Welcome Ann Kohner, Interim Director of the Retiree Center!

Cathie Logan’s retirement on June 30, 2011, necessitated filling the Director’s role with an interim appointment until a search for a permanent Director could be accomplished. The WSU Administration and Retiree Center Advisory Board moved quickly and are delighted to welcome Ms. Ann Kohner as the Interim Director of the WSU Retiree Center. Please stop by the Retiree Center to welcome Ann. A formal welcome and reception will be scheduled soon. We hope you will be available to join us!

Many retirees and current WSU personnel know Ann already. She is a twelve-year employee of WSU with most of these years spent as Assistant to the V.P. of University Advancement and, most recently, as Office Manager for the History Department. She holds a B.S. Degree from WSU in Professional Studies with emphases in Political Science and Business.

Ann possesses a strong interest in the mission and goals of the Retiree Center and has been involved hosting many events involving WSU retirees over the years. She looks forward to continuing the development of the Retiree Center by working closely with the Advisory Board, staff and all retirees.

Welcome, Ann!
2011-12 Retiree Parking Permits Reminder

As a reminder, stop in to the Retiree Center and see Ann or Nancy to receive your free parking pass for all Purple Lots on campus. Purple lot locations include: one block of Johnson street north of railroad tracks, corner of Main and Mark streets, south of the railroad tracks on Main Street and east Howard street north of the railroad building.

WSU retirees must renew their permits in August of each year at the Retiree Center located on the 1st floor of the Alumni House on the corner of Winona and Wabasha streets. Office hours are 8-4:30 p.m. The campus parking privilege is offered to WSU retirees courtesy of Parking Services.

WSU Retiree Privilege ID Card “Tickler”

Don’t forget to make an appointment or stop by the Retiree Center to see Ann or Nancy to receive your WSU Retiree Privilege ID Card. The card gives you access to a wide variety of campus privileges including art, theatre, dance and athletic events, discounts at the WSU Bookstore and many other things. There is a short form to complete and an ID photo to be taken to receive your card. Quick and painless, but well worth your time. Call the Retiree Center today: 457-5565.

WSU Fall All-University Picnic

Mark your calendars for the annual WSU All-University Fall Picnic to be held from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on Monday, August 15, at the lake Park Band Shell, Lake Park Drive. No reservations are necessary, so just come and enjoy the good food, refreshments and conversation with other retirees and members of the University community. See you there!

Socrates Café Discussion Group – Year #3

The Socrates Café Discussion Group starts its third year at the Retiree Center. WSU Retirees and invited guests are welcome to participate in the discussions on wide-ranging topics, all designed to stimulate our thinking and expand our horizons. Just bring your enthusiasm and willingness to engage in reasoned discussion. The group meets the fourth Thursday of each month from 2-4 p.m. at the Retiree Center. Contact Jim Reynolds at 454-5486 or jreynolds@winona.edu.

Necrology

Robert “Bob” Gerson, June 24, 2011, Facilities Services

Phyllis Kuklinski, June 24, 2011, Facilities Services

Ernestine Henry, July 2, 2011
(wife to Roderick Henry retired, History Department)

Dr. Richard D. Jarvinen, July 6, 2011, Mathematics and Statistics
2011-12 Retiree Center Living History Project Scheduled

You are invited to the sixth annual Living History Premiere scheduled for **Monday, December 5,** from **10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** in the East Hall, Kryzsko Commons.

The 2011-12 Living History Project honorees are:

**Dr. Gary Grob, Professor Emeritus of Health and Physical Education**  
**Dr. James Nichols, Professor Emeritus of English**  
**Mr. Calvin Winbush, Vice President of Student Affairs (Retired)**  
**Ms. Linda, Wood, Director of Major Gifts/Planned Giving, University Advancement (Retired)**

The WSU Retiree Center’s Living History Project begins its sixth year in 2011-12, honoring retired faculty, staff and administration for their career accomplishments in service to the University. To date, eighteen retirees have been honored in this fashion through a collaboration with Professor Robin O’Callaghan’s Mass Communication TV Topics course. This experiential learning opportunity for students involves videotaped interviews of the honorees, their friends, former students and colleagues. The resulting documentaries then become part of an archive dedicated to preserving the contributions of honorees as part of the long and rich history of the University. The reception for honorees and premiere showing of the completed documentaries is an event well worth attending.

Completed DVD’s from previous Living History Projects are available for purchase through the WSU Retiree Center office. The cost of a single DVD with one honoree’s interview is $10, one year’s complete set of interviews on one disk is $25. All proceeds from the sale of these DVD’s are directed to Professor Robin O’Callaghan’s Mass Communication course to support future documentaries of this type. DVD’s from previous year’s include:

- 2005: Dr. Robert DuFresne, Mr. Joseph Emanuel, Mr. Roderick Henry, Mr. Kenneth Wynia
- 2006: Ms. Susan Day, Dr. Calvin Fremling, Dr. Ruth Hopf, Mr. Jacque Reidelberger
- 2007: Dr. Frederick Foss, Dr. Dennis Nielsen, Mr. Hosea Perry, Mr. Charles Zane
- 2008: Dr. James Eddy, Mr. Madeo Molinari, Drs. Frederick and Sandra Olson, Dr. Ann Sawyer
- 2010: Dr. Daniel Hoyt, Ms. Joyce Locks
WSU Senior University
Fall, 2011

Course Offerings

Ancient Arts
Sally Sloan and Harry Buck

Archeologists agree that weaving was a major force in the development of civilization. Evidence of basket and fiber weavings exist from Neolithic times. Participants will enjoy a hands-on experience with three of the oldest forms of weaving: basket making, stick weaving and fletting (finger weaving). **Class size limited to 12.** Additional fee for course materials: $13. Tuesdays, September 6, 13, 20, 27; 1-3:30 p.m. Classroom: Maxwell Hall 257

Is This Any Way to Elect a President?
James Bromeland

Let’s talk politics! What is in store for the 2012 presidential election? How does the election process affect the types of candidates that emerge? What role do political parties play in the selection of candidates? What do you know about the Electoral College and its affect on campaign strategy? This and many other issues that will shape the 2012 presidential election will be explored. Tuesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25; 2-3:30 p.m. Classroom: Maxwell Hall 257

Vanishing Species: Today’s Biodiversity and Mass Extinction
Carol Jefferson

Today we have a global biodiversity crisis. In the last 35 years we lost 25% of known terrestrial species and are likely to lose an additional 17% by 2050. Nearly all species loss results from human activity: habitat destruction, climate change, invasive species, over-exploitation, desertification, and co-opting half of terrestrial photosynthesis. Can anything be done to slow and halt species loss? Tuesdays November 1, 8, 15, 22; 2-4 p.m. Classroom: Maxwell Hall 160

Senior University

A peer-led set of short courses designed to provide intellectual and cultural growth through life-long learning. Courses are taught by professors emeriti, WSU faculty and community members, one day per week for 4-6 weeks. These non-credit courses involve no tests and no grades, but offer great opportunities for continued personal growth in community with others.
Course Offerings – Continued

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; $18 additional.)

Tuesdays, November 29, December 6, 13, 20; 1-3 p.m.; Classroom: Maxwell Hall 257

To Register

Name _____________________________
Address ___________________________
City ___________ State ____ Zip _______
Phone _____________________________
Email _____________________________

Have you attended a WSU or Senior University course before?  Yes  No

If yes, please provide: 
WSU Retiree ID# ___________________ or
Senior University ID# ________________

If no, please provide
Birthdate _____________

Indicate which course fees are enclosed: 
___ Ancient Arts- $53.
___ Electing a President - $40
___ Vanishing Species - $40
___ Three World Religions- $40

Total Enclosed $ ____________

Indicate type of payment:
___ Check    ___ Cash

OR

If you wish to register on-line by credit card, please go to this site:
The Beauty of Campus Trees in the Fall
By Bill Meyer, Senior Groundskeeper (Retired)

August is here signaling us that summer won't last forever. Even though the temperatures are hot now, the months of autumn are peeking around the corner telling us that cooler and shorter days are soon to come. The leaves on the trees will begin to lose their chlorophyll and reveal their brilliant fall colors. What better time to come to the WSU campus and visit its arboretum than in the fall.

In the past we have discussed the Maples and Ashes. It's hard to beat the reds and oranges of the Maples on campus in the fall. With eight different types of Maples scattered throughout the WSU grounds, there is a Maple to please everyone. The colorful purple leaves of the 'Autumn Purple' Ash are another favorite. Make sure to check out the 'Autumn Purple' Ashes on the south side of Morey-Shepard.

Let's look at a tree that we haven't talked about yet, the Northern Pin Oak. This Minnesota native tree can be overlooked in the spring, summer, and winter, but not in the fall. After many of the trees on campus have dropped their leaves and the grounds are beginning to look a little barren, the Northern Pin Oak steps to the main stage. During the summer the leaves show signs of yellowing (chlorosis) due to growing in high ph soils, but in the fall the leaves turn a deep red to red brown adding a spectacular beauty to the WSU campus. A group of these Northern Pin Oaks can be found displaying their knockout red colors near the main entrance to Phelps Hall.

Just prior to my retirement a year and a half ago, two student workers and I planted a tree called 'Worplesdon' Sweetgum. This unusual tree has glossy green, sharply pointed leaves that turn a brilliant orange and red in the early fall. Sometimes, it even reveals purple colors similar to that of the 'Autumn Purple' Ash. This interesting young tree can be viewed by the east entrance of Kryzsko. Don't miss this one.

Finally, I have noticed that a number of trees have died or have been removed from the campus. This happens each year for a host of reasons, but this year none of them have been replaced. I am alarmed to see the Korean Maple and Korea Fir, the 'Merrill' Magnolia, and a number of trees native to Minnesota not only missing from the grounds but also not replaced this year. In the past trees that were lost were replaced within the year. Several tree funds exist at WSU whose purpose is to replace and add new trees as needed. So retirees, contact WSU administrators and let them know that replacing these important and beautiful trees is important to you.
Awesome! Great! Amazing! Fun! These were some of the comments from participants in the first annual “Grandparents University” June 23-24, 2011, co-sponsored by the WSU Retiree Center and Alumni Relations office. Sixty-eight grandparents and grandchildren were on campus for two days and one night to take full advantage of all that WSU could offer -- residence hall living, cafeteria dining (including a picnic, complete with a visit from Wazoo), stimulating, hands-on classes with WSU faculty, evening activities, and topped off with a “graduation,” reception and class pictures. Judging from the comments of the participants, everyone had a good time and learned some things too! So, save the dates and make your plans to attend next year’s GPU program, tentatively scheduled for June 21-22, 2012! In the meantime, here are a few pictures and comments.

"What was your favorite part of Grandparents University?"

Being with my grandchild and doing experiments in Physics.
Eating the food in the health class!
It was a great learning experience for my grandson.
Having time to work with my grandson and meeting other families.
Laying on a bed of NAILS!
My favorite thing was going into the lab and exploding pop cans and breaking stuff!
Spending time with my grandma.
Staying in the dorms. Exclusive time with my grandchild. Meeting new people.
The mind games!
Watching the sword fighting from Henry IV (Great River Shakespeare Festival optional activity)
Eating the food in the health and nutrition class.
I like the hands on and I learned a lot.
Everything!
WSU Retiree Center -- Save the Date

August 9: University Advancement Retiree Breakfast, 9-11 a.m., Purple Rooms, Kryzsko Commons

August 15: All-University Picnic, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Lake Park Band Shell

August 25: Socrates Café Discussion Group, 2-4 p.m., Retiree Center

September 13: University Advancement Retiree Breakfast, 9-11 a.m., Purple Rooms, Kryzsko Commons

September 22: Socrates Café Discussion Group, 2-4 p.m., Retiree Center

October 20-22: WSU Homecoming (see Currents for schedule)

October 27: Socrates Café Discussion Group, 2-4 p.m., Retiree Center