



THE AUAR NEWSLETTER

The Association of The University of Akron Retirees

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President's Message

Honoring the Past--Looking to the Future

Currently I am writing this column shipboard as we are cruising in Alaska. I was asked to participate in a memorial symposium for one of my most important mentors, K. Warner Schaie. This event is taking place in Seattle at the American Psychological Association. My wife Ronni said that if I was going to Seattle then the time had come for us to take a trip to Alaska. I really wanted to be part of honoring one of my teachers who has been a 50-year colleague. In the same way that we have influenced our own students, we have been shaped by our own mentors who helped to make our careers possible. There are few opportunities to pay tribute to such significant people in our lives. Please use this moment to reflect on those who helped us develop and grow over the years.

Being on this trip and meeting new people engaged in activities reminded me how important our AUAR group is to me at home. The dedicated work of our Executive Committee, our monthly programs and special events gives us opportunities to meet each other, learn together, and share experiences. Please encourage colleagues to join us as we share our mutual history and commitment to The University of Akron.

I want to encourage everyone to join me in making our university more age-friendly and joining in on activities related to Age-Friendly Akron/Summit County. The future opportunities that exist on campus--the 60+ program, lectures, concerts, sports events, and supporting academic programs are examples. In the community, there are many opportunities to contribute as a volunteer.

My personal interest in our university and its future is now continuing as I am proud to say that one of my grandsons is joining the Honors Program as a new freshman. Three generations of my family have now benefitted from the educational opportunities that The University of Akron offers. Let's use this year to do new things that bring us all together and make our lives more joyful.

Regards to all, Harvey



Harvey Sterns
President 2024 - 2025

Spring Semester Senate Report

During the Spring Semester 2024, the activities of the Faculty Senate included the following:

- Approved the list of courses and programs brought by the Curriculum Review Committee.
- Approved changes to Rule 3359-60-06.6 – Graduate Student Assistantships.
- Approved the Graduate Assistant Contract.
- Approved changes to Rule 3359-10-02 – The University of Akron bylaws of the Faculty Senate
- Approved changes to Rule 3359-24-02 – Grievance procedure for graduate students
- Approved the list of graduates for Spring Commencement.
- Approved a resolution from APC to change Rule 3359-60-03.1 clarifying ACE credit acceptance.
- Approved changes to Rule 3359-60-06 Graduate student classification.
- Approved changes to Rule 3359-60-06.1 Graduate student admissions.
- Approved changes to Rule 3359-60-06.2 Graduate student standards.
- Approved changes to Rule 3359-60-06.3 Master's degree requirements.
- Approved changes to Rule 3359-60-06.4 Doctoral degree requirements.
- Approved changes to Rule 3359-60-06.7 Graduate certificates.
- Approved a resolution brought by CCTC on classroom technology needs (32 general classroom projectors that need upgrades and audio/cable issues and funding for replacing technology in classrooms).

For more details, please visit the Faculty Senate web page at uakron.edu

UA Campus Cupboard Supported By UA Retirees

Twice a year, AUAR members and luncheon guests are encouraged to donate items to the University's CAMPUS CUPBOARD. The "Spring" collection was taken at the March luncheon on March 20. The following message was sent to the AUAR Board by the ZIP ASSIST office .

" On behalf of the Campus Cupboard and the students we serve, we thank the Association of the University of Akron Retirees for the generous donations to the Campus Cupboard. ZipAssist appreciates your support in helping to meet our students' needs. A total of 167 items were donated consisting of 140 food items and 27 hygiene items!

Student Testimonial: Thank you! Your donation has helped me to succeed academically. Go Zips!! - N."

For more information about ZipAssist services and programs, please visit www.uakron.edu/zipassist

Membership Update!

Following your name on the mailing label, you will see a code designating your membership status. **L** stands for life members, **P** stands for paid members and **C** stands for complimentary members, available for new retirees. Following P or C is a number representing the year in June in which your membership expires.

So, if you see a number 24, that means that your membership expired on June 30, 2024, and this is the last newsletter that you will receive unless you renew.

Renewing is easy. You can use the form on the back of this newsletter or go to uakron.edu/auar and click on RENEW. All major credit cards are accepted.

Currently we have 117 paid members. Don't miss out. **RENEW TODAY!**

- Mel Vye, Membership Chair

UA Press Discount Offer for AUAR Members

In appreciation of the many AUAR supporters of The University of Akron Press, we would like to offer another benefit to add to membership in AUAR. This offer is a standard **30%** off the price of any book we publish using the discount code of AUAR30 when ordering from us on our website. There is no time limit on this discount.

Over the years we have provided many programs for your meetings and want to recognize and support a strong retirees group by making this offer.

*- Julia Gammon, Marketing Manager
The University of Akron Press*

March Luncheon

“For the Birds”

Dan points to a birding location



Dr. Dan Sheffer, Professor Emeritus of Biomedical Engineering, treated us to a visit to Cuba. Dan and his wife, Thérèse, travel the world to pursue their hobby, bird watching. A good crowd of about 35 attendees saw some amazing photographs of birds and learned about the Cuban people, their living conditions and how their government impacts their lives.

Upon arrival to this island nation, the group was questioned by a Cuban immigration/customs agent, who wanted to know why people from the USA spend money and time to visit Cuba to watch birds. It seemed a strange question because many American tour groups visit Cuba

on a regular basis. Their tour guide was able to explain their hobby, and he and his fellow “birders” were permitted to enter the country.

Because the purpose of the tour was “Support of the Cuban People,” the group stayed in small bed and breakfast accommodations and ate in locally-owned small establishments, operated by local individuals. These businesses, though heavily taxed, do provide a very significant infusion of financial support to the small-business owners and others involved in the tourism industry of Cuba.

The birdwatching goal of the tour was to try to see all the endemic birds (26 species that are only found in Cuba) and near endemic birds (the 22 species that arrive from other Caribbean countries near Cuba). The island is also on a major pathway for many species of birds migrating from North American to Central and South American regions. The group, made up of 11 birdwatchers and three guides travelled to four areas of Western Cuba that are known for the excellent birding, beautiful scenery, and a vibrant culture. Each region provided an excellent opportunity to find the different endemic species. The tour first went to the western region near Viñales and Las Terrazas, an area of beautiful hills and mountains. Next the group moved to the area of La Playa, at the head of the Bay of Pigs, in the Zapata Peninsula, the largest wetland in the Caribbean. The tour continued further southeast to Trinidad, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, known for its Spanish heritage. The beautifully restored town provided an opportunity for the group to tour the historic sites and the cathedral and to visit the local craft shops.

A bird cup as a memento



Dan talks about Cuba

From Trinidad the tour headed back to Havana for its final two days with ample stops for birdwatching. In Havana, the group spent its final full day on a guided tour of Old Havana, Ernest Hemingway’s home, Finca Vigia, and finished with a riding tour in 1950s American cars and to other historic sites around Revolutionary Square. The next morning gave an opportunity for one last look at the birds and then a short flight to Miami and on to home. It was a successful birding adventure at 52 different stops. The group saw 154 species that included all the endemic birds. Culturally, the opportunity to meet and interact with the Cuban people was very pleasant and educational.

Dan came to The University of Akron in 1980. He earned his B.S. and M.Ed. from Northwestern State University in Louisiana and his Ph.D. from Texas A&M in 1976. He and Thérèse reside in Akron’s west side and are the parents of two daughters and three sons.

Note: It was good to see AUAR members Georgia Ritchie, Doug and Jane Long, and Bob Huff, who had not been with us for a while. We were also pleased to welcome a new AUAR member, David Dornfeld.

OCHER/AUAR Regional Meeting

Christine Oickle and Tom Vukovich



On April 3, 2024, AUAR and the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER) hosted and sponsored a regional meeting at Quaker Square for the retirees and those employees nearing retirement from CSU, KSU, NEOMED, UA and YSU. OCHER is an organization that serves to promote the welfare of retired staff and faculty of the public four-year institutions of higher education in Ohio.

Following a welcome by Dan Sheffer, the OCHER President, the day-long meeting of six sessions and a luncheon began, appropriately, with a presentation, "Work 'til you drop or knowing when to stop" by Harvey Sterns, President of AUAR. That presentation led to subsequent sessions

that dealt with many subjects that all of us as retirees encounter as we enter retirement. Christine Oickle, Community Specialist, StoryPoint Living in Medina presented "Senior Living: So what now?" Among the topics covered were: When is it time to move to senior living?

Senior living myths, Cost factors including Medicaid/Medicare coverage, What should you ask when searching, and Opportunities for veterans.

Following the luncheon, we went back to class in Probate 101, a very interesting presentation by Steve Elliott, Chief Magistrate of Summit County Probate Court. Mr. Elliott led a lively discussion about our perceptions and some misperceptions of probate and the need for Wills and other documents that determine how our estates are divided amongst our heirs. Items such as Living Wills and the different types of Powers of Attorney were discussed. We were given information packets to help us organize our personal effects when our estates need to be distributed. Kimberly Zebedis, Executive Director, Center for Gift and Estate Planning at The University of Akron, moderated a panel of experts who discussed estate planning, tax planning, retirement planning and planned giving. The three panelists, Steve Cox, attorney and shareholder with Roetzel & Andress; Jesse Hurst, Certified Financial Planner and the Founder, president, and CEO of Impel Wealth Management; and Mona Sakar, Senior Vice-President and Financial Advisor at Baird Private Wealth Management-- all participated in presenting the need for planning and in answering questions posed by the moderator and members of the audience.

Dan Sheffer and Christina Elliott



The final session was given in two venues by representatives from our state public employee retirement systems. Karen Cacciatore, Senior Retirement Educator from OPERS; Christina Elliott, Deputy Executive Director & Chief Benefits Officer, STRS, and Tamla Cole, Assistant Director, Member Engagement & Outreach, STRS, --all made a presentation for each of their organizations and led discussions with the audience. The meeting was attended by approximately 35 participants. Judging by the comments and questions made by those in attendance, the conference was a success and will serve as a model for future OCHER meetings of retiree organizations and individuals nearing retirement in the other regions of Ohio.

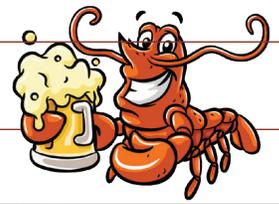


Steve Elliott



**Steve Cox, Jesse Hurst,
Mona Kakar and Kimberly Zebedis**

LOBSTER & SUDS 2024



Supervisor Sterns with Tom Vukovich



For the second year in a row, our Lobster & Suds Party was held at Hampton Woods Party Room. Thanks to Betty and John Miller for making the arrangements. This site is convenient and can accommodate the number of AUAR members and guests who have been attending Lobster & Suds during the last few years.



Lobster is ready!

This year the lobsters were purchased from Klein's Seafood on Grant Street, and the chicken entrée was prepared by Mark DiFeo Catering, located at the Akron Woman's City Club.



Some L&S attendees

Dr. Harvey Sterns, having grown up in New England, was the "supervisor," making sure Bud Marston, Bob Fritz, and Dan Sheffer were properly cooking and serving the Hard-Shell Lobsters from Maine. The usual array of delicious salads, covered dishes, and desserts, all contributed by guests, and a variety of beverages completed the menu.



More L&S attendees

Cheers went up as June Burton and her sister, Betty Slate, arrived with June's fabulous pineapple upside-down cake. Bob Gandee was seen taking an extra piece home for a late-night snack!

It was good to see Dennis and Rose Kleidon, Tim Norfolk and his son Graham, and Susan Colville-Hall in attendance. We look forward to seeing all of those who attended and hope to see many more of our retirees at the May 2025 Lobster & Suds event.

Do you know someone with a hearing loss?

The University of Akron has a state-of-the-art audiology clinic conveniently located in Polsky Room 181!

Our staff of licensed, doctoral-level audiologists and Doctor of Audiology students are eager to provide a full range of hearing evaluation and hearing aid services in a comfortable and professional environment. Services include:

- Comprehensive hearing evaluations
- Hearing aid evaluations and fittings
- Hearing aid troubleshooting and repairs
- Tinnitus evaluations
- Assistive listening device evaluations including sound field systems, vibrating alarm clocks, amplified telephones, special smoke detectors and more
- Custom earplugs including swim plugs, musician's plugs and noise protection
- Auditory processing evaluations

Evaluation results are thoroughly explained to help patients understand their hearing loss and allow them to select hearing aids and additional devices that are best suited for their individual lifestyle. The Center works with several hearing aid manufacturers to provide state-of-the-art hearing aid technology. Hearing aid repairs and troubleshooting services are also available. In addition to hearing aids, the Center has a large selection of assistive listening devices, which can help with hearing on the telephone and TV as well as alerting to sounds such as the doorbell, alarm clock or smoke detector.

The Audiology and Speech Center is located in the Polsky Building, Room 181. Reserved parking is available at no cost for patients of the Center. Call (330)972-6035 to schedule an appointment for a hearing evaluation or other services today!



Cynthia and I had agreed to meet at the Mustard Seed Café in Highland Square but quickly realized that the noise level was too high. So, we walked next door to the Highland Square branch library. How convenient!

Martha: Thank you, Cynthia, for agreeing to share your life and career with our members. As I was reading the document you sent me in preparation for our meeting, I wondered if you are a native of Maryland, given that you graduated from the University of Maryland.

Cynthia: No, I was born in the lovely city of Harrisburg, PA. I still have extended family there, mainly the offspring of my youngest sister, but I don't get back there often. I used to drive there to visit my mother and to enjoy family gatherings for holiday meals; after she passed, my sisters and I rotated family meals to our respective homes. Recently we passed the planning for family gatherings to the younger adult generation.

Martha: You began higher education in nursing. Did you choose this field because you had family members in nursing?

Cynthia: I don't recall that any of my relatives chose the medical field. In fact, my sisters and

I were first generation college educated. Our parents expected their children to go on to college. I was the third of four girls; my older sisters became teachers, but I said that I didn't want to be a teacher; I wanted to be a nurse—oddly enough I am a teacher also. Nursing was the right choice for me. My initial nursing education was at Freedmen's Hospital School of Nursing, a founding hospital for freed slaves, where I earned a nursing diploma and took required science and general courses at Howard University and then went on to get my baccalaureate degree from the University of Maryland.

My masters (child and adolescent psychiatry), doctoral, and post-doctoral work were completed at the University of Pennsylvania as a fellow of the American Nurses Association Minority Fellowship Program. Later, I completed the Harvard University Institute for Management and Leadership in Education program.

Martha: You stated you had expertise in wellness and health promotion, cultural diversity and inclusion, and organizational leadership. Were you in these three areas all along or did you gravitate to them as your career continued?

Cynthia: I'm going to have to say that they were within me all along. Not only I, but also my older sisters had an interest in culture and diversity. When we grew up, we were protected—it was during the civil rights era, and my parents were hesitant to allow me to attend nursing school in D.C. I did go to D.C.; being present there was when the civil rights issues really became apparent. From then on, the subject of diversity and rights became very thematic, not by study but by exposure. As a child, I was aware, but solid and prevalent conversations about diversity were sparingly held. When I got my doctorate, I became more aware of the resources available and as a fellow of the American Nurses Association, I was required to do research in specific areas of need, such as culture, mental health, access to care, or a combination. That put

me further in line with the thinking of diversity and became consequential to my career. It remains an interest of mine.

I want to say something about wellness and wholeness—my interests in health are broader than culture. Wellness requires that we be responsible for our health and well-being. It's more than physical health; it's the mental, social, psychological, even spiritual aspects of our lives. Wholeness is more than physical activity. I studied and promoted a nursing approach that addressed wholeness, which continues to drive my thinking about health and wellness.

Martha: *I see that you have held posts at various universities, hospitals, and community organizations, but I'm interested in knowing about your career at UA.*

Cynthia: I came to Akron in 1997; I was employed at the University as dean of two colleges—the College of Nursing and College of Education. Also, I cofounded the Academic Leadership Forum and served as Special Assistant to the Provost. During my tenure, I was involved with the American Association for Colleges of Nursing, the American Nurses Association, and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. I thoroughly enjoyed my administrative work, leadership in various not-for-profit organizations and my involvement in professional organizations.

Martha: *You gave many examples of the various community, state, and national boards and committees that you have served on. Tell us of your service locally.*

Cynthia: The Akron Community Foundation was the first board I served on when I came to Akron and United Way of Summit and Medina counties was the last board, where I have been named an emeritus member. In between, I might mention board and committee work for Akron City and St. Thomas hospitals of Summa Health Systems and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Martha: *I've seen area nurses honored in the Akron Beacon Journal over several years but had no idea that you began this recognition. What a service to the profession!*

Cynthia: In 2002, I was the founding leader of Cameos of Caring for Northeast Ohio, which celebrates nurses, and the recognition continues through today. I learned of this program when I attended a conference at the University of Pittsburgh and adapted it to our location. Beyond recognition, this program encourages people to enter nursing, and it generates scholarships for nursing students.

Martha: *In the Fall 2022 issue of this newsletter, we learned that you were appointed as an Honorary Commissioner for the Akron Bicentennial by then Akron Mayor Daniel Horrigan. Please update us on this upcoming celebration.*

Cynthia: The Commission will oversee the planning and programming of this celebration that formally begins in December 2024 and will last through December 2025. Our efforts slowed until funds were approved earlier this year by Mayor Shamas Malik and Akron City Council. Significant planning has commenced and public announcements made.

Martha: *Would you share a bit about your personal side.*

Cynthia: I love traveling and cruising. Examples of my favorite travel locations include Alaska and Hawaii, Brazil, Ghana, South Africa and Botswana and the Caribbean. I had a wonderful cruise through the Panama Canal and then to Costa Rica. One of my first cruises was with "Tom's Tours" (Vukovich) on a French river cruise. I enjoy gardening; I say that I "play" in my yard. Also, I collect dolls. I mothered two sons and claim a third one by choice, no grandchildren but several youth consider me as their "Mom Cyn." In 1990 my husband of nearly 25 years passed in an accident; now I share my life with my dear friend and life partner Stephen. I am a proud sister to three sisters.

Martha: *You are most gracious to share your story with fellow retirees. Thank you. I really like your mottos "Live to love, love to live" and "Be in Joy." And thank you also for all that you have done in the interest of your profession, the UA community, and the wider community.*

April Luncheon

What's up with Polsky's?

Jason Segedy, Project Manager



On Wednesday, April 17, Jason Segedy, Project Manager, UA Office of the President and Brian Miner, Project Architect with Hasenstab Architects in Akron were guest speakers at the last AUAR luncheon for 2023-24. (Please note that the following information regarding the ideas, planning, and design concepts were in consideration as of mid-April. Since then, the University appointed a new President and the Board of Trustees acquired new members. This report may not reflect current plans for the Polsky Project.)

The Segedy/Miner presentation, "Knight Center for the Creative Engagement," was well attended with a large number of AUAR members and guests having spent many years of their careers at UA working in the Polsky Building.

Dr. Gary Miller appointed Jason, a proud UA graduate, to serve as Project Manager for the University in May 2023. Segedy has worked in the urban-planning field for over 29 years and previously served in the cabinet of former Akron mayor, Dan Horrigan, as Director of Planning and Urban Development for the City of Akron. His current responsibilities at UA include "... overseeing the planning for the project to redevelop the University's western gateway (the historic Polsky Building) as a center for arts and culture."

Brian Miner has more than 25 years of experience in construction, document preparation, and project planning. He received his bachelor's degree in architecture from Kent State University in 1999. He is an army veteran and co-founder of "Elves & More" of N.E. Ohio. This non-profit provides new bicycles to needy children during the Christmas holidays.

Jason was introduced by Dr. Dan Sheffer, a longtime friend of the family, who has known Jason since the 6th grade. Jason's father, Al, also a UA graduate, was Dan's guest at the luncheon to hear his son explain his new assignment.

The goal, backed by a \$20,000,000 grant from the Knight Foundation, is to reopen the Polsky Building as a Center for the Creative Arts, while maintaining the academic functions it currently houses. The task involves major renovations to set it up for success within the vision that President Miller has for the 427,000 square feet of space, about the size of three Wal-Marts.

Brian began his PowerPoint presentation with a little background of the Polsky Building. It opened on September 16, 1930, and cost 2.1 million dollars to build (about \$38,110,210 in today's market). To construct the building today, the cost would be between \$175 - \$200 million.



Bryan Miner, Project Architect

What most Akronites remember about Polsky's is that it was a department store and a mainstay in downtown Akron along with O'Neil's across the street. The Polsky brand actually began in 1886. The original building site is unknown. The department store closed on December 23, 1978, after serving the community for 48 years. It now has served as an academic building for the University for 31 years, having been acquired in 1987, refurbished and reopened in 1993 during the Dr. William Muse administration.

Why is the University taking on this project and who are the drivers moving the development forward? The Polsky Building is a massive structure, taking up an entire city block. It is not a very inviting building, dark in spots, with many corridors to navigate and hard to know where you are and where you want to go. Many students dread having classes in windowless Polsky's. Being the most westward part of campus, it should be a more welcoming University gateway to downtown.

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The public project is a team effort involving many firms, including SCB out of Chicago and Boston to provide high level planning and Regency Construction as the Construction Manager. Hasenstab and SCB have eight architects working on the project now, and they are at the very beginning stage. The project team will grow to about 12-15 plus UA staff as they get into the design development stage.

The present timetable includes:

1. Design competition by May 2025
2. Construction begins July 2025
3. Construction completion December 2028.

The presenters listed five guiding principles for the project.

1. Re-imagine the Polsky Building as a point of arrival and bridge linking the city with the campus.
2. Create a student-focused center of artistic creativity, service and community engagement.
3. Support inclusivity and a shared sense of community through accessible site and transparent design.
4. Express the full range of opportunities provided by The University of Akron.
5. Celebrate the history of Akron while creating the future.

Every decision that is made must be supported by these principles. As various designs are contemplated, they are judged as valuable or not based upon these five principles.

Design concepts now under discussion are:

1. Building Approach and Access
With the 30% of the building under grade, it is difficult to sense what is happening in the building by those on the outside.
2. Atrium
There is a major need to open up the entire length of the building between High Street and Main Street bringing in natural light to all levels.
3. Lock 3 Connection
There is a need to connect the building with Lock 3, allowing people to move freely back and forth between these two spaces.
4. Building Zones
Use the internal spaces for both private (classrooms & offices) and public areas (restaurants and public service units).
5. What programs make sense to be located in Polsky's?
 - a. Myers School of Art
 - b. Auditory & Speech Center
 - c. University Archives
 - d. E-sports
 - e. Allied Health Department
 - f. Early-college Program
 - g. Law School Clinics
 - h. Expanded Food Options

The final plans will create a more welcoming building, making it easier to see where you are and to find your destination. A more open and inviting Polsky's! YEA!

2024 Road Trip to Youngstown

At the controls in the steel mill



After a two-year hiatus, AUAR members and guests were able to take to the road for a day trip adventure. Thanks to a reasonable charter bus arrangement with the Roller Coach Company and Tours located in Mineral Ridge, 37 travelers headed off to Youngstown, Ohio, on April 26.

The day began at the Martin Center parking lot at 9:00 a.m. The short drive to Youngstown allowed attendees to relax and get acquainted.

The first stop was to the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor for a guided tour. Also called the "Steel Museum," the exhibits pay tribute to the men and women who labored in the steel and iron industry in the Mahoning Valley. After a short historical film describing the past history of several steel making companies such as the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company, Republic Steel, and U.S. Steel, the group viewed artifacts and learned about the workers who toiled in hot, dirty, and physically demanding jobs.

Youngstown was an important industrial contributor to America's war effort during World War II. The work force was largely comprised of immigrants or decedents of people from Eastern European countries directly involved in the war.



In the Sports Art Gallery

The second stop was a change of pace. Our group traveled just a few short blocks to the Butler Institute of American Art, located on the edge of the Youngstown State University campus. The Butler was the first museum in the country established to house artwork created solely by American artists. The Museum's collection now exceeds 22,000 pieces in all media types dating back to 1719. The guided tour took us past life-sized sculptures (Sports Art Gallery), paintings by impressionists such as Robert Vonnoh (In Flanders Field), and the lifelike paintings by Norman Rockwell (Lincoln the Rail Splitter). The Butler's post WWII collection encompasses movement from abstract impressionism to pop-art and minimalism to OP(tical). Who could forget the mesmerizing painting in the main hall that "moved" as you viewed it at different angles!

A catered buffet lunch was provided by the Butler Café. Then, in the afternoon we moved a few blocks to the Arms Family Museum of Local History. The residence of Olive and Milford Arms has been preserved and features medieval architecture and handcrafted decorative arts. Also known as Greystone, the mansion is owned and operated by the Mahoning Valley Historical Society. The exhibit explores Greystone's design from conception to realization. It features sketches drawn by Olive Arms, photographs of early room designs, original furniture, and decorative objects. You can't miss a full-sized suit of armor in the hallway!

There are also several Mahoning Valley centered exhibits on the upper levels of the mansion. "Tailor made: Local Clothing and Accessories" includes pieces from the 19th and 20th centuries ranging from simple bonnets to extravagantly beaded evening dresses.



On a crowded street



Parlor in Arms Family Museum

The "Mid Century Modern" exhibit explores the design period from the late 1940s through the 1960s when designers embraced technological advancements using bold colors and streamlined edges. Featured are highlights from the 1948 Youngstown Kitchens Set made of steel and pieces from the Plakie Toy Company. While not as large or elegant as our Stan Hywet, the Arms Museum on Youngstown's former "Millionaires Row" (Wick Avenue) is worth a visit.

By 3:30 p.m., it was time to head back to Akron but not before our final destination. Off of I-76 near Lake Milton, you will find several local wineries. Our bus driver navigated several country roads getting to the Mastropietro Winery tasting room. Here travelers enjoyed a flight of white and red wines or soft drinks along with cheese and crackers. You would be surprised at how many bottles of wine were purchased to be enjoyed later at home. (NO drinking on the bus)

We arrived back at the Martin Center at around 5:30 p.m. Our cars were still there. No tickets were issued. We appreciate the cooperation extended to AUAR by the UA Parking Office.



Suit of Armor

We look forward to the 2025 Road Trip. If you have any ideas, please contact Tom or Diane Vukovich (tv1@uakron.edu or diane@uakron.edu AUAR Program Committee Chairs.

In Memoriam

We honor our colleagues and friends for their many contributions in making The University of Akron a better place.

Delores Beyer passed away at 93 on March 19, 2024, just a few hours after her husband Bill had died. Early in her career Dee worked for Goodrich and Goodyear Aerospace as a secretary. While her husband was department chair of Math Sciences, Dee had a party for the department faculty each year with a different theme for food and dress! She was very active in Beth El Synagogue and served as President of their Sisterhood and the Akron Chapter of Hadassah. For many years, she was a member of The University of Akron Women's Club. Dee enjoyed reading, travel, gardening, and working puzzles. She and Bill established two scholarships at UA for Veterans in Mathematics and Students with Disabilities. She is survived by her three children and three grandchildren.

Dr. William Beyer died on March 18, 2024, at 94. He earned a bachelor of science degree in math from The University of Akron and graduated with a master of science and a PhD in Statistics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute. After working at Goodyear Aerospace and General Tire and teaching part time at UA, he returned to Virginia Tech for three years as an assistant professor of math. Bill joined the UA faculty in 1961 and retired as professor emeritus in 1998. He served as department head for 21 years during which academic offerings grew in math, applied math, computer science, and statistics. He became associate dean and served as VP in several areas. Bill dedicated much time to the Math Association of America, edited textbooks, and was widely published. He loved and excelled at the game of tennis and also enjoyed golf. Bill also enjoyed travel, reading, watching sports, and going to plays. He was preceded in death by only a matter of hours by his wife of 64 years, Delores (Dee), and is survived by two sons, a daughter, and three grandchildren.

Deborah Beynon died on December 24, 2023, at 72. Debbie loved her job as Senior Administrative Assistant to the Controller and reluctantly retired after 20 years of service in 2017. She was an avid crocheter and knitter, loved romance novels, and the Hallmark Channel. Debbie and her family enjoyed going to Lake Hope State Park. Preceded in death by her high school sweetheart and husband Robert, she is survived by two daughters and two granddaughters.

Evelyn Bohannon passed away at 85 on June 2, 2024. She joined UA in 1984 and retired in 2000 as an Immigration Specialist in the International Programs Department. Evelyn enjoyed playing cards, drinking wine, watching westerns, and, most of all, being a mom. She was preceded in death by her husband Dale and leaves two sons and two granddaughters.

Caesar Carrino died at 93 in March of 2024. Born at home in Wadsworth, he lived his entire life within 1,000 feet of his birthplace other than his college years and two years in the Army. He grew up during the Great Depression, WWII, and spoke Italian only until he started school. Caesar received his bachelor's from Baldwin-Wallace College and was then drafted into the Army. Serving as the chaplain's assistant, he developed the practice of daily mass attendance. After becoming a teacher and principal, he earned a master's from UA and a PhD from Western Reserve University. He joined the UA faculty in 1966 and retired with emeritus status in 1989 after serving as Assistant Dean of the College of Education, Dean of Evening College and Summer Sessions, and Special Assistant to the President. After retirement, he worked at several schools, served on many boards, wrote books on local history and was mayor of Wadsworth for four years! Caesar always had a vegetable garden and enjoyed making things in his workshop. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Lynda, two sons, a daughter, and six grandchildren.

Dr. Alan Hart died on May 2, 2024, at 90. He earned degrees at Syracuse University and his PhD at the University of Pennsylvania. After teaching at three other institutions, he joined the UA faculty in 1970. He retired as professor emeritus of Philosophy in June of 1994. He was named Outstanding Teacher in 1994 and served as chairman of the Philosophy Department twice. He published numerous articles and a book. Al served 22 years in the U.S. Naval Reserve including active duty in the Panama Canal Zone and on the USS New Jersey and the USS Wisconsin. He retired with the rank of Commander. He loved the Boston Red Sox, tennis, reading, and travel. Al is survived by his wife, Judy, of 65 years and his two sons and two grandsons.

Dr. Richard Haude passed away at 88 on April 7, 2024. He earned his BA from Kenyon College and his MA and PhD from the University of Pittsburgh. He taught undergraduate and graduate courses in Psychology and retired as associate professor emeritus in 1997 after 30 years of service. Richard was a nationally renowned rare coin and banknote numismatist and had one of the country's most diverse collections of rare Eastern European banknotes. He loved hiking and fishing and just being outdoors. Richard was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth, and is survived by two sons, a daughter, four grandchildren, and his girlfriend Rosemary Williams.

Dr. William Hendon died on May 24, 2024, at 90. He attended the University of Oklahoma and earned a bachelor's degree in history, a master's in English, and a PhD in economics. Bill joined the UA faculty in 1968 and retired in 1989 as Emeritus Professor in Public Administration and Urban Studies. He authored several books on cultural economics and founded the Journal of Cultural Economics which he edited for many

years. Being a Civil War buff, he wrote several books about his ancestors and the Civil War. He loved traveling with his family and spending summers at their lake home in Ontario, Canada. He was preceded in death by his wife of 64 years, Mary Ann, whom he married a week after they met! He is survived by a daughter, two sons, eleven grandchildren, and sixteen great grandchildren.

Donald Kuhns passed away on May 29, 2024, at 86. After serving in the Army Reserve Corps, he graduated from DeVry Institute of Technology with a degree in electrical engineering. After retiring from AT&T with 27 years of service, he went back to school and earned an associate degree in Electrical Engineering from UA and was hired by UA's Department of Telecommunications in 1993. After retiring as Telecommunications Network Administrator in 2002, he continued to work part time from 2003 to 2010. He was active in the Copley Kiwanis Club and enjoyed working on cars, traveling, and photography. He was preceded in death by his son and is survived by his sister, niece, and four nephews.

Linda McPherson died on January 28, 2024. She joined UA in 1972 and was administrative assistant to Dr. Noel Leathers and Dr. Jack Watt. Linda retired in 1998 as secretary to the Director of Budget Analysis in the Office of Resource and Budgeting.

Dr. Emeka Ofobike died at 77 on February 24, 2024. He was born in Nigeria and came to the U.S. in 1973 as a student. He earned a bachelor's degree and an MBA in Accounting from Western Illinois University and a doctorate from The University of Akron. Dr. Ofobike joined the UA faculty in 1989 and retired in 2015 as Emeritus Associate Professor of Accounting. He was a lifelong athlete and excelled at cricket, ping pong, and tennis. He followed both professional and college sports. Wanting his children to appreciate their roots, he co-founded Nigerians in Metro Akron and Surroundings. A man of faith, Dr. Ofobike served the Arlington Church of God for many years in many positions. He is survived by his wife, Laura, three children, four grandchildren, and extended family in Nigeria and Ghana.

D'Orsay Pearson died in January 2024 at 90. She joined the UA faculty in 1966 and retired in 1990 as Professor Emeritus of English.

Gary Rado passed away on June 4, 2024. He became a building services worker in the UA Physical Facilities Department in 1979 and retired in 2004. He worked in the Ballet Center and took family members to performances and to meet the dancers. Gary is survived by four daughters, three sons, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Dr. Andrew Rancer died on April 11, 2024. He joined the UA faculty in 1991 and retired as Professor Emeritus of Communication in 2018. He made many contributions to his field, especially in argumentativeness. He served as editor of professional journals and wrote books, research papers, and journal articles. He also received many awards. A scholarship will be established in his honor at the UA School of Communication. Dr. Rancer is survived by his wife, Kathi, and his daughter.

Dr. David Ritchey died on April 6, 2024, at 83. He joined the UA faculty in 1990 and retired in 2018 as Professor Emeritus of Communication. A lifelong academic, he taught at five other universities. David was a huge fan of local theater and wrote hundreds if not thousands of play reviews. He loved travel and antiques. David is survived by a son, a daughter, and a grandson.

Dr. Fred Sturm died on October 27, 2023, at 82. He received his BA, MA, and EdD at UA and began teaching in the University's Community and Technical College in 1968. He eventually became dean of the College and later served as dean of Wayne College. Fred retired in 1998 as professor of Business Technology. He loved food, wine, classic cars, golf, watching all sports, and spending time in Hawaii. After retiring, Fred was employed by a Napa Valley winery. He is survived by Marcia, his wife of 36 years, a brother, two nieces, and a nephew.

Dr. Frank Thomas passed away at 93 on June 4, 2024. He began his college career, but it was interrupted when he was drafted into the army during the Korean War. He rose to Sergeant First Class before coming home but went on to serve in the Army Reserves, achieving Sergeant Major status. Frank earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Cincinnati, his master's from Kent, and his doctorate from UA. After working at RCA, Lockheed, and Goodyear Aerospace, Frank joined the UA faculty in 1970. He retired in 1995 with emeritus status as associate professor of Information Services. He mentored students from Thailand and had several short-term teaching assignments at Thai universities. Frank is survived by his wife of 65 years, Diane, two daughters, two sons, five grandchildren, and one great grandson.

– Memorials written by Diane Lazzerini

Editorial note:

Please alert us to any member of our university family whom we have overlooked.



The Association of The University of Akron Retirees
 Department of Development
 Akron, OH 44325-2603
 330-972-4284

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**AUAR Membership, Department of Development, Attention AUAR
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If you haven't renewed your AUAR membership for the **2024-2025** year, it is time to do so. Don't forget our Scholarship fund where we provide some funding to a worthy student. Please either complete the items listed below, and mail your check to the address above or go online to uakron.edu/auar and pay by credit card.

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Dues are \$15 per year (or \$15 per year for multiple years) or \$150 for life. Dues and gifts can be placed on one **check made payable to The University of Akron**. If you prefer, you may renew online at www.uakron.edu/auar.

The AUAR Newsletter is a biannual publication of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR), c/o the Department of Development, The University of Akron, Akron, OH 44325-2603.

AUAR members receive our newsletter automatically. The Board meets on the 4th Thursday in person or on Zoom according to personal preferences.

If you have questions about the organization or to keep abreast of events and issues pertinent to all UA retirees, visit our website at www.uakron.edu/auar. The newsletter editor, Martha Vye, can be reached at vye@uakron.edu or 330-644-7490.

If you are interested in entertainment within the Akron area, check into our web site and view the events listed under the Special Events Menu. Just Log on to www.uakron.edu and click on the Menu **"Special Events"** or type www.uakron.edu/auar/special-events.dot

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Fall 2024 Speaker Schedule

Sept. 18 - Dr. Gregory Wilson, UA Department of History, "The Green Book in Akron: A Collaborative Project in Restorative History"

Oct. 16 - Dr. Richard Steiner, "Teaching and Touring in Portugal"

Nov. 20 - Dr. J. Cherie Strahan, Director of the Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at UA

Dec. 18 - Robert J. (RJ) Nemer, The University of Akron's 19th president

On-Campus Parking

If you are unsure about your parking status, call Uakron Park @330-972-7313 or email info@uakronpark.com



Seated: Richard Milford, Rita Klein, Diane Vukovich, Robert Gandee
Standing: Dan Sheffer, John Heminger, Melvin Vye, Ali Hajjafar, Tom Nichols, Richard Steiner, Mary Verstraete, Connie Heldenfels, Martha Vye, Carl Lieberman

Board Meetings 2024-2025

Sep. 26 • Oct. 24 • Dec. 5 • Jan. 23 • Feb. 27 • Mar. 27

Our Motto

People say interns and new hires are the promise of the future.
 Let's not forget that retirees are promises kept.