RETIREE CENTER The Newsetter Hello Retirees,

This is an exciting week at the Retiree Center. Tomorrow we are finally going on our day trip to see Hamilton at the Orpheum Theater. This was supposed to happen several years ago but got postponed twice due to COVID. On Thursday of this week, we will be hosting our first Retiree Spring Luncheon since 2019! It felt like we were never going to be able to offer the spring luncheon again. Each year we would plan a date and then COVID would rear its ugly head and we would have to cancel. We all know that COVID is not over, but it sure is nice to be able to have in-person gatherings again without quite as much trepidation.

This newsletter is full of upcoming events and classes that we hope will be of interest to you. We have a fantastic line-up of Senior University classes on tap for the fall. Please see the details on <u>page 4</u>. We still have one class open for registration this spring/summer. Jane Carducci's Shakespeare in Performance class will take place over three Sundays in July. Her class will include tickets to each Great River Shakespeare Festival play and guest speakers from the GRSF will speak to the class each week. Please register soon if you're interested.

This winter, Debbie Block (Retired Director of Development), decided that she wanted to share her love of pickleball with other retirees. She was able to set up sessions with Dan Hampton at the Winona Area Tennis Association (WATA) for WSU retirees to come and learn how to play the game. We had a great response from retirees and the sessions filled up quickly. Many of the retirees who attended the sessions decided that they want to continue to play together, and we now have several foursomes playing together every week! See the pics below. This is such a great example of how the Retiree Center can help facilitate a retiree with a special interest. Are you interested in starting a book club, a writer's circle, a golf foursome, a card club? The options are endless, and we can help by reaching out to retirees and seeing who might share your same interests. It's a wonderful way to meet and connect with other WSU retirees. Please contact us if you'd like to get something started!

I want to thank David Robinson and Bill Meyer for writing their fantastic guest columns for us. You will surely enjoy reading their articles. I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter, and I hope you can join us for an upcoming class or event. Looking forward to seeing you soon! - Jess

RETIREE CENTER MISSION STATEMENT

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.









NEWS AND NOTES

RETIREE CENTER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The WSU Retiree Center Scholarship Committee (Joanne Rosczyk, Sandra McNab) has chosen the Retiree Center Scholarship recipients for academic year 2023-2024.

- The criteria for the Retiree Center Scholarship are:
- Applicant must be a non-traditional student
- Applicant must be a full-time junior or senior
- Applicant must have at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA

The Scholarship Committee was incredibly impressed with the group of twenty applicants this year. The committiee was able to give two \$1,000 awards for the upcoming academic year.

Our first recipient is Kionna Jacobs. Kionna is a Social Work major. She will graduate from WSU in spring 2024. She plans on becoming a mental health and substance abuse therapist for rural areas and underserved populations. She has worked at the Tomah VA Medical Center with veterans dealing with PTSD, substance abuse, and sexual trauma. This was an eye-opening experience that helped to cement her interest in the field of social work. She is a single mother working full-time and is a full-time student. Despite these obstacles, she has still managed to maintain a high GPA. She demonstrated great need for scholarship funds.

Our second recipient is Sara Walston. Sara is working towards a degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education. Sara is a first generation student. She will graduate from WSU in spring 2024. She is a working mother of a special-needs child juggling all of those demands along with her full-time classwork. Her dream is to make a difference in kids' lives both academically and through building strong and supportive relationships with her students. She and her husband live paycheck to paycheck and the support from this scholarship is greatly needed and appreciated.

I'd like to thank our Scholarship Committee members for their hard work and dedication in reviewing the scholarship applications and awarding these very deserving students. I also want to thank those of you who have donated to our scholarship fund already, and I want to remind you that you can choose to donate to the WSU Retiree Center Scholarship through your All-University Campaign donation. All of the students who applied this year were well-deserving and demonstrated significant need for scholarship funds. The more money we raise for the scholarship, the more we can help these outstanding students.

RICHARD BOWMAN

Richard Bowman, Professor Emeritus Education, published "*Social-Impact Teaching and Learning*" in Kappa Delta Pi Record, Winter, 2022. <u>https://doi/org/10.1080/00228958.2022.2125132</u>

The purpose of education is the development of society. The school is society's agent for preparing students to participate in and benefit fully from a democratic way of life. Educational philosopher John Dewey argued that the object and reward of learning is the continued capacity for growth. The overarching mission of social-impact teaching and learning is to enhance students' capacity to produce outcomes that enable future growth and to develop the critical foresight capabilities that permit learners to sense, shape, and adapt to societal disruptions resiliently and empathetically.

Advisory Board

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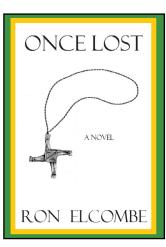
MORE RETIREE NEWS AND NOTES

RON ELCOMBE

Congratulations to Professor Emeritus Mass Communication, Ron Elcombe, who has published his first novel, *Once Lost.* The book is available for purchase at <u>ronelcombe.com</u>; Amazon, Barnes & Noble and independent booksellers. From the author website: "Elcombe has had a variety of careers. He taught band and general music at the high school, middle school, and elementary school levels; directed various church choirs and brass ensembles, had the privilege of playing trumpet for a season with the Duluth (MN) Symphony Orchestra, and spent nearly thirteen years in sales, advertising, and marketing for various companies in Rochester, Minnesota before landing at Winona (MN) State University.

He retired from Winona State in 2016 after twenty-five years in the Mass Communication





Department where he was a member of the faculty and served several terms as the department chair.Following retirement, he turned to his writing hobby. In addition to his first novel, *Once Lost*, he has written several flash-fiction stories.

Elcombe holds a Ph.D. in Advertising, Marketing and Mass Communication from the Union Institute and University of Cincinnati, Ohio; a Master of Music in Trumpet Performance from Minnesota State University-Mankato; and Bachelor of Science in Music Education from the University of Minnesota.

During the winter, he enjoys reading in front of the fireplace. During the other three seasons, he can be found spending time at the family cabin in northern Minnesota and on the golf course. Currently, he and his wife, Sharon, reside in Rochester, Minnesota."

BRIAN ALDRICH

This article describes Brian Aldrich's (Professor Emeritus Sociology) participation in an international debate on aspects of disaster research online, and its subsequent publication by Columbia University Press in a forthcoming book entitled *Shelter in the Storm: Ethical Response to Disasters and Climate Change*.

The scholars at the Canadian Disaster Resilience and Sustainable Reconstruction Research Alliance, School of Architecture, University of Montreal, organized eleven online debates to challenge different viewpoints and examine common controversies in urban development, risk reduction, climate change and post-disaster reconstruction. Organized as formal debates, I was given the con position on the question "Should governments devise and enforce standards for low-cost housing in developing countries?" to defend. The debate drew upon my research in housing the urban poor in developing countries.

The organizers describe it in the following way:

"Two expert panelists offered their best arguments and counterarguments for each debate, while the general audience engaged in the comments section. Each debate provided a platform for engaged knowledge sharing among professionals, academics, practitioners, and student worldwide. The online debates proved to be an international success, attracting more than 30,000 visits, thousands of votes, and hundreds of comments. *Shelter in the Storm* compiles the results of this work. At this initial stage the book includes each online debate (<u>https://oddebates.com</u>) as a chapter..."

The Retiree Center has offered a class in climate change which was well attended. I would recommend *Shelter in the Storm* as a way to expand on the knowledge obtained in that class, and to the many others interested and concerned about this important problem. -Brian C. Aldrich, Emeritus Professor, Sociology

SENIOR UNIVERSITY FALL 2023 PREVIEW

Here is a look at the upcoming Senior University Classes for Fall 2023. Classes will be held in person. <u>REGISTRATION</u> will open soon!		
Senior U Lite: Winona's History & Interesting Architecture	Mark Peterson	Mondays August 21, 28 1:00-2:30 p.m. August 28 class will be a bus tour \$25.00
Remembering the French Revolution	Rosine Tenenbaum	Tuesdays September 5, 12, 19, 26 1:00-2:30 p.m. \$40.00
World History Multimedia Presentations	Gene Pelowski	Mondays September 11, 18, 25, October2 10:00-11:30 a.m. \$40.00
Senior U Lite: The Healing Forest: An Introduction to Nature & Forest Therapy	Sara Holger	Wednesdays September 20, 27 Sept. 27 class at Whitewater State Park 1:00-2:30 p.m. FREE - Goodwill donation to Friends of Whitewater State Park
Mental Health First Aid for Adults	Connie Mettille	Thursdays October 5, 12, 19, 26, November 2 1:00-3:00 p.m. \$60.00 (includes book)
The Evolution of Pandemic Viruses	Osvaldo Martinez	Mondays October 9, 16, 23, 30 November 6 2:30-4:00 \$40.00

GUEST COLUMNIST: DAVID ROBINSON

Full disclosure: I have never been a fan of cooking shows, from my early years until the very recent past. I did like parodies of TV homemakers such, such as Bob and Ray's Mary Margaret McGoon, who appeared as a pair of large hairy arms and whose voice was a masculine falsetto. Later, Saturday Night Live's occasional forays into making fun of celebrity chefs always tickled me.

But I never even watched Julia Child, the French chef, perhaps because I was undergoing higher education for most of its 1963 to 1973 run. I do wish I had seen the legendary episode in which she drops a large fish—or potato pancake, or chicken, or leg of lamb depending on your source—on the floor, brushes it off, looks into the camera and intones, "Remember, you are alone in the kitchen."



More recently however, I've become acquainted with several cooking shows. The most famous, perhaps, is "Beat Bobby Flay," whose title suggests its confrontational, nay cutthroat nature. A former Iron Chef himself, Bobby continues to battle other aspirational chefs, often declaring himself the winner while the studio audience cheers. Another show/contest, "Chopped," is my wife's current favorite. Here, four chefs must prepare a three-course meal, using ingredients prescribed by the show's producers. At the end of each course, the judges "chop" one contestant—the show's logo features a meat cleaver—until one cook is left standing and collects a \$10,000 prize, plus the glory.

Each of these and a myriad of others has their appeal, a kind of "reality show" that mostly confines the contestants to a kitchen/tv stage as opposed to, say, an island, a house, or a fake corporate board room. Another cuisine-centric show I enjoy is less a cooking show than a tasting travelogue, taking the viewers outside and on the road. Guy Fieri's "Drive-In's, Diners, and Dives" features the restaurateur and multimillionaire host cruising the USA in his signature red '67 Camaro. Each stop features one or two local restaurants, located in strip malls, country roadsides, or food trucks downtown, and includes admiring interviews with the owners and enthusiastic chats with the hungry clientele. Almost all the entrees seem to contain generous portions of jalapeño peppers, which rules them out for my 80-year-old digestive tract. Not so for the restaurant's loyal patrons, who rave about the dishes we have watched being put together, as well as the ambiance of the place. Makes me want to get in line, no matter where or how hot the pavement outside.

But the show which crowns them all and which broke down my lifelong resistance to the genre is the Great British Bake Off. Currently filmed in Welford Park, a Berkshire country estate, from April to August, the setting evokes Downton Abbey, minus the servants and with all the cooking done in a large white tent set up on the grounds. On the initial episodes, twelve highly diverse contestants, none of them professional chefs, compete for the weekly title of Star Baker. At the close of each episode, one baker is kindly, gently eliminated, the cast and stars hugging him or her and saying a tearful goodbye. In the season's final number, one is named Best Baker and awarded flowers and an honorary cake stand. A crowd of friends and prior eliminated contestants gathers in a picnic atmosphere to cheer the winner.

Now, I have been an Anglophile since my first Brit Lit course as a high school senior, so I am predisposed to liking all things from across the pond. I even watched most of "The Crown" episodes until the drama amongst the current actual royals outstripped the somewhat fictionalized historical version. But what caught me about Bake Off is how cinematic it is. It is akin to the "long form" shows which dominate streaming series and—especially during the worst of the pandemic—made binging sessions fashionable among the housebound population. (Continued on page 6)

GUEST COLUMNIST: DAVID ROBINSON (CONT):

Like a good movie, this show introduces a cast of characters, including some major, ongoing ones, and some temporary. We get to know a little about all of them, from the hosts/judges (the unsmiling Paul Hollywood and the grandmaternal Dame Prue Leith) to the early dismissals among the bakers. Chosen from among twelve thousand applicants (!), the baking dozen who are the real stars represent the erstwhile British Empire admirably. Brexit's thinly-veiled xenophobia notwithstanding, England supplies an astounding array of ethnicities, accents, and particularly here, tastes both literal and figurative: Pakistan? Malaysia? Jamaica? Africa? They are all here, the sun never setting on the color and variety of the contestants, who seem to have been chosen by the agents of Love Productions for their good nature and popular appeal, as much as for their culinary skills.



Paul Hollywood. Dame Prue Leith, Noah Fielding, Matt Lucas

One can't tell it from the polished product, but over one hundred people contribute to the filming process. (A large side benefit: they get to consume the entries after each show.) There are graphic designers imaging the ideal product of each baker, cinematographers who capture the local flora and fauna, a brief relief from the human intensity inside the tent. Adroit film editing compresses what can be a four-hour process to as little as thirty minutes, and a musical score helps to build the tension to the Moment of Taste when the judges choose their favorites for each of three courses.

There is even comic relief, supplied by two "presenters": Noah Fielding, an eccentrically-costumed hipster who seems to have wandered in from the Sixties, and his cheery, gnomelike sidekick, Matt Lucas. These two, along with the omnipresent but unseen cameras, occasionally peer over the contestants' shoulders, kibitzing and wisecracking over their work. If it were my kitchen, I'd give them a spatula upside the head, but the bakers mostly take it in good part.

Since they are technically outside, the contestants must handle the changing weather of an English country summer. So if it's miserably hot and your recipe calls for ice cream, well, deal with it and carry on. A layer of tension is added to each cake if the (pre-tested) ovens don't cooperate or when an oven door falls off. And the creation of an elaborate, show-stopping final entry, carefully designed and painstakingly executed, can prove pretty dicey, the whole thing disintegrating before our and the baker's crestfallen eyes.

The Great British Bake Off has gone through a number of iterations and transmogrifications since its inception in 2010. It survived the pandemic by creating a little "bionic bubble," sort of like the NBA playoffs only with goodies. Its 14th season is set to drop on Netflix on September 12, having been shot primarily on weekends this summer. Since many of us no longer have Fall semester to look forward to, I recommend checking it out. There will be a new presenter, and the producers have promised to simplify the formula and reduce the demands on the bakers. I'm glad for them; still, I hope that they don't cut into this lovely confection too deeply. Why mess with a successful, tasty recipe?

WSU COMMON BOOK 2023-24

Written by Andrew Higl

The WSU Common Book for 2023-24 will be Lev Golinkin's <u>A Backpack, A Bear, and Eight Crates of Vodka</u>. Here is a brief description from the publisher Penguin Random House:

"In the twilight of the Cold War (the late 1980s), nine-year old Lev Golinkin and his family cross the Soviet border, leaving Ukraine with only ten suitcases, \$600, and the vague promise of help awaiting in Vienna. Years later, Lev, now an American adult, sets out to retrace his family's long trek, locate the strangers who fought for his freedom, and in the process, gain a future by understanding his past.

This is the vivid, darkly comic, and poignant story of Lev Golinkin in the confusing and often chilling final decade of the Soviet Union, and "of a Jewish family's escape from oppression ... whose drama, hope and heartache Mr. Golinkin captures brilliantly" (The New York Times). It's also the story of Lev Golinkin as an American man who finally confronts his buried past by returning to Austria and Eastern Europe to track down the strangers who made his escape possible ... and say thank you."

The experience of refugees leaving Ukraine is front and center today, and, on behalf of the Common Book Committee, we are keen to read the text as a community next year, engaging in the conversations that are sure to come from the book. We look forward to your involvement, and we welcome opportunities to partner with departments and constituencies across campus. We look forward to making this a truly common book that is read and engaged with across the WSU community.

More information about Fall 2022 programming for Common Book events will be forthcoming. You may also wish to visit the <u>Common Book website</u> for more information.

JOIN THE WELCOME CREW THIS FALL!

If you want to help welcome new students to WSU residence halls in the fall, please consider signing up for Welcome Crew.

Welcome crew is a group of students, faculty, staff and retirees that help our first-year students move into the residence halls. They do a variety of jobs; traffic control, directions, helping families move in (moving boxes) and dumpster duty. Move in days for Fall 2023 are Wednesday, August 16th and Thursday, August 17th.

Volunteers will be able to preference the building they want to work in, but may be moved if needed in other areas on campus. You can choose the day you want to volunteer and how much time you can give. If you have a group or team that wants to work together, please make sure you put that on the form, and the move- in team will make sure you work together. Sign up for Welcome Crew <u>here</u>.

Volunteer Benefits

- Opportunity to meet and welcome new students and their families
- Receive a free Welcome Crew T-Shirt
- Free lunch or dinner on the day you volunteer
- That warm fuzzy feeling you get when you help!

Once you are signed up, more information will come over the summer as the date approaches. Thank you for considering this opportunity to welcome our new students and their families to campus!



UPCOMING RETIREE CENTER DAY TRIPS

On Thursday, September 21st, we will be heading to the Orpheum Theater in Minneapolis to see an evening performance of *Beetlejuice: The Musical*.

Beetlejuice received 8 Tony Award nominations in 2019 including a nomination for Best Musical. We have secured great main-level seats for the show. Here's a little information about the play from the play's website:

"Broadway's "SCREAMINGLY GOOD FUN!" (Variety) musical comedy is now haunting houses all across the country! Based on Tim Burton's dearly beloved film, BEETLEJUICE tells the story of Lydia Deetz, a strange and unusual teenager whose whole life changes



when she meets a recently deceased couple and a demon with a thing for stripes. With an irreverent book, an astonishing set, and a score that's out of this Netherworld, BEETLEJUICE is "A FEAST FOR THE EYES AND SOUL!" (Entertainment Weekly). And under its uproarious surface (six feet under, to be exact), it's a remarkably touching show about family, love, and making the most of every Day-O!"

We will not be stopping for dinner on this trip. We would recommend eating a late lunch/early supper before we leave or packing something to eat on the bus. We will have snacks on the bus, and we will stop at Kwik Trip on the way there so that people can get more snacks if necessary.

Here is our itinerary: 4:00 pm – Board bus at Phillips Bus Company parking lot (12th and Main) 5:15 pm – Stop at Kwik Trip in Red Wing for snacks 6:45-7:00 pm – Arrive at the Orpheum Theater 7:30 pm – Showtime 10:00 pm – Board the bus for Winona 12:30 am – Arrive at the Phillips Bus Company parking lot

The cost of the trip is \$85/person and includes your ticket to the play, the bus ride (including snacks and water) and tip for the bus driver. REGISTRATION WILL OPEN VERY SOON...WATCH YOUR EMAIL!



Watch for emails from me with details about these upcoming trips! We are also planning a Vikings game day trip for this fall...details to come.

GUEST COLUMNIST - BILL MEYER

NATE ANDERSON'S NEXT CHAPTER

Every once in a blue moon, opportunity knocks on the door. It might display itself as a vacation of a lifetime, a demanding new job or stressful novel project, or possibly a challenging educational possibility. These difficult choices can tax a person as he or she weighs the pros and cons of leaving the familiar... and charting out a new uncertain future. It can be exhilarating but daunting at the same time. Nate Anderson, Winona State University's Landscape Arboretum's Director, is facing such a moment now.

Anderson applied and was accepted to a highly prestigious Fellows Program opening through Longwood Gardens near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. After applying online for the position, Anderson was selected as one of five finalists to come to Longwood Gardens for a 13-month living and working experience starting this May. Being selected for the Fellows Program is quite an honor in the field of horticulture since only two individuals are selected from the U.S. and the remaining three come from abroad. Nate is one of the two fortunate candidates selected from the U.S.



The Fellows Program looks to strengthen a candidate's skills with a number of approaches. First, it aims to develop personal leadership skills in the field of horticulture through text and group discussions in a classroom setting. The second goal of the program is providing growth in the field of executive leadership skills. For example, fundraising skills and techniques are examined looking for opportunities for improvement. Finally, individual and group projects are selected for the participants.

One of the exciting features of the program is the chance for the two U.S. participants to immerse themselves in a horticultural project in a country other than the U.S. These international projects will last for up to 2 months but can be extremely rewarding.

Nate's belief is that he can bring many of these skills back to WSU and take the Landscape Arboretum to a higher level. He feels that the potential of the Landscape Arboretum is unlimited and that by bringing back new skills acquired through the Fellows Program at Longwood Gardens, he can tap into resources needed to advance our campus of trees.

Creative, new approaches to financial resource management and budgeting skills will be needed to survive in the face of continuing declining revenue. In order to further the WSU Arboretum's mission of campus sustainability and to continue to use the campus Arboretum as "a living classroom and laboratory" in the years to come, Nate plans to fuse his expertise in landscape design and architecture with the newly acquired skills gained through the Fellows Program.

We wish him well on his new adventure!

2023-2024 RETIREE PARKING PASSES ARE HERE!

The 2023-2024 retiree parking permits are now available! You may stop in at the Retiree Center to pick one up. Since we are a 2-person office, Nancy and I would advise you to call before coming to the center to ensure that one of us is available to help you. Retirees with parking permits can PARK ANYWHERE on campus. This includes all gold and silver lots. This is a fantastic benefit for you, but you do need to make sure to get a new permit each year...you may be ticketed if your car is displaying an expired permit.

CALENDAR



CALENDAR







RETIREE BREAKFAST Tuesday, August 8, 2023 9:00-11:00 a.m. Baldwin Lounge Kryzsko Commons

RETIREE CENTER TRAVEL Canadian Rockies & Glacier National Park August 1–7, 2023 Exploring Greece & Its Islands

October 9-24, 2023



RETIREE CENTER EVENTS - SAVE THE DATES!: Fall Social - Tuesday, October 10 Living History Premiere - Monday, December 4

Winter Social - Thursday, December 7

WSU FIRST DAY OF CLASSES August 21, 2023





RETIREE BREAKFAST Tuesday, September 12th Aboard the Cal Fremling!



IN MEMORIAM



Thomas Bayer Geoscience March 12, 2023

IN MEMORIAM



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.



Sandra Olson Mathematics April 15, 2023

THE PERKS OF BEING A WSU RETIREE

- Athletic Events: Free admission to regular scheduled campus athletic events
- Teaching, Learning and Technology Services: Free campus offered classes when space available
- Free WSU retiree e-mail
- WSU Fitness Center access at employee rate
- ID card for all retirees
- Free parking pass for all lots, must renew each year
- Printer, scanner and copy access at the Retiree Center (up to 10 pages)
- Notary Public Services available at no charge
- WSU Library privileges (Retiree ID card serves as library card

