

The RETIREE CENTER Newsletter



Hello Retirees,

It's been another beautiful start to fall here in Winona. Our temperatures have been more summery than autumnal, but I won't complain about that. We know that the cold and snow will be here soon enough! The Retiree Center has been a busy place this fall. This semester, we saw our highest enrollment for Senior University in the history of the program even after we had to cancel one of our classes due to an instructor injury. WSU Education professor, Melanie Reap broke her leg in July and wasn't able to teach the *Trees of the WSU Arboretum* course for us. I'm happy to report that Melanie is getting out of the hospital and coming home this week. We are hoping to have her teach the class for us next fall. The enrollment in our courses this semester has been through the roof. Our instructors have been kind to allow so many people in their classes. We had to move Jim Bromeland's *Election 2024* course to a much larger room to meet the demand for his class. It is no surprise that there is a lot of interest in that topic! Be sure to get out there and vote on or before Election Day. I've already voted as I'm sure many of you have. We have a fantastic roster of Senior U classes set for next semester. See the sneak peek on [page 4](#). Registration will open in November. I have a feeling many of these classes will sell out just as they did this semester, so be sure to register early if you're interested.



We just finished a successful 2-week webinar series with our Pathways to Retirement (PRP) program. As you may remember, we began the PRP program last year to help support current WSU employees nearing retirement. Some of our programming pertains mainly to that group, but much of it is of interest to a broader audience including current retirees. I know that many of you joined us for the webinar presented by WSU Health, Exercise, and Rehab Science professor, Kent Hansen. He gave a wonderful talk on "Nutrition Essentials for Healthy Aging." We have recorded all of our PRP presentations, so if you'd like to take a look at them, please visit our website: <https://www.winona.edu/retiree-center/retirement-planning/>.



Amazing photo of Comet Tsuchinshan-ATLAS captured by WSU Retiree Roberta Czaplewski on 10-15-24

Please save the date for our Winter Social coming up on Thursday, December 5th from 2-4p.m. at the American Legion. I would normally tell you to save the date for the Living History Premiere as well, but unfortunately there was not enough enrollment in the course this semester to run the class. We will be promoting the class heavily next fall to ensure that we can honor several retirees with student-created documentaries. I'm sad to miss it this year.

To help brighten the coldest months of the year, we are starting a Movie Mornings program in partnership with the Winona 7 Theater. On the 2nd Tuesday of each month (January-March), we will be offering a free movie to WSU retirees! The concession stand will also be open for purchases. I'll be sending out more information as we get closer to January. This will require an RSVP, because we have to give our numbers to the theater in advance. I'm looking forward to this new offering. In the meantime, I hope you have a wonderful fall and a beautiful holiday season! Please enjoy this newsletter. I hope to see 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.

RETIREEES IN THE NEWS

Advisory Board

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Director:

Jessica Kauphusman

RUTH BURES

Published in the Winona Post - By Alexandra Retter

About a decade ago, local author Ruth Anfinson Bures became drawn to the story of a traveling vaudeville performer who started a furniture store in Winona and became one of the early Winona Municipal Band directors. She shines a light on the story in her new book “Musical Chairs: A True, Forgotten Tale of Love, Music and Furniture.”



In the early 1900s, two musical couples – Orville and Babette Reese, as well as Babette’s sister and brother-in-law, Freda and Walter Christensen – established a touring vaudeville act. “... It was an extremely musically talented family,” Bures said. Orville’s goal in life was to be a band director, she said, so he worked with military bands around Chicago and, to make end’s meet, also worked as a furniture salesperson. Walter sang and also worked in furniture sales. Babette went to the Chicago Music College at the young age of 11 and studied as a xylophonist and pianist. Freda had a goal of being an actress, she said. Ultimately, after touring with their vaudeville act, they found they could not afford to live off their touring, so they parted ways. Later, after Orville heard from a friend in Winona, the four all ended up moving to town and buying a furniture store. Orville later became the Winona Municipal Band’s director...

...Here is a link to the rest of the article: [Ruth Bures - Winona Post - July 2024](#)

Winona Post - By Alexandra Retter

TIM & SUSAN HATFIELD



It all started with taking a lot of walks around the block during the pandemic. On those walks, Susan and Tim Hatfield noticed a plot of open land in their Valley Oaks neighborhood, and decided to try to spruce it up by growing pumpkins. That work grew to include many neighbors pitching in with a goal of growing pumpkins for the neighborhood’s children to take home for free in the fall, a tradition which has continued for several years now.

When the Hatfields took note of the undeveloped land with weeds and pine needles, they spoke with their neighbors whose house abuts it to make sure they were all right with the pumpkins being grown there. They then talked with other neighbors about getting some enriched soil from their horse ranch. Another neighbor then came with a bulldozer to smooth out the dirt. Neighbors got mulch for the pumpkin patch, as well as raked, weeded and watered it. A neighbor took over with planting this year, too. Susan sprouted the seeds with the help of a girl from next door, who took care of the seeds when the Hatfields were away...

...Here is a link to the rest of the article: [Tim and Susan Hatfield - Winona Post - August 2024](#)

UPCOMING DAY TRIP & TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

WHITE CHRISTMAS

Date: Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Venue: Chanhassen Dinner Theater

Sold Out - taking waitlist



BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Date: Thursday, August 14, 2025 - 1:00 p.m. matinee

Venue: Orpheum Theater

Registration will open in Spring 2025



PURPLE RAIN: THE MUSICAL

Date: TBD - Fall 2025

Venue: Orpheum Theater

Was originally scheduled for Spring 2025 but has been postponed



OLD WORLD SICILY & MALTA

This 12-day trip will depart on March 16, 2025. The cost is \$4979 per person double. Explore Sicily and Malta – two island paradises nestled amongst the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean. Engage with Malta's dynamic past on a leisurely 4-night stay. Explore Siracusa's archeological heritage (UNESCO) with a guide. Spend three nights in Taormina, perched above the Ionian Sea. See Mount Etna from a different perspective on an off-road excursion. Discover how ancient traditions blend into modern society as you travel along timeless Italian and Maltese towns.



To learn more about this trip:

<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1243019>

DISCOVER THE ISLANDS OF NEW ENGLAND



This 8-day trip will depart on September 12, 2025. The cost is \$3629 per person double. The Atlantic coast is calling. Explore New England's majestic seaboards, from Rhode Island to Cape Cod. Visit Providence and the Gilded Age mansions of Newport. Experience the beautiful islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. Complete your local experience as you indulge in a traditional seafood and lobster feast. Explore the local charms, walk along historic cobblestone streets, and feel like a true New Englander. Trip Highlights: Providence, Art & Architecture Walking Tour, RISD (Rhode Island School of Design) Museum, Newport, Lobster Trap Pull Demonstration & Cruise, Plymouth Rock, Cape Cod, Hyannis, Nantucket, Sandwich Museums, Martha's Vineyard, Lobster Dinner.

To learn more: <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1242997>

SENIOR UNIVERSITY SNEAK PEEK SPRING/SUMMER 2025



Here's a preview of our fantastic line-up of Senior University classes for Spring/Summer 2025. Registration for courses will open in mid-November. Course catalogs will be mailed out at that time as well.

THE MODERN SUPREME COURT & THE CONSTITUTION	Matt Bosworth Maxwell 287	January 29 February 5, 12, 19 2:30-4:30 p.m. \$40.00
WHAT ARE WE MADE OF?: A PHYCISIST'S PERSPECTIVE	Andy Ferstl Pasteur 237 & SLC 132	January 30 February 6, 13, 20, 27 1:00-2:30 p.m. \$40.00
A BRIEF HISTORY OF JAZZ: AMERICA'S MUSIC - 1960-PRESENT	Rich MacDonald Somsen 331 or via Zoom (Hybrid)	February 24, March 3, 17, 24, 31 (no class 3/10) 2:30-4:00 p.m. \$40.00
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION	Greg Schmidt Maxwell 287	March 19, 26 April 2, 9, 16, 23 3:00-4:30 p.m. \$40.00
FRANK CAPRA, "CAPRICORN," AND SOCIAL CONSCIENCE: FIVE REPRESENTATIVE COMEDIES FROM THE 30s AND 40s	David Robinson Somsen-Harriet Johnson Auditorium (2nd Floor)	April 29 May 6, 13, 20, 27 1:00-4:00 p.m. \$40.00
SHAKESPEARE IN PERFORMANCE	Jane Carducci Room To be Announced	Sundays Dates and price to be determined: Based on GRSF pricing and schedule

Commit yourself to lifelong Learning. The most valuable asset you will ever have is your mind and what you put into it. – Albert Einstein

2024 FALL SOCIAL & CAL FREMLING RIDES

The Retiree Center Fall Social was held on Thursday, October 10th. We had a great turnout with lots of retirees enjoying the food and the company. It didn't hurt that we had an absolutely beautiful weather day as well...more like summer than fall!



Janet Ruggeberg, Karen Northam & Bonnie Woodford



Judy Rader & Lorene Olson



Jill & Robert Bradley & Ann Kendrick



Deb Benz, Debbie Sing-Merchlewitz, & Jan Tollefson



Anne Plummer, Brian Aldrich, & Lyelle Palmer



Don Scheid, Seymour & Marianna Byman



Margaret Boland & Pat Przybylski



Maureen & Jack Gerson



Mary Joyce, Vicki Decker & Marlys Zane

We held the September Retiree Breakfast aboard the Cal Fremling on Tuesday, September 10th. We held two separate rides to accommodate all who wanted to attend. We again had gorgeous weather that day and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves



Paul Schumacher & Gene Lundak



Violet Belter, Shirley Mounce & Nancy Reynolds



Frances Burt & Roberta Czapslewski

WINTER 2024 RETIREE SOCIAL



2024

Winter

RETIREE SOCIAL

Thursday, December 5th
2:00PM – 4:00PM
American Legion -302 East Sarnia St.
RSVP by Tuesday, November 26th

You and a guest are invited to a fun-filled
afternoon at the Retiree Winter Social!

You are also invited to the
WSU HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, December 18th
2:00PM – 4:00PM
Kryzsko Commons Solarium & Ballroom



Contact Information: retiree@winona.edu – 507.457.5565

STREAMING DOCUMENTARIES

When I was reviewing movies for the Post some years ago, my family and I used to make a night out of watching the Oscars ceremony. Yeah, even the red carpet silliness, where people were asked “Who are you wearing?” and demonstrated all too often that beauty is, in fact, skin deep. The opening song and dance and the initial awards for Best Supporting Actor and Actress in a Supporting Role engaged me more, since I had tried to see all the relevant movies they appeared in and—no surprise—had strong opinions on who should win, as opposed, usually, to who did.

There followed a long non-glamorous stretch in which the people who actually make the movies—the film and sound editors, sound mixers, cinematographers, etc.—are given their fifteen seconds of fame before the orchestra hurries them offstage mid-speech. Somewhere in this space where both the audience at home and at the ceremony are often off getting and eliminating drinks there pops up a brief recognition of the folks who make documentary films. Rarely had I and likely the overwhelming majority of the tv audience seen any of the entries, mostly because they were rare to the point of invisibility in movie theaters. Oh, occasionally we’d see something like “The March of the Penguins” (2005), a lovely piece of cinematic art made by Luc Jaques and narrated by Morgan Freeman. (There was actually a 2017 sequel, lost to history.) The following year, “An Inconvenient Truth” followed Al Gore’s lectures on the dangers to the Earth’s environment so vividly that it blew away the competition (Quick: what were the other nominees? Anybody? Anybody?).

My own favorite has to be “20 Feet from Stardom,” director Morgan Neville’s 2013 homage to the backup singers (mostly black women who came out of church choirs) of the rock music era. Their fulsome sound added depth and richness to the works of headliners such as Stevie Wonder, Bruce Springsteen, Mick Jagger, and Bette Midler, all of whom pay tribute to these artists, who labored in relative obscurity for most of their careers.

Happily, the rise of Netflix, Amazon Prime, etc., etc., has given new prominence to this oft-neglected cinematic form, which is usually afforded its own separate category, with occasional leakage into the “top picks” or “most viewed” ranks. I have had the opportunity of late to learn about pro football quarterbacks, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Dan Rather, Neanderthal Man (and Woman), the James Webb Telescope, Yogi Berra, Mariachi bands, the Terra Cotta Warriors of China, Wyatt Earp, four doctors at New York’s Lenox Hill hospital during the pandemic—you get the picture.

Of course, not every item spilling from this veritable cornucopia is equally tasty—just like other types of movies. The producers often work with limited resources, financial and artistic, and they don’t usually realize much income from their efforts. For some, the hope is to get recognized for their work and move into the far more lucrative production of feature films. For a few, such as Ken Burns, the form has catapulted them into their own kind of stardom: the huge success of his PBS series “The Civil War” gave him the freedom to pursue his visions into many other areas like sports, jazz and country music, Vietnam, the national parks—pretty much what he chooses after thirty distinguished years of filmmaking.

To say the very least, not much good issued from the pandemic, but the explosive growth of movie-streaming following the closing of many theaters has brought to (literal) light an array of cinematic art that those same theaters all but entirely ignored. Getting to the widest possible audience is not (or not necessarily) their makers’ aim; however, they deserve, and increasingly are finding audiences that are ready for this mix of entertainment and education.



WSU IS ONE OF THE GREENEST COLLEGES - 14 YEARS IN A ROW



WSU's Solar Carport in the lot at Main and 11th Streets.

For the 14th consecutive year, Winona State University has been recognized as one of the nation's Greenest Colleges by the Princeton Review, an honor that's magnified by a recent Sustainability Award presented to Assistant Vice President for Facilities Management, Jim Goblirsch.

In the 2025 edition of "The Princeton Review's Guide to Green Colleges," 511 schools across the U.S. were selected to receive the title of Green College. Research focused on colleges' sustainability practices, sustainability education, and the quality of life for students on campus.

Winona State received a green rating of 84 on a scale of 99 points. The green rating considers three main questions, which are: how the school creates opportunities for students to have a sustainable and healthy quality of life, how environmentally responsible the school's policies are, and how the school is preparing students for employment and citizenship in the clean-energy economy of the 21st century.

As evidence of its Green College standing, Winona State has displayed commitment to using its resources responsibly, investing in a sustainable future, and supporting a sustainable society.

Winona State's commitment to sustainability is further highlighted by Goblirsch's recent recognition with the 2024 Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability's Administrator (Re)Cognition Award, which honors administrators who have made significant contributions to their campus and/or community's sustainability efforts through outstanding leadership.

Goblirsch was integral in implementing Winona State's successful campus-wide energy conservation project, LESS (Leading Energy Savings & Sustainability) and will next work on Winona State's Center for Interdisciplinary Collaboration, Engagement & Learning (CICEL).

Winona State was one of the first signatories of the President's Climate Commitment, and for decades, has been working to practice and promote a culture of sustainability, with investments in:

- curriculum and academic programs like the Sustainability minor
- opportunities to get involved, including the student-funded Green Fee and Green Action Project
- the largest solar panel energy system in the Minnesota State system
- proposed net-zero CICEL building
- campus-wide guaranteed energy savings project, known as the LESS project

Learn more about Winona State's commitment to sustainability [here](#).

WSU GREEN INITIATIVES (CONTINUED)

Originally published on WSU News

WSU HOSTS NEW MN GREENCORPS MEMBER

Winona State University Facilities Services is pleased to announce the arrival of Minnesota GreenCorps member, Sausann Al-Jawhar.

A 2024 graduate from UW-Madison with a degree in Environmental Science and Conservation Biology, Al-Jawhar will be serving at Winona State from September 2024 through August 2025.

Originally from La Crosse, Wis., Al-Jawhar brings her passion for climate change, environmental justice, and sustainability to Winona State.



Sausann Al-Jawhar

While at Winona State, Al-Jawhar will analyze campus energy use and identify areas to improve energy efficiency. Included in that is developing a plan to fully electrify Winona State's vehicle fleet ranging from trucks and cars, to Bobcats, to lawn mowers, as well as assessing multi-modal transportation options for our staff and students. Lastly, she will help faculty and students access facilities data for learning and research projects.

About Minnesota GreenCorps Program

The Minnesota GreenCorps program, coordinated by the MPCA, aims to preserve and protect Minnesota's environment while training a new generation of environmental professionals. Each year, the program places AmeriCorps members with host site organizations around the state to help communities increase resilience to climate.

Minnesota GreenCorps members serve full-time at their host site for 11 months, from mid-September through mid-August. Members implement environmental projects to build climate resilience in one of four topic areas: community readiness and outreach, energy conservation and green transportation, stormwater and forestry, waste reduction and recycling. Sample projects include activities such as coordinating multi-modal transportation events, developing climate action plans, educating community members and youth, removing invasive species, installing rain gardens, benchmarking energy, conducting waste sorts, and more.

Through the GreenCorps program, members earn a living allowance, health insurance, mental health services with counseling, student loan forbearance on eligible loans, and an education award for education expenses or qualified student loans.

REMEMBER TO KEEP THE RETIREE CENTER UPDATED

Please remember to keep the Retiree Center updated with your current mailing address and email. If you need to report a change, please contact us by email: retiree@winona.edu or give us a call at 507.457.5565.

****If you have a charter.net email:** Currently, our Retiree Center emails are not reaching those of you with charter.net email addresses. I have contacted Tech Support, but there is nothing that can be done on our end. You need to contact Charter/Spectrum to fix this issue. If you'd like to give us a different email address to use, please contact us.

CALENDAR

November

VETERAN'S DAY

Monday, November 11, 2024
Retiree Center Closed

PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

Investiture Ceremony & Celebration
Friday, November 1st - 2:00 p.m.
Kryzsko Commons Ballroom



RETIREE CENTER DAY TRIP
WHITE CHRISTMAS AT CHANHASSEN
Wednesday, November 6th

ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, November 5th
No classes or activities after 6:00 p.m.

TINY BEAUTIFUL THINGS

WSU Theatre Production
November 20-23
Dufresne Performing Arts Center



WSU THANKSGIVING BREAK

Retiree Center Closed
November 27-29
Happy Thanksgiving!

December



RETIREE CENTER WINTER SOCIAL

Thursday, December 5, 2024
2:00-4:00 p.m.
American Legion - Winona

HOLIDAY CONCERT

WSU Band & Orchestra
Sunday, December 8, 2024
2:00 p.m.
Dufresne Performing Arts Center
Vivian Fusillo Main Stage Theater



WSU COMMENCEMENT

Friday, December 13, 2024
McCown Gymnasium



WINTER BREAK

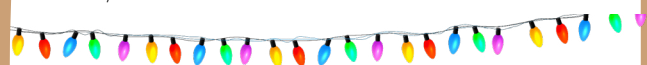
Retiree Center Closed
December 23-January 2

WSU OBSERVATORY NIGHT

Tuesday, November 12, 2024
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Minne' Hall Roof

WSU HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, December 18, 2024
2:00-4:00 p.m.
Kryzsko Commons Solarium & Ballroom



CALENDAR

January

ART EXHIBIT

Edward Burtynsky - Water
Minnesota Marine Art Museum
Begins January 11, 2025



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

Monday, January 20, 2024
Retiree Center Closed

WSU SPRING CLASSES BEGIN

Monday, January 13, 2025



SPRING SENIOR U BEGINS

The Modern Supreme Court & the Constitution
Taught by Matt Bosworth
Begins Wednesday, January 29
What Are We Made Of?: A Physicist's Perspective
Taught by Andy Ferstl
Begins Thursday, January 30



RETIREE CENTER MOVIE MORNING

Winona 7 Theater
Tuesday, January 14, 2025
Beginning at 10:00 a.m.

February and Beyond

RETIREE CENTER DAY TRIP

Beauty & the Beast
Thursday, August 14th - 1pm
Registration will open soon!



RETIREE CENTER BREAKFASTS

2nd Tuesday of each Month
9:00-11:00 a.m.
April - September

RETIREE CENTER MOVIE MORNINGS

2nd Tuesday of each Month
10:00-Noon
January-March

RETIREE CENTER TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

OLD WORLD SICILY & MALTA

March 16-28, 2025

ISLANDS OF NEW ENGLAND

September 12-20, 2025

GREAT RIVER SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Season 22
June 24 - July 27, 2025

RETIREE CENTER DAY TRIP

Purple Rain - Orpheum Theater
Fall 2025
Watch for email from Jess with details



FROZEN RIVER FILM FESTIVAL

February 9-16, 2025

RETIREE SPRING LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 24, 2025
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Kryzsko Commons Ballroom

IN MEMORIAM



*Jackie Lettner
Registrar's Office
August 16, 2024*



*Vivian Fusillo
Theatre & Dance
August 17, 2024*



*Mike Bebout
Safety Officer
August 30, 2024*



*Norman Decker
Administrative Affairs
August 31, 2024*



*Betty Emmons
Spouse of Bill Emmons
September 30, 2024*



*Shirley Mootz
Spouse of Jim Mootz
October 6, 2024*



*Stephen Kilkus
Nursing
October 9, 2024*

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
- WSU Fitness Center access at employee rate
- ID card for all retirees
- Free gold parking pass for all lots, must renew each year
- Printer, scanner, and copy access in the Retiree Center (no charge)
- Notary Public Services available at no charge at the Retiree Center
- WSU Library privileges (Retiree ID card serves as library card)

