Tower Talk

Sandra Koepke, editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am happy to report that since the first of the year, our Program Committee has continued to provide UTRA members with a wide variety of activities, including Toledo Walleye hockey and UT women's basketball games (with pregame meals), a lecture on human trafficking by State Rep. Teresa Fedor, and the ever popular Antiques Road Show. Our monthly Game Days and Lunch Bunch outings also have been going strong. We appreciate those who have supported these programs and certainly encourage members who have not yet done so to take advantage of these opportunities. Everyone is welcome.

Following up on a suggestion from Bill Logie (UTRA vice president and chair of the Benefits Committee), we held our first reception in March for new retirees. Special guest and speaker William Koester, chair of the UT Board of Trustees, welcomed our new members. Fifteen new retirees attended our morning reception in the Schmakel Room. It was a great opportunity for these individuals to meet our Executive Board members, to reconnect with former colleagues, and to have the chance to learn more about UTRA. In addition to Bill Logie, I also thank Membership Chair Lee Shields and Program Co-Chairs Bobbie Raeder and Pat Harmon, along with their committees for their work on this program.

The annual joint luncheon of UT and Bowling Green State University retirees is always a fun event. This year, UT hosted the luncheon at the Stone Oak Country Club — the first time we held a function there. And judging from all of the positive comments we received on the facility and the food, I am sure we will be going back there again. More than 80 people, including a very good contingent from BGSU, enjoyed the setting. Following a delicious meal, we were all able to sit back and enjoy a fascinating talk by Dr. Karen Bjorkman, dean of College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Her talk on the planets, the stars and galaxies was highly informative and entertaining.

Starting late last year, the Bylaws Committee, under the guidance of George Kertz, conducted an extensive review of the UTRA bylaws. The recommendations of the Bylaws Committee served as the basis for further discussion by the entire UTRA Executive Board, and ultimately the Board approved a set of changes to our bylaws. These changes now must be approved by the UTRA voting membership. You soon will be receiving a copy of these revisions as recommended by the UTRA Executive Board. Please review the changes and then be sure to vote. Your voice is important to us!

James W. Lapp, President UTRA

NEWS FROM COLUMBUS

By Jim Lapp

The guest speaker at the March 19 Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER) meeting was William Winegarner, administrator of Public Employee Retirees Inc. (PERI), which is the political action association for those retirees within the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS).

Established in 1948, its purpose is to monitor and influence legislation pertaining to, and the management of, OPERS. Or as Winegarner put it, "to make sure the legislature and OPERS don't mess up the system." And after all, "the job of the retirement system board is to protect the retiree, not to protect the retirement system."

More than 60,000 OPERS retirees belong to PERI as either annual or lifetime members. Winegarner stated that PERI's

greatest asset is its local chapters (of which there are 93, arranged into 11 districts around the state). As a lifetime PERI member myself, I would encourage UTRA OPERS retirees to consider joining; the dues are very modest.

The idea of universal social security is a major concern of PERI at this time. There are those in Washington who look at this as a possible way to pay for changes in entitlement programs and for deficit reduction. PERI especially is concerned that AARP seems to be pushing for mandatory social security. The problem for us is that social security is not a retirement system, rather it's a tax. There probably always will be those who argue that taxpayers are paying too much for the retirement benefits of former public employees. But according to Winegarner, we (those of us in the public sector and those who represent us) have not done a good job in getting the word out that the "money in the retirement

system belongs to the retirees, not the taxpayers – it is compensation for work delivered." It also is important to note that 70 percent of benefits paid out to retirees comes from investment returns, and that for every \$1 paid by taxpayers into the retirement system, \$3.85 comes back into the economy – that's a darned good return.

Greg Nickel, director of health-care services for the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS), reported on a number of changes that would be coming in health-care coverage for STRS members. For 2014, recommendations have been made to the STRS Board to keep the Medicare reimbursement the same and to eliminate the ability for STRS retirees to sign up late for health care. A monthly surcharge for smokers has been requested to start in 2015. And by 2016, they expect to merge the Medicare Basic and Plus plans into one plan. At this point, it is unclear as to what affect the Affordable Care Act will have on STRS health care. Will some STRS retirees be better off in an exchange? That is probably a discussion for 2016.

The OCHER Advocacy Committee is in the process of identifying and prioritizing issues to follow this year. Pension reform had been the No. 1 topic for quite some time. With the passage of pension reform legislation by the Ohio General Assembly, that issue has been put to rest, at least for now. The legislation did, however, give the Ohio Retirement Study

Council (ORSC) a 180-day period to review the authorization authority given the pension systems — the part that gave the retirement boards authority to make certain changes without the need for legislative approval. Whether there will be any tweaks to this authority upon completion of the review in late June is yet to be determined.

Issues that will be on the radar for the OCHER Advocacy Committee include monitoring the continuing debate over defined benefit versus defined contribution plans (there are still those in Columbus who would favor defined contribution plans); social security reform legislation — will there be a push to get public employees into social security, which some view as a way to shore up that system; Medicare/Medicaid reform (and the Affordable Care Act) — how will that affect health-care coverage of public employees; possible changes to the IRS Tax code — and how would that impact retirees?

Finally, I would like to mention that in March, the OPERS Board voted to delay by one year the effective implementation date of some, but not all, of the health-care changes adopted in September 2012. Changes to be delayed include the new age and service eligibility rules, transition of the allowance given to members for monthly premiums, spousal and child coverage, and the OPERS Medicare Connector. These changes will become effective in either 2015 or 2016, depending on the component. Stay tuned for further developments.

UTMC CELEBRATES OPENING OF PARKINSON CENTER, MEDICAL PAVILION

By Jon Strunk



UT President Lloyd Jacobs held the scissors that he, Philip Gardner and Helen McMaster used to cut the ribbon last week to celebrate the opening of the Gardner-McMaster Parkinson Center located in the new Medical Pavilion on Health Science Campus. Joining them are members of the UT community as well as members of the Gardner and McMaster families. Generous donations from the two families and additional support from the Parkinson's Foundation of Northwest Ohio helped provide funds to build the center.

The University of Toledo Medical Center celebrated the opening of the Gardner-McMaster Parkinson Center and the new Medical Pavilion in April.

The Medical Pavilion, which houses the new center as well as several relocated outpatient clinics, is located

between Dowling Hall and the Orthopedic Center. Named in recognition of the generous donations from the family of Findlay businessman Philip Gardner, as well as the Harold and Helen McMaster Foundation, the nearly 6,000-square-foot facility is set to be one of the leading Parkinson centers largely in part to its teamcare approach.

"This new center increases accessibility for patients, optimizes and maximizes the care provided to our patients and their families, and places them in close proximity to physical and occupational therapists, speech and language pathologists, and other health-care professionals who are also experts in Parkinson's care," said Dr. Lawrence Elmer, professor of neurology and medical director of the Center for Neurological Health, and a specialist in the treatment and research of Parkinson's disease for more than 20 years. The Parkinson's Foundation of Northwest Ohio also raised more than \$160,000 to help offset the approximately \$1.35 million in renovation costs.

UTMC also celebrated the opening of the Medical Pavilion to better serve patients and employees. In addition to the Gardner-McMaster Parkinson Center, the Medical Pavilion houses the relocated Urology, Nephrology and Transplant Clinic, the Pain Clinic, and the UTMC Outpatient Pharmacy. An additional outpatient lab draw site has also been established.

"The Medical Pavilion is a beautiful new space that makes a greater number of UTMC's outpatient services more accessible to our patients and their families," said Olivia Dacre, who leads the coordination of UTMC's outpatient clinics. "By making services easier to find and by making waiting areas for families and friends more comfortable, it is our hope we can remove some of the stress and confusion that can come with any visit to an advanced medical center."

All clinics operate Monday through Friday:

- **Gardner-McMaster Parkinson Center** by appointment only 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., 419.383.7705.
- Urology Clinic by appointment only 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., 419.383.3578.
- Nephrology/Renal Transplant Clinic by appointment only 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., 419.383.5288.
- Pain Clinic
 by appointment only 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., 419.383.5000.
- Outpatient Lab no appointment necessary 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., 419.383.5293.
- Outpatient Pharmacy
 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., 419.383.3750.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO RETIREES ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

By Reemt R. Baumann

What do Elizabeth Lemon, Grant Winslow and Heather Murnen have in common?

- **a.** They are undergraduate students at The University of Toledo.
- **b.** They are descendants of members of The University of Toledo Retirees Association.
- c. They have each been awarded a scholarship of \$1,000.
- **d.** All of the above.

Answer? D.

Elizabeth Lemon, majoring in nursing, a granddaughter of Betty Lemon, received a \$1,000 scholarship for the academic year 2012-13.

Grant Winslow, majoring in education, a grandson of Lowell Gill, was awarded a scholarship of \$1,000 for the academic year 2011-12.

Heather Murnen, majoring in business, a granddaughter of George Murnen, received a \$1,000 scholarship for the academic year 2010-11.

A letter dated Jan. 9, 2003, from the UT Office of Institutional Advancement indicated receipt of \$10,000 as a contribution designated for the creation of a UTRA Scholarship Fund, was the first official notice of the project to be undertaken by the retirees group. The program was begun in earnest with the appointment of three executive board members to design an appropriate form for potential eligible student candidates. A draft of the form was displayed at the April 2003 meeting of the Executive Board and, with a few suggestions, the form was approved to be presented at the UTRA annual meeting in June 2003.

The design for funding the scholarship monetary awards allowed only the use of funds from investment interest earned through the UT Foundation for that purpose. It would not allow use of any portion of the original \$10,000 and other gifts that were received and added to the initial base for funding awards. Now some nine years later (Dec. 31, 2012), the principal is \$30, 329.

Presently, the fund is large enough to support one scholarship of \$1,000 per year. It would be gratifying to be able to help additional recipients or to increase the size of the assistance. You might consider joining with others in enriching the UTRA Scholarship Fund. Your gift may be made in memory of a special person or event in your life. Donations of any amount are sincerely appreciated. They are tax-deductible as permitted by law. Contributions can be sent to The University of Toledo Foundation, 2801 W. Bancroft St., Toledo, OH 43606-3390 with a note directing it be applied to the UTRA Scholarship Fund. For those of you who have contributed in the past, it is a pleasure to thank you for your generosity and hope that you are able to do so again.

In addition to the three students mentioned above, the rest of the awardees plus one are listed below. One of them was not a full-time undergraduate student at the time awards were available. Try to identify the person who should not be included:

a. Lynn Johnson
b. Nathan Mathewson
c. Matthew Murnen
d. Richard Perry
e. Holly Pawlowski
f. Emily Corey

Answer: D.

Richard Perry, a member of the Executive Board, made the proposal to transfer \$10,000 from the UTRA treasury to the UT Foundation to begin the program.

Perhaps your grandchild (or other direct descendant) could be our next scholarship recipient. That could only happen if he or she applies. Recipients of this scholarship can major in any academic discipline. Grade point average, class standing and participation in campus and/or community activities are among the criteria used for eligibility. It is required that the student be a full-time undergraduate, and at least a second semester freshman who is a descendant of a paid up member or deceased member of UTRA.

For a scholarship application and additional information, contact Sally Berglund in the Alumni Office at 419.530.2586. The application deadline for the 2013-14 academic year is Monday, July 1.

HEALTH SCIENCE CAMPUS SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

By Keith Schlender

It is the goal of the Health Science Campus Scholarship Committee to award four \$1,000 scholarships to doctoral or master's students on Health Science Campus this fall. One scholarship will be awarded to a student in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, the College of Nursing, the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and the College Graduate Studies. Health Science Campus retirees recently should have received a solicitation letter in the mail.

Last fall was the first time that we awarded a scholarship to a student from the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and this year is the first time their retirees are being asked to contribute. Retirees can elect to contribute to current year scholarships, the endowment, or they can split their gift.

In addition to contributions, we also raise money to support the scholarships. In recent years, our best moneymaker has been shoe sales in the hospital cafeteria. We sell high-quality shoes that are very popular with hospital staff that spend many hours on their feet. We run the sale for 32 continuous hours to cover all shifts. We have had a loyal group of volunteers that have been willing to spend a few hours of their time to support this project. We plan to have another sale this fall, and we could always use more help.

If you are willing to schedule a shift of a few hours, please contact Carol Okenka at cbokenka@sbcglobal.net or you can call the Alumni Office at 419.530.2586. For those of us that have helped in the past it actually is kind of fun.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

By Patricia Harmon

Holiday brunch

The annual Holiday Brunch was held at the Inverness Club. Everyone enjoyed delightful food and lots of conversation. More than 100 stuffed animals were collected for children who are in the Emergency Room at UTMC. These animals provide some comfort in a stressful environment. There were several scholarship recipients who were able to join us. It was a great way to begin the holiday season.

Walleye game

A group of UTRA members enjoyed an evening with the Walleyes. There were people who had never been to a game and those who are longtime fans. We enjoyed a buffet in the Aquarium along with a talk by the coach. The game was fun especially since we won. Those of us who did not know anything about hockey learned a little and look forward to next year.

Lunch with Golden Alumni Society

We joined the Golden Alumni Society for lunch in the Fettterman Center before a Toledo Rockets women's basketball game. Lunch was delicious. The pep band entertained us. Coach Tricia Cullop and Kelly Andrews, Senior Associate Athletic Director and Senior Woman Administrator talked to us about the women's team and other programs in place for student athletes. We then watched the game and cheered them on to a win.

Walk in the park

On a cold April morning, 15 of our members enjoyed an hourlong walk at Wildwood Metropark accompanied by a park naturalist. Everyone was bundled up with scarves, hats, gloves and sunglasses. It was a good thing Ryan provided nametags because it was not easy to identify each other. Even though everything was still in "winter shutdown," the naturalist pointed out things one would not notice. Everyone came away with a little something they had learned. We will repeat a walk at a different metropark in the fall. Hope you can join us.

New retirees reception

On Wednesday, March 20, a reception was held in the Schmakel Room to welcome 15 new retirees. They were greeted by William Koester, chair of The University of Toledo Board of Trustees, along with the members of the UTRA Board.

Coffee and pastries were enjoyed. Information was provided about upcoming events, the lunch bunch group and the Tuesday game day group. There was lots of chatter and laughter as people renewed old friendships and met new people.

We hope to continue these receptions to greet new retirees and in addition provide information about questions that come up about insurance, health care and other issues. And they soon will find out that retired people have a lot of fun.

Joint meeting with BGSU

The joint meeting with BGSU was held at Stone Oak Country Club Tuesday, April 23. Eighty of us enjoyed a lovely setting, excellent food and lots of conversation. The speaker was Dr. Karen Bjorkman from The University of Toledo. She spoke with enthusiasm of all of the new discoveries about our universe and other universes that are out there. The advent of telescopes in space dramatically has changed astronomy. She also spoke about the partnership with the Discovery Channel and two other universities allowing UT astronomers viewing time with a new telescope. Dr. Bjorkman encouraged all of us to go outside at night and look up.

RECENT LIFETIME MEMBERS

Janet Pietykowski

Shirley Wozniak

WELCOME NEW RETIREES

Victoria Asmus Willie R. Riggs
Sharon Barkimer Dorothy Rouppas
Catherine A. Brillhart Sandra Sutter-Pollex
Deborah Hanson David Swartz
Gerri Jacobs Mary Villegas
Daniel M. Johnson Teala Young

UPCOMING EVENTS 2013-2014

- Thursday, June 6, Annual Meeting and Lunch at Belmont Country Club, 11:30 a.m., cost: \$20
- Friday, June 21, Mud Hens game drive on your own and have dinner in the Nest (outdoor picnic area) prior to the 7 p.m. game, dinner and game ticket: \$25
- Thursday, July 11, Annual Picnic at Strawberry Acres Lodge at McCord and Angola Roads, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Cost: \$12, guests bring fruit or dessert
- Sunday, Aug. 4, play, "42nd Street," Croswell Opera House in Adrian, Mich. Drive on your own, Cost: \$20 with just 20 tickets available. We will make reservations at the Stable Restaurant for anyone interested in having lunch at their own expense before the performance.
- Thursday, Aug. 22, Hollywood Casino for buffet and gaming, Details: TBA
- Saturday, Sept. 14, Rockets home football game, free hot dogs, chips and soft drinks in the Koester Alumni Pavilion, cost: price of game ticket
- Monday, Sept. 16, talk on "Climate Change" by Dr. Andy Jorgensen, UT associate professor of chemistry, in the Driscoll Alumni Center Schmakel Room, 1 p.m.
- October, Walk in Sidecut Park, date and time: TBA
- Thursday, Oct. 10, cruise on the Sandpiper with lunch and talk by Fred Folger, 11:30 a.m., cost: TBA
- Thursday, Nov. 7, talk on "Schemes, Scams and Ripoffs" by Dick Epstein of the Better Business Bureau in the Driscoll Alumni Center Schmakel Room, 1 p.m.
- December, holiday brunch, place, day and cost: TBA
- January, New Retirees Reception, Health Science Campus, date and time: TBA
- March 23-30, eight days and seven nights, Florida and the Bahamas with Norwegian Cruise Lines. Cost: approximately \$2,000 per person including round-trip airfare from Detroit. Watch for further information.

2013 Thursday Lunch Bunch dates

Brunch 10:30 a.m., Lunch 1 p.m.

- June 20, The Seafood Restaurant, 5504 Alexis Rd.
- July 18, Charlie's Restaurant, 6945 W. Central Ave., brunch
- Aug. 15, Mancy's Italian, 5453 Monroe St.
- Sept. 19, Burger Bar 419, 4400 Heatherdowns Blvd.
- Oct. 17, Tony Packo's Cafe, 1901 Front St.
- Nov. 21, Plaza Azteca Mexican Restaurant, 5125 Monroe St.
- Dec. 19, Flower Drum Chinese Restaurant, 49 S Byrne Road

2014 Thursday Lunch Bunch dates

Brunch 10:30 a.m., Lunch 1:00 p.m.

- Jan. 16, Gradkowski's, 1440 Secor Road
- Feb. 20. Uncle John's Pancake House, 3131 Secor Road, brunch
- March 20, Scrubs Pub and Grub, 3312 Glendale Ave.
- April 17, Aladdin's Eatery, 4038 Talmadge Road
- May 15, Real Seafood at the Docks
- June 19, Miss Lily's, 24174 Front St., Grand Rapids
- July 17, Biaggi's at Levis Commons
- Aug. 21, IHOP, 6535 Airport Highway (across from Spring Meadows), brunch
- Sept.18, Shawn's Irish Tavern, 436 W. Bancroft St.
- Oct. 16, Adam's Place, 2417 W. Laskey Road

Contact Bobbie Raeder at rootig@bex.net if you would like to be included on a monthly reminder email list.

Cards and Games

• Second Tuesday of each month from 2 to 4 p.m. on Health Science Campus in the Hotel restaurant, ample parking in front of hotel. For additional information, contact George Kertz at gkertz@utoledo.edu.



Inverness Holiday brunch

A great time was had by all who attended the 2012 December holiday brunch at the Inverness Club.

WALLEYE GAME







Bob Niedzielski, past president of UTRA, greeted the fans on the bus heading downtown to a buffet in the Aquarium before the Walleye game.

ANTIQUE SHOW AND TELL





One of our most popular events was held in March. The information on the 50 or more treasures brought by UTRA members for appraisal were provided by Jeff Palicki, a good friend of Lionel McIlwain who was unable to attend.



STATE REP. TERESA FEDOR TALKS ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

At our popular February Lecture Series, Jim Lapp introduced our speaker, State Rep. Teresa Fedor. She told us the history of human trafficking in the Toledo area and in the state. She introduced landmark trafficking bills that were signed into law in 2009 and 2010. And in June 2012, the governor signed into law House Bill 262, dubbed the "Safe Harbor Bill," Fedor's most comprehensive human trafficking legislation to date.





NEW RETIREE RECEPTION







Bill Logie, UTRA vice president, presented William Koester, chair of The University of Toledo Board of Trustees, to the new members and UTRA board members. Information was shared along with coffee and pastries.

WALK IN THE PARK





UTRA retirees gather at Wildwood Nature Preserve on a cold April morning for an hour walk with the park naturalist. Watch for details on the next walk in the fall at a different park.

COURTING FANS





UT Women's Basketball Coach Tricia Cullop, presented a great talk at the UTRA and the Golden Alumni Society lunch prior to the Toledo-Kent State game. Waiting for the game to begin were Jim Lapp, UTRA president, and Ryan Hieber, associate director of alumni relations.

ANNUAL UT-BGSU LUNCHEON







Bobbi Raeder and Pat Harmon, both past presidents of the UTMC retirees association and co-chairs of the program committee, greeted the many retirees from both campuses. Dr. Karen Bjorkman, dean of the UT Natural Sciences and Mathematics, spoke about the partnership UT has with the Discovery Channel along with two other universities. And she talked about the new discoveries in our universe.

UT'S FACULTY BRIDGE GROUP

By Roger Kennedy

On a cold winter evening in February 1984, four couples gathered together to have dinner and an evening of bridge card playing. Unknown then, they started a journey that continues 29 years later in 2013.

Four University of Toledo professors and their wives
— Professor Reemt Baumann and his wife, Joan, Professor
Roger Kennedy and his wife, Joanne, Professor Edward
Nussel and his wife, Lorraine, and Professor Robert Sullivant
and his wife, Enid, arrived at the Baumann residence for
the first of what was to become many, many evenings of



bridge. The same four couples this year, 29 years later, gather once each month for an evening meal and card playing. This adds up to more than 328 evenings

of shared eating and playing, approximately 2,270 hands of bridge to bid on, and a high and low score each evening. Most evenings we play two-table bridge, seven rounds, four deals with each of the seven other players. The scores for all of these evenings have been recorded and catalogued. We have a history of everybody's score, their ranking for the evening, the total scores, and the date and where we played each month. The four couples rotate houses each month alphabetically, starting the evening with conversion and a home cooked meal.

The group has had many highs and lows to talk about over the years, hearing and talking about their children and now grandchildren and great grandchildren. Discussions of weddings, births, deaths, travel, sickness, celebrations, and problems and delights of growing old have been covered over the decades. Three of the couples have moved and downsized since we started in 1984. Professor Baumann and his wife still reside in their original home.

All four professor emeriti have retired from The University of Toledo. Three were associated with the College of Education, and one, Dr. Sullivant, was vice president of the University and with the College of Arts and Science. All were involved at one time or another with teaching and advising students, and all had leadership or administrative duties at the college or university level.

Several of the wives were teachers at the elementary, middle or high school level. Several were involved in various community volunteer work, and all are excellent homemakers and cooks. The four families have a total of 13 children. The group rarely plays on Sundays as they

all are very involved in the activities and workings in each of their churches. All four families also are very active Toledo Rocket fans. We all attend and cheer on the football team and the men and women's basketball



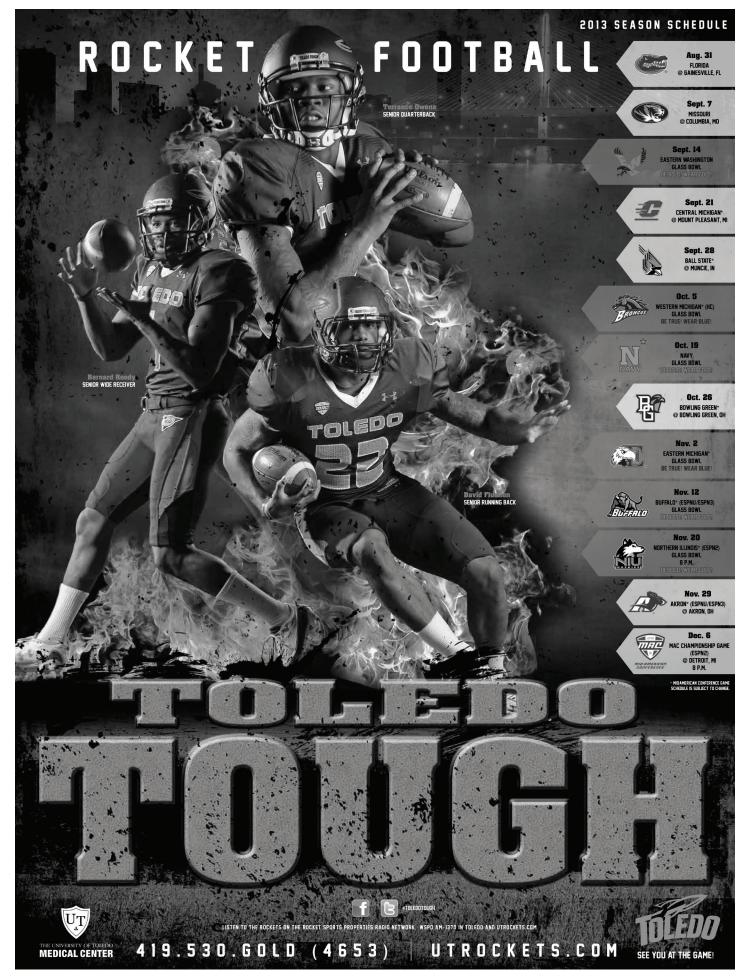
As is the case of any group like this, we are not infallible. We do need substitutes every once in a while. Sickness, accidents, vacations, hospital stays, knee replacements, cancer treatments and family problems do occur and replacement players, sometimes at the last minute, are needed. Over the 29 years, we have used 12 couples to fill in a total of 37 times when we had a need. Yes, we have a record of all our substitutes, when and for whom they played, and their scores. Many of these subs were also University of Toledo professors and their wives, and sadly, many of them are no longer with us. Some have moved out of the area and some have passed away.

On Feb. 17, 2013, the beginning of our 30th year, we celebrated by gathering at the Nussel home for a catered evening meal, prepared by Chef Les. We will continue our journey of an evening of bridge once a month for as long as we are physically and mentally able to continue.



Tuesday game day

A fun group of retirees play cards on the second Tuesday from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Hotel on Health Science Campus. Please join them for euchre, bridge, canasta or any game of your choice.



IN MEMORIAM

Maxine S. Adams, Toledo, who was a library media technical assistant in Audio-Visual Services from 1972 until her retirement in 2000, died Dec. 23 at age 77.

Donald G. Bahna Jr., Knoxville, Tenn., a staff perfusionist at MCO from 1981 to 1991, died April 20 at age 48.

Claude Black, a Toledo jazz legend who was a member of the UT Music Department and shared his talent and knowledge with students for years, died Jan. 17 at age 80. The pianist was a sought-after performer in the region who also taught jazz voice at the University since 2009. However, his relationship with the department extended back to 2000. In his role as house pianist for the former Murphy's Place in downtown Toledo, Black often accompanied Jon Hendricks, UT Distinguished Professor of Jazz, and the student ensembles that played there. He also coached students and mentored them as they cut their musical teeth in a real jazz club and in the Center for Performing Arts, where Black often came to practice. In 1965, the pianist joined Aretha Franklin's band and toured around the world. He played keys for a long list of jazz luminaries, including Charlie "Bird" Parker, Stan Getz, Wes Montgomery and Wynton Marsalis. For more than four decades, Black and friend Clifford Murphy, bassist, played music together. The two jammed at the former Murphy's Place for 20 years.

Dr. Barbara L. "Barby" Britsch, Toledo, former instructor, died Dec. 3 at age 86. She received a doctorate in curriculum and instruction from UT in 1990.

Jeanne R. (Carver) Alleman Ciha, Toledo, died Feb. 16 at age 81. She was hired as a trainee in Pathology at MCO in 1979 and became an IV technician one year later. In 2000, she moved to the Lab Central Office and became a lab clinical technician, the position she retired from in 2008.

Dr. Basil A. Collins, Holland, Mich., a UT faculty member for 27 years, died March 25 at age 92. He joined the Geography and Planning Department as an assistant professor in 1967. Collins served as president of UT's chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. Collins retired in 1994 and was named professor emeritus.

James J. Demski, Sylvania, a former chef who worked in Carter Hall, died March 24 at age 67.

Beth A. Eisler, professor of law and resident of Ann Arbor, Mich., died Dec. 31 at age 66. For 26 years, she taught in the UT College of Law, mostly in the fields of contracts and evidence. Eisler also served as associate dean for academic affairs in the college from 1993 to 1995 and from 1999 to 2005, and as interim dean from 2005 to 2006. Devoted to and greatly admired by her students, Eisler received the Outstanding Professor Award from the College of Law graduating class three times. In addition, she received The University of Toledo's Student Impact Award in 2011 and 2012. She was active in a number of professional and civic organizations, including the Michigan Supreme Court State Board of Law Examiners. The family suggests memorials to the UT College of Law Beth Eisler Student Assistance Fund at the UT Foundation; the goal of the fund is to provide students with grants during emergencies.

Marc Gertner, Denver, a lecturer in law during the 1960s, died Feb. 2 at age 80.

C. Richard "Dick" Griffith, Holland, Ohio, a former associate director of human resources at MCO during the early 1980s, died Feb. 21 at age 80.

Donna Lee Carnicom Hardin, Gulfport, Miss., died Jan. 29 at age 79. She was director of admitting at MCO from 1977 until her retirement in 1991. She served as president of the union at the hospital.

Clara J. "C.J." Hillebrand, Toledo, died April 5 at age 87. She was hired as a clerk at UT in 1974 and two years later was promoted to secretary, the position she retired from in 1993.

Dr. James Peichung Hsu, Toledo, former UT faculty member, died April 13 at age 94.

Murl Jackson, Toledo, a former library media assistant on Scott Park Campus, died Dec. 26 at age 67.

Dr. Perry B. Johnson, Sylvania, a UT faculty member for nearly 40 years, died Dec. 11 at age 81. He joined the University in 1960 as an assistant professor of exercise science and physical education and was promoted to associate professor in 1963 and to professor in 1966. At various times during his tenure, Johnson served as coordinator of research and graduate studies in physical education, health and recreation; director of the Division of Physical Education, Health and

Recreation; chair of the Department of Health Promotion and Human Performance; and assistant dean of the College of Education. He wrote nine books, including Conditioning, So You Really Want to Lose Weight? and Fitness and You. Johnson was honored as a professor emeritus when he retired in 1987. He continued to teach part time until 1998. Johnson was an emeritus fellow of the American Academy of Sports Medicine and the American Academy of Kinesiology.

John J. Jurack, Luckey, Ohio, died Feb. 3 at age 60. He worked in the Theatre and Film Department 30 years. He joined the University in 1980 as a stage technician. Jurack served as scene shop manager and later was promoted to assistant technical director and then technical director. He retired in 2010.

Joseph J. Kielczewski, Toledo, director of information technology in the College of Business and Innovation, died April 15 at age 67. He joined the UT staff in 1993.

Carol Ann Fournier Koch, Manitou Beach, Mich., a clerk in the UT Records Department from 1988 until her retirement in 1999, died March 20 at age 77.

Florence V. Koehl, Sylvania, a UT mail clerk from 1968 until her retirement in 1989, died April 25 at age 88.

Zelda L. Lydy, Toledo, a secretary and clerk at UT for more than 20 years, died Jan. 25 at age 90. She joined the University in 1963 and retired as secretary to the vice president and treasurer in 1987.

Dr. Jerry L. Morrow, Knoxville, Tenn., died Feb. 18 at age 79. He joined UT in 1962 as director of university relations and as an instructor in journalism. The Toledo native left his administrative post in 1973 to teach full time. He later taught for 21 years at the University of Tennessee, from which he retired in 2005. Morrow received bachelor of arts and doctoral degrees from UT.

Dewanna L. Myers, Woodville, Ohio, a former UT instructor, died April 20 at age 73.

Esther L. Newcomer, Bakersfield, Calif., a secretary in the Department of Surgery from 1969 until her retirement in 1984, died Jan. 5 at age 94.

Former Toledo Head Men's Basketball Coach **Bob Nichols**, who led the Rockets for 22 seasons and posted the most victories of any basketball coach in the Mid-American Conference, died March 30 at age 82. Nichols' name is synonymous with Toledo Rockets basketball excellence. He earned three varsity letters in basketball at Toledo as a player from 1950 to 1953, and was assistant basketball coach for two seasons before serving as head basketball coach from 1965 to 1987. His lifetime record at Toledo was 376-212 and still ranks as the most wins by any basketball coach in Mid-American Conference history. Nichols led the Rockets to 20 consecutive winning seasons from 1965-66 through 1984-85. His 1966-67 squad posted a 23-2 record, the best mark in school history, and was ranked No. 11 in the nation in the final UPI poll that season. During his coaching career, Nichols led the Rockets to the NCAA Tournament in 1967, 1979 and 1980. The 1979 squad advanced to the Sweet 16 with a win over Big Ten Champion Iowa before falling to Notre Dame. Nichols also coached six Academic-All Americans and 18 Academic All-MAC honorees. His teams earned five MAC titles, and he coached five MAC Players of the Year. Nichols also had a 5-0 record against Big Ten teams from 1976 to 1979, including wins over Michigan (twice), Ohio State, Indiana and Iowa. The victory over Indiana came in the inaugural game in Savage Arena, as Toledo upset the defending national champion Hoosiers, 59-57, snapping their 33-game win streak. Nichols was the only four-time winner of the Ohio College Coach of the Year Award (1967, 1972, 1979, 1980). The Sylvania, Ohio, resident was a member of the Toledo Varsity T Hall of Fame and the Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame. In 2012, he was inducted into the Mid-American Conference Hall of Fame. In addition, the basketball floor in Savage Arena was named in his honor in 2008. Raised in Jackson, Mich., he received bachelor's and master's degrees in education from UT in 1953 and 1960, respectively. The family suggest memorials to the Bob and Barbara Nichols Scholarship Fund through the UT Foundation.

Dr. William A. Olorunto, Copley, Ohio, an assistant professor in the Department of Surgery from 2009 to 2012, died Jan. 28 at age 49. **Betty Payteon**. Toledo, a retired UT Medical Center food service

Betty Payteon, Toledo, a retired UT Medical Center food service worker, died April 4 at age 82.

Judith A. Pelton, Toledo, a local nurse and ambulatory care director who taught at the former UT Community and Technical College and at MCO, died Jan. 21 at age 68. She received a bachelor of education degree from UT in 1982.

Linda M. Schumacker, Toledo, a former nurse at MCO, died Jan. 6 at age 62.

Beryl J. Schutte, Phoenix, a former UT instructor, died Feb. 25 at age 83. **Melvin R. Seabright**, Lambertville, Mich., died March 25 at age 85. He was a mechanic at the University from 1958 until his retirement in 1983. He returned to work on campus from 1992 to 1994.

John "Jack" Shire, Osseo, Mich., who taught business classes at the University, died Dec. 11 at age 81.

Barbara Harpel Jones Steele, Lake Havasu City, Ariz., a former MCO employee, died Feb. 16 at age 80.

Virginia J. (Grzechowiak) Timmons, Toledo, who volunteered at MCO through the Satellites Auxiliary, died Feb. 16 at age 88.

Dr. Charles B. Travis III, associate professor emeritus of family medicine, Largo, Fla., died Feb. 28 at age 74. He completed his residency in the MCO Department of Family Medicine in 1980 and three years later was appointed as a volunteer faculty member with the title of clinical assistant

professor in family medicine. In 1990, he joined the MCO faculty as an assistant professor of family medicine and was promoted to associate professor in 2000. For three years, he also served as medical director of the Physician Assistant Program in the School of Allied Health. Travis received an award from the Lucas County Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board in 2001 for establishing a curriculum on drug and alcohol issues at MCO. He retired from the University in 2005.

Ina J. Weis, Elmore, Ohio, professor emeritus of library administration who worked at UT four decades, died Jan. 27 at age 91. She received a bachelor of arts degree from the University in 1943 and joined UT Libraries that year. After more than 20 years as chief circulation librarian, Weis became administrator of information services and later assistant to the director for special projects. In addition, she taught in the former library science program. Weis was a member of Faculty Senate and the UT chapter of the American Association of University Professors, of which she served as recording secretary for several years, as well as the University Women's Commission and the University Club. She retired in 1983. A frequent contributor of book reviews to professional literature, Weis was a lifetime member of the UT Alumni Association.

Esther "Dolly" Zajac, Toledo, a longtime member of the Satellites Auxiliary, died Jan. 10 at age 84.

NEW WORKS MARK ANNUAL OUTDOOR SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

By Vicki L. Kroll

A stone-eyed fish is flying southeast of the Snyder Memorial Building. A neon green pulse beats east of Dowling Hall. And a brainiac's wheels going round are exposed atop the hill on the west side of University Hall.

Mike Sohikian's steel "Pescados #III," Todd Kime's 300-pound steel "Pulse," and Pamela Reithmeier's steel "Thought" are three of the nine new pieces installed for the eighth annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition.

Numerous entries were submitted for consideration to the Midwest Sculpture Initiative. The UT Campus



"Pulse" by Todd Kime is located east of Dowling Hall.

Beautification
Committee
reviewed the
submissions and
selected the works
that were installed
earlier this month.
"This is the seventh
consecutive year
that the Campus
Beautification
Committee has
sponsored the

sculpture exhibition," said Dr. Steven LeBlanc, executive associate dean of academic affairs in the College of Engineering and chair of the Campus Beautification Committee. "Nearly 70 pieces have rotated through the campus display over the years. Twelve of the pieces that were brought to campus as part of the rotating exhibit have ended up as part of our permanent artwork collection, either through purchase by campus benefactors, colleges or departments."

Other new pieces in this year's exhibit:

- "Ensemble 1" and "Runway," two welded corten steel figures that stand 13 feet tall by John Merigian, are in the mall area north of the Snyder Memorial Building.
- "Steel Inverted Arch" by Ken Thompson is east of the Student Recreation Center.
- "Engarde," a 110-pound bronze casting by Judith Greavu, is in Ravin Plaza on Centennial Mall.
- "The Quest," a 400-pound steel piece by Robert Garcia, can be found north of Ottawa House East and West.
- "Hope Eternal," a cast polyester resin figure by Marie Davis, is located south of the Student Union and east of Carlson Library.
- "Refuge," a 1,000-pound steel and cast bronze work by Nicholas Sikma, is located east of the Health and Human Services Building.

All artists received a stipend for their sculptures, which will be on display for the next year.

LeBlanc said the Campus Beautification Committee funds the exhibition through private donations."The motto of the committee is 'The beauty of the campus is our gift to the future,'" he said.

Those who enjoy the artwork are asked to consider a donation to the Campus Beautification Fund through the UT Foundation.





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UTRA Tower Talk

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Cecelia Clarke was named the UT Alumni Association Volunteer of the Year for her outstanding efforts on behalf of the Office of Alumni Relations. She said volunteering allows her to give back to the University, which has given her so much. Clarke worked in the College of

Pharmacy 15 years, and her three children received fee waivers and are UT alumni.

REMEMBER WHEN?

By Mary Ann Heinrichs

Remember when a short golf course wound among the hospital buildings on Arlington and Detroit?

Remember when, for evening classes, there was room to park in the mall area?

Remember when the students played bridge and ate sloppy Joes in the lower level of Libbey Hall?

Remember when there were live, first-run shows in Doermann Theater sponsored by a Humanities grant?

Remember the Couples Gourmet with its well-researched complex menus prepared with painstaking care?

Remember when the magnificent "Passages of Life" mural covering the wall in the Morse Center was painted by Carrie and Dianne Nyitray, the mother and daughter team?

Amplification and correction

The names of two football kickers and games were booted in the January Tower Talks. The "kick that won the West" was made by Tony Lee in San Diego during the last seconds of the California Bowl. Our team won by one point. Kenny Crots made the 30-yard field goal that gave the Rockets a one-point victory in the waning seconds against the Falcons at Bowling Green.