

THE AUAR NEWSLETTER

The Association of The University of Akron Retirees



Fall 2015

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President's Message

<http://www.uakron.edu/auar/index.dot>

As The Association of The University of Akron Retirees enters its 18th year, we have so many things of which to be proud. First and foremost we are proud of our members, who support AUAR in so many ways by

- serving on the board and committees,
- being presenters at our luncheons,
- participating in our many events,
- sharing ideas for future speakers and activities,
- helping students via donating to our endowed scholarship and volunteering to be subjects in student research projects and mentors to undergraduates and
- paying membership dues, which many continue to do even though they have moved away or can no longer attend our functions.

Know that each of you is very much appreciated.

We are proud that our Association is recognized and supported by the University. The help we receive from Human Resources and the Alumni Office is invaluable. Both Dining Services and Audio-Visual Services work hard to make our monthly luncheon/speaker series flow smoothly. Printing Services helps us produce this very professional newsletter.

We are proud to be able to represent U of A retirees in Columbus at Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees meetings. Keeping abreast of state issues and advocating for retirees is a major purpose of AUAR.

We are proud that our endowed scholarship continues to grow. Thanks to your generous support, it is now valued at over \$65,000. Since establishing the scholarship in 2008, in celebration of AUAR's 10th anniversary, we have awarded one or two scholarships each year. For the 2015-16 academic year, our Scholarship Committee has selected two recipients. Each will receive a \$1,200 scholarship. Abigail Callahan is a senior in the College of Education in the Integrated Languages Program, and Kimberlee Trowbridge is also a senior in the Fine Arts Division of the College of Arts & Sciences specializing in printmaking. We hope to introduce them to you at one of our monthly luncheons.

Do review the 2015-16 schedule of events and mark your calendar now. Then when you receive your email or snail mail announcement for an event, please help us plan by making your reservation as soon as possible. Remember that guests are always welcome.

At our August board meeting, we discussed at length the current situation at our University. We are in contact with the presidents of The University of Akron Women's Committee and The University of Akron Women's Club and share many of their concerns. As this newsletter goes to press, we are in the process of writing a letter to President Scarborough and The University of Akron Board of Trustees expressing those concerns, which center upon the effects of the changes being made on the quality of the education The University of Akron provides. We will keep you updated at our monthly luncheons.

I look forward to serving as your president and working with all of the dedicated individuals who serve on the AUAR's Executive Board and as Committee Chairs. Please feel free to contact any of us with your suggestions and/or concerns. With your continued support and involvement, our Association will continue to thrive.



Diane Vukovich

Diane Vukovich, Ph.D.
President 2015-17

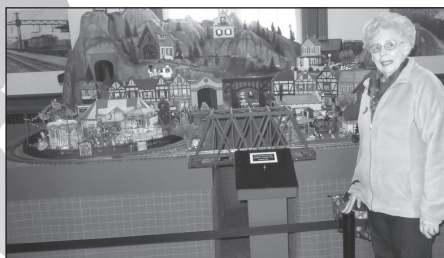
April Bus Trip to Cleveland: Parking Lots, Museums, Food, Beer, Rum, & Candy!



Early morning and raring to go!

What a great day we had for the 2015 April Bus Tour. The sun was shining as 37 of us left the J. C. Penney parking lot on the Thomas Limousine bus with our driver, Joe. The first part of our trip was a sightseeing drive around downtown Cleveland suggested by Joe. After he drove us around Playhouse Square where we saw the new chandelier, we headed north and we heard about many obscure parking lots and garages. The highlight, or maybe the lowlight of this portion of the trip, was the narration of Neal Raber. In his youth, he had worked for Airport Parking Company of America. We listened to many (maybe too many) tales associated with the parking of cars in downtown Cleveland!

Our first stop was the Western Reserve Historical Society, where we split into two groups and went on guided tours. One group headed for In Grand Style, an exhibit of fashions from the 1870's to the 1930's. The other group headed for REvolution, an exhibit tracing the history of automobile design from the 1890's to the



President Burton and her railroad.

21st Century. Included amongst the 50 historical vehicles were stainless steel cars, recreational vehicles, motorcycles, and race cars. After our guided tours, we were free to enjoy all the sights which included the gondola from the Spirit of Goodyear blimp. Our own David Osterland, having ridden in the blimp, told us about his experiences up in the air and many other interesting tidbits about the history of the Goodyear blimp. Before we left, many of us rode the Euclid Beach Carousel.

Our bus headed for the Tremont area of Cleveland. During this portion of the drive, someone made the mistake and gave Neal the microphone again! As we drove, we listened to more stories about sparking in Cleveland! Next was lunch at Sokolowski's University Inn,



Trip leader Raber rides again!

Cleveland's oldest family owned restaurant. Huge portions of stuffed cabbage, chicken paprikash, sautéed pierogis, along with potato pancakes, and various other Polish delights were consumed by our group while we sat together listening to music provided by a piano player.

Next, we stayed in the Tremont area and had a four-part guided tour of A Christmas Story House & Museum – inside the house, the backyard, the museum, and the garage. Our guide told us how Brian Jones, a San Diego entrepreneur, used money he made making leg lamps and selling them on eBay to buy

the house and restore it. We had time to relive the movie in Ralphie's house. Some of us (named Tom and Neal) were seen wearing Flick's goggle hat and fortunately, none of us shot



Velma, Carl & June take a needed rest.

our eyes out! In the backyard, we saw the shed where Black Bart hid out. Before we left, we purchased souvenirs in the gift shop.

Next stop was Portside Brewery, Cleveland's first distillery since prohibition, located on the east side of the Flats. While we were enjoying samples of Portside's craft beers and spiced rum and grazing on their "small plates," the owner, Matt Zappernick, told us about the business and described the beverages that we were sampling. We left with six packs, fifths, and growlers! As we boarded the bus and headed south it was apparent that the noise level was higher than it had been earlier. We had a lot of happy trippers!

The last stop was the b. a.



Martha & Mel and Velma Pomrenke at Sokolowski's.

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Tom and Neal, AUAR's very own Captain Americas..

Sweetie Candy Company in Brooklyn. This family owned candy store has been in operation since 1950 and has the largest variety of candy anywhere under one roof. We browsed through over 20,000 square feet stacked

to the ceilings with over 3500 different candies. We shopped and many of us bought "hard to find" nostalgic candy. We thought all was well as our bus started to depart for home, when someone noticed that we were missing one person! Tom and



At Portside Brewery.

our driver, Joe, went back into the store to find Ed Lasher still in line with his large cache of candy! That man can shop when it comes to sweets! We thought that it would have been likely to lose one of us at the distillery, but not at the candy store!



The house from "A Christmas Story".

Lobster & Suds Party Concludes Activities



MARtha Vye and Roger Bain and Velma Pomrenke.

On Friday, May 15, 2015 the year-ending Lobster & Suds Party was again held at Zwisler Hall on the St. Sebastian Church Campus. The major topics of discussion among attendees were the "Ohio polytechnic university" tagline and the recently announced closing of West Point Market.

President June Burton acknowledged outgoing Executive Board Member and former AUAR President, Hank Nettling, for his long service to the organization. She also thanked the "crew" of cooks and helpers who make this event a success each year. The University of Akron food service again provided excellent chicken parmesan. This year the menu also included vegetable lasagna as an entrée.

Mark you calendar for the next Lobster & Suds event, which is scheduled for May 20, 2016.



Hans Zbinden, Roger Bain and Mike & Linda Sugarman



Checking diner satisfaction!



"The Lobstamen of 2015"



Hank & Arlene Nettling.



We did in Right!

Russian Trip the Topic at April Luncheon



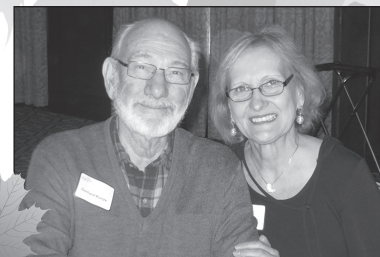
Speakers Tom and Diane Vukovich

Tom & Diane Vukovich presented a travelogue on their August 2014 river cruise from Moscow to St Petersburg. A talented fellow traveler produced their DVD presentation. It included a music soundtrack, some video and titles on the photos of many of the churches, palaces and historic sites they visited during their 16-day trip.

A detailed account of this trip to Russia was featured in the Spring 2015 AUAR Newsletter.



Martha & Mel Vye



Gerhard & Diane Kunze

Second Annual Scholarship Fundraising Event "Breakout" wine tasting & dinner, "Big House Winery," CA.

Little City Grill was the location of our 2015 scholarship fundraising event. Twenty-two retirees and guests enjoyed the "Breakout" Wine Tasting Dinner. The evening weather was delightful, and after all the rain we had had, there was nothing to whine about. We sampled five wines from the Big House Winery of Soledad California, which is a mere ankle iron's toss from the Soledad Correctional



The convicts

Facility, along with a selection of food items especially prepared to go with the wines. Our host Bert Bellison, the owner of Little City Grill, described the five courses we enjoyed which were prepared by the executive chef, Bob Shepper. The courses were Chain Gang Cheese Plate, Sally Port Chips (only the attendees know what a Sally Port is!), Shakedown Salad, Cell Block Loaf (bison meat!), and Last Meal Chocolate Cake. Eric Von Sant from Heidleberg Distributing told us about the wines that accompanied our dinner – *Birdman Pinot Grigio*, *Great Escape Chardonnay*, *Big House White*, *Usual Suspect Cabaret*, and *Cardinal Zin Zinfandel*.

We added \$320 to the AUAR Endowed Scholarship Fund. Each attendee contributed \$10 and donations were received from retirees who could not attend. For the third time we had a 50/50 raffle and for a change, June Burton did not win it! (*American Pharoah* she is not!) The raffle was won by two guests of the owner Bert, who also had donated to our scholarship fund. The raffle brought in \$50 for the scholarship fund. (You will have to figure out what the winners received!) All in all it was an evening of fun and even though the samples of wine were very generous, no one experienced a hangover, i.e., the wrath of grapes.



Kathy & Hans Zbinden



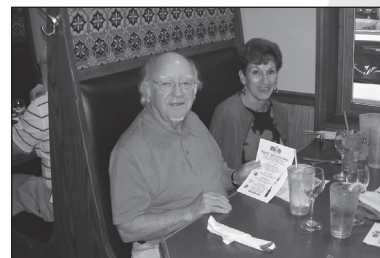
Therese & Dan Sheffer



Diane Vukovich & Jackie Raber



Pam Rupert & Loren Hoch



Sharon & Bob Gandee

Lifetime Achievement Award



Dr. Harvey L. Sterns, professor of psychology and director of the Institute for Life-Span Development and Gerontology, has been awarded the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award by the Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education (OAGE). The honor was presented April 24 at the 39th annual Ohio Professional and Student Conference on Aging – “The Faces of Aging: Community and Connectedness” – held at Bowling Green State University.

Sterns was a founding member of the Ohio Network of Educational Consultants in the Field of Aging in 1976, which was the predecessor to OAGE. He served as president from 1984-1988 and has been on the board since 1976. He is an emeritus board member. He also is a research professor of gerontology at the Northeast Ohio Medical University. A licensed psychologist, Sterns is active in many professional organizations and has published extensively on cognitive intervention, work and retirement, career development, training and retraining, and self-management of career and retirement.

FACULTY SENATE Spring 2015 — Bob Gandee & Neal Raber

During the Spring Semester, the activities of the Faculty Senate included the following:

- Approving the move of the Department of Criminal Justice from the College of Applied Science & Technology (CAST) to the College of Arts & Sciences (CAS) leading to the creation of new, interdisciplinary baccalaureate programs in criminology and criminal justice and criminal intelligence analysis.
- Approving the recommendation that the per credit hour part-time faculty salaries be raised to Assistant Lecturer - \$800, Associate Lecturer - \$950, and Senior Lecturer - \$1100.
- Approving the recommendation that the Provost appoint a coordinator of general education.
- Approving the creation of the Center for Data Science and Information Technology in CBA and CAS provided it also included the Department of Business and Information Technology in CAST and that the details be worked out in the summer and approved by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.
- Approving the move of the Department of Early Childhood Development from CAST to CAS.
- Agreeing that The One World Schoolhouse proposal has merit and the faculty of the College of Education will develop a detailed plan before implementing it.
- Approving the establishment of the Biomimicry Research and Innovation Center Initiative.
- Approving the establishment of the National Center for Choreography.
- Approving the proposal that those teaching general education courses, including graduate students, have completed a minimum of 18 graduate credit hours in the content area.

BENEFITS

Post Retirement benefits have been posted to the University of Akron Retiree Web page by Dan Sheffer.

Retiree Dependent Insurance.

On July 10, 2015 in an e-mail letter the University announced that they would be “increasing the cost share of retiree dependent coverage”. At this point the University has not disclosed what that increase would be. By the time you receive this newsletter, it is possible that the amounts will have been disclosed.

Retiree Dependents who may have to switch to other plans outside of the University will have to provide evidence of credible Medicare Part D coverage. Retiree dependents have received letters containing notification of credible coverage every year. For those who no longer have those letters, contact the University Benefits department. They should be able to provide evidence of credible Medicare Part D coverage.

STRS has announced their 2016 monthly premiums. Some examples are beneficiaries with 30 years choosing Aetna would pay \$137, while their spouse would pay \$342. A spouse without Medicare would pay \$842.

Open enrollment with STRS will be November 1, 2015 to November 24, 2015. Remember that STRS changed their rules, so if you wish to opt into STRS health insurance you must do so during the open enrollment period. There are a few rare exceptions to this rule.

STRS will offer seminars relating to their health care plans starting in October, check with STRS for registration dates.

In a USA article on July 7, 2015, Ohio is listed as having pensions that are among the most solvent in the nation.

Akron's Official City Photographer February Speaker



Tom Vukovich, June Burton and speaker Bruce Ford

After the Executive Board decided to skip the January luncheon (due to the fact that they have often been canceled due to weather), a good turnout of retirees and guests attended the February 11, 2015 event. The speaker was Bruce S. Ford, the official City of Akron Photographer, who retired from his fulltime position in 2009.

Prior to joining the City in 1979 during John Ballard's administration, Bruce had been a dark room technician, photographer, photo-editor and an account executive at several local companies. His duties with the City of Akron involved providing photographic and graphic arts services to all of the city's departments.



Don & Shirley O'Hara and Minnie & Bill Pritchard

Bruce showed his passion for his career as a photographer and, in effect, an historian for the City of Akron.



Denny & Rita Klein

His many pictures of the changing downtown Akron skyline, taken from various angles during day and night and above from a helicopter, helped chronicle the vision of our city leaders over the past 30-35 years. Save, restore and reuse older facilities and rebuild on cleared sites when necessary, has been the ongoing vision of the city's administration, particularly under Mayor Don Plusquellic.



Dan Sheffler, Bill Beyer and Neal Raber

Bruce showed us before and after pictures of Lock 3, Canal Park and the former B.F. Goodrich manufacturing complex. These places now have new uses that have added to the quality of life for the residents of Akron. Several stunning photos taken in the city parks and of the Goodyear blimps illustrated his keen eye for beauty and composition. His collection of photos of local leaders and state and national figures who have visited Akron brought back memories to many long-time Akronites in the audience.

Bruce also discussed how the art of photography has changed over his career from film to digital and cited other rapid advances in photographic equipment. He still works part-time for the City of Akron and is in the process of considering where to house his vast collection of photographs when he fully retires.



Louise Forsch and Mary Ellen Becker



President June Burton presents speaker Bruce Ford with the appreciation gift

An Afternoon with Agatha Christie



Caesar & Lynda Carrino

"Towards Zero" was an appropriate Agatha Christie play for 42 intrepid AUAR members and guests to enjoy on a very cold day in February. February 15, 2015 was one of the coldest days of the year with the high temperature being just a few degrees above zero.

The play's title, however, has nothing to do with cold weather. The play is set in 1956 in England at Saltcreek, Cornwall and takes place on a warm summer weekend. On stage some of the characters wore tennis and swimming attire while outside the Coach House Theatre the snow was piled several feet high. "Towards Zero" included Dame Christie's usual assortment of family, friends and acquaintances, all of whom are present when a murder takes place. Trying to figure out who was the culprit and what motive did he or she have kept us intrigued throughout the three-act play.



Martha & Mel Vye

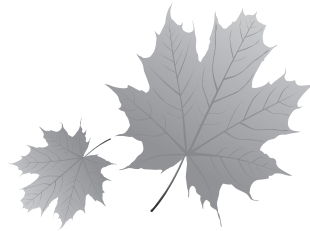
In the past Coach House Theatre has presented the other Agatha Christie plays including "Ten Little Indians", "Witness for the Prosecution" and "Black Coffee", all of which have been among our retirees events. It appears that attending a February Akron Woman's City Club brunch and Coach House Theatre play is quickly becoming a "tradition". Once again we had a waiting list for tickets. We look forward to the next "who done it" by Dame Christie. Hopefully we will have better weather in February 2016.



Tom & Diane Vukovich



Shoppers at work!



March Luncheon Speaker Inspires Thoughts of Spring



Diane Vukovich, Luncheon speaker Marge Koosed and Barb Clark

The sky was grey as the March luncheon attendees entered Quaker Station. However, Professor Emeritus Marge Koosed soon had us thinking spring. Her "A Gardener's Dream" presentation instantly had us smelling the roses and walking through fields of lavender.

Marge, who taught criminal law and criminal procedures courses at our School of Law for 39 years, also has a passion for gardening and travel. By way of her gorgeous photos, she took the attendees to many of the renowned flower shows and gardens of the United Kingdom and France. Our "tour" included, among other venues, the world famous Chelsea Flower Show, Monet's magnificent gardens, the Loire Chateaux International Garden Festival and the lavender fields of Provence.

In addition, we saw photos of the lush gardens that she cultivates at her home. As she spoke of her own gardening, she said one of the most useful tools a gardener can purchase is a "soil scoop". Many of us made a note to put that item on our 'to buy" list.

Professor Koosed, who was the first woman teaching faculty member to earn tenure at The University of Akron School of Law, remains quite active professionally. She continues to teach part-time; and during 2013-14 she assisted the Ohio Supreme Court's Death Penalty Task Force in identifying possible needed reforms to the state's capital punishment system. Perhaps this work could be a topic for a future luncheon presentation.



Looking over the speaker's materials



Jim Stafford, Neal Raber and Bill Beyer



Paul Richert and Madeline & Richard Milford

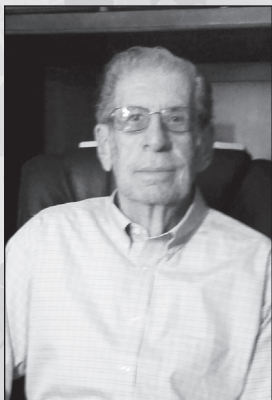


Beverly Brockett and Peggy Walchalk



Luncheon Speaker Marge Koosed

A Conversation With Bill Beyer — By Pamela Rupert



Pam: Thank you for meeting with me to share some of your life. I see you were recently honored for your longtime relationship with the University as both an employee and benefactor. There is now a William Beyer Conference Room in the College of Arts & Sciences, where you served a number of roles including head of the Department of Mathematical Sciences and an associate deanship of A&S before moving on to become

Associate VP of UA's Department of Business & Finance in 1993. You finally retired in 1998.

Bill: Yes, I joined the Math faculty in 1961 and spent over 37 full-time years here at UA. The dedication of the conference room was an unanticipated and wonderful honor. I was surprised.

P: You really are a local boy, I see, as you are also a graduate of UA, obtaining your BS in Mathematics in 1952 after attending Crouse Elementary and West High School. You did then break the pattern and go out of state to Virginia Tech for your MS and PhD. What attracted you to that school?

B: Va. Tech had been recommended for its strong program in statistics. But after I got my MS in 1954 I came back to Akron and worked first for Goodyear Aerospace as a statistician for missile reliability testing and then for General Tire in corporate quality control. I found I didn't like industry so decided to see about the PhD program at Va. Tech, which recently had enhanced its program in statistics and was one of the tops in the country. A former professor had given me opportunities to prepare and present lectures in class and I really enjoyed that, so teaching became a goal.

P: So what happened when you applied at V.T?

B: Well things got interesting. I asked if there would be an assistantship available and they said yes there would. So while there I decided to make a visit to a favorite math professor of mine to say hello. He asked what I was doing and when I told him, he said "Wait a minute, would you be interested in teaching some courses?" I of course said yes so he said "hold on," and went down to talk to the department chair. He came back and offered me a position as an Assistant Professor.

P: We love these serendipities!

B: If I hadn't gone down to see him it wouldn't have happened. So I taught there 3 years and finished my PhD.

P: Then in 1961 UA snatched you back! But somewhere along the way you did get married. How did you meet your wife?

B: I met Dee when I worked at Goodyear Aerospace; she was secretary to the head of Missile Reliability. We were married in 1959 while I was at Va Tech.

P: Once back in Akron, you moved up the administrative roles over a number of years. It was a time of much change, as we became a State University in 1967.

B: When I first arrived in '61 we had a Math department with eight faculty. With the addition of new baccalaureate degrees in math, statistics, applied math, and computer science, we eventually grew to one of the largest departments in the University. At its highest point, we had about 40 full-time faculty, 40 part-time, and 40 graduate assistants. It was a great time of innovation. We had one of the first courses on closed circuit TV: 1 hour courses with 12 modules to meet different needs of students, known to all as MUM. We generated more credit hours than any other department on campus. We changed names several times to incorporate the four degree programs, but finally ended with the title "Mathematical Sciences." I was department head from 1969 until 1990, when I became Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

P: You held that position for 3 years, and then left A&S to become Associate VP of Business Finance in the high realm of Buchtel Hall until your retirement in 1998. I believe Faith Helmick recruited you.

B: Things were friendlier then; not the brutal search committee method of recent years.

P: Perhaps. Search committees seem less instrumental in the current period, at least at the top.... But on a lighter note, let's see what else you have done in life. I see in your youth you were quite the tennis player.

B: I started playing when I was 13, and held the Akron Junior championship in singles and doubles for 5 years, and was runner-up in the State for several years, losing to Tony Trabert in 1948 who went on to become one of the top players in the US and world. I was a member of the Jr. Davis Cup Team, and represented northern Ohio in the U.S. junior championships.

P: You were also involved at UA.

B: I played on the UA men's varsity team after persuading them to reinstate the sport after its cancellation during WWII. Then I coached the team for 5 years when I returned as faculty, 1962-67, until it was decreed that you must be in the athletic department to coach.

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P: So your energies were put even more into your field of study. I know you are proud of your publications.

B: I was the editor of six editions of the CRC Standard Math Tables, printed by CRC Press. The handbook is designed to provide an adequately broad spectrum of traditional and modern mathematical sciences data necessary for today's world. It is an important aid to the teaching profession as well as the student and any other interested users. I have been editor of other handbooks over the years as well, including Handbook of Tables for Probability & Statistics.

P: You also have many papers, including joint medical articles with Dr. James Berk, and membership in professional societies important to your field if not always comprehensible to those of us in the liberal arts! Now that you are retired, what other type of activities have taken up your time? Any travel?

B: In addition to writing papers and my memberships as mentioned, I also was active in the Math Association of America (MAA), serving as chairman of the Ohio section of the MAA and then spending three years on the National MAA Board of Governors. I also want to mention that I have served on the Board of Trustees at Beth El Synagogue, and have volunteered many hours in organizations involved in student success. Since retirement, my wife and I drove across the country twice, taking two and a half months and visiting friends and relatives along the way. We continue to travel throughout the year. I do read, and of course, watch sports. My primary activity is spending time with my family and grandchildren.

P: You also served on the AUAR Board for several years as University and Community coordinator and chairman of the Scholarship Committee. And all of

your children, Randy, Kim and Kevin, are graduates of UA. I know you have also set up several scholarships in yours and other family member's names.

B: Yes, we have 3 scholarships:

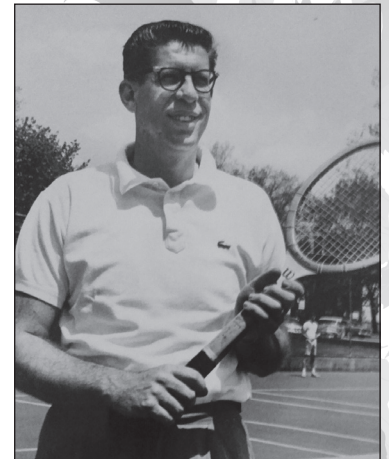
- W.H. Beyer Statistics Scholarship
- Dr. Kimberly Beyer & Delores Beyer Education Fund
- Dr. William H. Beyer & Delores Beyer Veterans in Math Fund

Some of the money is earmarked for the AUAR scholarship.

P: Your daughter Kimberly has been with us at UA as Executive Assistant to the VP for Student Success and Director of Strategic Planning and Communication until the recent layoffs and changes within that division (among many...). A very stressful time.

B: Yes, it is stressful and most disturbing, especially since that Division focused on the students' welfare and their success both in and outside of the classroom.

P: Well, we at AUAR appreciate all your services and recognize you as a great benefactor and longtime contributor to the growth of the University. Please accept our heartfelt thanks.



Changing of the Guard



Passing of the Gavel.



Presenting our outgoing President with the certificate recognizing outstanding service.

The gavel fits well!



The AUAR Board of 2015-2016.



2015 Fall Zip Talk



UA's Recent Cost-Cutting Measures Dooms The Oldest Sport On Campus

By Ken MacDonald, Director Emeritus, Sports Information

The *Summit Beacon*, forerunner of the *Akron Beacon Journal*, in an article on October 5, 1872, contained the following words: "A game of baseball is being played this afternoon on the Buchtel College grounds. The contestants are a picked nine from town and the college nine."

That is the only athletic record of 1872, the first academic year for the College, now The University of Akron. Who organized that first team, who were its players and what was the score? These are questions whose answers have been lost to antiquity. What is known is that baseball game began a tradition of athletics on this campus that is now nearly a century and half old.

Fast forward to July 10, 2015, The University of Akron Board of Trustees and President Scott Scarborough announced, among many other measures, the elimination of school's baseball program in an effort to reduce a \$40,000,000 budget shortfall over the next three years. According to Scarborough, the move would save the University around \$700,000 annually. As a result, baseball, the oldest sport played on campus had been brought to its end.

What was troubling for the UA players and Rick Rembielak, their head coach who had led this team to back-to-back Mid-American Conference Tournament appearances and finishing in the finals and semi-finals the last two years, was the timing of the announcement. Although UA officials offered to honor their scholarships, it didn't give the players much time to find other places to play. Fortunately, all but five of the 35 players on the 2015 roster decided to move to other institutions, some to more prestigious programs like Ohio State, Northwestern, Michigan State, LSU and at arch rival Kent State. In addition, Rembielak was quickly employed as head baseball coach and assistant athletic director at Stark County's Perry High School.

This was not the first time that baseball had been dropped due to University financial problems. Baseball, officially became an

intercollegiate sport at Buchtel College in 1873 when it played Western Reserve, Kenyon and Wooster, which it beat, 38-20, for the College's very first win and only win that season. Through those early years forming and financing teams was sporadic. BC did not have teams in 1875, '81, '83, '85, '86 and '88. Over the next 30 plus years, during which BC became the Municipal University of Akron on December 15, 1913, baseball, was played in all but three seasons.

However, after the 1932 season, in the midst of the most serious and prolonged depression in United States' history, the imminent shortage of funds from the City of Akron's tax revenues and the income loss UA suffered from student fees, brought a halt to the baseball program for an extended period. This scenario should sound familiar since it appears history has repeated itself. Currently, it is the diminishing State of Ohio support and failure to anticipate enrollment declines that have brought about the demise of baseball from the UA athletic program.

Baseball did not return on campus until 1947, thanks to the legendary basketball coach and Athletic Director Russ Beichly, who reinstated the sport and coached the team for 13 seasons. It was under Beichly that UA baseball finally had much success, directing the Zips to nine winning seasons. Most notable were his seasons of 10-3 in 1953, 10-2 in 1956 and 12-4 in 1958, which produced the most wins up to that time and the first and only Ohio Conference title. With a record of 101-62-1, Beichly produced more wins than any of the previous baseball coaches, one of which was John Heisman, the namesake for the Heisman Trophy that is annually awarded an outstanding college football player.

However, the winningest baseball coach honors goes to Dave Fross, who spent 27 seasons (1974-2000) at UA. During his coaching tenure Fross had 18 winning or .500 seasons and 23 of his Zip nines accumulated 20 wins or better. He finished with 746 wins, 623 losses and 10 ties and had more

wins than any other active college baseball coach in Ohio. His coaching highlights include 1979 in which he guided UA to its first national tournament appearance with a berth in the NCAA Division II Tournament, winning the 1991 Mid-Continent Conference title for the school's first as a NCAA I member and one year later with a school record-breaking 42 victories.

No doubt the zenith of UA baseball history to date came in 1996. Under Fross' guidance, in their fourth season in the MAC, the Zips rocketed from their fourth-seeded position to their first and only Conference Championship. In a sweep Akron did themselves and the University proud by beating top-seeded Kent State, 4-1, in the first round and then defeated Ohio U twice, 6-4 and 15-6 to capture the crown and its only NCAA I Tournament berth. At the NCAA, the team was eliminated with losses to the nation's top ranked Southern California Trojans and the tournament's host, Texas Tech.

I would be remiss if didn't include the 19 players who have thus far been inducted into UA's Sports Hall of Fame. If you are a Zip baseball fan, the list of players who played from 1952 to 1997 reads like a "Who's Who". Four, Tom Adolph (P), John Cistone (1B), Don Lombardi (C) and Dave Young (P), played for Beichly and 13 played for Fross, Mike Birkbeck (P), Dick Duncan (3B), Jeff Fisher (2B), Dave Fleischer (1B), Joel Hawthorne (2B), Jack Jones (1B), John Massarelli (C), Brian Petrucci (RF), Scott Pollock (C), Jeff Rollyson (LF), Steve Sada (OF), Bill Swertfager (2B) and Dave Wrigley (OF)! The other two were pitchers in the mid 60's, Ray Glinsky and Jim Barton.

Already a group of former University of Akron baseball players have begun an effort to convince the school to bring back the baseball program. The former players have launched a web site: SaveZipsBaseball.com to serve as the primary source of news for over 600 Akron baseball alumni and supporters. The success of this extremely huge task remains to be seen.

In Memoriam

Editorial note: Please alert us to any member of our "University Family" whom we have overlooked.

With our condolences to their families and friends, we honor our colleagues and friends for their many contributions in making the University a better place.

Reene Ann Alley, age 80, died July 5, 2015. Reene was an Assistant Professor at the University of Akron. During her career, she was a respected expert on the McGuffey Readers and antique Textbooks.

Edward Lee Bittle, age 80, died August 1, 2015 following complications of a several year struggle with Alzheimer's disease. As a successful businessman, Ed contributed much to the University and his community. He served on the Board of Trustees of the University of Akron for nine years and was Vice Chair of the Board. In recognition of his contributions to the University over the years, he has received numerous awards: an Honorary Ph.D., Alumni Honor Award, and the Red Cochrane Award for Meritorious Service to the University. He is the former President of the Varsity A Association. With his wife, Fran, Ed endowed the Bittle Jazz Residency and the Edward L. Bittle Scholarship at the University.

Howard L. Calhoun, age 88, died July 5, 2015, following complications of Parkinson Disease. While a member of the University Of Akron Board Of Trustees, Howard was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters

Nathan Frank Cardarelli, a scientist, naturalist, inventor, and scholar, died at age 84 on July 7, 2015. While with NASA, he worked on the design of the first space suits worn by the American astronauts. As a teenager, his first national profile was in Time Magazine for his study of barnacles in an effort to create synthetic glue. At the University of Akron, Cardarelli was a Professor of Engineering Technology in the Department of Engineering and Science Technology.

Craig M. Christensen, age 83, died February 20, 2015. Craig joined the University of Akron in 1988 as a part-time instructor in the Community and Technical College before becoming a full-time instructor in the Department of Marketing. In appreciation for his six years of service to the University, the Board of Trustees and Faculty awarded him the title of Instructor Emeritus Marketing on May 10, 1997.

Blanche Frances Edwards Clegg, age 94, died February 20, 2015. Blanche had previously taught in several universities before joining the faculty of the College of Education at the University of Akron from which she retired in 2003. As a devoted hands-on professor, she cared deeply about the success of her students.

Robert Lloyd Dial, with the sounds of jazz in the background, died on February 18, 2015. For fifty years he was a teacher, his greatest joy in life. At the University of Akron, he taught English Literature, film studies, and script writing; he retired after 35 years of service as Associate Professor Emeritus.

Peter Gingo, age 86, passed away on April 5, 2015. Following a career in the aerospace industry on the west coast, Peter returned to Akron in 1971 and became a career professor of mathematics at the University of Akron, retiring in 1996.

Annabelle S. Henry (Sheaffer), age 81, was the wife Richard L. (Dick) Henry, Professor Emeritus, Mechanical Technology.

Robert DuBois Jorgensen, age 69, passed away suddenly July 4, 2015 doing what he loved. While directing the Freedom Brass Band of Northeast Ohio during the July 4 celebration at Locke 3, Robert began to feel ill and subsequently died at Summa Akron City Hospital. This 26 year Director of University Bands was unanimously awarded by his faculty the rank of Professor Emeritus and Director of Bands Emeritus upon his retirement from the University of Akron. In honor of his legacy, former Mayor Plusquellic proclaimed October 5, 2013, to be Robert D. Jorgensen Day.

Lynn Metzger, Distinguished Senior Lecturer, Department of Anthropology and Classic Studies, died July 24, 2015. For over two decades, Lynn taught and mentored students at the University of Akron. In appreciation of her commitment to her students and field of knowledge, she was awarded the Buchtel Award in Humanities in 2008.

Linda L. Moore died March 1, 2015. The university community celebrated her life during her May 5, 2015 Guzzetta Recital Hall memorial service. Linda retired from the University of Akron in 1998 as Dean Emeritus of Fine and Applied Arts and Professor Emeritus of Communication. Subsequently, she became Dean of the College of Fine, Performing, and Communication Arts at Wayne State University. In 2003, she moved to Emerson College in Boston serving as Vice President for Academic Affairs until her retirement in 2013.

John M. Pastor, age 51, died December 10, 2014. John was a Database Administrator in the Department of Application Systems Services.

Isobel Lorraine Pfeiffer, age 92, passed away August 17, 2014. In 1966, she arrived on the campus of the University of Akron as an Assistant Professor of Secondary Education in the College of Education and remained here until 1982, having achieved the rank of Professor in 1975. Following her career at the University of Akron, Dr. Pfeiffer worked at the University of West Georgia with doctoral students.

Donald Pinto, age 68, died August 23, 2015. Don retired after 30 years in the Building Service Department of the University of Akron.

Alvin M. Richards, age 88, died in Sarasota, Fla., January 25, 2015. He was a Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Akron from 1949 – 1986. He was selected as the outstanding engineering teacher in the history of the College of Engineering at its seventy-fifth anniversary celebration.

Ramon F. Steinen passed away on March 18, 2015. Ramon was a professor in the Department of Education at the University of Akron for nearly 20 years.

David S. Sumitra passed away January 15, 2015. After moving his family to America from India, David worked as a System Administrator in the Computer Center of the University of Akron where he worked for 23 years.

AUAR Membership, Human Resources, The University of Akron, Buchtel Commons, Akron, OH 44325

If you haven't renewed your AUAR membership for the 2014-2015 year, it is time to do so. Don't forget our Scholarship fund where we provide some funding for a worthy student. Please complete the items listed below, and mail your check or checks to the address below. If you have an e-mail address, please submit it.

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The 2015-2016 AUAR Board

The AUAR Newsletter is a biannual publication of the Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR), c/o Talent Development & Human Relations Department, The University of Akron, Akron, OH 44325-4730.

AUAR members receive our newsletter automatically. The AUAR Executive Board meets at 10:00 a.m. on the 4th Thursday of the month at the UA Alumni Office in InfoCision 203.

If you have questions about the organization or to keep abreast of events and issues pertinent to all UA retirees, visit our website at www.uakron.edu/auar. The newsletter editor, Dr. Pamela Rupert, can be reached at pamelarae2004@aol.com or 330-928-1810.

If you are interested in entertainment within the Akron area, check into our web site and view the events listed under the Special Events Menu. Just Log on to www.uakron.edu/auar and click on the Menu **"Special Events"** or type www.uakron.edu/auar/special-events.dot

UPCOMING EVENTS FALL 2015

AUAR LUNCHEON SPEAKERS

- September 9, 2015**
Mel Vye
"World Traveler"
"Cuba: a Bridge Between Cultures"
- October 14, 2015**
Scott Swaldo
Gervasi Vineyards "The Ohio wine Industry"

- November 11, 2015**
Frank Thomas
"Reflections of a Korean War Veteran"

- December 9, 2015**
Holiday Luncheon with entertainment

- February 10, 2016**
Elliott Callahan
"The History of Chocolate: From the Bean To the Bar"

- March 2016**
TBA

- April 13, 2016**
Ireland Travelogue

OTHER EVENTS

- Friday, November 6, 2015**
Soup and Chili Supper

Our Motto

People say interns and new hires are the promise of the future.
Let's not forget that retirees are promises kept.

- Sunday, February 14, 2016**
Brunch & Theatre

- April 29, 2016 (Tentative)**
Road Trip

- Friday, May 20, 2016**
Lobster & Suds

AUAR BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

- September 24, 2015**
- October 22, 2015**
- December 3, 2015**

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON RETIREES

E-mail Digest SPECIAL EDITION

The E-mail Digest is a daily compilation of announcements sent Monday through Friday to faculty, staff and contract professionals. The digest contains announcements of all events of interest on campus. Retirees who would like to keep up with UA activities and receive the digest in their inbox can do so.

To be put on the guest list of recipients of the digest, send an email message to bobk@uakron.edu (Robert Kropff). Type *Digest Subscription* in the subject line of your email and request to be added to the subscription list in the message portion.

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