

**BGSURA convocation
Sept. 17 features
'Mick' Ferrari**

• Dr. Michael Ferrari, Chancellor of Texas Christian University, will speak in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union. He is a former interim BGSU president.

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BGSURA NEWS LETTER



**Bowling Green State University
Retirees Association**

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• *Gwen Addy, now retired, and the one-room school on Lake Erie's North Bass Island.*

Mistress of the one-room school: 'The 2-island teacher'

LAKESIDE, 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

• *continued on page 3*

○ **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

consultantships. 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. EPA. 1992. Atmospheric Deposition of Contaminants of Anthropogenic Origin. \$503,450.
- U.S. Department of State. 1993. Assisting the Baltic Republics in Setting Up and Conducting an Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program for Terrestrial, Wetlands and Freshwater Systems. \$253,452.
- 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.



• *Reginald D. Noble*

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 Transboundary 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,

• *continued on next page*

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:
rnoble@bgnet.bgsu.edu

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 of 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: jpallis@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

Sept. 17. Convocation. Dr. Michael Ferrari, Chancellor of Texas Christian University. Bowen-Thompson Union.

Nov. 19. Mayor John Quinn

Jan. 21, 2004: Father Jim Bacik, formerly of St. Thomas More Parish in Bowling Green, "Aspects of Spirituality in Life."

March 17, 2004. Lucy Long, Department of Popular Culture. "A Program of Irish Music."

May 19, 2004. Helen Dermer, Jane Robb, David Rogers and others. "Power of Music to Promote Positive Change."

Wally Pretzer is Program chair. □

BGSURA NEWS LETTER

Who's Who — BGSURA

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY DR. ROGER ANDERSON

WHAT a lovely spring after our hard winter! The tulips, forsythia and daffodils are blooming along with the flowering trees, and the lilacs are not far behind. Gardening is in progress with more after May 15.

March and April have been active months for BGSURA. On March 11 a substantial number of us went to Fort Meigs for lunch and an excellent program on the history of the fort and tour of the new visitor center, hosted by the MCO Retirees Association. The



• Roger Anderson

following week BGSURA had a good turnout for the lunch and interesting program featuring a panel of Japanese business people and family members and representatives from the Bowling Green Community Development Foundation and the BGSU Asian Studies Program.

On April 16 the BGSURA Board held its last meeting of the 2002-2003 year. The nominating committee's slate of candidates was approved. Eligible voters have received their ballots with this newsletter and should vote and return the ballots by May 31.

In closing, I would like to thank Morgan Brent and Morris Weinberger for their many years of service to BGSURA. Their terms on the board expire June 30. I hope to see many of you at the luncheon May 21 featuring Gwen Addy speaking on her experiences as a teacher in one-room schools.

• Dr. Anderson is Associate Professor Emeritus of Political Science. His address is rogerca@bgnnet.bgsu.edu.

STANG REPORT

BY GENEVIEVE STANG

THE annual meeting of OCHER was in Columbus April 23 focused on health care for retirees. 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 economic downturn, changing demographics 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 indications 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 considering 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 important 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,

that system, too, is feeling the impact of investment losses, increased utilization, technology and medical improvements on health care costs. The demographics for OPERS differ from those for STRS in that they have more short term workers and less use of benefits. However, following the market downturn and spiraling health care costs, OPERS solvency projects have been shortened with a pessimistic projection set at 2011. The OPERS Board Health Care Committee began review of health care alternatives in March and plans to approve the 2004 plan design and rates in July.

Health care alternatives being considered by the OPERS Board could affect eligibility, plan design, contributions, policy and cost containment. Under consideration is closing the Health Care Plan to new hires and instituting a "choices plan" with a graded scale based on length of service. A "Choices Cafeteria Plan" might include a Retiree Medical Account to be used for other or future Health Care expenses. Again, it is important to watch newsletters for final decisions regarding the changes and dates for open enrollment.

A legislative update noted that Lynn R. Wachtmann is the chair of the Ohio Retirement Oversight Committee, a group that is meeting with all five retirement systems.

Reference also was made to the observation that this legislature is very

conservative and the need to keep retiree concerns and issues in front of them. Some pieces of legislation identified included: HB63 — closes loophole on double dipping; HB98, which would require COLAs to be divided between the retiree and an ex-spouse designated as an alternate payee, and would establish a "Plan F" to allow members to designate more than one surviving beneficiary to receive ongoing payments after the death of a member; SB22, which exempts from the Ohio personal income tax the first \$10,000 in state, federal and military retirement benefits

At the federal level, the government Pension Offset/Windfall Elimination Provision continues to be getting attention: HR 594 (McKeon R-CA) repeal GPO and WEP; HR887 (Jefferson D-LA) modify GPO to exclude first \$2,000; S349 (Feinstein D-CA) repeal GPO and WEP; S363 (Mikulski D-MD) modify GPO to exclude first \$1,200.

Social Security is opposing this and AARP has not adopted support. There seems to be a strong momentum for reform of Social Security. Some are waiting until Social Security reform is done. The GPO/WEP has cost many in Ohio millions of dollars simply because they had both Social Security and a service pension.

Keep our legislators — both state and federal — informed of retiree concerns and issues. □