

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)  
Executive Board Meeting, December 7, 2017  
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**

- I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order at 10:00 am on December 7, 2017 by President Neal Raber.**

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

**Excused: Cathy Edwards**

- II. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the October 26, 2017 meeting were approved as corrected.**

- III. Treasure's Report. Bob Blankenship reported a balance of \$10,411.85 for October 2017 which compared favorably to the 2016 balance of \$8,465.42. Luncheon costs for October totaled \$501 which was covered by \$568 taken in. The November luncheon cost was \$476.10 with \$518 taken in. The 50/50 Raffle in October yielded \$68 and the November 50/50 brought in \$56. The Chili Supper had a shortfall of \$11.25 due to the replacement of needed supplies for this event. The Treasurer's report was filed for audit.**

**Neal Raber presented a report on the 50/50 Raffle since it was begun in September of 2016. See Appendix A.**

- IV. Corresponding Secretary: Martha Vye reported on her mailings for November which included sympathy cards to Janet Mealy on the loss of her mother-in-law, as well as cards to the families of Stu Terrass, John Hirschbuhl, Deb Hill and Jack Huggins.**

- V. Committee Reports.**

**A. Programs. Tom Vukovich reported that the November luncheon speaker, John Burke was well received in full Indian costume. His talk on the First Thanksgiving was quite interesting.**

**The entertainment for December will be a musical performance by Lisa and Heather Malyuk. A motion was passed unanimously approving a \$100 honorarium for this holiday event.**

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Tom Vukovich reminded everyone that Neal Raber will present Sherri Bevan Walsh in February, Dan Sheffer will present Philip Thomson and Yangsoon Kim in March, and Tom will present Mark Price in April completing our luncheon programming for the 2017-2018 year.

**Special Events:** Diane Vukovich reported that reservations were low for the Chili Supper. She will check on reserving the smaller room at the park for next year. She also noted that the usual February event at the Akron City Woman's Club will not work out this year. A new event is being considered such as a wine-tasting event around Valentine's Day.

Tom also reported that he is in the process of researching 3 possible sources for our Annual Road Trip in April

**B. Membership.** Frank Thomas reported that active memberships total 368; we have 58 new memberships and 36 inactive/nonpaid as of December. Scholarship income totaled \$65 in October and \$222 in November. Our total for the year stands at \$5,136.

**C. Political Action.** Dan Sheffer attended the November OCHER meeting and reported that the main topics included COLA and the healthcare subsidies. A COLA adjustment may be considered for early retirees and the health care strategic pathway option selected projects 30 years of solvency. Currently STRS has 190 recipients age 100 or older!

**D. Benefits.** Linda Sugarman reported that medical expenses incurred outside of the US for retiree dependents ARE covered. A discrepancy arose surrounding this issue due to incorrect information being circulated. It is best to call 804-673-1177 and ask to speak to a Global Care Customer Service Specialist before going to a medical provider. If that isn't possible, be sure to get a bill and receipt for any monies spent. Call 877-237-2390 once you are home and a representative will help you with the claim.

The premium for retiree dependent insurance will increase by \$66 in January and will increase by 1% of the total cost each year until 2020.

**E. Faculty Senate. November Senate Report**

Chair Rich called the meeting to order. In his remarks he mentioned that APC is trying to make connections between main campus departments and those of the branch campuses, especially Wayne College that is in the process of developing some bachelor degrees. He emphasized on the importance of close relationship between faculty of branch campuses with faculty of main campus. The APC members have met with Dean of Wayne College and also with Provost regarding these developments.

Secretary of the executive committee reported that they met three times since last meeting including the meeting for preparation for meeting with president and provost. They discussed issues such as: State of the budget, summer semester scheduling, enrollment, admissions, academic program review, the cost of materials in the library, and the relationship between Wayne College and the university's other colleges.

The president was out of town. He had asked provost to make some remarks on his behalf. The Provost mentioned that he and the president have talked to the deans about reducing budgets in the colleges and other units as well. He also mentioned that the president has convened a task force to look at summer semester to

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figure out how can we make the University a vibrant place in the summer? Revenue and progress to degree are in mind. There will be a survey for students to see what we may be interested in doing. He said they have released or are in the process of releasing endowment funds for student scholarships. This may help recruiting efforts. He continued his remark on the reports that his office had to prepare. Reports that were embedded in the budget bill for planning such as: efficiency report, a STEM study which was intended to look at the state subsidy model, text book report on lowering the cost, report due on remedial coursework, report on duplicate programs, pathway to tenure through commercialization, and college credit plus.

There were a few committee reports: CRC brought approved course proposals to the floor. APC brought an amendment to a university rule regarding allowing a student to repeat a course for credit at other institutions.

The Representative to the graduate council reported that doctoral students may receive a tuition waiver and a stipend for five years, but not beyond five years; however, if one has external funding to cover the stipend, the graduate school will cover the tuition waiver for the sixth year. He also reported on new categories for graduate faculty status. These new categories will be adopted if approved by the general graduate faculty committee. A full transcript of the meeting can be found online at the Faculty Senate site.

**F. University & Community Service/Website.** Dan Sheffer reported that the web site was up-to-date.

**G. Scholarship.** Carl Lieberman spoke with Sarah Chapman who indicated that our assets as of September 30, 2017 were \$113,145.66. Gifts from July through November totaled \$3,709.

**H. Newsletter.** Pam Rupert noted that the deadline for the newsletter is December 15-18. The interview in this issue will highlight Norika Wilson, the President's wife.

**VI. Old Business. None**

**VII. New Business. None**

**VIII. Adjournment at 11:12am.**

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

**Next Executive Board Meeting:  
January 25, 2018.  
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**

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**APPENDIX A**

**50/50 Raffle Winners**

\$45 Linda Sugarman - Sept., 2106 (Neal Raber \$90)  
\$33 Tom Vukovich - Oct. (Neal Raber \$66)  
\$33.50 John Bee - Nov. (Neal Raber \$67)  
\$55 Karen Hodges's & Danny Abood - Dec. (Neal Raber \$110)  
\$32.50 Ritchie's - Feb. (Neal Raber \$65)  
\$7.50 Neal Raber - Mar. (Neal Raber \$15)  
\$76 Jo Ann Collier - Lobster & Suds (Rita Klein \$152)  
\$48 Ed Lasher – September, 2017 (Rita Klein \$96)  
\$48 Ed Lasher – Donated winnings, September, 2017  
\$26 Barbara Banks – Oct. (Neal Raber \$52)  
\$56 Cathy Edwards – Nov. (Cathy Edwards \$112)     Total for AUAR - \$460.50

**NOTABLE MILESTONES**

1. Luncheon Sales Leader - Cathy Edwards (\$112)
2. Special Events Sales Leader – Rita Klein (\$152)
3. Most Money Won – Jo Ann Collier (\$76)
4. Most Money Won by a Ticket Seller – Cathy Edwards (\$56)
5. Least Money Won by a Ticket Seller - Neal Raber (\$ 7.50 )
6. Lowest Luncheon Sales – Neal Raber (\$15)

**It pays to serve on the AUAR BOARD!**

71% of the winnings have been taken home by individuals that have served on the AUAR Board!