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Newsletter of the Austin Peay State University Retirees Association

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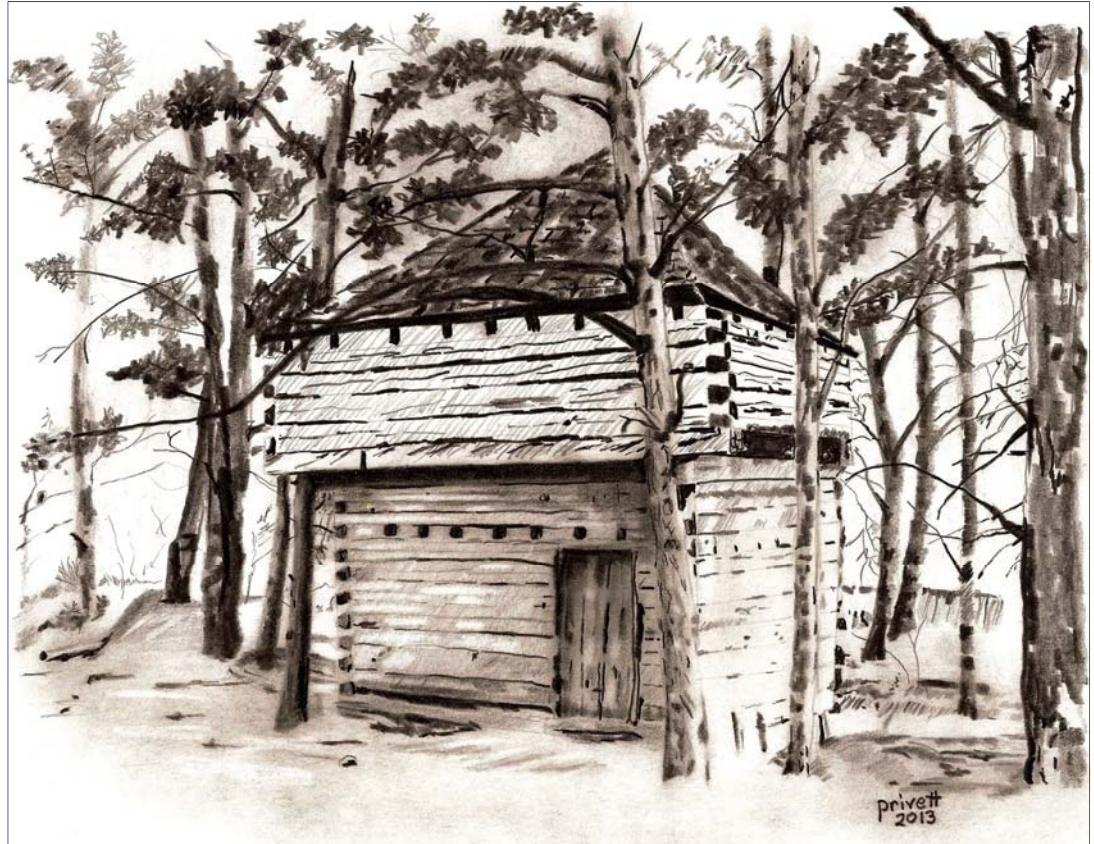
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Reimagining the past for a better future **Jim Clemmer**

Some of us APSURANS, including myself, seem these days to be dwelling more frequently and at greater length upon the past. Maybe Future Shock is proving too shocking, or our collective short-term memory is simply about to blow its last fuse. Maybe the rapid approach of Kurzweil's Singularity is warping Time, forcing us to flee to a fast-retreating history. Or, more likely, perhaps our appreciation of the past has merely increased in proportion to the amount of time and energy we spent there.

Whatever, everywhere I look I see the olden days. A road trip last month found me again marveling at the beautiful All Saints Chapel at Sewanee, the rickety incline up Lookout Mountain, the parade of Rockwell ads in the Coca-Cola museum in Atlanta and the wonderful L & N Railroad Depot and Museum in Etowah, where I was born.

That trip also provided APSURAN Bob Privett the opportunity to respond to a request from rangers that he donate his drawing "The Old Fort" to the Hiwassee/Ocoee Scenic River State Park, in Delano, Tenn., where we found that the subject of his drawing remarkably still stands. This blockhouse is the only surviving fragment of the 1830s Cherokee Removal forts, and it is a stark reminder of those dark days in the history of our country. This particular fort was Fort Marr, which dates from 1814. Ironically, it was my grandfather who along with others had helped preserve the blockhouse by having it moved in 1922 from its original location in Old Fort to the Polk County High School where he was principal.

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Bob Privett presenting his drawing of Ft. Marr to Park Ranger Murray Gheesling, July 22, 2013



Our June 4 meeting of APSURA reminded us of the time when APSU retirees were generally cast adrift with few official ways to maintain contact with what had almost been their second home. And, more positively, of how far APSURA has come in five years, and how appreciative we now are of our many members and their contributions to the organization. The past is still there, but APSURA helps us cast it in a more current and positive light.

Our May *Newsletter* found Marian Anderson once again at the Lincoln Memorial and a younger Al Bekus sailing down mountains, but this time with wonderful contemporary works of art and colorful photographs and narrative to bring these events back to life. In this issue we announce a luncheon where Sen. Mark Green will help us relive his memorable evening consorting with the captured Saddam Hussein, and in the November issue Dick Gildrie will bring us news of ancient cultures we never knew existed.

This fall we will again be staffing rest-stops for the Sunrise Century Bike Ride, attending President Hall's open house, and taking guided nature walks on the Greenway. Christmas season will bring the December Art Walk, Roxy plays, the Gateway Orchestra at Madison Street Methodist, and the NSO with Amy Grant and Vince Gill, all of which will doubtless rekindle thoughts of happy days of yore.

The coming year will also bring some new adventures. We will continue exploring new technologies in our electronics workshops, and we will be presenting a revised seminar for APSU employees preparing to retire. And there is talk of the launching of a new series of presentations on great works of art and literature.

So, as we ponder the past, APSURANS are looking forward to bringing the past to life with new directions and new events that will add scope and depth to our memories. We hope all of you will join with us by contributing



your reflections and visions to our newsletter and in person at our meetings. Remember that our first-Tuesday meetings of the Board are open to all members, and we will welcome you there. Most meetings are at 2 p.m. in room 103A of the Morgan University Center, though check ahead with Aleeta or another officer for last-minute changes.

It is very important that we continue to let all retirees, both new and old, know that the end of employment at APSU does not have to end our meaningful involvement with the place we called our second home for so long, and the people who are part of our extended families.

APSURA general meeting of June 4. See new slate of officers and directors on page 7.

Treasurer's Report: APSURA awards first scholarship

Al Irby

We are happy to announce the awarding of the first APSURA scholarship, a \$500 book award for the 2013-14 year, through the Student Financial Aid Office. The recipient is Morgan Langley, a junior at APSU and the daughter of Mark and Jean Langley. Jean is employed in the Center of Excellence for Field Biology, and Morgan's brother John is a senior English major at APSU.

Morgan has lived in Clarksville most of her life and was home schooled. Active in her church and the Church of Christ Student Center, she also participates in the activities of student groups in the APSU College of Business. This year she served as a counselor with the Science and Math Academy. Morgan has achieved a 3.833 GPA at APSU thus far.

The granting of this award helps to mark the completion of another successful year for APSURA. We are happy to say we have a total of 68 members, many of whom have participated in the steady slate of activities sponsored by APSURA. Most members have been good to remember to pay their \$25 dues by July 1 of each year without relentless prodding by our treasurer (me). To those who have already renewed for this year, we thank you! Remember that after payment of our small number of expenses each year, the remainder goes straight into the scholarship fund, which will continue to benefit Morgan and other descendants of APSU employees in coming years.



*APSURA
Scholarship
recipient
for 2013-14,
Morgan
Langley*

The APSURA Scholarship Fund continues to grow. This fund was started with an initial goal of creating an endowment of at least \$25,000. Through the generosity of our members, the account has grown to over \$6,000 in less than three years. Once we reach the initial goal, we will start making more substantial awards. You can help by adding an additional amount for the scholarship to your dues payment, or by establishing a lifetime membership for \$500. This amount includes a lifetime associate membership for your spouse or partner.

Let's also note that current members do not need to fill out another membership form, but be sure to let us know of any changes such as of physical and email addresses. Please send renewal checks to the Treasurer, APSURA, Box 4426, Clarksville, TN 37044.

Here are our financial reports for the year ending June 30, 2013:

| Operating Account | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Beginning Balance 7/1/2012 | \$1,165.89 |
| Revenues | 5,759.00 |
| Expenses | <u>(5,618.55)</u> |
| Ending Balance 6/30/2013 | \$1,306.34 |
| Scholarship Account | |
| Beginning Balance 7/1/2012 | \$3,532.50 |
| Revenues | 2,770.00 |
| Expenses | <u>(0.00)</u> |
| Ending Balance 6/30/2013 | \$6,302.50 |

Calendar of events for Fall 2013

The following is a list only of events APSURA is sponsoring or in which we are officially participating. Obviously there are a great many other events taking place in which we APSURANS will be interested and involved, including community and Gateway Orchestra concerts, Roxy and APSU dramatic productions, as well as poetry readings, art exhibits, sports events and individual enterprises such as walks in our parks. There is a fairly comprehensive list of web and other sources of information on local and regional activities on our website at www.apsu.edu/retirees-association.

Wednesday, Aug. 21: Annual convocation and picnic

President Hall once again invites all University retirees to attend the annual convocation at 10 a.m. in the Mabry Concert Hall, and the annual picnic at 11 a.m. in the grove of trees behind the Marks building. The picnic especially provides an excellent opportunity for retirees to greet friends and to become acquainted with new members of the APSU community. APSURA will have a table at the picnic with copies of our recent newsletters and other information for those faculty and staff planning their retirement. Come and help us encourage these people to join APSURA.

Saturday, Aug. 31: the Rotary Sunrise Century Bike Ride

One of the most enjoyable events of the past two years for APSURANS has been helping to staff rest stops along the 100-mile route of the Sunrise Century Bike Ride, sponsored by the Clarksville Sunrise Rotary Club. Watching over a thousand bikers in their colorful gear materialize silently out of the morning mist along the country roads north of town is an amazing experience. Some of them go whizzing by as they try to set new speed records on the 100-mile loop, while many others stop to visit with us



The Peloton approaching the Webb Road rest-stop, 2011 Sunrise Century Bike Ride

briefly as we help them replenish their water and Gatorade bottles and offer them pretzels, bananas and other energy food. They appreciate our help, and in appreciation of our efforts the Sunrise Rotary Club has subsequently awarded APSURA \$1,000 each year for our scholarship fund.

If you can join in this experience this year, please notify Al Irby at jairby@charter.net or 931-552-0208 by Aug. 25. He or other organizers will assign you to a rest stop, or perhaps ask you to assist in early morning registration of the bikers and provide the necessary materials and provisions. Those of us who have participated in prior years are confident that you will enjoy this day.

Tuesday, Sept 3: Electronics workshop for APSURA members

Our series of workshops on buying and using electronic equipment will continue with a session at 3:15 p.m. on Sept. 3 in the large meeting room just to the right inside the front door of the Public Library on Pageant Lane. This session will begin with an update on the APSU email migration as it affects smartphone and iPad users, and we will then take up useful iPad and smartphone applications for sending group email, creating and using pdf files with markup, and a new calendar app. These sessions are interactive, so please bring your smartphone and/or tablet so you can download and try out the apps. Door prizes will be awarded and light refreshments will be served.



APSURANS attending our electronics workshop, Spring, 2013

Tuesday, Oct. 22: APSURA luncheon featuring Sen. Mark Green

APSURA will host a luncheon from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at The Looking Glass Restaurant, 329 Warfield Blvd. Guest speaker Sen. Mark Green will address the group on his assignment as an Army Ranger medic to stay with Saddam Hussein through the first 24 hours following his capture in December 2003, the subject of his recent book *A Night With Saddam*. Following his address, Dr. Green will participate in a book signing. Cost of the luncheon is \$20. Attendance is limited to the first 60 paid reservations received. Entrée choices are chicken salad and salmon fillet. Make check payable to APSURA, and send along with meal choice to APSURA Luncheon, APSURA, Box 4426, Clarksville, TN 37044.

You may copy or forward the formal luncheon invitation on p. 8 to anyone you would like to ask to be your guest to the luncheon

Saturday, Oct. 26: Greenway nature walk with Dr. Wayne Chester

On Oct. 26, APSURA will host a leisurely walk on the Clarksville Greenway guided by biologist and APSURAN Dr. Wayne Chester. We will meet at 9:15 a.m. at the trailhead at the end of Pollard Rd. Directions: Take New Providence Blvd. to Peacher's Mill Rd. Turn right on Peacher's Mill and go about one mile to Pollard Rd. Turn right on Pollard, and follow it to the end at the trailhead parking lot.

We will probably walk to the left (north) to avoid the hills of the route to the right. In the past some of us have taken our bikes along to ride or walk as we choose. The trail follows the route of the old rail line through the area and is level enough for easy biking.

We will walk around 1 ½ hours, and those who desire will then re-convene at Silke's restaurant for brunch. To give us an idea of how many to expect, you might email Phil Kemmerly at tngelogist@usit.net to let him know you plan to join in. Or just show up at 9:15 at the trailhead.



APSURANS walking the Clarksville Greenway, Spring, 2012

Friday, Nov. 8: Excursion to Nashville for dinner and a Nashville Symphony concert

This excursion will follow our usual procedure of combining transportation, dinner and concert in one easy-to-negotiate package. The evening's concert will feature favorite pianist Gabriela Montero in the Schumann Piano Concerto, Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite* and the delightful Mendelssohn *Midsummer Night's Dream Overture* and the Dvorak *Scherzo Capriccioso*. Specific information about travel arrangements and costs will be provided in the September NewsNotes, though preliminary reservations can be made by Sept. 15 with treasurer Nancy Irby at nanirb63@yahoo.com.

Tuesday, Nov. 12: *Straight Talk about Retirement* (tentative title), a seminar for employees contemplating retirement, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Morgan University Center, room to be determined

This seminar, sponsored by APSURA and Human Resources, is in the design phase. The purpose of the meeting will be to focus tightly on the actual issues and problems employees face within the process of retiring. It will probably be led by a panel of experts on several aspects of retiring including technicalities of the process, financial considerations in transitioning from employment to retirement income, medical and Medicare considerations, and psychological ramifications of this major change in lifestyle. Short presentations by each panelist will be followed by a brief Q&A session, concluding with a round-robin Q&A among all panelists and participants.

Saturday, Dec. 7: Choral Holiday Dinner and Concert

The annual Choral Holiday Dinner and Concert sponsored by the APSU Department of Music will be held on Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. in the Morgan University Center ballroom. This is a gala performance event with a formal dinner interspersed with a great variety of numbers characterized by musical and cultural diversity. Tickets are \$50 per person.

APSURA is planning to reserve a table or two for this event. If you would like to join fellow APSURANS, notify Ann Harris at harris@apsu.edu for reservation and payment information. Or call the music department at 931-221-7818 or Dr. Korre Foster at 931-221-7002 (email fosterk@apsu.edu). You will be mailed a payment and menu-selection form on which you can indicate that you would like to be seated with APSURA.

Wednesday, Dec. 11: President Hall's Open House for Retirees

On Dec. 11 from 2-4 p.m. President Tim Hall and Lee will again host their annual holiday season Open House for retirees at Archwood. This is always an enjoyable occasion where we see many old friends. You should receive an invitation to this event in late November.

Thursday, Dec. 19: Christmas with Amy Grant and Vince Gill, and the Nashville Symphony.

APSURA is sponsoring an excursion to Nashville for dinner at Sole Mio and the Christmas concert with Amy Grant and Vince Gill and the Nashville Symphony at the Schermerhorn Symphony Center on Thursday, Dec. 19. This concert is a very popular event, so our tickets will sell out quickly. You may check ahead with APSURA treasurer Nancy Irby at nanirb63@yahoo.com to make sure tickets are still available. If so, please send your check for \$78 per ticket to Nancy Irby, Treasurer, APSURA, Box 4426, Clarksville, TN 37044. After exact numbers are determined, you will be notified of transportation arrangements and cost, to be paid separately. We will make a group reservation at Sole Mio, with meal payment on your own.



Update on parking tags and other benefits

We have recently been working with Mitch Robinson, and Angie Judish and Mike Hamlet of Human Resources, to update our list of retiree benefits. This update will soon appear on our website, www.apsu.edu/retirees-association, along with a revised checklist for the count-down to retirement, but here are a few highlights:

Official University identification cards are available to all retirees. Ask at the information desk in the Morgan University Center for directions to the office currently administering these. New free and permanent parking tags (i. e. never requiring renewal) will be available to all retirees beginning in early September. You will be able to pick these up from Angie Judish or at the main desk in Human Resources, Browning Bldg., Room 2. Be sure to take your ID with you in case the person at the desk does not recognize you.

Retirees have access to the facilities and services of the Library, and the same privileges as current faculty and staff in the use of tennis courts and the facilities of the Foy Center. Spouses and dependents pay the same Foy fees as those of current employees, currently \$120 per year. Retirees may upon request keep campus email accounts and may obtain P.O. boxes, as available, at the same rate as current employees.

Cafeteria meal plans and season tickets to sports events are also available at the same rates as for current employees. You might not know that retirees holding season tickets in any sports venue when they retire are upon request granted complimentary season tickets to the same events in subsequent years.

A new benefit to retirees is the availability of free notary service, provided by the Office of Human Resources. Appointments may be made by calling HR at 931-221-7179.

Publication Information

The APSURA Newsletter is published quarterly by the Austin Peay State University Retirees Association. A supplement to the Newsletter, the APSURA NewsNotes, is published monthly to update APSURA members on time-sensitive coming activities and events, both those in which APSURA is participating officially and others recommended by APSURA members. Both the Newsletter and Newsnotes are available at www.apsu.edu/retirees-association.

We invite APSU retirees to send us specific information about coming activities and events you believe will be of interest to APSU retirees. Please send to Christa Beckner at ayyez5m@yahoo.com, to Hester Crews at crewsh@charter.net, to Jim Clemmer at clemmerj@apsu.edu, or to APSURA at the physical address below, and include exact dates, times, locations, deadlines, costs, etc. We also welcome the submission of original articles for possible publication in the Newsletter, especially descriptions of your accomplishments, travels, discoveries, and other experiences as APSU retirees.

Submissions are limited to 500 words and a maximum of three high-resolution photographs. Send texts as regular email (no tabs) or Word attachments to Jim Clemmer at clemmerj@apsu.edu with photographs sent individually as separate jpg files. Or you may submit typed manuscripts and good-quality photo prints to APSU Retirees Association, Box 4426, Clarksville, TN 37044.

Officers

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Hester Crews, Vice-President
Nancy Irby, Treasurer
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Publicity Director

*Jim Clemmer
clemmerj@apsu.edu*

Address

*APSU Retirees Association
Box 4426
Clarksville, TN 37044*

On the Web

www.apsu.edu/retirees-association

See our website for current and past issues of our Newsletter and NewsNotes, a retirement checklist, and information on retiree benefits.

The Austin Peay State University Retirees Association

Invites you to

The APSURA Fall Luncheon

Tuesday, October 22, 2013, 11:30 – 1:30

The Looking Glass Restaurant

329 Warfield Blvd., Clarksville, Tennessee



Guest Speaker: State Senator Mark Green

Dr. Green is currently serving his first term representing Houston, Montgomery and Stewart counties in the Tennessee State Senate. He is also a decorated former Army Ranger medic who served tours in Afghanistan and Iraq. As the special operations flight surgeon on the December 2003 mission that captured Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, he was assigned to sit with Hussein throughout the first 24 hours after his capture. From this experience, Dr. Green authored his book *A Night With Saddam*, describing the capture of Saddam Hussein and his subsequent medical care.

Following his address, Dr. Green will participate in a book signing.

Luncheon Cost: \$20.00 per guest, payable to APSURA

Choice of main entree:

Coconut-Pecan Chicken Salad on a bed of Spring Mix Greens

or

Adobo Caribbean-Spiced Salmon Fillet on a bed of Spring Mix Greens

RSVP by October 15th

Mail payment and entrée choice to APSURA Luncheon, APSURA, Box 4426, Clarksville, TN 37044

***It is not necessary to be a member of APSURA to attend this event.
But once you come to an event, we think you'll want to be!***



APSU Retirees Association
Box 4426
Clarksville, TN 37044

APSURA New Members Registration Form

Retired faculty or staff

Associate member

Check both of the above boxes if your spouse or partner is joining as an associate member as well.

Dr. ___ Mr. ___ Ms ___ Mrs. ___ Other preferred title _____

Name of member: _____
Last First Middle

Name of spouse/partner: _____
Last First Middle

Address: _____
Number and Street (Apartment Number)

_____ City State Zip Code

Telephones: _____ E-mail addresses: _____

Former department: _____ Years of service _____ Year you retired _____

Activities in which you would like the APSURA to be involved (check all that apply): Group travel; Athletic events; Cultural events; Social events; Scholarship activities; Seminars; Community work; Other _____

Annual Dues for Austin Peay State University Retirees Association are:

Regular (APSU Retiree) Membership \$25.00 Please send to APSURA, Box 4426, Clarksville, TN 37044

Associate Membership \$25.00

Additional donation for Scholarship Fund _____ Lifetime Membership \$500