

MINUTES OF THE RETIREE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL BANQUET
October 3, 2018
Phoenix Rooms, University Union

Report by the Retiree Association President

President Dan Spielmann welcomed about 70 banquet attendees to the annual event. He offered a brief summary of activities and events of the previous year.

Leading the list of successful special events the Retiree Association sponsored the annual golf outing August 16. With an increase to 44 participants, \$1,025 was raised to benefit the Association's student scholarship fund. The annual Arboretum Walk in May was led by Prof. Dan Meinhardt and participants got an update on Arboretum management and future projects as part of their nature hike. The Retiree Association offered two social event/outings during the academic year. The first saw about 25 retirees and guests attending the Feb. 16 Krash the Kress men's basketball game and indoor tailgate party cosponsored by Phoenix Athletics and the Alumni Association as a first-time, all-campus event. The second involved the Retiree Association reserving a block of tickets for the campus/community Verdi's Requiem concert in May. Another Retiree project – beautification of the Shorewood Golf Course – involved several Association members in spring flower planting across the course.

President Spielmann listed three upcoming outings/events already scheduled for fall and winter 2018-19:

- "Behind the Scenes at the Lawton Gallery" talk and tour on Wednesday, Oct. 24, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
- Fall Musical "Nunsense" in the University Theatre, Friday evening, Nov. 16
- Krash the Kress II men's basketball game and tailgate, Friday, Feb. 1

In other news, Dan updated retirees on a UWGB policy change involving new retirees and their ability to retain email access through the University. The UW System has been seeking to limit or better control network/email access, citing online security concerns. The fallout is that while all current emeriti and retired employees will be grandfathered-in and allowed to keep their uwgb.edu or ret.uwgb.edu accounts (provided they complete periodic online security training), future retirees will no longer be automatically eligible. Access will only be offered to those who are formally granted "emeritus" status.

President Spielmann took advantage of the occasion to offer a special thank-you to past president Pat Przybelski, who continues as a current board member and super volunteer and has been instrumental to keeping the Retiree Association energized and operating. He thanked Pat for taking the lead on organizing the Annual Banquet and Golf Outing, in particular.

Report by the Retiree Association Treasurer

Treasurer Frank Madzarevic said that the current value of the scholarship endowment is \$32,487. (That's almost \$4,000 more than the same time last year, thanks to a successful golf outing, additional donations, and market appreciation.) He encouraged those attending the banquet to consider a fully tax-deductible, year-end gift to the scholarship fund.

Update on Oral History Project

Project coordinator Jane Rank and University Archivist Deb Anderson led a demonstration showing that a major milestone has been reached: The audio interviews conducted as part of the UWGB Oral History Project are now available on the web as a searchable database.

<http://digilib.uwgb.edu/digital/> More than 150 subjects – alumni, faculty, staff, administrators and others – have been interviewed over the last decade, with more to come. Although more interviews still need to be indexed and loaded, and others await transcription, the site and its search software went live in early fall 2018. Using a computer-screen projection, Deb conducted a keyword search on a topic of UWGB history, displayed the several “hits” that resulted, and quickly zeroed in on the precise place in the lengthy transcript and audio recording at which the particular topic was addressed by the particular speaker.

Jane and Rank distributed a list of potential interview subjects who would likely have interesting perspectives on UWGB history but have not yet sat for interviews. They encouraged retirees at the banquet to nominate their own possible interview subjects or to encourage others to participate.

Election of new board members

Four members of the Retiree Association Board of Directors who otherwise would have completed their terms agreed to accept nomination for re-election, as there were no nominations from the floor. The slate was approved unanimously, with Judi Pietsch, Pat Przybelski, Chris Sampson and Dan Spielmann elected to new terms.

Remarks by student scholarship recipient

UW-Green Bay student Allison Susnik, majoring in Education and Human Development, was introduced. She offered brief remarks in thanking the Retiree Association for the scholarship award she received this year. The assistance helped her reduce college expenses and save money for her upcoming semester of student teaching. Allison hopes to become an elementary school teacher in the Great Green Bay area.

Remarks by featured speaker, artist Sandra (Hackbarth) Martinez

Former UWGB art student Sandra (Hackbarth) Martinez was introduced as the evening's guest speaker. Her well-received, slide-illustrated talk addressed the abstract art she and her husband, Wence Martinez, create and sell at their Door County studio. She shared many stories of her introduction to the UWGB campus in its earliest days, the exceptional mentorship of the art faculty, and the creativity and self-direction that the school's diverse, interdisciplinary curriculum required of students. She recalled helping to found the art-student organization that somehow landed prominent, national-caliber artists for talks, master classes and mini-residencies. She also described how UWGB fostered the critical thinking and entrepreneurial skills that studio artists need to achieve business success.

The meeting adjourned by about 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Chris Sampson, recording secretary