

Lunch form on page 8

15 College Park Office Bldg., BGSU, Bowling Green, OH 43403-0201 • (419) 372-9696
E-mail: retirees@bgsu.edu • Web: www.bgsu.edu/faculty_staff/



Photo by Cliff Boutelle

• *Paul Haas is the subject of a Profile by Pallister. A high school photo of a daughter, Karen, an art therapist in Decorah, Iowa, is in the background. The feature on Dr. Haas is on page 2.*

What's ahead

- **Nov. 15** – BGSURA Luncheon. David Bienemann, Bowling Green City Arborist.
- **Dec. 22** (Friday) – Socializing with pay-as-you-go wine tasting and dinner off the menu, 5:30 p.m., Bowling Green Country Club. Reservations by Dec. 15 to Roger Anderson (E-mail preferred, rogerca@bgsu.edu), phone 419-354-6451.
- **Jan. 6, 2007** (Saturday) – 11:30 a.m. Socializing and lunch in Bowen-Thompson Union Food Court (BGSU on break). 1 p.m. Women's basketball vs. Buffalo Anderson Arena; tickets at door.
- **Jan. 17, 2007** – BGSURA Luncheon. Program arranged by Jim George, BGSU graduate and Wauseon music teacher.
- **March 14, 2007** – BGSURA joint meeting, Wood County Retired Teachers Assn.
- **March 23 or 24, 2007** – BGSU Planetarium Show. TBA.
- **April 18, 2007** – BGSURA joint meeting with Toledo retirees.
- **May 2007** – Bryan, Ohio, tours, including Spangler Candy Co..
- **May 16, 2007** – BGSURA Luncheon. Mary Alice Powell, retired Food Editor and Sunday columnist for *The Blade*.
- **June 2007** – Toledo Mud Hens game.
- **July 2007** – Edison Museum tour in Milan, Ohio; Huron Playhouse performance.

'I think that I shall never see...'



Photo by Jim Gordon

• *City Arborist David S. Bienemann at City Park observing a workshop on basic arborist training. Bowling Green hosted the week-long session for workers from the city, Fremont, Toledo, Wapakoneta, Tiffin and Perrysburg.*

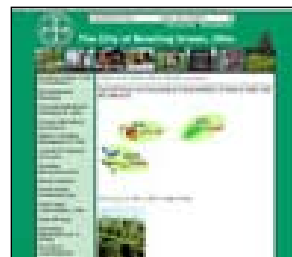
Municipal Arborist on Nov. 15 luncheon program

THE arborist for the City of Bowling Green, David S. Bienemann, will be the speaker at the Nov. 15 luncheon of the BGSU Retirees Association at the First United Methodist Church, East Wooster St. This professional loves trees — well, most of the 8,000 within the city limits. Forget the dead and diseased, those interfering with power lines and underground infrastructure and right-of-way, which are being removed.

Now into his third year as municipal arborist, Bienemann is virtually on a first-name basis with every Bowling Green tree. Computer-savvy, with software that lets him look down on every yard and tree lawn, Bienemann was raised in Waverly, Iowa, watching “Wild Kingdom” with Marlin Perkins. Early on he traipsed across an uncle’s nearby 90-acre farm where he developed his love for the outdoors. Now he hunts with bow and arrow in southern Ohio and fly fishes in northern Michigan.

Bienemann has bachelor’s degrees in forestry (1988 from Iowa State University, where he was in the Army ROTC unit and served two years in the Field Artillery) and labor economics (1995 from the University of Akron).

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• *The Bowling Green Urban and Forestry home page on the Web is at www.bghio.org/arborist/index.html*

Paul Haas:

Committed, generous, caring

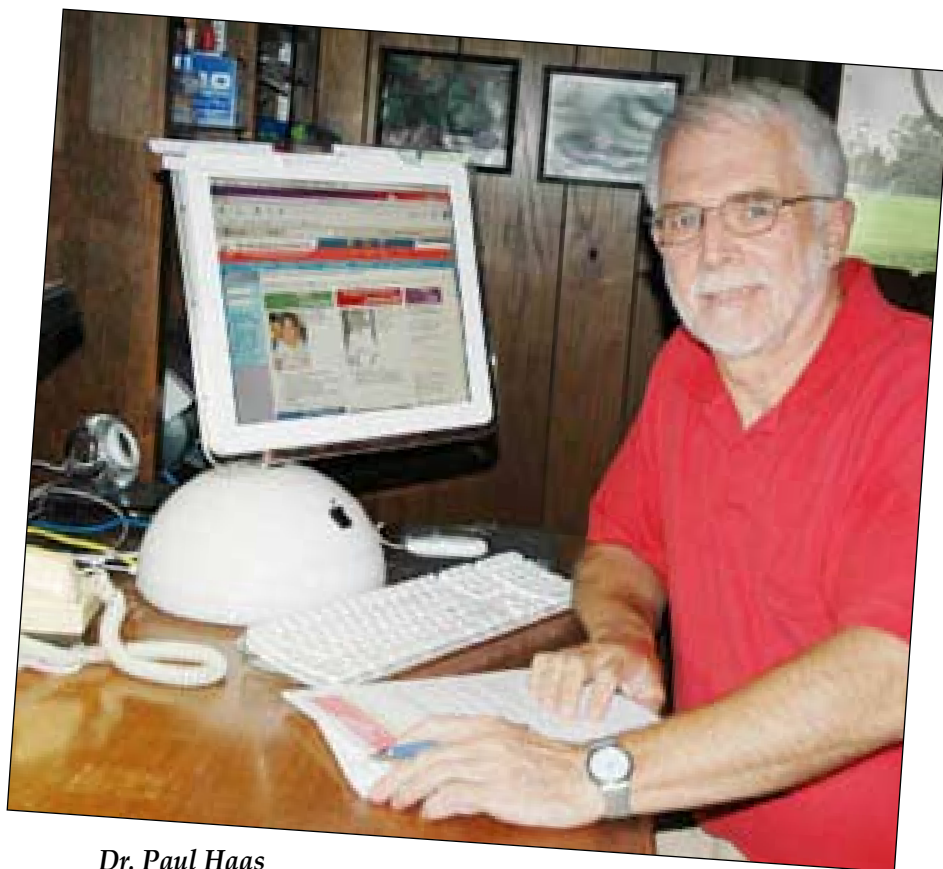
BY JAN PALLISTER

OUR speculum is today on Paul Haas, a man whose personal life has led him to profound involvement in the affliction of hemophilia. He became interested in this issue many years ago, when his two young sons (Greg and Tim) were diagnosed as hemophiliacs.

But he was pushed even more deeply into surrounding problems, such as the purity of the American blood supply when Greg, then 32, and Tim, then 26, received clotting medicine contaminated with HIV and hepatitis C. The two sons died within 7 months of each other, Tim in November 1994, Greg in June 1995. And this tragedy was compounded by his wife Rosie being simultaneously diagnosed with leukemia. She passed away in April, 1995. In the following account of Paul's experiences you will see how he has eschewed rancor, and turned what might have been abandonment to grief into a highly constructive life.



Profile by
Pallister



Dr. Paul Haas

Photo by Cliff Boutelle

Born in Warren Ohio, Paul Haas grew up in Niles. He considers himself the product of many people's influences, and, in particular, that of the dean at John Carroll University, who encouraged him when he was a senior in college to leave business as a major and to enter graduate school as a student of economics. In the Army ROTC at John Carroll, he was commissioned as a first lieutenant because he had been in graduate school for four years. He was promoted to captain in the Transportation Corps because of the accelerated promotions due to the Vietnam war and stationed at Fort Devens, Mass., from 1965-1967.

Paul arrived at BGSU in 1967 (but earned his PhD from Boston College in 1970). He subsequently moved up through the ranks to full professor and finally, in 1996, was named Distinguished Teaching Professor of Economics. He retired in 2004.

Paul says, "I am interested in policy issues and the economics of public

health, specifically public health issues related to blood. I am also interested in research on pedagogy and critical thinking." Indeed, Paul is noted on the BGSU campus for his collaboration on honors courses and for his involvement in education issues.



For a helping hand

THOSE interested in helping with the work of the National Hemophilia Foundation may make a contribution to the foundation at 116 West 32nd St., New York NY 10001. □

So much is this true that, in addition to his being named Distinguished Teaching Professor, he has received several awards from BGSU in recognition of his unique contributions.

continued on next page

Dr. Pallister photo by Lisa Dutton, The Blade, with permission

Paul Haas *continued*

These include Community Involvement Award (2003, Provost and Faculty Senate); Faculty Teaching Award (2001, College of Business Administration); Faculty Service Award (1997 and 2003, College of Business Administration); Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award (1994, Graduate Business Student Association) and Faculty Excellence Award (1994, Undergraduate Student Government).

Paul has written dozens of articles and delivered many papers on questions of education, critical thinking, and health issues. Among these we note the following, as they relate to his concerns regarding critical thinking and hemophilia:

"Genetic Testing: Who Should Pay?" at the 3rd International Scientific Conference on Alpha 1-Antitrypsin Deficiency: The Challenge of a Genetic Condition, in Washington, D.C., June 20, 2001.

"Demand and Supply of Blood Products: The Tyranny of Disciplines," at the Advisory Committee on Blood Safety and Availability, in Washington, D.C., Aug. 24, 2000.

"Cost Containment: At What Expense: A Case Study of Hemophilia," 3rd International Conference on Health Law and Ethics, July 1992.

"Critical Thinking: An Intensive Approach," Conference on Intellectual Skill Development, November 1982.

"Controversy: A Setting for Development of Critical Thinking and Integrative Skills," Association for Integrative Studies, March 1980.

"Liberal Studies, Critical Thinking, and Competency-Based Education: What is Their Relationship?" Association for Gen-

eral and Liberal Studies, October 1976.

In the 1980s, Paul had been board president of the National Hemophilia Foundation; and when he returned to the Board upon retirement, he found it in disarray. After a contentious period, several board members resigned, the board was reorganized, and Paul was elected board chair. [Specifically, his role in the Foundation is president, National Hemophilia Foundation, 1986-1989; vice president, 1984-1985, 1992-1995; board member and committee chair between 1981-1995; board member and chair of a major committee; 2002-2004, board chair 2004-present.]

That, of course, is only one instance of Paul's service record. He has served on countless committees at BGSU, and, externally, as president of the United Health Services — a United Way agency (June, 1991-1993 and 1971-1973); chair, Blood Services Committee, Northwest Ohio Red Cross (1985-87) and board member (1982-1987; 1999-present); member, Medical Advisory Committee, Blood Services, Western Lake Erie Region, American Red Cross (1999-present); chair, State Advisory Committee on Hemophilia (1983-1986) and committee member, (1973-1987, 1990-1995); president, Northwest Ohio Hemophilia Foundation (1975-1981) and board member (1967-1998); member, Blood Products Advisory Committee, Food and Drug Administration (1988-1993); member,

Blood Safety and Availability Committee, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (1997-2005).

On the lighter side, Paul has been president of the Bowling Green Curling Club (2001-2002) and has served as a board member as well (2000-2003). But he still curls. And he walks. And he goes to St. Julian. In the summer, he is proud to keep up his wife Rosie's garden. He tells me that when he is not "doing hemophilia," he likes to travel and visit his daughters Karen and Christine and their children. Karen graduated from Bowling Green High School in 1983 and from Adrian College in 1987. She has a master's degree in art therapy. In Decorah, Iowa, she works in nursing homes and is a potter. She has two children; Kasi, 14, and TJ, 11. Christine graduated from BGHS in 1985 and from the University of Dayton in 1989. She has a master's in sociology and is executive director of a midwifery center in Pittsburgh. She has two boys: Joey, 9 and Martin, 7.

As a final note, I might let you know that Paul was to leave for a National Hemophilia Foundation meeting early the next morning following our interview; and he barely made it back in time to proofread the profile. Paul Haas, a committed man; a generous man; a caring man. □

• Janis Pallister, Ph.D., L.D., is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Romance Languages. E-mail: jpallis@dacor.net

Book award donations, pledges reach \$2,200

CONTRIBUTIONS and pledges to the BGSURA Golden Book Award --Scholarship Fund from Board members are at \$2,200. The amount --exceeds the \$2,000 the Executive Committee of the Board set as a goal last summer when the BGSURA Board established the endowment fund within the BGSU Foundation, Inc.

"I am extremely pleased with the response of board members in the first phase of our fundraising efforts," said Roger Anderson, BGSURA president. "This gives us a excellent start to our efforts to encourage all BGSU retirees to contribute according to their ability and desire to help BGSU students to defray the cost of books."

In the next six weeks every BGSU retiree will be sent a letter asking for a contribution or pledge to the BGSURA Golden Book Award Scholarship Fund. Until the scholarship fund reaches the necessary \$25,000 to be endowed, BGSURA will use a portion of the funds raised to provide monies to award to a student. If you would like to contribute now you can send a check to the BGSU Foundation at Mileti Center. Put BGSURA Golden Book Scholarship as a notation on your check. All contributions count to the goal of the annual Family Campaign. □

3 • BGSURA Newsletter

Computer troubles?

PROBLEMS getting connected to the Internet for E-mail and surfing? Call Charlie Applebaum, 352-0777, or send an E-mail to applebau@math.bgsu.edu, call 372-2729. Applebaum has responded to more than 1,000 calls for help since he was retained in 2000 by BGSU Executive Vice President Linda Dobb. Three-fifths of his calls were made to retirees' homes. □



• Applebaum

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

By Genevieve Stang • ges@dacor.net

Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER)

- Roger Anderson, Dick Edwards and Genevieve Stang attended the meeting Sept. 19. Hal Williams (Kent), presided. .
- Todd Gourno, STRS Coordinator of Higher Education Retirement Plans, presented an update.
- OCHER representatives presented reports to Ohio Retired Teachers Association, Public Employee Retirees, Inc., and Health Care Advocates..
- Strategic Planning Committee met with a focus on developing a plan for identifying issues and communicating with and between institutions and legislators. BGSURA is represented by Anderson and Edwards on this committee, established by BGSU's Larry Weiss, to react periodically to budget issues that impact BGSU.
- The next scheduled meeting of OCHER is Nov. 8.

Ohio Retired Teachers Association (ORTA)



• Dr. Stang

- Don Bright, president-elect, is chair of ORTA'S 60th Anniversary 2007 celebration planning committee.
- Dr. Michelle Kreider has joined the ORTA staff as Director of Development and Special Projects. A Legislative Day in the Ohio Statehouse Atrium will be held April 24, 2007, with recognition given to retired or former teachers who currently serve in the legislature.

- ORTA has joined the Association Member Benefits Advisors, which

serves 23 retiree organizations in 21 states and provides expertise in evaluating benefits and providers. An advantage is the possible leverage to negotiate quality group benefits with flexible choices as reflected in a recent mailing about dental and vision coverage. Also a local AMBA representative is available to speak at chapter meetings on benefits and retirement planning.

- Ann Hanning, executive director, a member of the Health Care Advocates legislative team, has met with more than 76 legislators focusing on health care funding for STRS retirees. A bill, drafted by the STRS Legislative Services Commission for the legislation to increase the contributions by five percent over a five-year period, has no bill number nor a sponsor to date.

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS)

- Christopher M. DeRose, the new executive director, was to begin work Oct. 30. He has served as director and chief executive officer of the Michigan Retirement Systems since 1997. As a pension fund executive and with a strong understanding of health care, DeRose brings considerable experience from both the state and the national levels. He serves as a board member and chair of the Legislative Committee of the Public Sector Health Care Roundtable, of which OPERS is a founding member. He also serves on the Legislative Committee of the National Council on

Teacher Retirement.

- Four OPERS Board members were elected recently. Charlie Adkins, Ohio University, was elected to represent non-teaching college/university employees.
- OPERS, working with STRS Ohio, conducted a request for a pharmacy benefits manager consultant. The consultant would be engaged to evaluate both traditional pharmacy benefits manager purchasing models as well as the viability of alternative models. Of the eight firms that responded with proposals, three finalists were selected and interviewed. By working together, purchasing power could be maximized and expertise shared.

State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Board changes

- With the resignation of Robert Brown due to his retirement from OSU, Connie Ramser became Chair and Jeff Chapman, Vice Chair.
- Mark Meuser began his term in September.
- The Governor appointed Thomas Johnson, executive-in-residence at Ohio State's John Glenn School of Public Affairs, to replace Judith Fisher. Johnson was a director of the Office of Budget and Management for Ohio and served in the House for 22 years. The replacement for John Bueher, who resigned, has not yet been selected.
- The process to fill the position held by Michael Billirakis, who resigned in September, has begun. Contributing STRS Ohio members interested in filling this vacancy should send a letter indicating interest and a resume to the executive director. The letters will be forwarded to the Board. Each remaining member of the Board could nominate one eligible candidate for the vacancy by Sept. 29. Nominees will be interviewed by the Board on Nov. 16, followed by selection through successive ballots submitted by Board members. The pace of Board activities has been impacted.
- Attorney General Betty Montgomery ruled Oct. 18 that reimbursement of legal fees is legal for two previous Board members who testified in the ethics violation case of former Board member Hazel Sidaway.

Finances: Favorable fiscal-year investment returns

- The total fund returned 13.7%. Investment assets of STRS now exceed \$65.1 billion, a record high and an increase of about \$6 billion on 6/30/05. The considerable savings during 2005 are attributed to the internal management of investment assets.
- Total operating expenditures for the Board in June-July 2006 were almost \$4.9 million less than budgeted. Payroll growth for 2005-2006 increased slightly (2.7%), but is well below the actuarial assumption of 4.5%. Service retirement applications are only slightly higher than last year.
- STRS continues to dominate plan elections at universities and colleges. Jan. 15, 2007, is the date for mailing 1099-R tax forms. If information is needed earlier, contact STRS (888-227-7877).

Health Care.

Deadline for health care, dental, and vision plans

If no change in the previous plan, it is not necessary to notify STRS. Change deadline is Nov. 22.

- Increases for benefit recipients are considerably lower than had been forecast earlier this year. It has been anticipated that a provision in HB272 related to “double dipping” will be removed when the bill finally is brought forth for action. STRS has approved an administrative rule that will enable STRS to enact the same health care provisions as those contained in HB272. Based on current information, staff has estimated the changes will generate a \$2 million savings to the Health Care Stabilization fund and that benefits outweigh the potential negative impact on health care premiums of these healthier-than-average enrollees migrating from the program.

- Medicare Part D cost data has been approved for subsidy and STRS will receive about \$10.3 million for April through June in addition to the \$7.6 million already received in May for January through March. STRS benefit recipients do not need to apply for the Medicare program. Hopefully, the selection of a pharmacy benefit consultant in conjunction with OPERS also will have positive results with respect to costs.

- Getting legislative approval for increased contributions from employees and employers poses a real challenge. While there has been a more positive view from employees, the situation with employers is a different story given the current financial problems schools face. When speaking to the issue, it is wise to alert schools to the potential problems they will face. Funding goals developed by HCA include:

- Member and employer health care contributions will be set aside in the Health Care Stabilization Fund to be used exclusively to provide health care benefits.
- Health care funds will be allocated to balance the needs of current and future retirees.
- STRS will work to meet the 30-year mandated funding period and 85% funding for retiree health care.
- A cost-based mechanism will be used to determine health care premiums and plan adjustments will be made over time to keep the plan affordable.
- Non-refundable contributions will be pooled for health care benefits to eligible members.
- Members who contribute for five years or more will be eligible for subsidized health care in retirement.

Legislation: State.

The election rush is in full flush at both the state and federal level. Bills such as HB272 that impact retirees have been put on hold. Yet legislators do continue their preparations for future action. Thus, it is important to keep abreast of issues such as efforts to bring in funds to establish a dedicated revenue stream for health care. Although it may seem tangential, even the bills associated with Great Lakes clean-up funds and federal and state efforts to curb Great Lakes water diversion may play a role.

Careful reading of November ballot issues is necessary if your vote goes as you intended. This is particularly true for the smoking issues (4 and 5) as well as the gambling issue (3). Consideration of the minimum wage and support for seniors also warrant attention.

Legislation: Federal.

- Congress passed and the President signed the pension reform bill (HR4). {Benefits are mixed and concerns remain. The groundwork seems to be being laid to prepare a role for Federal regulation of public pension plans.} The President also signed an Executive Order that directs major federal agencies that administer or support health insurance programs to use interoperable health IT (technology) products, which would apply to Medicare. Legislation (HR 4157 and S1418) is needed for funding. The President also signed the new Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act. Other bills he signed include a law designed to deter terrorists from smuggling weapons into the U.S. inside shipping containers. He recently signed legislation authorizing tough interrogation of terror suspects and one related to defense spending.

Although some action has been taken, there is much work yet to be done:

- Health Partnership Act (Voinovich/DeWine). Prescription Drug Comparative Effectiveness Act (Allen/Brown). Preserve Access to Affordable Generics Act (S3582) and Lower Priced Drug Act (S2300)
- The Social Security Fairness Act, HR 147(McKeon) (Gov't Pension Offset/Windfall Elimination Provision) repeal
- The issue of tax cuts timeline repeal of mandated withholding requirement probably will be addressed
- Social Security reform and concerns for mandated coverage remain an issue. As always, amendments to bills often result in different outcomes when the legislation process is completed. Continuous monitoring and communication remain important. □

Classical civilization research project for College Park Bldg. office

THE BGSURA Professional Committee has approved the use of the BGSURA research room in the College Park Office Building by Dr. Lawrence J. Daly, who retired June 23 after 41 years at BGSU.

Dr. Daly, emeritus professor of history in the Classical Civilization Program, will analyze the political dogma of monar-

chy and the legal doctrine of equity advocated in orations delivered to Christian emperors from Constantius II to Theodosius I by the pagan Themistius, a prominent figure in education and government at Constantinople in the second half of the fourth century.

The College Park room is for Uni-

versity-related research or other activities by BGSURA members.

BGSURA members may apply for its use. Further information may be obtained from Pietro Badia, chair; Beth Casey, Eloise Clark, Richard Edwards, Harold Lunde, or Christine Sexton. □

Passings

■ JANE FORSYTH, one of the leading women geologists in the country, died Sept. 19 in Bowling Green. She was an expert on the glaciers that created the Great Black Swamp in Northwest Ohio. Much of her work was in Pleistocene geology, a period that lasted roughly from 1.8 million years ago to 12,000 years before the present and included the Ice Age. Ms. Forsyth joined the BGSU faculty in 1965 and taught until her retirement in 1992. An author of two books, several textbook chapters and numerous articles, she was active in many pro-

fessional organizations and received numerous awards for her work.

■ VICTOR REPP, a professor of manufacturing technology at BGSU for 29 years, died Aug. 9 in Maumee. After he retired in 1989, he wrote *Precision Grinding*, published by the National Tooling and Machining Association. He was a skilled woodworker and built the family's home in Bowling Green. With the help of an architect, he also designed their home in Maumee and used the wood of five oaks cut from their BG property to make cabinetry and flooring. He also was a stained-glass artist.

■ WILBUR BANKEY, purchasing manager at BGSU from 1946 until his retirement in 1975, died Aug. 27 in

Bowling Green.

■ MILTON WILSON, former professor of legal studies at BGSU, died Aug. 30 in Medina. He was the author of six legal textbooks and a member of several professional societies.

■ FAYE LINHOLM, a cook in McDonald Dining Hall at BGSU, died Sept. 10 in Portage. She retired in 1983 after 20 years as a cook.

■ JOANNE AMOS, who worked in the custodial department at BGSU for 28 years, died Aug. 18 in Bowling Green.

■ FRIEDA MORLOCK LICHTENWALD, of Bowling Green, died Aug. 5. She had been employed for many years at the residence of the University president. □

Activities Committee ramps up offerings



• Diane Pretzer with "Big Daddy."



• Jane Wood, Tom Bennett, and Peter Wood at the Bavarian Haus.

ASSOCIATION members may choose from a series of new activities planned by the BGSU Activities Committee for this winter –and next spring and summer, announced Helen Dermer, chair. On deck:

- **Christmas party** with wine tasting and dinner, Dec. 22, at the Bowling Green Country Club, Fairview Avenue. Wine and dinner is pay-as-you-go. Firm reservation deadline is Dec. 15.

- **Women's basketball**, Anderson Arena, BGSU vs. Buffalo, beginning with lunch in the Bowen-Thompson Union Food Court, 11:30 a.m. Classes on holiday break. Game tickets purchased at the door.

- **BGSU Planetarium show** in the 118-seat public theater. Choice of March 23, 2007, 8 p.m., or March 24, 2007, 2 p.m. Donation \$1.

- **Tours** in Bryan, Ohio, May 2007. 11:30 a.m., tour of the Williams County Courthouse or lunch at Seasons Restaurant (across the street). At 12:30 p.m., a 45-minute trolley tour of Spangler Candy factory, located three blocks from downtown.

- **Toledo Mud Hens**, in June, the traditional trip to the game.

- **Edison Museum**, in July in Milan, Ohio, meeting at 2 p.m. at the historic museum for a guided tour. Dinner at 5 p.m. (suggestions invited). At 8 p.m., attendance at the **BGSU Huron Playhouse**.

Reservations for the Christmas party should be made by Dec. 15 with Roger Anderson, E-mail preferred, rogerca@bgnet.bgsu.edu. □

Dancing with the stars

THE first event arranged by the BGSURA Activities Committee took place at the Bavarian House in Deshler on Sunday, Oct. 1. Some OPALS (Older Persons with Active Lifestyles), that is, joined some BGSU retirees and their friends for eating, drinking and dancing.

"Big Daddy and his LaDeDas" played polkas, the schottische, waltzes, foxtrots, chachas and country music; there was both square and line dancing. "Big Daddy" Marshall Lackowski, who composed the LaDeDa Oberek in 1962, had the audience singing it. Joining the retirees was a group of former and present graduate students from BGSU, representing not only the U.S. but also China, Malaysia and Sri Lanka.

— Words and pictures by Wally Pretzer



• *Dr. Coffey in his room at Blakely Care Center, North Baltimore.*

Former BGSU teacher-coach 2nd-oldest STRS member

FORMER physical education Prof. J. Russell Coffey — at 108 years old — is only the second oldest retiree in the State Teachers Retirement System. The title is held by a woman in Central Ohio who's 11 months older than Dr. Coffey.



Retiring in 1969, Dr. Coffey is one of only 17 known living World War I veterans, which brought *Akron Beacon Journal* photographer Phil Masturzo (a 1986 BGSU photojournalism graduate) and reporter David Giffels to North Baltimore to interview Dr. Coffey for a Sept. 17 front-page feature.

Born in Tiro, Ohio, in 1898, Dr. Coffey joined the Student Army Training Corps, forerunner of the ROTC, in October 1918 while a student at then-Wooster College. He rode a streetcar from college to a rubber factory in Akron to earn tuition money. He also played semi-pro baseball there.

Dr. Coffey earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Ohio State University and his doctorate from New York University. He joined the BGSU

faculty in 1948. Two years ago, he was officially recognized as the oldest active Rotarian in the world. Dr. Coffey, who drove his car until he was 104, attributes his longevity to avoiding alcohol, healthy diet, exercise and the fact that he smoked only for a short time.

Responding to a *BGSURA Newsletter* query, Laura Ecklar, director of STRS communication, said the system's database shows the 20 oldest STRS retirees to be 103 years or older. □

• *Photos ©Akron Beacon Journal and courtesy Phil Masturzo.*

David S. Bienemann *continued*

For a decade before coming to Bowling Green, he was based in Akron as manager of Forestry Services for FirstEnergy. The utility firm underwent a corporate reorganization, which cost him his job, at the same time the City of Bowling Green was seeking a municipal arborist. Bienemann

was chosen and began work in Bowling Green in 2004.

He said the combination of his forestry experience and involvement with utility company power lines was a factor in his selection for the Bowling Green position.

A Perrysburg resident, he and his wife have two daughters. □

NEWSLETTER

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President's Corner

Sad year for campaign ads

By Dr. Roger Anderson

AS I write this, we have 18 days until the November 7th election. I cannot wait until the election is over. In all of the years I have participated in or followed elections I have never witnessed such negative campaign media advertising. Unfortunately, polling data demonstrates that negative media advertising achieves results.

I believe that negative campaign advertising polarizes candidates, parties and voters so that when it comes time for successful candidates to carry out agendas they find it difficult to work with members of the opposite party in deliberative fashion. The result is stalemate.

What can we do to eliminate negative media advertising? Encourage candidates, parties, and state legislatures to find ways to shorten the campaign season. Move to public financing of political campaigns so that campaign costs can be limited without constraining free speech. Personally speak and write letters to successful and unsuccessful candidates urging them to sign pledges to avoid negative campaigning. Write letters to the television stations that air campaign advertisement and tell them how you feel about negative advertising. Turn off those stations during the campaign season.

• • •

BGSURA has been active the past two months. More than 80 persons attended our September convocation featuring Dr. Kendall Baker, former BGSU Arts and Sciences dean and current president of Ohio Northern University. Dr. Baker spoke very eloquently about the importance and controversy surrounding U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings' Commission of Higher Education's report on higher education, "A Test of Leadership: Charting the Future of U.S. Higher Education." I would urge you to search the internet for a copy.

The BGSURA board held its quarterly meeting on Oct. 18. Park Leathers, co-chair of the membership committee, reported



• Roger Anderson

that 225 had renewed their memberships, but 115 regular, five associates and 42 complimentary first-year members from 2005-2006 had not yet renewed. If you are one of these, I would urge you to send in your membership soon. The BGSURA committee rosters for 2006-2007 were approved by the board. There is still time to join a committee. Contact me or one of the board members if you are interested in serving on a committee.

Ted Groat, chair of the program committee, noted that the program committee had recently met and set the programs for 2006-2007 and discussed tentative program ideas for 2007-2008.

Helen Dermer, chair of the activities committee, submitted a written report on plans for 2006-07 which are detailed elsewhere in this newsletter. It was announced that the BGSURA board had exceeded its goal of contributing \$2,000 to the newly established BGSURA Golden Book Scholarship Award. Information on the scholarship and contribution forms will be sent to retirees in a separate mailing during the next six weeks.

The BGSURA Board heard a request from Dr. William Balzer, dean of Continuing and Extended Education, to relocate the BGSURA office and research space within the College Park Office Building. Consistent with the College's strategic plan, the online learning unit continues to expand in response to growing demand for online course degree completion programs. Dr. Balzer explained it would be helpful if CEE could use the entire hall where our two offices are located in order to accommodate online course growth and keep staff located in proximity for maximum efficiency.

Dean Balzer proposed that BGSURA Office 15 be relocated to Room 5. The new space is closer to the main entrance of the building and is slightly larger than the current office. The research office would be relocated to Room 165 in the eastern or academic wing of the building. The new space is quieter and of equivalent size to Room 19. After brief discussion, the BGSURA board unanimously approved the two moves. All costs and arrangements for the move will be made by CEE. It is expected that the moves will take place not later than the first of 2007.

Plan to attend our next luncheon and program Nov. 15 featuring the City of Bowling Green's municipal arborist, David Bienemann. □

• Dr. Anderson is associate professor emeritus of Political Science. His address is rogerca@bgnet.bgsu.edu.

○ Reservation Form for BGSURA's Nov. 15, 2006, Luncheon ○ Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2006 • Reservation Deadline Friday, Nov. 10!

1st United Methodist Church, E. Wooster St. 11:30-Noon: Check-in, socializing. Noon: Luncheon.

NOTE: Reservations at \$8 per person MUST BE MADE by Friday, Nov. 10.

Name _____

Name(s) of Your Guest(s) _____

_____ Total Number of Reservations

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR \$ _____. MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO BGSURA.

SEND RESERVATION FORM AND CHECK TO HAROLD LUNDE, 880 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE., BOWLING GREEN, OH 43402, NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, NOV. 10. Telephone 419-352-3929