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Message from the President

My how quickly the last five years—since our 10th anniversary celebration at the Akron Women's City Club—have flown by! It's hard to believe that on December 10th, 2013, AUAR will be 15 years of age.

We've lost many colleagues and spouses since 2008, too many to list all of them here, but Dom Guzzetta, Wayne Duff, Alberta Hensley, Ruth Clinefelter and Julia Hull are a few charter members whose names come to mind. Others have simply moved away, last year Don Gerlach to Nebraska and more recently, Jim Fee to Tennessee.

We try to keep in touch with the latter through this Newsletter, for which Pamela Rupert has assumed full Editorial responsibility.

Fortunately, enough new members have joined our ranks to enable us to continue to carry on our mission. Hopefully, 2013-14 will bring many more new faces to our meetings as we reach out to welcome the latest crop of retirees. By the time we went to press, we had twelve new members taking advantage of their free first year of membership. We are delighted to have you join us. Please volunteer to serve on committees and on the Board of Directors. Your fresh ideas and energy will reinvigorate our organization.

AUAR plans to continue to be well-represented at statewide OCHER [Ohio Council of Higher Education] meetings, too. Hank Nettling is now Treasurer of OCHER. Last year, our quarterly meetings in Columbus kept us current as all the State pension systems were revised under SB 342 so that they can be fully funded for the next 30-or-more years. The Health Care Stabilization fund is alive and well, extending far into the future. Through membership in OCHER, we have an active voice in retirement issues as they evolve. AUAR always needs new members to attend and participate at these sessions.

Finally, we start off our fifteenth year by holding our monthly luncheons at an exciting new venue—the "Preparation Room" in Quaker Station, at the Quaker Square complex, which now is a fully-integrated part of the University of Akron, located at the west end of the newly completed Mill Street bridge spanning the railroad tracks. (The luncheons, as well as our monthly Board meetings, had to be relocated due to the closing in August of the Martin Center and the Stitzlein Alumni Center buildings.)

Best wishes for the coming year—2013-14.

President
June K. Burton, Ph.D., L.L.D.



Notes on Retiree and Retiree Dependent Benefits

— Linda Sugarman, Well-Being Chair

This summer Zip cards got you free admissions to many Lock 3 events, free admission to the Akron Art Museum and some of its events. As a retiree you are entitled to a zip card. If a retiree no longer has their Zip card they can call the Zip Card office at 330-972-5637 to find out how to get a card.

RETIREE DEPENDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

STRS has changed the open enrollment option for those with alternate coverage. At one point those with alternate coverage (such as Retiree Dependent health insurance through the University) could opt into STRS at any time. Starting with 2014 coverage the only time to enroll will be the STRS open enrollment period.

For those over 65, with Summa as a supplement to Medicare coverage, Summa typically offers very little until you reach the Out of Pocket Maximum of \$1500. But, Summa does pay for a few limited items that Medicare does not once you reach the deductible amount of \$200,. At one point we asked for a list of items Summa covered and Medicare didn't but were told it was impossible to generate such a list. But, we have been surprised sometimes when Summa unexpectedly pays a medical bill. We never know when Summa might pay for something. Even if Medicare won't pay for a service and Summa will, Summa insists every bill must be submitted to Medicare before Summa will consider it. So make sure that your provider submits all bills first to Medicare and then to Summa. Have all your medical bills submitted to Medicare and Summa.

FACULTY SENATE Spring 2013 — Neal Raber

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

- A robust discussion with President Proenza concerning the pros and cons of MOOCs (massive open online courses).
- The approval of the creation of the Interdisciplinary Institute for Human Science and Culture within the Center for the History of Psychology.
- The approval of reporting midterm grades of students in 100 and 200 level courses as satisfactory or unsatisfactory.
- The approval to admit students in the categories of College-Ready, Emergent, or Preparatory according to a formula incorporating high school grades and ACT score.
- The approval of a resolution urging that changes in faculty workload policy for the Fall 2013 Semester be rescinded and not be considered without taking into consideration department workload policies.
- The approval to change the minimum requirement of 128 earned credits to 120 earned credits for a baccalaureate degree.
- The approval to increase the size of Faculty Senate by one representative to be elected by the Academic Advisors.

STRS Ohio Posts +13.7% Total Fund Return in Fiscal 2013

Aug. 9, 2013

STRS Ohio's total fund return was +13.7% for the year ending June 30, 2013. The market value of investment assets as of June 30 was \$68.0 billion. The strong return for fiscal 2013 well exceeded the fund's assumed actuarial return of 7.75%, but trailed the total fund benchmark return. This week, Bloomberg News reported that the median gain for public pension funds was +12.4% for the 12 months ending June 30.

All asset classes beat their benchmarks during fiscal year 2013 except for domestic equities. The S&P 500 Index reached record highs during the year, and STRS Ohio began to underweight the domestic equity portfolio to realize some of those gains and to guard against a market correction.

STRS Ohio's 2014 Investment Plan calls for only moderate growth in the capital markets in fiscal year 2014. A copy of this plan is available on the STRS Ohio website.

Dear Member, thanks for your support and do not forget to renew your membership.

Send your check for \$10.00 made out to;

AUAR
Human Resources
University of Akron
Buchtel Commons
Akron, OH 44325

THE SENILITY PRAYER

Grant me the senility to
forget the people
I never liked anyway,
The good fortune to run
into the ones I do, and
The eyesight to tell the difference.

Spring Road Trip a Success Again — By Diane Vukovich



Future Firefighters at The Little Wiz Fire Museum

The annual AUAR Road Trip (formerly called the Mystery Trip) was again a fun learning experience. April 26, 2013 brought us a clear, sunny day to enjoy our adventure in and around Medina County.

The first stop was at the Little Wiz Fire Museum near downtown Medina. Tom Doyle, owner and collector, dazzled the 25 road trippers with his knowledge of early fire fighting and protection history. His collection includes hand and horse drawn fire equipment from the 1850's, some newer vehicles, extinguishers, nozzles, pumps, bell, helmets, alarm equipment fire grenades and historic photos. We learned the origin of the term "fire plug" and the expression "being black balled" as well as how the modern day fire department developed.

Next it was off to the John Smart Home and Museum. Two docents explained the history of the house and how



Dick Henry and Phyllis Fitzgerald at the John Smart Home

it became the home of the Medina County Historical Society. Built in 1887, the current contents of the home have been donated and include beautiful antique furniture along with displays of Civil War, pioneer and Native American tools, projectile points and arrowheads. It was here that we first encountered the "Giants of Seville", Martin and Anna Bates, through a life-sized photomural along with Captain Bates' enormous boots and clothing. He was 7'8" tall and weighed 470 lbs. Anna was 7'11" tall and weighed 413 lbs.

When visiting the city of Medina, one must stop at the A.I. Root Company, which was founded 140 years ago. There we learned about the



Some of the Happy Tourists

fascinating life of the founder Amos Ives Root, a true innovator and entrepreneur. Mr. Root was an early supporter of the Wright Brothers and a lifelong friend of Helen Keller. He is considered the "Father of Modern Beekeeping". His early honey and beeswax enterprise eventually evolved into candle making. Today Root Candles are sold in gift and specialty shops across the country as well as in the beautifully restored original brick building we visited, where a wide variety of home decorations and gourmet food items are also sold.



Hank and Bob inspect the goods at The Root Candle Company

Lunch was enjoyed at the Corkscrew Saloon, which is housed in a former Victorian home on West Liberty Street. The food was excellent and the service was top notch. Thanks to Ryan Marino for his hospitality and ability to handle a large group in such a fine fashion.

The afternoon travels allowed the group to learn more about Captain Martin Van Buren and Anna Swan Bates at the Seville Historical Society. We learned that Anna, a native of Nova Scotia, was brought to the attention of P.T. Barnum and appeared in his museum in New York City at the age of 17. She later traveled to Europe where she met king and queens and was treated as royalty because of her exceptional height. Martin Bates was born in Kentucky and was a confederate soldier. After the war, he also was "discovered" by an agent and began touring Europe in 1870. There he met Anna, and they married in London in 1871. When the



Diane, Tom, Martha, Pam & Mel awaiting lunch at The Cork Screw



Visiting the Giants of Seville

couple “retired” from touring and giving lectures, they settled in Seville in 1874. The couple had two children. The first child was stillborn. The second child, the largest baby in medical history, was a boy weighing 23 lbs. and 30” long. He only lived one day. Captain and Anna Bates and their infant son are buried in Mound Hill Cemetery

near Seville. The museum has life-sized statues of Captain and Anna Bates, and a crib built for the birth of their second child. Just how tall were the Bates? Pro basketball player, Shaquille O’Neal, would only come up to Anna’s shoulders!!

After learning all that history in Medina and Seville, the group need to relax and unwind. What better place to conclude the day than at The Winery at Wolf Creek for a wine and chocolate tasting. Four reds and one white wine were each paired with a different type of chocolate. Each combination was discussed by one of the winery’s expert vintners.

As always, the road trip was a full day but very enjoyable. These trips are designed to take travelers to places they probably have never heard of or considered visiting on their own. The discoveries that are in our own back yard always seem to amaze those retirees and friends, who are interested in fun ways to keep learning about our community.



Wine and Chocolate! What better ending for our trip?

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON RETIREES

E-mail Digest

SPECIAL EDITION

The E-mail Digest is a compilation of announcements sent Tuesday and Thursday 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.

AUAR Events

Study Abroad Student January Luncheon Speaker



Speaker Daniel Hovatter (UA Student International Ambassador) and Hans Zbinden

David Hovatter, a 25-year old University of Akron student majoring in Pre-Modern Japanese History, was our January luncheon speaker. David graduated from Ellet High School and worked at the St. Thomas Campus of Summa Health System before beginning his college career. He became interested in Japan at an early age and began studying the language before entering the University.

His one-year study abroad program was spent at Kansai Gaidai University. David's presentation was well received by AUAR members and guests as he explained how he managed to live on his own for the first semester and then enjoyed living with a Japanese host family during the remainder of his stay. David also showed photos of his travels in Japan and of the other students he met as part of the program.



Frank Thomas, Bob Gandee & Richard Milford

February 13 Luncheon Speaker Cathy Faye



Speaker Cathy Faye (UA Psychology Archives)

Cathy Faye, Assistant Director of "The Center for the History of Psychology" at the University of Akron, was our February 13th speaker. She also serves as their liaison with people who want to donate artifacts. A Canadian, Faye joined the staff in 2009, after finishing her M. A. at York University in Toronto.

The origins of the Center date back to 1965 when John Popplestone and Marian White McPhearson started collecting materials for an archive of the history of psychology. From their original space in Simmons Hall, the archive moved to the Polsky Building downtown when that was acquired. By the time David Baker, the current Director, came in 1999, the 10,000 square foot space at Polsky's was already too small. When Roadway Express donated its record storage warehouse on the corner of Mill and College Streets to the University, the archives expanded into the 20,000 square feet it now occupies—with the potential for future expansion to 70,000 square feet. The basement and first floor were renovated (the ribbon cutting ceremony was in 2010), and the term "Center" was added to its title to indicate its expanded services.



Alberta and Robert Fawcett



Barbara Banks & Phyllis Fitzgerald

The collection now includes various kinds of materials pertaining to the history of human sciences: reels of film, VHS cassettes and DVDs, wire recordings and sound recordings, oral history interviews, radio broadcasts, still images, an estimated 2,000 artifacts and 2,000 linear feet of manuscripts, as well as 50,000 rare books—one even dating back to 1533.

The Center does numerous things with its resources 1) It serves scholars (mostly historians) in the Reading Room; 2) Has a public museum, which is open M-F, 10-4; 3) Gives guided tours to groups; 4) Maintains a rotating exhibit near the door; 5) Brings speakers to campus; 6) Holds annual workshops to teach how to preserve personal photographs; 7) Shows special holiday films; 8) Gives perhaps 8-10 assistantships annually; 9) Offers student practicums; and 10) Is developing a certificate program in conjunction with the Akron Art Museum and others.

Faye invited everyone to use the resources of the Center, which is now located at the corner of Mill Street and College Street in the former Roadway Express record storage building. You do need to make an appointment to use the Reading Room.

Play & Brunch Event Continues to Grow



Discussing who did it.

Four years ago AUAR added a play & optional brunch to its array of winter events and activities. The brunch and play take place respectively at Akron Woman's City Club and at the Club's Coach House Theatre, which are located on West Exchange Street. February usually features an Agatha Christie play, and this year was no exception. Fifty-two retirees and friends attended a sold out February 17, 2013 Sunday Matinee.

"Black Coffee", written in 1930, was the "Queen of Crime's" first play and introduced the world to Belgian detective, Hercule Poirot. When physicist Sir Claud Amory, who had developed a formula for an atom bomb, dies mysteriously, his wife asks Hercule to

investigate. Professor Emeritus, Alfred Anderson, who was Director of Opera Theatre at The University of Akron for over twenty-one years, played the medical doctor who declared that Sir Claud was poisoned. The production was a fine mixture of actors well known to regular Coach House attendees with several new actors playing leading roles, including Mr. Ross Rhodes as Poirot.

Attending this event were regulars Caesar & Linda Carrino, Wolfgang & Joyce Pelz and Gerhard & Diana Kunze. Louise Forsch invited her daughter, Elaine, to attend both the brunch and play. We were also pleased to welcome newcomers, Dean & Linda Goumas, who were attending their first AUAR event.



Tom and Diane

We hope that the Coach House Theatre has another fine murder mystery scheduled for February 2014. What better way to spend a wintery Sunday afternoon than visiting with friends, eating good food and watching an exciting play.



Looking forward to the performance

New Location for AUAR Luncheons

Beginning on Sept. 11, the AUAR luncheons of the 2013-14 academic year will be held at the University's Quaker Station off of Mill St. and not the Martin Center on Fir Hill. Parking is free and is available between the Station and the former Quaker Square Inn and on the other side of the Mill St. bridge. Parking passes will be issued for luncheon dates AFTER Sept. 11, 2013 along with announcements and reservation information. Handicap spaces are located on the north & west sides of the former rail depot close to the ramp.

Always Remember This:

You don't stop laughing because you grow old,
You grow old because you stop laughing.

Coach Terry Bowden – March Luncheon Speaker



Coach Terry Bowden

A larger than normal crowd of retirees and guests attended the luncheon on March 13, 2013 to hear from The University of Akron football head coach, Terry Bowden. Coach Bowden is a member of one of the most famous and successful college football coaching families. His father, Bobby Bowden, turned Florida State into a national champion, and his 389 collegiate wins still rank first in Division I history. During the 1990's decade, Bobby, Terry and brother Bobby all led their teams to undefeated seasons.

In 1983 Terry Bowden began his coaching career at Salem College in West Virginia, where as the nation's youngest head college football coach at age 26, he built the program from the ground up. He then came to Akron in 1986 and served as our quarterback coach under Gerry Faust. The following year another head coaching job called; so Bowden left Akron for Samford University in Alabama, and once again built a vital program. He then served as head coach at Auburn from 1993-98, where, in his first season, his team went undefeated.

Bowden then "took a break" from coaching and became a college football studio analyst and color commentator with ABC sports for 10 years. But coaching called again, and immediately prior to his return to Akron, he was head coach at North Alabama, a Division II school.

During his remarks, Coach Bowden related many stories about his background growing up in a "football family." He knew from an early age that he wanted to follow in his father's footsteps and coach college football. As a student-athlete, he lettered as a running back at West Virginia (where his father was head football coach). He was also an excellent student. Seeing first-hand that coaching football also required some business skills; he majored in accounting and graduated Magna Cum Laude. He then added to his academic credentials by doing post-graduate work at Oxford University in England and earned a Juris Doctorate from Florida State in 1982 while a graduate assistant coach with the Seminoles.

Coach Bowden's enthusiasm for the "game," his dedication to coaching and his concern for his players were most evident as he spoke about his various coaching jobs. There is no question that our University of Akron football program is in the hands of a man who possesses the skills and the vision to guide it to success in the very near future.

If you have not been to a Zips football game lately, you need to attend a game this season. The 2012 team showed marked improvement and for half to three-quarters of most games, they were quite competitive. The 2013 season will be a true test for the young team and the second-year coaching staff, as most of their opponents were in bowl games last year.



Tom and Terry

The "Other" Mark Price April Luncheon Speaker



Luncheon Speaker Mark Price

One of the largest crowds of the year came to hear Mark Price at our luncheon meeting on April 10, 2013. Most realized that this Mark Price was NOT the legendary Cleveland Cavaliers basketball star but rather the award-winning Akron Beacon Journal writer and local historian, Mark J. Price, whose popular weekly column, "This Place, This Time", has appeared in the Beacon since 1998.

Mark is an Akron native, a graduate of North High School and Kent State University. Prior to joining the Akron Beacon Journal in 1997, where he serves as staff writer and copy editor, he worked for 10 years at the Canton Repository.

Mark's new book, "The Rest is History: True Tales from Akron's Vibrant Past", explores the history of Akron and Summit county through vignettes that bring to life bygone days and their connections to the present. Mark painstakingly researched archival materials, local histories, newspaper records and photographs to develop a true treasure trove of local history stories.

Mark reminded us that a U.S. president (Teddy Roosevelt) once leisurely strolled through the countryside of Tallmadge, Ohio without fanfare or the usual entourage of reporters and staff members tagging along and that Clark Gable worked as a stagehand in Akron before becoming a Hollywood icon. He also spoke of "Duke", the dog that wandered into a second grade classroom at Betty Jane School and stayed on as the classroom mascot for years. "Duke" belonged to no one in particular and simply showed up each school day and took time off on weekends just like a regular student.

The group also heard of the early animosity between two towns named Akron. There was a North Akron and a South Akron, and both claimed to be "THE Akron". During the night, the locals often repositioned signs pointing to "Akron" so that travelers were directed to "their Akron" instead of the rival location. (It is not true that the "other Akron" became Cuyahoga Falls! Likewise it is not true that Akron was so named because it was the highest point in Summit County. Akron was the highest point on the Ohio and Erie Canal.)



Barb Jones and Louise Forsch



Luncheon Speaker Mark Price and Tom Vukovich

Mark related that he likes to seek the truth regarding various local myths such as that Lake Anna in Barberton is bottomless and that a vortex deep in the lake would sweep you all the way to Summit Lake in Akron! He also enjoys researching old movie theatres, schools, restaurants and cemeteries for stories. He has written over 800 since 1998.

Mark's book was for sale and was purchased by many luncheon guests. It is also available from The University of Akron Press. If you are interested, contact Julia Gammon at 330-972-6254.

13th Annual Lobster & Suds Event



Hank and Newt make it official

One of the UA retirees favorite events, Lobster & Suds, was held on May 17, 2013. For the third straight year, the party was held at the Zwislner Hall on the grounds of St. Sebastian Church on Mull Avenue.

The cooking crew raised a brew in memory of Don Rupert, who was a major contributor to the event as coordinator of the lobster cooking equipment assembly "staff". The Maine lobsters were large, lively and delicious when expertly prepared by our dedicated "cooks". The University of Akron Dining Services Department provided large portions of chicken parmesan for those not partaking of the crustaceans.

First-timers included Norma Spencer, Sue Larson, Dan & Theresa Sheffer and Richard & Madeline Milford. Newt Engle joined in the fun and happily donned the ridiculous red lobster hat as the "rookie" on the cooking crew, thus elevating Loren Hoch up a notch.

Thanks to all who made this year-end retirees party a success. Plan now to attend the 14th Annual Lobster & Suds Event on May 16, 2014.



Jeanne and John Hoffer and Diane Vukovich



The Lobstermen of AUAR: Tom Vukovich, Bob Fritz, Ed Lasher, Loren Hoch, Newt Engle, Bob Gandee and Bud Marston



It won't be long now!



June Burton, Assoc. Editor
Napoleon Magazine

Pam: As you are our new President of AUAR it seemed a good time to get to know you better. Before retirement, you were an Associate Professor in the History Department with a specialty in French Revolution and Napoleonic history. You are certainly well-prepared for your new position, given your involvement in campus politics during your tenure at UA: Faculty Well Being Committee chair, Akron Representative

to the Faculty advisory Committee to the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, President of the AAUP Chapter twice, and involved in the formation of the first buyout—ERIP. What do you feel was your most important contribution to the University?

June: My most important contribution was my teaching! Second, was my project ca. 1978-81 introducing the teaching of courses on International Human Rights Concepts at the undergraduate level at American colleges and universities. Outside of teaching, my involvement with the ERIP was an “accident” that benefitted many AUAR members: for them, it’s a gift that keeps on giving. I could never have planned what actually happened and now that certain people are dead, I can tell. One of the University Trustees initiated a meeting with me, asking for my assistance with formulating his responses to President Muse’s memos to the Trustees, which he thought defied logic. That sure got me in the thick of things. My advice to him was to stress the fact that the “cost” of this program as outlined by the faculty translated into a savings of \$500,000 because they based their figures on the “incremental cost” and not simply the “cost.” I had the advantage of being the only person on the committee who was ineligible for the ERIP, so I could be an advocate for it without seeming entirely self-serving. While I could see some weaknesses to it, the way I looked at the ERIP was that it would make a “happier faculty.” Simplistic, maybe, but the outcome of a happier faculty is better contact with students, something inherent in growing a better university from the ground up.

P: Well done! Many of us have benefitted from your work. Now let’s back up a bit and look at your early life and see what helped make you such a champion of our rights. Reading about your childhood I get a feeling you had a number of strong female role models.

J: My mother valued education—she named me after the only friend she knew who graduated from college. Then, too, I was delivered by a female obstetrician, so I always knew women were doctors! (Laugh) I had female teachers all through my school years growing up in Cape May, N.J. My French teacher was a female terror! My father was blind, so I would accompany him to his various business meetings (I was quicker than harnessing up the dog), so I was exposed to such transactions at an early age.

P: How did you become interested in history?

J: For one thing, Cape May is a very historic place, the oldest seashore resort in North America. President Lincoln visited there. The Mason-Dixon Line ran through Cape May Court House, so Southern history was present. Also, we went to the movies a lot—it was quiet in the winter months. Looking back, I was influenced by seeing “Desiree” with Jean Simmons and Marlon Brando as Napoleon. Both the movie and Tolstoy novel “War and Peace” about Napoleon’s invasion of Russia impressed me. But in high school I wasn’t thinking of a career in history; I wanted to teach home economics or art.

P: So you attended Stetson University for both your B.A. and M.A. But somewhere along the line you changed your major.



2008 June and Alberta Hensley at
Brecksville Library Art Show, opening day.
Fishing Raccoon is by June

J: I was an art major at Stetson for two years, but when finances made them remove art and home economics from Florida high schools, I decided to change to something more practical. I hadn’t liked my exposure to American history—too jingoistic and social history hadn’t become popular yet—but a world history class got me thinking more internationally. As I had taken French in HS, I settled on European History with an emphasis on France.

I qualified for their “Ford M.A.-3 Program,” designed to solve the shortage of faculty for the new junior college in the Florida system. This program paid my tuition for adding German and for the entire master’s year. Incidentally, the Graduate Dean who ran the Ford Program was the former basketball coach, and he cheered me all the way through the program. I now am a big fan of basketball coaches who nurture academics!

P: They do know how to rally the team members! You then went on to The University of Georgia at Athens.

J: I had no intention of going for the Ph.D. but the Stetson History Department Chairman called me in and said the faculty had decided I should be encouraged to go on, and so he was recommending me. He then dialed the Head of the UGA History Department and arranged it! He put me on the phone, whereupon I asked discretely about where the money was coming from. Prof. Parks drawled, "Don't worry your little head about it!" (That's how they talked in the South in those days.) So I was admitted to the UGA graduate program as a TA over the phone. There were only five women in the 45 TAs; this was affirmative action in what was considered "a man's field."

P: And you finished the program without any loans! Amazing in this day and age! So how did you get to UA?

J: It started with a paper on Napoleon that I presented at a conference in 1970. The speaker before me was a visiting professor at UA from Dayton. He decided to return there, so he kindly recommended me to Warren Kuehl, then Head of the History Department. Because I had that paper published in France and I finished my doctoral defense on September 15th, I got the one year terminal contract Akron offered me.

P: And you're still here after 23 years of teaching and 9 of retirement. Women were a bit suspect back in those days though.

J: On my visit, as we passed the Student Center on a warm spring day, Kuehl asked me what I thought about how the Akron students were dressed, which contrasted sharply with my UGA classes wearing red blazers. He said that I ought to see students at Kent State, where his counterpart recently invited him to eat lunch and watch the co-eds going by bra-less in tee shirts. I can't remember whether if this was before or after I told him I taught adult Sunday School classes, but he said that would help with a certain professor who had sworn that no female would ever join his department.

P: I know that you almost had a death sentence at one time from a doctor. How did that come about?

J: I had gone for some tests, which I had fetched from a lab clerk who quickly typed them for the doctor. Upon seeing them he reported I had kidney failure: a 7.5 result, and should sign up at the Cleveland Clinic for a transplant. I delayed until the end of the term to finish grades, etc. So when I finally went they said I wouldn't be walking around if my function was that low. Turns out it should have been 75.0. The final diagnosis was Lupus, but at the time that seemed a relief!.

P: What a difference a decimal point can make. You seem to have survived numerous diagnoses and gone on with your life. You have traveled often to France,

I understand, for research, conferences and pleasure. Don Gerlach remembers trips where you all had "a high old time."

J: My sister and I did take Don to France, and he can tell you what he ate, and what it cost him, for every meal! I've been there at least 24 times, and am going again in September. France is basically an atheistic country, but the government closes down all libraries and archives for every religious holiday. On these holy days, I went guiltlessly to most of Paris' 60 or so museums or for a short vacation to another city. I love to visit art museums.

P: Speaking of paintings, I understand that is one of your hobbies. What kind of work do you do?

J: Mostly landscapes and animals in Chinese water colors. I like to start in the traditional manner, but go on with experimental techniques. Sometimes I paint on both the front and back of mulberry paper. Sumi ink breaks down into its composite colors as it filter through the paper.

P: That must create an interesting effect. I know you have had showings of your work before; perhaps some time we could see them. You have other accomplishments: leadership and research in the Southern Historical Association and its European History Section; an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Stetson; a Humanities Grant from the Rockefeller Foundation; your 2007 monograph *Napoleon and the Woman Question* (Texas Tech Univ. Press), to name a few. And we wonder if your entertaining speech at the May 2013 Founders Day luncheon may have helped President Proenza decide that retirement is something worth considering! We are looking forward to your leadership these next two years.



June and Don Gerlach in the "Yellow Garden" outside the American Museum of Art, Giverny, France 1998

“Cruising” the Elbe at Flood Time

Adventures with the Vukoviches — By Velma Pomrenke



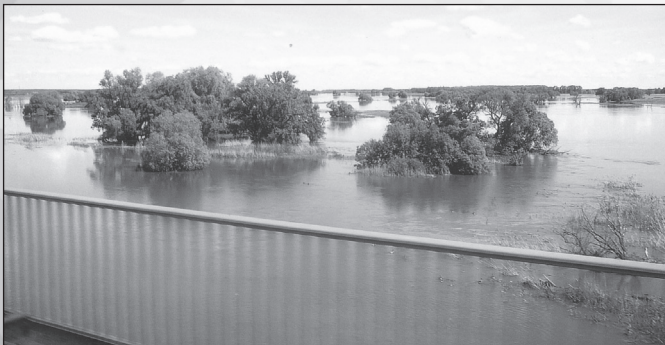
The Nettlings and Don Gerlach

How does one write about the Retirees latest trip– June 1-18 – Essence of the Elbe, Berlin to Prague to Poland? Instead of a day-to-day itinerary, I will use four themes: (1) floods; (2) history ; (3) the Holocaust; and (4) food and fun.

But first, who went with us? The group of 17 included: Tom and Karen Clark; Carolyn Cox; Vi Ewing, Don Gerlach, Belle Gale, Linda Marx, Rob and Janet McMinn, Hank and Arlene Nettling, Velma Pomrenke, Roger and Judy Read Amy Schwan and Tom and Diane Vukovich. With the other passengers on the MSAlegro, we ere a group– or mob – of 90.

We landed in Berlin on a cold, rainy day, rain being the operative word. Television depicted nothing but severe flooding of most of the European rivers, among them the Elbe. What would happen to our anticipated river cruise?

The first change of plans was embarking on the MSAlegro at Wittenberg, one stop upstream from the planned boarding. For three nights we stayed on our floating hotel going nowhere but up but walking the extended gangplank to do our land excursions each day. Then came the news to abandon ship. Busses took all 90 of us to Weimar for three nights, on to Prague for four nights and then to Poland. Imagine making all these last minute arrangements for 90 tourists! Although we missed some points of interest on the Elbe, we saw much more of Germany and had extra days in Prague. By then the waters were receding.



Flooded banks of the Elbe River in Germany

HISTORY; At so many sites our knowledgeable and very articulate Program Director Joe and many local guides recreated history for us. In Berlin we saw the iconic Brandenburg Gate; the Reichstag with its enormous glass dome where German democracy has been restored; Checkpoint Charlie; remnants of the Berlin Wall, testimony to the trauma of dividing a country and its people.

In Pottsdam, near Berlin, Truman, Churchill, Atlee and Stalin in 1945 planned punishment for the defeated Nazis and created post war peace plans. Nearby is the site where in 1941 Nazi officials created the “final solution” to the Jewish problem – total extermination.



Akron retirees and friends

As a life-long Lutheran our visit to Wittenberg was particularly meaningful to me. It is here that Martin Luther lived, taught, preached, married and began his dispute with his church about indulgences, thus inadvertently launching the Protestant Reformation. Wittenberg is preparing for the 500th anniversary of that movement by renovating the Castle Church where Luther supposedly posted his 95 theses on October 31, 1517. Five hundred trees have been planted in Wittenberg to help commemorate this occasion.

In Weimar, German leaders gathered in 1919 to write a new constitution only to have it completely ignored in 1933 when Hitler made his power grab. Weimar is also the home of Goethe and Schiller, two revered figures in German literature.

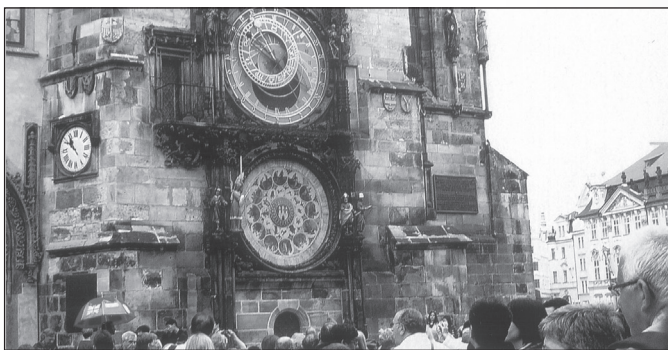
Coburg, Germany, continued our historical journey. It is the birthplace of Albert, Prince Consort to Queen Victoria. Albert, the German, spent his short life enriching English culture. Here too Luther hid, fearing for his life, while Melancthon and others created the Augsburg



Locked in at Buchenwald - Hank Nettling and our Program Director Joe

Confession, the foundational document for Lutheranism.

In Prague, the famous castle from the 9th century and the Charles Bridge built by Charles IV from 1357 to 1402 were certainly points of historical interest. Here too John Hus was



The famous astronomical clock in Prague

burned at the stake in 1415 for daring to be a reformist. Krakov, Poland is most proud of its native son, the late Pope John Paul II. In all these places our understanding was enriched by our fellow traveler and historian Dr. Don. HOLOCAUST: We visited two concentration camps – Buchenwald (Beech Forest) near Weimar, Germany and Auschwitz-Birkenau near Krakov, Poland. Each of us absorbed this sobering, emotional experience in our own way. The well crafted wrought iron signs – Jeden Das Seine (To Each His Own) at Buchenwald and Arbeit Macht Frei (Work Frees) at Auschwitz are brazen beyond belief. It was an eerie feeling when Joe locked the gate behind us at Buchenwald. At Auschwitz the original barracks turned into a museum display the utter depravity of human behavior.

In Krakov we were at the gates of Oskar Schindler's factory, viewed the faces of many Jewish workers he saved at his own peril and read a quote from the Talmud, "Whoever saves one life, saves the world:"

In Warsaw we were at the site of the Jewish ghetto of World War II. To deplete the overcrowding, the Nazis lured thousands of Jews to board trains for a better life – to Treblinka and extermination. An impressive sculptor commemorates those events.

FOOD AND FUN: On to a lighter note. In Berlin we sampled the current craze – Curry Bratwurst! Each meal began with soup - lobster, pumpkin, apply-onion, white borscht, to name a few. Some people drew the line at beef broth with a tennis ball size liver ball. Then there were dumplings followed by several dozen Tums or a plate of nine super- sized pierogies- very tasty but also requiring Tums.

In Prague at a Folklerama evening we toasted – that is, gulped down – Becherovka, an unknown but quite tasty liquor. We sampled a wide variety of beers. Beer was first brewed in 1842 in Pilsner, Czech Republic where we toured the brewery. Perhaps the tastiest beer was the Kuhschwanz -- Cow's Tail – brewed originally with water from pastures – and you can guess the rest.

Our friend Don provided us with excitement, if not fun for him when he accidentally triggered the hotel alarm sending us all into lockdown. He had misunderstood where he could light up his pipe,

Frederic Chopin, the Polish composer and virtuoso pianist grew up in Warsaw and composed many of his mature works there. On our last night in Warsaw we were treated to a concert of his work, just for us, in an art gallery by an internationally known pianist. What a way to end our trip!

Does all this whet your appetite to join one of Tom's tours? It should. Many thanks to Tom and Diane for organizing another fantastic experience.



Diane attacking a jumbo cheesecake

Zip Talk: When Zip Football Was In Its Infancy

By Ken MacDonald, Director Emeritus, Sports Information



Ken MacDonald

As the 2013 University of Akron football campaign unfolds under the leadership of Head Coach Terry Bowden, I was wondering how many readers of this newsletter knew the story of the beginning of football on our campus. For those Zip fans among you who have an interest, this story is for you.

While the "Father of American Football," Walter Camp, was guiding his Yale gridders to an undefeated season and Amos Alonzo Stagg was organizing a football team at the University of Chicago, the men of Buchtel College, the forerunner of The University of Akron, were making history, as well. The year was 1891.

For several years Buchtel College students clamored for the administration to sanction football, a game that had been played since 1868. In the fall of 1890, a game was actually played between the upperclassmen and the freshmen, the former winning, 30-8.

As a member of the Ohio Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Buchtel participated in baseball, track and, believe it or not, oratorical contests. In the Association also were Denison, Kenyon, Ohio State and Wooster. Adelbert, now Case Western Reserve joined the group at a later date. On June 5, 1891, at the annual meeting of the Association, a proposal was made and passed that the member colleges must field football teams or be dropped from the group. Needless to say,

Buchtel College decided to form a team.

All credit is due the members of that first team, since they were without a coach. They quickly formed a committee headed by sophomore Wilson Putt. That summer, Putt and his committee journeyed to Philadelphia, PA to consult and learn the intricacies of the game with the University of Pennsylvania Head Coach E. O. Wagenhurst, who would go on to guide his team to a 11-2 record in the fall.

The Buchtel committee returned to set the fall fashion for years to come with a four-game schedule. That 1891 season began on Friday, October 30 when the following men travelled to Hudson to battle Western Reserve Academy: Carlos Webster (LE), Robert Osbourne (LT), Wilson Putt (LG), Alvin McKnight (C), Walter Coe (RG), Charles Meade (RT), Charles Weeks (RE), John Eddy (QB), Johnson McLean (LHB), Bryant Campbell (RHB), Charles Mignin (FB) and substitutes Benjamin Kingsbury, Harry Clark and Eli Hardin. With McLean doing all the scoring, Buchtel defeated the boys of the Academy, 22-6.

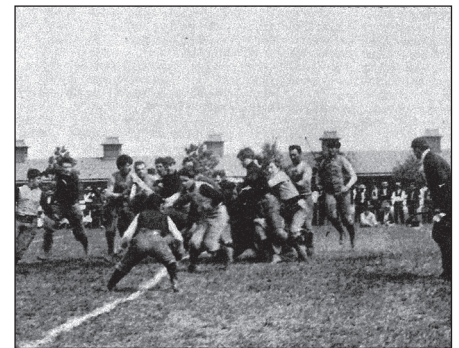
The first intercollegiate game played was on the following week on the newly acquired Buchtel Field against Kenyon. Unfortunately, Buchtel was thrashed, 42-0, and later that season lost by the same score at Case Tech. Buchtel hosted Ohio State at Buchtel Field in its final game on Saturday, December 5, losing by a respectable, 6-0, score.

Football played in those early days was a far cry from the present day game. It was played in 45 minute halves, the field was 110 yards long and the scoring went as follows: TD – 4 points, extra-point kicks – 2 points, field goals – 5 points and a safety was two points.

In the words of Robert Osbourne, a player on that first team, written in 1919: "The game was a much fiercer proposition than at present. All massed plays were in vogue, including the 'flying wedge', and when 22 men came together after a five or 10 yard start, in a double-V formation, something happened to those men in front of those V's. A player could not be taken out of the game unless he had received sufficient damage to disable him from further participation. Broken arms, legs, noses, shoulders, ribs, etc., were in the inventory of the game.

"You know it was fashion then for the man with the ball to keep on crawling with 21 men, more or less, on top of him, as the ball was not 'down' so long as in motion, no matter how much a player might be down. The only effective way to stop his crawling was to jump on the fellow's head and ram his face into the ground."

It all started 122 years ago, since then 112 gridiron campaigns have accompanied The University of Akron's development from a small Universalist college to the grand expansive state university we find today. A wealth of football lore has been accumulated in those years and now we watch the 113th unfold.



At the Ohio State Fair, in 1894, the Buchtel football team walloped Ohio State University 12 to 6.
Revenge is sweet!

In Memoriam

Barbara N. Armstrong (Nottingham) passed away June 24, 2013. She had been the Head of the Department of Home Economics and Family Ecology. Barbara was extremely grateful for the amazing role models in her life. The West Virginia University philosophy was "to teach is to touch the heart," a goal she aspired to accomplish every day of her life.

Milan Frane Dubravcic passed away February 1, 2013. During his 20 year teaching career at the University of Akron, Dubravcic developed the chemical technology program which had a 97% placement rate in industry for its graduates. Milan retired in 1985 and continued to teach until 1991.

Geza Geier, Sr. died June 23, 2013 in Budapest, Hungary while visiting family. Geza began entertaining at the age of 8 and continued his acrobat act, stilt walking, and balloon sculpting in the United States using the stage name "High Pockets." He retired from University Physical Plant after 25 years of service.

Phyllis Stephenson Griffith passed away July 18, 2013. Phyllis had served as Director of Alumni Relations at the University of Akron and as Director of Development at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School.

Barbara Anne (Wolfcale) Gsellman died March 27, 2013. Bobbie was one of the very first women to graduate from the University of Akron in Mechanical Engineering (1950). She retired from the University following a 33 year teaching career. Her gracious hospitality each Sunday for family dinner and on Tuesday for the Breakfast Group will be fondly remembered. Bobbie also enjoyed the faculty hospitality at the annual Lobster and Suds Party.

Robert "Bob" Owen Harvey died November 25, 2012 following a courageous battle with cancer. Bob had a long career in healthcare management and consulting, as well as an adjunct professor in the school of business at the University of Akron over the last 25 years.

Irvin M. Kamenir practiced orthodontics in Akron from 1961-1997. Irvin was a major proponent of higher education establishing the Irvin M. Kamenir Endowment at the University of Akron. He had received degrees from Kent State University, Ohio State University, Columbia University, and, at the age of 55, he was awarded the MBA from the UA. Irvin was also an accomplished pianist and played in various orchestras to support some of his expenses while attending Columbia.

Noel L. Leathers died January 28, 2013. Noel served the University as Professor of History and Vice President for Academic Affairs (1972-1988) and subsequently taught European and Japanese History until his 1995 retirement. In June 1997, he was appointed Senior Vice President and Provost retiring in 2000. During and after the World War II, Leathers served as a Japanese Interpreter with the 4th U.S. Marine Division and in the Joint Intelligence Center under Admiral Nimitz in the Pacific. Following his military experience, he served as a Special Agent for the FBI receiving two commendations from J. Edgar Hoover.

Helen P. Livingston passed away on March 25, 2013. Following her formal education earning her BA from Bishop's University in Quebec and her MLS from Simmons in Boston, MA, Helen worked for the Detroit Public Library. She retired from the University Library after 25 years of service.

Joseph C. Mullin, Sr. passed away December 25, 2012. Before Joe was an Asst. Professor of Criminal Justice retiring from the University of Akron, he was a World War II Naval Aviator, high school teacher, coach, husband, and the father of 12 surviving children.

Robert A. Oetjen died July 14, 2013 at the age of 101. Following his graduation from the University of Michigan (Ph.D.), Robert worked as a physicist for Texaco Labs for 5 years. Prior to being named Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Akron (1970-1977), Oetjen had served in several different positions during his long research and teaching career at Ohio State. Subsequent to the Akron Deanship, he was tapped for the Vice-Presidency of Academic Affairs at Malone College in Canton. Oetjen also served as a Fulbright Professor at Osaka University using his expertise to build an infra-red spectrometer to study the refraction of light.

Helen Killory Qammar died January 7, 2013. Helen worked for 23 years as a Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Akron. For the last six years, she had served as the Director of the Institute for Teaching and Learning on the AU campus.

James R. Rogers died January 14, 2013. He was a professor of counseling in the College of Education, past president of the American Association of Suicidology, and an internationally recognized expert in the study of suicide. Rogers was also an adjunct professor of behavioral and community health sciences at Northeast Ohio Medical University, former chairman of the Counseling Department at Youngtown State University, and author of a suicide assessment checklist used around the world.

Anna Saus (Jacobs) died March 23, 2013. Born in Budapest, Hungary, Anna immigrated to the United States at the age of seven with her family. As a busy homemaker, Anna was employed by the University as a cashier and clerk in the Registrar's Office from 1967 to 1985.

Sally Pitts Kennedy Slocum died January 28, 2013. She retired in 1996 from the University as an Associate Professor of English after 30 years of service. Sally loved the English language and her love of Chaucer and the Canterbury Tales knew no bounds. Slocum believed in her heart that King Arthur would return to save us from ourselves. Upon coming to the University in 1966, she was a tireless advocate for rights of women and their inclusion in all functions of the University as well as the collective bargaining rights of faculty and staff.

Kathleen Stiles (Quirk) passed away January 4, 2013. She was without peer as a coach, athlete, and advocate for women's rights to participate in sports. As a student at the University of Akron in the 1960s, Kathleen started the women's basketball program. In addition to her organizational skills, she was an outstanding athlete in basketball, swimming, and golf. For her many accomplishments, she was the first woman to be recognized by the Summit County Sports Hall of Fame and the Akron Touchdown Club.

Lorraine "Rainy" Stitzlein, a 1948 graduate of the University and former chairperson of the University's Board of Trustees, died November 30, 2012. The University often lauded her and her husband, "Harry," for their many contributions over her career and renamed the Alumni Center in their honor. In the business world, Rainy found her niche as the business secretary for the Professional Bowlers Association and as the executive vice president for the Eddie Elias Enterprises.

Elizabeth Thornton passed away March 31, 2013. She enjoyed 30 years with the Akron U Bookstore.

Gary L. Taylor, founder of InfoCision and a major contributor to the University passed away March 2, 2013 following an extended illness. The University has created in his honor the Gary and Karen S. Taylor Institute for Direct Marketing with his gift of \$3.6 million and in 2009 with a gift of \$10 million Taylor secured the naming rights for the new on-campus football stadium.



The 2013-2014 AUAR Board

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 on Fir Hill.

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 330-929-1810.

• UPCOMING EVENTS 2013-14 •

AUAR LUNCHEON SPEAKERS

September 11, 2013

Don Baker
Publisher, Akron Magazine

October 9, 2013

Tom & Diane Vukovich
Travelogue: Whale Watching in the Sea of Cortez

November 13, 2013

Lisa Abraham
Food Columnist, Akron Beacon Journal

December 13, 2013

Holiday Party with Entertainment
Al Leyerle & Darleen Cirino,
Ballroom Dancing Exhibition

OTHER EVENTS

November 1, 2013

Soup & Chili Supper

February 16, 2014

Coach House Play & Brunch:
Agatha Christie's "The Spider's Web"

May 16, 2014

Lobster & Suds Party
Zwisler Hall, St. Sebastian Church

AUAR BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

September 26, 2013

October 24, 2013

December 5, 2013



Changing of the Presidential Guard from
Bob Gandee to June Burton



Appreciation of outgoing Member-At-Large
Marilyn Carrell



Our Motto

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

AUAR Newsletter printed and designed by The University of Akron Printing & Copying Services 2013