

The Rejuvenator

Newsletter of the UWG Association of Retired Faculty & Staff No. 27 August 2016



THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FACULTY AND STAFF

Reunion

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2016

SUNSET HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

The ARFS Reunion will be here soon! Our 2016 Retiree Reunion will be at 11:30 am on September 10, 2016 held at Sunset Hills Country Club. Mark your calendars and plan to join us again for our major ARFS event of the year. We will welcome the following folks into retirement and to enjoy a great lunch and fellowship:

Daniel F. Bakos
 Gayland Bentley
 Tim Cannon
 Cheryl Cash
 Deannie L. Corley
 Donna M. Davis
 Joan L. Faulkner
 Kaye Ferguson
 Dan Flinn
 Carol F. Goodson
 J. Swain Harris
 Joel B. Haynes
 Curtis Lee Hollabaugh

Louis E. Howe
 Greg Hudgins
 Deborah Bainer Jenkins
 Barbara Kendrix
 William H. Lambert, Jr.
 Karen A. Larsen
 Paul Luken
 Kareen Ror Malone
 Gail H. Marshall
 Rebecca M. McGee
 Johnnie Pollard
 H. Franklin Pritchett, Jr.
 Teresa H. Pyron

Gail G. Reid
 Rebecca McCain Reeves
 Steve A. Rich
 Eddie Rogers
 Madhavi Beheruz Sethna
 Todd Slate
 Gail U. Smith
 Jill T. Stallings
 Johnnie Vaughn
 Ricky Watts
 Karen West
 Diane R. Williamson
 Cathy Wright

ARFS involvement with annual Alumni weekend is success

ARFS held a garden party on the grounds of the Alumni House on Saturday afternoon during the April Alumni Weekend. Beautiful weather, gorgeous floral decorations, excellent food and drink enjoyed by a fantastic turnout of West Georgia retirees and alumni. A few surprises were in store for some of our retired faculty when former students showed up and shared stories with everyone about that particular professor. A grand time was had by all and ARFS plans to make this an annual spring event during the Alumni Weekend festivities.



(L-R) Debbie Novak, Susan Gann '85, Teresa Whitaker '85, Karen Osborne '86, Glenn Novak

Final Thoughts from Out-going President Glenn Novak

ARFS was formed about twelve years ago when Andy Leavitt, our friend and former colleague, asked my wife Debbie and me to meet with him about an idea he had. His idea was to create a retiree group for UWG and he wanted me to organize it. The three of us agreed that it could be both fun and useful to have an informal group that would foster on-going connections among retirees of UWG. I think we have been successful in trying to keep folks informed



Glenn and Debbie Novak

and connected to each other and to their former employer, and we have had consistently good turnouts at our annual fall ARFS reunions. I hope that all of you have enjoyed being members of our group by virtue of simply being retired from West Georgia. And we have never had any dues!

After twelve years, this retiree is retiring from the helm of our organization and our Coordinating Council has agreed to recommend our friend and fellow retiree, Mitch Clifton, as my successor. If elected for a two-year term by a vote of the General Membership on September 10th, Mitch will focus on moving our organization to the next level. He is capable and has a number of promising ideas for the future of our organization, and I hope you will offer him your congratulations and support as a nominee for the office of President. I thank him and the other members of our Council for all of their help and contributions over these past dozen years.

This group has been a pleasure to work with and I encourage you to consider actively participating in it throughout the year. Find out what we do and decide whether you might like to take a leadership role in your organization. If you're ready to take on a more active role, contact me at gnovak@westga.edu.

Next Coordinating Council meeting:

Stay tuned for our next Coordinating Council meeting! The date, time, and location will be announced via the ARFS listserv. Please feel free to join us and bring ideas and suggestions.

Your service record: ARFS is compiling a list of all of our retirees who are generously donating their time and energies to make UWG a better place. You are rightfully proud of your volunteer efforts, so send a brief note listing them to Kevin Hemphill khemphil@westga.edu and we will pull it all together into an annual report.

Retiree Medallions: Want to get a medallion? Medallions are available free of charge courtesy of the Office of Alumni Relations and ARFS to any retiree who did not previously receive one. The medallion is bronze with the university logo on the obverse and the engraving on the reverse, and hangs from a ribbon. The engraving shows your name, department, and years of service. To secure one, contact Kevin Hemphill at khemphil@westga.edu

Third Thursday ARFS Travel Programs

Our travel program, coordinated by Jan Ruskell, is now in its 7th year! It meets the 3rd Thursday of every month at 11 a.m. in the Neva Lomason Library. Following the program a lunch opportunity is available for more fellowship.

Future programs are listed below:

August 18: *Going to the Amazon* by Sue Lee, author of the Amazon Murders

September 15: *Buicks and Bulgari: a Buick National Car Meet* by Glenn and Debbie Novak

October 20: *Florida is More Than Beaches and Disney* by Bob Myers

Want to share your travels? Contact Jan Ruskell (jruskell@westga.edu)

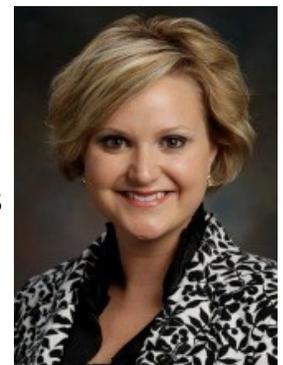


Georgia Association of Higher Education Retiree Organizations (GA-HERO)

GA-HERO meets at least once annually at a Georgia college campus. GA-HERO is a Georgia network of college and university-based retiree organizations. GA-HERO is trying to represent retirees' best interests and deal with issues such as insurance/retiree benefits, meaningful activities for retirees, and opportunities for life-long learning. We are pleased that Wanda McGukin continues on as our volunteer representing UWG at these meetings and bringing back information to our group. If interested in becoming an alternate/permanent member who attends meetings with Wanda or substitutes for Wanda, contact Glenn Novak at gnovak@westga.edu.

A Special Thanks

ARFS would like to extend a special thanks to Meredith Ledbetter, former Assistant Director of Alumni Relations. She served as our contact person and made our group run smoothly and well. She attended every ARFS Coordinating Council Meeting, arranged all the details for our annual ARFS Reunion and formatted the *Rejuvenator* for us. She also took great photos at ARFS events. We wish her well in her new position at the UWG Newnan campus and would like to congratulate her and her husband Allen as they await the birth of their first baby. We will miss you, Meredith!



ARFS Website: You're invited to take a look at our updated website full of items of interest for you! There are lots of new features on it and we are grateful to Kevin Hemphill for designing and maintaining it. You'll find the website by going to www.westga.edu/arfs.

Ideas Welcome: Have an idea for some type of activity you would like the ARFS group to sponsor or you would like to head up? If so, email us at dnovak@westga.edu or come to the next Coordinating Council meeting and let us know. Perhaps you would like to do a talk on a book you've written or some research you are working on? We would like to know if there is interest in taking a group tour by bus to one of the many wonderful local gardens in our area. Any other thoughts about a group event?

NOTICE For Retirees Becoming Eligible for MEDICARE:

Last year the University System of Georgia facilitated the transition of approximately 17,000 Medicare-eligible retirees from the USG self-funded healthcare system to the AON Retiree Healthcare Exchange. As part of the process, several large-group information sessions were held across the state to assist retirees in making this transition. In the future, because retirees become eligible for MEDICARE at varying times during the year, no similar large-group meetings will be held. Retirees seeking advice and counsel for making this transition can turn to UWG Human Resources personnel on campus or informally poll fellow retirees to get their recommendations based on their experiences of companies they are using. For general questions or concerns, contact Anne C. Richards (arichard@westga.edu or 770-834-8143).



UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship Fund

The ARFS Scholarship Committee is asking ALL of you to consider a donation. A fellow retiree (who wishes to remain anonymous) is challenging you to donate now and she will **MATCH** your donation of up to \$1,000! Please take on her challenge and donate today! As soon as we reach our \$25,000 goal we can start awarding the scholarship to a deserving legacy-connected student.

The current balance of our new UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship is \$15,655! This scholarship was created two years ago by the ARFS governing body. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to students with a legacy connection to UWG. We are getting excited now that our goal of attaining \$25,000 is getting closer. The new target amount is \$9,345.00!

We must raise \$25,000 by 2019 for the scholarship to become endowed. If every one of our 300 retirees gives only \$31 today we can begin to make plans to award our First UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship. For more details on the scholarship, see www.westga.edu/arfs

Another way to donate is to do a pledge donation. Please consider making a donation and assist us to help a student with a UWG connection! If you would like to make a gift, you may donate online (www.westga.edu/arfs) or by mailing a check to the Alumni House (1601 Maple Street, Carrollton GA 30118). Be sure to indicate on your check that your donation is designated for the UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship. Please contact the Alumni House for additional information or questions: 678-839-6582 or alumni@westga.edu. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

To sign up for our listserv email Debbie Novak, dnovak@westga.edu and she will sign you up. Also, remember that if you've changed your email address, you must notify us so we can update you on the ARFS listserv. Our listserv address is uwg-arfs-list@westga.edu.

Do you have something to share with the Association of Retired Faculty and Staff that you would like to see in the next Rejuvenator? Contact Mitch Clifton at mclifton@westga.edu