A recycler’s recycler — giant size

His livelihood is making things work better

ROM sailor to recycler is the winding career path taken by Jack Ritchie, plant superintendent for Phoenix Technologies, who will be the speaker at the Wednesday, Nov. 14, BGSURA luncheon at the Bowling Green Elks Banquet Facility at 200 Campbell Hill Rd.

Ritchie, a Bowling Green resident for the past 15 years, oversees the plant’s recycling conversion of shredded plastic into pellets used in the manufacture of pop bottles and other products.

Earning his Navy Machinist Mate petty officer stripes as a “tin can” sailor on the destroyer U.S.S. English, Ritchie later served in Saudi Arabia, where he was an air-conditioning and refrigeration specialist. Back in civilian life in Rochester, N.Y., in 1971, after his four-year Navy hitch, Ritchie was involved in the restoration and remodeling of the Eastman School of Music while an employee of Eastman Kodak Co.

In 1972 in Bardstown, Ky., Ritchie began a 20-year period of employment with Owens-Illinois. As a project engineer, he helped develop various plastic processes and processing machines for O-I that took him throughout North America for their installation and start-up.

In 1992 Ritchie became superintendent of the Phoenix Technologies Fairview Avenue plant and the firm’s supply chain manager while making a commitment to the Bowling Green community to become one of its outstanding citizens. Three years ago, the honor of Male
Part I: Language student, teacher, musician

I HAVE known Carole Bradford for years — and eaten her beef stroganoff with pleasure — but I have never stopped admiring her huge linguistic skills or the great diversity of her activities and interests.

Carole knows at least nine or 10 languages including English, Spanish, French, Russian, Italian, German, modern and ancient Greek, and Latin. We are talking about really knowing. Bradford has taught Spanish, French and Russian: that’s already extraordinary. For the other languages, she gets around in them without much difficulty and even tries a little Turkish when push comes to shove.

Prof. Bradford, born in Indiana, grew up in Delaware, Virginia and Tennessee and Texas, where she studied Spanish in middle school because it was required.

“I was very much against the idea in the beginning, but discovered that it came easily to me,” she recalls. “Then, I was on the playground where I saw some Mexican-American girls speaking Spanish, and I, subconsciously, something happened, and I realized it would be fun to talk with them if I could. That is how my experience with foreign languages began, and continued though high school and college.”

Carole came to Bowling Green in 1970 with a BA and an MA from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, earned in 1958-59, and completed her PhD from Vanderbilt University in 1972. She retired from the Department of Romance and Classical Studies as professor emeritus in June, 1995. She notes that an important part of her years of retirement was studying ancient Greek and reviewing Latin with Drs. Philip Peek and James Pfundstein, teachers in the department. She says, “The five years I studied ancient Greek have a special place in my memories, since most unfortunately, BGSU has dropped courses in ancient Greek.”

While an active faculty member, Carole directed the BGSU department’s programs in Spain. She also did research on the 19th century Spanish novel, especially the work of the renowned feminist author Emilia Pardo Bazán, as well as on 20th century Spanish poetry.

Carole traveled extensively throughout Spain, meeting several of Spain’s greatest contemporary poets, and the rest of Western Europe. She also traveled throughout South America and Mexico.

Carole’s name is forever linked to music as well. She has extensive experience in various singing groups, including 15 years in the Toledo Opera and in various choruses and church choirs like the Perrysburg Symphony Chorale and the Monroe St. Methodist Choir, where she has performed solos. Recently, Carole sang with the Bowling Green Choral Society. Next February, she will take part in a performance of Carl Orff’s “Carmina Burana.”

Carole points out that she has sung in several of the languages she has learned and studied, including Italian and German, and claims reasonable proficiency.

A member of Pro Musica at BGSU, Carole also is a longtime supporter of the Toledo Symphony and the Toledo Opera.

Part II: An Archaeologist in the Bud

NOW we come to an even more interesting part. Carole says, “As an outgrowth of my years of teaching languages, (Spanish, French, and elementary Russian), literature and culture, I have become interested in archaeology. I am strictly an amateur, but I have learned a lot in the magazine Archaeology, and have traveled extensively with a New York company, Archaeological Tours.”

Highlights have been visits to Honduras, Guatemala and Belize and to Mayan sites in the Yucatan peninsula. Others include a trip to Peru and three trips to Turkey. Since Archaeological Tours has a policy not to segregate tourists from the local population, Carole says she has had interesting encounters with local people in those places. Carole also
Carole Bradford continued

has explored Greece as well as Malta, Sardinia, and Corsica. She did go to China but this time with Vantage Tours.

“When I go to a country for a second or third time,” says Carole, “I like to learn at least a little of the language. I attempted to learn enough modern Greek and Turkish to talk on an admittedly primitive level with people. They were thrilled I bothered to try, and were delighted to teach me more. With present tense, numbers, polite phrases and words for food, one can get along reasonably well.”

Carole confesses that she slept through an earthquake in Mexico City years ago while she was a student. This was the result of exhaustion after a seven-day trip by bus from Tennessee to get there. Later, in Izmir, Turkey, she awoke to a tremor (her bed was shaking). By the time she decided she had better get outdoors, it had stopped.

Is Carole is done traveling and exploring? I don’t think so. She is bound for Egypt as soon as the political climate cools down and seems to imply she will soon be studying Arabic with a passion. And the Easter Islands? We’ll see.

• Dr. Pallister, PhD, LD, is Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Romance Languages. Her e-mail address is jpallis@dacor.net.

Questionnaires return indicate interests of members

AFTER the September BGSURA Convocation, Wally Pretzer received 24 responses to questionnaires regarding future activities. Some responses represented the opinions of at least two persons.

“What kinds of activities would you like to do?” 14 said attend a BGSU athletic event, 20 a BGSU musical event, 19 a BGSU theatrical event, 19 a Black Swamp Players production. Two suggested visiting the Toledo Museum of Art Glass Pavilion and attending a non-BGSU athletic, musical or theatrical event. Pretzer said, “It was gratifying that 10 persons responded positively to ‘Would you host an activity (daytime or evening) in your home for a maximum of 8-12 persons?’ Five checked a book discussion, two a card game (other than bridge) or another type of game (e.g., Scrabble), two a scholarly talk by a retiree or current professor, three, a travel talk with photo albums and/or videos/DVDS, one a party of your choice, and five suggested talks or demonstrations by international students.”

As for raising money for a silent auction for BGSURA’s Golden Book Award Endowment within the BGSU Foundation, featuring gently used, good quality items from retirees, with refreshments, eight liked the idea, two didn’t, and five didn’t know. No responder had ever organized a silent auction nor were any interested in organizing one.

• To comment on activities: Wally Pretzer may be reached at 419-352-8057 or by e-mail at dpretze@bgnet.bgsu.edu.

Jack Ritchie from page 1

Citizen of the Year was bestowed upon him by the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce in recognition of such service as trustee of the Wood County Hospital and the Wood County Solid Waste District, the Bowling Green Community Development Foundation and the United Way of Greater Toledo.

He also was a trustee of the Chamber of Commerce.

Ritchie has two adult children, a son who lives near Bowling Green and a daughter, a BGSU graduate, who lives in Florida.

• • •
Clif Boutelle volunteers his talents on behalf of Bowling Green’s green space

As a volunteer trustee of the Bowling Green Parks and Recreation Foundation, Clif Boutelle uses his public relations, writing, photography and layout skills to tell citizens of the park system’s pleasures. He describes public relations as “doing good and telling about it.” Through a quarterly report he assembles for publication in the Sentinel-Tribune, Boutelle carries on his knack for promoting worthy projects, a knack he honed over a career spanning more than 35 years at BGSU.

The Ohio Wesleyan and Ohio State graduate (honored in 2003 as a BGSU Honorary Alumnus) retired in 1999 as an associate vice president for university relations. Previously he was director of public relations and of BGSU’s News and Photography Services, which he joined in 1964.

Boutelle’s photography skills were a bonus for BGSU and spilled over to his talents in sports photography. He often covered University events, and in his spare time photographed for the National Hockey League, National Football League and Major League Baseball. He also covered pro golf and racing event and his photos appeared on baseball and football trading cards. One photo ran on a Newsweek cover.

Worked for five BGSU presidents

In what is a rare feat of “staying power” in public relations, Boutelle served under five BGSU presidents: William Travers Jerome III, Hollis Moore, Michael Ferrari (interim), Paul Olscamp and Sidney Ribeau. “He must have done a few things right to last that long,” said retired journalism professor Jim Gordon.

One was winning the Silver Anvil Award from the Public Relations Society of America. The Anvil (at right), the organization’s most prestigious honor, was presented for promotion and follow-up of activities surrounding President Jerome’s 1965 inauguration. The award was presented by then CBS News anchor Walter Cronkite to President Jerome at a banquet in New York City.

Clif Boutelle photographs at the new Simpson Children’s Discovery Garden at Conneaut and Wintergarden.

Boutelle and Cinda Davis-Stutzman, BG parks natural resources specialist, work out photo plans for the Sentinel-Tribune Parks report, which was published Oct. 16.

Fund raising major project for gardens

The major project facing the Parks and Recreation Foundation — and Boutelle, as marketing/public relations chair — is to raise enough funds to complete the transformation of 11 acres around the Simpson Building into a series of nine parks, of which the Children’s Discovery Garden is nearing completion. The fund-raising campaign, officially launched in June 2006, has reached the $600,000 mark.

Before joining the BGSU staff, Boutelle worked for DuPont as a publications editor and as a news staff chief at the Ohio State Fair. Currently he serves as a member of the BGSURA Board of Directors. He may be reached at Clif5761@verizon.net.
Passings

- BERNARD LINDEN, longtime music faculty member and former principal violist of the Toledo Symphony, died Sept. 21 in Kingston, N.Y., while playing with a quartet during a Yom Kippur service. Dr. Linden joined the music faculty of the University in 1960 and became a member of the Bowling Green String Quartet. In addition to his performances locally, he had an extensive career including appearances with the New York Philharmonic under the baton of Leonard Bernstein, the New York City Ballet, and the New Orleans Philharmonic. After retiring from the University in 1985, he spent several years as a member of the Gulbenkian Orchestra in Lisbon, Portugal. He moved to New York with his wife in 2003 to be near family.

- DONALD RAGUSA, who taught psychology and served as dean of students for two and a half years, died Oct. 4. He came to BGSU in 1965 and taught entry-level psychology courses, usually in lecture halls filled with as many as 200 undergraduates. He also served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and acting dean of the college of Health and Community Services. He was a member of Faculty Senate for many years. Active in the community, he was a former coach in the BG Pee Wee baseball league and the BG Youth Hockey Association. He recently delivered meals for the Wheeled Meals program.

- MOHAN N. SHRESTHA, a retired geography professor and native of Nepal, who was a pioneer when he pursued studies in the United States, died Sept. 14 in Bowling Green. He retired in 2004 from BGSU, where he had taught since 1967. His specialty was economic geography and working with computer mapping and remote sensing. He came to the U.S. in 1964 on a Fulbright Scholarship and received a doctorate in geography from the University of Iowa.

- BEVERLY KENNEDY ZANGER, a founding member of the BGSU sports management program, died Aug. 25 at her home in Hawaii. The sports management program, started in 1979, was one of the first such undergraduate programs in the nation. Zanger coached the women’s and men’s fencing teams for many years and was co-author of three textbooks, each on sports management. After retiring in 1996, she moved to Hawaii.

- DOROTHY HASKINS died Sept. 20 in Bowling Green. She had retired after 24 years as a secretary in the BGSU chemistry department.

- DIANA B. SMITH, a faculty member in the College of Musical Arts, died Oct. 12 in Bowling Green. An accomplished pianist, she was a member of the Guaranieri Duo, with her husband on cello, and had presented recitals and master classes throughout the U.S., Mexico, Taiwan, China, Belgium, Romania, and Greece. She also was a soloist with the Houston Symphony, conducted by Leopold Stokowski.

- BEATRICE (BEA) NOLLENBERGER, of Perrysburg, died Sept. 4. She had been a cook at the University.

- FRIEDA LOUISE WALTER, 95, died August 25 in Bowling Green. She had retired from the University in the food service department.

- KAREN ANN AUSTERMILLER, of Bowling Green, died Sept. 8 in Toledo. She had worked for the University in the Bursar’s office for more than 10 years.

- ZELMA WHITE, who retired in 1985 from the food service department, died Oct. 9 in Bowling Green.

- IVA HILLARD, a custodial supervisor for 27 years at the University, died Oct. 2.

- Compiled by Joan Gordon

Play next activity

RETIREEs are invited to the Black Swamp Players production of “First Baptist of Ivy Gap” Sunday, Dec. 16, at 2 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1526 E. Wooster. Tickets may be purchased at Grounds for Thought, 174 S. Main, which will offer a free cup of coffee after the play by showing the theater program.

Wally Pretzer will reserve a table or tables at Grounds for Thought and will need a head count of those who will attend; phone 419-352-8057 or e-mail to dpretze@wcnet.org by Wednesday, Dec. 12, to confirm.

“First Baptist” is a tale of six women gathered at their church during the waning years of World War II to roll bandages and plan for the church’s 75th anniversary. They meet 25 years later to plan the church’s 100th anniversary.
THE STRS-generated legislation to create an ongoing, dedicated revenue stream for the STRS Ohio Health Care Program for current and future retired educators (H.B. 315) was reintroduced in the Ohio House Sept. 18 by Rep. Scott Oelslager (R-North Canton).

This member-driven initiative calls for increasing public teachers’ contributions to STRS Ohio by 2.5% and their employers’ contributions by 2.5% of teacher payroll. These increases would be phased in over a five-year period, in 0.5% increments.

Rep. Oelslager previously introduced this legislation in mid–December 2006. However, no action was taken on it before the General Assembly adjourned. STRS Ohio said it is grateful to Rep. Oelslager and the 14 bill co-sponsors for their willingness to take this significant step to further the discussion about this critical issue.

"As with any proposal that comes before the General Assembly, passage will require the efforts of many to make legislators aware of how crucial the increased contributions are to the viability of the STRS Ohio Health Care Program," the retirement system said, and urged active and retired teachers to contact their state legislators to generate support for the bill.

A group of the bill’s supporters called "Health Care Champions," formed to promote its passage, will hold a training session for additional workers Thursday, Nov. 8, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Toledo Federation of Teachers, 111 S. Byrne Rd., Toledo. A light supper will be provided. To make a reservation or for more information, contact Laura Ecklar at STRS Ohio, 888-227-7877, or e-mail ecklarl@strsoh.org.

The STRS Board continued its discussion of a draft policy developed by STRS Ohio staff regarding the divestment of investments in Iran and Sudan. As written, STRS Ohio would not divest of a restricted security in Iran or Sudan unless a comparable substitute of equal risk and return, including transaction costs, is available.

The board’s investment consultant fiduciary counsels concluded that the draft policy protects the board’s fiduciary responsibilities to the membership. This is in contrast to the provisions of Substitute House Bill 151 and Senate Bill 161 that mandate divestment by all five Ohio public pension plans. The Retirement Board has previously passed a motion opposing any legislatively mandated divestment of investments in Iran and Sudan, citing that such divestment is inconsistent with the board’s fiduciary duties. The STRS staff was to respond at the October meeting to the board’s request for more information about the proposed divestment process.

OPERS amends divestment policy

Meanwhile, at its September meeting, the board of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System voted to accept editorial modifications to a draft policy for voluntarily divesting from Iran and Sudan. The board instructed that implementation of the policy be administered by staff with updates to the board.

The OPERS board also approved administrative rule amendments that require members to complete service credit purchases prior to the commencement of a retirement benefit. Members no longer will be able to use Partial Lump Sum Option Payments to purchase service credit.

Community Calendar
(Selected events and activities)

NOVEMBER 4
Daylight Savings Time Ends

NOVEMBER 6
Election Day
Polls open 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 9
Festival Series: Imani Winds
8 p.m., Kobacker Hall, BGSU

NOVEMBER 11
Veterans Day

NOVEMBER 16
Community Tree Lighting Ceremony

NOVEMBER 17
Annual Holiday Parade
10 a.m., Main Street, BG

NOVEMBER 18
Concert, University Choral Society
7 p.m., First United Methodist Church

NOVEMBER 23
Falcon Football vs. Toledo
2:30 p.m., Doyt Perry Field, BGSU

DECEMBER 1-16
Old Home Holiday Tour Opens
Wood County Historical Center

DECEMBER 2
Candidates Forum
with the 5th Congressional District
Republican and Democrat Candidates
3:45 p.m., St. Mark’s Lutheran Church

DECEMBER 15
BGSU Commencement

JANUARY 26
Great Decisions Series Begins

POLLS workers are needed both Democratic and Republican for the Nov. 6 general election and the special Congressional elections. Workers must be registered voters in Wood County and must declare a party, either Democrat or Republican, and be able to work from 5:30 a.m. to approximately 8 p.m. (with a one-hour meal break). To serve, Pay is $85 for judges, $91 for presiding judges. Republicans should call Tonya at twenisnk@co.wood.oh.us. Democrats should call Sharon at sgarand@co.wood.oh.us.
AS THE BGSU Retirees Association continues its quest to endow its $15,000 Golden Book Award, members are reminded that contributions to the Book Award through the BGSU Foundation count toward BGSU’s Family Campaign as well as counting toward President’s Club pledges. Further, Julie Pontasch, director of gift planning for the BGSU Foundation, points out that retirees 70 1/2 or older may contribute directly from their IRAs to the Golden Book Endowment Fund without paying tax on the distribution. Under federal tax law passed last year, the deadline for making a contribution is Dec. 31. The direct-to-Foundation gift applies to traditional as well as Roth IRAs and counts tax-free toward the required minimum distribution (RMD).

More than $6,400 has been contributed to the Golden Book Award since the program began last year, said Ramona Cormier, BGSURA president. The first recipient, junior Angela Dawson, of Brunswick, Ohio, received $500 earlier this year with funding from the Golden Book Award escrow account. Last summer the BGSURA Board decided to fund a second grant with an additional $150 from the escrow account and $350 raised by other means, including donation baskets to be placed on tables at future BGSURA luncheons for voluntary donations.

At its meeting Oct. 17, the BGSURA Board voted to explore having a silent auction of art and other gifts to raise funds for the BGSU Golden Book Award.

Opinions sought on BGSURA activities

THIS is a “boiled down” version of the questionnaire distributed at BGSURA’s Fall Convocation; if you were not there or you neglected to hand yours in, you may fill it out now, or include it with your Nov. 14 luncheon reservation to Harold Lunde, OR, return it to Walley Pretzer, 918 Sunset Dr., BG, OH 43402-2625, OR e-mail comments to dpretze@bgnet.bgsu.edu. Please respond by Dec. 5.

1. What kinds of activities in the area would you like to do? BE SPECIFIC! ___ Attend a BGSU athletic event ___ Attend a BGSU musical event ___ Attend a BGSU theatrical event ___ Attend Black Swamp production. Other ___________________________________________________________

2. Would you host an activity (daytime or evening) in your home for a maximum of 8-12 persons? If so, check those activities that interest you or write in others. ___ Discussion of a book of your choice that your guests would be expected to read in advance. ___ Bridge party ___ Another type of card or game party (e.g., Scrabble). ___ Scholarly talk by a retiree or a current professor. ___ Travel talk with photo albums and/or videos/DVDS. ___ Just a party of your choice. ___ Talks/demonstrations by international students. Other ___________________________________________________________

3. The BGSURA Golden Book Award Scholarship Endowment Fund within the BGSU Foundation needs to increase contributions. It has been suggested that a way to do so is to sponsor a silent auction, with refreshments. Since we, as retirees, are encouraged to scale down our possessions, we can contribute good quality, gently-used items for the auction. A. Do you like the idea? ___yes ___no ___don’t know B. Have you ever organized this type of event? ___yes ___no C. If you have, would you organize one for us? ___yes ___no d. If you have not, would you like to do so? ___yes ___no

Your name and phone number_________________________________________
OCTOBER, as the name signifies, is the eighth month. But we know that October is the tenth month of the year. It is the ancient Romans with their 10-month calendar who gave the last four months of our 12-month year numeric names which no longer calibrate. When Julius Caesar became pontifex maximus he added 90 days to the beginning of the early Roman calendar. It is then that October became the 10th month — the month when Persephone, goddess of fertility and queen of the underworld, prepares to leave the earth to join Pluto, god of the underworld.

When Persephone leaves the earth the flowers whither and die and local fruits and vegetables disappear from our dinner tables. Deciduous trees also prepare for the desolation of winter by losing their leaves which we humans rake, play, or turn into compost for next springs flowers and vegetables.

We not only enjoy the colorful foliage of autumn but the last rose of summer, the flamboyant chrysanthemums, the blooms of autumn gold, and the subdued tints of the toad lily. However, the beauty of autumn is soon replaced by the task of putting the garden to bed: of planting spring perennials and bulbs to greet Persephone when she returns from the underworld, of dead heading plants and collecting debris, of protecting shrubs and young trees from voracious deer and from starving rabbits that find nooks and crannies for breeding in early spring if waste is left to rot in piles.

So, too, do we close the patio — take in umbrellas, chairs, and tables or cover them for protection from the snow. In late autumn our lives are no longer graced by the ease and casualness of the summer months as we turn to the pleasures of winter — card and electronic games, reading, the television set, movies and any indoor activity that keeps us warm — although some of us are brave enough to ski and engage in winter sports.

We are at autumn’s height. Albert Camus imagines autumn as the second spring when every leaf is a flower. Enjoy these many colored flowers and the last rays of autumnal sun as you await through the winter the birth of new life when Persephone escapes the clutches of Pluto and rejoins her mother Demeter.

Dr. Ramona Cormier, Ph.D., Trustee Professor Emeritus, is president of the BGSU Retirees Association.

Computer troubles?

Problems getting connected to the Internet for e-mail and surfing? The services of Charlie Applebaum have been made available by BGSU Executive Vice President Linda Dobb. Applebaum may be reached by calling 419-352-0777 or by sending an e-mail message to applebau@bgsu.edu.

Applebaum has responded to more than 1,000 calls for help — three-fifths to retirees’ homes. McAfee’s VirusScan for Macintosh is available for installation on Intel Macs. The new Microsoft Office software for Mac won’t be available until next year.

Reservation for BGSURA Luncheon Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2007

Deadline Friday, Nov. 9, 2007!

Elks Lodge Banquet Facility, 200 Campbell Hill Road. 11:30, Check-in, socializing. Noon: Luncheon.

NOTE: Reservations at $9 per person MUST BE MADE by Friday, Nov. 9, 2007.

Name __________________________________________________________

Name(s) of Your Guest(s)_______________________________________

____ Total Number of Reservations @ $9

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR $_________. MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO BGSURA.

SEND RESERVATION FORM AND CHECK TO HAROLD LUNDE, 880 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE., BOWLING GREEN, OH 43402, NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, NOV. 9. Telephone 419-352-3929