



### From the President's desk...

**JULY 1 MARKED THE KICKOFF** to a celebratory year. What is different about this year is that MURA celebrates 25 years of service on the Silver Anniversary of its founding. Many accomplishments took place this past year due to the leadership of President Jim Koller and an active, dedicated board. That servant leadership sets the standard for 2015-16.

MURA continues to have an ongoing and meaningful dialogue with President Tim Wolfe and Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin and their senior leadership teams. As your President for this year, I look forward to working with our board and membership to make this an active and memorable year.

At the prompting of your association, the UM System implemented a new retiree email program on May 1, 2015. The protocol allows new retirees from that date forward the option of keeping their campus mail account, at no cost in lieu of the annual fee charged previously. In addition, retirees with existing mail accounts will also be able to keep their accounts without a monthly access charge.

Your program committee, in collaboration with the UM System, also initiated a four-campus survey of retirees' volunteer efforts on campuses. The System provided valuable professional expertise and financial resources to adapt a survey originally implemented by the SUNY system for its retirees. Findings are currently being analyzed and will be subsequently shared on our MURA website. Preliminary analysis substantiates thousands of hours volunteered by retirees to the university and the findings will be utilized to serve retirees by both MURA and the University of Missouri.

MU retirees were again standard bearers in the 2014 Heart of Missouri United Way campaign with contributions totaling 125% of our campus goal. Retiree generosity was also evident with annual campus campaign contributions totaling \$ 2.495 million during the past year. Both of these accomplishments reflect the amazing commitment of our retirees to their community and campus.

What lies ahead in the Silver Anniversary year? Your association continues to be actively engaged with senior UM administrators in the ongoing medical benefits study that will lead to an anticipated new health/medical benefits plan in 2017. An ad hoc committee appointed by the MURA President and Board is representing your interests and concerns with UM administration through the ongoing process in 2015 and beyond. Health and medical benefit updates will be provided at the Fall Information meeting as well as through email updates as needed.

I have also appointed an ad hoc committee to explore the feasibility of MURA sponsoring a scholarship program in collaboration with the MU Office of Advancement. Preliminary inquiry has shown that a number of higher education associations similar to ours have such programs but they vary in approach and organization. The committee will bring its findings to your board of directors for consideration during the coming year.

On a lighter side, the program and education committees are planning a full array of social and educational events in this anniversary year. An exciting change of pace for our first social this fall will be provided in the newly reopened Art and Archaeology Museum located in Mizzou North. What a great setting for our initial 2015-16 event on September 17th. The program committee is also working hard to bring you some interesting informational and holiday events that reflect our 25th celebration.

Watch your MURA newsletter and ongoing association emails for activities to meet your interests in serving and staying connected with fellow retirees. As the "baby boomers" increasingly come of retirement age, wouldn't it be great for our present membership to grow in number to "1000 in 25?"

Sincerely,

*Thomas G. Henderson*

Tom Henderson, President, MURA

"Congratulations  
MURA members  
for your 25 years of  
service to Mizzou  
and the community."

R. BOWEN LOFTIN  
MU Chancellor



### INSIDE...

- 2** MURA Silver Anniversary
- 3** Breakfast Lectures
- 3** MURA Fall Social
- 3** Osher Institute
- 3** Division of IT News
- 4** 2015 Retirees Luncheon
- 4** 2015 Retirees of the Year
- 5** Treasurer's Report
- 6** Benefits Update
- 7** Retiree Award Nomination
- 8** Upcoming events

# Celebrating 25 years – What do you remember?

As we celebrate the Silver Anniversary of the founding of the MU Retirees Association (MURA) in 1990, each newsletter this year will feature a section about the organization's history.

With 250 members in attendance, the organizational meeting of the then-called UMC Retiree Association was held on March 20, 1990 in the Animal Sciences Auditorium. A slate of officers and board members were elected during the meeting. How many of the original officers and board members can you identify from this 1990 photograph?



**The first MURA Officers and Board of Directors, 1990-1992**

**Front row – left to right:**

Marc de Chazal, Chair, Constitution & By-Laws Committee  
Hudson Little, Member of Board  
George Preckshot, Vice President  
C. V. Ross, President  
W. H. Pfander, Chair, Retiree Benefits  
Ernest Morgan, Chair, Communications  
A. E. Rikli, Secretary

**Back row – left to right:**

Anthony Lampe, Member of Board  
Margaret Mangel, Member of Board  
Marjorie Roberts, Member of Board  
William Fratcher, Vice Chair, Constitution & By-Laws Committee  
Paul Rexroad, Chair, Membership  
George Brooks, Member of Board  
Allan Purdy, Chair, University Relations Committee  
Edmund Ford, Historian  
William Dalzel, Vice Chair, Finance Committee  
A. G. Unklesbay, Vice Chair, Retiree Benefits  
Robert Daniel, Chair, Ombudsman and Consultant  
Norman Rabjohn, Member of Board  
Not shown: Rex Dillow, Treasurer



# Announcements!

## **MURA Breakfast Lectures to Start Tuesday, September 1**

The Education and Entertainment Committee has announced that the opening breakfast lecture series will start Tuesday, September 1 with a talk by Dr. Carrie Duncan dealing with the topic: "Living on the Edge: Religious Lives of Roman Soldiers on the Eastern Frontier." In addition to holding the position of MU Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Dr. Duncan is also an archeologist and has spent a significant amount of time on the eastern border of Jordan excavating an ancient Roman fort which was established around 300 AD.

As in the past, our breakfast programs will meet from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month, from September through May, and our location will remain at the Country Club of Missouri. We will keep you informed of other program speakers and topics as they are confirmed.

The MURA E and E Committee

## **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Announces Fall Classes**



By Don Nicholson  
Interim Executive Director

**C**alling all over-50 adults who want to learn, network, and stay engaged! The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute's Fall semester begins September 8th with a wide assortment of courses, seminars, and films on topics that complement the interests, concerns and lifestyles of the over-50 adult. Brought to you by MU Extension and the Bernard Osher Foundation, Osher offers fall, winter, and summer programs where you can learn the latest on science, literature, philosophy, media, art, current local issues, and much, much more. Pre-registration for Fall classes begins August 10, 2015.

Information on Osher, including the most current catalog of events can be found at: **extension.missouri.edu/osher**. You can also find Osher in Facebook. Simply open Facebook and make "Osher at Mizzou" one of your favorites!

## **MURA Fall Social - September 17 Explore New Venues for Learning and Fun! 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at Mizzou North**

**MURA** Program Committee is working this year to plan social activities that connect members, as well as keep us up-to-date on MU campus programs and facilities. Under the superb leadership and coordination skills of Jo Turner and Sandy Stegall, our first event will be at Mizzou North. Perhaps you're wondering — where is it, what is it, why is it? Wonder no more! Even if you've already found and visited the new location, come enjoy it again with your MURA friends. The MURA Fall Social on Thursday, Sept. 17, 4:30-6:30 p.m., will be held at Mizzou North, home of the newly re-opened Museum of Art and Archeology and soon new home to the Museum of Anthropology. We'll have a social hour with beverages and snacks, free tours of the Museum and the "Cast Gallery," and a brief program about the facility and the Museum. Mizzou North formerly housed the Ellis Fischel Cancer Hospital and is located on the Business Loop in Columbia. It offers plenty of free, easily accessible parking.

For the spring, watch for an April date with a Quadrangle tour that highlights some of the upgrades, renovations, and restorations on the campus. Stay tuned — and let our committee know if you have suggestions for venues and sites that MURA members will want to visit. We look forward to seeing you on September 17 for our "night at the museum." If you know of retirees who have not attended MURA events previously, invite them to join us. Mark your calendar and watch for an invitation to this fun event.

## **Good news from the Division of IT for retirees**

The Division of IT will no longer charge a fee for the Access IT Retiree Program! This service is now FREE; however, we will ask that you renew your account on a yearly basis.

You may find more information regarding this service at the following link:

**[doit.missouri.edu/services/retiree-access-it.html](http://doit.missouri.edu/services/retiree-access-it.html)**

If you have any questions, please contact Division of IT at **[mudoitretireeprogram@missouri.edu](mailto:mudoitretireeprogram@missouri.edu)**.

# The Chancellor's 2015 Retiree Luncheon



## GIVING BACK

The annual Chancellor's Retirees Luncheon was held May 22 at the Reynolds Alumni Center at the University of Missouri. During the program, one retired faculty member and one retired staff member were recognized and a check for nearly \$2.5 million was presented as part of the "It's My Mizzou" campaign. Photos courtesy of Mark Barna / Mizzou News.

AT LEFT: MURA President Jim Koller and MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin, holding a check for \$2,495,672, the amount donated by MU retirees to the capital campaign.

## 2015 Retirees of the Year

### SUSAN TURNER

#### Staff Retiree of the Year 2015

**Susan Turner** retired from the School of Medicine Department of Child Health in 2001.

She has given countless hours to serving her church and community. At her church, Turner provided meals once a week for a year to a new college-age ministry called The Branch.

For more than ten years, Turner has coordinated the collection of garments and toys for The Container Project, a non-profit organization that ships two containers a year to the rural poor of Nicaragua. She also collects clothing for Upscale Resale, where proceeds go toward helping the Assistance League of Mid-Missouri.



### GEORGE KENNEDY

#### Faculty Retiree of the Year 2015

When **George Kennedy** stepped down as managing editor of the Columbia Missourian in 2001, he began volunteering at The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri. Since his retirement from the School of Journalism in 2005, you're likely to find him at The Food Bank three or four mornings a week, working with a crew of other volunteers packaging food for 132 agencies and more than 100 schools that feed hungry children and families throughout 32 counties. He joined the Food Bank's board of directors in 2011 and currently chairs the board's recruitment and training committee.

Kennedy also began writing a column for the Missourian, and he has played a supporting role in the Daniel Boone Regional Library Foundation's growth and accomplishments. During his tenure on its board of directors, the Foundation has become a stronger and more vital community organization.

Kennedy still teaches two classes a year at the School of Journalism and serves on graduate committees.



## TREASURER'S REPORT – MURA BOARD MEETING JULY 15, 2015

**A**s reported on the attached cash flow statement for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, MURA's operating cash receipts exceeded operating cash expenditures by \$1,732.83. This is largely attributable to an increase in member dues of \$1,700, compared to the prior year. Investment income decreased by more than \$1,900 because the prior year included capital gains of nearly \$2,000 that occurred after MURA's investment assets were transferred from the Vanguard 500 Index Fund to the Wellesley Income Fund. To reduce future income volatility, the board authorized an investment policy change in July 2014 to have capital gains added to the fund principal rather than the MURA bank account. It should be noted that annual income dividends have more than doubled as a result of investing in an income fund.

Required year-end activities:

- Filed the annual registration report with the Missouri Secretary of State on July 1, 2015.
- Filed the on-line Form 990-N information tax return with the IRS on July 7, 2015.

### 2015 Cash Flow Statement compared with 2014

	Year Ended June 30, 2015	Year Ended June 30, 2014
<b>Operating Activities Supported by Member Dues and Investment Income:</b>		
<b>Receipts</b>		
Dues-annual	\$ 1,395.00	\$ 1,262.50
Dues-lifetime	2,767.50	1,200.00
Investment income	2,457.48	4,395.66
<b>Total Operating Receipts</b>	<u>\$ 6,619.98</u>	<u>\$ 6,858.16</u>
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Newsletter-publishing/printing	1,327.14	1,299.46
Newsletter-postage/delivery	618.71	748.58
Business meeting	606.66	583.32
Fall information meeting	800.72	728.13
MURA Internet Office	59.40	-
Attend AROHE Conference (Note 1)	909.03	-
AROHE dues	120.00	120.00
Flagship Council	100.00	100.00
Filing fee State of Missouri	25.00	-
Membership materials	41.92	150.00
Post office box rent and postage	42.00	60.40
Miscellaneous (Note 2)	236.57	251.39
<b>Total Operating Disbursements</b>	<u>4,887.15</u>	<u>4,041.28</u>
<b>Excess of Operating Receipts over Disbursements</b>	<u>1,732.83</u>	<u>2,816.88</u>
<b>Self-Supporting Social Activities:</b>		
<b>Holiday Luncheon</b>		
Receipts	1,940.00	1,472.25
Disbursements	2,460.97	2,521.24
<b>Net Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	<u>(520.97)</u>	<u>(1,048.99)</u>
<b>Spring Picnic</b>		
Receipts	1,152.00	780.00
Disbursements	1,017.49	967.49
<b>Net Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	<u>134.51</u>	<u>(187.49)</u>
<b>Other Disbursement</b>		
Transfer from checking to investment account (Note 3)	<u>(5,000.00)</u>	
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash During Year</b>	<u>(3,653.63)</u>	<u>1,580.40</u>
<b>Cash Balance, Beginning of Year</b>	<u>9,745.59</u>	<u>8,165.19</u>
<b>Cash Balance, End of Year</b>	<u><u>\$ 6,091.96</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 9,745.59</u></u>
<b>Investment Assets (See note 4)</b>	<u><u>Jun. 30, 2015</u></u>	<u><u>Jun. 30, 2014</u></u>
Lifetime Members Reserve Investment Account	<u><u>\$ 80,394.45</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 76,515.75</u></u>

**Notes, year ended June 30, 2015:**

- (1) President-Elect Tom Henderson attended AROHE biennial conference.
- (2) Reimbursed John Parker for out of pocket expenses for MURA educational/social functions, \$221.57.  
Table at Chancellor's Luncheon Resource Fair, \$15.
- (3) Transfer authorized by Board at July 23, 2014 Board meeting.
- (4) This asset pool was established from lifetime membership dues. The income from these investments provides continuing services for lifetime members as they no longer pay membership dues. Currently, these assets are invested in the Vanguard Wellesley Income Fund.





# Update on Retiree Medical Study

by Kelley Stuck  
UM Associate Vice President  
for Total Rewards



I hope all of you are enjoying these summer months and many outdoor activities. I am happy to report that we have made a great deal of progress this spring and summer on the Retiree Medical Study. I was glad to have the opportunity to update some of you in June at the meeting of MURA's retiree medical committee. I want to do the same with this letter.

We have both retiree-related and financial goals for the Retiree Medical Study:

## Retiree-related goals

- Preserve the benefit and UM subsidy for current retirees and employees close to retirement
- Reward long service
- Ensure stability of medical plan for retirees

## Financial goals

- Stop growth of the liability
- Reduce the liability to the extent possible

We have conducted a great deal of research and outreach to determine the best way to meet these goals:

- In February and March, Betsy Rodriguez, Vice President of Human Resources, and I conducted 30 listening tours, meeting with retirees across the state.
- At the same time, we surveyed over 2,500 employees nearing retirement to learn about their wants, needs, and concerns.
- In May, we conducted 11 focus groups with retirees and employees on all four campuses.
- Throughout the first half of 2015, we conducted benchmarking to understand how the University of Missouri System compares to common peer institutions.
- And of course, we have been meeting with employee and retiree leadership groups, such as MURA, to learn from you and share our progress.

Current retirees and employees have told us they want affordable coverage, and choice from among a number of quality plans—but a limited number of choices vetted by the university to avoid an overwhelming number of decisions. They also want a broad network of doctors, customer service support from the university, and clear communications.

Furthermore, our research uncovered that UM's eligibility (age and service) for subsidized benefits is generous compared to peers, some peer institutions have moved toward Medicare Advantage arrangements for Medicare-eligible retirees, and pre-Medicare retirees still have no viable option in the market. Many new retiree medical options have emerged since the university's retiree medical program was developed over 50 years ago. We are learning that these programs offer similar value but at a lower cost. We have a responsibility to current and future retirees, as well as the university, to evaluate our current program and consider these options.

Next steps are to meet with university leadership groups to continue gathering input as we prepare recommendations for the Board of Curators. I want to reiterate any changes affecting current retirees will not take place until January 2017. You will receive notice of changes about a year in advance. Additionally, the university's intention is to continue to provide access to one or more medical plans for current retirees and to continue to contribute a portion of your premium.

We will provide updates through MURA, as well as on the dedicated retiree medical study webpage <http://umurl.us/TRTFrec5>. And as always, you can contact us with questions at (573) 882-9810, (800) 488-5288, or [retirement@umsystem.edu](mailto:retirement@umsystem.edu).

Before I close, I want to touch on a related topic. You may have heard that active employees will transition to a new medical insurance administrator in 2016: United Healthcare. Retirees will remain with Coventry Healthcare, because we felt it would be less disruptive for retirees to continue with Coventry until such time that recommendations from the Retiree Medical Study are announced.

I look forward to continuing to work with you on this important study and to gaining your insights.



[umsystem.edu/newscentral/totalrewards](http://umsystem.edu/newscentral/totalrewards)



# 2016 Chancellor's Retiree of the Year Awards

## NOMINATION FORM

### Past Recipients

Year	Faculty	Staff
1990	Ernest M. Funk	Albert J. Flischel
1991	Veralee B. Hardin	Jerome & Marie Mason
1992	Robert S. Daniel	George Brooks
1993	Charles W. Gehrke	Allan W. Purdy
1994	Adolph E. Schroeder	Anthony W. Lampe
1995	C. Melvin Bradley	Russell Dale Cook
1996	Dale Sechler	Paul Rexroad
1997	Betty Crim	W. E. (Bill) Moyes
1998	Robert Breitenbach	Betty Cook Rottmann
1999	Nelson Trickey	Martha Sue Dailey
2000	Walter Wilkening	Ray McClure
2001	Ross Swofford	Ola Mae Taggart
2002	Thomas G. Brown	Elizabeth Bailey
2003	Emma Jean McKinin	Sue Tucker Troutner
2004	John L. Mowrer	Nina Hiler
2005	Jo Behymer	Darlene Miles
2006	Verna Rhodes	Darlene Schroeder
2007	Max Miller	Gary L. Smith
2008	Rod Gelatt	Georgia Morehouse
2009	James E. Creed	Ernest Hilderbrand
2010	Robert T. Marshall	Joyce Lake
2011	John Parker	Judith A. Cunningham
2012	Robert Blake Jr.	Judy Olson
2013	Bob Stewart	Jack Miles
2014	Don Day	Phyllis Miller
2015	George Kennedy	Susan Turner

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, 2011.
- 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 re-nominate 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 who know the nominee.

**Candidate's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Faculty ☐ Staff Year of Retirement: \_\_\_\_\_ MU Dept. at time of Retirement \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominator:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Faculty ☐ Staff ☐ Student ☐ Alum ☐ Retiree ☐ Community

Mailing

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominator's

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form and information by **March 1, 2016** to:

**University of Missouri**

**Auxiliary and Service Operations**

**Mary Maxwell/Retiree Awards**

**304 Jesse Hall**

**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 and personal information
- ☐ 3. Three (3) letters of support from others who know the nominee



## **MU Retirees Association**

University of Missouri  
P.O. Box 1831  
Columbia, MO 65205-1831

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID

University of Missouri

# Upcoming Events

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### **MURA Breakfast Lecture**

Tuesday, September 1, 2015  
8:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
Country Club of Missouri

### **MURA Fall Social**

Thursday, September 17, 2015  
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.  
Museum of Art and Archaeology  
at Mizzou North (former Ellis Fischel Bldg.)

### **Fall Information Meeting**

Saturday, September 26, 2015  
10 a.m. – noon  
Great Room of the Alumni Center

### **MURA Breakfast Lecture**

Tuesday, October 6, 2015  
8:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
Country Club of Missouri

### **MURA Breakfast Lecture**

Tuesday, November 3, 2015  
8:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
Country Club of Missouri

### **MURA Breakfast Lecture**

Tuesday, December 1, 2015  
8:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
Country Club of Missouri

### **Annual Business Meeting**

A Saturday morning in March; date TBA.

### **MURA Picnic**

Wednesday, May 11, 2016  
10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Twin Lakes Shelter

### **Chancellor's Retiree Luncheon**

Friday, May 20, 2016; details TBA.

### **WANT TO GO GREEN?**

If you prefer to only receive this newsletter via email and do not wish to receive a print copy of your MURA newsletter in the U.S. Mail, please contact Communications Committee Chair Barb Harris at [harrisb@umsystem.edu](mailto:harrisb@umsystem.edu). She'll make sure you only receive the electronic version.

### **MURA WEB SITE**

Visit the MURA web site: [mura-missouri.com](http://mura-missouri.com) for information on events, MURA membership form, past newsletters, important links, and more!