WSU Retiree Center

1st floor of the Alumni House
227 W. Wabasha St.

Winona State University
PO Box 5838
Winona, MN 55987

Telephone: 507-457-5565
E-mail: akohner@winona.edu

Home page: www.winona.edu/retiree

Director: Ann Kohner
Office Manager: Nancy Amann
Student Assistants: Sydney Westergren & Anthony Resnick

WSU Retiree Center Mission
To support the mission of WSU and enrich the campus community as well as the lives of retired staff, faculty and administration by providing institutional connections between the University and retirees who may wish to continue their intellectual and social participation in collegial life and service to the University.

Parking Notice: Retirees with parking permits can PARK ANYWHERE on campus. This includes all gold and silver lots. 2014-2015 permits will be issued at the end of July. Please visit the Retiree Center in August to receive your new parking permit.

Grandparents University 2013 - Marcia Schultz and her granddaughter, Trinity, enjoying nature photography. GPU 2014 registration is now open!

Details available online at www.winona.edu/grandparents
Or call the Retiree Center at 507-457-5565

Advisory Board
Nancy Amann
James Bromeland
Vicki Decker
Russ Dennison
Marilyn Ezdon
Ken Gorman
Tim Hatfield
Donna Helble
Bea Hoffmann
Serena Holstad
Mary Joyce
Ann MacDonald
Rich MacDonald
Bill McBrean
Bill Meyer
Kevin Possin
Janet Ruggeberg
Diane Runkle
Donald Walski
Bonnie L. Woodford
Director’s Report

Perhaps you heard, I have taken the early retirement option; my last day with the Retiree Center is June 30. I am looking forward to stepping out from behind the desk and joining all of you at Retiree Center programs and events! My three years at the Retiree Center have been WONDERFUL and I will truly miss my daily interactions with WSU and Winona area retirees.

Just a couple of reminders before I depart:
You may not know that the Retiree Center office manager, Nancy Amann, is a Notary Public. Keep that in mind if you ever need something notarized.

Commencement is May 9 at 9:30 and 2:00 p.m. The President’s office invites you to join in the festivities as we congratulate our graduates on their accomplishments. If you would like to attend and have special seating, please contact the President’s office by May 5 at 507.457.5003.

New parking permits will be issued at the end of July (your current permit expires 7/31). Stop by the Retiree Center the last week of July to pick up a 2014-2015 permit.

We look forward to seeing you soon,
Ann Kohner
Director, WSU Retiree Center

News/Upcoming Events

Social Security FAQ’s

How far in advance can I apply for Social Security retirement benefits?
You can apply online for Social Security benefits. You can apply for benefits when you are at least 61 years and 9 months of age and you want benefits to start in three months. Even if you are not retiring, you should sign up for Medicare three months before your 65th birthday.

How to Protect My Online Identity

Today, more than ever, we must be diligent in protecting or personal and financial data. We are regularly subjected to “phishing” e-mails, credit card breaches, computer viruses and numerous other online security issues.

Toby Schmidt, WSU’s Data Security Officer, will present information on protecting your online identity.

Tuesday, July 15, 2014
10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Maxwell 257

Please contact the Retiree Center at 507-457-5565 or via e-mail at akohner@winona.edu to RSVP for this very important presentation.

Ann Kohner Retirement Reception

Ann will soon be taking part in Retiree Center events as a guest instead of a host! Please join us as we celebrate her retirement from Winona State.

Wednesday, June 25, 2014
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Retiree Center (Alumni House)
Light Refreshments Served
Upcoming Events

Winona Community Events

May 4  Winona Symphony Orchestra  WSU Performing Arts Center
June 7 & 8  Trinona
June 11 – 15  Steamboat Days  Levee Park
June 14  Chocolate, Shakespeare & Champagne  Alexander Mansion Bed & Breakfast www.winonahistory.org
June 25 – Aug 3  Great River Shakespeare Festival  www.grsf.org
June 29 – Jul 20  Beethoven Festival
July 12  Tour of Gardens  Women’s Resource Center

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

RETIREE NEWS

70th Anniversary

Wally Johnston and his wife Ardis celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on March 15. Their four surviving children arranged the affair which was attended by more than forty friends and family from five states. The group included seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Wally served on the Winona State faculty between 1967 and 1980, working half-time in the Counseling Center in the mornings and teaching night classes off-campus for the Educational Psychology and Counseling department which later became known as the Counselor Education department. Those classes included Human Relations for Teachers, which was offered in many of the surrounding school districts. Other offerings included Self-Concept, Biofeedback and Stress Management, and Living with Dying. In the summer of 1973 the department brought Elisabeth Kubler-Ross to the campus for a week. The next summer they brought Thelma Moss, the Kirlian photography expert from UCLA.

After retiring from WSU Wally, being a Licensed Consulting Psychologist in the state of Minnesota, entered private practice with the Center for Effective Living in Rochester. In 1984 the family joined their three sons in the Portland, Oregon area. They are still “hanging in there” at 1918 NE 143rd Avenue, Portland, Or 97230.

History of the Vietnam War

Instructor: Dr. Tomas Tolvaisas, History Dept, WSU
Date: July 9, 16, 23, 30 and August 6
Time: 2:00 - 4:00pm
Sessions: 5
Location: Minne
Member Fee: $40.00

This course will explore the complexity of causes, stages, and consequences of growing U.S. involvement in and subsequent disengagement from the Southeast Asian conflict. Although this is not a specialized military history course, it will outline major military objectives, strategies, and tactics of the struggling powers. The following will also be covered: the policies of American political and military leaders, international and ideological dimensions of war, wartime experiences, war crimes, impact of the war on America, culture of protest, etc. Class meetings will include lectures, documentary films & discussions.

Outdoor Adventures

Gain an appreciation and concern for our natural environment while exploring outdoor activities. Learn new skills, meet new people and get outside! Activities include geocaching, rock climbing, canoeing and kayaking as well as high and low rope course initiatives and elements. All activities follow the challenge by choice philosophy and are facilitated by nationally certified instructors. Step out of your comfort zone and join others in four weeks of new adventures in the Mississippi River Valley!

Eric Bernard, director of WSU’s Outdoor Education & Recreation Center, and his staff are highly-trained outdoor professionals. He is committed to inspiring individuals to become lifelong advocates for sustainability, conservation and healthy lifestyles.

July 7: Geocache, WSU Campus Gazebo 3 - 6pm
July 14: Paddling, Prairie Island 3 - 6pm
July 21: Climbing 9am - Noon
July 28: Ropes course, St. Mary’s University 3 - 6pm
GRANDPARENTS
UNIVERSITY

Thursday and Friday
June 19 & 20, 2014
Register at: www.winona.edu/grandparents/

SIX EXCITING MAJORS!
My Grandparent’s Living History
Physical, Mental, and Nutritional Olympics
Crime Scene Investigation (CSI)
Outdoor Learning Adventure
Mysterious Microbes
Japanese Culture

$295 per pair - w/stay in residence hall
$259 per pair - w/o residence hall

Call the Winona State University Retiree Center at 507-457-5565 for more information

Volunteer for Grandparents University 2014

Always a fun time! If you would like to assist during all or part of this year’s Grandparents University, June 19 or 20, please contact the Retiree Center via e-mail at retiree@winona.edu or phone at 457-5565. We need assistance with registration on Thursday morning and on Thursday and Friday in the classrooms, cafeteria, at the picnic, and at commencement, and someone to take photos throughout both days.
**Fall 2014 New Student Welcome Crew**

Housing & Residence Life is making plans for the Fall 2014 new student welcome. To ease students’ move into the residence halls, they are recruiting helpers to join the Welcome Crew! The Crew perform a variety of activities including but not limited to: traffic control, loft distribution, refreshments, checking students into their rooms, elevator control, helping to bring belongings to rooms, and MOST IMPORTANTLY, making new students and their families feel welcomed!

If you would be interested in assisting, please sign up on the Housing Website: www.winona.edu/housing, click “Welcome Crew” under “Current Students” tab. If you have questions, please contact Jon Hetzel via e-mail at jhetzel@winona.edu or phone at 474-3700 by August 1, 2014.

**Women’s Resource Center Garden Tour**

Please contact the Women’s Resource Center at 452-4440 if you would like to assist with this wonderful fundraising event.

**Chamber Ambassador Brat Booth – Steamboat Days – June 11 – 16, 2014**

The best brats in town! We need people to work the booth. The WSU Retiree Center would be advertised that day – and you would wear PURPLE!

Contact Bonnie Woodford at bwoodford@winona.edu to sign-up.

**Life Time Tri Trinona**

The enthusiastic support of volunteers like you is needed throughout the weekend of June 6-8. There are volunteer opportunities prior to, during and following the event. If you have an interest in participating, there’s a slot for you to fill! Please contact Live Well Winona or visit the volunteer site and check out available shifts: http://livelowellwinona.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/. Questions can be directed to info@livelowellwinona.org or by calling 507-474-9825.

Please join the Retiree Center in welcoming Winona State University’s newest retirees to the joys of retirement.

NOTE: these individuals have retired during the fiscal year (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014) and have signed a release giving WSU permission to publish their name.

- Marian (Joey) Anderson, Copier Center, Off-Set Press Operator
- Mary Ballard, College of Nursing & Health Sciences, Dean’s Office Admin Asst
- Steve Baumgart, Security
- Deborah Benz, Business Office Purchasing Dir.
- Dan Bjornson, GMW Supervisor
- Gaylia Borror, Counselor Education Prof.
- Elizabeth Burke, Counseling Services, Chair/Counselor
- Ronald Decker, Business Administration Assoc. Prof.
- Suzanne Draayer, Music Prof.
- Bryan Dulas, Facilities Receiving
- Edward Duplaga, Business Administration Assoc. Prof.
- Dean Feller, ITS, Dir., User Services
- Steven Fix, Custodial Service, Kryzsko
- Patricia Folsom, Housing & Residence Life, Customer Service Spec.
- Vivian Fusillo, Theatre & Dance Prof.
- Jerry Gerlach, Geography Prof.
- Butch Gora, Custodial Service
- Mary Jane Guy, Educational Leadership Prof.
- Paula Heimbecker, Student Record Services, DARS Coord.
- Sue Henderson, Planning & Construction, Admin Asst
- Judy Holverson, Nursing Prof.
- Ann Kohner, Dir., WSU Retiree Center
- William Koutsky, Custodial Services, Richard Lande, Facilities Mgr
- Katherine Lande, Inclusion & Diversity Office Mgr
- Jackie Letten, Warrior Hub
- Mary Mueller, Transfer Assistant Admissions
- Barbara Nagel, Children’s Center, Asst Dir/Preschool II Teacher
- Nancy Nelton, Facilities Office Services Spvr, Signage Coord.
- Victor Noland, Infrastructure Services Communications Project Mgr
- Karen Northam, President’s Office Admin Asst
- Ann Olson, Graduate Nursing Prof.
- Sandy Pankratz, Business Office Accounts Payable Clerk
- Deborah Pelowski, Bookstore Customer Service Specialist
- Nancy Peterson, Grants and Special Projects Dir.
- Janette Pickart, Special Education Office Mgr
- Lilian Ramos, Global Studies & World Languages Assoc. Prof.
- Daniel Rand, Mathematics & Statistics Assoc. Prof.
Volunteer Opportunities | Social

Stone Point Park

Sustain Winona Partnership & the Extension Master Gardeners are working to establish an education gardening program at Stone Point Park (the old Winona Cty landfill site) with the Winona Middle School. They are looking for summer volunteers to garden with them. Volunteers will meet weekly for 1 - 2 hours at the plot for gardening lessons and tasks. If you volunteer you will also share in the produce with the excess donated to Volunteer Services, WAPS and local churches. To volunteer please contact Chris Meyer at c_m_meyer@msn.com

WSU Announcement

Provost Rogers announced the new Dean of the College of Science & Engineering

In a tough national and international competition, Dr. Charla Miertschin easily rose to the top of the list. Provost Rogers is delighted to continue working with Dr. Miertschin as they join with faculty and staff to move WSU and WSU-R to new levels of excellence.

Dr. Miertschin has served in the role of interim dean of the College of Science & Engineering since July 2012. She began her career at Winona State in 1993 and served as chairperson for the chemistry department from 2004-2012. Prior to coming to WSU, Dr. Miertschin was a postdoctoral research fellow with professor Michael P. Doyle at Trinity University, and a teaching assistant and research fellow at Texas A&M University. She received her bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Abilene Christian University and her Ph.D. in chemistry from Texas A&M University.

Necrology

Dr. Norma Dison
Professor of nursing emeritus

March 6, 2014

Mickey L. Ellenbecker
Professor of criminal justice and sociology

March 9, 2014

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/memoriam.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.
Retiree Breakfast

The Retiree Center is pleased to host the June 10th retiree breakfast at the Alumni House.

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

---

Retiree Center SAVE THE DATE

- May 8: Living History Premier, 3:30-5:30 pm, Performing Arts Center Recital Hall 154
- May 9: WSU Commencement, 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., McCown Gym
- May 13: Retiree Breakfast, 9-11 a.m., Kryzsko Student Activity Center
- May 15: Winona Chamber Network Nite, Hosted by Alumni Relations, 5 - 7 p.m., Kryzsko Solarium
- May 22: Socrates Cafe, 2-4 p.m., Alumni House, 227 W Wabasha St, Winona
- June 6: Cal Fremling Floating Classroom Dedication: 2:30-4:30 p.m., Levee Park, Winona
- June 10: Retiree Breakfast, 9-11 a.m., Retiree Center/Alumni House
- June 19 & 20: Grandparents University
- June 25: Ann Kohner Retirement Reception, 1-3 p.m., Alumni House
- June 26: Socrates Cafe, 2-4 p.m., Alumni House, 227 W Wabasha St, Winona
- June 27: Warrior Golf Classic, Cedar Valley, Contact Jill Bratberg to register - 457-5210
- July 8: Retiree Breakfast, 9-11 a.m., Location TBA
- July 15: How to Protect My Online Identity, 10 - 11 a.m., Maxwell 257
- July 24: Socrates Cafe, 2-4 p.m., Alumni House, 227 W Wabasha St, Winona