

Published continuously beginning in June 1995

Vol. 16, No. 4 March 2011

27 College Park, BGSU, Bowling Green, OH 43403 • (419) 372-9696 • E-mail: retirees@bgsu.edu • www.bgsu.edu/retirement



 At his retirement party last June at WBGU-TV, Pat Fitzgerald addresses friends, family, and co-workers. Dave Horger (inset),

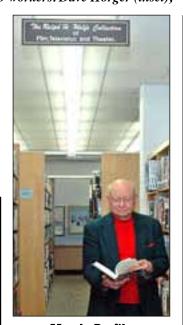
long-time radio news show host, interviews "Fitz." Horger broadcasts mornings over WBGU-Radio 88.1 FM.

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LUNCH RESERVATIONS DUE MARCH 18

OR reservations for the Wednesday, March 23, BGSU Retirees Assn. served luncheon. send an e-mail to Treasurer Hal Lunde <lunde@bgsu.edu>, or mail the form on page 8 with check. Cost is \$14 per person, payable at the door (check to BGSURA preferred).

PLEASE NOTE: Reservations must be paid for regardless of attendance.



March Profile: Ralph Haven Wolfe

Clif Boutelle writes about the life and contributions to BGSU of this North Baltimore native, a fan of Lillian Gish and Eva Marie Saint. The story begins on page 2.

WBGU-TV in focus March 23

Program presented by retired general manager

OWLING Green State University entered the world of educational television broadcasting in February of 1964 with black and white television transmission and with low power. It's been a story of educational service and growth since then. After numerous technological transitions, WBGU-TV has completed its transition to digital and high definition broadcasting.

Patrick Fitzgerald, who was part of the WBGU-TV team at BGSU for 37 years, will share the story of WBGU-TV on Wednesday, March 23, at the BGSU Retirees Assn. Luncheon at Stone Ridge Golf Club, Muirfield Drive, Bowling Green.

During the years into the digital era, Pat "Fitz" led the station as the General Manager of WBGU-TV until his retirement last June.

Born in Cleveland and raised in Parma, Fitz earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Dayton and master's degrees at Dayton and Brooklyn College of City University of New York.

After teaching at St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Ind., and Hunter College, New York City, Fitz joined WBGU-TV as a producer-director in 1972. Next he was director of Television Learning Services, responsible for the direction and development of instructional television and distance learning support for BGSU.

In 1990, Fitz was named director of television services and general manager of WBGU-TV. 🗖



• Ralph Wolfe, at home in North Baltimore

And the Oscar goes to ...

Ralph Wolfe, the ultimate Lillian Gish movie fan, for his dogged persistence and unbridled enthusiasm that has left a distinguished mark on BGSU, both in the classroom and in theater and film

By Clif Boutelle

SELF-PROFESSED homebody, Ralph Haven Wolfe has spent nearly his entire life in Wood County, having been born in Weston and growing up in North Baltimore, where he still lives.

He also has spent a lot of his time in Hanna Hall, where his friendship with film star Lillian Gish has led to the creation of the Lillian and Dorothy Gish Film Theater, drawing national recognition to Bowling

Green University.
From his small-town roots, he has

• Dr. Wolfe with Gish posters at Hanna Hall's Gish Theater. led a rich and varied career that has left an indelible legacy on his hometown and at Bowling Green State University.



As a youngster, Wolfe had two primary interests—going to the library and to the movies. "I probably saw every movie that came to our local theater," he recalls, "and I spent a lot of time at the library, where I was enthralled with the world of books." In fact, they turned into his life's work and he couldn't be happier.

"Dr. Wolfe has worked tirelessly for more than 30 years to not only assist with continued on page 3

A 1982 honorary degree for BG grad Eva Marie Saint presented in Gish Theater - with Lillian Gish on stage

• After the 1982 ceremony, from left: Mrs. Paul (Ruth) Olscamp, Lillian Gish, Eva Marie Saint, Pres. Paul Olscamp, Ralph Wolfe, and Mrs. Hollis (Marian) Moore. Below: Ralph Wolfe and Eva Marie Saint outside Gish Theatre.



• President Hollis Moore approved the nomination of Lillian Gish for an honorary degree for her lifetime of work in movies on condition that Gish would come to the campus to receive the honor. The degree was awarded in 1976 with the dedication of the Lillian and Dorothy Gish Film Theater. The last appearance of Lillian Gish came in 1982, when her good friend and 1946 BGSU graduate and Academy Awardwinning actress ("On the Waterfront") Eva Marie Saint was presented an honorary degree (above). In 1953 Saint starred with Gish in "The Trip to Bountiful," a live TV broadcast.

Wolfe continued

promoting film as an art form on our campus, but to provide students, faculty, and community patrons alike with a wonderful facility for screening films, teaching film courses, and inviting a variety of renowned speakers to help us reflect upon the art of film," said Brett Holden, assistant professor of film studies and associate curator of the Gish Film Theater, perhaps one of Wolfe's most significant achievements.

He graduated from North Baltimore High School in 1948 and entered Bowling Green that Fall majoring in English and French and Spanish. He completed his degree in three years and began a master's program which was interrupted by a twoyear stint in the Army.

Upon his discharge, he continued his master's studies at BGSU in English and French, while also finding time to teach at Montgomery Local High School in Wayne, Ohio, for a year.

Setting his sights on teaching at the university level, he enrolled in a doctoral program at Indiana University, earning his Ph.D. in English and French in 1960. He then taught a semester at Bowling Green

before becoming an assistant professor at Monmouth College in Illinois. A year later he joined the faculty at Indiana State University, where he taught for five years.

EANWHILE his parents bought a home on Main Street in North Baltimore, fulfilling a dream of Wolfe's mother. "It was a home she always wanted to live in, and when it went on the market, my father said he would buy it for her and he did." That was in 1959 and it is where Wolfe currently lives.

He has played a prominent role in North Baltimore, serving on various committees and even performing in some productions of the North Baltimore Repertory Company (as well as with the Black Swamp Players and BGSU Theater). He has devoted much of his attention to the North Baltimore Library and served on its board for 35 years and played a key role in the creation of the Wolfe Community Room as well as the Wolfe Collection of Film, Television and Theatre.

Lesley McKinstry, director of the North Baltimore Public Library for the past nearly 11 years, calls Wolfe "a very kind and generous man," who is "a real asset to our library. He has been a tremendous help in reaching our goals through his involvement, his knowledge and his monetary donations as well as items from his personal collections for the newly created television and movie section."

In 1967, his father passed on, and Wolfe returned to North Baltimore to help his mother. "I was very fortunate because at that time there was an opening in the English Department, and Stan Coffman, who was chair at the time, hired me." His specialty was 19th century romantic literature, prose and poetry.

His longtime interest in movies and the theater took on a new dimension when Mike Marsden and Jack Nachbar, both of whom taught in the popular culture program, started a Film Studies Advisory Committee, which led to the creation of the Journal of Popular Film and Television. Wolfe wrote numerous articles for the journal, which gained a national reputation, and served as the journal's book review editor for 20 years from 1975-95.

As interest in film studies grew on campus, a classic movie series was begun, thanks to the efforts of Dick Lenhart, then director of the Union Activities

Organization. "The continued on page 4

movies were shown in a lecture room in Hanna Hall, and I thought it should have a name and suggested we name it after Lillian Gish, a native Ohioan who began her career in nearby Risingsun, when she appeared in a production there at the age of five."

Wolfe had a picture book featuring Lillian and Dorothy Gish and contacted



• After receiving an honorary doctor of performing arts in October 1995, Roddy McDowall signed autographs in Gish Theater. The actor was co-chair (with Eva Marie Saint) of the Gish Film Theater National Advisory Committee. Foreground, above, is Teri Sharp (left), and Judy Boutelle. Standing in rear are Brett Holden, Les Barber, President Sidney Ribeau, and Charlie Appelbaum. McDowall, a veteran of more than 132 feature films as well numerous stage and television productions, was one of several artists connected to the Gish Theater nominated for honorary degrees by Ralph Wolfe.



• Dr. Ellen Broido

Interviews for research sought from recently retired women employees

By Linda Hamilton

DR. ELLEN BROIDO, an associate professor in BGSU's Department of Higher Education and Student Affairs (HESA), is conducting a research study of women who have worked for BGSU for 25 years or more.

She is interested in our experiences as women and how those experiences changed over time. Participants will complete a face-to-face audio-taped interview.

The interview takes about one hour covers participants' work experiences

at BGSU and a little about their lives. Interviews will be conducted at a time and place of your choosing. Information will remain confidential. The interviewee's name will be changed in the written transcript, and changes may be made on any information in the transcripts. The research will be used in conference presentations and will be published.

Dr. Broido has been on the HESA faculty since 2001. She received her Ed.D. from Penn State University, her M.S. in education from Indiana University, and a B.A. from Columbia College of Columbia University. Her research interests are in social justice allies, diversity education, students with disabilities, lesbian-gay-bisexual and transsexual (LGBS) student issues, and qualitative approaches to research.

Those interested in participating in the study may contact Dr. Broido at ebroido@bgsu.edu or (419) 372-9391. Any faculty, administrative staff or classified staff woman may participate as long as retirement was within the past 2-3 years. Dr. Broido hopes to complete all the interviewed by the end of February.

• Linda Hamilton is an observer at Administrative Staff Council for the BGSU Retirees Association.

the book's editor, James Frasher of New York City. "As it turned out, he was Lillian's manager and said he would tell her about the

honorary degree and naming the theater in her honor and ask if she would come to Bowling Green. We were thrilled when she said she would be happy to come to the campus."

However, she had a condition: that the theater's name include her younger sister, Dorothy, who had died in 1968, a successful actress in her own right and who appeared in several movies with Lillian. And so the official name became the Dorothy and Lillian Gish Film Theater.

continued on page 8



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



• In 1988, Ralph Wolfe invited movie producer Mike Kaplan (right) and actressmodel Lauren Hutton to campus for a showing of "Whales of August," the last film made by Lillian Gish, who made her first movie in 1912. Hutton had acted with Gish in the 1978 film "A Wedding."

What's ahead

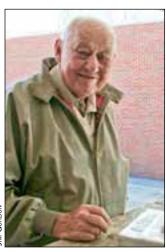
April 12, Tuesday – Joint BGSU-University of Toledo Luncheon, noon, at the Toledo Club. Speaker will be Dr. Richard Putney, director, Art History, UT, on the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. More later from UT. April 13, Wednesday – 8th Book Discussion, home of Evan and Shirley McFee, 1205 Bourgogne, 7 p.m. Ivo Andric's *The Bridge on the River Drina*. Copies available from March 1, Information Desk of the Wood County District Public Library.

THANKS

CAC

Joan Gordon, Ramona Cormier, Clif Boutelle, Douglas Cameron, Dana Sergent Nemeth, Linda Hamilton, David Chilson, Diane and Wally Pretzer, Charlie Applebaum, Craig Bell, Bradley David Phalin, R.K. Clark, Amy Faye Fyn, Kari Johnson, Donna Schmidt

PASSINGS



• A Wheeled Meals driver, Verlin Lee waited at the Wood County Hospital Loading Dock for meals in 2007.

■ VERLIN LEE, 88, a professor emeritus of educational curriculum and instruction, died Dec. 16 in Bowling Green. He retired in 1985 after 21 years with the University. A Navy veteran of World War 2, Lee's GI Bill funds allowed him to earn a

bachelor's and two master's degrees from Marshall University, Huntington, W.Va. He taught high school science while earning a Ph.D. at Ohio State. Dr. Lee taught science education first at Iowa State Teachers College, Cedar Falls, and then joined the BGSU faculty. He was married to Jan Schnupp-Lee, 56, assistant professor emeritus of educational curriculum and instruction, who died in 2002 in Bowling Green.

■ AROL CANFIELD, a purchasing agent for BGSU for 19 years, died Jan. 31 at Hospice at Otterbein Home in Lebanon, Ohio. A Bowling Green native, she was born in 1924. She retired in 1988.

- GEORGIA LEE RUNNING, who was married to Paul D. Running, professor emeritus of art, died last month in Kalamazoo, Mich. For 14 years, Mrs. Running was a classified employee in the Government Documents Section of Jerome Library. She earned a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling from BGSU in 1975. She tutored reading at Conneaut School.
- DEBORAH FLEITZ, 58, of Pleasant Ridge, Mich., who served for 12 years as director of public events for the BGSU College of Musical Arts, died Dec. 10 of ovarian cancer. She was born in New York City. Fleitz left BGSU to become executive assistant to Leonard Slatkin, music director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. At BGSU, Fleitz orchestrated the Festival Series. Her last year at BGSU was 2008.
- JOSEPH HAVRANEK, 59, a profes-

sor emeritus in the School of Intervention Services, died Dec. 13 in Florida. He taught at the University from 1992 until last spring.

- Bruce Klopfenstein, 53, died Feb. 7 in Georgia. A BGSU alumnus, he taught in the telecommunications department from 1985-2000.
- JULIA LEMMERBROCK, 107, died Dec. 29 in Bowling Green. She was a cook for Delta Upsilon fraternity house in the 1960s.
- VELMA KRONBERG, 95, died Jan. 1 in Bowling Green. She was a cook at the University from 1963-78.
- JACQUES RIETZKE, 86, died Jan. 23 in Sylvania. He was a sociology faculty member.
- THOMAS JENSEN, 78, died Dec. 12 in Oregon. He taught in the College of Technology, from 1971-89.
- RONALD KNOPF, 71, died Dec. 16 in Findlay. He was a reading specialist and instructor, Student Support Services, from 1994-2005.
- ELDORA SANDERS, 87, died Jan. 5 in Florida. An executive secretary in the University Bookstore, she retired in 1983. □
 - Compiled from articles in the *Sent-nel-Tribune*, *The Blade*, and *Zoom News* (on-line publication of BGSU's Marketing and Communications Dept).



• Amy Faye Fyn, an assistant professor at Jerome Library, dispenses popcorn to Kellie Tilton, associate librarian for Government Documents.

By the books

By Kari Johnson

THINGS were really popping during exam week last December at the William T. Jerome Library. The University Libraries Department of Teaching & Learning wanted to help students during the challenging exam week by alleviating their stress . . . with popcorn!

Members of the department set time aside during exam week to serve freshly popped popcorn in the library lobby. Students and other staff received an unexpected special treat from the librarians along with some holiday cheer.

The popcorn machine was purchased for the University Libraries by a gracious anonymous donor. It is used throughout the year for several events including the President's Day Open House, National Library Week, Family Campaign and various staff events.

 Kari Johnson is executive assistant at University Libraries

Computer aid offered

BGSURA's computer expert, Charlie Applebaum, has been retained by the Chief Information Officer of BGSU as a resource person for any retired BGSU faculty or staff member within the city with a software problem.

Dr. Applebaum has 49 years of experience in mainframe and personal computing. He may be reached at 419-352-0777 or send an e-mail to applebau@bgsu.edu.



BGSURA Newsletter

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Telephone numbers require a 419 prefix.

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THE BLADE

✓ **LEGISLATION** changing provisions of the state's five statewide public pension plans, including STRS Ohio and the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, was introduced Feb. 1 by Rep. Lynn Wachtmann (R-Napoleon) as House Bill 69. The plan does not include an increase in employer contributions and includes changes that bring the funding period for STRS Ohio pensions to no more than 30 years. These include raising member contributions and cutting benefits.

A placeholder bill addressing pension reform, Senate Bill 3, also was introduced Feb. 1, by Sen. Keith Faber (R-Celina).

Wachtmann said he would like to see pension legislation enacted concurrently with the budget and completed by July 1. Click the following link to view the STRS plan: https://www.strsoh.org/pdfs/40-305.pdf. Provisions are still being debated.

Highlights of House Bill 69 for STRS (470,000 members):

- Increase employee contribution rate, currently at 10 percent.
- Increase minimum retirement age; STRS Board is considering minimum of 60 after 30 years; current is any age after 30 years.
 - Calculate benefits on average salary over five years instead of three.
- Reduce future cost-of-living adjustments for current retirees and reduce and defer such payments for new retirees.

Highlights of House Bill 69 for OPERS (1 million members):

- Raise minimum requirements for retirement with full benefits at 55 years with at least 32 years service.
- Tie cost-of-living adjustments to the federal inflation index capped at 3% compared to the current flat rate of 3%.
- Calculate benefits based on average salary over five years instead of three.
- For sheriffs and other law enforcement members, raise minimum retirement age by two years to 54 with 25 years of service or 64 with 15. Also for court bailiffs and other public safety members.

Highlights of House Bill 69 for Police and Fire Retirement System (54,000 members):

- Raise normal minimum requirements for retirement age from 48 to 52 for new hires only. Benefits based on average five years.
 - Increase member contributions from 10% to 12.5%.
 - Delay cost-of-living adjustments to 55 except for current retirees.

Highlights of House Bill 69 for School Employees Retirement System (192,000 members):

• Increase by two years minimum retirement ages for full benefits by those retiring after Aug. 1, 2015, to 67 with 10 years on the job or 57 with

30 years; for reduced benefits, age 62 with 10 years or 60 with 25.

- Jan. 27 edition

✓ **SPAIN** upped its retirement age from 65 to 67 to reassure jittery markets that the country can handle its heavy debt burden. The nation's Cabinet approved the increase.

- Jan. 29 edition

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

✓ **THE FEDERAL** insider-trading robe is being felt by the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio, which invested in two hedge funds raided as part of the investigation. As soon as news of those raids broke, executives of the pension fund flew to New York to question the two firms, Level Global Investors and Diamondback Capital Management.

- Jan. 24 edition

✓ **ARKANSAS** has sued State Street Corp., expanding the investigation into whether banks overcharged public pension funds by tens of millions of dollars for foreign-exchange transactions. The suit in federal court in Massachusetts, which seeks class-action status, alleges that Boston-based State Street for more than a decade violated state law by overcharging many customers for currency trades. The Arkansas system, with \$11 billion in assets, has more than 115,000 active and retired members.

- Feb. 11 edition

✓ CITY FATHERS in Pittsburgh, Pa., will need a Hail Mary pass to save the city pension system. By relying on outdated actuarial tables, making only minimum payments and failing to limit benefits as the number of active workers paying into plans fell, Pittsburgh has accumulated a \$700-million unfunded liability. Its 29.5% funding level is among the lowest in the U.S.

- Feb. 5-6 edition

✓ **AN EDITORIAL** noted pension reform In Utah as a model. The system last March replaced defined benefit pensions with a 401(k)-style plan for or new state and municipal workers. In 2008, the fund lost 22% of its assets. From nearly 100% funded in 2007, it fell to 70% funded by 2009. The state was assuming a 7.75 annual return on investment, but actuaries found that if that return fell to only 6%, the system would be technically insolvent.

- Jan. 19 edition

✓ **AS RECORD** numbers of high school students are taking the Advanced Placement exam, a rising percentage are scoring at the lowest level possible, according to national dataa on 2010 graduates released Feb. 9. Students posted 1's, the lowest possible score, on 23% of all AP exams. Ten years ago, that number stood at 14%, according to the College Board.

- Feb. 10 edition

Members of BGSU Retirees Assn. invited to WCRTA lunch

SPEAKER for the annual Legislative Luncheon of the Wood County Retired Teachers Assn. March 17 will be Bill Phillips, Western Area vice president of the Ohio Retired Teachers Assn., Inc. Location is Pemberville's Riverview Banquet Center.

Menu for the \$17.50 lunch includes grilled chicken and/or ham loaf, mashed potatos and gravy, green beans, fruit and cream pies and sugar-free pies.

Reservations are due by Monday, March 7. The reservation form is at right.

The Riverview Banquet Center (known to many as the Pemberville Legion Hall), is at 405 East Front Street.

Wood County Retired Teachers Assn. L	egislative	Luncheon
Reservation Form		

■ March 17, noon, Pemberville's Riverview Banquet Center (Legion Hall)

Name(s)_____

Address Phone

City______ State _____ ZIP _____

No. of Luncheons @ \$17.50 _____ Total____

Check payable to WCRTA. Deadline is Monday, March 7.
Mail to Nancy Buchanan, 20983 Hoytville Rd., Deshler, OH 43516.

Snapshots from the Jan.19 BGSURA Luncheon

Despite a week-long postponement because of bad weather, 85 retirees and guests were charmed by now-skydiver and professor Montana Miller, who teaches in BGSU's Popular Culture Department.



• Jane Robb and Lolita Guthrie





• Nora Liu, Harold Lunde, Montana Miller, Genevieve Stang



• Montana Miller, Dick Edwards, Elayne Jacoby, Nadine Edwards, Joe Jacoby



• Ilse Thomas, Pat Koehler, Patrick Fitzgerald

• Jim Corbitt, Mark Kelly, Janet Parks



DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

judith.ellen.miller@gmail.com (e-mail corrected) Miller, of Birch St. Mary L. Reynolds, of Wayne (name correction: not Mary L. Robb) Send changes and corrections to jgordon@bgsu.edu or 888-564-8592.



• Dave Chilson, Jim Corbitt, Montana Miller

Honored



• Bob and Emily Guion are being honored for their dedication to marriage (63 years) and volunteerism by the Ohio Department of Aging. At Wood County Hospital, Bob and Emily (far right) prepared for delivery of Wheeled Meals in 2007. Biograpies of the 22 couples for the 12th annual Joined Hearts in Giving celebration at the Governor's residence may be found at www. aging.ohio.gov/news/joinedheartsgiving.

PHOTOS BY JIM GORDON

President's Corner

By Ramona Cormier

Yoga

HAVE been engaged in the practice of yoga for about eight years. Yoga, an ancient discipline originating in India, is associated with meditative practices in Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism. All of the many forms of yoga focus on the

relationship of the body and mind. In the west, yoga is generally identified with hathayoga, developed in 15th century India and based on the principle that the purification of the body leads to the purification of the mind.



• Ramona Cormier

Since I am not Hindu, I practice yoga for its stretching exercises that make my body supple and

hopefully more graceful in its move-

• Jeanne Stoner (left) and Danielle Cobb in a yoga class last April taught by R.K. Clark (background) at the Presbyterian Church, S. Prospect St., Bowling Green.

ments. Also I appreciate the exercises that coordinate my breath, the life force of yoga, with body movements that calm the stress in my body. Yoga reminds me that there are parts of my physical being, particularly my neck, shoulders, and lower back, that need special care. It is through awareness of my body that

I come to purify my mind. Especially meaningful to me is the meditation time at the end of each yoga session when my body and mind are one.

I strongly recommend yoga. Try the practice. □

• Dr. Cormier, Trustee Professor Emeritus, may be reached at rcormie@dacor.net.

Wolfe continued

Wolfe has worked tirelessly to make the Gish Film Theater and Gallery one of the campus's crowning jewels. He created a national advisory committee co-chaired by Saint and actor Roddy McDowall, whom Wolfe brought to campus in 1995 when he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Performing Arts degree.

Since 1989 Wolfe has been instrumental in raising more than \$500,000 for the Gish Film Theater Endowment, and he initiated the Lillian Gish, and Eva Marie Saint Scholarships, both of which were endowed

by the actresses. In addition, he endowed a scholarship in memory of his parents. To most, Wolfe's legacy at BGSU will be the creation of the Gish Film Theater and the Wolfe Video Viewing Center, which opened last fall, as well as his efforts in the development of the study of film and television.

OT to be overlooked though is his work as a scholar and teacher. Though he has written numerous articles for various journals and been involved in numerous other scholarly activities, such as being one of the few American

professors to take part in the Wordsworth Summer Conference in England, it is teaching students that he considers one of his major accomplishments. "I really enjoyed my relationship with students and helping them learn and develop," he said.

Recognition of his teaching contributions came when he was awarded the title of Distinguished Teaching Professor of English. In Faculty Senate, Wolfe served as chair, vice chair and secretary.

He formally retired from the University in 1998 but has not severed his ties, continuing as curator of the Gish Film Theater and Gallery.

Reservation - BGSURA Full-Service Luncheon at Stone Ridge Reservation deadline Friday, March 18

Luncheon Wednesday, March 23

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:

Harold Lunde, BGSURA Treasurer,

880 Country Club Dr., Bowling Green, OH 43402.

2. Reservations by e-mail: hlunde@bgsu.edu. Pay by cash or check at the door.

Deadline for reservations Friday, March 11

House Salad with Ranch and French Dressing Warm Rolls and Butter Chicken Mornay Oven-roasted Mashed Potatoes with Gravy On side Honey-glazed Carrots Water Service on **Tables** Iced Tea and Lemonade on Tables Alternating Coffee and Hot Tea Station

Hot Served Luncheon