Luncheon with Wood County Teachers is March 18; topic is teen love ‘secrets’ research

A BGSU social scientist whose research interests include gender and crime, dynamics of peer influence, and heterosexual relationships during adolescence, will be the speaker at the March 18 BGSURA luncheon meeting with the Wood County Retired Teachers Association. The 11:30 a.m. event will be held at Stone Ridge Golf Club. Reservations are due Friday, March 13.

The speaker, Dr. Peggy C. Giordano, Distinguished Research Professor of Sociology, joined the BGSU faculty in 1974 after earning a bachelor’s at Missouri and her master’s and PhD at Minnesota. She and her BGSU research colleagues, Drs. Monica Longmore and Wendy Manning, were featured in a 2006 Time magazine spread headlined “The Secret Lives of Teenage Boys.” In this extensive article, Time described what these sociologists discovered in their Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study.

As Time relates, Giordano became interested in boys’ romantic feelings when she was looking through a high school yearbook as part of another study and found surprisingly heartfelt messages from boys to girls. The results of the ensuing study first appeared in an issue of American Sociological Review.

(continued on page 7)
March profile
by Clif Boutelle

‘They did not think we could run the full court’

There have been many changes since Sue Hager came to Bowling Green, but perhaps none more than in women’s athletics.

As Sue Hager watches the Bowling Green women’s basketball team reel off victory after victory this season, she takes special pride in its success.

She grew up on a farm outside Dayton and, along with 4-H, basketball was a part of her life. She played in high school and at the University of Dayton during an era when basketball for girls and women was a distant stepchild to boys’ and men’s basketball.

Much has changed since those days. She has seen the women’s game evolve from half court (“they did not think we could run the full court”) to a half court plus a rover to the current full court game.

Basketball at Bowling Green for women was still in its infancy when Gertrude Eppler offered Hager a position in the Physical Education and Recreation Department in 1967. Because of her background, she was assigned to coach the women’s B team (Pat Peterson was coach of the A squad) and to supervise the women’s athletic program, including intramurals. “We then had 11 women’s teams and a co-ed fencing team and our governing body was the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW),” she recalled.

The NCAA wanted nothing to do with women’s sports at that time, nor was the AIAW enamored at the prospect of being swallowed up by the NCAA.

“We developed our own Ohio College Association, which included about nine schools, and we established a schedule and league standings. Those teams were our primary competition, and we also scheduled games with schools in Michigan and Indiana,” she said.

She became head women’s coach in 1972 and was well aware of the inequities with men’s sports. “We were not part of the athletic department, and our budget was poor. I remember having to go before the Student Activities Board to seek funding, and we ran the women’s sports program on $10,000 a year. We traveled in vans and the athletes had to sponsor fund-raisers to supplement our budget,” she said.

But things began to change in 1972 when Title IX was passed banning sex discrimination in education.

continued next page
Perhaps nowhere was the impact of that legislation greater than in women’s athletics.

“That (Title IX) was a memorable experience for me. Implementation was slow but it did occur over the years and it really made a difference in women’s athletics at Bowling Green,” she said.

I

T WAS an exhilarating ride for Hager. “I remember going to Washington to fight for Title IX. I began to see changes and more women getting greater opportunities to play sports at all levels. I am so thrilled by what women have accomplished in athletics.”

The women’s athletic budget slowly grew and had reached $100,000 by 1976 when women’s sports became part of Intercollegiate Athletics.

That was also the year that women’s teams joined the Mid-American Conference and Hager turned the coaching reins over to Nora Liu. Then Athletic Director Dick Young named her interim senior administrator for women’s athletics.

Later that year, Carole Huston was hired as Bowling Green’s first full-time director.

Jim Lessig, who was the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics from 1978-82, considers Hager “a good friend. She had directed women’s sports and coached prior to my becoming the athletic director but we served together on several committees and I enjoyed working with her. She is another good example of someone who has given a great deal to Bowling Green during her career, and Bowling Green has benefited greatly from her service.”

Though she had stepped away from coaching (she also led the softball team for a year), she was never far from sports. She ran the women’s intramural program for 20 years.

“Athletics have given me many opportunities, including serving in various state offices and meeting a wide range of people outside the University who have become great friends,” she said.

She served as state chair for the Division for Girls’ and Women’s Sports, which sought to improve athletic participation at the high school and collegiate levels. She later was state basketball chair within the division and conducted clinics and workshops for players and coaches. She also was the division’s state offi-
AFTER retiring in 1992, Hager continued teaching for four years, and now devotes much of her time to various volunteer activities, including Habitat for Humanity, where she serves on the Family Selections Committee, which screens and determines the families who will be recipients of new homes. She works with Red Cross Disaster Relief and helps staff the reception desk at the Wood County Hospital. She is also a founding member of the Bowling Green State University Retirees Association (BGSURA).

Traveling is an important part of her life and her itineraries have included China, Europe and Australia. And when things get too busy in Bowling Green or she’s not traveling, Hager can usually be found at her cottage on Golden Lake, near Angola, Ind. She loves to fish and finds it relaxing to drop a line into the water and wait for a nibble or two.

Prior to coming to Bowling Green, Hager had taught and coached in Dayton Public Schools and for three years at the University of Dayton as well as a year at a Michigan junior high school. Along the way she earned a master’s at Miami University. “I’d never stayed in one place long, but Bowling Green gets in your blood and I now have been here more than 40 years and it has been wonderful.”

At STRS Ohio, the preliminary market value of investment assets stands at $49.7 billion as of Jan. 31, 2009; the rate of return for the fiscal year to date (July 1, 2008-Jan. 31, 2009) is -27.7%. The value of the investment assets reflects a drop of $20.7 billion from the close of fiscal year 2008 on June 30, when assets totaled about $70.4 billion. Unfortunately, most indicators suggest that the eventual market recovery has not yet begun, and when it does, it will be long and gradual.

February ‘09 STRS Board report
Where’s our Santa now?

Perhaps, as a child, you had a “snow globe” with a Santa Claus in the center covered with flakes that swirled about as you turned the globe upside down and you hoped for the gifts he would bring. To me, the current crisis situation is like that. Swirling inside the globe are all the groups (federal, state, local) swirling about with all the many issues of concern. And we’re waiting for the transparency to come as the rhetoric settles, ever hopeful for the best outcome.

Unfortunately, it appears much needs to be done before we know what really has settled and its impact.

At the federal level, legislation did get through the last session allowing those who have had to take a Required Minimum Distribution to suspend withdrawals for 2009. That might be a bright spot for some.

However, still swirling are concerns such as how the new restrictions on oversight of health care procedures will impact medical decisions made by our doctors.

Mandatory Social Security?

Another lingering issue is what will happen to on-going efforts to repeal GPO/WEP legislation. It is possible that increased attention to Social Security will renew efforts to enforce mandatory Social Security enrollment to the detriment of defined benefits funds. It will be interesting to see if efforts were successful to include in the stimulus package those who are on public pensions.

At the state level, attention is being given to prepare the budget. Gov. Strickland is relying on the stimulus and Ohio rainy-day funds. Concerns have been raised regarding the reliance on one-time funds.

At the state level, an extensive and expensive reform of education has been proposed by the governor. Higher education funding has been treated positively for the coming year.

A number of bills have been proposed in both houses. Legislation to establish a dedicated revenue stream for the health care stabilization fund (former HB315) has been reintroduced but is awaiting finalization of House regulations. Hopefully the new mix of legislators will continue to support this much-needed legislation. These are only a few of the “swirling issues.”

Instead of using the snow globe reference, perhaps we should reflect on the sentry with a bugle sounding an alert to be on the watch for what might be coming. Heaven forbid if we have to turn to the image of the boy at the dyke trying to stop the flood with his thumb. Whatever, we need to keep up with what is happening and to be ever thankful that for now we have both a pension and health care.

BGSURA Golden Book Scholarship needs help with more member donations

With the lack of “spendable income” which would have been generated by the BGSURA scholarship endowment, the Retirees Association Board of Directors decided last month to encourage giving to the book fund to ensure awarding of a 2009 scholarship.

“We hope the membership will join with the Board to contribute enough to continue the scholarship in these troubling times,” said Ramona Cormier, BGSURA president. “Please make use of the contribution form below.”

The third recipient of the association’s book scholarship, this time a student in the College of Business Administration, will be chosen by the BGSU Financial Aid Office later this year. The award rotates among the colleges.

Dr. Cormier said she expects the 2009 Book Scholarship recipient to be introduced at the BGSURA Fall Convocation in the Bowen-Thompson Union Sept. 16. Tom Walton, retired publisher of The Blade and a BGSU journalism graduate, will be the speaker.
Ohio expects to receive approximately $3.4 billion for support of education in the state as its “share” of the impending federal stimulus package, the Faculty Senate Committee on Professional Affairs learned at its February meeting.

Sandra MacNevin, associate vice president for governmental affairs, gave an update to the group relative to state budget-making as it affects higher education in Ohio. However, she said, University construction projects probably will not be included in federal infrastructure grants, partly because they are less likely than some other projects to result in quick employment. The committee also learned:

• Some state agencies in Ohio are slated for budget cuts ranging from 10 to 20 percent, which will cause substantial hurt in a number and variety of programs.

Computer troubles?

PROBLEMS with your computer?
Connect to the Internet? With Vista? Or the new Office 2008 for Macintosh? Call Charlie Applebaum, 419-352-0777, 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.

This makes it imperative that educational institutions perform at the highest possible level in order to warrant the governor’s trust and defuse severe criticism likely to come from various quarters.

• In return for agreeing to no increase in university tuition for 2010-11, the state is offering up to a 6 percent increase in state support for instruction the following year.

• Ohio is one of four states in the nation not currently planning cuts in higher education budgets in order to support other budget demands.

Available committee members were planning to visit Columbus March 3 to talk with legislators, primarily those from northwest Ohio, about the programs and budgetary needs of BGSU. Some time was spent discussing how best to go about this, based on past experience. Additional interested faculty and selected students were to be invited.

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

Passings

Dr. Virginia Platt, professor emeritus of history and a member of the BGSU Board of Trustees from 1984 to 1993, died Jan. 15 at Judson Retirement Community, Ashland. Her husband Grover, also a professor emeritus of history at BGSU, preceded her in death. Virginia Platt received her bachelor’s at the University of Washington and graduate degrees at Berkeley and Iowa State University. She was the first female president of the Ohio Academy of History. Dr. Platt was a member of Faculty Senate for 11 years.

Rosella Bloomfield, 78, of Haskins, died Jan. 24 at her daughter’s home. She worked for more than 20 years at the Bowling Green State University Student Union.

Larry Shaner Sr., 59, died Jan. 3 at St. Luke’s Hospital, Maumee. He worked in the BGSU transportation department for 11 years and was highly regarded by the students he drove on his University bus routes. He was an Eagle Scout and a former Bowling Green volunteer fire fighter.

James Synnamon, a supply manager for the BGSU chemistry department, died Jan. 12. He retired in 1983.

Dr. Joseph Spinelli, 69, associate professor emeritus of geography, died Jan. 27 in hospice care at Blanchard Valley Hospital, Findlay. He taught for 35 years and had served as chair of the department, assistant dean and then associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He retired in 2004. From Springfield, Ohio, Dr. Spinelli received bachelor’s degree in 1963 and his master’s degree in 1966, both from Ohio State University. He earned his Ph.D. in 1973 from the University of Florida.

Faculty Senate committee report

By Bill Rock

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Giordano continued from page 1

In the study, supported by funding from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, 1,316 junior high and high school students from seven Lucas County districts were interviewed, primarily at home. They recorded their responses on laptops. In-depth “relationship history” narratives were also elicited from 100 of the teens (51 girls and 49 boys).

Giordano said she and her colleagues have been involved in the process of collecting and analyzing these data since 1999. “We are very pleased with the rapport we’ve built up with Toledo-area teens involved in the project.”

Annual joint luncheon in Toledo with UT retirees

THE University of Toledo Retirees Association will host the annual joint luncheon with the BGSU Retirees Association Wednesday, April 22, at the Toledo Club, 235 14th St., in downtown Toledo.

The program will be presented by Dr. Alvin Compaan, Distinguished University Professor of Physics, who will explain and show the performance of the solar electric system of his house.

Dr. Compaan, who came from Kansas State University to the University of Toledo in 1987, is director of UT’s Center for Materials Science and Engineering. He installed a 4.3 kW grid-connected, thin-film photovoltaic system into his new home. The installation created a zero-energy home that also delivers enough electricity to power his normal commute with a battery-powered electric truck, a 1982 GMC pickup.

The Toledo association will make a mailing to BGSU retirees in late March or early April. Reservations at $22 per person will be due by April 15. The menu: Whitefish parmesan crusted, chicken marsala, penne alfredo pasta. More information about the Compaan home may be found by doing a Web search for pv.compaans.

News Notes

Dance, ballerina, dance

THE BGSU Dance Marathon will be March 21 in Perry Field House. Student Alaina Kantner, in a presentation to the BGSURA Board in February, invited retirees not only to make a donation to the 32-hour extravaganza, but to dance or bicycle 25 miles from McComb to the field house. The annual event benefits Mercy Children’s Hospital in Toledo via the Children’s Miracle Network.

More information about contributing and dancing may be obtained at www.bgsudancemarathon.com

Hang on to your shares

RETIREES taking Required Minimum Disbursements from their IRAs or other retirement funds are reminded that Congress last year passed legislation permitting postponement of RMDs – at least for 2009. Further information may be obtained from the funds or from the funds’ Web sites.

To advisory post

BGSURA retiree John C. Moore has been appointed to a state advisory committee for making higher education more efficient. Moore, chairman of the Owens Community College Board of Trustees, is the only representative from northwest Ohio on the 11-member committee, reports The Blade.

Eric Fingerhut, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, established the committee to oversee creating and improving efficiencies within the university system of Ohio. The work will include monitoring spending practices.

Moore is the author of Alvetta (available from Amazon), about the late Mrs. Moore. Amazon describes the book as “not just a tribute to a wonderful lady, but an insight into the strength and courage of the human spirit when faced with adversity...Although this book focuses more on the last two years of Alvetta’s life and her courageous bout with cancer, flashbacks throughout show how two determined teenagers became successful citizens through their love and faith in each other.”
Comments on Zen

It is not surprising that Jan, the poet and linguist, had in her collection of books a small volume entitled The Little Zen Companion by David Schiller. Zen, a school of Mahayana Buddhism, has as a basic tenet the search for one's Buddha nature. This nature is the mind itself which, according to Zen, is revealed not through theoretical knowledge, not through religious texts, and not through metaphysical discussion but through meditation and attention paid to daily experience. What is sought is enlightenment reached by removing the self from the habitualness of life through a focus on the internal on the mind.

What does the above have to do with words and The Little Zen Companion?

We need a way to get at the mind within and why not through language which may be what makes us truly human. But we use language - words - in a variety of ways: to communicate ideas, to advertise, to express humor and joy, to instruct, or to suggest a wordless truth. Schiller's book is a collection of wordless truths: nonrational and paradoxical phrases of extreme interest to the Zen Buddhist. It is these kinds of words that can lead one out of one's mundane existence into the realm of Buddha enlightenment.

Enough instruction please seek enlightenment with the wordless truths which follow.

Here are two selections from Schiller’s Companion (pp. 89 and 331, respectively) that Jan read regularly:

**Panchadasi**

When you meet a master swordsman, show him your sword. When you meet a man who is not a poet, do not show him your poem.

Lin-Chi

Here are two selections I chose from Schiller (pp. 5 and 136, respectively):

**Tao Te Ching**

When the Many are reduced to One, to what is the One reduced?

Zen Koan

Were you enlightened?

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**Reservation for BGSURA’s Luncheon at Stone Ridge**

Wednesday, March 18. Reservation Deadline Friday, March 13!


**NOTE:** Reservations at $10 per person MUST BE MADE by Friday, March 13.

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, March 13!

NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 13. Hal Lunde: Telephone 419-352-3929