



THE AUAR NEWSLETTER

The Association of The University of Akron Retirees

AUAR EXECUTIVE BOARD 2017-2018 President's Message

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Greetings to all of our members! I hope you have had an enjoyable holiday season and are ready to get through another winter! The activities of AUAR will help to keep you busy! Involvement in AUAR is one of the advantages of retirement. However, I have noticed that the trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off!

We have enjoyed many good times this past fall, especially at our luncheons and at the Soup & Chili Dinner. Who would have guessed, that so many celebrities would have graced our presence? We had visits by an American Indian and by Vladimir Putin! We also listened to great talks from experts who told us about the mutineers on the Bounty and about Winston Churchill in such an interesting way that we felt their presence! Word is getting out that attendance at our events is the in thing to do! If you were unable to join us at any of these get-togethers, you can read all about them in this newsletter!

As the new president, I have gone through a learning experience, especially at our luncheons. I discovered that there are duties of the office that go way beyond what I imagined! It started with the September luncheon, when I was about to announce at 11:30 that it was time to eat. I lifted the lid of the buffet containers to check on the food, when to my surprise I found out the containers were empty and cold! I couldn't help but think to myself, "Is the president supposed to order the food?" Aramark was not on its "A" game for the first luncheon, but made a fast recovery and we were good to go at about 11:45! Except that during the meal I found myself as president searching out the servers, because butter was missing from the buffet table.

The October luncheon was an enlightening experience for me. There is a lot of volunteer effort to put on a luncheon and all our regulars who assist were either on vacation or unable to attend for one reason or another (Tom & Diane Vukovich, Ed Lasher, Bob Blankenship, & Bob Gandee)! Before the luncheon, I picked up the name tags at Infocision Stadium and I was all set up and ready to go at Quaker Station by 10:00 am! (A new broom sweeps clean!) That is when I discovered the men's room was in deplorable shape, at best! I located an Aramark representative, who called maintenance and also pointed out to me that there are two men's rooms side-by-side. Fortunately, the second one was clean, because maintenance was a no-show! So now we know that there are two men's rooms and one ladies' room at Quaker Station. Go figure! Next, I was hunting down the Aramark person, after I was informed that a bank of lights was out over the dining tables. The room to the light switches was locked, so I couldn't get in to turn them on! The light problem was solved while I was selling 50/50 raffle tickets! Thanks to Linda Sugarman substituting for Ed Lasher, we have pictures. Also, John Heminger and Martha Vye graciously volunteered to man the registration table in the absence of Bob Blankenship, and they deserve my gratitude! Because of all their help, the luncheon was a success and our speaker's wife was very pleased to receive the umbrella I gave her! It did not end there, however, because after the luncheon when I dropped off the deposit at Simmons Hall, I had to deal with one of the cashiers who I compare to the Soup Nazi in the Seinfeld series. Anyway, I can assure you that the proceeds were deposited in our account. Next year, PLEASE no vacations during the second week of October!!

The November luncheon had another unexpected occurrence! At the time the program started, there was no speaker in attendance! He had planned to be there for lunch at 11:30, but was nowhere in sight! At noon, I started by telling our guests that first we were going to be introduced to our scholarship winner, Jonathan Masters, and then after that I would have a real surprise announcement. (The announcement was to be "No Speaker!") While turning over the microphone to Carl Lieberman for the scholarship winner introduction, what to my wondering eyes did appear – an American Indian standing at the back door! Our speaker had arrived dressed as a Native American chief!

Thanks to the Malyuk sisters, the December luncheon was music to my ears!

Don't miss our upcoming 2018 luncheons! We will begin with Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh in February. (I hope the 50/50 raffle is legal, or you will be looking for a new president!) A trip to Tibet is planned for March, and we will be concluding with Mark Price telling us about Akron's Mafia! (I hope he does not bring guests!)

Speaking of the 50/50 raffle, since its inception, it has provided AUAR with over \$500. Rita Klein is the top seller. She sold \$152 worth of tickets at Lobster & Suds. Cathy Edwards is the sales leader at luncheons. She sold \$112 at the November luncheon. Jo Ann Collier is the all-time big winner. She won \$76 at Lobster & Suds! Also, we will be looking for retirees to join on us on the Board. Elections will be held in the spring. It is good karma to serve on the Board! 70% of the money won at our 50/50 raffles has been

taken home by members who have served on the AUAR Board! Keep that in mind and let us know if you are interested in serving.

Happy New Year! I look forward to seeing you at our social functions!



Neal C. Raber

Neal C. Raber
President 2017-20

In Memoriam

Editorial note: Please alert us to any member of our "University Family" whom we have overlooked.

With our condolences to their families and friends, we honor our colleagues and friends for their many contributions in making the University a better place.

Virginia "Jinny" Allanson, 92, died September 1, 2016. She was the Science Librarian at the University of Akron retiring in 1984.

Alex R. Arshinkoff, 62, died August 28, 2017. Alex, a graduate of the University of Akron and a member of the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity, was a member of the University of Akron Board of Trustees from 1992-2001 and served four terms as its Chairman from 1997-2001. As a Board Member, he oversaw the New Landscape for Learning initiative resulting in the enhancement of many buildings and campus grounds as well as the new Student Union construction. In 1978, Alex became the Chairman of the Summit County Republican Party and remained the Chairman for the next forty years. From this position, he was recognized for his political acumen by his fellow Republicans at the state and national levels.

Eric Birdsall, 73, died December 10, 2017. Eric joined the University of Akron Department of English in 1987 where he taught and served as the Department Head for several years before returning to teaching full time.

Helmar H.A. Dollwet, 88, passed away October 25, 2017. Helmar taught in the Biology Department at the University. Prior to his arrival at the University of Akron, he had been recruited from Germany on an athletic scholarship to run track at the University of Michigan. Subsequently, he received a National Defense and Education Act Scholarship to complete his Ph.D. in biochemistry and plant physiology at the University of California. Helmar retired from the University in 1993.

Deborah (Andrulis) Hill, 61, passed away November 18, 2017. Prior to retirement, Deborah worked in the University of Akron Information Technology Services.

John Joseph Hirschbuhl, 83, passed away September 20, 2017. In his younger days, John was an outstanding high school athlete in football and baseball. At the age of 18, he signed with the New York Giants. This adventure was placed on hold by a call from Uncle Sam for service in the U.S. Army. At the University of Akron, he founded the Computer Based Education Center, which was a model Ed Tech site for IBM in the 70's and 80's. John also served as an IBM scholar. For over a decade, he published extensively serving as the editor and contributor to "Computers in Education" for McGraw-Hill. John retired from the University after 35 years of service in 2007.

Jack D. Huggins, 88, passed away November 26, 2017. Jack retired from the University of Akron where he taught in the College of Applied Science and Technology (CAST).

Wendell A. "Del" Johnson, 80, died June 7, 2017. Del was a Professor in the College of Applied Science and Technology. From 1969 – 1997, he served as the coordinator of mathematics for the College. Del retired from the University in 2000.

Edward J. Laughner, 70, died on August 11, 2017. Edward joined the faculty of the School of Art in 1984 where he taught digital imaging until his retirement in 2010.

Ruth Craig Murray, 94, passed away on February 7, 2017. Peg joined the staff of the University of Akron Science and Technology Library as a "Literature Chemist." Subsequently, she retired in 1993 after 23 years of service.

Robert H. Myers, 88, died October 29, 2017. Bob was very popular among his many students. He enjoyed a very distinguished career as a Professor of Psychology at the University.

Donald "Jake" J. Nutter, 83, passed away November 19, 2017. He taught mathematics at the University.

Linda Rohrbough, 69, passed away on September 13, 2017. Linda was with Computer Services at the University of Akron. She retired in 2003.

Betty Shatrick, 88, passed away September 21, 2017. Betty was an auditor with the University of Akron for over 31 years retiring in 1993.

Jean Elouise Hower Taber, 94, died in July 2017. Dr. Taber was an alumna and benefactor of the University. She was a Professor of Electrical Engineering at Purdue University until her retirement in 2000. Her gifts to the University of Akron over her lifetime exceeded \$7.5 million. Dr. Taber was a great granddaughter of John H. Hower, one of the founders of Quaker Oats Company and the builder of the Hower House. The House was donated to the University in 1973 by her father, John B. Hower.

Stuart Milford Terrass, 85, died October 11, 2017. He was a graduate of the University with a BA in Philosophy, a BS in Mathematics and a MA in History. After the completion of his active military service in 1957, Stuart began his career as a collegiate administrator at the University of Akron. This career at the University involved many positions including Administrative Faculty in the Student Services Office, Assistant to the Registrar, Registrar, and Director of Institutional Research. His after-retirement career involved positions at The College of Wooster, North Carolina A & T State University, Lake Erie College and Mount Union College giving Stuart a fifty-year career as a collegiate administrator. After returning to the Akron area, Stu served as a member of the AUAR Board.

Jack E. Thompson, 86, died December 6, 2017. After becoming a CPA and owning his own accounting practice, Jack taught accounting at the University of Akron for many years.



September Luncheon – Fletcher Christian, Captain Bly & Mel Vye

Mel Vye

UA retiree, Mel Vye, has been our luncheon series leadoff speaker several times over the years. To start the luncheon series this September, Mel enlightened over 50 retirees and guests with an interesting account of his recent trip to Pitcairn Island.

While talking with a traveler he met on his North Korea trip several years ago, Mel got the “bug” to visit this remote island in the South Pacific. Having a persistent, engineer/scientist type personality, he tried over a three-year period to arrange passage on the only ship that stops at Pitcairn four times a year. This supply freight offers accommodations for up to 12 passengers. He finally was successful on his third attempt to book passage and made all his other travel arrangements via the Internet. He first flew to Tahiti, then had to take another flight to Mangareva Island where he boarded the freighter to Pitcairn Island.

Pitcairn is a volcanically formed, rocky island roughly 2 miles by 1 mile in size and inhabited by just 47 people, including 4 children. Most of the islanders are descendants of the British Navy mutineer, Fletcher Christian and an American sailor named Warner.

Mel took us back to 1789 when a portion of the crew of the HMS Bounty decided to take over the ship and set Captain Bly and some loyal sailors and officers adrift while the mutineers sailed to Tahiti. After spending time on Tahiti, Fletcher Christian decided they should find a more remote island and colonize it with other mutineers and young Tahitian women of childbearing age.

After sailing around various Pacific islands for 5 months, they decided to settle on Pitcairn. This location was deemed suitable to establish a sustainable colony because it had fertile soil and a water supply. Of the original 19 women and 6 Polynesian men who left Tahiti, 6 young women and 6 men joined the 8 mutineers on Pitcairn as colonists.

Captain Bly survived and returned to England to tell of the mutiny. Eighteen years later, a British naval vessel finally arrived at Pitcairn to investigate and bring the mutineers still alive back to England to face a court marshal. Alas, their leader, Fletcher Christian, was not among the last survivors. He died several years after starting the colony.

Mel shared pictures of his trip, including some of his island hosts. While most of us think of Pacific Islands as being somewhat flat with sandy beaches, Pitcairn is composed of jaggy, volcanic spires and rather hilly terrain. Islanders generally use ATV's for transportation. The supply ship must deliver all of their fuel and other essentials not grown on the island once every 3 months.

Where will Mel be traveling next? Wherever he decides, expect it to be a remote, exciting destination. Stay tuned!



Velma Pomrenke and Loren Hoch



Pearl Marie Goddard, Jaci Wilbanks, and Jon Hawes



John Heminger, Lala Krishna and Bill Beyer



**Martha Vye and Leslie & Roger Bain and
President Neal Raber**



October Luncheon – Bill Truax speaker – The Life of Winston Churchill, The Man Who Saved Democracy for the World

Neal Raber and Speaker Bill Truax with his new umbrella

Bill Truax gave us a summary of his experience in discovering Winston Churchill and the many interesting facets to his life.

Churchill was sent to boarding school at the age of 7 and was never close to his parents. He had to learn everything on his own. He was an author, a pilot, a journalist, speaker, a sailor, and a soldier, artist, politician, and more.

He liked to live beyond his means which incited him to increase his means. He had a lisp for which he sought medical help upon which he was told there was no cure and that he would be best advised to not to enter a profession requiring public speaking.

Well, of course that never happened and he went on to greatness as Prime Minister of Great Britain and is well remembered for his public speeches. It was said of Churchill that having an Englishman for his father and an American for his mother makes a blend of the "perfect man".

Our speaker, Bill Truax, has been interested in the life of Winston Churchill since he heard one of Churchill's speeches while in High School.

Bill says that for some strange reason, a lot of unplanned events lead to his interest and study of Winston Churchill.

In 1985, while returning home from a summer vacation in the West, they saw a sign that said, "Next Exit-Westminster College, Churchill Museum and Library." They stopped, had a chance meeting with a WW II RAF pilot, learned about the International Churchill Society and their lives changed.

He and his wife Susie became members of the International Churchill Society in 1985. Some of the results were:

- They attended the 1987 annual convention in Dallas and were able to have tea with Churchill's last living secretary.
- After that convention Susie took charge of "Churchill Stores" and shipped the Society's books, pamphlets and other materials to members world-wide.
- They had a chapter in their home for several years which lead to many interesting fun meetings.
- They were able to meet and talk with Margaret Thatcher.
- Many more...

About Bill:

He graduated from Indiana University with a Marketing degree and is a member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. He spent 3 years in the US Army running the Demolition and Landmine Warfare School at Fort Lewis, Washington.

Bill and his wife moved to Cleveland in 1972 and he has spent the bulk of his career as a corporate sales training consultant. He has written 4 books, one of which is a business best seller on Field Sales Prospecting.

During his career he has traveled extensively to North and South America, Europe, South Africa, and Asia.

Bill and Susie have been dog handlers for years and focused on Wilderness Search and Rescue work using German Shepherd dogs that they trained. Bill was also a member of the Geauga County Sheriff's Office K-9 unit.

Bill also competes in Master Track and Field as a discus thrower. Bill and Susie have been married 50 years, have two sons and seven grandchildren.

-Richard A. Milford



Martha Vye, Neal Raber and John Heminger



John Bee, Ali Hajjafar and LaLa Krishna



Bill & Minnie Pritchard, Velma Pomrenke and Martha & Mel Vye



Richard Milford, speaker Bill Truax and President Neal Raber



John Hawes and June Burton



Georgia & Bob Ritchie



Jo Ann Collier and Rosemary Cannon

Chief Yellow Feather Speaks at the November Luncheon



John Burke

A nice crowd of retirees and friends enjoyed a sunny November day having lunch and hearing about Native Americans, the arrival of the Puritans, and the evolution of our Thanksgiving Day traditions. John Burke, who in "real life" is the Medina County Treasurer, arrived dressed in full regalia as Chief Yellow Feather. As a member of the Wampanoag Tribe, the Chief

attended the first Thanksgiving dinner with the Puritans in 1621.

The Chief explained how his people watched as a "large canoe" landed and brought ashore families with children to begin a settlement on the site of a former Native village on Cape Cod. The Wampanoag soon discovered that these individuals were not like the Europeans they had encountered several years earlier. They were not traders who captured Natives and took them away as slaves.

The Puritans left England to find religious freedom in Holland. Upon learning that they were going to be required to renounce their English heritage and become Dutch citizens, they returned to England and booked passage on the Mayflower for the "New World".

The voyage took 66 days. Their ship was blown off course and landed far north of the warmer southern part of this new land. The Puritans decided to call their new home Plymouth after the city in England where they boarded the Mayflower in 1620. They did not make a strong effort to engage with their new neighbors, a group of about 7,500 "Indians". Eventually a member of the tribe, Samoset, who spoke some English, made contact. He later asked Squanto to help with communication. Squanto had been captured by Spaniards many years earlier and held in slavery. He later regained his freedom while in Europe and, with the help of an English cleric, spent 15 years living in England. He eventually came back to the "New World" and rejoined the Native Americans on the east coast.

These two new friends helped the settlers by showing them how to fish, hunt, plant crops, and use local plants for medical purposes. Eventually the Puritans and their neighbors forged an alliance for mutual protection that lasted for at least 50 years.

While the Natives had a corn festival in the fall and earlier arrivals to the "New World", the Spaniards, had a similar event, most of us just relate to the stories we learned in grade school about the "first Thanksgiving" and the "Pilgrims". According to Mr. Burke, the first account of this Thanksgiving feast, was written by Edward Winslow and printed in London without his permission in 1622 in *Mourts Relation: A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, 1622, Part I*. The feast DID NOT include turkey. They enjoyed deer meat!

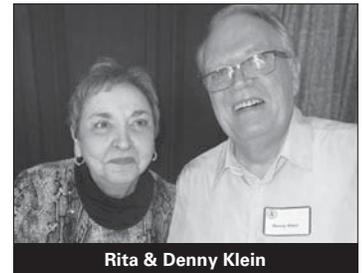
Actually our traditional Thanksgiving holiday has had an interesting and twisted history. In 1789 George Washington declared November 6 to be a day of Thanksgiving. The president's through Monroe carried on this new holiday. However, by 1817 each state

was able to set its own day for such a celebration. This, of course, brought confusion among the citizens. In 1827 Sarah Josepha Hale began her 36-year campaign to make Thanksgiving a national holiday to be celebrated on the same day throughout the country. Finally in 1863 President Lincoln made Thanksgiving a national holiday and set the date as the 4th Thursday in November. Mrs. Hale is also credited with setting our traditional Thanksgiving menu of turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie!

Later Franklin D. Roosevelt wanted to extend the Christmas shopping season, so he moved the feast to the 3rd Thursday in November. Finally Congress acted in 1941 to move Thanksgiving to the 4th Thursday in November as it remains today.



Barry & JoAnn Collier



Rita & Denny Klein



Bob & Georgia Ritchie and Jon Hawes



Bob Gandee, Bob Blankenship, Tom Vukovich, Neal Raber and Cathy Edwards



Stuart Clary and Pam & Tom Nichols



Tom Vukovich presenting gift to John Burke



Velma Pomrenke and Martha & Mel Vye



Tamara Lowe and Cathy Edwards

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Other Thanksgiving traditions include; 1) the first Thanksgiving Day college football game in 1876, 2) the first Thanksgiving Day professional football game in 1934, 3) the first Macy's Parade in 1924; and 4) the pardoning of the national turkey by President Harry Truman in 1947. Did you know that the "photo op" with the President pardoning a large national turkey each November was not carried on after Harry Truman? It was started again fairly recently by President George H.W. Bush and continues today as another Thanksgiving tradition.

John completed his presentation by telling us how his life-long study of Indian lore began when he was a member of the Order of the Arrow while an Eagle Scout. He explained how he made his authentic outfit and regalia. His feathered headdress, for example, is decorated with soaked and then flattened porcupine quills and woven into artistic designs. The turkey call he uses for hunting was actually made from a turkey bone.

John is a busy presenter and is well known for his historically correct interpretations. If you missed him at our November luncheon, watch for one of his future presentations in our area. You will be entertained and impressed by his knowledge and dedication to making his portrayals historically accurate.

Soup & Chili Supper 2017

Once again UA retirees and friends gathered at the Goodyear Metro Park Lodge to partake of homemade soup and chili. Old favorites like Roger Bain's Big Horn Chili and Neal Raber's Rust Belt Chili warmed the guests on a perfect fall evening. Tom Vukovich contributed a new recipe with his Honey-Chipotle Chili.

Judy Lasher again – by request – made Stuffed Pepper Soup. The Seafood Chowder by Pam Rupert disappeared rather quickly, and Martha Vye's Butternut Squash with Apple Soup was a hit also. Rounding out the soup dishes was another "fan favorite", Mushroom Barley Soup by Dennis Klein.

The entrees were supplemented by an array of salads and desserts contributed by attendees. June Burton brought a scrumptious "made from scratch" chocolate cake, and Bob Mravetz provided a delicious yellow Bundt cake. Brownies, pies and other goodies made for a long and tasty dessert buffet.

While still enjoying coffee, tea, and apple cider with seconds – and in some cases thirds – from the dessert table, we prepared for the traditional BINGO game and prize give-away. This year we invited another famous person to be our guest caller. Introduced as an important "White House advisor", the caller appeared from the restroom. See the accompanying photos to identify the mystery guest!

By our rules, everyone must win once before we continue to play for more donated prizes. Seeing what "unique items" are won certainly adds to the festivities.

Plan to join us on the first Friday of November for this event in 2018.

SNACKER CRACKERS

- 44 Keebler Club crackers (I prefer the multi-grain)
- * 52 fit on my cookie-jelly roll pan
- 1/2 cup butter (I use butter, not margarine)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 tsp. Vanilla
- 1 cup sliced almonds
- (I just put on by handful till all covered, probably more than a cup)

Place crackers in a single layer on foil-lined 15x10" baking pan. Mine is a little bigger!

In saucepan over medium heat, melt butter. Add sugar - stir well - bring to a boil stirring constantly. Boil on medium heat for 2 minutes. Remove from heat and add vanilla - careful, it spatters!

Spread evenly over crackers - then sprinkle with the almonds.

Bake at 350* for 12-15 minutes or until lightly browned.

I use a dark pan so 325* and only 8-10 minutes (my oven may be hotter than it should be).

NOTE- THESE ARE EASY AND SO POPULAR THAT I ALWAYS DOUBLE THE RECIPE WHEN I MAKE THEM.

One box of crackers makes a double batch with a few left over! - Georgia Ritchie



Bob & Rae Leonard with President Raber



Charley and Jan von Spiegel



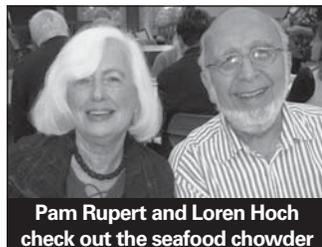
Gerhard & Diana Kunze



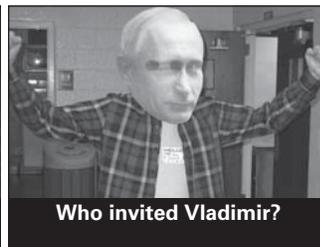
Martha Vye and Tom & Diane Vukovich



Neal & Jackie Raber and Bob Mravetz



Pam Rupert and Loren Hoch check out the seafood chowder



Who invited Vladimir?



Leslie's happy!



Holiday Music Featured at December Luncheon

Heather and Lisa Malyuk

Attendees at the December 13, 2017 Holiday Luncheon were delightfully entertained with music performed by Lisa and Heather on the hammered dulcimer, guitar, fiddle, and banjo uke.

Among the familiar tunes were "Silver Bells Malyuk. The sisters played a variety of Christmas songs, mixed in with some folk tunes," (Lisa's favorite Christmas song), "Do You Hear What I Hear", "Little Drummer Boy", and "It's Getting to Look a Lot Like Christmas". Several "foot tapping" folk tunes, including "Breaking Up Christmas", and "Shove That Pig's Foot Closer to the Fire", were fun additions to the set. Lisa and Heather conducted a trivia contest while introducing several musical selections. Those at the winning table each received a copy of one of their CD's.

Both young women began their musical education at 5 and 6 years of age while being home schooled by their mother. After starting with the piano, they each continued to add other instruments to their repertoire as they entered their teenage years.

While attending The University of Akron, the sisters traveled the country playing folk music to earn funds to cover their college expenses. During one Christmas week, they were hired to play holiday tunes at Disney World in Florida. A nice job they thought – except the weather that year was unseasonably cold with temperatures in the high 40's most nights during their performances!

Lisa graduated from The University of Akron with a B.S. in Dietetics and a certificate in Gerontology. She worked as a registered dietitian before starting a family with her husband, Eric McDaniel, a local attorney. Currently she is happy to be a homemaker, mom, and home school educator to her 5 children, whose ages range from 6 years to 7 months. Lisa continues to perform professionally with Heather as time permits.

Heather also graduated from The University of Akron. She earned a B.A. in Music, History, and Literature. She also has a Doctor of Audiology degree from NOAC, a consortium between Kent State and Akron. Presently she is a practicing audiologist and owner of Sound Check Audiology, a mobile concierge practice specializing in pro audio and musicians' hearing wellness. In addition to performing with Lisa, she is a member of the Glass Mountain Bank.

We were fortunate that these two very talented young women found time in their busy schedules to accept our invitation to perform. They certainly brightened our spirits on a very snowy Wednesday in December.



Tom & Diane Vukovich and Velma



Rita Klein and June Burton



Martha & Mel Vye



President Neal Raber



Linda & Dean Goumas



Don & Shirley O'Hara



Bob Gandee and Richard Milford



Tom Vukovich, Dennis Klein and Neal Raber



Getting a closer look



Jan becomes familiar with the dulcimer



The workings of the dulcimer



The Malyuk Sisters Concert



Pam: We are so delighted that you and your husband, President Mathew Wilson, have become part of the University of Akron community! The atmosphere & promise of the University is so enhanced by the participation of both of you. We are

curious to get to know you even better, and hear about your life before you arrived here. Your native land is Japan, I believe.

Noriko: yes, I was born and grew up in the small countryside town of Kiryu, just north of Tokyo. I was rather a tomboy as a child. It wasn't until 1989 that I came to America to go to college. I was eager to study & get an education. I first looked at West coast schools, but they were expensive, and ended up in Utah, where family friends were. I first attended Brigham Young University, then after a semester I transferred to the University of Utah.

P: We have always speculated on how you met Matt, assuming it was in Japan, as we know he had a missionary experience there, but apparently that is not the case.

N: No, his assignment was to the northern island (Hokkaido), near Siberia, and I was from the middle of Japan, nearby Tokyo. So we never crossed paths there. We met in Utah when we were both college students.

P: How did that come about?

N: (laugh). It's quite an interesting story. He actually asked my girlfriend out. On the first date, my friend asked me to meet this young man, check out what kind of person he was – kind of like an interview – and let her know what I thought. So, I did and gave my approval. When he arrived for their second date there was a note taped on her door in Japanese which he couldn't quite decipher, so he looked for me in the apartment above. It said that she's on an errand, but would be back soon, so I invited him in to wait. After a while, I saw her out the window with another guy, but I just couldn't tell Matt. We waited, & called, but no answer. So we sat & talked until the last bus was leaving. The conversation had changed & Matt began asking me personal questions. I thought "Ooh, ooh," where is this going? As it turned out, 4 weeks later we were engaged, and 4 months later we were married!

P: Sounds like your friend's errant behavior was a blessing in disguise! And a rather fast romance!

N: Yes, we just had a small window to meet. I was soon going home to Japan to earn more money, and he had just got back from his mission to Japan. It was like it was meant to be. He had a plan & was a real go

getter. I saw this from the start. He was also very kind, thoughtful, honest, and a family guy too. The oldest of 6 children.

P: So life was off & running. You have lived in many places. One factor that seemed to affect ventures was Matt's background in Japanese. He was accepted to Temple University Law School in Philadelphia which also has a campus in Japan, and is strong in international studies. You then spent some time in the South Pacific.

N: During law school, Matt saw an advertisement for an attorney position in Saipan – a tropical island in the Western Pacific and capitol of the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Although he was only a first year law student, he picked up the phone and called the law firm to see if they might be interested in hiring him as an intern. Somehow he talked his way into an internship. I think his legal knowledge and Japanese abilities helped land the job. The law firm was so pleased with his performance that one year later, the firm recruited him to take one year off of law school to help out with a 3.5 month civil jury trial involving two Japanese companies battling it out in U.S. court on the island. After graduation, we ended up in Orlando, Florida where Matt worked for a large law firm. He then went to work in Tampa as general counsel for one of his clients (a telecommunications firm) before being recruited by Temple University to serve as Director of its law programs on the Japanese campus. He went on to other positions at Temple University's Tokyo campus including Associate Dean, General Counsel, and Provost. We were there for 6 years.

P: In the meantime, what were you doing? I know you have 4 children.

N: Matt & I had a vision; what would be our goals? We were family centered, but would divide responsibilities. Our rule: Matt would provide, I would nurture. Matt is busy 24/7, with work, students, staff, faculty, etc. I wore different hats: caregiver, driver, teacher, music teacher, handyman.

P: Being a mother can be 24/7 as well. Another thread I see running through our discussion was the love of music. You were a musician yourself, and immersed the children in music training: piano, voice, & violin. You now have a very talented son who has played in Carnegie Hall 3 times & the Kennedy Center as well as Paris & Italy among other places, & won international awards. Another son plays the violin & your daughter sings too. She is now a mother too, back in Utah, with 3 children. You have been a cheerleader & a critic. How did this aspect of your lives influence your choices?

N: Hmmm, I'm rather strong on the critical aspect... Well, when we realized how talented James was, we started looking for places to relocate that would accommodate lessons for him. It was a difficult time

cont on page 8

for job opening in 2008 when the economy was really struggling. James was five at the time and we needed to find a better piano instructor. Fortunately, one law faculty spot was open at University of Wyoming. During our interview we found that the piano department head was wonderful. We ended up in Wyoming, and we were there 5 years before coming to Ohio.

P: It seems your son has led you to several places, including UA. Tell us about that.

N: We first became interested in Akron for another reason; the Law School deanship was open, & Matt had recently published his Law Journal with the UA Press. He had spoken at the law school about international law several times, so we knew the area. We were in the process of moving when James experienced severe pain, and was diagnosed with cancer. We were debating staying put until the oncologist at the hospital in Colorado told us that Akron Children's Hospital focused on just the kind of cancer that James had. She also personally knew several of the doctors and surgeons there.

P: So you arrived here & Matt became Dean of the Law School. And James is once again healthy.

N: It worked out well. Matt's office was only 3 minutes from the hospital so he could easily visit his son. It immediately felt like we were coming home. The law school faculty & staff set up a "meal date" & brought us food. Our son Jacob attends Hudson HS, & we found out the counselor there had a son with the same cancer. It was like putting a puzzle together; it was meant to be.

P: Perhaps it was meant to be for UA, too; we were in dire need of revitalization. How lucky we were that he was there to step into the Presidency, with you by his side. And you have done some interesting things while here. In addition to attending meetings of several organizations, such as UA women's Club & UA Women's Committee, you have taught a cooking class & worked with the Boy Scouts.

N: I was invited to teach a Japanese cooking class at UA. That was fun. The Boy Scouts are now considering a special program for girls, spurred by families with both boys & girls. They appreciated the wonderful skills cultivated, and wanted to reach out. I am on the Family Scouting Committee. I was a den mother helping boys build pinewood derby cars, too. A lot of learning is involved, including friction, etc. In addition, I am on The Greater Akron Music Association Board of Trustees.

P: Sounds like a busy schedule. I hear you like the outdoors.

N: I love it; pitching a tent, camping... When in Wyoming I helped my son earn his camping badge. We pitched a tent in the cold & my 2 youngest sons & I bunked down in the tent while Matt & the oldest headed into the Suburban to sleep for the night! We were shivering in the AM while they were warm! Unforgettable memories!

P: Now we laugh! Another thing you mentioned earlier

piqued my interest. You said you taught Japanese in a Head Start program in Utah. That was unexpected. Why there?

N: Utah is actually a quite cosmopolitan area. Mormon missionaries who are sent abroad bring back ideas and are often followed by students from other countries. It is a multicultural, international area.

P: That is enlightening. I hadn't thought of that. So how do you find Akron?

N: Akron is really quite a melting pot. There are a variety of cultures found within the University & community, and many musical resources in the Ohio region. Music really speaks to everyone & is a connector. I enjoy meeting people & building bridges. I was an ambitious girl but never imagined being exposed to so many cultures & experiences in my lifetime. Our oldest son Joshua just returned from missionary work in South Korea & is with us for a few weeks before the semester starts at the University of Utah; following in his father's footsteps! And he is helping out in the President's office on a volunteer basis until spring semester starts.

Matt has been good for me. He hates the phrase "It can't be helped." He feels you have to be proud of yourself, and work to overcome any problems or weaknesses. Have confidence. It's seeing the cup as half full, not half empty. We try to walk together and support each other.

P: He certainly has brought that positive image to the University. His philosophy that "you need to build bridges & your will go far" is most evident in his tackling of our problems. We are so glad of the many things that lead your path to us. The vision of the future is bright again. Thank you both!

Wilson family



Kiyomizy Temple, Kyoto



Noriko & President Wilson with Zippy

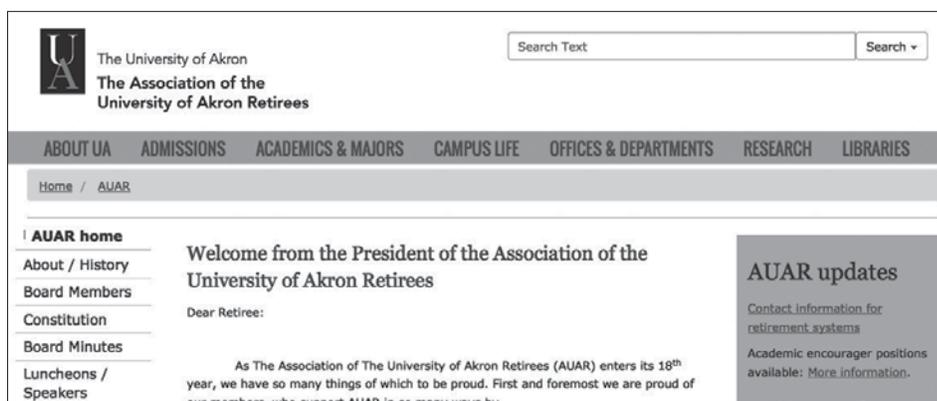
FACULTY SENATE FALL 2017

During the Fall Semester, the activities of the Faculty Senate included the following:

- Approved curriculum proposals presented by Curriculum Review Committee and the General Education Advisory Committee.
- Adopted a motion from the General Education Committee concerning general education requirements for students pursuing associate's degrees
- Amended the bylaw of the Faculty Senate with respect to senators participating in the TARP program. Such senators are allowed to complete their senate term and duties.
- Adapted a motion recommending a change to the university rule 3359-60-03.3 to allow a student to repeat a course for credit at other institutions.
- Adopted a motion from Academic Policies regarding:
Only college deans, academic department chairs, and school directors have authority to waive course prerequisites, provide department consent for enrollment purposes, override time conflicts, or enroll students in closed classes. College deans, academic department chairs, and school directors may delegate this authority to appropriate individuals in their respective academic units.

Exploring the retirees' association web page.

If you haven't yet had a chance, why not take a few minutes and explore our web page. We regularly add information to keep you apprised of our group opportunities for socializing (luncheons and speakers, or special events in the Akron area), your benefits and the latest actions of the University of Akron Retirees Board. You might wish to know a bit of our history, or if you are having trouble sleeping, you may want to read our constitution just before going to bed.



The screenshot shows the AUAR website home page. At the top left is the University of Akron logo and the text 'The University of Akron The Association of the University of Akron Retirees'. To the right is a search bar with 'Search Text' and a 'Search' button. Below this is a navigation menu with links: ABOUT UA, ADMISSIONS, ACADEMICS & MAJORS, CAMPUS LIFE, OFFICES & DEPARTMENTS, RESEARCH, LIBRARIES. Below the menu is a breadcrumb trail: Home / AUAR. The main content area features a 'Welcome from the President of the Association of the University of Akron Retirees' section with a 'Dear Retiree:' salutation and a paragraph starting 'As The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR) enters its 18th year, we have so many things of which to be proud. First and foremost we are proud of our members, who support AUAR in so many ways by...'. To the left of this is a sidebar menu with links: AUAR home, About / History, Board Members, Constitution, Board Minutes, Luncheons / Speakers. To the right is an 'AUAR updates' section with links for 'Contact information for retirement systems' and 'Academic encourager positions available: More information.'

The Association web site is located at: www.uakron.edu/auar. Enter this address one time and bookmark the page that opens for future visits. Some enter University of Akron retirees in one of the search engines on their browsers and then follow the results of their search to our web site.

Once in our AUAR home page, you can click on any of the topics listed on the left hand edge of the page to automatically go to information you are interested in reading. Topics include: History, Board Members (contact information), Constitution, Board Minutes, Luncheons/Speakers, Special Events, Newsletter (current and past editions), Announcements, Post-Retirement Benefits and Membership Brochure (information and application). The home page also has a link to the contact list of all retired faculty and staff of the University of Akron. If you have suggestion for items to include on our web page, please let us know.



AUAR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

AUAR awarded two \$2,000 scholarships for the current academic year to **Jonathan Masters** and **Brook Kendra**.

Jonathan is majoring in Accounting and expects to graduate in 2019. He feels it is important to give back to the community so has been involved in several organizations. He volunteers in a Cleveland based Boy & Girl's Club for the less unfortunate, feeling that time spent can be crucial and affect positive life changes. He also participated in a Jr. Achievement "Bowlathon" fundraiser for children in need to enable them to experience learning beyond the classroom and become self sufficient.

Brook has a double major of Adolescent Young Adult Integrated Language Arts Education & English with a minor in Interpersonal Group Communication. She also holds 3 jobs: a teaching assistant at Leggett Elementary, a teaching assistant at Childtime Daycare, & also is on call as a professional nanny for Nanny Connection. Student teaching is scheduled this spring ; her goal after graduation 2018 is to teach English in an inner city, perhaps outside of Ohio.

BENEFITS - Linda Sugarman, AUAR Representative

Reminder- The premium for retiree dependent insurance will be \$66.00 starting on January 1, 2018.

Retiree Dependent Insurance- Medical Expenses incurred outside of the United States are covered.

Recently there has been some confusion about whether a Retiree Dependent would be covered for Medical expenses in a foreign country.

A retiree Dependent who has the University of Akron Medicare Supplement will be covered while traveling outside of the United States.

The procedure to follow when incurring medical expenses outside of the United States is as follows: if possible call 804-673-1177 before going to a provider in a foreign land. Ask to speak to a Global Care Customer Service Specialist before going to the medical provider. If the retiree Dependent cannot do this, and must pay up front, get a receipt for monies paid and a bill that you can submit once you are home. Once home call 877-237-2390 and a representative will help you get the claim submitted.

This coverage is not a substitute for travel insurance. Travel insurance would usually include insurance that provides transportation when a medical condition requires that.

AUAR Membership, Human Resources, The University of Akron, Buchtel Commons, Akron, OH 44325

If you haven't renewed your AUAR membership for the 2014-2015 year, it is time to do so. Don't forget our Scholarship fund where we provide some funding for a worthy student. Please complete the items listed below, and mail your check or checks to the address below. If you have an e-mail address, please submit it.

Name: First _____ Last _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Dues are \$12.00; make checks payable to "AUAR" Scholarship Donation _____; make checks payable to the U of A Foundation

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON RETIREES

E-mail Digest SPECIAL EDITION

The E-mail Digest is a daily compilation of announcements sent Monday through Friday to faculty, staff and contract professionals. The digest contains announcements of all events of interest on campus. Retirees who would like to keep up with UA activities and receive the digest in their inbox can do so.

To be put on the guest list of recipients of the digest, send an email message to bobk@uakron.edu (Robert Kropff). Type *Digest Subscription* in the subject line of your email and request to be added to the subscription list in the message portion.

UPCOMING EVENTS WINTER 2017/2018

The 2017-2018 AUAR Board



The AUAR Newsletter is a biannual publication of the Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR), c/o Talent Development & Human Relations Department, The University of Akron, Akron, OH 44325-4730.

AUAR members receive our newsletter automatically. The AUAR Executive Board meets at 10:00 a.m. on the 4th Thursday of the month at the UA Alumni Office in InfoCision 203.

If you have questions about the organization or to keep abreast of events and issues pertinent to all UA retirees, visit our website at www.uakron.edu/auar. The newsletter editor, Dr. Pamela Rupert, can be reached at pamelarae2004@aol.com or 330-928-1810.

If you are interested in entertainment within the Akron area, check into our web site and view the events listed under the Special Events Menu. Just Log on to www.uakron.edu/auar and click on the Menu **"Special Events"** or type www.uakron.edu/auar/special-events.dot

January- NO LUNCHEON

February 14, 2018

-Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh

February 15, 2018

-Brunch and Theatre — CANCELLED

February or March

Scholarship Fundraiser, TBA

March 14, 2018

-Philip Thomson & Yangsoon Kim,
"Travelogue: Nepal"

April 11, 2018

-Mark Price "Akron's Gangland war."

April 27, 2018

-(tentative) Annual "Road Trip" , TBA

May 18, 2018

-Lobster & Suds Party, VFW Pavilion, Waterloo Rd.

2018 AUAR Meeting Schedule

Jan.25, 2018

Feb. 22, 2018

March 22, 2018

April 26, 2018

May 24, 2018

June 28, 2018

Our Motto

*People say interns and new hires are the promise of the future.
Let's not forget that retirees are promises kept.*