AKESIDE, Ohio, resident Gwen Addy, now retired after 33 years of teaching including schools most recently on North Bass and Kelleys islands, will illustrate her one-room school experiences with slides Wednesday, May 21, at BGSURA’s final luncheon gathering of the year at the First United Methodist Church. Socializing begins at 11:30. Don Bright’s buffet line opens at noon.

A native of Marion, Addy earned her education degree at Ohio State. Before the Erie Islands schools, she taught in Marion, Columbus, Fostoria and New Philadelphia. She now is a certified assessor for Praxis.

 Reservation Form for BGSURA’s May 21 Luncheon

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21 • RESERVATION DEADLINE MAY 16!

First United Methodist Church. 11:30-Noon: Check in and socializing. Noon: Luncheon.

NOTE: Please make reservations at $7 per person by Friday, May 16.

Your 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 DON BRIGHT, 1209 CLARK ST., BOWLING GREEN, OH 43402, NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 16. Telephone 352-8360.
Reg Noble: Environmentalist, keeper of Schedel Arboretum Gardens

“I’ll retire when I see that retirement would be more fun than work.”

• Reginald D. Noble

By Janis L. Pallister

Many of us have statues and plaques of St. Fiacre (some courtesy of Carruth) gracing our gardens; we think of them not only as artistic embellishments but as reminders to St. Fiacre that he should protect our gardens and make them flourish. But Schedel Arboretum and Gardens need no such icon: They have Dr. Reginald Noble, who — after a long career at BGSU, first as professor and then as chair of the Department of Biological Sciences (1968-1993), and even as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (Fall, 1993), as well as director for International Environmental Programs (1990-1998) — retired in 1998 only to take on the great responsibility of being director of the beautiful Schedel Arboretum and Gardens, recently presented on WBGU-TV in a fine documentary.

There we saw the great diversity and extraordinary success of these gardens, which keep non-native species alive and boast hundreds and hundreds of flower specimens. There is a Japanese Garden with a red gate, pagoda, Japanese lanterns and a pool. Trees on the premises include a Cucumber Magnolia and an Umbrella Magnolia, as well as a prize stand of Dawn Redwoods, a handsome Weeping Willow Tree, a large native White Oak, and three Yoshino Cherry Trees. The Bonsai Collection is also something very special, housed in its own building. Throughout the grounds there are many outstanding and valuable sculptures.

Now, it is little wonder that Reg should have been chosen for this task. His distinguished record as an environmentalist is lengthy and impressive. Reg, who has published more than 50 scientific articles, reports, books and abstracts, has also had many research consultancies. To name but a few: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Academy of Science, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Campbell Soup Co., Consortium for International Earth Science Information Network, United Nations programs and the World Bank. Moreover, Reg’s grant-getting abilities are proven. Though they are many, he looks on these grants as the most significant:

• U.S. Park Service. 1993. Lichen Bioindication and Monitoring. $28,000.
• U.S. EPA. 1995-96. Atmospheric Deposition of Contaminants of Anthropogenic Origin, Central, Eastern Europe. $73,000.

Reg is a Fellow of the Ohio Academy of Science, a USDA Visiting Scientist, a NSF Science Faculty Fellow, and a recipient of the NSF Academic Year Institute Award.

Most recently Reg has been co-chair of the International Symposium on Conservation of Biodiversity in Trans-boundary Protected Areas, Bieszczady-Tatry, Poland (May 1994); U.S. Team Leader for Estonian component of Baltic Monitoring Project (1994-95); and a member of the Board of Trustees for the Joseph J. and Marie P. Schedel Foundation.

But it is above all the Schedel Gardens that seem to be for him the “dream job.” Reg and his wife live on the premises though they still maintain their home on Melrose Street in BG. He says the job is more than full time: From May to October, when the gardens are open, they work seven days a week. Even in winter they are busy scheduling weddings, banquets, retreats and receptions.

With a crew of six people working full time, they operate the gardens during peak times and in the winter they tend the greenhouses, where, among other things, they grow 20,000 plants, available to the public.

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Ohio artists featured in exhibitions at Schedel

Coming events at Schedel Gardens are built around Ohio artists:

• David Deming in “Sculpture in the Garden 2003” June 1-Oct. 1. Deming will exhibit approximately 20 of his sculptures throughout the 17 acres of the Schedel Arboretum and Gardens. Self-guided and docent led tours will be available to the public.
• Dominick Labino Part I, June 1-27. This exhibit is in two parts. Part II will open in early August.
• Thomas Hilty, June 1-July 27. On display will be approximately 20 of his award-winning paintings and drawings in the Trellis Gallery. A Meet the Artists Reception will be June 21.

Admission to the gardens is $6. Hours are Monday-Saturday, 10-4, and Sunday, noon to 4. The Trellis Gallery is open noon to 4 Friday through Sunday and by appointment at other times. Special guided tours of the sculpture exhibit will be offered. Call for reservations: Schedel Arboretum and Gardens, 19255 W. Portage River South Rd., Elmore, Ohio 43416-0081. www.schedel-gardens.org schedelgardens@woh.rr.com 419-862-3182

For further information: Peggy Grant, Exhibit Curator, 419-241-2400.
To contact Reg by e-mail: r noble@bgnet.bgsu.edu

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to be supplemented by plants from other sources. There are 50 varieties of hot peppers in the kitchen garden, which also has common cooking herbs.

Born in Huntington, W. Va., in 1935, Reg did his undergraduate work at Marshall University and in 1969 received his Ph.D. in Botany and Plant Physiology from The Ohio State University. Having already taught in Milton and Gallia Academy high schools and at Marshall and Ohio State universities, in 1968 he and his wife (Sherry Saunders) moved to Bowling Green with three sons. The next year, he accepted a tenure-track position in Biological Sciences at BGSU.

REG and Sherry have immensely enjoyed living here, where their sons, Rodney, Jeffrey, and Gregory, grew up. Sherry and Reg feel fortunate to be close to their six grandchildren and enjoy seeing them often.

Reg and Sherry are often asked, “When are you going to retire?” And he confesses, “We sometimes ask ourselves the same question. The answer we usually offer is that we will retire when we reach the point that retirement would be more fun than our work.”

Reg is about to publish with co-authors an article entitled “Scots Pine (Pinus sylvestris) Ecosystem Response to Climate on a Temperate to Boreal Forest Transect” in a special issue of the British journal Global Ecology and Biogeography. And he thinks about writing a book about the problems with the KGB, the CIA and the FBI when he was conducting a project involving a USSR-US agreement about environmental effects on forests, and after that on vegetation. Reg is proud that the members of one of the institutes of the Polish Academy of Sciences have invited him to speak at the Academy’s 50th anniversary celebration the founding of their institute (Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization) in August. He will go, of course.

- Janis L. Pallister, Ph.D., L.D., is Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Romance Languages.
  E-mail: jpal1s@dacor.net

'Take me out to the ball game…'

THE Wood County Retired Teachers Association invites BGSURA members to be part of a trip to Toledo to see the Toledo Mud Hens play Scranton, Tuesday, June 17. The game starts at noon. Tickets are $6. Checks should be made out to and sent to Helen Dermer, 1210 Lyn Road, Bowling Green, by May 9 at the latest.

A TARTA bus will leave at Riverplace Shopping Mall (by Farmer Jack’s) on Route 25 in Perrysburg at 11 a.m. for a cost of $1. Game tickets will be handed out on the bus. Those furnishing their own transportation to the game may send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ms. Dermer for game tickets to be mailed.

2-island schools • continued

III, a system for measuring the skills of beginning teachers in classroom settings. The system, developed by Educational Testing Service, is used in teacher licensing decisions by state or local agencies.

Addy’s husband Keith is in charge of Lakeside’s summer Calendar of Events including church conferences and Hoover Auditorium programming.

Lakeside residents for the past 12 years, the Addys have been married 42 years and have two children and three grandchildren. Gwen Addy said she “loves children, music, children’s literature, cooking, church responsibilities and volunteering.”

Programs for 2003-2004


Nov. 19. Mayor John Quinn


Wally Pretzer is Program chair.

Who’s Who — BGSURA

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Genevieve Stang
Alternate: Richard Edwards

Editor, Jim Gordon, 352-8175
jrgordon@dacor.net
HE annual meeting of OCHER was in Columbus April 23 fo-
cused on health care for re-
tirees. Speakers from OPERS and
STRS said their groups are committed
to providing quality pension and health
care even though health care coverage is
not mandated by law.

Both groups are facing the need to
make changes in health care due to eco-
nomic downturn, changing demographic
ics and rapidly escalating health care
costs. STRS has already instituted some
changes. On May 16 the STRS Board
will take action on further changes to be
implemented in 2004.

Joe Endry, STRS retiree Board
member, declined to make specific indi-
cations of these changes prior to the
meeting, but indicated that he believes
the changes will not be as drastic as first
presented at the regional meetings. In
addition, he said that the Board is con-
sidering the establishment of a fund to
assist those who have documented that
they would not be able to meet the new
health care costs. Final plans for this
have not been worked out. It is impor-
tant to watch for and read carefully the
announcements from STRS that should
be out by the end of May.

While the financial picture for
OPERS is not as dire as that for STRS,