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• *The BGSU Retirees Association's 2011 Golden Book Scholarship recipient, Natallia LaMantia, of Bryan, was introduced at the Sept. 7 BGSURA luncheon by President David Chilson and Past President Ramona Cormier. More on page 2.*

RESERVATION FORM ON PAGE 8

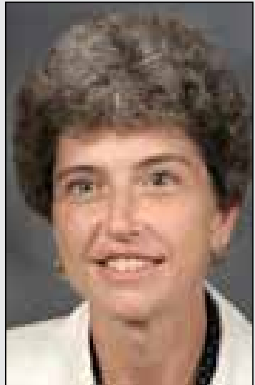


JIM GORDON (2)

• *After the special luncheon Oct. 5 with BGSU President Mary Ellen Mazey: Dr. Mazey, Dr. Harold Lunde, past treasurer of the association, and Dr. David Elsass, retired dean of the College of Education. Current BGSURA treasurer Gaylyn Finn said 96 persons were served.*

Gerontology program with Nancy Orel planned for Nov. 16

DR. NANCY A. OREL, director of the BGSU Gerontology Program, will be the speaker at the Nov. 16 luncheon of the Retirees Association at Stone Ridge Golf Club, Muirfield Dr., Bowling Green. Registration and socializing begin at 11:30 a.m. with serving beginning at noon.



Dr. Orel, an associate professor, said she will focus on "research-based activities and behaviors that have been found to increase longevity and lead to wellness in later life (and across the lifespan)." She has led the Gerontology Program since 2004, joining the BGSU faculty after earning a Ph.D. at the University of Toledo in 1999. Dr. Orel earned her bachelor's in psychology at BGSU.

While finishing her degree at BGSU, Dr. Orel was activity director of the Monclova Care Center in Toledo. Beginning in 1980 and for the next eight years, she was executive director of Senior Centers, Inc., Toledo. She also was executive director for five years of the Washtenaw County Council on Aging, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Locally, she has served as president of the Governing Board of the Wood County Committee on Aging. In 2007, she was a finalist for the Alumni Association's Master Teacher Award. □

• *Dr. Orel*



PROFILE

Violet Jacobs, who managed the University Guest House for years, is the subject of this issue's retiree profile by Clif Boutelle. **PAGE 4**





** Natallia LaMantia thanks BGSURA members for her Golden Book Award. In photo at right: David Chilson, BGSURA president; Ms. LaMantia; Ramona Cormier, past president.*



• After-lunch chats: Mickey Cochrane, Margaret Tucker, Fran Brent, Tom and Anabel Stubbs. At far right, Natallia LaMantia, Ilse Thomas, Helen Dermer.

JIM GORDON (5)



• John White at Kiwanis Pancake Day in 2007, above, and in 1967 during men's gymnastic practice at the Men's Gym.

Passings

■ A. JOHN WHITE, who developed the men's gymnastic program at BGSU after earning a master's degree here in 1967, died Sept. 2 in Bridge Hospice of Bowling Green. He was 84. An emeritus professor of health and physical education, White played football for Ohio University before
continued on page 3



BGSU Center for Archival Collections

Passings *continued*



• *Castle in the children's area at the Wood County District Public Library.*

transferring to Bowling Green, where he received his bachelor's degree.

After retiring from BGSU in 1993, the Shelby County native became active in Kiwanis Club, regularly selling tickets for the club's twice-annual Pancake Day. White also was a skilled woodworker, supervising construction of a storage shed at BGSU's Child Development Center. For the Wood County District Public Library's children's department, he built the castle popular with children.

■ **RALPH WAHRMAN**, emeritus professor of sociology, died Sept. 30 of esophageal cancer at Hospice of Northwest Ohio, Perrysburg. On the BGSU faculty for 34 years, Dr. Wahrman, a New York City native, earned his bachelor's degree at Queens College and completed his master's and Ph.D. at Michigan State University. He retired from BGSU in 2001.



■ **MARGARET PRIESS CARR**, a food service worker for 25 years, from 1965 to 1990, died Sept. 1 after a long illness. She was 79.

■ **CAROL WHITE**, an administrative assistant who worked at Alumni/Development and retired from Student Financial Aid in 2007, died

Sept. 2 at Bridge Hospice Care Center, Findlay. She was 70. Born in Hamler, she had also worked at the former Cygnet Savings Bank and at Koppenhofer Brothers Poultry, Deshler. She was a Desher High School graduate.



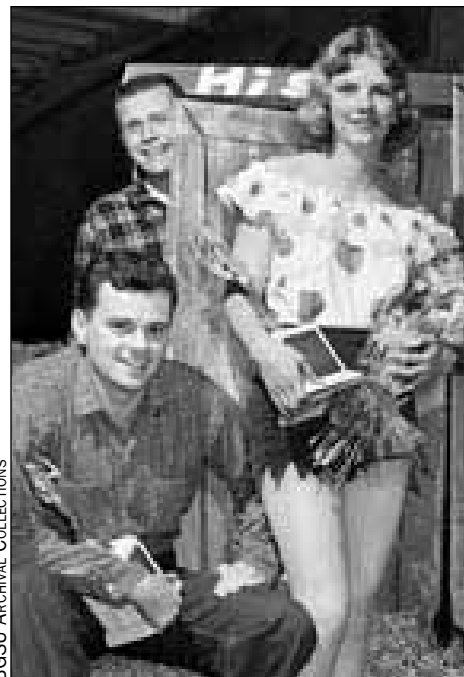
■ **NATALIE GOULD MANDELL**, an administrative assistant to BGSU Pres. Ralph W. McDonald (1951-1961)



in the mid-1950s, died at her home in Manteo, N.C., Sept. 7. She was 93. After Red Cross service during World War II, Mrs. Mandell worked for Dr. McDonald at Duke University, Chapel Hill, N.C., and

the National Education Association, Washington, D.C. In a Prout Chapel ceremony in 1956, Mrs. Mandell married Dr. Maurice Mandell, BGSU professor of advertising and marketing, who retired in 1981, and is deceased.

■ **HARLAND LEHTOMAA**, who worked as much for the BGSU Athletic Department as he did for Bowling Green City Schools, died Sept. 22. After serving in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific in World War II, Lehtomaa, of Ashtabla Harbor, was among the hundreds of veterans who headed to BGSU under the GI Bill. He received his bachelor's degree in 1950. In 1953, he began teaching at Conneaut fourth grade. In 1956, he was named principal of Kenwood School, a post he held until he retired in 1984. Lehtomaa. He also worked for the BGSU Office of the Registrar for 19 years and for the Athletic Department, starting as a member of the "chain gang" at football games and later as scoreboard operator. For more than 20 years, he also was the official scorekeeper for Bowling Green High School basketball games.



BGSU ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS

• *A young Eddie Householder peers around his prize-winning "costume," an outhouse, at BGSU's all-campus Sadie Hawkins dance in 1954. Eddie, posing with Lil Abner and Daisy Mae, was a junior when the photo was taken by Jim Gordon for The BG News.*

■ **ANDREW EDWARD HOUSEHOLDER**, a Bowling Green "townie" and BGSU supporter and alumnus, died Sept. 28 at Hospice of Northwest Ohio. He was 79. Householder, known as Eddie during his days as a BGSU music major, worked part time late nights and early mornings watering the greens and fairways of the Bowling Green Country Club (his grandfather was one of the club's founders). Andy was a member of the Army ROTC at BGSU and was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant upon graduation in 1955. A noted choral conductor in New York State, Householder retired to Bowling Green in 1995. He organized the first Wine and Cheese Social that became a major fundraiser for the city Parks and Recreation Foundation.

■ **LAWRENCE J. HEINZE**, of Whitehouse, died Oct. 4 at St. Luke's Hospital, Maumee. For 32 years, he was a stationary engineer, working at the BGSU Power Plant.. Heinze served four years in the U.S. Air Force, including two years in Vietnam. He was 65. □

Information provided by Dunn, Deck-Hanneman, Twiford, Rodenberger, and Wick/Wisniewski Funeral Homes.



• *Vi Jacobs and the Guest House.*

A Guest in the house

The perfect hostess: Vi Jacobs packed a lot of memories into her 31-year career taking care of University guests

Story and photos by Clif Boutelle

FOR 60 years, the Guest House has been the face of the University for hundreds of campus visitors and for half those years Vi Jacobs greeted and took care of them as if they were her own family. In the process she gained many friends for Bowling Green.

Located on the drive off Troup Avenue opposite the Tucker Communications Center (WBGU-TV), the Guest House, though unknown to many on campus, has a fascinating history and no one knows it better than Jacobs.

Originally the home of the B. H. Urschel family, it was acquired, along with an apartment building, by the University in 1949. The

home became the Guest House and the other structure was used as a women's residence and later the Home Management House. Now it houses the Social and Philosophy Policy Center.

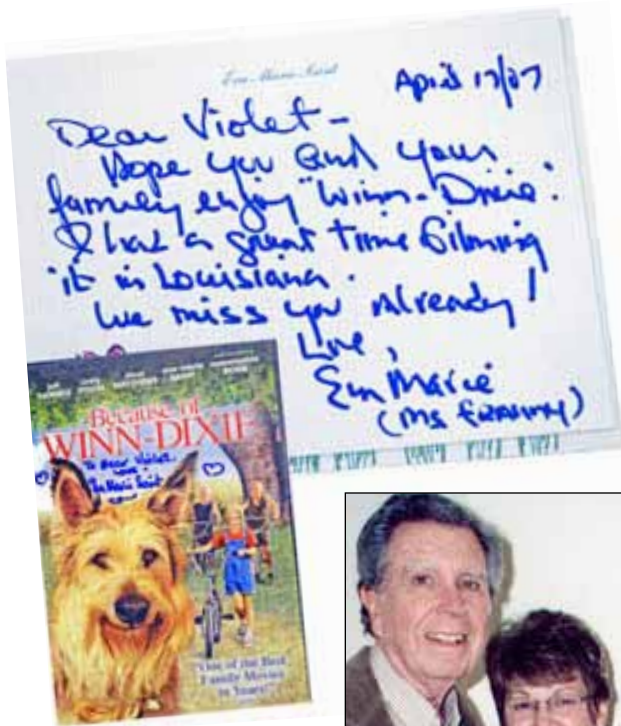
With five bedrooms, a kitchen and a living-dining room area suitable for entertaining small groups, the primary purpose of the Guest House has been to provide quality accommodations for distinguished campus visitors. Guests have included former president Jimmy Carter in 1980, noted actresses Lillian Gish and Eva Marie Saint, cellist Yo Yo Ma, Olympic champion and Bowling Green native Scott Hamilton.

foreign dignitaries, graduation speakers, visiting scholars, and candidates for University positions, among others.

And Jacobs knew them all.

She kept Guest Books (now located at the BGSU Center for Archival Collections) that make interesting reading and contain familiar names. "There were many different personalities, some more congenial than others, but I do not recall having anybody that wasn't a nice person."

A few of those names included prize-winning author Jeanette Walls ("The Glass Castle": singer Peter Yarrow of the pop group Peter, Paul and Mary; poet Maya



• A personal note from Eva Marie Saint accompanied the gift of a videocassette film in which the actress and BGSU graduate starred. At right: Vi Jacobs and Jeff Hayden, who is the husband of Eva Marie Saint.



• At Archives in Jerome Library, Dana Sergent Nemeth, an Archives staff member, and Vi Jacobs with the Guest Book.

Angelou; former BGSU athletes Bernie Casey and Nate Thurmond; Civil Rights activist Jesse Jackson; prominent alumni like Hiroko Nakamoto, actor in "Gray's Anatomy," and James Pickens Jr., Festival Series performer Emmanuel Pahud and children's television star and graduation

speaker Fred Rogers. A special favorite was Saint and her husband Jeffrey Hayden. "They stayed here several times and treated me like family. We had some great conversations and she has kept in touch through Christmas cards. They are first-class people," she said. Working in the Guest House turned out to be a dream job for Jacobs. "I looked forward to coming to work every day. There was always someone different there and I liked meeting and helping the people," she said. "The Guest House created a lot of good will for the University. We received lots of

letters from visitors containing loads of compliments thanking us for such great accommodations," she said. It all started for Jacobs in 1978 when she heard about a housekeeper opening at the President's House on Hillcrest. She and her husband James had moved to North Baltimore 43 years ago, when he was head of the grocery department at the A&P store in Bowling Green. She had been a stay-at-home mom for 10 years, caring for her two sons before deciding she wanted to return to the workforce. Jacobs interviewed with President Hollis Moore and his wife Marian, (continued on page 6)

BGSU Center for Archival Collections



• Guest House from the rear with Urschel's Pond (a former stone quarry) at the bottom. The pond was the city's first "swimming pool," opening in 1921 as the Kelly Swimming Pool. It was financed through a fund-raising project of the



Woman's Club of Bowling Green. The initial \$3,000 provided a bath house, springboard, concession stand and a pay for a life guard. The photo looks east across the pond from the future site of the Guest House.

Jacobs *continued*

and they wanted to hire her. However, when she told them her family obligations might keep her away from work at times, the Moores, needing someone who would be there on a regular basis, hired Nellie Fausnaugh to look after the University-owned home.

Nevertheless, Mrs. Moore liked Jacobs and so she was hired to oversee the Guest House. Although that was her primary assignment, she spent a lot of her time helping out at the President's House.

She prepared breakfasts for the guests and did all the grocery shopping as well. "Some had special requests but most went along with the menu I had prepared," she recalled. She also kept the refrigerator stocked with water and sodas and always had a candy dish available.

"I was told many times that the house was so much more cozy and welcoming than a hotel room. The guests really liked the smell of coffee that greeted them every morning," she said. One guest suggested that one of the rooms be named after Jacobs.

In addition to meals, Jacobs cleaned bathrooms and fixed beds daily and kept the home spotless. Occasionally she would iron a suit or pants that got wrinkled from being packed in a suitcase.

She even found time to lobby for some amenities for the house.

When former President Paul Olscamp was staying there, Jacobs said she had a favor to ask of him. When he asked what it was, she said a new refrigerator was badly needed. A few weeks after he became president, Jacobs had her

new refrigerator.

Former President Sidney Ribeau was less than impressed with the Guest House décor so Jacobs pressed him for an upgrade. It wasn't long until the Guest House had new paint, carpet and furniture.

"They were very supportive of the Guest House and knew what a great asset it was for the University," she said.

Parade of candidates

A STEADY parade of candidates for University positions stayed at the Guest House through the years and Jacobs got to know many of them before they came to work at the University. "I would make my own selections and more often than not, they were the ones chosen for the job," she smiled.

Although it was never intended to be a money-maker, campus departments and offices who made arrangements for guests were charged a nominal fee.

It's been said that all good things come to an end and for the Guest House the end came in 2009 when the University decided the building had outlived its usefulness and closed the building.

It did get a brief reprieve when Board of Trustee member Robert Sebo leased the house in 2009-10, which for him was a convenient place to stay while on campus for Board business or taking part in centennial events.

But now it sits empty. The University closed it for good last year, citing excessive costs to maintain it. In an April 2010 *BG News* article, former president

Carol Cartwright said "utilities and housekeeping fees are too high to justify its infrequent use as temporary lodging for distinguished guests."

Bob Waddle, associate vice president for capital planning, said there are no definite plans for the building. "We are looking at various options," he said.

In 2010 Jacobs was given a cleaning assignment in Jerome Library, something she enjoyed, but it wasn't the same as the Guest House where she had worked for so long.

She had intended to work a few more years but given the uncertain future of the Guest House she began to think maybe it was time to retire. "It's a shame that the University saw fit to close it," she said.

Then came the Employee Separation Program in 2010, a plan in which the University provided an incentive for eligible workers to retire or leave the University. She was given \$25,000 plus sick leave under terms of the program.

Now, she looks forward to spending time with her seven grandchildren and attending their activities and school programs. "I'm not one to stay away from my grandkids. I know someday they'll be grown and on their own and right now I am too connected to them," she told the *BG News* in April 2010.

But she will miss the Guest House, which was such an important and enjoyable part of her life for more than 30 years. □



JIM GORDON

• Clif Boutelle retired from BGSU in 1999 as associate vice president for University Relations. His e-mail address is clif5761@frontier.com.

BGSURA activities

THE Social Calendar of the BGSU Retirees Association begins **Nov. 17** with a tour of Mazza Museum: International Art from Picture Books, on the campus of Findlay University. Mazza is the world's largest museum devoted to literacy and the art of children's picture books. The docent-led tour will begin at 1:30 p.m. Car pooling or transportation will be arranged. Contact Pat Koehler by Tuesday, Nov. 15. Pat Koehler <pkoehler3@woh.rr.com> or 419-352-6180.

ON Thursday, **Dec. 15**, Ralph Wolfe will open his home in North Baltimore for a holiday cocktail event from 4-7 p.m. Bring a beverage of choice and an appetizer to share. Dr. Wolfe hosted this event last year. Please RSVP to Pat Koehler by Dec. 12. Indicate if you're interested in car pooling or transportation.



• *The Wolfe house decorated for Christmas 2010. Dr. Wolfe hosted last year's Holiday Party.*



PHOTO BY DAVID STUBBS

BGSURA's first president on Honor Flight

Tom Stubbs, who served as the association's first president (1995-1997), was aboard the Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., Aug. 31. He was accompanied by his son David, of Grand Rapids, Mich. Tom was inducted into the Army in May 1943, after his freshman year at BGSU. After training

at Camp Chaffee, Ark., and Ft. Benning, Ga., newly commissioned 2nd Lt. Stubbs received parachute training in 1944-45 and was posted to Japan after the surrender in August 1945. Tom was honorably discharged on Aug. 29, 1946, and a month later, he resumed his studies at BGSU, earning his varsity letters as a swimmer. The team was coached by Sam Cooper, who later founded the BGSURA.

BGSURA *Newsletter*

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Paying ahead . . .

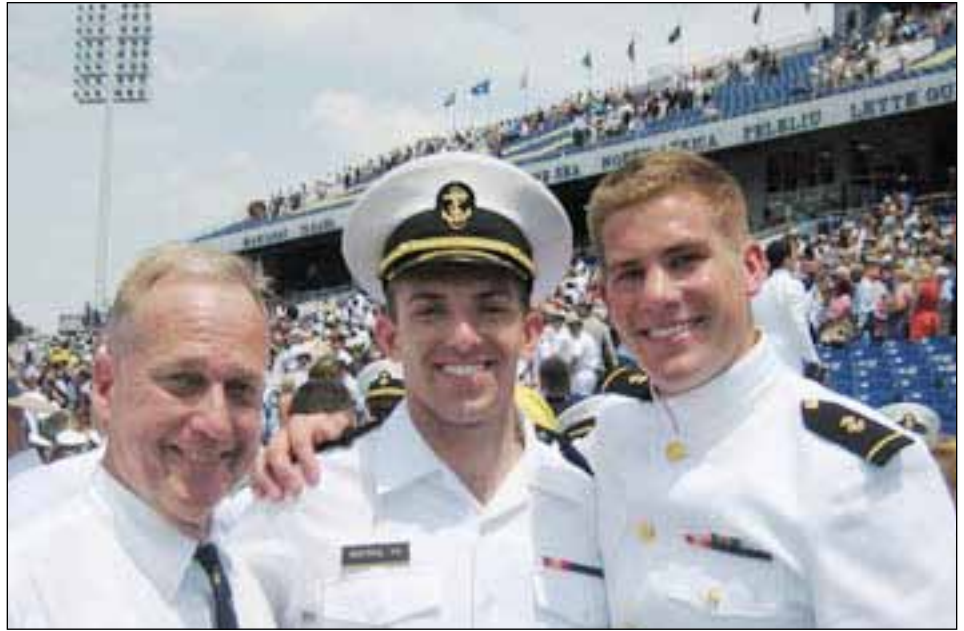
By **David Chilson**, chilson@cs.bgsu.edu

IN MY LAST "President's Message" (September 2011) I wrote about "giving back" to the World War II veterans whom Tom Brokaw calls "The Greatest Generation."

This time I would like to write about "paying ahead" or "paying forward." Since 1999 I have been an "Academy Information Officer" ("Blue and Gold Officer") for the United States Naval Academy.

I work with high school students throughout Northwest Ohio who want to go to Annapolis (with an "appointment") and then serve as Navy or Marine Corps officers after graduation and commissioning. I also work with Congressman Robert Latta, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, and Congressman Jim Jordan on nominations for applicants to the Naval Academy.

Working for the Naval Academy Admissions Office, and for the three Congressional representatives from Northwest Ohio, is on a volunteer basis. The biggest rewards come from (1) working with such high-quality young people and the outstanding families they come from, (2) presenting a graduating high school senior with his or her appointment at a high school awards ceremony, and (3) see-



• *At the Naval Academy's graduation and commissioning exercises on May 27: David Chilson, Michael Watrol, St. Francis De Sales High School Class of 2010 and Naval Academy Class of 2014, and newly commissioned Ensign Chase Rogalski, Ottawa Hills High School Class of 2007 and Naval Academy Class of 2011.*

ing a graduating Midshipman receive his or her bachelor of science degree and commission.

A number of people helped me get accepted into the Navy's Officer Candidate School program in 1970. Working these past 12 years for the Naval Academy has been a way, not of "giving back" to these people, but rather one of "paying ahead" or "paying forward" to the young men and women of Northwest Ohio who want to attend a service academy and to serve our country in uniform. □

What's ahead

Oct. 31 – Deadline to order academic regalia for Dr. Mazey's Dec. 2 Inauguration.

March 14, 2012 – Regular luncheon. At Stone Ridge. Wood County Commissioner **Tim Brown**.

April 11, 2012 – Annual luncheon with Toledo retirees. At Stone Ridge. BGSU Economics Prof. **Tim Fuerst**, BGSU economics department.

May 9, 2012 – Luncheon. At Stone Ridge. **Albert Colom**, vice president, BGSU Enrollment Management.

Reservation - BGSURA Full-Service Luncheon at Stone Ridge
Reservation deadline Friday, Nov. 11. Luncheon Wednesday, Nov. 16
11:30-Noon: Check-in, socializing. Noon: Full-service Luncheon. \$14 per person

Name(s) _____

Number of reservations _____

1. How to pay by mail:

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR \$_____ PAYABLE TO BGSURA.

Send Reservation Form and Check to:

Gaylyn Finn, BGSURA Treasurer,

966 Deer Ridge Run, Bowling Green, OH 43402.

2. Reservations by e-mail: gfinn3@woh.rr.com. Pay by cash or check at the door.

Deadline for reservations Friday, Nov. 11