



Enjoying lunch aboard Amtrak's Southwest Chief

## **“All Aboard Ohio: What is the Future for Passenger Rail in Ohio?”**

**Luncheon speaker on May 9 will be retired sociologist Jerry Wicks**

Jerry Wicks and his wife Sandy, son Kelly and daughter Bridget, arrived in Bowling Green in August, 1970 - the same week as the tractor pull. The family enjoyed their first meal in town at Roy Rogers on Wooster St. The kids loved it, and seeing the life-size images of Roy, Dale and Trigger made them think for a moment they were back in Arizona.

With the exception of a year at Loyola Marymount in Los Angeles and several sabbaticals at out-of-state schools, Jerry spent 1970 to 2000 laboring in the fields of academe alongside a great group of colleagues in BGSU's Department of Sociology.

Following retirement, Jerry traveled back and forth to Helsinki over four years teaching electronic commerce to graduate students from around the world. It was during these visits he grew to depend on Finland's rail service and learned that passenger rail could be efficient and comfortable without having the newest equipment or fastest trains. Around this same time, Jerry and Sandy traveled to a number of other countries in Europe and were always fortunate to have the opportunity to use commuter rail in each of the countries they visited. These always-enjoyable travel experiences had their effect.

Several years later, what began as a series of good natured jibes at ODOT officials about why people in Bowling Green couldn't catch a train to Toledo turned into a serious endeavor. Jerry was asked to make a presentation on this topic to the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Government's Passenger Rail Committee. It was during the writing of this presentation that the idea of the Ohio Higher Education Rail Network ([ohern.org](http://ohern.org)) Plan evolved. In brief, the plan proposed levying an annual fee equivalent to the price of a single text book on all ~750,000 students, faculty and administrators at Ohio's public and private colleges and universities in order to build and maintain a statewide network of passenger rail service. In return, students and faculty would have carte blanche use of the system, seven days a week, year round. The system would require little or no state subsidy to operate.

The OHERN Plan was later formalized into Ohio's largest passenger rail advocacy organization, All Aboard Ohio. Jerry is now a member of TMACOG's Passenger Rail Committee, the Northwest Ohio Passenger Rail Organization and board member of All Aboard Ohio. □

Reservation form for the May 9 luncheon is on page 4.

# REPORTS

## Update on Classified Staff Council (CSC) by Linda Hammer Observer for BGSURA

### March meeting

The CSC Scholarship Committee is conducting a 50/50 raffle to raise funds in support of the Classified Staff Scholarship Fund. The goal is to raise \$1,500 to bring the total endowment to \$100,000, which will allow CSC to continue to award \$3,000 in scholarships each year. The raffle drawing will



Linda Hammer is retired from Recreation & Wellness (formerly Recreational Sports).

(still in development).

The April CSC meeting will be held in the new Flight Center. □

take place at the CSC Annual Recognition Ceremony on May 18.

Looking for new CSC Representatives for 2016-17.

It was reported that there were 601 Classified Staff last year; there are 593 this year.

The salary proposal was discussed. Sheri Stoll was in attendance and discussed SSI (State Share of Instruction) increase for FY17 and performance-based budgeting using key performance indicators and comparing these to other schools

based budget process starting next year. A question was asked regarding the active-learning classrooms and how large lecture halls will be used. The large lecture spaces will not be eliminated but be made more adaptable with flexible desks and technology layouts. Dawn Chong, Director of Student Employment, was present to discuss the 35th Annual Summer Job Fair which will be held on March 16th in the BTSU, Grand Ballroom.

### March 3, 2016 meeting

The guest speaker was Dr. Rodney Rodgers, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. He provided several updates: there was a 2% increase in enrollment overall from spring-spring; March 21st is the first day of the 10th Annual Teaching and Learning Fair at BGSU with Dr. Vincent Tinto as the luncheon keynote speaker; open forums will begin at the end of March around the metrics used for the performance-



Judy Donald is the BGSURA representative to ASC.

Chair Jeremy Joseph is working on the remote connection possibilities with ASC representatives at Firelands. The ASC

Executive Committee is piloting some other remote connection options while the room-to-room connections are being established.

Jeremy met with HR and asked about auditing a class and how that impacts the limitations on the tuition benefits for employees. HR will be looking into this issue.

Next meeting is April 7, 2016 in 308 BTSU with Lt. John Stewart and K9 Jerry as the guest speaker. The ASC Awards Reception is April 19th at 3 p.m. in the Lenhart Grand Ballroom, BTSU. □

## Faculty Senate Report by Ellen Williams Out-going Representative for BGSURA

Highlights from the **March 1, 2016 meeting** include:

- Faculty Senate Chair Allen Roegel noted that the Board of Trustees had approved BGSU's report on HB 64 (Low enrollment courses, et. al.) for the Ohio Department of Education. They have also approved several new majors including the BA in Forensics, BA in PPEL, and the BA in Biology. Roegel encouraged Senators to complete the survey being disseminated regarding House Bill 48 (concealed weapons carried onto campus).
- Provost Rodney Rogers indicated that he was speaking on behalf of President Mazey and himself due to the President's absence at today's meeting. Enrollment figures are on target to meet or exceed expectations for the Fall 2016 count. He thanked the 600 volunteers who assisted with Preview activities on MLK day. BGSU and the BCI received a \$500,000 grant (Arnold Foundation) for analytic materials to use in analyzing sexual assault kits. The Department of Architecture and Environmental Design is now housed in the renovated Park Avenue Warehouse. The Greek Housing Project is on schedule for completion in Summer 2016. The demolition of Johnston Hall and the new parking lot area are both works in progress. "Bravo! BGSU," an activity to help raise scholarship funds for students in the Arts, will be held on April 2nd. The Hatch Entrepreneurial Program will be held on April 7th.
- Under Old Business, Stephanie Walls, Chair of Committee on Committees, outlined the upcoming vacancies for Faculty Senate elections. Dave Border, Chair of Committee on Academic Affairs, provided an overview of CAA activities/discussions/approvals.
- Under New Business, a new major, BFA in Studio, was approved by Senate.
- John Fisher, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, led discussion on "Curricular Initiatives at BGSU." He asked Senators to discuss the following three topics: Experiential Learning Activities in coursework at BGSU; Incentives for faculty at BGSU to engage in collaborative endeavors that would link courses in new curricular initiatives;

*continued on page 3*

# PASSINGS

For the period February 13 through March 8, 2016. Photos are included when they were available.

■ **MARY ENINGER, 90**, died March 8, 2016, in Bowling Green, Ohio. She retired from the university in 1987 after serving 25 years as an upholsterer at the University. Mary was the first woman upholsterer at BGSU!

■ **GARNET GROSS, 96**, passed away February 27, 2016, in Bowling Green, Ohio. She retired from Residence Life in 1988.

■ **EDWARD C. KENNEDY, 69**, died February 16, 2016, in Gibsonburg, Ohio. He was a retired Professor of Education.

■ **MADELYN PARMAN, 93**, died March 6, 2016, in Grand Rapids, Ohio. She had worked in housekeeping for the University, as well as being a waitress at the Student Union.

■ **BARBARA ST. JOHN, 79**, passed away on February 1, 2016, in Toledo, Ohio. She retired from BGSU as Professor of Children's Literature.

■ **SUSAN WENIG, 60**, died March 1, 2016, in Bowling Green, Ohio. She worked at BGSU from 2002-2015 in the biology department, president's office, and communication sciences and disorders department. □



## Faculty Senate Report *continued from page 2*

and Content to include in coursework for entering Freshmen on how to transition from high school to higher education. □

### Speakers for 2016-17 Program Year

September 12, 2016 Susan Brown & Wendy Manning, speaking on their research about families

November 14, 2016 Lori Lewandowski, speaking on heroin epidemic in Wood County

March 13, 2017 BG High School Madrigal Singers

May 8, 2017 Don Scherer BGSURA member

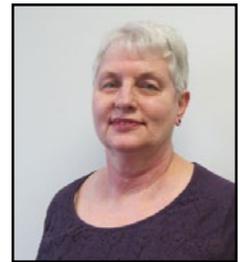
# President's Message

This spring has been a new experience for a good many of us. Those OPERS retirees who didn't qualify for Medicare A have been through a particular torturous experience selecting new health care insurance. We also were blessed with interim health and drug insurance that improved our four letter word vocabularies while it also ate up our checking accounts.

I'm glad I had finished my taxes before beginning insurance comparisons. All the work I did gathering medical expenses came in handy when I was considering premiums, deductibles and costs of drugs. I though it was interesting that in the individual policies the companies didn't think the deductible was part of the yearly cost of the policy.

Hopefully I made the right choices because I have to live with them for the next year.

*Chris Sexton*



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

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## Mark your calendars for April social event



BGSURA's next social gathering will be held on Thursday, May 5th from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at the home of Gaylyn and Jan Finn, 966 Deer Ridge Run in Bowling Green. These events provide an opportunity, in an informal setting, to stay in touch with former BGSU colleagues and to welcome new retirees to the BGSURA. In the established tradition, please bring your own beverage (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) and an appetizer to share. Please RSVP to Jan Finn at [jfinn@bgsu.edu](mailto:jfinn@bgsu.edu) or call 419-352-0592 by Tuesday, May 3rd.

Hosts Jan and Gaylyn Finn

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**Reservation -- BGSURA Buffet Luncheon at Bowling Green Country Club**

**Luncheon Monday May 9, 2016. Cost \$15**

**Reservation deadline Wednesday May 4.**

11:30-noon: Check-in, socializing. Noon: Buffet luncheon

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of reservations @ \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

**1. How to pay by mail:**

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR \$ \_\_\_\_\_ PAYABLE TO BGSURA

Send reservation form and check to:

Gaylyn Finn, BGSURA Treasurer

966 Deer Ridge Run, Bowling Green OH 43402

**2. Reservation by email:** [gfinn3@woh.rr.com](mailto:gfinn3@woh.rr.com). Pay by cash or check at the door.

**Luncheon Menu**

*Pork with bourbon sauce  
Chicken divan  
Au gratin potatoes  
Glazed carrots  
Tossed Salad  
Rolls and Butter  
DESSERTS  
Coffee, Tea, Iced Tea*