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Photo: Felix G. Woodward Library display of APSURA photos and articles

Newsletter of the Austin Peay State University Retirees Association



Stunning library display to star at June meeting

Aleeta Christian

A spectacular new Woodward Library display of APSURA photos and articles has become the centerpiece of a very busy late-spring season for APSURA. The display, designed by the Library's Gina Garber and Christina Chester-Fangman, features a large ceiling-mounted array of poster-size photos of APSURANS involved in activities ranging from Ireland bicycling to New Zealand heli-skiing to clambering among Turkish and Peruvian ruins. One young student viewing the display was heard to say, "This looks more like an adventure club than a bunch of old people." (To which I would like to reply, "You are on the right track, son.")

A group tour of the display will be a feature of the APSURA annual membership meeting on Wednesday, June 4, along with a presentation on library opportunities by Woodward Library director Joe Weber. This meeting will at 3 p.m. in MUC 103A, and will include socializing as well as elections to replace officers and directors whose terms are expiring. See the official notice of the meeting on page six of this newsletter. We will also discuss local and regional travel possibilities for this summer and fall, as discovered by travel chairman David Kanervo. We look forward to seeing many of you at this meeting!

Other APSURA events of current interest are the recent interviews with presidential candidates, our meeting with new retirees at their dinner on April 30, a trip to the spring festival at historic Rugby coming up on May 16-17, and preparations for conferences of the state and national retirees associations. We were honored to be included in the process of interviewing the four finalists for APSU president. We hope our input to the search committee and the Chancellor will have helped them find the very best successor to Presi-

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Austin Peay State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The Director of Affirmative Action has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies and can be reached at 601 College Street, Browning Bldg. Room 7A, Clarksville, TN 37044, 931-221-7178, nondiscrimination@apsu.edu.

The library display features poster-size photos and articles from past APSURA newsletters suspended from the ceiling and in three display cases.

dent Hall. Jim Clemmer and I were also honored to be asked by Human Resources to represent APSURA at the retirees dinner, where we invited new retirees to join APSURA and gave them copies of recent newsletters and our new brochure. Several had already joined following our November seminar.

A number of APSURANS are heading to historic Rugby for the spring festival on May 16-17. The festival is one of the premier events of the year at Rugby, and includes a full slate of Appalachian music, crafts, food, storytelling and maypole dancing (see www.historicrugby.org). We will drive up individually on Friday morning, May 16, attend the festival, and stay the night at the Grand Vista Hotel in Huntsville. Huntsville is north of Crossville, a 3-hour drive from Clarksville. If you would like to join in this excursion, rooms might still be available at the Grand Vista for around \$77 (1-888-854-6300). This would be a pleasant excursion.

Several of us will be attending the conference of the national Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROE) in Minneapolis August 10-12, where Jim Clemmer will deliver a presentation on our November seminar for new retirees. And this year APSURA will be planning and directing the annual conference of the Tennessee Higher Education Retirees Association (THERA) on November 2-3 at Fall Creek Falls State Park. Please plan to attend this conference if you can, as it provides a good overview of what other state associations are doing as well as providing a great fall weekend at beautiful Fall Creek Falls.



We are also happy to announce that we finally have an office on campus! It is Claxton 302F, and we have file space, a computer, a printer, and—most important—a coffee pot. Your officers and directors look forward to using this office for some of our business.

We hope to see some of you at Rugby on May 16, and many of you at our membership meeting on June 4!

A very successful luncheon with President Hall

Ann Harris

On March 19th APSURA hosted its spring luncheon at the Looking Glass restaurant. Over 50 APSURANS and friends enjoyed the occasion, but tempered by something of a bitter-sweet tone—a feeling of happy anticipation to see and hear our much beloved APSU President Timothy Hall speak, but intermingled with sadness at his leaving the University to become president of Mercy College.

After the lunch, President Hall spoke eloquently of the changes in higher education that will occur soon and the potential effects on APSU. He praised APSURA for building such an effective retiree association in such a short time, and he told us in a very personal way of the factors he considered in deciding on the move to Mercy College.

APSURA then honored President Hall for his seven years of leadership in overseeing the tremendous university growth and for being such a driving force behind the national prominence the university has received under his leadership. John Butler presented President Hall with a beautiful piece of art, a vase crafted by retired faculty member and APSURAN Jim Diehr.

Our thanks to all of you who supported the spring and fall luncheons. We hope these will become annual events.



President Hall with the vase created by APSURAN Jim Diehr, presented by John Butler as a gift from APSURA



President Hall with luncheon co-host Ann Harris

Gallery of luncheon-goers, March 19, 2014



Spring has sprung for APSURANS

Phil Kemmerly

Vigorous and energetic APSURANS spent Saturday morning April 19 luxuriating in the warm spring air under the tutelage of retired botany professor Wayne Chester. Wayne joined us for our spring wildflower pilgrimage on the Clarksville Greenway walking trail.

The Clarksville Greenway, completed under Mayor Johnny Piper in 2010, extends approximately five miles along the bed of the abandoned Tennessee Central Railroad. The north segment is the shortest, flattest portion of the trail and extends approximately two miles north from the trail head at the end of

Pollard Road. Wayne wowed us with his knowledge, insights and humor as he described and identified some 20 different species of wildflowers decked out in their finest spring colors.

All of us noticed that the particularly cold winter, by local standards, and the abundant late winter moisture had produced a bumper crop of floral beauties. The many wildflower species observed included Bloodroot, red and white Trillium, Virginia Creeper and Indian Strawberry.

Wayne showed the group that the juice of the Bloodroot did in fact resemble blood and thus was aptly named by the Native Americans and early settlers of our region, who believed it was a good medicinal plant for blood conditions.

Flea Beauty, alleged to kill fleas, also amused participants. Other species observed included blue, yellow and white violets, Butter Weed, and Paw Paw.

All in all, the participants enjoyed the weather, flowers, instruction and camaraderie immensely. We especially thank Wayne for still another delightful lesson on the wonders of nature. What a way to celebrate Spring, 2014!

APSURAN Dr. Wayne Chester leading the nature walk on April 19



Official notice of membership meeting on June 4

Nancy Irby

On behalf of this year's membership and nominating committees, I invite you to attend the yearly membership meeting on June 4. We always look forward to this gathering as a chance to greet and talk with those of you we don't see often enough. Please do plan to come this year—Wednesday, June 4, in MUC 103A at 3 p.m. We will have refreshments and visit, do a bit of business, and talk about library opportunities with library director Joe Weber. We will then accompany him to the library to tour the great new APSURA exhibit.

MUC room 103A is easy to access as it is just a stone's throw from the faculty/staff (red) parking spaces on the Browning Drive curve behind McCord Bldg. Enter the door at the west end of the student center and go down the stairs one floor. The room is the first on the left. Or you can take the elevator just down the hall.

Our APSURA Bylaws instruct us to notify members in advance of elections and other business to be conducted at the annual meeting, so please consider this as your official notification. If you have questions about the bylaws governing elections and other matters, you can read our bylaws at <http://www.apsu.edu/retirees-association/Association%20By-Laws>.

The nominating committee this year consists of Joe Filippo, Meredith Gildrie, and myself. We present the following suggested slate of officers and one new director for 2014-2015: For president, Aleeta Christian; vice-president, Hester Crews; secretary, Barbara Wilbur; and as a new director, David Kanervo. The other positions are not up for election this year. Additional nominations may be made by mail to the Nominating Committee, APSU Retirees Association, Box 4426, Clarksville, TN 37044, to be received by the committee no later than seven days prior to the election on June 4.

To clarify a rather confusing section of the bylaws on elections and terms of office, we are proposing minor changes to the wording of *Article IV, Administration*, and the addition of a letter system to distinguish among the kinds of directors and terms served by each. These changes will not affect the elections this June 4.

We will ask you to vote on the following proposed new system for defining and identifying the directors and their terms:

Directors: Directors A-H shall serve terms based on the following designations and responsibilities. Directors A-E may be re-elected after one intervening year. Directors F-H shall hold office based on the qualifications described below.

<i>Director A</i>	<i>2-year term</i>	
<i>Director B</i>	<i>2-year term</i>	
<i>Director C</i>	<i>3-year term</i>	
<i>Director D</i>	<i>3-year term</i>	
<i>Director E</i>	<i>4-year term</i>	<i>Parliamentarian</i>
<i>Director F</i>	<i>Indefinite</i>	<i>Publicity Director, appointed/reappointed by the Board</i>
<i>Director G</i>	<i>3-year term</i>	<i>Ex-officio, immediate past president, eligible for re-election with no intervening year</i>
<i>Director H</i>	<i>Indefinite</i>	<i>University representative, serves at the pleasure of the president of the University</i>

We look forward to seeing you on June 4!

On page 7, the front of the new APSURA brochure created in conjunction with the library display

Membership dues due by July 1

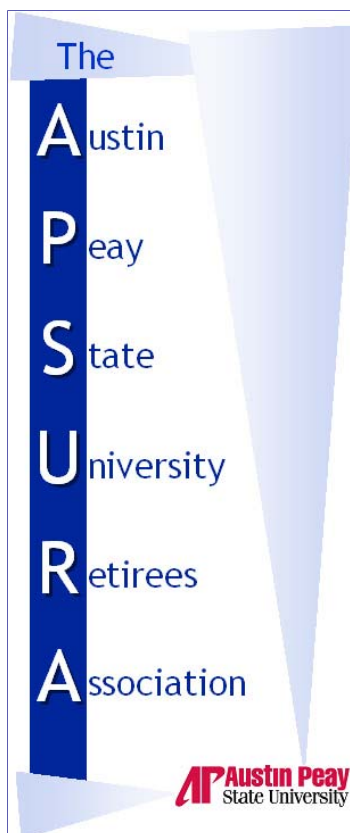
Nancy Irby

Just a friendly reminder here that annual dues of \$25 for members and associate members are due by July 1. Please send to APSURA at the address listed on the right.

If you are a new retiree, remember that membership is free for the first full fiscal year following your retirement. That is, if you retired or retire from APSU at any time between July 1, 2013 and this July 1, 2014, your membership is free for the entire fiscal year July 1, 2014-July 1, 2015. The only requirement for membership is that you sign and submit a membership form such as the one on the back of this newsletter. Associate memberships work the same way.

Dues are used to defray the costs of printing, mailing, supplies and other operating expenses. At the end of each year any money remaining is moved into the scholarship account. Our goal for the scholarship account is to have a fully funded endowed account within a few more years. Several people have become life-time APSURA members by giving \$500 to the account, which can be given in several increments. All dues and scholarship donations are considered contributions to the APSU Foundation, and thus are fully tax deductible. When you are renewing your annual dues, consider adding a little extra for the scholarship fund.

Thank you for paying your dues by July 1!



Officers

Aleeta Christian, President
Hester Crews, Vice-President
Nancy Irby, Treasurer
Christa Beckner, Secretary

Directors

Ann Harris
Lu Annette Butler
John Butler
Jim Diehr
Mitch Robinson
Phil Kemmerly
Al Bekus (ex officio)

Publicity Director

Jim Clemmer
clemmerj@apsu.edu

Address

APSU Retirees Association
Box 4426
Clarksville, TN 37044

On the Web

www.apsu.edu/retirees-association

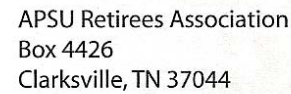
See our website for current and past issues of our Newsletter and NewsNotes, a retirement checklist, and information on retiree benefits.

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 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.



☐ **Retired faculty or staff**

() Associate member

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

Additional donation for Scholarship Fund _____ **Lifetime Membership () \$500**