



THE AUAR NEWSLETTER

The Association of The University of Akron Retirees

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President's Message

The Association of the University of Akron Retirees is beginning its 21st year. On behalf of your Executive Board, we welcome all of you to a new year with opportunities to meet and renew friendships or make new friends at our numerous luncheons, road trips, and other get-togethers.

As I think back over the seven years since retiring from the University of Akron, and now start a two-year term as your president, I realize how fortunate I have been to be a part of the AUAR. I want to thank Neal Raber for the outstanding job he did as president of the association for the last two years. I recall Neal being concerned about representing you as well as all the previous leaders of our association. Neal, you did an excellent job and you will be a tough act to follow. You kept us on an even keel with good humor and solid thinking. Thank you.

We have a terrific line-up of speakers scheduled for our luncheons, starting on September 11th with Mark Auburn, former Provost of the University of Akron and Dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, who will present and introduce us to a new book that he has written about the Auburn family and their contributions and impact on our institution and to Akron. The Fall schedule of our luncheons and presentations can be found in this issue of the Newsletter. Also this Fall, we have our Soup and Chili Supper scheduled for Friday, November 1st at Goodyear Metro Park. Please come, if you can. It's a fun and relaxing event.

Thanks to you, fellow members of AUAR, we are able to award two \$2,500 scholarships this year. The Scholarship Committee, chaired by Carl Lieberman recommended Ava Jakab, a senior majoring in Biology and Carl Bates, a senior Mechanical Engineering student to be the 2019-20 recipients of our AUAR endowed scholarship. The endowment is now valued at over \$112,000. Since establishing the scholarship in 2008, in celebration of AUAR's 10th anniversary, we have awarded one or two scholarships each year. We reached our initial goal of \$100,000 by 2018 and increased our new goal of \$150,000 by our 25th anniversary year 2023.

Hopefully by the time this newsletter is in your mailboxes, we will have a new President at the University of Akron. We have had some trying times in the past five or six years and I know you all want to hear and read some good news about our University.

My very best wishes to all of you. I look forward to seeing and hearing from you.

Dan Sheffer
President 2019-21



Transfer of power



In Memoriam

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

Dr. Hugo Lijeron Alberdi, 88, died on March 31, 2019. Hugo, in his 40-year career at the University of Akron, was a Professor of Spanish specializing in 20th Century Latin American literature. He also served as Chair of the Department of Modern Languages as well as the Director of the Latin American Studies Program.

Allen S. Anderson, 81, passed away on July 5, 2019. Prior to his teaching career at the University of Akron, Allen had a productive career in the U.S. Army retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He also served as a Professor at the University of Manitoba and as an Associate Dean at Marshall University.

James W. Barnett, 88, died on April 4, 2019. After enjoying a 46-year career with Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, eventually becoming an Executive Vice President, Jim donated much of his time and effort to programs in the University of Akron College of Business Administration. Jim later served as Dean of the College.

James "Bud" Blevins, 79, passed away on June 26, 2019. Jim retired from the University as an Electrical Supervisor with 27 years of service.

James "Jim" Lee Brechbill, 74, died on February 11, 2019. Jim began his teaching career as a physics teacher at St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Louisville, Ohio while completing his teaching career as a professor in the Science and Technology Department at the University of Akron.

Foster Buchtel, 88, died on January 18, 2019. Foster was a collateral descendent of the founder of the University of Akron. In addition to serving in many administrative positions at the University of Akron, he also had worked for Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, Case Western Reserve University, and Western Michigan University.

Rudolph Nicola DiDonato, 85, passed away on December 31, 2018. Rudy was a member of the DiDonato family from Garfield who have left a rich heritage in the annals of the University of Akron. He was a student-athlete during the early 1950s and continued to maintain a strong and passionate affiliation with the Varsity A and "all things" University.

Stephanie A. Dsilva, 35, passed away on May 1, 2019. Stephanie was a librarian at Wayne College in Orville, Ohio as well as a published poet winning many accolades for her poetry.

Charlotte Levy Essner, 97, passed away on January 13, 2018. Following 27-years' service, Charlotte retired from the University of Akron Speech and Hearing Department as an Associate Professor Emeritus. In her honor, her family has created The Charlotte Essner Fellowship in Speech Language Pathology at the University of Akron.

Dr. James H. Holda, Ph.D., 65, passed away on July 27, 2019. Jim was a professor at the University of Akron for 32-years, educating an entire generation of students in the healthcare field.

Frank A. Jeglic, 85, passed away on March 15, 2019. Following World War II with the establishment of the new communist regime in Eastern Europe, Frank and his family fled to Austria where they lived for nearly five years in refugee camps. In 1950, the family immigrated to the U.S.A. Frank, subsequently, graduated in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame where he also earned his masters and doctorate degrees. Dr. Jeglic taught at the University of Akron as an adjunct professor and served on the Advisory Board of the College of Engineering following his 30-year career with Babcock and Wilcox Co. at its corporate research center in Alliance, Ohio.

Victor Jon Kirbawy, 73, died on January 14, 2019. The University of Akron was Jim's significant employer throughout his working career.

Michael J. Konet, 67, passed away on February 16, 2019. Michael took an early retirement from The University of Akron Police Department.

Dr. Arkadil Leonov, 83, passed away on March 2, 2019. Dr. Leonov was educated in Russia and before arriving in Akron, Ohio, he had served as a Head of the Rheology Group at the Institute of Problems in Mechanics of the USSR Academy of Science in Moscow in the 1980s. He was a tenured professor in the Department of Polymer Engineering at the University of Akron, retiring in 2014 as Professor Emeritus.

Dale Michael Lewison, 76, passed away on December 12, 2018. During his tenure with the University of Akron (1981-2018), Dale served as Head of the Marketing Department.

Colonel Edward P. Mazak, Jr., 90, died on May 24, 2019. Colonel Mazak was the Commandant of the University of Akron Air Force ROTC program. The Akron ROTC program was Ed's final assignment before retiring from the Air Force. After his military career, he earned a Law Degree at the University of Akron School of Law and established his practice in the Akron area.

Geraldine "Gerry" M. McElliot, 81, died on March 12, 2019. During her thirty-year tenure with the University, Gerry worked most of these years as secretary to the various Deans of the College of Fine and Applied Arts.

Mary Virginia Meyer, 95, died on May 21, 2019. Mary worked as an administrative assistant at the University.

Linda Diane Motley, 68, passed away on April 3, 2019. Linda worked in Adult Admissions as a Recruiter.

Mark Pratt, 60, passed away on January 19, 2019. Mark was presented in 2009 The University of Akron Staff Shared Leadership Award in recognition of his exceptional service.

Minnie C. (Griffiths) Pritchard, 86, passed away on January 14, 2019. Minnie was a long-time member of AUAR and was frequently seen as a traveler with her husband, Bill, on The Vukovich's Overseas Adventure Trips. Minnie was the first woman to graduate from the University of Akron with a degree in Civil Engineering. The University was most proud of her, for the Dean, at her graduation, stopped before awarding her diploma and gave a ten-minute speech expressing how wonderful and talented, she was. Minnie received a standing ovation and thunderous applause from the audience. Following employment with Goodyear Aerospace conducting stress analysis on Navy Blimps, Minnie became a Professor of Construction Engineering Technology and later was appointed Associate Dean of the University of Akron's Summit College.

Dr. Thomas W. Sharkey, 91, passed away on May 15, 2019. Tom earned a Doctorate in Business Administration at Indiana University and worked at the University of Akron from 1955 to 1969.

Charlotte Shuff, 99, died on January 10, 2019. Charlotte was a valued secretary in the Accounting Department at the University.

Esther L. Smith, 84, passed away on April 3, 2019. Esther worked in the Speech and Hearing Department at the University of Akron.

Theodoric "Ted" Smith, 94, passed away on March 25, 2019. After serving in the U.S. Army during WW II, Ted reenlisted in U.S. Air Force for twenty years, subsequently, working in the University of Akron Electrical Engineering Department for additional 30 years. He accumulated over 9,500 volunteer hours at Stan Hywet during his retirement years.

Helen Ray Weyrick, R. N., 93, died on June 7, 2019. Helen served as a Cadet Nurse during World War II. Subsequently, she graduated from the University and taught nursing for many years. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Weyrick, former University of Akron Dean.

Bobbie R. Wray, 82, passed away on January 1, 2019. She retired from the University in 2014.

Robert L. Zangrando, 86, died on February 22, 2019. Before arriving at the University of Akron as a Professor of History (1971-1994), Bob had held academic appointments at Rutgers University and Yale University where he served as an editor for the Yale Press. He was a passionate advocate of Civil Rights throughout his career, being selected by the NAACP for a presentation at the Library of Congress in honor of the First One Hundred years of the NAACP. Bob was also the first male recipient of the Feminist of the Year Award from the Akron N.O.W.

Editorial note: Please alert us to any member of our "University Family" whom we have overlooked.



February Luncheon Focuses on UA Athletics

-Speaker: Akron Athletic Director, Larry Williams

Larry Williams

The first luncheon speaker for 2019 was University of Akron Athletic Director, Larry Williams. Mr. Williams came to the University from Equity Management, Inc., a leading sports marketing, licensing, and branding company. A native of California, he was a two-time All-American football player at the University of Notre Dame and an offensive lineman in the NFL. Part of his 8-year career in professional football was spent playing for the Cleveland Browns. After earning

his law degree from the University of San Diego Law School and serving as a Director of Athletics at two universities, he joined Equity Management, Inc.

Mr. William's topic was "The Impact of Athletics in Higher Education – Present & Future". In his view, the future of athletics in higher education is tied to student exposure to both programming on campus and opportunities for life experiences. While most people may only look at records of college sport teams and perhaps attend and enjoy the athletic events, Mr. Williams suggested that they also need to realize that these programs benefit all students and the community in many ways. He proposed five areas in which



Tim & Barbara Osyk with Tom Vukovich



JoAnn Collier and Sylvia Johnson

1. Academic Impact: The 450 student athletes at The University of Akron have a higher GPA and graduation rate than the general student population.
2. Enrollment Impact: Many athletes have only partial or no scholarships. These athletes are paying part or all of their education costs. In addition, the 350 students in The University of Akron Marching Band, the cheerleading squads, dance teams, and those interested in sports training, management, marketing, and media production are attracted to the University because the athletics program provides these opportunities and experiences.
3. Awareness Impact: The radio, television, and newsprint media coverage of athletics provides local, regional, and national awareness of the University.
4. Engagement Impact: Athletics helps develop pride in the institution via the achievements of its sports teams, especially if they advance to bowl games or national championship competitions.
5. Financial Impact: The annual budget for The University of Akron athletics is near the middle of that of the schools in the Mid-American Athletic Conference (MAC). About \$10,000,000 needs to be raised annually by the department. Mr. Williams indicated that fees paid to the University by big-name schools like Nebraska, Ohio State, and Clemson when we play them in football (often 1-1.5 million dollars) are a major source of revenue.

Mr. Williams also explained the administrative structure of athletics, which includes academic advisers and tutors. These individuals assist student athletes in coping with the management of their academic, training, and competition responsibilities.

The retirees in attendance appreciated Mr. Williams' openness and willingness to answer the many questions generated by his presentation. You never know what you may learn at the AUAR luncheons.



Diane & Tom Vukovich and Neal Raber



Tim Lillie, Bill Beyer and John Bee



Bob Gandee introduces our speaker Larry Williams



Leslie & Roger Bain and Sharon Gandee

CVSR the Topic at the March Luncheon

-Speakers: Tim and Barb Osyk

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR)



Tim Osyk



Barb Osyk

The luncheon speakers on March 13 were Tim and Barb Osyk, both dedicated volunteers with the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR). Tim is currently an engineer on the line, having worked his way up from brakeman. He has compiled over 8,500 volunteer hours with CVSR during his 17 years of service. Barb, who retired from The University of Akron College of Business Administration, Management Department in 2017, has been a volunteer for over 10 years and has accumulated over 1,900 volunteer hours. She has served as program leader, "Rail Rover", and server for various special events.

Tim presented a short history, noting that the tracks were laid in 1880 to carry freight and coal from West Virginia to mills in Cleveland. In 1972, under a rental agreement with CSX Railroad Company, the Cuyahoga Valley Railroad began to take shape, and the first train ride occurred in 1975. By 1985 CSX had abandoned the 26 miles of track that ran through the park, and in 1987 the National Park Service purchased the railway.

Barb explained that CVSR runs year round with the help of over 1800 volunteers. Utilizing three main stations at Rockside Road, Peninsula, and the Northside Station in downtown Akron, the programs offered are varied and attract riders from all age groups. Programs include Bike & Hike, Fall Foliage Tours, Beer & Wine Tastings, dining programs, family rides, Steam in the Valley, and the very popular Polar Express. Private cars rentals are available. Excursions take approximately 2 hours and 40 minutes for a round trip.

The CVSR has partnered with the RTA permitting visitors to be transported by bus to places in Akron like the Spaghetti Warehouse, Lock 3, and the Mustill Store. In addition, in the summer months other "stop off" places are Hale Farm & Village and the Conservancy Farmers Market.

Tim and Barb explained that there are several special cars among the 14 cars usually making a typical train. There are two ADA accessible cars, and a café car, which offers food, beverages and railroad merchandise for sale during the rides. Recently several historic passenger cars were purchased that once made up the famous "California Zephyr". These included the "Silver Lariat" and the "Silver Solarium", domed observation cars. Both were built in 1948 and part of the original California Zephyr train, which provided service between San Francisco to Chicago, a distance of 2,525 Miles. The journey took an average of 2.5 days to complete.

Many volunteer opportunities are available with the CVSR. Among these are trainmen, conductors, brakemen, concessionaires, office support, and maintenance workers. So, if you are looking for an exciting, fun place to volunteer, check out the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (www.CVSR.org/volunteer or call **1-800-468-4070, Ext. 226**) for a chance to ride the rails – FREE.



Tom Vukovich introduces the speakers Barb & Tim Osyk



Jo Ann Collier and Ali Hajjafar



Carl Lieberman, Linda Sugarman and Martha Vye



Tom presenting appreciation gift to our speakers



Hans & Kathy Zbinden



Diane Vukovich, Madeline Milford, Tom Vukovich and Richard Milford



Sharon & Bob Gandee



President Neal Raber takes care of important financial business



April Luncheon: Zoar Village

-Speaker: Kathleen Fernandez

Kathleen Fernandez

On a beautiful April afternoon, more than 50 attendees gathered for the last AUAR luncheon until Fall, to hear Kathleen Fernandez share her wealth of knowledge about Zoar Village. Kathleen is a graduate of Otterbein College with a B.A. in History. She is the former site manager at Zoar Village and Fort Lauren’s State Memorials for the Ohio Historical Society (now the Ohio History Connection), retiring in 2004. Kathleen has been the Executive Director of the Communal Studies Association since 2004.

Kathleen began her presentation by asking for a show of hands on how many people had ever been to Zoar. Surprising to me, the majority of the attendees had. When then asked if they had been to the museum, fewer hands remained. Much of the information that she shared with us, along with the pictures, can be found at the museum. (Making this retiree want to visit both the museum and the town as I was not one of the majority).

In 1817, a group of religious immigrants from Württemberg, in Southwest Germany, traveled in search of religious freedom. These radical pietists had rebelled against the Lutheran church and decided to form their own religion. (this religion cannot be compared to any particular religion today) They immigrated to Ohio settling in the Tuscarawas Valley establishing the Village of Zoar. By 1819, they decided to form a true communal society, establishing what is considered to be one of the longest lasting communal groups in US history. Kathleen explained that in a true communal society everything is shared including wealth. Men and women worked side by side doing numerous jobs which could vary from day today. The people of the village even dressed alike so as not to spark any jealousy among its members.

Kathleen shared with us numerous pictures of the village of Zoar as it was back in the early 1800s. (around 1846). She explained that many of these buildings are still in existence today, in-fact there are 11 buildings that can be toured today. A hotel was built in the village as tourism became popular in Zoar. In Kathleen’s words, people wanted to travel to see these “strange Germans.”

This Society of Separatists of Zoar contracted to build 7 miles of the Ohio and Erie Canal. This canal was built by hand. Again, the work shared by both men and women. Fun fact: in 1822 during the building of the canal, Zoar became celebrate. After this portion of the canal was finished, they were permitted to marry again.



**President
Neal Raber**

After the death of their leader Joseph Bimeler, the community began to come apart. No new sermons were written as no one wanted to take over. The sermons offered by Bimeler were read and re-read numerous times. By 1892, less than 2/3 of the people attended church. In 1898, the communal society was officially dissolved. They hired a group of surveyors to divide the land among the residents and to also sell the common property such as horses, sheep, cows and even farm equipment.

As the floor was open for questions, Kathleen fielded many. Questions arose including those about the educational system, the effects of the Civil War on the community, and the availability of outside media such as newspapers. Kathleen’s wealth of knowledge was obvious and appreciated by all.

If your interest was piqued, as mine was (I was unaware of the wonderful, unique slice of history so close to home) I would recommend looking into Kathleen’s books. She has written two books on the subject of Zoar, her first book entitled A Singular People: Images of Zoar and her most recent publication The Story of an Intentional Community which is a completed work on the general history of Zoar (due out in the summer of 2019).



The crowd listening with rapt attention



PAM: Thank you, Diana, for meeting with me. We know you through your involvement in AUAR events with your husband, Dr. Gerald Kunze, as well as numerous other organizations and activities.

But what a fascinating history you have. You were born in Southern Austria in Villach, a small town, severely bombed during WWII. What do you remember?

Diana: **For the first 8 years of my life I lived in the barracks of a displaced people's camp because my father was from Slovenia. Other displaced people were from Russia, Poland, and parts of what was then Yugoslavia. My first 2 years of elementary school were in makeshift barracks also. Father obtained an interest free loan from the Austrian government and built our house with his own hands from the basement up. Finally a home of my own at age 8!**

P: Such a tumultuous childhood however, seems to have left you undaunted! I see you have also lived in Paris.

D: **After graduating from HS, two classmates & I went "au pair" to England to further our knowledge of English which we had learned from 5th grade on and throughout High School. We then spent another year as "au pair" in Paris, where I met my first American born husband while attending French classes at the "Alliance Francaise" in Paris in 1969.**

P: And that lead to your arrival in the States.

D: **Yes, I immigrated to the U.S. in 1970, much to the chagrin of my father! Much of my twenties were spent raising my 4 children in Canton and being involved in diverse volunteer jobs. I volunteered as a tutor at Belle Stone Elementary School, was president of its PTA, and also taught Sunday School & Vacation Bible School.**

P: you were also involved with the international scene, hosting numerous visitors from diverse countries through organizations such as "Experiment in International Living" & "People to People" as well as hosting international students attending Walsh University & Melone College during the holidays. Such a busy person! You are definitely a multi-tasker.





D: I enjoyed these contacts! I was regional coordinator for the “Experiment in International Living” for several years, but had to relinquish most of my volunteer work. After my divorce I took a full time position as the secretary/administrative assistant at a vocational school. I was encouraged by my children’s teachers to get my teaching degree as I connected well with children.

P: So in 1988 you enrolled in UA. There you earned a degree in K-12 Foreign Language Education as well as a degree in Political Science. Well done! So how did you meet Gerhard?

D: The semester before I started student teaching at Revere High School, I met Gerhard at a meeting for the German Honorary Society, whose president I became. While taking a summer course at Crouse Hall, he spotted me & asked me for a date to Blossom Music Center.

P: And the rest is history...you were married the following year in December in your Austrian home town. Previously you had raised your 4 children for 10 years on your own, juggling work, chauffeuring them to diverse activities

& eventually getting them enrolled in colleges in Michigan & Dayton; all the while taking your own exams at UA. Long drives! Such stamina is impressive.

D: I loved the atmosphere of academia at the University, but my subsequent years as a German teacher in the Hudson School System were truly a most rewarding experience. I loved the energy those teenagers brought to the classroom and enjoyed sharing my love of the German language, German literature & German culture. We had a most successful German Club and one Sunday each month enjoyed activities such as soccer, Oktoberfest Celebrations, Carnivals, & Christmas Parties. We even did some overnights at the Stanford Youth Hostel where we played German skits and cooked a German dinner & breakfast.

P: Wow! Doesn’t sound like MY German class in HS! But Hudson was a good choice. You became involved with the Hudson LWV-League of Women Voters, serving as Director for 2 years & Secretary for 2 years. Also, 5 years ago you went to the LWV conference in Dallas.” So we are certainly fortunate to have you amongst us with all your leadership & organizational capabilities. There is more you could tell us of your family history, so we will look forward to other chances to talk with you. Thank you so much for agreeing to this interview; we are all the richer for it.

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF AKRON
RETIREES

E-mail Digest

SPECIAL EDITION

The E-mail Digest is a daily compilation of announcements sent Monday through Friday to faculty, staff and contract professionals. The digest contains announcements of all events of interest on campus. Retirees who would like to keep up with UA activities and receive the digest in their inbox can do so.

To be put on the guest list of recipients of the digest, send an email message to bobk@uakron.edu (Robert Kropff). Type *Digest Subscription* in the subject line of your email and request to be added to the subscription list in the message portion.

SOME GUESTS NOT HAPPY!

- Lobster and Suds 2019 -

Sixty-four retirees and guests enjoyed themselves at the Lobster & Suds Party once again held at St. Sebastian Zwisler Hall. Unfortunately, forty guests did not have a good time. They arrived ready to party in the early afternoon at Dan Sheffer's house. Dan escorted all forty of them to Zwisler Hall for the big night. They were dressed in their finest greenery and adorned with seaweed. Some of them clawed to the top of their transportation enclosures just to get the first chance at joining the partygoers. Unfortunately, one of them got overly excited and arrived DOA. Who knows what happened in the crates on the way to Dan's house? **Lobsters do not care about others. They are shellfish!**

Dan and his henchmen, Bob Fritz and Bud Marston, decided that these forty guests had not arrived with their personal hygiene ready for the retirees. They gave them a hot bath. The green guests were so embarrassed to be bathing unclothed in front of the partiers, that they turned bright red!

A choice of Chicken Marsala or Vegetable Lasagna was available to those who wanted something other than lobster spray all over their bibs! The array of covered dishes, salads, and desserts brought to the meal by our members was mind boggling. We know how to put on a feast!

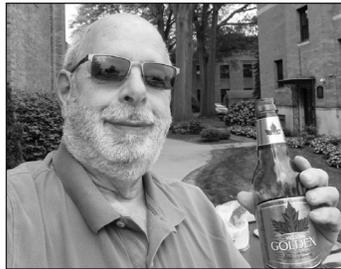
Many recent retirees joined us. Spotted enjoying the dinner were recently retired Melissa Paul, Susan Speers, Barbara Shrinier, and Bonnie Tubaugh.

As usual, everything went smoothly putting on this dinner. It takes the help of many of our members to put on this event so flawlessly. We very much appreciate the efforts of John Heminger, Bob Gandee, Bud Marston, Bob Fritz, Ed Lasher, Sharon Gandee, Pam Rupert, Dan Sheffer, Rita Klein, Diane Vukovich, and Tom Vukovich.

Mark your calendars for May 15, 2020, when we will once again meet at St. Sebastian Zwisler Hall for more lobsters and suds! Don't tell the lobsters!



The opening ceremonies. Bob Fritz, Bud Marston and Bob Gandee



Beer temperature monitor Ed Lasher



Bob Fritz, Tom Vukovich and Bruce Robertson



Treasurer John Heminger and raffle expert Rita Klein



The Lobstermen Bud Marston, Dan Sheffer and Bob Fritz



Jim Stafford and Harvey Sterns



President Neal Raber and Roger Bain



Mike and Linda Sugarman



Sonny and Marilyn Carrel-Izo and June Burton



Planners of the whole affair, Diane Vukovich and Tom Vukovich



John and Betty Miller



Bruce Robertson and Frank Thomas

2019 Road Trip Dubbed “Akron-Centric”



Our guide and Program Director of the Vigeo Gardens

A cool and rainy morning greeted 40 retirees and friends gathered for the 2019 Road Trip. Departing from the Martin Center parking lot, our bus carried us a very short distance to the Center for the History of Psychology on College Street.

Dorothy Gruich, the Museum Coordinator, opened the doors early and provided tours of this impressive addition to our campus. Founded in 1965 as the Archives of the History of American Psychology by husband and wife team, Dr. John Popplestone and Dr. Marion McPherson, UA Professors of Psychology, the Center is affiliated with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

Dorothy explained that the Center is composed of the National Museum of Psychology, the Archives of the History of American Psychology, and the Institute for Human Science and Culture. The many displays, artifacts, and interactive exhibits are professionally designed and constructed.

Stop number two was the “Bomb Shelter”, at the end of Buchtel Avenue on Bank Street. Most of the group never heard of or visited this “retro-superstore” and were expecting to see an actual bomb shelter. However, this “vintage museum” contains a wide variety of kitchen wares, sporting and camping supplies, military goods, cars, car parts and accessories, building materials, and signs. Think “American Pickers”, the TV show on the History Channel, but in a more neat and orderly displayed setting covering over 26,000 square feet. Almost all of the items are for sale.

The third stop on our itinerary was the home of the Akron Rubber Ducks, Canal Park on Main Street. Here Dominic DeMarco and his assistant, Rick, provided a behind the scenes tour. We saw the visitor’s dugout, indoor pitching and batting facility, suites area, and press box. We also learned about the history of this AA Cleveland Indians minor league ball club, their award-winning operation, and league championships. As the rain began to subside over the expertly groomed playing field, we enjoyed a tasty buffet lunch in the Duck Club.



Our group and the Goodyear Blimp



Our group listening to our guide

A very short trip from Canal Park brought us to stop number four, Jones Group Interiors on South Broadway. Here, hidden below the beautiful displays of furnishings and showcases, is a private car museum once visited by Jay Leno. The collection of the owner, Bob Jones, contains over 75 mint-condition classic cars and trucks as well as antique gas pumps, vintage signs and related artifacts. Jack Bush and several other experts were on hand to provide detailed information about the collection. It was interesting to see a “DeLorean” made famous by the movie, “Back to the Future” and two of the three turbo-jet powered cars built and raced by Akron’s own, Art Arfons. Art raced these cars and set world land speed records three times in 1964 and 1965. The average speeds were 434, 536, and 576 mph. We appreciated the opportunity to visit and the hospitality shown us by Mr. Bob Jones and his son Eric.

How do you follow a tour of a vintage car museum? How about a visit to an iconic aviation structure deeply embedded in Akron’s history and reputation? A short drive from downtown Akron brought us to Wingfoot Lake in Mogadore. Here Eddie Ogden, Public Relations Manager for Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, and airship pilot, Adam Basaran, treated the group to a fascinating tour of the airship facility. The hangar, built in 1917, is the oldest airship facility in the United States and home to Goodyear’s newest semi-rigid zeppelin airship, Wingfoot Three. Eddie and Adam provided us with a wealth of information about the long history of Goodyear’s development of blimps, dirigibles, and zeppelin airships and the technology and operations involved. A 26-person support crew is

cont on pg. 9



President Neal Raber



At the “Bomb Shelter” with a sample of memories



Rita & Denny Klein



Bob and Julia Beyeler, Tom Vukovich and Diana Kunze

needed for cross-country trips to the other two bases and to assist in delivering TV coverage of major sporting events from high above. Of course, getting a close-up view of Wingfoot Three, docked in the hangar was the highlight of the visit. As we approached the huge ship, we were greeted with a large "Z" and a "Welcome UAkron Retirees" message flashing on the lighted board on one side of the airship. Wingfoot Three and the identical Wingfoot One and Two are the newest airships in Goodyear's fleet. No longer called "blimps" because of their semi-rigid structure, these airships contain 297,527 cubic feet of helium. The airships rotate among three bases - the Wingfoot Base here in Akron, and bases in Pompano Beach, Florida and Carson, California. As we departed the hangar to head for our last destination, we were greeted by blue skies and sunshine.

Have you ever heard of "VIGEO Gardens? This indoor, vertical farming business is located in Canal Place. It is owned and operated by several UA graduates. There we met Vincent Petersen, who graduated a few years ago with a degree in biomedical engineering. Vinny gave us a tour of the red-blue lighted facility and explained the business plan and operation. Here, right downtown, they hydroponically grow and package green basil, microgreens, and leaf lettuce. These products are then sold to Ohio restaurants and a few forward-thinking local food store chains within 12-14 hours after harvest. Fresh, green produce grown in an environmentally friendly facility is paramount to the business and operation plan of this young company. It was exciting to hear of their plans for expansion. Taking home containers of a few of their products to sample was an unexpected and appreciated treat. Thanks Vinny.

Our day was full of interesting places and new experiences. Just where will the "Road Trip" take us next year? Stay tuned and plan to join us in April 2020. You can be sure of an interesting adventure with friends and former colleagues.



**Sharon and Bob Gandee,
Pam Rupert & Loren Hoch**



**Diana and Gerhard and
Marth Vye**



**Admiring the awards of the
Akron Rubber Ducks**



**June Barton, Loren Hoch, Pam
Rupert and Rita and Denny Klein**



**Program Guide and group at
Canal Park**



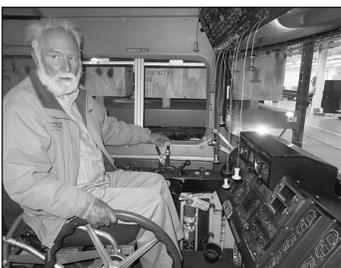
**The walls of the hallways
became art projects**



Sports figure tributes



Sports figure tributes



All clear: Mel Vye is ready



One of the older Gondolers



**Pam Rupert, Loren Hoch and
Mel Vye with one of our guides**



**A large space
put to good use**

FACULTY SENATE FALL 2019

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

- Adopted resolutions from the Curriculum Review Committee to approve the list of course proposals.
- Adopted a resolution from the Academic Policies Committee regarding direct admission criteria for the Computer Science division
- Approved a resolution from the Academic Policies Committee to allow Criminal Justice to become its own department.
- Approved a resolution from the Academic Policies Committee to approve the requirement of the GMAT for entrance into the CBA Master's Program.
- Approved a resolution from the General Education Advisory Committee to approve course 3600-210 Legal reasoning and Critical Thought for the critical thinking tag
- The Faculty Senate requested that the resolution that was passed at the February 2015 regarding part-time faculty pay increases be sent to the University Budget and Finance Committee for review.
- Approved a resolution from Curriculum Review Committee regarding some changes in the process of reviewing proposals for the new course proposal system.
- Approved a resolution from Academic policies Committee a name change for the department of Chemical and Bio Molecular Engineering to department of Chemical, Bio Molecular, and Corrosion Engineering
- Approved a resolution from Senate Executive Committee regarding some changes to the senate bylaws.
- Approved a resolution from Part-time Faculty Committee regarding upgrading the part-time faculty pay.

BENEFITS

Retiree dependent benefits

In January 2020 there will be another increase in the Premium for retiree dependent health insurance. We will probably not know what the amount will be until November.

November is usually the start of open enrollment for most plans. You may want to calculate whether your current plan is the best plan for you. If so, make sure you do the calculations early enough to open enroll in another plan, if that is what you want to do.

Pharmaceutical benefits. If you are receiving your drugs through the University drug plan or another plan you may want to check with your pharmacist to see if this is the least expensive way to get your medicines. Sometimes we have found it is less expensive to get some common medicines without using your University Drug plan or any another drug plan you may have.

Exploring the retirees' association web page.

If you haven't yet had a chance, why not take a few minutes and explore our web page. We regularly add information to keep you apprised of our group opportunities for socializing (luncheons and speakers, or special events in the Akron area), your benefits and the latest actions of the University of Akron Retirees Board. You might wish to know a bit of our history, or if you are having trouble sleeping, you may want to read our constitution just before going to bed.

The Association web site is located at: www.uakron.edu/auar. Enter this address one time and bookmark the page that opens for future visits. Some enter University of Akron retirees in one of the search engines on their browsers and then follow the results of their search to our web site.

Once in our AUAR home page, you can click on any of the topics listed on the left hand edge of the page to automatically go to information you are interested in reading. Topics include: History, Board Members (contact information), Constitution, Board Minutes, Luncheons/Speakers, Special Events, Newsletter (current and past editions), Announcements, Post-Retirement Benefits and Membership Brochure (information and application).

The home page also has a link to the contact list of all retired faculty and staff of the University of Akron.

If you have suggestion for items to include on our web page, please let us know.

AUAR Membership, Human Resources

The University of Akron • Buchtel Commons, Akron, OH 44325

If you haven't renewed your AUAR membership for the 2018-2019 year, it is time to do so. Don't forget our Scholarship fund where we provide some funding for a worthy student. Please complete the items listed below, and mail your check or checks to the address below.

If you have an e-mail address, please submit it.

Name: First _____ Last _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Dues are **\$12.00**; make checks payable to "AUAR"

Scholarship Donation _____; make checks payable to the U of A Foundation

UPCOMING EVENTS 2019/2020

LUNCHEONS & SPEAKERS

SEPT. 11

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

In the President's Home:

Memories of the Akron Auburns

Mark Auburn, Professor Emeritus, Former VP and Provost of UA,
Former Dean of Fine and Applied Arts, UA
Quaker Square

OCT. 9

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Travelogue: Bhutan

Mel Vye, Professor Emeritus, UA
Quaker Square

NOV. 13

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Ohio's Apex Predators: Bears, Bobcats, and Coyotes

Jamey Emmert, Wildlife Communications Specialist, ODNR
Division of Wildlife
Quaker Square

DEC. 11

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Holiday Luncheon with Entertainment

Dave Umana: Keyboard soloist
Quaker Square

SPECIAL EVENT
NOV. 1
Lobster & Suds
Goodyear Metro Park

BOARD MEETINGS 2019
September 26
October 24
December 5

The AUAR Newsletter is a biannual publication of the Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR), c/o Talent Development & Human Relations Department, The University of Akron, Akron, OH 44325-4730.

AUAR members receive our newsletter automatically. The AUAR Executive Board meets at 10:00 a.m. on the 4th Thursday of the month at the UA Alumni Office in InfoCision 203.

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, Dr. Pamela Rupert, can be reached at pamelarae2004@aol.com or 330-928-1810.



Our Motto

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

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/auar and click on the Menu "Special Events" or type www.uakron.edu/auar/special-events.dot

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