Reminders for BGSURA retirees . . .

DEADLINE is Friday, Nov. 11, for reservations for the Wednesday, Nov. 16, BGSURA luncheon at Stone Ridge Golf Club. Speaker will be Dr. Nancy Orel, director of the BGSU Gerontology Program.

Dr. Orel, an associate professor, said she will focus on “research-based activities and behaviors that have been found to increase longevity and lead to wellness in later life (and across the lifespan).” She has led the Gerontology Program since 2004, joining the BGSU faculty after earning a Ph.D. at the University of Toledo in 1999. Dr. Orel earned her bachelor’s in psychology at BGSU.

While finishing her degree at BGSU, Dr. Orel was activity director of the Monclova Care Center in Toledo. Beginning in 1980 and for the next eight years, she was executive director of Senior Centers, Inc., Toledo. She also was executive director for five years of the Washtenaw County Council on Aging, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Locally, Dr. Orel has served as president of the Governing Board of the Wood County Committee on Aging. In 2007, she was a finalist for the Alumni Association’s Master Teacher Award.

Luncheon registration starts at 11:30 a.m.

BGSURA activities

A TOUR of Mazza Museum: International Art from Picture Books, on the campus of Findlay University, is planned for Thursday, Nov. 17. Mazza is the world’s largest museum devoted to literacy and the art of children’s picture books. The docent-led tour will begin at 1:30 p.m. Car pooling or transportation will be arranged. Please contact Pat Koehler by Tuesday, Nov. 15 <pkoehler3@woh.rr.com> or 419-352-6180.

ON Thursday, Dec. 15, Ralph Wolfe will open his home in North Baltimore for a holiday cocktail event from 4-7 p.m. Bring a beverage of choice and an appetizer to share. Dr. Wolfe hosted this event last year. Please RSVP to Pat Koehler by Dec. 12. Indicate if you’re interested in car pooling or transportation.

Reservation – BGSURA Full-Service Luncheon at Stone Ridge
Reservation deadline Friday, Nov. 11. Luncheon Wednesday, Nov. 16
11:30-Noon: Check-in, socializing. Noon: Full-service Luncheon. $14 per person

Name(s) ________________________________
Number of reservations ____________________________

1. Reservations by e-mail: gfinn3@woh.rr.com. Pay by cash or check at the door.
2. How to pay by mail (HURRY!):
CHECK ENCLOSED FOR $________ PAYABLE TO BGSURA.
Send Reservation Form and Check to:
Gaylyn Finn, BGSURA Treasurer,
966 Deer Ridge Run, Bowling Green, OH 43402.

Menu
Roasted Turkey w/gravy
Whipped Potatoes
Green Bean Almandine
House Salad with Ranch & Raspberry Vinaigrette
Warm Rolls and Butter
Iced Tea and Lemonade on Tables Alternating
Coffee and Hot Tea Station
Passings

TWO emeritus professors in the department of Educational Foundations and Inquiry died last month – Dr. Thomas L. Bennett and Dr. James P. Davidson Jr.

Dr. Bennett, 74, who suffered from prostate cancer, died Oct. 30 at Bridge Hospice in Bowling Green. Raised in Dexter, Mo., he graduated from Southeast Missouri State in 1958 and taught 6th grade in the St. Louis County School District.

He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1960 and served two years in a medical intelligence unit in Germany. Upon his return, he received his Master’s of Education in 1965 and his Ph.D. in 1969 from the University of Missouri. He moved to Bowling Green in 1966 to join the faculty of the College of Education. His areas of expertise were educational psychology and human growth and development. Dr. Bennett retired in 1995.

Dr. Davidson, who was elected to Bowling Green City Council in 1985 and served three terms representing the first ward, died Oct. 13 in Bridge Hospice. He was 77. He was diagnosed with multiple system atrophy, a form of Parkinson’s disease, 17 years ago. His longevity was unusual for this disease and will lead to a study of his brain.

Dr. Davidson joined the College of Education faculty in 1970 and retired in 1998. A Detroit native, he earned his bachelor’s degree at Eastern Michigan in 1957 and the master’s and doctorate from Wayne State. Dr. Davidson was a Korean War veteran.

Robin Lee Sutkaitis, 55, of Toledo, who was employed in BGSU building maintenance for more than 17 years, died Sept. 17 at home.

Kenneth Crocker, 69, professor emeritus of marketing, died Sept. 28 in South Carolina. He joined the University in 1981 and taught for 25 years, establishing and managing the hospitality management specialization.

Sally Parent Sako-la, 72, associate professor emeritus of health, physical education and recreation, died Oct. 5 in Florida. She taught at the University from 1968-93.

George M. Spence, 87, of North Baltimore, died Sept. 7, 2011, at Briar Hill Health Campus, North Baltimore. He was employed as a laborer from 1967 to 1972.

Paul W. Jones also was photographed for the Sesquicentennial project by BGSU student Joe Guida in 1983. The Paul Willis Jones papers may be found in Jerome Library Center for Archival Collections.
AS ANTICIPATION of Bowling Green State University’s centennial celebration in 2010, President Sidney Ribeau asked Dr. Gary Hess to write a history of BGSU. Hess provided his view about what he hoped to accomplish with this institutional history in his preface, writing that, “it is a history, not an encyclopedia” and what he hopes will “emerge is the central story of a changing institution and its accomplishments” (page 6).

Hess documents the history of BGSU’s first President, Homer Williams, who oversaw the building of a campus, hiring of a faculty, development of a curriculum, and advocated for the state legislature that this normal school become, by 1935, a university. Hess highlights the presidency of more student-oriented Franklin Prout and his management of decreasing enrollment during WWII and the massive increase in students during the post-War period.

Hess documents what he hoped to accomplish with this book. He traces the history through the leadership of the 10 presidents each of whom has been instrumental in “setting the tone and direction of the University” (page 5). His hope certainly has been attained with this book. Hess documents the central story of a changing institution and its accomplishments as the “workhorse of the Pacific war.” The 3rd was involved in the capture and occupation of Guam in 1944 and the 1945 assault and occupation of Iwo Jima, where Bateson was injured.

Returning to Wood County in 1946, Bateson farmed on Wingston Road in Rudolph, where he lived for the last 59 years.

Got a new address, or other changes in your BGSURA membership information? Tell Paul Lopez plopez43569@gmail.com

BGSURA NEWSLETTER
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Newest history continued

Ralph McDonald’s desire to transform the University by raising faculty salaries along with expectations of completing doctorates and increasing research and publication. Hess devotes an entire chapter to the later years of McDonald’s presidency, and specifically the spring of 1961, when student and faculty protests and intervention by the state legislature resulted in McDonald’s resignation. The previous two histories written on BGSU did not treat this event with any detail. Hess describes this time period and the controversy, which still today can elicit emotional responses, in a balanced and scholarly manner.

Hess continues with well-researched descriptions of the presidencies of William Jerome, Hollis Moore, Paul Olscamp and Sidney Ribeau, discussing the growth and change occurring with the organizational structure, facilities, faculty, areas of research and excellence, student involvement, technology, and fund raising, all of which were imprinted with the personality, interests, and opinions of each of these presidents.

Hess ends with a brief overview of the presidency of Carol Cartwright and a look to the next one hundred years. He also includes the contributions made by the presidents who served for short terms or in interim positions.

A major strength of this book is its format. Hess takes a complex institutional history and writes with detail, and with clarity. Although largely an administrative history of the University, many sidebars provide details on student life, key events, buildings, and people.

These sidebars provide depth and richness to the institutional story.


BGSU’s Office of Marketing and Communication also should be commended for creating a very high quality publication. One criticism is the lack of an index. Because this book is so well researched and written, it is a shame that an index was not provided. Overall, Bowling Green State University 1910-2010: A Legacy of Excellence will provide readers now and in the future with an accurate and very interesting history of this University.

BGSU President Frank Prout hired Paul Jones in 1941 to teach and to establish the University News Bureau as its first director – “to acquaint the people of northwestern Ohio, the state and the nation with the University and the operations and services it offered.”

The Joneses were married for 64 years, until Paul’s death in 2005 at the age of 91.

Maurine was a 1936 graduate of Denison University, where she majored in music and attended graduate school at The Ohio State University. Paul graduated from Ohio Wesleyan, and earned a BGSU master’s in history in 1961.

The fine print


• Seen and heard at the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast Nov. 5: BGSU alum State Rep. Randy Gardner (orange shirt, of course), Betty Jean Anderson, Clif Boutelle, and Judy Boutelle.