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Happy Fall RA Colleagues!

Welcome to the RA Newsletter Fall 2019 edition! Thanks to Lol Barton, David Garin and Melissa Hattman for all their work in getting this out. Hope you enjoy reading about the activities completed and events that are planned and mark your calendars accordingly. UMSL retirees have been spotted everywhere since our last newsletter - the Chancellor's farewell reception, new Chancellor search committee meeting and the 2019 Founders Dinner! Election of new RA officers and board members, fun outings and productive meetings have filled our time with YOU in mind.

It is my pleasure to serve as your new President this year. I look forward to seeing you all.

Michael Murray, Board President

-----SAVE THE DATES and MARK YOUR CALENDARS-----

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4: ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

**The Retirees Association Holiday Luncheon** is confirmed for Wednesday December 4, at the Glen Echo Country Club with cocktails at 11:30 and lunch at noon. Details will follow but if you want to book early contact [Erica Webb](#) (3140 516 5130)

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 12:00 NOON:

In 103 Anheuser Busch Hall on the UMSL North Campus, **Dr. Charles Schmitz**, retired Dean of the College of Education, will present a photo-enriched talk about his recent trip to **Antarctica with National Geographic**. Schmitz and his wife Liz spent over two weeks traveling by ship to the Antarctic continent while documenting the trip with photographs and interviews. If you're thinking about visiting Antarctica, or have always wanted to even if you won't, this is your chance to learn what the experience was like. Schmitz will show many pictures of the natural wonders of the continent as well as talk about the logistical challenges of traveling to this exotic destination.



We hope you can join us! If you plan to attend, please contact [ewebb@umsl.edu](mailto:ewebb@umsl.edu).

The RA Activities Committee is also recommending the date of Tuesday, March 31, 2020 for a **Spring Gateway Arch National Park Museum Tour**. Details will follow.

## INAUGURAL RETIREE OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS

**Clark Hickman**, RA President-Elect and Chair of the Selection Committee, announced that the Faculty Awardee is **David L. Garin**, retired Chemistry Professor and former long-term President of the Retirees Association. The Staff Awardee is **Nan Kammann-Judd**, former Director of Special Programs at UMSL, most notably the Story-telling Festival. The awards were presented at the Chancellor's State of the University Address on Sept. 19 and the two were honored at the Annual Founders' Dinner on Oct. 10. For individual photographs and short biographies, see the RA web page at <http://www.umsil.edu/retirees/>.



## SPRING LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL MEETING

The **Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting of the Association** was held on Wednesday June 12 in the Summit Lounge of the J C Penney Center where 67 were in attendance. The meeting began by **President Debbie Kettler** introducing **Chancellor Tom George** and thanking him and Curators' Professor Barbara Harbach for their hospitality in funding the lunch, something they had done for many years. Then Dr. George made some remarks reviewing the accomplishments that occurred under his watch. This was followed by a brief tribute to the Chancellor made by **Lol Barton**. The two of them are shown here. Following an excellent lunch, the minutes of the Holiday Luncheon, written by **Kathie Haywood**, were approved as was the Treasurer's report, written by **Steve Spaner**.



**Joe Martinich** was introduced, and he made some remarks about the retirement program that he had learned at the meeting of the four Retiree Associations' leadership groups and the UM President in Columbia in May. He had asked when we would receive a COLA (cost of living adjustment). The last one was about 7 years ago but the response received was that any such adjustment was not planned for the near future.

**Mark Burkholder**, then presented an amendment to the constitution which clarified terms of service, etc., for officers. Details may be found on the Retirees Association website. <http://www.umsil.edu/retirees/>

This was followed by the election of **Officers and Board Members**. Past President **Chuck Korr**, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate, which was approved by acclamation.

**President - elect** Clark Hickman  
**Secretary** - Kathleen Haywood  
**Treasurer** - Steve Spaner

### Board Members

Melissa Hattman  
Brenda Shannon-Simms  
Helene Sherman  
David (Dave) Ganz (appointment to fill a one-year vacant term)

The full Board and listing of officers can be found at the end of this newsletter

Outgoing **President Debbie Kettler** then introduced the new **President, Michael D. Murray** who described some of the upcoming events and activities and encouraged members to suggest activities and to lead the organization of them. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm. A photograph of some of the retiring and new Board Members is given below.



Joe Martinich, Steve Spaner, Dave Ganz, Debbie Kettler, Helene Sherman, Kathy Falcon, Mike Murray, Kathleen Haywood, Clark Hickman, Zuleyma Tang-Martinez, Lol Barton and Brenda Shannon-Simms.

The Board has met twice since June and will meet two more times before the end of the year. The focus has been to review our current policies and procedures and brainstorm ways to make sure the RA is meeting the needs of our 408 retirees.

Board members also attended the Fall UM Four Campus RA Meeting on **Wednesday October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019** hosted at the MU campus. The board members had a chance to spend over an hour talking with President Choi, members of Human Resources, and United Healthcare representatives.

## RECENT SPECIAL EVENTS

### Tour of the Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site

Eighteen RA members and guests were on-hand as the UMSL Retirees Association hosted a luncheon and tour of Cahokia Mounds in Illinois on **Saturday, October 19**. Activity Committee Co-chairs, Zuleyma Tang-Martinez and Helene Sherman led the group for a Mexican luncheon at Ramon's El Dorado at noon in neighboring Collinsville, Illinois followed by a historical film and guided tour of Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site at 2 pm. The weather was great, and the group learned that in about 1100 A.D. an indigenous tribe built an extensive city on the site, eventually numbering as many as 40,000 citizens. The land was fertile, and they built 120 mounds and prospered for nearly 300 years. The mounds were used for burials, habitation and as a means of providing defense. The RA tour group viewed displays of archeological discoveries and several exhibits providing historical context. Some ambitious RA members even made it to the top of the largest historic landmark, Monks' Mound, from which the Gateway Arch was viewed.





## Tour of the Soldier's Memorial Military Museum

About 17 retirees took a tour of the renovated Soldier's Memorial in downtown St. Louis on **Thursday, July 18**, followed by a lunch at The Docket restaurant across the street. Docent Lon Zimmerman provided an excellent tour of the buildings, the history of the Memorial and a deep dive into the WW I galleries. Thanks to **David Ganz** for organizing this tour and keeping everyone on schedule. Here are pictures of the [group at the entrance](#), the group [getting organized](#), [looking at an exhibit](#) and an [exhibit](#) describing the treatment of Germans during WWI.



## Alzheimer's: Everything You NEED to Know, But Have Been Afraid to Ask

This event, planned by **Zuleyma Tang-Martinez**, held **Friday, April 5, 2019**. 1:30 to 3:30 PM; Room 001 Anheuser-Busch Hall, was essentially an updated repeat of the very successful one we held in Spring 2014. This panel discussion featured 4 speakers who covered the most valuable information one needs to know and answered questions. Speakers addressed: 1) Basic information about Alzheimer's and other related dementias - what it is and how do you recognize it; 2) Caregiver stress and coping skills; 3) Support and resources offered by the Alzheimer's Association; 4) An overview of research conducted by the Knight Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) at Washington University, one of the world's leading Alzheimer's research programs. A picture of the speakers is given below. From left to right: Ray Long, Volunteer Speaker; Dr. Zuleyma Tang-Martinez, (program organizer and contributor), Biology Department, UMSL; Dr. Ann Steffen (moderator and contributor), Psychology Department, UMSL; Theresia Metz, an educator/volunteer with the Alzheimer's Association - St. Louis; and Andrea Denny, Knight Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, Washington University School of Medicine.



## Committees Welcome Your Participation in the Retirees Association—Volunteer Today!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ CELL NO \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

VOLUNTEER FOR THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES (List 1<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, and 3<sup>rd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ choices)

PLANNING & EVENTS \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBERSHIP \_\_\_\_\_ COMMUNICATIONS \_\_\_\_\_

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(Return to Mike Murray at [murraymd@umsl.edu](mailto:murraymd@umsl.edu) , mail to him at 9870 Copper Hill Road, St. Louis, MO 63124-1006 or bring to the Holiday Luncheon on Dec, 4! Please provide us with an e-mail address)

### **Attention Retirees from the Membership Committee (Dave Ganz, Brenda Shannon-Simms, Steve Spaner ex officio):**

Don't forget to join or rejoin the University of Missouri-St. Louis Retirees Association.  
The membership year is from June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020.

Possession of the UMSL-Retiree Association Membership Card grants the following:

- Invitation to June UMSL RA Lunch and Business Meeting, Chancellor's treat
- Discount cost for tickets to UMSL RA Holiday Luncheon in December
- Access to events and programs of the UMSL Retiree Association
- 10 % discount at the University Triton Store in the Millennium Student Center,
- Up to 25% discount on tickets to events at the Touhill Performing Arts Center,
- Admission to the Department of Recreational Sports classes at the active faculty/staff rate,
- Admission to the UMSL Recreation and Wellness Center at the active faculty/staff rate,
- A free Campus parking permit, obtainable at Office of Parking and Transportation,  
44 Campus Police Building, 7:30 am to 5:00 pm

Annual dues are \$15. Or, for the most convenient option, join as a lifetime member for just \$125. If you are a new or renewing member, simply fill out and print your [membership application](#) (PDF 274KB) available on the RA web site and mail with your dues check payable to the UMSL Retirees Association

## **In Memoriam**

We include herein information since we published the last newsletter. We realize that some of the data are incomplete, but information is difficult to obtain.

**Rosemary Bruno** died at age 94 in July 2019. She worked in the 1980 as Assistant Director of the Career Planning and Placement Office.

**Margaret Dougherty** died at age 94 in September 2019. She was a graduate of the College of Education and after retirement was a long-time volunteer for St. Luke's hospital and the Butterfly house.

**Annette Doyle** died at age 100 in May 2019. We believe she worked in the chancellor's office.

**Donald Driemeier** served as Dean of the College of Business, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Deputy Chancellor and Acting Chancellor. He was instrumental in the founding of KWMU St. Louis Public Radio and died at age 80 in April 2019.

**Joan Hashimi** was a founding member of the UMSL Social Work Program where she was instrumental in establishing the BSW and MSW degree programs. She also served as chair of the School of Social Work with a specialty in geriatric social work before she retired in 2001. She died at age 86 in May 2019.

**Richard Meckfessel** served as Head Basketball Coach and Acting Athletic Director for three years, spearheading UMSL's move from the MIAA to the Great Lakes Valley Conference. He died at 81 in June 2019.

**Rolf Mueller** was a long-time Professor of German and Chair of the Department of Modern and Foreign Languages.

**Margaret Anne O'Connor** an academic advisor who worked for the College of Business Administration, College of Education and the College of Nursing, died on May 18 in St. Louis. She was 66.

**Martin Sage** spent 26 years at UMSL as Professor of Biology, Associate Dean and Acting Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He died at 83 in September 2019.

**Norman Seay** was an iconic civil rights figure in St. Louis. He served as Affirmative Action and Diversity Administrator for Chancellors Barnett and Touhill. He died at 87 in September 2019.

**Rebecca Walstrom** worked in Extension and Continuing Education, serving as the Executive Director of the St. Louis Storytelling Festival. She died at 71 in May 2019.

**Leviticus Wilson** was a former employee of St. Louis Children's Hospital, UMSL, and Washington University. She died at age 95 in April, 2019.

## **Meet Your New Board Members**

**Melissa Hattman**, since her retirement in 2016, has been working on completing that bucket list goal of visiting seven continents. Her travels thus far include Southeast Asia, the Baltic States and Russia, Cuba and Central America, Scandinavia, and most of western Europe. Up next: South America Fall 2020. When she is in St. Louis, she continues to volunteer at the Animal House Rescue and Adoption Center, a no kill cat shelter in St. Louis City and works on social justice issues around immigration.

**Helene Sherman, Ed.D.** is a Professor and Administrator Emerita in the College of Education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She retired in 2013 from the College of Education where she served as a professor, Department Chair and the Associate Dean for Educator Preparation. Since retiring, Helene has been coaching in K-12 mathematics classrooms, teaching in the UMSL STEM cohort doctoral program and co-authored her fifth book. Dr. Sherman has two adult children and four grandsons. She volunteers on several

organizational boards, tutors area students in mathematics and enjoys reading, walking, playing bridge, dancing and traveling.

**Brenda Shannon-Simms** retired from the university in February 2017 after 37 years of service. She worked as manager for continuing education programs in the College of Education. Life plans were altered after the loss of her husband a few months after retirement. She is actively involved with a chapter of the Red Hat Society, spending time with family and travelling on occasion

**UMSL Retirees Association Board of Directors, (2019-20) (remaining terms in years noted in parentheses)**

**OFFICERS**

Michael Murray, President (1)  
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**UNIVERSITY LIAISON**

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