



Lunch form on page 8

5 College Park Office Bldg., BGSU, Bowling Green, OH 43403-0201 • (419) 372-9696
E-mail: retirees@bgsu.edu • www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/BGSU-Retirees/ • Hours: M 10-12; Th 1-3

January profile



JOE JACOBY



• *Dr. Joseph E. Jacoby, retired from sociology, is the subject of Clif Boutelle's feature this month. Dr. Jacoby, Clif writes, is finding a new identity as a photographer. See page 2 for the story and a description of one of Joe's favorite photos (above).*

New home on the Web

The BGSURA has a new Web address, linked to the University's Human Resources location:

www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/BGSU-Retirees/

Because of scheduling problems, the HeeBeeBGs will not be singing at the Jan. 14 BGSURA luncheon. Please turn to page 4 for details.

BGSURA's Retirement Assistance Program

BGSURA member volunteers are in the process of being trained to assist future retirees with information about the retirement process. For more about the program, please see page 6.

BGSURA members at and in the 2008 Holiday Parade



• *Roger Anderson and Dick Edwards were among the sign-carrying Kiwanians in the 27-degree weather Nov. 22.*



• *Barbara Keller drove a 1965 Mustang convertible from Jeff Snook's Dream Cars to transport Joan Gordon, honorary grand marshal, and Kathy Baker, who won Mayor for a Day in an essay-writing contest earlier this year.*

• *With coffee, robe and lawn chair, Charlie Applebaum, BGSURA's computer expert, appears comfortable on South Main street.*



• "These schoolchildren were photographed when my wife Elayne and I were on a commercial tour of the Amalfi Coast of Italy in May 2006.

The tour operator arranged for a visit to an elementary school in Sorrento. After the kids exhibited the behavior displayed in the photo, they were herded together by their teachers to sing a couple of songs for us. The posed group photos that I took of the children were much less interesting."

JOE JACOBY



JOE JACOBY

• Children being children...

Jacoby uses his camera to begin a new chapter in his life

January profile by Clif Boutelle

JOE Jacoby is excited as he leaves the academic world to embrace a new identity that includes photographer.

"I'm trying to become the best photographer I can be," says Jacoby as he transitions into retirement after a 33-year academic career that included 27 years in the sociology department at Bowling Green State University.

Anyone who has seen his work has little doubt that he will accomplish his goal.

He has captured some spectacular images of landscapes in the southwest, especially at Antelope Canyon in northern Arizona, one of his favorite spots, and elsewhere.

And he has in mind a long list of other places where he would like to focus the lens of his Canon camera. "But I'm not going to say what they are until I talk with my wife," he says with a smile.

When he retired from the University in August, he hosted a most unusual retirement reception—a photographic exhibit of 27 stunning photos (one for each year he spent at BGSU), each accompanied by a caption that expressed a particular insight based upon his academic experience.



CLIF BOUTELLE

About the page-one photo: "The Stone Ceiling Ridges were captured on a solo photographic trip to Valley of Fire (Nevada) State Park, an hour north of Las Vegas, following a photography workshop in Death Valley, Calif., in February 2007. I was struck by the parallel curves in the layers of the rock formation."

For example, a picture of laughing schoolchildren in Sorrento, Italy, led to this caption: "Teaching young people provides the opportunity to learn from them, and share in their energy and wonder."

Continued next page

'I'm trying to become the best photographer I can be'

JOE JACOBY

Jacoby *continued*

A striking image of a shaft of sunlight finding its way between two towering sheer rock walls produced this thought: "Moments of true enlightenment are rare and fleeting, but they are worth all the time and effort required to produce them."

Collectively, they came together in what he called "My Last Lecture."

Jacoby came to Bowling Green in 1981 after three years on the faculty of the University of South Carolina. Prior to that he taught for three years at the University of Houston at Clear Lake City.

His scholarly field is criminology and he is a specialist in the criminal justice system's treatment of the mentally ill. He earned doctoral and master's degrees at the University of Pennsylvania, where his dissertation topic was "The Dangerousness of the Criminally Insane."

He attracted significant grant funding for his research and has presented and published numerous articles and books about criminology. In 1980 he was recognized by the American Bar Association for his contributions to the public understanding of the U.S. system of justice through his co-authoring of a book on mentally ill offenders.

At the University he has been acting chair and assistant chair of his department and served as chair of the Human Subjects Review Committee for 10 years.

The University's Board of Trustees awarded him emeritus professor status earlier this year.

Community involvement

In the community he has been a member of the boards of trustees of Behavioral Connections of Wood County and Treatment to Alternatives to Street Crimes of Lucas County.

His retirement life promises to be fulfilling. Not one to sit around, he has immersed himself in his photography work and admits he is "starting to define himself as a photographer."

But he is so much more. He has not left academics completely as he has been teaching a course in English as a Second Language in Toledo. "I've never taught English but find that I am liking it and am considering taking coursework to become a certified ESL instructor," he said.

He also sings in his synagogue choir and is an avid biker, who likes to go on bike tours. One of his highlights was biking to Chicago with his 12-year-old son Daniel, now a junior at BGSU who currently serves as the undergraduate representative to the BGSU Board of Trustees. "That was a special time for us and one that I greatly cherish," he said.

Jacoby's wife Elayne is a nurse practitioner at the University Health Center. Their other son David is a graduate of James Madison University.

But it is photography that occupies much of his time and interest these days.

A self-taught photographer, he got involved in taking pictures while a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania, where he learned to develop both black and white and color film. That involvement continued when he went to Houston and had access to a darkroom.

"He also set up a darkroom in his home when he moved to Bowling Green, but stopped his work when his children were young and he no longer had the time to use newly mixed chemicals, which had a short shelf life."

For the next 20 years his photography was limited to family pictures as he spent most of his time with his family

and concentrating on his work at the University.

"But five or six years ago I became intrigued with digital photography and of the possibilities it offered," he said.

It is fair to say that Jacoby has fully committed himself to the art of picture taking. He is an active member of the Toledo Camera Club, has enrolled in workshops and traveled to locales both in this country and others in pursuit of photographic subjects.

He likes the pace of landscape photography, from scouting out a location, checking the light and different angles and, often, rising at the dawn's early light, ready to take a picture as the sun makes its first appearance of the day. "The slow methodical preparation of a picture appeals to me," he said.

Jacoby is a deeply thoughtful man and one gets the impression that he does not do anything without giving it careful consideration.

In his exhibit, he had the following observations about his photo work and living in Bowling Green:

"I have always been interested in understanding people's behavior, but discovered that I was a sociologist only after I began studying sociology. Similarly, although I have taken photographs for most of my adult life, only recently have I discovered that capturing images through photography also shapes the way I experience the world. This exhibit marks my transition, through retirement, from college professor/sociologist to a new, post-retirement identity, which includes 'photographer.'

"Northwest Ohio is a good place to come from. Living in this region for 27 years has enhanced my appreciation of places with different cultures, topography, plants and animals. By sharing photographs of the diversity, beauty and fragility of our world, I hope to encourage other people to support efforts to preserve it. Similarly, my photographs of people are intended to promote a greater awareness of the shared experience and concerns of people, regardless of their location."

For Joe Jacoby, a man of many talents and interests, it appears as though retirement is shaping up to be the kind of rewarding time of life we all hope for. □

■ *Jacoby's pictures can be seen at www.photodex.com/sharing/viewalbum.html?bm+127616. The slideshow, though, cannot be viewed on Macintosh computers, only on PCs.*

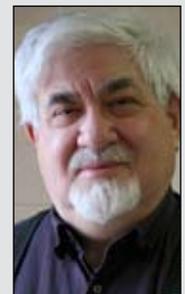


■ *Clif Boutelle retired from BGSU in 1999 as associate vice president for University Relations. He is a member of the BGSURA Board of Directors.*

Computer troubles?

PROBLEMS with your computer? Connecting to the Internet? With Vista? Or the new Office 2008 for Macintosh? Call Charlie Applebaum, 352-0777, or e-mail applebau@bgsu.edu.

The BGSURA expert is in his ninth year helping retirees with balky hardware and software. His services are made available by the office of the provost.



STRS investments sound, official says

By Roger Anderson

At the November meeting of the board of the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees, Steve Mitchell, deputy director of investments for STRS Ohio, noted that STRS internally manages 80% of its investments compared to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System with 40 percent.

Internal management saves STRS approximately \$104 million a year that they would have to pay outside managers, Mitchell said. The 115 STRS investment associates are assigned to invest in six asset classes. Over the years STRS has continually exceeded its investment benchmarks. For instance, in fiscal 2008, STRS beat the Russell index by 0.5%.

Mitchell explained that if investment associates exceed the benchmarks over the long term they are given incentive pay. This is to encourage them to make excellent investment decisions and to stay employed at STRS, which pays the associates considerably less than the private sector.

Mitchell said this is no time to panic. STRS investments are diversified and sound. Risks remain low and return outlooks remain favorable over the long run. STRS investments have gone through down periods before and then emerged stronger. For example, in the period 2000-2002, STRS investments reached a peak of \$58 billion. After 9/11 they started an eventual decline of 31% to \$40 billion. In October, 2007 STRS investments reached a peak of \$80 billion. As of October, 2008 investments had declined 31% to \$55 billion (see chart).

STRS total investment returns for the five-year period fiscal years 2004-2008 were +11.47%; for the 10-year period 1999-2008, +6.5%; for the 15-year period 1994-2008, +8.5%; and for the 20-year period 1989-2008, +9.8%. □

■ Dr. Anderson is a past president of the BGSU Retirees Association.

STRS OHIO MARKET VALUE for TOTAL FUND

	MARKET VALUE
December 2007	\$ 72,215,000,000
January 2007	\$ 72,855,000,000
February 2007	\$ 72,509,000,000
March 2007	\$ 73,407,000,000
April 2007	\$ 75,452,000,000
May 2007	\$ 77,114,000,000
June 2007	\$ 76,855,000,000
July 2007	\$ 75,785,000,000
August 2007	\$ 75,802,000,000
September 2007	\$ 78,605,000,000
October 2007	\$ 80,132,000,000
November 2007	\$ 77,633,000,000
December 2007	\$ 77,265,000,000
January 2008	\$ 73,250,000,000
February 2008	\$ 72,477,000,000
March 2008	\$ 71,516,000,000
April 2008	\$ 74,203,000,000
May 2008	\$ 74,634,000,000
June 2008	\$ 70,382,000,000
July 2008	\$ 69,306,000,000
August 2008	\$ 69,094,000,000
September 2008	\$ 62,904,000,000
October 2008	\$ 54,505,000,000
November 2008 estimated	\$ 51,460,000,000

Note: Net outflows (all benefit payments minus all contributions) exceed \$2 billion per year, so roughly \$4 billion of the decrease in market value is attributable to that.

Pianist, bass player to provide luncheon entertainment Jan. 14

WITH class schedules creating problems for an appearance of the HeeBeeBGs singers, the luncheon entertainment Jan. 14 has changed. The program for the January luncheon will be provided by jazz pianist Kyle Turner, senior in the College of Musical Arts. He will be joined by Greg Wolfram, bass player who is a sophomore. □

Reminder: We've moved!

BGSURA's Jan. 14 luncheon is at Stone Ridge Golf Club, 1553 Muirfield, Bowling Green. 11:30 a.m. See map below. Reservation by Friday, Jan. 9.

Volunteers staff BGSURA office in College Park

THE spring schedule of volunteer retirees to staff the office at Room 5, College Park Office Bldg., has been announced by Becky McOmber. The office is open Mondays 10-noon



• McOmber

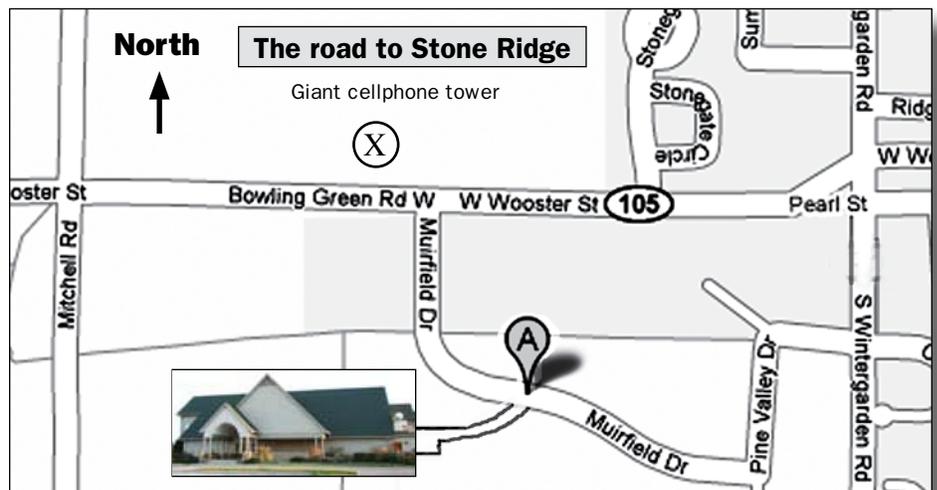
and Thursdays 1-3. The office is closed when the University is closed.

A new round of volunteers will be needed for the fall.

Workers this semester include:

Beverly Coppler, Richard Edwards, Mearl Guthrie, Jackie Instone, Park Leathers, Paul Lopez, Mary McGowan,

Becky McOmber, Phyllis Oster, Raj Padmaraj, Janet Parks, Jan Peterson, Diane Pretzer, Wally Pretzer, Annette Rideout, Chris Sexton, Sid Sink, and Elmer Spreitzer. The full schedule may be found as a page in the on-line edition of the January 2009 newsletter, lined to the BGSU.edu Web site.



Passings

■ **CARL HALLBERG**, professor emeritus of biology at the University, died Oct. 4 in Grand Haven, Mich. He joined the biology department faculty in 1951 and spent the next 37 years teaching at the University. He also served as adviser to pre-med students for many years. An avid fan of BGSU athletic programs, he served as BGSU's Faculty

Representative to the NCAA. He was a supporter of the efforts to start a hockey program at the University and of efforts to build the Ice Arena.

■ **ZOLA BUFORD**, who retired as associate registrar and director of records at the University, died Nov. 24. She previously taught in the geography department. She received the Ferrari Award in 1983 and was

named a BGSU Honorary Alumnus in 1990.

■ **ROSCOE CRON**, a supervisor in the custodial services department at the University, died Sept. 4.

■ **RICHARD E. "DICK" LEADY** died Oct. 7 in Bowling Green. He retired from BGSU in 1987.

■ **HERMAN KLINE**, a retiree of the University, died Oct. 17 in Oregon. □



Legislative Report

By Genevieve Stanges@dacor.net

Inexperience in the Statehouse

WITH the winding down of the lengthy election period and then the widespread financial and credit crisis, there has been little focus on legislative action. However, in the lame-duck period at the end of 2008, there has been a rush to push through things. Nevertheless, the new sessions at both the federal and state levels will face varied and numerous challenges. It is also true that at both levels, leadership will be in the hands of legislators having limited experience.

At the state level, the House has elected a one-term legislator (Budish) as speaker for the next General Assembly, and the Senate has appointed someone who was appointed less than two years ago (Cafaro) as minority leader. On the other hand a number of White House staff announcements made so far have gone to recent Capitol Hill veterans. Turnover as a result of the election has resulted in a power shift and also reflects the impact of term limits.

The current economic turmoil compounds any efforts to address the many issues that face legislators at both the federal and state levels. Efforts to address health care remain

in the forefront. Concerns for Medicare and recent reports on the impact of Medicare Advantage remain. It is reported that Medicare faces insolvency by 2019 based on current projections.

Issues regarding Social Security suggest that it is unlikely that GPO/WEP will be appealed. The threat to mandating Social Security for all new hires remains with continuing pressure against defined pensions.

HB315, the bill designed to create a dedicated revenue stream for STRS Ohio health care is likely to be reintroduced next year. It is important that legislators recognize the importance of this bill, not only to retirees, but for the economy as a whole.

There appears to be one possible "bright light" in the gloomy economic situation for retirees – talk that relief might come via possible forestalling of Required Minimum Distributions from 401 and other retirement accounts. The global economic downturn has highlighted the importance of long-term investments.

Although both OPERS and STRS have faced a reduction in the current value of investment assets, the long-term approach precludes this being a time to panic. Also, it is important to note that factors in addition to investment assets enter into determining the solvency of the pension fund.

Although the State budget situation is dire, the Governor is continuing to stress the importance of education for both higher education and public elementary and secondary education. □

STRS Board opposes mandatory defined contribution plan

REACTING to House Bill 645, which was introduced during the final weeks of the 127th Ohio General Assembly, STRS Board members voted unanimously at its December meeting to oppose the bill and any future legislation that would impose mandatory enrollment in a defined contribution plan for public employees.

House Bill 645, which was introduced by Rep. Larry Wolpert, requires all newly hired members of the state's five pension plans (including STRS Ohio) to participate in defined contribution plans.

While the bill has been assigned to the House Financial Institutions, Real Estate and Securities Committee, the committee has sent notice that no further hearings for the year are anticipated. The sponsor, Rep. Larry Wolpert (R-Hilliard), has left the Legislature due to term limits.

For the bill to be considered, it would need to be reintroduced in the next General Assembly, which is likely. The five retirement system directors sent a joint letter to House leadership stating their opposition to the bill.

In West Virginia last year, a survey indicated 75 percent of education employees wanted to return to defined benefit from defined contribution. □

BGSURA's Retirement Assistance program under way

UNIVERSITY employees who are thinking about retirement have a new source of information about retirement options – the BGSU Retirees Association.



• *Chris Sexton*

Christine Sexton, who retired in 2001 as business manager of WBGU-TV, is organizing the Association's Retirement Information Volunteers program.

"Due to budget cuts beginning Jan. 1, 2009, the BGSU Human Resources Office no longer will offer extended retirement assistance. In the past Diana Shamp, before her retirement last year, provided this service that got so many of us off on the right foot in our retirement," Sexton explained.

Shamp, who is BGSURA secretary; WBGU-TV retiree Paul Lopez; Harold Lunde, BGSURA treasurer, and Sexton have offered to continue a restructured form of this process as a BGSURA service.

"We will be able to go over the forms needed, talk about the various payment plans, point out some available options and help to navigate the pile of paper work," Sexton said. "While we won't be able to file the completed forms like HR did in the past or access personal employment information, we will be able to help the individual do this for themselves."

Sexton asked, "If you have a friend or co-worker who needs help to get started and put a smile on their face like we have, tell them to call the BGSURA office at 419-372-9696 and leave their name and a phone



number where they can be reached during the daytime and early evening. One of the Retirement Information Volunteers will be in touch to schedule a time to meet and begin the process."

Dr. Lunde, Shamp,

Sexton and Lopez met in November to work on the assistance process. "Diana has already given us an excellent notebook compilation of important information about retirement from BGSU" Lunde said. "I view this notebook and our retirement handbook as our textbooks." An outreach program begins after the first of the year to include flyers and other promotions of the new assistance program. Meanwhile, Sexton arranged for a Retirement Assistance link to the BGSU Web site, www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/BGSU-Retirees/page59763.html. (above). □



■ *Sexton may be reached at csexton@w-net.org. A downloadable Handbook for Retirees, compiled and edited by Dr. Lunde, is available at <http://www.bgsu.edu/downloads/execvp/file12602.pdf>. A limited number of printed copies is available by sending an e-mail to retirees@bgsu.edu or leaving word at 419-372-9696.*

BE A MEMBER OF THE BGSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION!

* Name _____

* Mailing address _____

*City _____ *State _____ *Zip _____

*Phone _____ - _____ - _____ *E-mail _____

Check one: PERS ___ STRS ___ No. of years at BGSU _____

Check:

Classified ___ Faculty ___ Administrative ___ Retirement year _____

Dept./Office from which you retired _____

Sign me up as a:

___ Full member 1 year \$12 ___ 2 years \$24 ___

___ Associate member (Spouse or widower of retiree)

1 year \$ 6 ___ 2 years \$12 ___

___ Life Member \$ 150

___ Associate Life Member \$ 75

* **IMPORTANT:** The information in **bold type** preceded with an *asterisk will be used to compile the 2008-2009 BGSURA Directory, to be published in January. Please **circle** any information you do **NOT** want to appear in the BGSURA Directory. For a copy of last year's Directory, call or e-mail Jim Gordon at 419-352-8175 or jgordon@bgsu.edu.

MAKE CHECKS payable to **BGSURA** and mail with this form to:
Harold Lunde
BGSURA Treasurer
880 Country Club Dr.
Bowling Green
OH 43402-1602

LIFE MEMBERS

BGSU
Retirees Association

Pamela C. Allison
Betty Jean Anderson
Roger Anderson
Pietro Badia
Thomas L. Bennett
Judith C. Bentley
Robert G. Berns
Josef Blass
Morgan M. Brent
Zola R. Buford*
Eloise E. Clark
Robert K. Clark
Alta B. Coddling
Beverly Coppler
James R. Corbitt
Ramona T. Cormier
Suzanne Crawford
Richard A. Edwards
Kathy Eninger
Rebecca S. Eninger
Patricia M. Erickson
Kenneth C. Frisch
Ronald J. Gargasz

James R. Gordon
Joan H. Gordon
H. Theodore (Ted) Groat
David G. Hampshire
Emma J. Hann
William D. Hann
Thomas A. Hern
Richard D. Hoare
Joy A. Hyman
David J. Hyslop
Barbara Y. Keller
Allen N. Kepke
Sally J. Kilmer
Kenneth F. Kipple
Marvin L. Kumler
Marilyn K. Leathers
Park E. Leathers
Carl A. Lipp
Paul G. Lopez
Harold I. Lunde
Sarah J. Lunde*
Justine Magsig
Ronald N. Marso

Augustine (Tina) Martini
Charles H. McCaghy
M. Dawn McCaghy
Rebecca K. McOmber
John Merriam
Marjorie Miller
Willard E. Misfeldt
Relda Niederhofer
Reginald D. Noble
Victor T. Norton, Jr.
Virginia Nungester
Wilma Nye
Janis L. Pallister*
Janet B. Parks
Patricia I. Patton
Joseph B. Perry
Adelia M. Peters
David J. Pope
Richard E. Powers
Diane Pretzer
Wallace Pretzer
Deanna J. Radeloff
Ronald M. Ruble

Jane S. Schimpf
Christine Sexton
Vijaya L. Shrestha
Sylvia Smith
Robert Speers
Elmer A. Spreitzer
Patricia R. Stavish
Norma J. Stickler
Edward G. Stockwell
Robert W. Thayer
Betty Vandersmissen
Janice L. Veitch
Russell A. Veitch
Frances A. Weiss
Jerry W. Wicks
Elizabeth J. Wilhelm
Janet Wilhelm
Ralph Haven Wolfe
Bonadine R. Woods
Nancy Wygant-Mills
Ronald E. Zwierlein
* Deceased

Faculty Senate committee report

By Bill Rock

THE Faculty Senate Committee on Professional Affairs met Nov. 20. The following is a brief report. Discussion centered primarily on two items:

1) Preliminary plans for a committee "delegation" (plus interested others and a few students) to visit legislators in Columbus in February or early March, 2009, to discuss higher education budget planning for the next biennium, with particular reference, of course, to the needs of BGSU. This has been done in previous years and was deemed useful by those who have participated before. Several dates were identified as possible times for the visit, and Kathleen LeRoy of Student Affairs agreed to handle the identification of a few appropriate students to join the group.

2) A report by Sandra MacNevin, associate vice president for government affairs, on "goings-on" in Columbus relative to budgetary matters:

• Representatives of all state universities will gather in Columbus on Feb. 17, 2009, to discuss budget issues AS A GROUP with the governor and legislative "higher-ups". This joint endeavor by the universities seems to constitute something of a first in higher education budget deliberations.

• A search for agreement among the universities on a tuition increase for 2009-10 is currently underway – with the stipulation that any increase that goes beyond 3.6 percent – if, indeed, such an increase is approved – must be designated for assistance to lowest income students.

• The governor is currently attempting to hold higher education harmless from budget cuts, in recognition of the universities holding tuition increases to zero during the last two years.

• A new method of bidding on construction projects, which would give individual institutions more authority to proceed on their own, is under discussion.

There was also a brief general discussion, seeming to represent a broader faculty concern, about enrollment retention, advising, and security issues.

■ Dr. Rock is a retired professor of history and is BGSURA's representative to the committee.

LIFESTYLES

Thanksgiving on the way puts cranberries in the Hann kitchen

By KAREN NADLER GOTA
Sentinel Staff Writer

She has long ago, Emmy Hann's 17-year-old granddaughter, Cortney Hann, registered "that a one for Grandma to compile a collection of her favorite recipes to give us in the future."

"Which got Grandma thinking something else: "It's time for Cortney to learn the traditional recipes from scratch."

The perfect recipe for both projects, they agree, is the family's long-forgotten cranberry muffin.

"Growing up in New England, I was very fond of cranberries, and they were a big part of our Thanksgiving feast, and I was a member of Phi Kappa Phi."

"We had cranberry jelly, which we used on everything, and we had cranberry sauce, which we used on everything."

"My grandmother always served up cranberry sauce, and I loved it. I used to get up every morning and eat it with my toast."

"I just thought of all the cranberry muffins, which we used to eat every day, and I thought of all the cranberry muffins, which we used to eat every day."

"The biggest mistake in my life was not getting up earlier to get the muffins."

"I was so excited to see the muffins, and I was so excited to see the muffins."

"I was so excited to see the muffins, and I was so excited to see the muffins."

Cranberry muffins

Combine in a small bowl, 1 cup flour, 1/2 cup sugar, 1/2 cup butter, 1/2 cup milk, 1/2 cup cranberries, 1/2 cup raisins, 1/2 cup nuts, 1/2 cup chocolate chips, 1/2 cup cranberries, 1/2 cup raisins, 1/2 cup nuts, 1/2 cup chocolate chips.

Emmy Hann and granddaughter Cortney Hann make cranberry muffins.



• In the news: BGSURA Life Member Emmy Hann and her granddaughter Cortney Hann were featured in the Cook's Corner feature in the Nov. 13, 2008, edition of the Sentinel-Tribune. For a recipe reprint: e-mail to retirees@bgsu.edu.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Dr. Ramona Cormier

Notes on Champagne

TIS the season to be merry and when I celebrate, I think of champagne and especially champagne from France. I anticipate the popping of the cork and the fizzling of the bubbles.

Champagne gets its name from the Champagne region of France northeast of Paris. France does not generally name its wines by the grapes that give the wine its bouquet but by the place where the grapes are grown. This practice is confounding but not as consequential for champagne since brut champagne, the variety usually seen on store shelves, is a blend of juices from chardonnay, pinot noir, and pinot meunier grapes. Each champagne house, and there are many in the Champagne region, develops its own identifiable style of sparkling wine. For example, Krug's wine is toasty and rich, while Salon's has a mineral taste. Each year a house's wine maker attempts to replicate the house's style by blending wines usually from a variety of vintages and vineyards. Thus much champagne is non vintage wine. On occasion a house may produce a vintage wine if the grapes of a particular year seem promising.



possible to produce sparkling wine from a single type of grape. For example, blanc de blanc champagne is made exclusively from the chardonnay grape; blanc de noir, as the name suggests, is made only from black grapes; and pink or rose sparkling wine may be made by either adding red wine to the blend or by letting the juice remain in contact with the grape skins for a short while in the fermentation process.

Sparkling wine lives on

French champagne is very expensive. However, the most recent issue of *Consumer Reports* suggests that sparkling wine need not be abandoned when celebrating the New Year. The article lists several excellent



California sparkling wines (Gloria Ferrer Sonoma Brut, Mumm Napa Brut Prestige, Scharffenberger Brut Mendocino) and a Spanish wine (Segura Viudas Brut Reserva Cava) available for \$20 or less. The magazine also mentions two French wines (Piper-Heidsieck Brut and Tattinger La Francaise Brut) available for 42 and 45 dollars. All

in all, wine is a matter of taste. So scout store shelves for a preference that suits your sensibility and pocketbook, and celebrate the New Year with a sparkling wine. Happy New Year!

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

Brut is not the only variety of champagne. It is also

○ **Reservation for BGSURA's Luncheon at Stone Ridge** ○

Wednesday, Jan. 14. Reservation Deadline Friday, Jan. 9!

Stone Ridge Golf Club. 11:30-Noon: Check-in, socializing. Noon: Luncheon.

NOTE: Reservations at \$10 per person MUST BE MADE by Friday, Jan. 9.

Name _____

Name(s) of Your Guest(s) _____

Number of reservations

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

SEND RESERVATION FORM AND CHECK TO HAROLD LUNDE, BGSURA TREASURER,

880 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE, BOWLING GREEN, OH 43402-1602.

PHONE 419 352-3929. E-MAIL: hlunde@bgsu.edu. Deadline Friday, Jan. 9!

NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, NOV. 7. Hal Lunde: Telephone 419-352-3929

BGSURA OFFICE STAFFING
SPRING 2009
COLLEGE PARK ROOM 5

Mondays 10 a.m. - Noon

January 12 - Chris Sexton

January 19 - MLK Day; BGSU Closed

January 26 - Park Leathers

February 2 - Park Leathers

February 9 - Diane Pretzer

February 16 - Dick Edwards

February 23 - Diane Pretzer

March 2 - Mearl Guthrie

March 9 - Spring Break

March 16 - Dick Edwards

March 23 - Elmer Spreitzer

March 30 - Jan Peterson

April 6 - Mearl Guthrie

April 13 - Paul Lopez

April 20 - Jan Peterson

April 27 - Becky McOmbler

May 4 - Phyllis Oster

Thursdays 1 - 3 p.m.

January 15 - Sid Sink

January 22 - Wally Pretzer

January 29 - Elmer Spreitzer

February 5 - Wally Pretzer

February 12 - Mary McGowan

February 19 - Janet Parks

February 26 - Mary McGowan

March 5 - Janet Parks

March 12 - Spring Break

March 19 - Raj Padmaraj

March 26 - Jackie Instone

April 2 - Beverly Coppler

April 9 - Annette Rideout

April 16 - Jackie Instone

April 23 - Annette Rideout

April 30 - Beverly Coppler

May 7 - Becky McOmbler

If you are unable to staff the office during your scheduled day/time, please try to arrange a substitute. If you are unable to find a replacement, call Becky McOmbler at 419-352-6951 as soon as possible.