Living History Creates a Legacy

We are pleased to announce the Living History Fall 2011 Premier to be held on Monday, December 5. Professor Robin O’Callaghan and her talented students have been conducting interviews with our honorees and their colleagues, friends, and family. The award winning Living History Project provides a historical perspective through the eyes of our dedicated and esteemed faculty and staff.

This year we honor four retired faculty and staff members whose careers, while significantly different, share a common thread – creating opportunities for student success and access. Gary Grob’s lessons were mostly taught on the baseball field where the accomplishments of the team complemented individual success, whether the player was raised on a Wisconsin farm or Minneapolis’ inner city. Linda Wood built the philanthropic bridges and cherished relationships that, even today, provide scholarships and support for our outstanding students, faculty and staff. As professor and Chair of the English department, James Nichols brought creative approaches to curriculum and a diverse and talented faculty to develop student success. Cal Winbush led an effort to increase diversity awareness and promote an environment where we celebrate differences and make Winona State accessible to all.

Please join us on Monday, December 5, 2011, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for the Living History Premier. You may contact the Retiree Center at 507.457.5565 if you have questions or wish to RSVP.
**Director's Note**

What a beautiful time of year – the trees in the front yard of the Alumni House were gorgeous this fall (and I didn’t have to rake the fallen leaves, which makes it even better). A new family moved into the home next door and they are working hard on the house and landscaping. We are blessed to have our offices in this idyllic setting.

The last couple of months seemed to go by in a heartbeat! I want to thank Nancy Amann and Jim Reynolds for passing on their knowledge, holding my hand when necessary, and making my transition to the WSU Retiree Center enjoyable.

I have had the pleasure of meeting new people and getting reacquainted with old friends. The Fall Retiree Reunion was wonderful – interesting conversations, good food, and even a few Halloween costumes. Nancy and I invite you to stop by the Retiree Center for a visit – you don’t have to wait for a special event. We would love to hear about what you’ve been up to since retirement. Perhaps you have ideas on Retiree Center programming, classes or services. Please share them with us.

There is still time to sign up for a fall semester Senior University class – Three World Religions will begin on November 29 and run through December 20. Spring class offerings and registration information are in this newsletter – I am sure the classes will fill soon, please sign up early.

As with any new endeavor, there is a lot to learn and I am finding many chances to spread the word about the great things our retirees are doing at the University and within their communities. I have begun a dialogue with the Dean’s Council and University and within their communities. I have had the pleasure of meeting new people and getting reacquainted with old friends. The Fall Retiree Reunion was wonderful – interesting conversations, good food, and even a few Halloween costumes. Nancy and I invite you to stop by the Retiree Center for a visit – you don’t have to wait for a special event. We would love to hear about what you’ve been up to since retirement. Perhaps you have ideas on Retiree Center programming, classes or services. Please share them with us.

Volunteer Opportunities

**Elder Network**

The Elder Network is looking for Peer Support volunteers to provide a community service for people age 55+ who are having difficulty meeting the challenges and adjustments associated with growing older, including isolation, depression, relationship issues, anxiety, retirement, grief, major health changes, etc. Duties include:

- Trained older adult volunteers make weekly home visits to provide a listening ear, support and encouragement for positive change.
- Help older adults to continue to enjoy independence through self-help approaches, planning and decision making.
- Help with connections to other community programs and services.

Additionally, Respite volunteers are needed to help individuals and families who give continuous care to older adults who are homebound. Respite care allows time for a caregiver to take a break with the assurance their loved one is with a trained volunteer.

Winona Area Retired Educators Assoc. (WAREA) invites retired WSU faculty and staff to join the Association. WAREA works for legislation which improves annuities, health care, health insurance and other benefits. Perhaps most importantly, at this time, they have REAM (Retired Educators Association of Minnesota) co-chairmen of their legislative committee who are very active at the state level making daily contacts with legislators. Association members feel this is necessary to remain informed about the status of educators’ pensions. Legislation update reports are presented at WAREA meetings.

If you are interested, please contact Jane Habeck at jhabbeck@widblue.net.

Jane Habeck, WAREA President

**Necrology**

Patricia Malay
Maintainence
August 30, 2011

Herbert Nelsestuen
Maintenance
September 26, 2011

Lisa Serwa
Bookstore
August 31, 2011

We honor and mourn our University colleagues who have recently died. We recognize the richness of each life, the gifts these members have brought to many, and loss felt by family and friends.

(Full obituaries available on the WSU Retiree Center Website: www.winona.edu/retiree/obituaries.asp)

If you know of colleagues we have missed, please contact Retiree Center at 507.457.5565, or send an email to retiree@winona.edu.

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Photographing Winona for “Portrait and Place” by Drake Hokanson

For the Minnesota Marine Art Museum in Winona, I took on the task of creating a series of black and white photographs that would convey a sense of the town and environs of Winona. The show is open until December 4 and has been popular according to museum staff.

I had about eighteen months to take the photographs and make the prints. For this project (and for most that I undertake) I shot on medium-format film and printed each image in my traditional darkroom on high-quality silver bromide paper to archival standards. It was a big job. I had been making photographs around Winona prior to the creation of this project, but with this impending exhibit, I moved into high gear. During my last year of full-time teaching at Winona State (I retired in May of this year), the project kept me sane and gave me fine excuse to lock my office on a sunny (or snowy) afternoon and set out with the big cameras and a tripod.

In my work, photographs are found, not made. A worthy photograph is a complex combination of scene (structures, streets, vegetation, sky, lawn ornaments, powerlines, even perching birds), the light (low, angled, dead flat, night, point-source), and moment (traffic, moving clouds, ripples on water, pedestrians), and only by trolling the streets, woods, neighborhoods, industrial areas and riverbanks on foot and by car could I discover the fragments of the world that would together make a photograph. It’s like fishing. You have to be in the right spot at the right time with the right bait at the right depth. Except in photographing, I might find big fish around any corner, inside any factory or apartment.

I had plenty of help from residents, which was especially important since I live in La Crosse. Watkins archivist John Goplen spent the better part of two days with me as we lugged big equipment throughout the office. Historical society director Mark Peterson took me to spot historic structures that I might otherwise have missed. Daily News managing editor Darrel Ehrlick pointed out the quirky spots that only a newspaperman would know. And pair of students in my visual communication class responded to my plea for interesting student photographs by taking me to their rundown former church and pointing out the rubber mice on the living room ceiling.

In all my efforts, I merely scratched the surface of a place as complex and nuanced as Winona. John Goplen of Watkins that I could shoot 100 more rolls of film in the plant—he invited me back. In the end, I submitted twice as many photographs to Marine Art Museum curator Jon Swanson as he could hang. John Swanson and Jon Peterson would provide success strategies, structure and accountability for these students. Advising Services is looking for volunteers to share their expertise to help students navigate college successfully by serving as Academic Coaches.

Academic Coaches would meet a minimum of twice a semester with students who request general study skills/time management assistance. Coaches would provide success strategies, structure and accountability for these students. Training will be provided.

Student Record Archive Project

The Student Record Archive Project is an endeavor designed to digitally chronicle student records from the opening of the university to the present. By digitizing this information we are preserving the history of our university for future generations.

We are looking for volunteers to help archive and compile records from WSU’s proud history. Students, clubs, retirees, senior citizens, community members, all are welcome to volunteer. We are grateful to all who are willing to share their time, whether its for a few hours or a few months!

If you have questions or would like to be a part of this exciting project, please contact Ann Kohnen at akohnen@winona.edu or 507.457.5565.

Excerpt from “Campus of Trees Winona State University” by Bill Meyer & Tom Grier

Senior Groundskeeper

Bill Meyer, 2011,
Three World Religions: History, Beliefs, and Practices
Facilitators: David Marshall, Jim Reynolds
Panelists: Rabbi Michelle Werner, Colette Hyman, David Marshall, Kathy Redig, Rev. Timothy Forester, Ahmed El-Afandi

What are the similarities and differences among Judaism, Christianity (Catholicism, Protestantism) and Islam? Are these faith traditions starkly different or are there meaningful commonalities that provide a basis for a greater understanding and a sense of "community" despite perceived individual differences in belief? Come and learn about these faith traditions from a panel of presenters, who will engage participants in a frank, open and academic discussion that will expand and stimulate your thinking. (Text recommended not required)

Tuesdays, November 29, December 6, 13, 20; 1-3 p.m.
Course fee: $40 (Rec. text $18 addl.)
Classroom: Maxwell Hall 257

Easily research changes or history. View photos of Winonans from when you were working here. Run of Winonans now online! Historical Winonans now online!

Ancient Arts (Basket Making, Stick Weaving & Fletting)
(Splashing Color into Your Life) Joan Valentine

Architectural Monuments of the Western World
Dominic Ricciotti, Art Professor Emeritus

A discussion of a single architectural monument representative of its era comprises each of the five class lectures. Considered too are various thematic links among the buildings, whether architectural, philosophical, or conceptual. Sculpture made for the building and how it relates (through iconography or style) to its function is also explored. Each lecture includes additional examples of the featured building's type so as to illuminate its style or its meaning.

Tuesdays, March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Leaving a Legacy: Writing a Personal Journal
Carol Galbus, English Professor Emeritus

By recalling times/events in our lives and deciding which we wish to share, we will commit to writing about these bits of nostalgia and share with class members in order to stimulate more ideas and enthusiasm for continuing to do so. We may examine outside writings/writers to help us recall and write clearly. Much writing and sharing will be done! Required book supplied by instructor.

Tuesdays, January 10, 17, 24, 31; 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
(limit to 10 students)

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Tuesdays, March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Aldo Leopold's Legacy - $50
Architectural Monuments - $40
Three World Religions - $40
Ancient Creation Myths - $40
Vanishing Species - $40

Indicate which course fees are enclosed:

- Three World Religions - $40
- Vanishing Species - $40
- Leaving a Legacy - $47.60 (includes book)
- Ancient Creation Myths - $40
- Architectural Monuments - $40
- Aldo Leopold's Legacy - $50

Note: A Sand County Almanac required reading available at Amazon.com for $6.17

Required reading is A Sand County Almanac.

Please provide:

Name __________________________
City __________________________ State ______ Zip __________
Phone __________________________ Email __________________________

Please indicate type of payment:

☐ Check ☑ Cash

Return the registration form along with your check or cash to:

Winona State University
Retiree Center
P.O. Box 5838
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