000, with the expectation that the one million dollar mark will be exceeded in the coming year.

Donations are distributed to programs campus wide including the WSURA’s Nick Davis Scholarship Endowment, which now stands at $67,000. In the past two years, the endowment has grown by $11,000 annually. The board has set a goal of reaching $90,000 in the next two years to permit the funding of three $1500 scholarships.

The Board of Directors expresses their gratitude for the generosity of its membership.

Ms. Cole’s response:

Thanks so much for sharing the great news regarding the generosity of the Wright State University Retirees! These are very impressive numbers and they speak to the continued dedication of our retirees. We are so grateful to the individuals for making these ongoing commitments and for their continued passion for scholarship support. I’m particularly impressed with the marked growth in the number and amount of donations. The average gift of $1,281 is a very impressive figure!

Thanks to you and your colleagues for communicating these critically important messages to the entire population of retirees. We’ll be certain to share these impressive figures and accomplishments with our Foundation Board of Trustees!

Warmest regards,
Becky Cole

Website

Have you visited the WSURA website lately? Webmaster Abe Bassett has worked diligently to upgrade the format to make it more user friendly and has added content such as obituaries and short reflections by various members. It is also an archival repository of our old Extensions, minutes and treasurer’s reports as well as more pictures than we can include in The Extension. Make sure that you visit it often to keep up with information of happenings and news that occur between publication of our quarterly Extension. If you are a Facebook member, be sure to visit and contribute to the WSURA Facebook page.
Congratulations to WSU new retirees (June to December 2015)

Willie Ballard, Facilities Operation
Deborah Berry, Materials Management
Donna Boyer, Bursar’s Office
Angela Brookey, Enrollment Mgt.
Richard Bullock, English, COLA
Phyllis Cole, Community Health
Cheryl Conley, Biological Sciences
Timothy Cope, Neuroscience, Cell Biology & Physiology
Donna Curry, Nursing
Debbie Deichler, Marketing and Communications
Janice Duke, Medicine, OB-Gyn
Jack Dustin, Urban Affairs and Geography, COLA
Gary Farlow, Physics
Colleen Finegan, Teacher Education
Leo Finkelstein, Computer Science
Richard Gatton, Materials Mgt.
Thomas Hangartner, Biomedical Engineering
Charlotte Harris, Dean, Education and Human Services
Robert Hiskey, Administration, Lake Campus
Phoebe Ingraham, Teacher Education
Jeffrey John, Communication, COLA
Jeffrey Jones, Computing and Telecommunications
Mary Key, Community Health
Susan Krouse, University College
David Lane, Community Health
Thomas Lockwood, Pharm. and Toxicology, SOM
James Lucot, Pharm and Toxicology, SOM
Kathleen Malloy, School of Prof. Psychology
Susann Matthews, Math and Statistics
Jacqueline McMillan, Enrollment Mgt.
Bille Mills, Facilities Operations
Michael Norris, Sociology and Anthropology
Carrie Richele O’Connor, Teacher Education
Michael O’Meara, Facilities Operations
Michael Ondrasek, Computer Science
David Orenstein, Sociology and Anthropology
Chandler Phillips, Biomedical, Industrial and Human Factors Engineering
Alexander Pittman, Lake Campus Library
Lawrence Prochaska, Biomedical, Industrial and Human Factors Engineering
Linda Ramey, Teacher Education
Scott Rife, Computing and Telecommunications
Jeffrey Roberds, Materials Mgt.
James Runkle, Biological Sciences
Edgar Rutter, Administration, College of Education and Human Services
Donna Schlagheck, Political Science
Christen Shepard, Custodial Services
Cassandra Snyder-Dorsten, Administration, Lake Campus
Timothy Sorg, Internal Medicine, School of Medicine
Patrick Spradlin, Facilities Operations
Lisa Terrell, Biochem/Molecular Biology-SOM
Theodore Terrell, Engineering and Construction
Carol Vukovich, Univ. Auditing and Consulting Services
Richard Wantz, Human Services, CEHS
Yvonne Wyrick, Math and Statistics

Reunion Door Prize Winners

Our thanks and appreciation to the area merchants who contributed gift certificates for the following prizes:

Applebee’s - Dixie Barnhart
Happy Hour - Louis Thomas
Abuelo's - Mrs. John Fortman
Max & Ermas - Judy Pabst
Chill's - Liz Harden
Wellington Grille - Charlotte Harris
Knollwood Garden Store- Glenn Graham
O’Charley’s - Billy Friar
Hilton Garden Inn - Ed Keener
WSURA Membership Form

New____ Renewal____ Date___________________

Name___________________________________________________

Spouse's Name___________________________________________

Primary Address_________________________________________

Phone____________________________________

City____________________________________

State______ Zip_______________

Wright State Department at Retirement_____________________

Year_______________

Spouse's Department at Retirement_________________________

Year_______________

Email Address_________________________________________________________________

Check One:  _____ Faculty    _____Unclassified    _____Classified

Life Membership:

_______ $100 (All Ages)

Annual Membership:

_______ $25

Patron (Membership in WSURA not required):

No set amount. Donations are tax deductible. Contributions should be sent directly to the Foundation as follows:

Wright State University Foundation
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy
Dayton, OH 45435-0001

Make your check payable to: Wright State University Foundation
Note on check memo line: 551327 Patron Donations Fund

Please fill in the information requested above and send it with your dues (please do not send cash) to:

WSURA, Attn: Treasurer, 210 Foundation Building, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435