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March profile



PHOTO BY CLIF BOUTELLE

"A contributor to the budgeting process"

Linda Hamilton, retired from the BGSU budgeting process after a 35-year career with the University.

Her profile with photos by Clif Boutelle begins on page 2.

STRS on agenda for March 11 luncheon



• *Bringing an STRS report to Bowling Green March 11 are Michael Nehf, executive director, and Laura Ecklar, director communications for STRS.*

REPRESENTATIVES of Ohio's State Teachers Retirement System will present a report on the status of the system Thursday, March 11, at a joint meeting of the BGSU Retirees Association and the Wood County Retired Teachers Association. The WCRTA is host this year.

The luncheon will be held at First United Methodist Church, East Wooster Street. Check-in is at 11:30 a.m. and serving begins at noon. Cost is \$10. Chef Don Bright, a past BGSURA Board member, reports that the meal will be an Irish stew buffet "with all the trimmings."

Representing STRS will be Michael Nehf, into his second year as STRS executive director, and Laura Ecklar, an STRS official well known to many Bowling Green retirees because of previous visits to retiree luncheons. *continued on page 4*

Computer troubles?

PROBLEMS getting connected to the Internet, surfing and the Vista operating system for PCs? Call Charlie Applebaum, 352-0777, or e-mail applebau@bgsu.edu. Applebaum's services are made available to retirees by the office of the provost. □



• *Applebaum*

Reservation for BGSURA-WCRTA Luncheon at 1st United Methodist Church

Thursday, March 11, 2010. Reservation deadline Friday, March 5!

NOTE CHANGE: Reservations by check at \$10 per person, payable to WCRTA.

NO E-MAIL RESERVATIONS. SEND RESERVATION FORM AND CHECK TO

DON BRIGHT, 9 BAINBRIDGE WAY, BOWLING GREEN, OH 43402-9300. DEADLINE FRIDAY, MARCH 5.

Name(s) _____

Number of reservations _____ E-mail address _____ Phone _____

Pay by mail: CHECK ENCLOSED FOR \$ _____ . PAYABLE TO WCRTA.

Reservations NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 5. DON BRIGHT: Telephone 419-352-9102

• *At the Wood County Genealogical Society, volunteer Linda Hamilton works with Lolita Guthrie, a society past president. The office is on the first floor of the Wood County Office Bldg. next to the Wood County Law Library.*

*Story and Photos
By Clif Boutelle*



A GIFT FOR NUMBERS

An untapped talent leads to productive career path for Linda Hamilton

LOOKING back on her 35 years at Bowling Green State University, Linda Hamilton can take great satisfaction in knowing that her career far exceeded her “wildest expectations.”

She started in 1972 as an executive secretary in the provost’s office and by the time she retired in 2008 as director of budgeting there were few people who were as knowledgeable about the University’s budget and financial picture as Hamilton.

“Linda was a great contributor to the budgeting process and the University benefited greatly from her ability to put together budget figures,” said Chris Dalton, former senior vice president of finance and administration who worked with Hamilton for 20 years before he retired in 2007.

That’s quite an achievement for someone who initially was uncomfortable working with numbers and felt she had little aptitude for mathematics.

Her first job out of high school was as a secretary at Anchor Hocking, the

leading producer of consumer glass products with distribution around the world, headquartered in her hometown of Lancaster, OH. “One of my early goals was to become a Certified Professional Secretary, which I did,” she said.

She soon set her sights on being a legal secretary and worked for a patent attorney in Columbus and thought that it would lead to a rewarding career.

All that changed, though, when in 1972 she was married and her husband, George, took a job with the Campbell Soup Company in Napoleon and they moved to northwest Ohio.

Hamilton had heard the University was a good place to work, so she applied and was hired to work in the provost’s office, then headed by Ken Rothe.

Seeing her abilities, Rothe promoted her to assistant to the provost and she assumed additional duties that included handling all administrative matters for the office and serving on several academic committees.

Although she did not realize it at the time, her involvement and familiarity with the academic side of the University was to prove valuable in later years.

In 1978, the president and other key administrators moved from the Administration Building to the newly renovated McFall Center, a building that had served as the University’s library for many years.

MICHAEL Ferrari, who had been director of planning and budgeting, succeeded Rothe as provost and when the offices were reorganized, Ferrari gave Hamilton the choice of moving to the Personnel Office (now Human Resources) which he thought she would favor, or to work in the Office of Planning and Budgeting.

“I surprised everyone, including myself, by opting to stay with planning and budgeting. I sensed a real challenge there,” she recalls. It turned out to be a good decision, both for the University and *continued on next page*

Chief Red Dog's family



• Linda Hamilton's great grandfather, Chief Red Dog, is center back row. Her great-grandmother, Growing Bed, sits in front. In left photo is Chief Red Dog with Hamilton's father as a boy, Leland Red Dog, on the Fort Peck, Mont., reservation.

A princess in Bowling Green

A DAUGHTER'S yearning to learn of the father she never knew led Linda Hamilton on a long journey with a surprising twist.

It began shortly after the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor nearly 70 years ago when 30 young men in Roosevelt County, Mont., raised their right hands, swore allegiance to the United States, and were inducted into the U.S. Army. The date was Feb. 7, 1942.

Among those new soldiers was Hamilton's father. His name was Leland Red Dog, grandson of a full-blooded Indian chieftain of the Assiniboine tribe, which ranged across the Great Plains in centuries past. "Natives," Linda said, "feel it is very important, because of their warrior beliefs, to serve their country."

Soldier Leland Red Dog was stationed

at Fort Belvoir, Va., and met Hamilton's mother, who lived in nearby Alexandria, Va., where Linda Hamilton was born.

But Leland Red Dog returned to Montana's Fort Peck reservation, home to the Assiniboine and Sioux tribes, soon after the war ended. "I never saw him again," Linda said. "Mother didn't want to talk about him. She told me he didn't care about me."

Time passed, Linda was adopted by her stepfather, her parents separated when Linda was nine, and she and her mother moved to Lancaster, Ohio. There Linda married George Hamilton and met other members of the Hamilton family.

"My sister-in-law, Jane Nowicki, is big in genealogy, and has done George's whole family. So I told her, sometime would you see if you could find my father? I know

his name, Leland Red Dog, and he's in Wolf Point, Mont., if he's still alive. I know nothing else about him. So she searched."

Linda's mother had told her she was Sioux. "Jane searched around," Linda said, and learned that both tribes lived on the same reservation, but that Leland Red Dog was Assiniboine, not Sioux. "It all started from there. She got me started and I kind of got the bug," Linda said.

One of her latest involvements is with the Wood County Genealogical Society, where she is a weekly volunteer. "I do a lot of record keeping and have found time to look up more information on my own family," she said.

With her great-grandfather a tribal chief, Hamilton laughed, "I guess that makes me a princess!"

Hamilton continued

for Hamilton. "I never thought numbers were my strength. I would never have applied for a position that involved budgeting but it was an opportunity to learn and to expand. I got in on the ground floor of this new area and I grew along with it. I found I had an

aptitude for mathematics and numbers that I never knew I had," she said.

At the same time, Hamilton enrolled in the College of Business Administration (taking advantage of the employee fee waiver). She had begun work toward a university

degree at Ohio University when she graduated from high school.

She originally thought about studying Human Resources but as she grew into her job in McFall Center, she started taking more computer classes and eventually earned a degree in 1985 in *continued on page 4*

Hamilton *continued*

general business with a specialization in MIS (Management Information Systems).

Her class work in management information systems proved to be valuable to her because of the direction her work was going.

Her first assignment in McFall Center was as coordinator of special projects, which later expanded into institutional projects. In that position she was responsible for preparing various financial, facilities and human resource reports needed for planning and budgeting purposes.

WHEN Dick Eakin became vice president for planning and budgeting in 1983, she took on additional duties as assistant to the VPPB. Now she coordinated the preparation of all University budgets for review and approval by Eakin and budget committees, following Elton Ringer, who retired at that time.

One of her first projects was to assist Eakin in the conversion from quarters to semesters.

Dalton succeeded Eakin in 1988 and Hamilton received another promotion; this time to director of budgeting.

"I first got to know Linda when I was on the Faculty Senate Budget Committee when she provided budget information to the FSBC. I was immediately impressed with her competence and her knowledge of the budgeting process," Dalton said.

"Linda is the consummate professional and was wonderful to work with. She had a great grasp for details as well as the big picture issues. The University and I relied heavily on her input into all budget matters," he added.

"I was very fortunate to work with her for 20 years. She was a valued colleague and I was glad that I retired before she did, because I would have greatly missed her if she had left before I did," he said.

AS DIRECTOR of budgeting, Hamilton's responsibilities included analyzing costs and expenses and keeping track of student enrollment and credit hours, an important task because the University's state subsidies were dependent upon those numbers.

"It was extremely complicated. There were nine different subsidy levels for undergraduates and two or three for

graduate students. Also, different course offerings had their own subsidy levels and that had to be figured into the overall budget projections," she said.

Her office worked closely with the Board of Regents because the funding formulas were often changed or tweaked. "There was always more to learn because of the different funding levels. Just when you thought you had it all figured out and felt comfortable with the system, then it was changed," she said.



She recalls Board meetings as being stressful times. "There was so much information to generate and once we had completed our initial report, much of it got changed in the Finance and Facility Committee meetings," she said.

When she first started, the University budget was in the neighborhood of \$200 million and had more than doubled by the time she retired.

"I had a very satisfying career. Thanks to a system that encouraged promotions from within, I had many opportunities for personal growth. Everything has been beyond my wildest expectations from when I graduated from high school. I love Bowling Green and I am proud to be an alumnus," she said.

As busy as she was at the University, Hamilton has found time to be involved with several community groups.

She has had a long association

with AAUW (American Association of University Women), including being a former president, and is currently treasurer of the local chapter, not an unusual position for someone who has spent a career working with budgets. For four years she was a finance officer with the state AAUW, a position that enabled her to travel and meet many other people.

She is active in the Bowling Green Woman's Club and is a past president and has held a district office. She is currently leadership chair.

SHE is also on the BGSURA Board of Directors and a member of the Wood County Hospital Guild and several University Women interest groups, including antiques, garden club, and museum.

One of her passions is golf, and during May through September and beyond, if the weather cooperates, she can be found on local golf courses. She plays in a league at the University and last September experienced the thrill of a lifetime for any golfer when she recorded a hole in one at Maumee Bay.

"I never even saw it," she laughed. "The green was elevated from the tee and I knew I hit a good shot but when we got to the green there was no ball in sight. Marcia Buckenmyer said to look in the cup. Linda Rolf did and found it. I was elated."

• Clif Boutelle retired from BGSU in 1999 as associate vice president for University Relations. He is a member of the BGSURA Board of Directors. His e-mail address is clif5761@verizon.net.



STRS on agenda *from page 1*

Nehf is a certified public accountant and previously was executive director of the Employees Retirement System of Georgia and the Public School Teachers Pension & Retirement Fund of Chicago. He joined STRS Ohio July 1, 2008, at a salary of \$225,000. He succeeded Robert Dwyer.

Eklar, with STRS for 10 years, is an Ohio University journalism graduate who previously worked for Columbus Public Schools and Capital University. She provides public relations counsel and oversees internal and external communications.

PASSINGS

• **HAROLD A. FISHER**, 89, professor emeritus of journalism and for six years director of the School of Journalism, died Jan. 24 in Salem, Ore. He retired in 1992 and moved to Salem to be near his daughter Gail.



JIM GORDON

• **Harold Fisher**

Born in Hardin County, Iowa, Fisher was a master sergeant radar technician in Guam during World War 2. After the war, he received his bachelor's degree in Bible Study and Communications in 1949 from the University of Dubuque, where he was president of the student body.

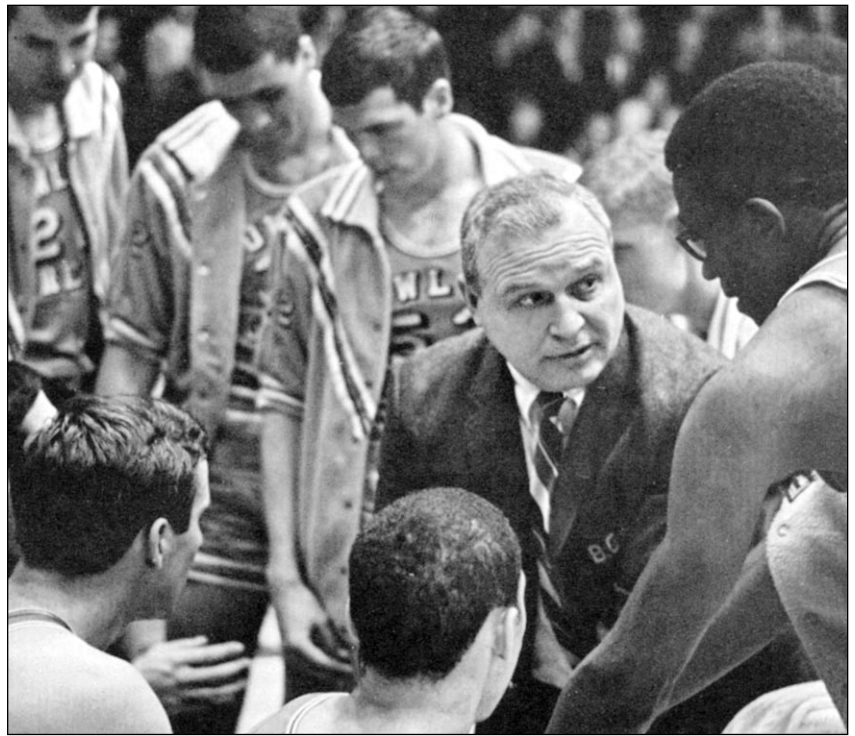
Ordained in 1952 as a Presbyterian minister after receiving his bachelor of divinity and STM degrees from San Francisco Theological Seminary, Fisher served with his wife Elaine (whom he met at the San Francisco Seminary) on overseas missions for 16 years. His service was primarily in training church workers in communication skills and in production of radio and television programming.

Fisher began his 22-year career on the BGSU faculty in 1970, teaching in the broadcast area and also serving as director of graduate studies. On leaves of absence, he was a Hays-Fulbright professor at the University of Cairo in 1974-75 and in 1984 as USAID Chief-of-Party for the Liberia Rural Radio System to help develop a national radio system.

In addition to his BGSU academic service, Fisher was an active interim and pulpit supply pastor at many Ohio congregations in the Maumee Valley Presbytery. He provided interim and temporary "ill-in" service in the Cascades Presbytery after his retirement and was a part-time professor at George Fox College and Linfield College.

• **WARREN J. "PORKY" SCHOLLER**, who coached the BGSU basketball Falcons from 1963 to 1967, died Feb. 12 in Sterling House, Bowling Green. He was 89. His daughter, Tari Scholler Geer, said her father died of pneumonia. Coach Scholler, who followed the legendary Harold "Andy" Anderson as varsity coach, had a record of 43-52. Scholler retired in 1983 as assistant professor emeritus of health, physical education and recreation.

As a high school athlete in Hamilton, Ohio, Scholler was all-state in football, basketball and baseball. His 1936-37 basketball team won the Ohio High School Championship.



1967 KEY

• **Warren J. "Porky" Scholler**

Entering Ohio State as a 145-pound freshman on a basketball scholarship, Scholler grew to 200 pounds on training-table meals and, in his words, "ate myself off the basketball team." That was when he acquired the nickname of "Porky."

In the Army Air Corps in World War 2, his assignment was to conduct physical training for future pilots. After the war, Scholler coached high school basketball and was at Hamilton when Anderson hired him as freshman basketball coach in 1958.

Scholler earned a master's degree at Xavier University. He was a former coach for the Bowling Green Pee Wee League Association and served on the city Parks and Recreation Board.



CLIF BOUTELLE

• **Justine Magsig**

• **JUSTINE MAGSIG**, who was a key figure in the development of BGSU's environmental studies program, died Feb. 4 at Hospice of Northwest Ohio. She was 88 and had lived in Elmore. A Life Member of the BGSURA Retirees Association, Magsig retired in 2006. (She was profiled by Clif Boutelle in the November 2009 *continued on page 6*)

PASSINGS *continued*

issue of the *BGSURA Newsletter*, which is on line at www.bgsu.edu/retirement.

Joining the BGSU staff in 1978, Magsig assisted physics Prof. Barry Cobb in the development of an energy conservation program for Northwest Ohio communities. When the University created the environmental studies program, she was a half-time adviser and then assistant director of the program.

After retirement, she returned to painting, a long-dormant interest, and had focused on a series of paintings of alleyways in Elmore. Doorways were to be next.

Born in Pittsburgh, Magsig also was a Girl Scout leader.

• **DEANNA "DEE" RADELOFF**, 69, professor emeritus of applied human ecology, died Jan. 13. She joined the BGSU faculty in 1973 and retired as department chair in 1991. Radeloff earned an M.S. at Ohio State, an Ed.S. from the University of Toledo, and a Ph.D at Michigan.

Among her books was *Children in Your Life: A Guide to Child Care and Parenting*, which she wrote with Roberta Zechman. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and had served as president of the Toledo Museum of Art Ambassadors. Radeloff, a BGSURA Life Member, lived in Perrysburg, and had been chair of the Country Garden Club Trunk Show.

• **WILLIAM D. ALEXANDER**, a professor emeritus of music education, died Feb. 4 in Brookdale Sterling House, Bowling Green. He was 90. The son of Italian immigrants, Alexander received his bachelor's degree from Mount Union College and his master's from North Texas State. He was born in Canton.

• **MABEL NEY**, Bowling Green, died Dec. 28, 2009. She worked as a supervisor for 19 years at BGSU, retiring in 1983.

• **PAUL N. WINDISCH**, recognized by BGSU's Athletic Department for his 42-year service as a timer at Falcon men's basketball games, died of cancer Feb. 2 at his home. He was Bowling Green Male Citizen of the Year in 2003.

Born in Sandusky, Windisch arrived in Bowling Green as a freshman in 1959 and received bachelor's and master's degrees from BGSU. He served the University in various administrative capacities until 1975, when he began a career in banking that spanned 34 years, initially at Huntington and then at Sky and First Federal. He was a member of BGSU's Falcon Club.

He married Cheryl Cunningham, daughter of the late Don Cunningham, who was BGSU Sports Information Director for many years, and the late Harriet Cunningham, who taught physical education at Bowling Green High School. Active in community life, Windisch was a past president of Kiwanis and was a member of the Wood County Economic Development Commission, Wood County Hospital Board of Trustees, Bowling Green Area Board of Education and Junto. He also volunteered with United Way and the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce.

• **DALLAS M. "MIKE" HENSCHEN**, 60, a leader in Bowling Green youth baseball through the Pee Wee League Association for 30 years, died of cancer Feb. 8 at Hospice of Northwest Ohio. As a Pee Wee board member, he worked with city officials in the mid-1980s to develop the Carter

Park baseball complex with multiple diamonds, dugouts, lights and a meeting building.

The complex is the site of tournaments routinely involving more than 200 teams a summer. "He was the glue of all our tournaments," said Tim Dunn, Pee Wee president.

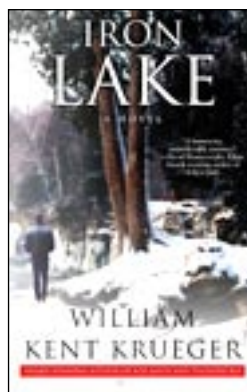
Henschen's sons Aaron and Nate played baseball on Pee Wee teams and for Bowling Green High School

Elected to the Pee Wee League Association Hall of Fame in 2001, Henschen was born on a farm near McComb and attended McComb High School and International Business College in Fort Wayne, Ind. He worked for 15 years for the Ohio Department of Transportation office in Bowling Green as an auditor, and until 2008, for Hickory Farms in Maumee as an accountant.

• *The Sentinel-Tribune and The Blade provided information for these obituaries.*

Discussion books now available

THE sixth book discussion will take place at the home of Cliff and Judy Boutelle at 7 p.m. on



Tuesday, March 23. They live at 901 Wallace Ave. The Boutelles have chosen William Kent Krueger's *Iron Lake*, the first book in a mystery series of six or seven depicting "small town life with big city crime."

Wally Pretzer, BGSURA activities master, arranged to have copies of the book available starting Wednesday, Feb. 24, at the Information Desk on the second floor of the Wood County District Public Library. Those planning to attend may call him at 419-352-8057 or dpretze@bgsu.edu, or the Boutelles at 419-352-5625 or clif5761@verizon.net by Friday, March 19.

Reminder: The BGSURA BYOB-and-snack "cocktail" party is Friday night, Feb. 26, 4-6 p.m., at the Spreitzers, 326 Westwood Dr., BG.



• *A Web cam on top of Jerome Library is chronicling the destruction of Rodgers Quad and construction of a new residence center (above view was Sunday morning). The site: <http://oxblue.com/pro/open/bgsu/southcentralresidencehall>.*

CHILI COOK-OFF TIME IN THE OLD TOWN



• Dale and Donna Schmidt will be "host and hostess" for the joint BGSURA and Wood County Retired Teachers luncheon Thursday, March 11, at 1st United Methodist Church. Dale is president of the WCRTA. The Schmidts are sampling their way through the 11 different types of chili at the cook-off.

• Receiving the unofficial prize as the wildest participating group was the two-pot Exchange Club (the chili, itself, took second). From left are Paul Nusser, Luci Gernot, Dave Nershi, Clif Boutelle, Sandy Rowland, and Barb Ruland.



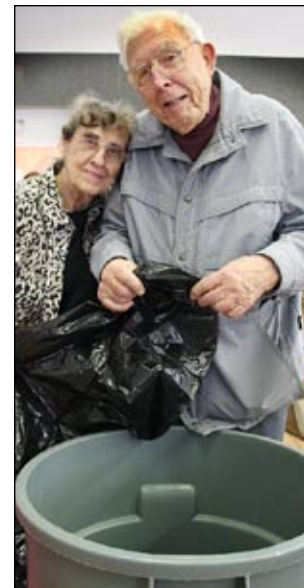
• Far right: Cook-off winner for the second year in a row, Paul Obringer, creative manager/design for BGSU Student Publications, with Michelle Grigore, director of Parks and Recreation for the city, fund-raising chair for Zonta, a sponsor of the cook-off with the Bowling Green Woman's Club and the AAUW.



• Roger Anderson, past president of the BGSURA, and Bernie Scott, past president of the WCRTA, with an ice sculpture on display at the Veterans Bldg.



• Litter control: Former Mayor Wes Hoffman and BGSURA retiree, and Joan Gordon (Woman's Club), a cook-off coordinator with Deb Wooldridge (AAUW), and Michelle Grigore (Zonta).





1956 KEY – JIM GORDON

• *It's winter 1956, and Emil Petti, a business senior who founded Petti's, a popular Italian restaurant for two decades*

on North Main, practices his figure skating on Powell's Pond, between the Art Building and Mercer Road.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

ICE SKATING

WHEN I moved to Ohio in 1965, I had spent most of my prior life in warmer climes. Although I was familiar with the words snow and ice, I had little if any experience with these natural phenomena and, of course, no experience with the sports they generate. That would soon change, for Bob and Elaine Goodwin, who had taken over my initiation into the winters of Bowling Green, asked me one evening the first year I lived here, if I would like to go ice skating. Me – a Louisianian on ice skates! Being somewhat adventurous but also fearful, I said “yes.” I soon found myself on a makeshift ice sheet (there was no ice arena then) trying to stay upright. The ice had lots of dips and bumps along the way, making my



• *Dr. Cormier*

jaunt hazardous.

I was not deterred, however, for when the ice arena was built, I encouraged some friends to join me in skating lessons. I bought my own skates and learned how to move around the practice court without falling. I also learned how to stop and turn around and do a few other tricks. Almost every Saturday we gathered at the practice arena to engage in this winter sport. Sometimes we ended up on the main ice sheet and skated there with the very young Scott Hamilton, who was even then on the road to skating fame.

My ice skating activity continued for several years but finally, as my body aged and as my friends and I became involved in other pursuits, my interest in the sport waned. By then, however, I had become enamored of winter sports. Thanks to the Goodwins, I will enjoy watching the Vancouver Winter Olympics that are unfolding. Enjoy the games yourselves.

• *Dr. Cormier is BGSURA president and Trustee Professor Emeritus. Her e-mail address is rcormie@dacor.net.*



Invitations have been mailed to a reception to welcome BGSU hockey hero Ken Morrow, a member of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey

Team. The reception, \$40 per person, is Saturday, Feb. 27, 5 p.m., at Mileti Alumni Center. For reservations: 888-839-2586 or visit bgsualumni.com/glorify.

Retirees Association NEWSLETTER
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