**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.

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**Advisory Board**

Nancy Amann  
Margaret Boland  
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**SPRING CLEANING**

By Emilio DeGrazia  
Winona Poet Laureate

The time has come to clarify:
Toss out the old bikes in the garage,
The hose with the hole in it, old hats
And shoes, the empty fish tank, stale paint,
And the attic stuff, the cracked violin,
Boxfuls of loose thoughts on paper scraps,
The First Communion and wedding suits
And, if I dare, the browned photos
Full of faces with unremembered names.

It’s time to ask earth what I owe
For my freeloding here, my paying no rent
To the lordly valleys deserts forests seas
Or for Grand Canyon spacious skies once beautiful
Now landfilled by the messes I make.

The time has come to clarify
What gift I have to give back

From this body that needs to be purged
Of odors that betray its flesh
And stain its tired thoughts,

So it may rise again, perhaps
Suspended naked from a tree,
Bare and beautiful on a frozen plain
Where black hungry birds fulfill the rainbow
Shimmering off their great wings
As they loft themselves into winds
Whistling new music through clean white bones.

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**Parking Notice:** Effective immediately, retirees with parking permits can **PARK ANYWHERE** on campus. This includes all gold and silver lots. If you don't have a parking permit, please visit the Retiree Center.
**Director’s Report**

Do you remember as a kid those two words you regretted the minute you spoke them, the words that sent your mother up-the-wall? “I’m bored!” Mom found work for me before I even finished that dramatic ending sigh. I think that’s one of the reasons I became an avid reader and tried so many hobbies; heaven forbid that I ever have enough time on my hands to be bored!

I was reminded of the appeal of pursuing new interests while meeting with the program director of Winona’s Friendship Center. As we walked back to her office, I noticed a group of wood carvers intent on their work, an art that holds a special interest for me because my father is a wood carver. The one and only time I used his tools without permission, I suffered a nasty cut on my hand, so perhaps it would be best for me to stick with the Retiree Center’s Senior University classes!

Remember, you need never be bored with all the life-long learning and social opportunities for Winona State retirees. Senior University classes have seen record enrollment this past year and we are busy planning for next year. Grandparents University offers five majors this summer: Global Studies, Fun with French? Oui!; Biology, Becoming a Soil Detective; Engineering, Composites in a Material World; Nursing, Code 3 Emergency; and English, Our Family Stories.

If you have not been to a Twins game at Target Field we have two trips scheduled this summer. There will be buses for each trip; please plan to join us for one or both! June 15 is an evening game against the Milwaukee Brewers and we have a day game on August 1 with the Chicago White Sox. Let’s hope the Twins give us plenty to cheer about this year!

Remember, we are accepting nominations for the Living History Project. This is an opportunity to honor a colleague and preserve a slice of Winona State’s history for future generations. Contact the Retiree Center to receive a nomination form. All of the past Living History interviews are available for viewing on the Retiree Center website and if you wish to purchase a DVD, the Retiree Center has copies on-hand.

The Retiree Breakfasts are back! Now that the snowbirds have returned (although this winter in Winona was amazingly warm), I hope we see you at the breakfasts on the second Tuesday of the month from 9:00 to 11:00 in the Purple Rooms of Kryzsko. We can catch up on what you did over the winter and, of course, there’s always a chance to win prizes.

Take care – and don’t be a stranger; we love when you visit,

Ann Kohner
Interim Director, WSU Retiree Center

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**Upcoming Events**

**Parking Permits**

Your Winona State parking permits will expire on July 31, 2012! The new permits will be hanging tags similar to current employee permit tags; the color will identify the user as a retiree. You will be allowed to park in ANY lot, but please remember that overnight parking is only allowed in designated lots. Stop in at the Retiree Center before July 31 for a permit.

**Grandparents University®**

We are welcoming our second Grandparents University class to campus on June 21 & 22! Last year’s participants thoroughly enjoyed their time on campus and many of them are coming back this year. We would love to have your assistance in making Grandparents University the best it can be. Nineteen pairs (38 individuals) are signed up already, and we want to give all of them a warm Winona State welcome!

* June 21, 8-10 a.m. – Registration Parking – June 21, 7:30 – 10 a.m.
* June 21 & 22 – Guides/Directions, morning or afternoon sessions

* June 21, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., June 22, 7:30 – 9 a.m. and 11:30am – 1 p.m. – Cafeteria

* June 21, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. – Picnic

* Day and evening activities – various times throughout the day and early evening

*June 22, 1:00 – 3:30pm – Commencement All volunteers are invited to dine with the participants, faculty and staff!

**Audubon Reproduction Prints**

WSU is fortunate to own a complete full-sized reproduction, which was published in Amsterdam in 1971. Of the 250 reproduction editions, only 119 sets of the original exist. The Darrell W. Krueger Library owns the copy numbered 165. Russ Dennison, Library Archivist will rotate the display throughout the month of May in conjunction with Senior University course, Aldo Leopold’s Legacy: The Conservation Ethic.
Announcements

The Retiree Center welcomes 13 new Winona State retirees to our family!

Susan Ballard, Nursing Professor
Helen Dachelet, Criminal Justice Professor
Patricia “Pat” Ferden, Counseling Center
Donna Helble, Education Professor
Larry Holstad, Athletic Director
Marilyn Klinkner, Grants & Sponsored Projects
Kevin Possin, Philosophy Professor
Judith Ramaley, President
Tom Stevens, Education, Student Teaching

Not Pictured:
Gayle Olsen, Nursing Professor
Susan Sefkow, Psychology Professor
John Weis, Mass Communications, Professor
Janet Kraabel, Nursing Professor

Anyone traveling in the Rapid City/Black Hills area should look me up in the phone book!!

~Jane Runquist

TWINS GAMES!!

vs Brewers - June 15 @ 7:10pm

vs White Sox - August 1 @ 12:10pm

Tom Sherman-3rd Place in National Ski Championship in Colorado
**Volunteer**

**Retiree Center Advisory Board Committees**

It may come as a surprise, but you don’t have to be on the Retiree Center Advisory Board to serve on a committee. If you are interested in joining any of the committees, or helping with a specific project or segment of the committee, please contact Ann Kohner at (507) 457-5565.

**Assessment**

If you enjoy data collection and analysis, this would be a great committee for you. Professor Osgood works closely with the Advisory Board and this committee on assessment tools. This committee meets twice a year to develop, collect, and analyze assessment and evaluation outcomes for Retiree Center activities.

**Newsletter**

We have an editor who is extremely helpful! It would be nice to have at least one more on this committee to help with gathering news stories, writing and editing/proofing. The newsletter is published quarterly and made available to all retirees online, via e-mail or regular mail.

**Senior University**

Members of this committee assist the Director with identifying, planning and implementing a range of adult, senior programming classes. If you have ideas for Senior University classes and the ability to recruit engaging, knowledgeable instructors this is a great fit for you. Activities include identifying topics of interest, recruiting instructors, marketing, and assisting the instructor.

**Social Events**

Are you a great party planner? Members assist the Director with planning, organizing and implementing social events for WSU retirees.

**All University Campaign Committee**

Did you know that last year WSU retirees contributed $226,400 to all appeals? A portion of that comes in during the All University Campaign. Members of this committee provide input and direction to the annual fund director as well as helping with programming, publicity and implementation procedures. Membership changes each year, and we currently have three retirees serving.

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**What is Generations Connect?**

Generations Connect is a collaborative mentoring and coaching program between the Retiree Center and the Advising/Tutoring Services Department set to launch fall 2012. This program is open to all Winona State retirees and all currently enrolled WSU students. It is designed to facilitate learning and support students through either a coaching or mentoring experience. Retirees (coaches and mentors) will meet with students at mutually agreed upon times in mutually agreed upon places, on or off campus.

Coaching is task related, academically focused and short term, with specific goals related to study skills, time management or other similar issues.

Mentoring is relationship based and may be longer-term. Mentors share knowledge and wisdom with students, helping them connect to Winona State and make the most of their college experience.

Training for both coaching and mentoring is provided for free!

If you are interested, please submit an interest form. Submitting an interest form does NOT obligate you to participate in the program. Please contact Ann Kohner at 507.457.5565 or akohner@winona.edu if you have questions.

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**Let’s Go Fishing** is a non-profit organization that enriches the lives of seniors, veterans and youth through free fishing and boating excursions. There are 28 chapters in Minnesota providing a safe, fun opportunity to spend time outdoors, making new friends, socializing – and maybe catching a fish! We are blessed to live near the water – if you would like to share your love of the river and assist this great organization, please call 507-205-7853 or stop by the Winona Friendship Center at 251 Main Street, Winona.
Generations Connect
A collaborative mentoring and coaching program between the Retiree Center and the Advising/Tutoring Services Department

This program is open to all Winona State retirees and is designed to facilitate learning and support students through either a coaching or mentoring experience. Coaches and mentors will meet with students at mutually agreed upon times in mutually agreed upon places, which can be on or off campus. Coaching is task related, academically focused and short term, with specific goals related to study skills, time management or other similar issues. Mentoring is relationship based and may be longer-term. Mentors share knowledge and wisdom with students, helping them connect to Winona State and make the most of their college experience. Training for both coaching and mentoring is provided and is free.

Retiree Interest Form

Name: ________________________________ Phone: ________________________________

Email: ________________________________ Date: ________________________________

How do you prefer to be contacted? Phone Email

What area are you most interested in?

- Coaching (performance based such as study skills, task related, short term, specific goals)
- Mentoring (relationship based, affirmation and learning related, no specific timeline)
- Either
- Both

Do you have a gender preference? Male Female Either

Do you have a student population preference? Check all that apply.

- International
- Disabilities Services
- Traditional undergraduate
- Non-traditional adult learner
- Other: _______________________________________________________________________

How many hours per semester (14-16 weeks) are you able to spend being a coach and/or mentor?

- 1-4
- 5-8
- 9-12
- More than 12

Briefly describe what interests you most about participating in Generations Connect.

__________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________

Inquiries and completed forms go to:
Ann Kohner - 507-457-5565 - akohner@winona.edu
Retiree Center/Alumni House
PO Box 5838; 227 W. 7th Street
Winona, MN. 55987
How about this past month of March! Trees bloomed 3 to 4 weeks early. Magnolias, Redbuds, Plums and Pear trees all flowered about the same time, followed by Crabapples and Lilacs in the first week of April. Temperatures stayed in the 70’s and low 80’s throughout much of the month. Now with all the wind and higher temperatures and lack of significant precipitation, I find myself watering younger trees at my home. Usually, I don’t have to worry about watering until late May. Crazy weather.

This month I would like to discuss one of our native trees to Minnesota, the Chinkapin Oak or Chinquapin Oak, Quercus Muehlenbergii. The Chinkapin Oak is one of 52 trees recognized by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as being native to the Land of 10,000 Lakes. The common name, Chinkapin, refers to the resemblance of the leaves to Chinkapins or Chestnuts. A Chinkapin is a small Chestnut tree or shrub that is commonly found in the eastern U.S. The Latin or botanical name honors Henry Muehlenbergii, a Pennsylvania botanist.

The leaves of the tree seem to be the most defining characteristic of the tree. Besides the comparison to a Chestnut leaf, the Chinkapin Oak leaf has been said to resemble the flint arrows of Native Americans. This medium to large sized Oak will produce sweet acorns that are highly prized by wildlife. The Chinkapin Oak likes full sun and ample room to spread its wide branches.

The Chinkapin Oak is one of five native trees to Minnesota that were lost for various reasons on the WSU campus over the past two years. Growing a tree native to Minnesota can be as challenging as growing any other tree. Consideration to site, moisture, soil and ph are critical for success. WSU is replacing the lost Chinkapin Oak this spring and has plans to replace the other lost native trees as soon as possible. The new Chinkapin Oak will be planted near the southwest corner of the Tau Center.

WSU is currently considering a new, exciting proposal that would designate the campus grounds as a landscape arboretum. What does this mean? Briefly, the WSU grounds and other properties associated with WSU would be designated as places of beauty, public education and scientific study. A new Landscape Arboretum fund would be established to provide private resources to supplement state resources in order to enhance our campus as a regional Landscape Arboretum.

A Landscape Arboretum committee has been set up to examine all possibilities associated with this proposal. Recommendations to replace any lost native trees were placed on the top the list of things to do. The Chinkapin Oak discussed earlier was one of the trees on the list. In addition, identification signs should begin to appear by many of the trees throughout the summer months. Soon, many flower and ornamental gardens will also sport identification signs.

Finally, as the new tree identification signs appear, people will be able to use a QR (Quick Response) code displayed on the sign to access information on the tree using text and graphics from the two WSU tree books. For instance, people walking by a tree can point their smartphone at a tree sign with a QR Code and be connected to a website with information and photos. Incredible!

Much more to come. Stay tuned!

Bill Meyer
Contributing Columnist
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 the 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.

Twins Games
June 15, 2012
Brewers vs Twins
Bus Leaves 3 p.m. & Game at 7:10 p.m.
Tickets:
Skyline Deck - $35.00
Grandstand - $25.00
Right Field Bleacher - $20.00
Bus Trip: $10
Register online at: http://www.alumni.winona.edu/netcommunity/page.aspx?pid=814
August 1, 2012
White Sox vs Twins
12:10 p.m.
We are sharing tickets with Alumni Relations and we will have a bus available. To reserve tickets, call the Retiree Center at 457.5565 or email Ann Kohner at akohner@winona.edu.

Please let us know if your address or email changes, so we can keep you informed on Retiree Center events.

Contact the Retiree Center at 507.457.5565 or Ann Kohner at akohner@winona.edu.

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Necrology

George Christensen
Psychology
March 7, 2012

Helen Hanson
Wife of Robert “Bob” Hanson
March 7, 2012

Wesley (Wes) W. Palokangas
Husband of Jane Palokangas
March 9, 2012

Audrey Huggenvik
Library & Information Services
March 12, 2012

We are sharing tickets with Alumni Relations and we will have a bus available. To reserve tickets, call the Retiree Center at 457.5565 or email Ann Kohner at akohner@winona.edu.
Retiree Center SAVE THE DATE

May 4: Spring Commencement, McCown Gym
   9:30 a.m., College of Business and College of Liberal Arts
   2:00 p.m., College of Education, College of Nursing and Health Sciences
   College of Science and Engineering

May 8: Retiree Breakfast, 9-11 a.m., Purple Rooms, Kryzsko Commons

June 12: Retiree Breakfast, 9-11 a.m., Purple Rooms, Kryzsko Commons

June 15: Twins Game: Milwaukee Brewers vs Minnesota Twins at 7:10 p.m., See inside for details

June 21 & 22: Grandparents University 2012 -- Register online: www.winona.edu/grandparents/