

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
Executive Board Meeting, August 24, 2017
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**

I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on August 24th by President Neal Raber at 10:00 am.

A. Others present included Bob Blankenship, JoAnn Collier, Cathy Edwards, Bob Gandee, Ali Hajjafar, John Heminger, Loren Hoch, Rita Klein, Ed Lasher, Carl Lieberman, Laura Moss-Spitler, Pam Rupert, Dan Sheffer, Linda Sugarman, Frank Thomas, Martha Vye, Mel Vye, Diane Vukovich and Tom Vukovich.

B. The new board members, JoAnn Collier and Mel Vye were asked to introduce themselves to the Board after which the returning Board Members did the same.

II. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the June 22nd meeting were approved as amended.

III. Treasurer's Report. Bob Blankenship presented reports for both June and July. June 2017 balance was reported as \$9,144.51. One year ago the June balance was \$5,486.04 The July 2017 balance is \$9,480.51 as compared to \$7,603.60 in 2016. The Treasurer's report was accepted subject to audit.

Bob reported that he has submitted our annual dues to OCHER (\$100) and other anticipated outgo will be the fall newsletter as well as the shared portion of our luncheon room charges of \$75 each month. It is the Board's hope that by raising the luncheon charge by \$1.00 and the use of the proceeds from the monthly 50/50 raffle we will continue to keep our operating funds in the black.

Neal Raber passed around to Board members 2 sign up sheets. One sheet asked for assistance at the sign in table at the luncheons as a support to Bob as he checks attendees in and takes payment for the luncheon. The other sheet asked for Board members to assist with selling the 50/50 raffle tickets. (See Appendix.)

IV. Corresponding Secretary. Martha Vye mailed a birthday card to Leona Farris on the occasion of her 100th birthday. And she will send out a sympathy card to the family of Jack Hips who recently passed away.

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V. Committee Reports.

A. Programs. Tom Vukovich reported that he finally received the menu listing for the 2017-2018 luncheons. Each month there will continue to be a vegetarian option. The cost (to us) for the lunches will remain the same as last year. Nathan Mortimer confirmed that AUAR will need to pick up half of the room charge each month (\$75).

Due to a problem with the publishing date of Mark Price’s new book, the date of his talk needed to be delayed. Therefore the program arrangement for this coming year needed to be adjusted.

September 13, 2017	Mel Vye	Return to Pitcairn Island
October 11, 2017	Bill Truax	The Life of Winston Churchill: The Man Who Saved Democracy for the World
November 8, 2017	John Burke (in costume)	The Real Story of the First Thanksgiving
December 13, 2017	TBA	
February 14, 2018	Sherry Bevan Walsh	Safety
March 14, 2018	Philip Thomson & Yangsoon Kim	Travelogue: Nepal
April 11, 2018	Mark Price	Akron’s Gangland War

Our November speaker, John Burke, asks for a \$75 honorarium for his performance. Due to the unusual nature of his presentation and the good standing in our financial account it was moved by Tom Vukovich and seconded by Ed Lasher to pay John Burke for his talk. The motion passed unanimously.

Special Events: Diane reported that they still have not found a suitable place to hold our Lobster and Suds event on May 18th, 2018. The problematic points include the presence of liquor (mandates the hiring of a policeman) and cooking of the lobsters outside. After some discussion it was decided to ask at the General Meeting for suggestions. We may need to eliminate the beer and wine from our menu as one solution. Another possibility might be the use of Sunny Hill Golf Course where Lobster and Suds had been held in the past. All beer and wine would need to be purchased from the golf club rather than brought in by the committee.

Ed Lasher moved to give Tom and Diane permission to make the final decision on where to hold Lobster and Suds without Board approval since time is getting so short. The motion was seconded by Bob Gandee and passed unanimously.

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B. Membership. Frank Thomas reported that he took the HR employees out to lunch at The Spaghetti Warehouse as a thank you for all their assistance with AUAR. He is currently trying to do the same with those in the Alumni Office soon.

Frank also reported that we've had 75 (July) and 74 (August) members pay their dues for the coming year over the last 2 months. Reminders to 250 previous members were sent out via US mail. Frank also sent a notice to 52 new retirees that they are considered members at no charge their first year of retirement rather than waiting for them to send us a form in hopes that they will feel more connected to AUAR and be more likely to pay membership as their 2nd year begins.

As of right now we have 231 active members (including the 52 new retirees) and 177 inactive members. Frank will bring printed lists to the next meeting.

C. Political Action. Bob Gandee had no report as there has been no meetings yet. Tom and Diane Vukovich will attend the September OCHER meeting.

D. Benefits. Linda Sugarman had no report.

E. Faculty Senate. Ali Hajjafar had no report as there was no Faculty Senate meeting in August. Next meeting will be in September.

F. University & Community Service/Website. Dan Sheffer reported that the web page has been up-dated with the new Board information and speaker information. He asked everyone to check to make sure their information is correct.

G. Scholarship. Carl Lieberman reported that our scholarship fund as of June 30, 2017 was \$107,891.63. Recent gifts have been received for July and August totaling \$2,059.

Our 2 scholarship recipients have confirmed their acceptance of the awards. Carl will send them a list of our fall luncheon dates in hope that they can attend and we can meet them personally.

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H. Newsletter. Pam Rupert reported that she has received the draft of the fall newsletter. She will be making the final changes and identifying those in photos next. She plans to have the newsletter finalized by the end of August.

VI. New Business. The September 13th luncheon will also serve as a General Meeting. At this meeting we will hold our 1st vote on the amendment to Article II Section 4. Ed Lasher will have the rationale available at the luncheon to assist with understanding the purpose of this amendment. We will hold the 2nd vote in February.

VII. Adjournment at 11:00am.

**Respectfully submitted:
Rita Klein, Recording Secretary**

**Next Executive Board Meeting:
September 28, 2017
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**

APPENDIX 1

VOLUNTEER SIGN – UP SHEET

Assist Bob at Luncheon Registration Table

1. Sept. 13, 2017 **FRANK THOMAS**
2. Oct. 11, 2017 **MARTHA VYE**
3. Nov. 8, 2017 **JOHN HEMINGER**
4. Dec. 13, 2017 **DAN SHEFFER**
5. Feb. 14, 2018 **RITA KLEIN**
6. Mar. 14, 2018 **BOB GANDEE**
7. April 11, 2018 **CATHY EDWARDS**

APPENDIX 2

VOLUNTEER SIGN – UP SHEET

Sell 50/50 Raffle Tickets

1. Sept. 13, 2017 **RITA KLEIN**

2. Oct. 11, 2017 **BOB GANDEE**

3. Nov. 8, 2017 **CATHY EDWARDS**

4. Dec. 13, 2017 **FRANK THOMAS**

5. Feb. 14, 2018 **JOANN COLLIER**

6. Mar. 14, 2018 **DIANE VUKOVICH**

7. April 11, 2018 **RITA KLEIN**