

ALLOT INSIDE

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May 2005

BGSURA NEWSLETTER

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Bowling Green State University Retirees Association

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• Raymond C. Fischer

Wood County Prosecutor to discuss identity theft at May 18 Program

A PROGRAM on identity theft will be presented by Raymond C. Fischer, Wood County Prosecutor, at the May 18 meeting of the BGSU Retirees Association.

The luncheon meeting is at the First United Methodist Church, East Wooster St., with check-in and socializing beginning at 11:30.

Fischer, appointed prosecutor in 2003 after serving as senior assistant prosecutor in the Civil Division from 1987, represented all county departments and agencies, local school districts, libraries, and the Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.

Raised on Cleveland's west side, Fischer graduated from St. Ignatius High School, where he was captain of the school's foot-

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What's ahead for 2005-2006

- Sept. 14 – 11th Annual Convocation.
BGSU alumna Marsha Bordner, president, Terra Tech College, Fremont.
- Nov. 16 – Dick Eppstein, Better Business Bureau.
- Jan. 18, 2006 – Madrigal Singers of Bowling Green High School, directed by James Brown.
- March 8 or 15, 2006 – Joint meeting with the Wood County Teachers Assn. Elks Club.
- May 17, 2006 – Adelia Peters, Chinese folk culture with emphasis on Huxian peasant paintings.
- Sept. 13, 2006 – Ken Baker, president, Ohio Northern University, Ada.



* Meet Dorothy... Page 3
Her senior photo in
the 1947 KEY.

○ Reservation Form for BGSURA's May 18, 2005, Luncheon ○
Wednesday, May 18, 2005 • Reservation Deadline Friday, May 13!
1st United Methodist Church. 11:30-Noon: Check-in and socializing. Noon: Luncheon.
NOTE: Reservations at \$8 per person MUST BE MADE by Friday, May 13.

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 13. Telephone 419-352-8360



• Dorothy M. Luedtke (in checkered jacket), at the October 2003 dedication of the Dorothy M. Luedtke Gymnasium in the Eppler Complex, is surrounded by BGSU alumnae. Making the presentation is Cheryl Rennekar (right), BS '68, ME '70, a retired Florida high school principal. Kneeling is Janet Fenwick Debeauclair, BS '59. The plaque, given by physical education

alumnae, describes Luedtke as "an outstanding educator who contributed to the national reputation of the BGSU women's physical education program, an exemplar of the principles and philosophy that guided women's physical education and sport, a dedicated administrator of a quality intramural program, and a pioneer in the development of women's intercollegiate athletics."

Dorothy Luedtke: Pioneer in Women's Sports

By Jan Pallister

WELL, we have heard about quite a few of our retired colleagues through these little vignettes, but this is the first time we have heard about a woman professor who did many things for BGSU women students and who, moreover, has a gym named for her.

Dorothy Luedtke was raised in Sandusky, and even there she became interested in sports at Sandusky High School. She speaks with pride of the fact that there was some green grass in every area of the city, which also boasted many playgrounds and flower gardens. It was there that she became active in summer sports, accompanying the softball team to Huron and joining swimming contests. Indeed she learned to swim in order to be in contests (although her father told her she must learn to swim if she wanted to go fishing and sailing with the rest of the family in their sailboat).

The love of contest has probably determined many of Dorothy's accomplishments. When she entered BGSU in 1943, she noted that there were no extramural sports available for women: It seems that competition in those days was considered somewhat unladylike.

Dorothy, after graduating from BGSU in 1947, and having taught for one year in Adrian (Mich.) Junior High as physical education director, returned to BGSU in 1948 as an "assistant instructor," a title which

permitted her to earn her MS in 1950. And she stayed on at BGSU until she retired in 1983!

Now, during those years Dorothy attended summer sessions at UCLA, and reached the all-but-dissertation level. But her true interest was always teaching, coaching and "organizing." No doubt you already know about the naming of the Dorothy M. Luedtke Gymnasium in Eppler Hall in 2003. What you may not know is that her many admiring students (alumnae) were behind this. They wrote many letters requesting this be done, and, with a committee of retired and active faculty, along with Sharon Hanna's help, got the petition through the Naming Committee of the Board of Trustees.

IT IS little wonder that Dorothy's students were grateful to her for all she had done for women's athletics through the years. The fact is she virtually started the athletic program for women. She notes that in the earlier history of athletics at BGSU, the basketball team was made up of women – there were not many men on campus around 1915. The sports for women took their names from literary clubs, and physicians thought competitive sports were too hard for or on women.

Those were the days when the woman's place was thought to be in the home. Florence Henderson demonstrated how to be a good housekeeper; how to keep your re-

frigerator and the like. Competitive sports for women did not conform to societal norms. To engage in them marked one as a tomboy. But with the advent of World War II women left the home. And it was in this environment that women's sports advanced at BGSU under Dorothy's arduous efforts. She organized and coached the women's field hockey team, basketball team, swim team and a volleyball team. At the same time she was the Women's Intramural Director. Of course, with the introduction of Title IX, there was even greater improvement of the situation.

LET me add that once Dorothy saw that the women students wanted to compete, she set up connections with other schools, including three Big 10 universities: Ohio State, Michigan and Michigan State.

Dorothy's service to the university and to her professionals has been virtually unsurpassed, and has continued into this year, when she was involved as a committee member in the organization of a Feb. 2005 banquet at which more than 200 pre-Title-IX women athletes from 20 different states were taken into the Varsity Club. She has also authored an Aquatics Guide and has given several invited papers at various professional meetings.

Dorothy has many more honors than the naming of a gym: To mention but a few,

• continued on next page

Genny Stang's Legislative Report

FEDERAL

Social Security Reform

Several bills have been introduced to reform Social Security and are pending in committee. We need to continue to monitor efforts in California to dismantle/reform pension systems.

Interest in the defined contribution approach continues at several levels.

To date, President Bush has not made mandatory coverage a part of his plan and he is on record opposing mandatory coverage when he was the governor of Texas. Sen. Voinovich and Sen. DeWine have stated their opposition. Reps. Ney, Boehner and Pryce did not sign a letter to Speaker Hastert, which opposed mandatory coverage. Rep. Green introduced HCR 43 (now in committee) expressing the sense of Congress that public employees should not be forced to participate in Social Security.

Mandatory coverage would have a detrimental effect on Ohio retirement funds. The pending replacement of Rep. Portman will be a loss of a good friend to retirees on this issue.

Luedtke • continued

she was chair of the National Division of Girls and Women in Sport Aquatics Rules Committee in 1957-59. In 1966 she was appointed by the U.S. Olympic Development Committee as one of the four master teachers of basketball in Ohio. She directed the women's intramural program from 1955-68, gaining national recognition for the high percentage of participation by BGSU students in intramural activities. She is also the first woman to be inducted into the Bowling Green State University Athletic Hall of Fame (1983); and in 2004 she received the Pathfinder Award for Ohio from the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport.

No doubt Dorothy would still be coaching somewhere if her health permitted. She has been obliged to give up gardening and fishing — two other favorite activities. However, she continues to staff the front desk as a volunteer at Wood County Hospital. Moreover, since retirement she has been teaching in Kenwood and Conneaut schools, where she helps the children with reading and math.

Whew! n

• Janis L. Pallister, PhD, LD, is Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Romance Languages. E-mail her at jpallis@dacor.net.

Let legislators know our concerns about mandatory coverage. We need to protect our pension funds.

GPO/WEP

Efforts to repeal or reform this legislation, which reduces the SS benefit of workers getting public pensions, continues. We need to monitor these actions as there may be an attempt to use such as a trump card in getting mandatory SS coverage.

Bills have been introduced designed to put in place three kinds of savings vehicles (known as "Sister" savings plans). These relate to tax-free savings, replacement of existing traditional and Roth IRAs and replacement of all types of plans funded with employer contributions such as 401(d), 403(b) and governmental 457 plans.

Medicaid and Medicare

An amendment to the Medicaid Act of 2005 (S338) has been introduced which strikes \$14 billion in Medicaid cuts and creates a bipartisan Medicaid Commission.

Medicare Part B premiums are expected to increase to \$89.20 per month in 2006. It has been reported that Medicare began last year to spend more than it is taking in. Possible remedies have downsides for retirees. Medicare is in a precarious position.

Prescription Drugs

Sen. Grassley has predicted that a bill to allow re-importation of prescription drugs from Canada is likely to pass this summer.

At the April meeting of the STRS

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Fischer • continued from page 1

ball team as a senior. Winning a full scholarship for football to the University of Notre Dame, Fischer majored in government and international relations and played offensive guard. In 1966, his sophomore year, the Notre Dame team won the national championship.

After graduation, Fischer taught political science, economics, U.S. history and English at Toledo's St. John's High School. He also was an assistant coach for football and wrestling while taking education courses at BGSU to satisfy certification requirements.

Fischer earned a master's degree in political science and public administration at the University of Toledo and later earned his law degree there. He also was in private law practice in Toledo and Perrysburg. Fischer joined the Wood County Prosecutor's Office in 1987. n

Milestone 25...

with thanks



TOM DRITTA/TTT PHOTO: WITH THANKS

• Dr. Janis Pallister in front of the Don Drumm mural on the front of Jerome Library. In 1996, Dr. Pallister contributed \$25,000 for restoration of the 10-story-high Drumm murals. A conference room in Jerome Library is named in her honor.

Pallister chronicles

THE feature about Dorothy Luedtke marks the 25th profile Janis Pallister has written for the BGSURA Newsletter about retired faculty and staff members. The first, about Dean Bob Thayer, appeared in the May 2000 issue.

Dr. Pallister joined the BGSU faculty in 1961 and retired in 1985. BGSU Trustees, in honoring her in 1979 with the title of University Professor, described Dr. Pallister as a "distinguished humanist, literary scholar, poet, critic, philanthropist, translator and champion of French-speaking artists around the world." The title is one of the highest honors the Board of Trustees can bestow upon a faculty member.

A native of Rochester, Minn., Dr. Pallister delivered the BGSU Commencement address in December 1987. She was presented with an Honorary Alumnus Award in 1997 and was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree in 2002. n

President's Corner

Wanderlust

By Dr. Roger Anderson

AFTER a 12-day trip to Krakow and Warsaw, Poland, in early March led by the Holliday Group (Roger Holliday and Claudia Fischer), of Bowling Green, we were asked what it was like to travel with Roger and Claudia. To answer the question, a little background information is necessary.

In 1979 Roger, Claudia and I started teaching a how-to-travel course for beginning travelers as a continuing education course at Bowling Green State University. Students in the course would often urge us to conduct our own tours. The answer, as Roger and Claudia often said, was why would we want to ruin our own vacation by leading groups.

In 1983 Roger Holliday and Claudia Fischer began writing a weekly travel column for *The Blade*, Toledo. They spelled out their travel philosophy: Do detailed research on where you want to go and why before you go, focus on one country or one area of a country, travel light, use public transportation, and travel in small groups with as much flexibility and independence as possible.

In 1985 while on a trip to Europe, Roger and Claudia ran into a gentleman with a group of friends who organized his own tour which focused on spending time in one country, traveling light and independent and using public transportation. His experience convinced them to start offering organized trips primarily to Western and Eastern Europe for small groups. They would provide a pre-trip orientation seminar which covered research, what to wear, packing, budget and money, food and drink, language, major sightseeing points of interest, and other helpful hints. The tour package would include transportation from a central point in

Toledo to Detroit Metro, round trip airfare to the destination, hotel accommodations abroad, and train or minivan transportation abroad. Once the group had reached their destination, individuals had as much independence as they wanted.

In 1987 they offered their first trip to Germany, and since that time they have led more than 40 tours, primarily to Europe. Some core regulars have been on 20 trips. I have done six.

The Polish trip was typical of the kind of tour they conduct. There were 13 on the trip including Roger and Claudia. We met for three hours in Bowling Green for our informative pre-trip seminar. The day of our departure, we drove to the



• Roger and Betty Jean Anderson at the restaurant-cafe-art gallery "Ariel" in the Kazimierz district of Krakow.



• Claudia and Roger prepare to leave on a "crazy Communist tour" of the centrally planned city of Nova Huta and Steelworks with their exuberant guide who'll drive a two-cylinder Trabant 601, made in the former East Germany.

Toledo Clarion Westgate Hotel, parked the car and were provided limo service to Detroit Metro where we boarded a Northwest flight to Amsterdam for our connecting flight to Warsaw. From Warsaw we took a scenic three-hour train ride to our six-day stay in Krakow. We went by minibus to our small and elegant but relatively inexpensive hotel right off the market square and within the historic district of the city.

Except for our daily 6 p.m. social hour, where the group shared daily experiences, we rarely did things as a group un-

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May 3, 2005

Ballot

BGSU
Retirees Association
15 College Park Office Bldg.
Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, OH 43403

To: Members of the Bowling Green State University Retirees Association (BGSURA)

From: BGSURA Nominating Committee

ANNUAL ELECTION

- Please mark the ballot, fold, tape and apply a 37-cent stamp.
- Ballot must be received on or before Friday, May 27, 2005.

Thank you for your support.

Ballot for the two-year term beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2007

PRESIDENT

Roger Anderson

TREASURER

Harold Lunde

**Ballots must be
received by May 27**

BOARD MEMBERS (SIX TO BE ELECTED)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pietro Badia	<input type="checkbox"/> Richard Edwards
<input type="checkbox"/> Don Bright	<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Sexton
<input type="checkbox"/> Eloise Clark	<input type="checkbox"/> Jane Schimpf
_____	_____

Fold and tape at top right

37 cents
postage

BGSU Retirees Association
15 College Park Office Bldg.
Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, OH 43403

Fold — this side out

.....



Cut this page
apart on the
dotted line
fold, tape
apply stamp
and mail

Fold — this side out

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Passings

• **ALLEN S. WHITE**, professor emeritus, died March 31 in Stephenson, Va. At the time of his retirement in 1998 he was a full professor in the Theatre Department. He had served as chairman of Faculty Senate and held several administrative positions. Having joined the BGSU faculty in 1967, he had served as a play director, staging scores of productions for BGSU and other venues. Before moving to Virginia, he had been a member of the Bowling Green Ex-

change Club and St. Thomas More University Parish.

• **MARY L. ANNESSER**, 86, of Bowling Green, died March 1. She had worked at BGSU from 1959 to 1983 as a purchasing agent for the library.

• **FRANK R. HOWE**, 85, died March 15 in Orange, Calif. He had been a locksmith at BGSU, retiring in 1982.

• **ROSS A. MEAGLEY**, 65, died March 23 in Palmetto, Fla. He retired from BGSU in 1987 after 31 years of employment.

• **AMANDA COLLINS**, 82, of Genoa, died April 16. She had been a custodial worker at BGSU for 20 years.

• **GERRARD BLAIR**, 82, died Feb. 25 in Cambridge, Md. He was a skating coach at the BGSU Ice Arena from 1972 to 1982.

• **GENEVIEVE MOORE**, 86, died Feb. 24 in Bowling Green. She had been a food server at the BGSU Student Union.

• **DAVID E. WALKER**, 62, a former employee of BGSU, died Feb. 16 in Houston, Tex.

• **EDITH KIGER MOSES**, 92, died April 20 in Bowling Green. She was retired from the University's food service division. □

President . from page 4

less we wanted to. The entire group took a half-day guided walking tour of Krakow and spent a meaningful day at the Nazi concentration camps of Auschwitz and Birkenau, led by an outstanding guide from the Jewish Cultural Center in Krakow.

While we could have easily spent the entire time in Krakow, some of us elected to take day tours to the 700-year-old Wieliczka Salt Mine and Czestochowa where we saw the Black Madonna painting in the chapel. Krakow itself provided plenty to see: the remnants of the city walls, the university, old town, market square, Wawel Castle and Cathedral, and the Jewish quarter of Kazimierz.

From Krakow the group took the train to our two-day Warsaw stay, where we got a guided bus tour of the city. Most of us toured the restored castle and old town the following day. Although our stay in Warsaw was short, it was fascinating.

Roger and Claudia plan two more trips this year, to Sorrento, Italy, and to South Africa. Both are filled. They plan to lead trips two more years and then retire from trip planning but continue traveling on their own. □

• Dr. Anderson is Associate Professor Emeritus of Political Science. His address is rogerca@bgnet.bgsu.edu. More information about the Holliday/Fisher travel philosophy may be found in their *Blade* column of April 24.

BGSURA NEWSLETTER

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On the drawing board



Life Members

A MEMBERSHIP card for Lifetime Members in BGSURA is in the design and production process, announced Clif Boutelle, BGSURA director and membership chairman. The cards will be available this fall during the membership renewal period. Life Memberships are \$150 for members and \$75 for associates. For more information: Treasurer Harold Lunde, (419) 352-3929, or by E-mail, hlunde@cba.bgsu.edu. □

Stang Report

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board, a decision was made to file for the 28% subsidy for annual prescription drug expenses incurred in 2006 by STRS Ohio Health Care Program participants who are enrolled in Medicare.

The approximate \$33 million in savings would go to the Health Care Stabilization Fund. To be eligible for the subsidy, STRS will need to increase the value of the prescription drug benefits in the basic plans offered by Aetna and Medical Mutual in 2006. STRS Ohio members can continue to participate in the prescription drug programs they currently have during calendar year 2006.

Health Care

Sen. Frist has introduced a five-pronged approach to improving health care delivery. It includes medical tort reform, expansion of health saving accounts, creating association health plan, increasing use of electronic medical records and adopting refundable tax credits to assist individuals in purchasing health insurance.

STATE

Budget

The legislature's primary focus is on the state biennial budget. The House has taken action and the Senate is actively considering Gov. Taft's budget, which contains tax reform, expansion of vouchers and major reductions in the Library and Local Government Support Fund. Legislators are listening to concerns of constituents and our monitoring is needed to protect pension funds. Taft's \$500 million bond issue for high-tech investment (projects selected by Ohio's Third Frontier Commission) that voters rejected two years ago is to be on the November ballot linked with borrowing for renewal of an existing bond issue to fund some local public works improvement, and a new bond issue for "job related" sites.

Tax Exemption SB30 relates to exemption of \$10,000 in public pension benefits from Ohio state tax remains but given the budget situation, probably will go nowhere.

School Funding

Districts are concerned about implications of budget cuts and potential impact on available funds. In addition, the drain on public funds resulting from Charter Schools diverting money away from public schools (over four million for FY05) continues to be a concern. There is a bill to keep the current cap on Charter Schools. A citizen's initiative is working to put a referendum on school funding on the November ballot.

HB71 would allow for the purchase of service credit by OPERS members for non-active National Guard time. It is likely the ORSC will recommend the provisions be applied to all five pension systems.

State legislation passed and signed provides proportionate distribution of COLA to future retirees and former spouses, re-hired retirees to withdraw only their own contributions before age 65 and reduces the withdrawal match at 50% for employer contributions made after July 1, and HB 10, which gives retirees one year to change benefit plans upon marriage.

SB9 prohibits the state or a political subdivision from conducting business with any person or company that assists to any organization on the State Department's Terrorist Exclusion List has been supported by the Senate and is in House committee. STRS staff believes the bill would limit STRS investments.

STRS

Board Membership

Election results for the two retiree positions will be complete May 7. Sen. Wachtman included an amendment to HB25 regarding the term for Gov. Taft's appointment to public pension plan boards. It indicated the appointee would serve only until the next regular board election rather than until the start of the next term. The clause would have meant the bill would become effective immediately after passage by the General Assembly. Recent action by the Senate blocked all emergency clauses, delaying the effective date of HB25 for at least three months.

Health Care

The Board received and has been studying the draft report of STRS Ohio Health Care Strategic Plan for 2007-2009 with strategies that address program, cost, health management, consumer focus, funding, and health care industry focus.

Investments

The investment consultant review of the STRS real estate portfolio was favorable. A recent article in *The Blade* reported that STRS has asked the owner of Key Tower to sell because the pension fund is cutting back on its commercial real estate holdings. STRS owns 50% of this Cleveland building, worth up to \$230 million.

In April, the Board approved an interest rate of 5.5% on the contributions and transfers made in a given year in the STRS Total Guaranteed Return Choice option available to members who are participating in the Defined Contribution or Combined Plan.

As of March 2005, there are 13,575 participants in the Defined Contribution and Combined Plans, which has total assets of about \$147 million.

STRS remains focused on health care

concern, impact of mandatory social security, defined contribution trends, and other issues such as "double dipping" while steadfastly working to maintain pension funds. n

• Dr. Stang may be reached at ges@dacor.net. She is associate professor emeritus of educational foundations and inquiry.

Computer troubles?

PROBLEMS getting connected to the Internet for E-mail and surfing? Call Charlie Applebaum, 352-0777, E-mail applebau@math.bgsu.edu, or the math office, 372-2729. This "help" program is sponsored by the Office of the Provost. n

Short takes

Take me out to the ball game

B GSURA members are invited to join Wood County Retired Teachers Association members for a Toledo Mud Hens vs. Norfolk game at noon on June 29. Reservation deadline is Thursday, May 5. Tickets are \$6. Make a check payable to WCRTA and include a stamped self-addressed envelope to have tickets mailed. Otherwise they'll be distributed at the TARTA bus stop at Riverplace, across from Farmer Jack's in Perrysburg. Fare for the bus, which leaves at 11 a.m., is \$1. Send check to Helen Dermer, 1210 Lyn Rd., Bowling Green. Phone 419-352-8822. n

Sculpture garden tour

A TOUR of the sculpture garden at the Toledo Museum of Art is scheduled for Wednesday, July 6. Tickets are \$4 (deadline May 5) with checks payable to WCRTA. Indicate if you plan to have lunch in the museum cafeteria. Send check to Helen Dermer, 1210 Lyn Rd., Bowling Green. n

Commencement assist

R ETIREES have been asked to volunteer to hand out programs and assist visitors to their seats at the 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Commencements Saturday, May 7. For more information: Terry Carver, 419-372-2147, or E-mail to tcarver@bgnet.bgsu.edu. n

Help sought for LPGA tournament

VOLUNTEERS are needed for the Jamie Farr Owens Corning Classic LPGA Tournament July 4-10 at Highland Meadows Golf Club, Sylvania, announced Lee Meserve, tournament assistant chair. For more information: 419-372-8361, or E-mail to lmeserv@bgnet.bgsu.edu. n