From the President’s Desk
Nan B. Erickson

To date, we have had an easy winter in Mid-Missouri, and I am composing this note on a day full of sunshine and clear skies. Hopefully our good weather will continue so that MURA members will be able to participate in the many social and business activities planned for February through May. Election of officers and leaders for your MURA Board is on the agenda for our March 3, 2012, business meeting. At this meeting, Jack Miles, Chair of the Nominating Committee, will present the slate for 2012-2013. See page 2 for more about these nominees for leadership positions.

Also, at this meeting, proposed changes in the MURA Constitution and Bylaws will be presented. Our Board, at its September meeting, recommended that a committee, chaired by Jo Behymer, be appointed to review these documents for needed revisions. Jo and her committee, Patsy Higginson and Ken Hutchinson, worked on the proposed changes and presented them to the MURA Board at our January meeting. The Board approved these changes, and they will be submitted for your approval at the annual meeting. Please attend this business meeting to vote on these changes.

As always, the schedule of upcoming events is included here. Please encourage your friends who are not members of MURA to attend one of these events with you. Thanks to the Program Committee and the Education Committee for the wonderful array of activities they have planned this year.

My term as president ends in June, and this is my last letter to you. I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for continuing to support and participate in MURA events. I am especially grateful to our officers and Board of Directors for their diligence in making MURA what it is today.

From the Far Side ................. Valerie Goodin

Welcome to 2012 -- or, as some say, the age of Aquarius. On the Chinese calendar, this is the Year of the Dragon. A Mayan calendar predicts the end of the world in 2012. Will a town in central Kentucky survive the 2012 Apocalypse? Interesting speculations abound! Here’s hoping we enjoy the ride and are around to see a peaceful, conclusion to this exciting year!  

...valeriegoodin@gmail.com
New MURA Board Nominees

Here are the names of the people who have accepted our invitation to appear on the slate of nominations that will be presented to our membership during the annual meeting, March 3, 2012.

2012-13 - President-elect (& Program Chair) -- Rose Porter
2012-13 - Secretary -- Shirley Patterson
2012-14 - Treasurer -- Earl Wilson
2012-15 - Member-at-large, Staff -- Mike Paden
2012-14 - Member-at-large, Faculty -- Bob Stewart
2012-15 - Member-at-large, Faculty -- Barbara Rothenberger

Thank you for your willingness to serve MURA and the retirees of our university.

Dr. Rosemary T. Porter graduated from St. Mary’s School of Nursing in Milwaukee and continued her education at the University of Iowa (BSN ’71, MA ’73). In 1983, Porter graduated from the MU College of Education with a PhD in Higher & Adult Education, majoring in Administration of Higher Education.

As a staff nurse Porter worked in Wisconsin and later in California. After returning to the Midwest she worked in intensive care and charge nurse positions in Iowa and then, at Ellis Fischel State Cancer Hospital.

Later, Porter’s career turned to nursing education. She taught in several major academic health centers in various academic positions. From 1999 through July, 2008, she served as dean of the MU Sinclair School of Nursing.

In July 2008, Porter was appointed interim dean for the College of Education, a position she held for 18 months until a permanent dean was named.

In 1994 Shirley Patterson retired from the School of Health Professions, Communication Sciences and Disorders at Mizzou and became the Executive Director of a nonprofit agency in Kansas City, Missouri, that served young children with disabilities and their families. In 2003 she retired from that position and moved back to Columbia.

Currently, she is a consultant in language/literacy and provides professional development seminars and workshops for both preschool and elementary school teachers. Dr. Patterson served on the Legislative Council for the American Speech, Language, Hearing Association (ASHA) for many years and served in numerous offices in her state professional organization, including that of President.

She was appointed by Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan to the State Interagency Coordinating Council of Missouri and most recently, by Governor Jay Nixon, to the Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood. Among Dr. Patterson’s awards are the Honors of the Missouri Speech Language Hearing Association and the award of Fellow of the ASHA.

Earl R. Wilson, Ph.D, CPA, is Professor-Emeritus of Accountancy at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Prior to retiring in 2003, he served for seven years as the Joseph A. Silvoso Director of the School of Accountancy. During his academic career, he taught governmental and corporate accounting and published numerous research articles in the areas of governmental accounting and finance. He is coauthor of Accounting for Governmental and Nonprofit Accounting Entities, 16th edition, the leading college textbook in its field. Dr. Wilson received several teaching awards including the William T. Kemper Excellence in Teaching Award in 1994. He received the Missouri Society of CPAs Outstanding Educator Award for 2000 and the Society’s Outstanding CPA in Government award for 2008.

Dr. Wilson has served with several national boards and councils that establish accounting and auditing standards for governments. He is past-president of the American Accounting Association Government and Nonprofit Section, and in 2002, received the organization’s Enduring Lifetime Contribution Award.

Born and raised in Carrolton, Mo., Barbara Rothenberger graduated high school and came to Mizzou. In 1961 she completed a B.S in Agriculture with a major in horticulture and a minor in journalism.

In 1964 she and her husband, Ray, moved to Clemson, SC, where he held a position. In 1968 they returned to Columbia, where she taught horticulture at Hickman High School for 16 years, then taught at the university for four years.

Additional college work yielded her Masters in agriculture education in 1976 and her PhD in vocational education in 1993. After receiving the doctorate, she wrote a floriculture curriculum for high school.

Now her time is used with the Women’s Symphony League, for which she is recording secretary, and the Columbia Garden club, serving as 1st vice president. She is an elder in her church. She has earned the designation Master Gardner and is about to complete studies to become an accredited Flower Show judge.

Mike Paden retired from the University of Missouri in the spring of 2010. His... continued on p.3
Nominees, .. from p.2

entire career included various positions within the University, where he has served on the Rolla campus, as well as in Columbia for the UM System.

Paden’s areas of focus include accounting, banking, investment and trust management. In addition to the many demanding activities associated with his job, Mike was a generous and regular contributor to the pages of the MURA News.

Since retiring, Mike has settled into an active, retiree lifestyle that includes abundant golf, fishing, travel, church, and, most importantly, time with his wife, Carrie, and his ever-growing family.

... continued on p.7

Constitution and Bylaws

Included here is a complete copy of the MURA Constitution and Bylaws, with proposed additions in **bold**, italicized, and underlined, and proposed deletions in **bold**, italicized, and lined-out.

**AMENDED AND RESTATE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF MU RETIREE ASSOCIATION FORMERLY KNOWN AS UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI – COLUMBIA RETIREE’S ASSOCIATION**

As Amended Through November, 2008

As Amended through March, 2012

**Article I – Name**
The name of this organization shall be “The MU Retirees Association,” herein referred to as the Association or MURA. The organization was initially incorporated under the name of University of Missouri – Columbia Retiree’s Association, and the name of the same is being changed by this Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation.

**Article II – Purpose**
The purpose of the Association is to represent, promote and protect the interests of the retirees and to promote the welfare of the University of Missouri. The corporation is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**Article III – Membership**
The membership of the Association shall consist of University of Missouri retirees, their spouses or surviving spouses, and active faculty or staff, age 55 and older, who each pay the Association dues. A spouse shall be listed as staff or faculty based on the retiree’s appointment at the University. Retirees from other universities or colleges and/or their spouses may, upon payment of dues, be non-voting Associate Members.

**Article IV – Objectives**
The objectives of the Association are:

Sect. 1. To promote and protect the legitimate welfare, rights and entitlements of retirees, including, but not limited to, retirement and health benefits.

Sect. 2. To serve as a channel of communication between retirees and the University and with other appropriate groups and individuals in the community beyond.

Sect. 3. To continue as a contributing part of the University family.

Sect. 4. To provide educational and social activities for retirees.

Sect. 5. To encourage members to continue their active participation in, and involvement with, the University family.

**Article V – Officers and Board of Directors**

Sect. 1. The Officers of the Association shall consist of the President, the President Elect, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

Sect. 2. The Board of Directors, hereafter referred to as the Board, shall consist of the Officers, the immediate past President, the chairs of standing committees, and six members at large, three of whom shall be listed as staff and three as faculty.

The Historian and the chair of the Chancellor’s Retirement, Health, and Other Benefits Advisory Committee shall serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Board if not otherwise on the Board.

Sect. 3. The Officers of the Association shall serve terms that shall be staggered to provide continuity. The President Elect shall serve one year, then will become President for one year. The Secretary shall be elected in an odd numbered year; the Treasurer in an even numbered year, each for a two-year term. The Board members at large shall serve a three-year term with two members being elected each year.

Sect. 4. Elections shall be held at the spring meeting. The terms of newly elected Officers and Board members shall begin July 1. No Officer or Board member shall serve more than two consecutive full terms in the same position, with the exception of the Communications Committee chair, who shall serve not more than six years.

Sect. 5. The Officers shall have the responsibilities listed below:

The President shall:

• Preside over Association and Board meetings.

• Be an ex-officio member of all committees other than the nominating and audit committees.

• Appoint chairs of all committees, with the exception of the Finance, Program, and Past Presidents Committees, subject to the approval of the Board, no later than at its next meeting. Appoint the members and chairs of all committees.

• Assume the duties of the Treasurer in the event that the latter is unable to perform the duties of the office.

The President Elect shall:

• Chair the Program Committee and be responsible for the programs of the Association business, informational, and social and educational meetings.

• Assume the responsibilities of the President in the absence of the latter.

The Secretary shall:

• Keep minutes of all official meetings of the Association and of the Board.

• Distribute or read the minutes of each meeting for approval at the next meeting of the same body.

• Prepare directory of Board members, and... continued on p.4
Constitution and ……from p. 3

committee members.
The Treasurer shall:
• Chair the Finance Committee
• Be responsible for handling the funds of the Association.
• Prepare financial reports to be presented to the Board at regular meetings.
• Report the financial status of the Association at the annual meeting.
• Prepare necessary federal and state tax returns.

Sect. 6. The Board shall:
• Formulate and recommend changes in Association policy.
• Direct the activities of the Association between meetings.
• Maintain liaison with any group or organization in the interests of the Association.
• Approve the appointments of all committee members and chairs.
• Recommend any necessary change in membership dues to be voted on by the Association at the annual meeting.
• Perform such other duties as may properly pertain and as may be provided for elsewhere in the Constitution and Bylaws.

Sect. 7. Vacancies that occur shall be temporarily filled by the President with the approval of the Board. Such appointments shall run until the next meeting of the Association, at which time persons shall be elected to complete the vacant terms. If the Presidency is vacated, the President Elect shall assume its duties.

Sect. 8. There shall normally be at least two meetings of the Board each year. Other meetings may be convened by the President or by written request of the majority of the Board.

Sect. 9. A quorum at meetings of the Board shall consist of a simple majority of its members.

Sect. 10. Between meetings of the Board, the Officers may take emergency action, which shall be reported at the next meeting of the Board.

Article VI - Rules of Order
The Constitution The Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation (sometimes referred to as “constitution”) may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members present at a meeting of the Association, provided that at least 50 members are present and further provided that the general membership has been notified of the proposed amendment at least fifteen (15) days in advance of such vote. Amendments from the floor that alter the substance of the proposed amendment will not be considered. However, the Association may request a meeting at which a modified amendment is to be presented for consideration.

Article VII – Inurement of Income
No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers, or other private persons except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered.

Article VIII – Legislative or Political Activities
No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in or intervene, including the publishing or distribution of statements, in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Article IX – Dissolution
The Association may be dissolved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members voting at a specially convened meeting, provided that the membership has been notified in writing at least fifteen (15) days before the date of the meeting. After dissolution, the assets of the Association must be used to provide a service to the University of Missouri or be transferred to a non-profit organization with purposes and goals similar to those of the Association.

Article IX – Operational Limitations
Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law).

Article X – Dissolution
Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall after paying or making provision for paying all of the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such corporation or organizations organized at the time to qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Distribution of assets can be utilized to provide a service to the University of Missouri, a tax exempt organization or by transferring the assets to a not for profit organization meeting the requirements above stated. The dissolution of the corporation shall require a two-thirds majority of the members voting at a specially convened meeting, provided that the membership has been notified in writing at least fifteen (15) days before the date of the meeting. Any such assets not so disposed of in accordance with

Byte Me

Alas! The best laid plans… Regretfully, the MURA domain name is not yet working properly. Until this issue can be resolved to serve our members, you will continue to receive e-mail messages from me, through my personal address.

...Editor, valeriegoodin@gmail.com.

...continued on p.5
Constitution and ……from p. 4

the above shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court of the County which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, that said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Article XI – Bylaws

Details of the activities of the corporation shall be regulated by the bylaws of the corporation which bylaws shall be approved by the membership.

MU RETIRES ASSOCIATION
FORMERLY KNOWN AS UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI – COLUMBIA RETIREE’S ASSOCIATION

Bylaws

Details of the activities of the Association shall be regulated by the Bylaws.

Sect. 1. Annual Meeting. There shall be an annual business meeting each spring. At this meeting, there shall be committee reports, transaction of Association business, and the opportunity to consider other matters of interest.

Sect. 2. Additional Meetings. There shall be at least one other meeting of the Association, normally in the fall, to conduct Association business other than the regular annual elections and dues changes.

Sect. 3. Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the Board or on petition signed by at least twenty-five (25) members of the Association to consider business stated in the petition.

Sect. 4. Quorum. A quorum at meetings of the Association shall consist of fifty (50) members.

Sect. 5. Fiscal, Board and Membership Years. The fiscal year and the date for new Officers and Board members shall begin on July 1 and end on January 1 and end on December 31.

Sect. 6. Membership Dues. Dues in the Association shall be recommended by the Board and approved by a majority of the members present and voting at the annual meeting of the Association.

Sect. 7. Committee Assignments. All committee chairs and members shall be appointed by the President. Committee chairs shall be approved by the Board no later than at its next meeting with the exception of the Finance, Program, and Past Presidents Committees. The terms of office of standing committees shall be concurrent with that of the President.

Sect. 8. Standing Committees. The standing committees shall be Finance; Membership; Program; Communications; Ombudsman; Retirement, Health, and Other Benefits; University Liaison; Awards; Governmental Affairs; and Nominating; Education; and Past Presidents. The chair of each committee shall report regularly to the President and annually, in writing, to the Board prior to the annual meeting.

a. The Finance Committee, under the chair of the Treasurer, shall administer the funds of the Association as directed by the Board.

b. The Membership Committee shall have the responsibility for recruiting members, certifying applicants, and implementing policies relating to membership.

c. The Program Committee, under the chair of the President Elect, shall recommend and develop meeting programs as directed by the Board not otherwise covered by the Education Committee.

d. The Communications Committee shall be responsible for disseminating information about the purpose and activities of the Association, including the periodic newsletter.

e. The Ombudsman Committee shall facilitate the resolution of complaints, problems and information requests from retirees related to University retiree programs and policies not otherwise covered by appeal procedures.

f. The Retirement, Health and Other Benefits Committee shall promote the benefits of retirees, keep the Board informed of any proposed changes in these benefits, and suggest changes that the Association should recommend to the University administration.

g. The University Liaison Committee shall maintain contact with the administrative officers and committees of the University of Missouri-Colum-
The power of ritual in later life is a subject I have been interested in for some time. As I come to the time for some serious decision making regarding my pile of “stuff” it takes on new significance.

When the kids visited, I heard them chatting about ‘this’ or ‘that’ possession they had enjoyed over the years, and I thought I would do some paperwork to reflect the disposition of such things. It would lighten the load on me now and on them later. I didn’t really realize the significance of this decision until I understood that I had, in some sense, come to real terms with the next big step in my life, be it a move or an exit. To sort through one’s things is, necessarily, to visit the past, but it is also an engagement with the future.

People keep possessions either because they are useful or they symbolize something that has real meaning. They can be a powerful connection to past experiences, and sometimes they can help us remember something that nothing else can bring to mind. This tie to the past is one thing that makes us often reluctant to dispose of the perceived clutter of our lives.

I recall when a friend told me that the reason I had been “gifted” by another was that the ‘giver’ was contemplating suicide. I did not believe it then, and I don’t now. There are other powerful reasons for such a gift. Very often, folks value such gifts because they represent the love the giver is bestowing. When special possessions are given or willed to others, recipients can be made to feel very cherished and worthy of special attention. Other times, the gifts represent the only measure of love they can experience.

Those who are contemplating distribution of their assets would do well to understand that the ritual of distributing possessions isn’t really complete without someone on the receiving end taking note of such a proceeding. Asking family what they might like to have brings forth good feeling on both sides, as no one is left out of the experience, and the owner can decide in the end for the good of all.

Enjoy the New Year and be glad with me that “We Are Still Here.”

You’re Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile

Here are five signs that technology has taken over our thoughts and actions!

1. You just tried to enter your password on the microwave.
2. Your granddaughter sells Girl Scout Cookies via her web site.
3. You hear most of your jokes through e-mail instead of in person.
4. You check your cell phone to see what time it is.
5. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. : )

It’s Breakfast Time

Here is the late winter and early spring MURA Breakfast line-up of speakers. Please mark your calendars now, and plan to join us!

It’s the most delicious education you can get for $8.00!

February 7 - Dr. Sandy Davidson, MU Professor of Journalism, will address our group on the topic of, “Journalism and the Law: Considering the Legal Aspects of Reporting the News.” She will look at such issues as how the press covers trials, opinion based news shows, the status and interpretation of libel and slander, what’s legally allowable in news broadcasting, etc. [RSVP to John Parker, (573) 442-5215]

March 6 - Dr. Christine Seitz, Chairman of the MU Department of Opera, will speak on, “Opera, A Special Window Into Real Life.” In her presentation, she will illustrate metaphorically how the music and drama of opera can give us perspective into our own lives. This could be considered an Opera appreciation lecture.

April 3 - “A Tour of the Future of the Media,” Dr. Charles Davis, MU Professor of Journalism, will explore the past, present and future of news distribution. He will peer into potential news delivery systems of the future.

As usual, we will meet at Jack’s Restaurant, 8:00 a.m. and pay at the door.
ANNUAL
RAY SCHROEDER
PICNIC

DAY: Wednesday, May 16
TIME: 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
PLACE: Twin Lakes Recreation Area
COST: $9.00/person
RSVP: Deadline May 8
BRING: A hearty appetite & a smile!

Employee Assistance Programs for You

The University’s Employee Assistance Program provides a wealth of free programs for employees that are also free for retirees.

Here are four that will be offered this spring. For more information contact the Employee Assistance Program in Parker Hall, 573-882-6701.

Home-Buying 101
Feb. 7, 2012 12:00 - 12:50 pm
Parker Hall RM 119 Conference Rm
Lisa Boaz, Tiger Credit Union

Healthy Step-Families
Mar. 20, 2012 12:00 - 12:50 pm
Parker Hall RM 119 Conference Rm
Sarah Wells, LCSW

Making Marriage/Relationships Work
April 17, 2012 12:00 - 12:50 pm
Parker Hall RM 119 Conference Rm
Sarah Wells, LCSW

Emotions and Decision-Making
May 15, 2012 12:00 - 12:50 pm
Parker Hall RM 119 Conference Rm
Sarah Wells, LCSW

Nominees . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . from p. 4

Dr. Bob Stewart began teaching at the University of Missouri-Columbia in the fall of 1968 and served as Director of Graduate Studies for PAVTE for eight years prior to serving as Coordinator of Agricultural Education from 1986-1992. Later he served as Department Chair of PAVTE from 1992 to 1997 and then as Chair of the Council for Career and Technical Education.

ATTENTION
MURA Annual Members!

Dues are now due for the 2012 year. Look below the return address on the back page. If your newsletter has “ANNUAL MEMBER” printed there, then it’s time to renew your membership. Please complete and return the form on p. 8.

MURA needs you!

OLLII Offers Free Films on Fridays

Don’t let your Fridays be without entertainment! Join other retirees for a free Friday film at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Stephens Lake Activity Center (SLAC), 2311 East Walnut in Columbia.

Movies are shown at 1:30 p.m. with free popcorn and a lively discussion, following each presentation.

For information on each film, contact Dr. Lucille Salerno, Director, at (573) 884-5927, or e-mail her at <Salernol@missouri.edu>.

Please make Picnic reservations for . . .

Name[s] ____________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____ # @ $9.00/each = $_______ Total.

Questions? Call Armon at 573-882-1640.

Mail your check, payable to MURA, with this form to:
Armon Yanders
1204 Castle Bay Pl
Columbia, MO 65203-6257
MURA Membership Year is Jan. 1 - Dec. 31

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Check all that apply for membership(s).

- Staff
- Faculty
- Extension Personnel
- Spouse
- Other

- NEW Retiree in 2012  FREE w/2013 year . . $7.50
- Annual Renewal. . . . . . . . . . . . . $7.50
- Life membership. . . . . . $75.00

Total enclosed = $_____ for ____ membership[s].

Make your check payable to MURA, and send it, with this form, to:

MU Retirees Association
P.O. Box 1831
Columbia, MO 65205-1831