



May Social Continues Tradition

On February 22nd, 2008, the idea of a BGSURA-sponsored cocktail party became reality with Wally and Diane Pretzer and Roger and Betty Jean Anderson co-hosting the event at the Andersons' home. Participants brought hors d'oeuvres to share; the four hosts provided beverages. Since that time, the arrangement has been modified so that all who come bring their own beverages to drink and hors d'oeuvres to share. According to this arrangement, the following have hosted cocktail parties: Roger and Betty Jean Anderson, Chris and Ellen Dalton, Ron and Sharon Gargas, Milt and Lee Hakel, Emmy Hann, Pat and Chuck Koehler (twice), Nancy and Fred Leetch, Vic Norton and Kathleen Tweney, Marie Rogers and Jim Corbitt, Don and Char Scherer, Elmer and Elaine Spreitzer, and Ralph Wolfe (six times during the Christmas holiday season).

On Thursday, May 5, Gaylyn and Jan Finn hosted the latest gathering at their lovely home on Deer Ridge Run. Congeniality and conviviality flourished amid eating and drinking. Besides the Finns, those attending this event included the following: Charlie and Barbara Applebaum, Judy and Clif Boutelle, Milt and Lee Hakel, Linda and George Hamilton, Joy Kantner, Bill and Emily Lake, Dianne Mershman, Vic Norton and Kathleen Tweney, Tom and Barbara O'Brien, Diane and Wally Pretzer, Carol Sanner, Peg Schaller, Jane Schimpf, Ilse Thomas, and Ralph Wolfe.

The seventh holiday cocktail party at Ralph Wolfe's thoroughly decorated home (both the interior and the exterior) will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, December 15th. Please plan to bring your own beverages (alcoholic or nonalcoholic) and hors d'oeuvres to share. You will receive further notice of this event. □



Story and photos by Wally & Diane Pretzer.

more photos on pages 5 & 6

Above:
Jane Schimpf, Diane Pretzer, Clif Boutelle, Lee Hakel

Right:
Milt Hakel, Gaylyn Finn, Tom O'Brien



Please return the membership form on page 8 and the ballot being mailed separately.

REPORTS

Update on Classified Staff Council (CSC)

No report was available for this newsletter.

Update on Administrative Staff Council (ASC)

by Judy Donald
Observer for BGSURA

April 7, 2016 meeting

Chair Jeremy Joseph called the meeting to order.

The guest speaker was Lt. John Stewart of the BGSU Police Division and K9 Jerry. Jerry is a Belgian Shepherd from the Netherlands. His commands are in Dutch. He is a “working” dog, not a “pet”. He cost \$12,000 and was given to BGSU by the Ohio Homeland Security Department. Jerry is explosive trained. He is not a drug dog, but instead sniffs out the materials that can be used to make bombs. He trains every month to stay in practice.



Judy Donald is the BGSURA representative to ASC.

Jeremy met with HR and learned that the retirement fair was a huge success.

HR is thinking of having the Mercer Group return to campus for an update as they were last here in 2011.

The Smoking Policy Committee is reviewing/revising the previous version and hope to have a new version to submit in May 2016. □

Summary of Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER) Board Meeting March 22, 2016

Roger Anderson and Karol King attended the OCHER Board meeting in Columbus at STRS Headquarters. Dr. John W. Cavanaugh, ORTA's seventh Executive Director as of January 1, 2016, was introduced as a guest. The minutes of November 17, 2015 were approved as written. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$5,424.22 in the OCHER account as of March 22nd.

President Anderson introduced Aristotle L. Hutras of The Aristotle Group, a consulting firm in Columbus. Hutras had served as Director of the Ohio Retirement Study Council from 1990 to 2011. Prior to that, he was Executive Secretary of the Ohio House of Representatives from 1985-1990. Hutras covered a number of topics of interest including a strong endorsement and advocacy of defined benefit public pension plans compared to defined contribution plans; the necessity for pension reform in 2012 which the Ohio Retirement Study

Council had recommended seventeen years before; the history and need for the STRS mitigating rate; the disadvantage of term limits for Ohio legislators; his opposition to HJR 6, which if passed, would force the Ohio pension systems to divest any investments doing business with Syria, Sudan, Iran, and Cuba.

Michele Hobbs presented the OPERS Report. As of February, 2016, investments are \$83.2 billion. In December, 2015 the OPERS budget for 2016 was approved. With significant changes included, this is 4.8% greater than the previous year.

Dick Hill from OSURA presented the STRS Board Meetings Summary and Legislative Update. STRS investments, as of February 29, 2016, are at \$67.440 billion, a 4.7% decrease since the start of the Fiscal Year, June 30, 2015. The STRS Health Care Solvency Projections completed by Segal Consulting in December, 2015, demonstrates that the STRS Health Care Program has an estimated eleven to fifteen years remaining. The health care investment fund as of December 31, 2015 was \$3.258 billion, a decrease of \$19 billion from 2014. At its retreat in January the STRS Board was presented with sixteen proposed health care program changes for 2017; six in the medical plan design; four in the prescription plan design; three changes in eligibility; and three changes in subsidy to health care. The Board discussed these changes at their March meeting and will recommend changes for 2017 at their April meeting.

After lunch the OCHER Board heard from Greg Nickell, Director of Health Care Services for STRS. Nickell provided further elaboration of the sixteen proposed changes in the STRS Health Care Plan. The Board will consider changes in the 2017 Health Care Plan at its April meeting, and any long-term changes later in 2016. He said any changes would have to provide “good value.” The Board is considering dropping subsidies for Part B Medicare for survivors, and charging \$50 a month extra for retirees who did not contribute to Part B Medicare in the past.

Following Nickell's remarks, Marla Bump, Director of Government Relations for STRS, was introduced. She said in February Representative Terry Johnson (R.) introduced House Joint Resolution, HJR 6, which, if passed by a three-fifths majority of both Houses, would be placed on the Ohio ballot in November, 2016 as a Constitutional Amendment. The amendment would require state agencies and pension funds to end investments in companies with specific business operations in Iran, Sudan, Syria, and Cuba. Bump said STRS Ohio strongly opposes HJR 6, primarily because in 2007 the retirement systems adopted voluntary divestment policies that make HJR 6 unnecessary. These policies have led to major reductions in

continued on page 3

OCHER Meeting *continued from page 2*

investment holdings in companies with operations in Iran and the Sudan. As fiduciaries acting in the interest of their members, the STRS Board cannot pursue political or social agendas. The resolution, Bump said, has been assigned to the House Government Accounting and Oversight Committee, chaired by Representative Tim Brown (R. Bowling Green). STRS members were encouraged to write their respective Senators and Representatives expressing opposition to HJR 6. Bump said she expected a quiet legislative year given the Presidential primaries and the national election.

At the national level, Representative Devin Nunes (R.CA), with six co-sponsors, re-introduced the Public Employee Pension Transparency Act (PEPTA), H.R. 4822, linking the need for this legislation to the debt crisis in Puerto Rico. Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch called on Congress to attach similar public pension reporting requirements to any aid for Puerto Rico. National groups representing state and local governments, elected officials, state pension systems oppose this legislation because it would impose inappropriate federal mandates and penalties for noncompliance. Bump said Republican Senator Orrin Hatch is expected to re-introduce his bill, the Secure Annuities for Employee Retirement Act. The legislation would create a new public pension model, based on annual annuity contracts. Hatch said the proposed legislation would be a vested, portable, and fully-funded pension that would never need government subsidy. STRS Ohio is opposed to this legislation as are the other Ohio public pension systems.

The Advocacy Committee, the Ad Hoc OCHER Constitutional Revision Committee, and the Nominating Committee met. Jim Lapp, University of Toledo, Chair of the Ad Hoc Constitutional Revision Committee, went over the suggested changes in the OCHER Constitution. The OCHER Council accepted the changes and recommended that they be voted on at the May 17th OCHER meeting. President Anderson said the Nominating Committee met and will present a slate of officers for the May 17th meeting. Jim Kweder, Cleveland State, Chair of the Advocacy Committee presented the following resolution for a vote regarding the University of Akron situation. It read as follows: The Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees support the efforts of the Association of the University of Akron Retirees to represent the interests and express the concerns of retired faculty and staff of the University who desire to be heard on matters of University governance and administration of the institution to which they remain loyal and committed. The motion to approve the resolution was unanimous. President Anderson will send a copy of the resolution to Dr. Diane Vukovich, President of the Association of the University of Akron Retirees. Kweder reported the OCHER Policy Priority Recommendations approved by the Advocacy Committee. The report was accepted by the Board. The priority recommendations will be presented for approval at the May Board meeting. □

Authors, Authors

BGSURA member Charles Crow (retired from the English department) announces the publication of his new book **The Palgrave Handbook of the Southern Gothic**, co-edited with Susan Castillo Street. Those interested in more information can contact Charles.

BGSURA Newsletter

37 College Park Office Bldg.
Bowling Green, OH 43403-0201
(419) 372-9696
www.bgsu.edu/retirement
E-mail: retirees@bgsu.edu
Telephone numbers require a 419 prefix.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
President, **Chris Sexton**, 354-2834
csexton@wcnet.org
Vice President, **TBA**
Secretary, **Carol Sanner**, 352-7779
csanner@bgsu.edu
Treasurer, **Gaylyn Finn**, 352-0592
gfinn3@woh.rr.com
Ohio Council of Higher Education
Retirees Representatives
Roger Anderson, 354-6451
rogerca@bgsu.edu
Karel King, 659-2228

DIRECTORS
Charlie Applebaum, 352-0777
applebau@bgsu.edu
James Corbitt, 352-7877
jcorb19@wcnet.org
Jan Finn, 352-0592
jfinn@bgsu.edu
Barbara Keller, 807-8144
bykeller@msn.com
Karel King, 659-2228
wking10@woh.rr.com
Patricia Koehler, 352-6180
prkoehler730@gmail.com
Tina Martini, 352-8817
jmartini001@woh.rr.com
Barbara Moses, 352-7979
bmoses@bgsu.edu
Jan Peterson, 352-7168
jpeters@bgsu.edu
Bob Thayer, 354-2827
thayerr@bgsu.edu
Bonnie Woods, 353-1108
bjwoods221@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Activities **Jan Finn**
Benevolence **Jan Peterson**
Bylaws **Roger Anderson, Barbara Keller**
Database **Paul Lopez**
Membership **James Corbitt, Sue Hager**
Nominating **Jan Peterson**
Office Staffing **Barbara Keller**
Program **Ellen Dalton, Barbara Moses**

OBSERVERS

Admin. Staff Council **Judy Donald**
Classified Staff Council **Linda Hammer**
REPRESENTATIVE
Faculty Senate **TBA**

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Ellen Dalton
352-7230, edalton@bgsu.edu
Webmaster, **Carol Lininger**
clining@bgsu.edu
Basketmaster **Betty Jean Anderson**
rogerca@bgsu.edu

Faculty Senate Report

by Ellen Williams, Out-going Representative for BGSURA

Highlights from the **April 5 2016 meeting** included:

- Chair of Senate, Allen Rogel, applauded the efforts of BGSU-FA and the university's administration for completing negotiations on the new Collective Bargaining Agreement. Rogel also reminded Senators that our Academic Charter calls for the sixteenth week of the semester to be used for final exams. Any deviation from this practice requires permission from the Provost.
- President Mazey reported that we anticipate receiving \$17.5 million in capital funding to be used for basic infrastructure on the "Tradition Buildings" (Moseley, University, Hanna, and South Halls). Additional funding is expected for Firelands, the Forensic Science Laboratory, and needed equipment to link the work of the School of Media and Communications to the work of WBGU. Mazey reported that BGSU would be hosting a Statehouse Falcons Reception in Columbus on April 12th in honor of University Trustee Betty Montgomery and State Representative Terry Bosse, both BGSU alumni.
- Provost Rogers announced that enrollment numbers continue to be steady. He thanked all faculty who had participated in enrollment and retention activities. Rogers recognized the work of Julie Matuga in making the Teaching and Learning Fair a success. More than 400 people attended the Fair's luncheon. The Provost also thanked all faculty who attended the two Open Forums on Performance Based budgeting.
- Senate Executive Committee, in consultation with President Mazey, rendered a Charter interpretation relative to the question as to whether Senators elected to Senate by the Adjunct Faculty Senate Standing Committee were eligible to serve on Senate Standing Committees (such as SEC) as College Representatives. Since Senators elected via the Adjunct Faculty Committee (AFC) represent all adjunct faculty on campus, they do not represent individual colleges, therefore those AFC Senators are not eligible for any standing committees that call for representatives of a College.
- AFC Chair Rob Obey requested that the Amendments and Bylaws committee review the Charter to look at potential issues as they relate to adjunct participation on Senate committees or eligibility for Senate officer positions.
- CAA Chair David Border reported that the Committee on Academic Affairs had reviewed two policies related to undergraduate course credit, the International Baccalaureate policy and the BGP Transfer policy.
- A Charter Amendment for the Academic Honesty Policy was presented calling for the right of students to waive their appeals in academic honesty cases. Amendment was approved.

Highlights from the **April 26 2016 meeting** included the following:

- Chair Allen Rogel thanked Senators for their work on Faculty Senate for the 2015-2016 year. He stated that since David Border has been elected Vice Chair of Senate for next year, there would be a need to replace Border as Senate Parliamentarian.
- Provost Rodney Rogers shared the President's report as well as the Provost's report. Rogers noted that according to Bloomberg Business Week, BGSU's College of Business Administration undergraduate program has been ranked among the top 5% of programs in the nation and the top 2% in the world. The Provost reported that the Board of Trustees would vote on renaming South Hall to the Michael and Sara Kuhlman Center at their May 6th meeting. Rogers announced that Dr. Tom Gibson will be our new Vice President for Student Affairs. He thanked recently resigned Chris Kingston for his work as Athletic Director and noted that a new AD would be announced in May.
- Christina Guenther reported on behalf of BGSU-FA that the membership had given a 95% approval vote for the new Collective Bargaining Agreement. The CBA proposal will go to the Board of Trustees at its May 6th meeting, and if approved would go into effect on July 1, 2016.
- Two new Academic Charter Amendments were approved. The first is a standing invitation from SEC for the chair or designee of each Senate Standing Committee and a representative of BGSU-FA to attend SEC meetings. (Attendance is not mandatory and representatives will not have voting privileges on the SEC.) The second offers a definition of "Primacy of Law" ... and states that "legal primacy" of the Collective Bargaining Agreement applies when there are no conflicts with superordinate legislation or regulation at either the state or the federal level.
- Dr. Derek Mason gave a presentation to the faculty on a proposal for a new Master of Social Work program with a focus on gerontology. Proposal was approved by Senate.
- Chief Information Officer John Ellinger provided an update on new technological changes at BGSU.
- Al DeMaris and Laura Sanchez presented results from a faculty survey on HB 48, openly carrying weapons on campus.
- Outgoing Chair Allen Rogel passed the gavel to incoming Faculty Senate Chair, Rachele Hippler. □



Dianne Mershman, Clif & Judy Boutelle



Jane Schimpf, Dianne Mershman, Peg Schaller, Carol Sanner



Ralph Wolfe, Wally Pretzer



Tom O'Brien, Victor Norton



Carol Sanner, Ralph Wolfe



Charlie & Barbara Applebaum



Diane Pretzer, Jan Finn



George & Linda Hamilton



Jan Finn, Jane Schimpf, Barbara O'Brien



Ilse Thomas & Jan Finn



Tom & Barbara O'Brien



Bill & Emily Lake

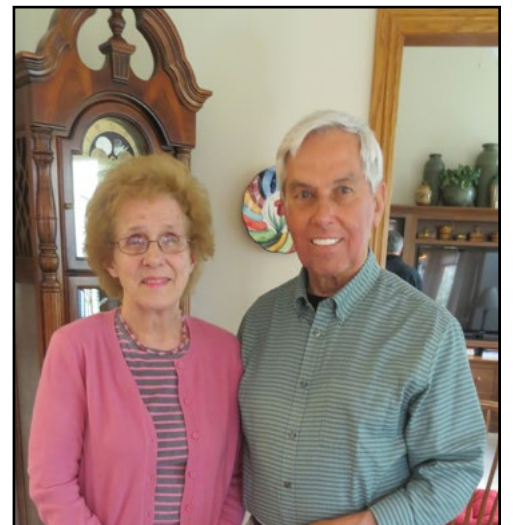


Lee & Milt Hakel

Left: Linda Hamilton, Joy Kantner



Right: Judy & Clif Boutelle



PASSINGS

For the period March 9 - April 30, 2016. Photos are included when they were available.

■ **ELISA CANO, 81**, passed away on April 19, 2016, in Bowling Green, Ohio. She was a classified staff member and served the university for many years.

■ **JOHN CHUN, 86**, died March 10, 2016, in Spokeo, Illinois. An associate professor emeritus of English, he retired in 1995 after serving BGSU Firelands campus for 20 years. He taught both English and American Literature.

■ **LEONA 'NONIE' CONVERSE, 83**, died March 26, 2016, in Bowling Green, Ohio. She served BGSU as a baker at the Kohl Hall Bakery.

■ **JEAN ROE CROZIER, 73**, passed away April 5, 2016, in Perrysburg, Ohio. She retired as a supervisor in food service after 25 years with the university.

■ **RAYMOND GONYER, 66**, died on April 4, 2016, in Toledo, Ohio. An electrical supervisor with Campus Operations, he retired in 2005 after 26 years of service.

■ **KENNETH KIPLE, 77**, passed away on March 27, 2016, in Bowling Green, Ohio. He was a Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of History and retired in 2007. He taught part-time two additional years from 2008-2010.

■ **GENEVA LONG, 78**, died April 14, 2016, in Maumee, Ohio. She began work at BGSU in 1961 as a business services supervisor with Instructional Media Services. After periods of time away, she returned in 1972, and retired as budget officer in 2009.

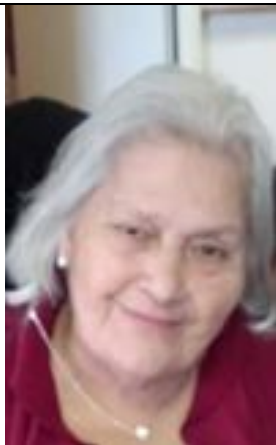
■ **MARK PARSONS, 62**, passed away March 23, 2016, in Toledo, Ohio. For many years he served BGSU as a groundskeeper.

■ **TREVOR J. PHILLIPS, 89**, a professor emeritus of educational foundations and inquiry, died March 17th, 2016, in South Surrey, British Columbia, Canada. He retired in 1995 after 32 years at BGSU. Originally from Manchester, England, he immigrated to Canada and later to the United States in 1962 to complete both advanced degrees. During his tenure at BGSU, he co-edited the journal "New Directions in Teaching," and served as Department Chair.

■ **DEBORAH SARVER**, a Bowling Green Ohio resident, passed away on April 21, 2016, in Lima, Ohio. She retired from the university after working as Media-Tech Assistant 2, at the Jerome Library.

■ **JOANNE SPOERL, 82**, passed away April 13, 2016, in Bowling Green, Ohio. She worked at the BGSU Bookstore for many years.

■ **HELEN UHLER, 87**, of Grand Rapids, Ohio, passed away March 19, 2016. She was a cook with BGSU Dining Services from 1979-



Elisa Cano



Leona 'Nonie' Converse



Jean Roe Crozier



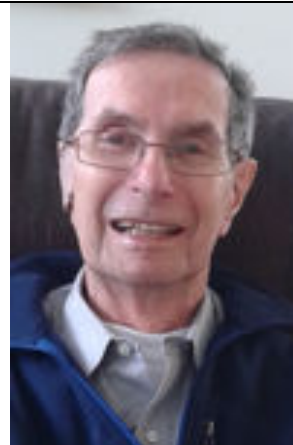
Raymond Gonyer



Kenneth Kiple



Geneva Long



Trevor Phillips



Joanne Spoerl

President's Message

With the end of another activities year and the annual election we say good-bye to several board members

Jim Corbitt and Pat Koehler are both termed out but will remain on the membership committee. Secretary Carol Sanner needs to devote more time to family so she is leaving after two terms. These three individuals have given their time and energy to our board work and association activities. THANK YOU!

There is one person, Jan Peterson, who will still be on the board but deserves a big THANK YOU. Jan is chair of the nominating committee and has put a lot of time and effort identifying election candidates, committee members and appointees. She is also in charge of Benevolence and keeping records of those who have passed. Her hours of work certainly have made my job easier!

Like any organization that depends on volunteers BGSURA needs service and dedication from members. A big pat on the back to those who have stepped up to help our organization grow and prosper.

Chris Sexton



• To reach Chris Sexton: csexton@wcnet.org or call 419-354-2834.

2016-17 Membership Year. Please fill out and return this membership form to save us the expense (stationery, printing, postage) of sending a reminder by mail in September after the first luncheon.

Stay in touch. Don't let your membership lapse.

* Name _____

* Address _____

* City _____ * State _____ * Zip _____

* Phone _____

* E-mail address _____

*** IMPORTANT:**
The information with an * asterisk will be used to compile a 2017 BGSURA Directory. Please circle any information you do NOT want to appear in the Directory.

How would you like your BGSURA Newsletter delivered to you? (email saves BGSURA mailing costs)

email U.S. Postal Service

Check All That Apply/Applied: OPERS STRS

Administrative Classified Faculty

No. of years at BGSU _____ Date you retired _____

Dept./Office from which you retired _____

Please sign me up as a:

Full member, until June 30, 2017...\$16.

Associate member (Spouse/widow/widower of retiree), 1 year \$8.

Life member \$200.

Associate Life member \$100.

- TO JOIN or RENEW -

Make check payable to BGSURA and mail it with this form to:

BGSU Retirees Association
Room 37, College Park Office Bldg., BGSU
Bowling Green, OH 43403-0201