

# RETIREE NEWS



*Association of Retired Faculty  
The Florida State University*

## NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Association of Retired Faculty (ARF), it is a pleasure to extend greetings to you as we begin a New Year and look forward to celebrating the outstanding programs and events for 2007.



ARF Board - Fall Meeting – University Center Club

The excitement that members of ARF enjoy as we meet and greet each other encouraged your Board at its August 2006 meeting to “look” at the ARF Bylaws regarding membership in ARF.



Winter Holiday Reception - Group at piano

The Board reviewed the Mission Statement for ARF: *The Association of Retired Faculty provides opportunities to continue valued relationships with the University, serves as a conduit for the current events of campus, community and*

*colleagues and deepens connections with former and current faculty and their disciplines. It is an extended family that strengthens the fabric of collegiality.*

To ensure that membership in ARF does not exclude valuable members of the University Community, an Ad Hoc Committee (Marie Cowart, Fred Standley, Calvin Zongker) was appointed by the President to study the ByLaws and to develop a policy statement for consideration of the Membership at its Annual Spring



ARF members – Winter Holiday Reception

Luncheon and Business Meeting, May 8, 2007, Ramada Conference Center, North Monroe Street. The Bylaws require that a first reading of proposed changes be presented to the membership prior to the Annual Meeting. This reading occurred at the December 6, 2006 Holiday Reception and Celebration at Westminster Oaks by Part President and Nominations Committee Chair, Calvin Zongker.

“The proposed Bylaws change below came about when the Board discussed the fact that the current ARF membership policy excluded many valuable members of the University Community. **Current Bylaws require that everyone except faculty must be invited to join the Association of Retired Faculty.** The change allows for a more inclusive policy and continues to allow significant members of the University to be nominated as well as faculty retired from other institutions living in the Tallahassee vicinity.

(The proposed changes are additions which are indicated by *italics*. There are no deletions)

### Preamble:

Membership in the organization is open to every former faculty member and *administrative staff member of the university and its direct support organizations* who is retired. Spouses...etc.

### Article III

**Section 1.** Each former faculty member and *administrative staff member of the Florida State University and its direct support organizations* who is retired shall be eligible for membership in the Association. Spouses ...etc.

**These changes were approved by the Board of Directors, September 27, 2006.**

Enjoy this exciting edition of *Retiree News*. We look forward to seeing each of you at the next ARF event, the Annual President's Brunch, February 13, 2007, University Center Club, Futch Ballrooms, Third Floor.

We wish each of you a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.  
"Fancy"

## A Program We Can View with Pride

In early 2005, the Heritage Protocol received the gift of a 273-page, unpublished monograph on the evolution of the English Education program at Florida State University. Having completed (in April, 2001) a 39-year career in that program, I was its author and titled it, *Shifting Tides in Teacher Education: English as an Example*.

On the surface, the text might be construed as the history of a teacher-training program in English Education at a large public university. In fact, it represents the confluence of several currents in post-war American and their effects on the education of upper grade teachers in what the British call, "The Mother Tongue." Among these currents are:

- The phenomenal changes in American social structure in the post-World War II era
- The growth and change of the State of Florida demographically and geopolitically (soon to be the third largest in the United States) from a Deep South Democratic to a conservative Republican state.
- The rather rapid transition of an educational institution from a small, segregated, parochial women's college to a major research university.
- The ongoing forays of those who are committed to sweeping and profound reforms in public education in general and colleges of education in particular
- The changing face of English Language Arts as a principal study in U.S. schools, significantly influenced by shifts in political directions, especially school desegregation and the rise of technology
- Ultimately, the chronicle of how the English Education program at one institution emerged, gained prominence, and continues to endure—even flourish—with marginal support

Taken as a whole, these factors have produced an image of a teacher education program that has prevailed, and continues to do so, in the face of sometimes-hostile forces that have waxed and waned over the past 60 years. Specifically, using Florida as a microcosm of the United States, the text provides a close look at the efforts of one

group of educators to develop, enhance, and refine the literacy capacities of young adults.

A chapter-by-chapter summary of the contents of the text:

### **CHAPTER ONE - PROGRAMMATIC INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD (1945-1958)**

– A background description of (1) educational reform initiatives in the late 1940's (Arthur Bestor, the Council for Basic Education, et al, their attacks on Progressive Education, and responses from the profession (2) The establishment of The Florida State University in fall, 1947, with its new emphasis on secondary-level teacher education (3) The political face of post-war (World War II) Florida (4) The impact of the 1954 *Brown vs. Kansas* decision of the U.S. Supreme Court on the states of the Old Confederacy in general and Florida in particular (5) The distinguished and well-established program at the University of Minnesota which produced among other leaders the creator of English Education at Florida State University, Dwight L. Burton, and (6) The seminal years of development, early and mid-1950's.

### **CHAPTER TWO - A FLURRY OF ACTIVITY (1958-1969)**

– A review of the rapid growth and expansion of English Education at Florida State during the Kennedy/Johnson years, to include the coming of the author to that program. Prominent among the events of that era was a series of federal initiatives in public education, most of which, the FSU English Education program (under Dwight Burton's direction), utilized as opportunities for professional enhancement. Among these, the "Basic Issues" Conference (1958), the Cooperative Education Act (1959), the Allerton Park (U. of Illinois) Conference (1963), the National Defense Education Act (1964), and the Education Professional Developments Act (1967). These activities were accompanied by the dramatic expansion of the graduate program, the emergence to prominence of several English Education Ph.D.'s, and the creation of National Conference of Teacher Education (NCTE) Conference of English Education with Illinois' J.N. Hook and Dwight Burton as co-founders. How the Vietnam War and student unrest of U.S. campuses negatively affected the entire education establishment.

### **CHAPTER THREE - RETRENCHMENT AND NEW VIEWS OF LITERARY (1969-1980)**

– The end of the Great Society, especially in terms of its support of English Education research and development enterprises at Florida State; the painful chapter of anti-Vietnam campus uprisings and the backlash of Nixonian

perspectives on education: Accountability, career education, the Right to Read, mandatory basic skills testing, and functional literacy; Florida initiatives in Education Accountability and Statewide Minimum

Competency Testing: decline in student enrollments and mandatory staff development in Basic Skills; early activity in Performance-Based Education initiatives; and shrinking state support for higher education.

**CHAPTER FOUR - PHOENIXES ARISING FROM THE ASHES (1980-1990)** – The appearance of a new breed of Reganite educational reformers: William Bennett, Chester Finn, Diane Ravitch, Lynn Cheney, et al, and their attacks on the Education Establishment in general and Colleges of Education in particular; Cultural Literacy, E.D. Hirsch-style vs. Functional Literacy; the work of Senator Jack Gordon and the Florida Legislature in their attempts to raise the cultural levels of public school curricula and bring down Colleges of Education in the senior universities of Florida; international outreach by U.S. and Florida English Educators; rise in student enrollment; the loss of Dwight Burton; the intensified censorship challenges of the Fundamentalist Right; and new federal support—with strings attached.

**CHAPTER FIVE - CHANGES, CHANGES (1990-2001)** – The end of the Cold War and its effect on U.S. citizens/English teachers; the regeneration of English Education at Florida State; further legislative efforts to make upper grade curricula more “academic”; the beginnings of teacher shortages in Florida and elsewhere; high tide of the National/Florida Writing Project; transition from the earlier statewide testing program to the nefarious Florida Comprehensive Achievement Test (FCAT); the impact of Political Correctness on curricula and methodology; the upswing in demand for, and establishment of Computer Technology in all public schools; new directions in the teaching and study of Young Adult Literature with accompanying increased hostility toward it from reactionaries and traditionalists; accreditation agency muscle-flexing-curricular encroachments by multiculturalists; portents of new wave of anti-College of Education challenges

**CHAPTER SIX - PASSING THE TORCH (2001 - )** – My retirement and the current English Education program faculty at Florida State University; demands of accrediting agencies and the (Republican) legislature; the implications of “No Child Left Behind” for literacy-based teacher education programs; the intensification of demands for technology in the curriculum; effects of the aggravated teacher shortage

coupled with further attacks on Colleges of Education, their curricular policy and operatives; two sets of Predictive statements about: (1) the future of English Education in the

United States—a series of brief, invited statements by several current practitioners (2) the future of English Education at Florida State University—another set of brief predictions, this time by current officials at the University and some “outsiders”, about the future of English Education program of this institution as it enters its second half-century of Existence.

As I write this in January 2007, Dr. Pamela Sissi Carroll, MA in the ‘80’s, former English Education program coordinator, past editor of *ALAN Review*, (NCTE), is now head of the Middle/Secondary department and was, in spring 2006, named *Distinguished Teacher of the University*. Dr. Susan Wood, current program leader, is Director of our National Writing Project chapter, and is involved in a number of state and national activities. In other words, the beat goes on.

John S. Simmons, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus,  
English Education and Reading  
Florida State University  
January 2007

**REMAINING ARF EVENTS FOR 2006-2007**

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**1. PRESIDENT’S BRUNCH**

Monday, February 13, 2007  
University Center Club  
Futch Ballrooms  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Program: (Under the auspices of President Wetherell’s Office)  
Invitations (forthcoming from the President)

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**2. ANNUAL SPRING BARBEQUE**

Wednesday, April 11, 2007  
Lee Vause Park, Main Pavilion  
Time: 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.  
Reservations and Payment Forms will be included in the March edition of *RETIREE NEWS*.

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### 3. ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON & BUSINESS MEETING

Tuesday, May 8, 2007  
 Ramada Conference Center  
 North Monroe Street  
 11:15 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sponsor for the *Meet and Greet*, Lobby, prior to the Luncheon: GABOR Agency

**Program:** Dr. Jim Pitts, Director  
 FSU International Programs

(This program is in honor of the special anniversary for several of our international programs. We will recognize those retirees who have had various types of relationships with those programs)

**Annual Business Meeting:**

- Election of New Officers and Board Members
- Voting on Amendment regarding ARF Membership as Presented at the December 2006 Meeting at Westminster Oaks.

*The Officers and the Program Committee hope to see each of you at the three remaining meetings listed above.*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**F.S.U. Association of Retired Faculty**  
**2005-2006**

President	Fanchon Funk
Past President	Calvin Zongker
Vice President	Fred Standley
Secretary	Sherrill Ragans
Treasurer	Max Carraway
Editor ( <i>Retiree News</i> )	Tom Hart
Membership	Nancy Turner
Historian/Archivist	Robert Spivey
Outreach	Johnnye Luebke
Memorials	Betty Lou Joanos
Faculty & Friends Club Rep.	Al Trezza
At-Large Representative	Marie Cowart
At-Large Representative	Don Rapp

**Meetings of the Board of Directors**

- \* August 16 – University Center Club, Board Room
- \* September 27 – FSU Foundation, Innovation Park
- \* November 15 – Executive Board Room, Ramada Conference Center
- \* March 14 – FSU Foundation, Innovation Park

\* May 9 – Joint Boards Meeting, University Center Club, Faculty Room

### ARF Members Professional Activities and Publications

**Bob Spivey**, Prentice-Hall has just published the sixth edition of Anatomy of the New Testament authored by D. Moody Smith of Duke University, C. Clifton Black of Princeton Theological Seminary, and Bob Spivey

**Don Rapp**, is in the final stages of editing his book, ON BALANCE: MASTERY OF PHYSICAL BALANCE FOR LIFE. The book is for anyone who does not want to fall. We all go downhill with age, disease and disuse, but we don't have to fade so fast. The book offers simple activities and exercises that can be used in daily your routine. The goal is to enhance the entire nervous system, which is possible at any age. The *use it or lose it* principle is just as true for the nervous system as for muscles. Don will soon have a web site donrapp.com By Jan 15th you will find some usable better balance hints there, also with book ordering information.

**Tom Hart**, has been invited to present a Pre-Conference program for the 13<sup>th</sup> annual American Association of School Librarians a Division of the American Library Association, on "Designing and Planning a Quality Library Media Center", October 2007.

### Holiday Happening

On December 6, nearly 100 ARF members and guests gathered in the attractively decorated Parry Center Gallery at Westminster Oaks for the annual Holiday Celebration. Delicious holiday finger foods were provided by ARF members, and seasonal punch was furnished by the Westminster

staff who were also responsible for the decorations. President Fanchon Funk presided and extended appreciation to the Program Committee members. Several of them supervised the serving table and helped with arrangements, including Paula Barbour-Brennan, Shirley Baum, John Brennan, Mike Launer, Marilyn Young and Don Rapp; and Bob Spivey directed attendees to appropriate parking. Johnnie Luebke was again “at-the-piano” with a medley of holiday and patriotic songs for our enjoyment. Cal Zongker presented an amendment to the by-laws that will be voted on at an ensuing meeting; if passed by the membership it will extend the privilege of membership in ARF to a wider range of personnel within the University.

The Outreach Committee assisted Max Carraway and Dottie Adair in welcoming members and guests and reminded us that Christmas was the season for sharing, and the result was additional contributions for our projects this year: Tree House and Southern Scholarship House.

Nancy Smith Fichter, with the assistance of Robert Fichter, presented a wonderful program on “The Lillian E. Smith Center for Performing Arts: Keeping the Vision Alive.” The program focused on the historical and cultural tradition of author Lillian Smith, and the Fichters’ continuing efforts to keep alive the support of the arts through their own Lillian Smith Foundation for the Creative Arts.

Walter Moore, in his inimitable style, led the “holiday sing-a-long” interspersed with accounts of the fabled ARF Christmas carolers in their annual trek throughout north Florida cities such as Sopchoppy, Two Egg, Gretna, et al.

Finally, President Funk thanked all of the participants and planners and wished everyone “a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season.”

## Retired Faculty Survey

In order to better serve the retired faculty constituency, we are planning to distribute a brief survey at the February President's Brunch.

Thank you in advance for providing this valuable information.

For those who cannot attend, please call Bob Spivey (644-0767) for a copy.

We will communicate results and possible actions in a forthcoming newsletter.

## Association for Retired Faculty Website

The ARF Website will soon be available. It will contain important information for members such as: Mission and By Laws; Association Mailing Information; Information about Board Members; Events Listing; Board of Directors Meetings; Membership information; Archives of Newsletters; and a Slide Show of Members at Functions.

The Web address is:

[http://ilearning.ci.fsu.edu/projects/RetiredFaculty/RetiredFaculty/arf/retiredFaculty\\_home.html](http://ilearning.ci.fsu.edu/projects/RetiredFaculty/RetiredFaculty/arf/retiredFaculty_home.html) This is the development address, look at it if you like. It will be improved in the final form.



## Past Presidents FSU Association of Retired Faculty

1979-80 Griffith Pugh  
1980-81 Virgil Strickland  
1981-82 Frank Allen  
1982-83 Jack Swartz  
1983-84 Fay Kirtland  
1984-85 Claude Flory  
1985-86 Sara Srygley  
1986-87 Ivan Johnson  
1987-88 Janet Wells  
1988-89 Wiley Housewright  
1989-90 Tom Lewis  
1990-91 Daisy Flory  
1991-92 Maurice Vance  
1992-93 Ruth Rockwood  
1993-94 Gene Tanzy  
1994-95 Jessie Warden  
1995-96 Jack Swartz  
1996-97 Katherine "Kitty" Hoffman  
1997-98 Heinz Luebkemann  
1998-99 Julia Goldstein  
1999-00 Gideon Jones  
2000-01 Betty Piccard  
2001-02 Bob Spivey  
2002-03 Jane Love  
2003-04 Wayne Schroeder  
2004-05 Nancy Smith Fichter  
2005-06 Calvin Zongker

**ARF RETIREE NEWS**  
**January 2007**

**Dean of the Faculties**  
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