From the President’s Desk

Ken Hutchinson

I hope 2014 is off to a great start for University of Missouri retirees. For the 2013-14 year, MURA has been active in its support of the University in many ways. We were ably represented on the MU Chancellor Search Committee by Director of Admissions and Registrar Emeritus Gary Smith. R. Bowen Loftin, outgoing president of Texas A&M University, has been named Chancellor, with his service commencing on February 1, 2014. We look forward to meeting and working with Chancellor Loftin on the many issues of interest to retirees.

The University of Missouri United Way Campaign produced outstanding results from retirees. Retirees continue to generously support the Columbia community and the important programs and agencies of the United Way. The retirees, as a group, contributed $67,883 to the campaign, which is 91% of our portion of the university goal. This represented the highest percent of any designated university region. So, Congratulations!

The University is continuing to evaluate our benefit programs. This is time well spent, given all of the changes, nationally, in health care. Dean Emeritus Rose Porter is representing the retirees on the special ad hoc benefits committee and Professor Emeritus Bob Stewart is representing retirees, along with Professor Emeritus Fred Wilke of the St. Louis campus, on the Retirement and Staff Benefits Committee. I am advised that no plan design issues have been discussed at this point in the review. We will continue to be interested in these important committees and possible outcomes that may emanate from this review.

We hope that retirees will attend future events of MURA, including the annual business meeting on Saturday, March 1st, The Ray Schroeder Picnic on Wednesday, May, 14th and the Chancellor’s Retiree Luncheon on Friday, May 23rd at the Reynolds Alumni Center. Details are provided elsewhere in this newsletter. In addition to these events, the MURA Breakfasts continue to be popular.

It seems that the older we get, the years accelerate. I have enjoyed serving you and working once again with long-time friends and colleagues on the board. I look forward to seeing you soon.
New MURA Board Nominees

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Rose Porter, offers the following slate of candidates to be presented to the MURA membership at our Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 1, 2014 where voting by the membership at large will take place. The Nominating Committee thanks these nominees for their willingness to serve MURA and all retirees.

Rich Anderson
2014-2017 Member-at-Large Staff Representative

Born and raised in Perryville, Missouri, Rich Anderson graduated from St. Benedict’s College in Atchison, Kansas in 1970 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. He continued his education at Mizzou earning a Master of Science degree in Accountancy in 1972. Staying in Columbia he started working at UM Accounting Services in 1973 as an Accountant, transferring after four years to UMC Accounting as a Senior Accountant. In 1981 he was hired as the Fiscal Officer for Student Affairs and served in that capacity until his retirement in 2010 after 37 years of employment at the University. A large part of his career focused on providing financial and budget services to bond funded Auxiliary Enterprise Operations such as the Residence Halls, Campus Dining, Student Union, Bookstore and Recreational Services. Rich currently lives in the Ashland area with his wife Leslie Palmer, PhD, where he enjoys hunting and fishing, gardening, reading, and staying busy doing “nothing.”

Tom Henderson
2014-2015 Program Chair / President-Elect

Tom Henderson was employed by the University of Missouri from 1972-2002. He spent his entire professional career within University of Missouri Extension at both UM System and UMC campus levels. He served initially as a business development specialist in several off-campus extension centers and came to Columbia in 1982 as an Extension Program Director in Business and Industry/Continuing Education. He subsequently served various additional administrative extension roles and retired in 2002 as Emeritus Vice Provost for Extension. He subsequently worked part-time for an additional nine years within the Provost’s office on extension reorganization efforts, economic development and E-learning. His Ph.D. degree is from Southern Illinois University in Education with an emphasis in Higher Education and holds a MBA degree from Mizzou.

Phil Shocklee
2014-2017 Member-at-Large Staff Representative

Phil Shocklee is being nominated to serve a second term as Member-at-Large Staff. He began his MU career in October, 1971, as a draftsman in the Physical Plant, now called Campus Facilities. Over the next 38 years, he held various positions of increased responsibility and retired in October, 2009, as Associate Director of Campus Facilities, in charge of Communications. Phil has an AA degree in Drafting & Design from Linn Technical College, and a BA in Business Administration from Columbia College.

Campus service during Phil’s tenure includes many leadership roles and committee participation, including: Staff Advisory Council member and Vice President, Campus Recycling Committee member and Chairman, Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee, Friends of the Chancellor’s Residence Committee, Botanic Garden Committee, Administrative Services Partners In Education Steering Committee member and Chairman, Honors Convocation and Commencement Steering Committee, Show Me State Games Committee, Architectural Review Committee, Salute to Veterans Committee, and others. Phil and his wife, Alice, live in Columbia where he enjoys antique cars, and particularly his 1930 Model A Ford.

... continued on p.3
Nominees, . . . from p.2

Earl Wilson 2014-2016 Treasurer

Earl Wilson, Ph.D, CPA, is Professor-Emeritus of Accountancy at Mizzou. Prior to retiring from the University in 2003, Dr. Wilson 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 co-author of Accounting for Governmental and Nonprofit Accounting Entities, 16th ed., the leading college textbook on governmental and nonprofit accounting (released in January 2012), as well as seven prior editions of the book. During his academic career 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 on several national boards and councils that establish accounting and auditing standards for governments, including as Academic Fellow with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, the Federal Advisory Council on Governmental Auditing Standards, and the Governmental Accounting Standards Advisory Council. Dr. Wilson is a member of the American Institute of CPAs, Missouri Society of CPAs, American Accounting Association, Government Finance Officers Association, and Association of Government Accountants, and has served on numerous committees and task forces of those organizations. He is past-president of the American Accounting Association Government and Nonprofit Section. In 2002, he received the latter organization’s Enduring Lifetime Contribution Award. Prior to earning his doctorate and joining the faculty at the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1982, Dr. Wilson served a 20-year military career in a variety of logistics and systems management capacities.

Members Make MURA Stronger

If you are an annual subscribing member of MURA, your 2014 dues in the amount of $7.50 are now due. You may want to consider switching to a Life Membership for $75 instead. Remember that new retirees are entitled to free MURA membership for the year in which they retire. See the renewal coupon on the last page of this newsletter. Please contact Dick Otto (ottor@missouri.edu) with any membership questions you may have. In case you are curious, as of the end of 2013 MURA had 682 lifetime members and 170 annual paying members compared to the total retiree count for MU, UM and Extension of 5,780. If you know of other retirees who aren’t yet members of MURA, please encourage them to join!

Discover the EAP!

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is an entitlement for retired University employees and their immediate families.

The EAP’s confidential, professional services include:
- Up to 5 sessions of counseling for personal concerns.
- Printed and web-based materials on issues important to retirees
- Referral as needed to community resources

All services and materials available at no cost.

Phone: 882-6701
Email: wilsonmargaret@Missouri.edu
Web: counseling.missouri.edu/employee-assistance-program
Begun in 1990, the Chancellor’s Retiree of the Year Awards focus on the accomplishments of former employees, after their retirement. These accomplishments may involve volunteer service to the University, civic and welfare services, career and professional activities, or other noteworthy achievements. Accomplishments prior to retirement are not considered in the selection process.

Two awards will be given: one to a faculty member and one to a staff member. Each award includes a plaque and a $1,000 check.

Criteria for Candidates

- Nominees must have retired from the University before January 1, 2009.
- Recipients are expected to attend the annual Chancellor’s Retiree Luncheon to receive the award.
- Retiree Advisory Committee members are not eligible.

Nomination Process

To nominate or renominate a retiree, please complete the form below and:

1. Prepare a letter with the following information:
   a. Nominee’s extraordinary accomplishments since retiring,
   b. Personal and background information about the nominee,
   c. Summary – most important reason(s) why you believe the candidate should receive one of these awards.
2. Attach 3 letters of support from others.

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Candidate’s Name: ____________________________________________

☐ Faculty ☐ Staff Year of Retirement: _______ MU Dept. at time of Retirement _________________________________

Mailing Address: ____________________________________________

Home Phone: (________)__________________ E-mail Address: ________________________________

Nominator’s Name: ____________________________________________

☐ Faculty ☐ Staff ☐ Student ☐ Alum ☐ Retiree

Mailing Address: ____________________________________________

Home Phone: (________)__________________ E-mail Address: ________________________________

Nominator’s Signature: ________________________________

Please return form and information by March 1, 2014 to:

Mary Maxwell
Retiree Awards
311 Jesse Hall
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO 65211

Check List of Nomination Materials

☐ 1. Completed Nomination Form
☐ 2. Letter of accomplishments, including
   *service to MU, volunteer civic and welfare service, professional and noteworthy achievements.
   *Background & personal information
   *Summary, why the nominee should receive an award.
☐ 3. Three (3) letters of support from others who know the nominee.
As the year begins, I wanted to take a moment to update you on the items that have been keeping us busy and share with you some of the offerings of which you may not be aware.

Early last summer, President Wolfe created a Total Rewards Ad Hoc Task Force charged with assisting the Vice President for Human Resources in the development and communication of recommendations regarding the Total Rewards Program offerings for employees and retirees. Task Force members include faculty, staff and retiree representatives from across the four campuses and health care system. Since its formation, the task force has met regularly to review available data and reports as well as hear from experts in the area of employee and retiree benefits. Their findings and recommendations will be finalized and presented to the Board of Curators in April. I will continue to keep you updated as more information becomes available. You can learn more about the Total Rewards Task Force at http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/hr/university_of_missouri_total_rewards_ad_hoc_task_force.

The start of the New Year is a good time to make sure your retiree information is up to date. You can easily review and update your information by visiting myHR, the University’s self-service application for employee and retiree personal information. This will ensure that you receive updates and notifications from the University in a timely manner. To get started, visit www.myhr.um-system.edu and follow these steps after logging in:

- Scroll down to the bottom of the message and click on Self Service;
- Select Personal Information; then
- Select Personal Information Summary to view and edit your information.

If you relocate seasonally or are planning a move, you can provide your new address and effective date(s) prior to the change. If you need assistance, a myHR tutorial is available at http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/hr/myhr. You may also contact the helpdesk at (573) 882-5000.

While you are in myHR, I encourage you to take advantage of online pay advices. By choosing to discontinue receiving a paper pay advice each month you can access your retiree pay information quicker and help us save resources. You can review and print current and past pay advices online by going to Main Menu/Self Service/ Payroll and Compensation/View Paycheck. To discontinue having a paper pay advice mailed to you each month go to Main Menu/ Self Service/Personal Information/ UM Employee Data and check the appropriate box.

Speaking of pay, a number of retirees have also been asking about 1099-R’s. The 1099-R’s were mailed on Friday, January 24, 2014. Please allow at least two weeks from this date for delivery before contacting the University. After February 17, you may report a missing 1099-R by emailing retirement@umsystem.edu or by calling 573-882-9810 or 1-800-488-5288, and then choose Option 1.

Another convenient feature to consider is the direct debit option for your insurance premiums. The direct debit is not only convenient and at no cost, but provides for continuation of insurance benefits regardless of hospitalization, vacation, or seasonal relocation. To learn more about this feature, call 573-882-9810 or toll free, 1-800-488-5288, and choose Option 1.

And lastly, if you are a Medicare recipient or soon-to-be a Medicare recipient; we want you to know you have some great resources available for free.

- Total Rewards offers free, online Medicare webinars available for your convenience. These brief videos can be accessed at www.umsystem.edu/totalrewards/videos.
- If you are a Missouri resident, you can access Missouri’s State Health Insurance Assistance Program, CLAIM, for local Medicare counseling. Simply visit www.missouri-claim.org or call 1-800-390-3330 to find a local office.

We hope you’ll start your New Year off getting up-to-date and healthy!
One of the most important secrets to a longer and happier life is the development of active friendships. This support system is literally a vaccine against illness, and certainly a hedge against loneliness.

When I was engaging in active counseling, many folks would tell me how difficult it was for them to make new friends as they grew older. The development of new friendship circles is one of the problems associated with a long life span. We lose friends as we age and find it very hard to form new ties to those we don’t know. The loss of friends is one of the most heart wrenching aspects of a longer life.

Dr. Robert Butler the famous Gerontologist once wrote, “To thrive throughout life we benefit from attachments, whether you call it love, friendship, empathy or bonding. Those connections can add great richness to the dividend of more decades of life.” He referred us to a study conducted in Australia involving several thousand people, which showed that older people with extensive networks of good friends and confidantes outlived those with fewer friends by 22 percent, and close relationships with children and relatives had little effect on actual rates of longevity for older people.

Good friends seem to promote better mental and physical health and have a strong effect on our daily happiness and well-being. Friendship across generations is becoming more common. The cultivation of friends younger and older than oneself is growing. This requires attention to vulnerability and openness, curiosity and acceptance of others even though their backgrounds might have been a world apart from yours. Being on the same “wave length” is often what sparks the connection. When you find someone who thinks, cares, devotes their days and finds pleasure in the same things, you have found a potential friend.

The ability to risk communicating our authentic selves and revealing our true personalities is crucial to this process. “Seek and ye shall find,” is the old saying. Search out those who feel and think as you do and you have found a pathway to a longer, happier life.

I’m sure you have all been bombarded with the “opportunity” to reduce your paper clutter and avoid receiving your monthly bills and statements electronically. Well why should the MURA newsletter miss out on this same opportunity! Each newsletter that we print and send out in US mail has a cost as well. While I know receiving a printable PDF version of the newsletter is not an option for some retirees and some do not have access to the internet to view it on our website, receiving information electronically is becoming much more popular and much more timely. With that in mind, anyone who wants to ‘opt out’ of receiving their MURA newsletter via US Mail can send their email address to Barb Harris, MURA Communications Chairperson (harrisb@missouri.edu) with their intent to ‘Go Green’. An electronic version is sent to all MURA members who have a valid email address on file with MURA. Even if you don’t want to ‘Go Green’, please send any additions or corrections to your email address so you will receive timely electronic updates that are sent in-between newsletter publications.
ANNUAL
Ray Schroeder
PICNIC

Please make Picnic reservations for . . .

Name[s] ____________________________________________
____________________________________________________

Questions?
Contact Jim at
573-445-1068 or
kollerj@missouri.edu

Mail your check, payable to MURA, with this form to:
Jim Koller
509 Simmons Ct.
Columbia, Missouri 65203

At press time for this newsletter, the cost for the picnic had not been finalized.
Watch for a follow-up email or the MURA.MISSOURI.EDU website once details are available.

MURA Breakfast Programs are hosted at the Columbia Country Club off Old 63 at 8 am. Cost is $9 per person.
Cancellation of recent programs because of weather conditions has necessitated some rescheduling of late winter and spring programs. Here is the revised schedule:

March 4 - Dr. Larry Brown - “Circumstances and Pomp: The Story of a Missouri Hero” In this presentation Dr. Brown will be looking at the life and times of a historical figure that represented Missouri’s connection to the west. He intends for the introduction of the main character to be a bit of a riddle. Here’s a good opportunity to learn some Missouri history.

April 1 - Judge Frank Conley - “The Meanest Murderers I Have Known” Twice postponed because of the weather, we’ll finally get to hear Judge Conley’s intriguing stories about some of the murders and murderers with which he has been involved during his distinguished career as a prosecutor and circuit judge.

May 6 - Professor Henry Landry - “Some Significant Events in American History” Professor Landry will pull from history some important dates, individuals, and happenings and show how they all have impacted on the history of America.

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

We all know ordinary folks doing extraordinary things for their community, the university, and the public in general. These retired faculty and staff are the honorees each year as recipients of the CHANCELLOR’S RETIREE OF THE YEAR AWARD. Each year during the Chancellor’s Annual Retirees’ Luncheon one retired faculty and one retired staff are recognized for their service.

The MURA Awards Committee collects and reviews nominations for these honors, and the committee depends on people like you to make the nominations. Won’t you consider nominating a worthy retiree? Eligible candidates must have been retired five years or longer. A one-page nomination form and three letters of recommendation are all that is required. The nomination form included in this newsletter includes a list of past recipients.

If you would like to make a nomination contact Max Miller, Chair of the Awards Committee by phone, 573-874-3676 or e-mail gotothemax@centurytel.net. The March 1 deadline for submission is quickly approaching.
MURA Membership Year is Jan. 1 - Dec. 31

LAST       FIRST       MIDDLE
Name ___________________________ Name ___________________________ Initial ___________________________

SPOUSE
LAST [if also joining] ___________________________ Name ___________________________ Initial ___________________________

MAILING
Address ______________________________________________________________________________________________

My Street & number or P.O. Box City State Zip+4 Spouse E-Mail ____________________________

Home Phone ____________________________ Phone ____________________________

E-mail ____________________________ E-Mail ____________________________

Check all that apply for membership(s).

☐ Staff ☐ Faculty ☐ Extension Personnel ☐ Spouse ☐ Other ____________________________

☐ NEW Retiree in 2014 FREE w/2015 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