



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
ASSOCIATION OF EMERITI FACULTY, INC.

Volume XVII, Number 4

UKAEF NEWS

April 2009

CELEBRATE, celebrate, with feast and song:

- Two hundred years of Abraham Lincoln's contributions.
- 20 years of University of Kentucky Association of Emeriti Faculty Accomplishments.

Come, celebrate them with us on Tuesday evening, April 7, 2009 at the Hilary J. Boone Center on UK campus. (You do not have to be a Boone member nor a member of UKAEF to join the party). From Rose Street, turn onto Columbia Avenue and enter parking area immediately behind Boone Center for **free parking**. Schedule is arranged so you don't have to drive after dark.

Social with bar opening at 4:15—time for friends and colleagues. Dinner at 5:15.

Program at 6:15-7:00. Selections from *River of Time*, a new folk opera with lyrics by Dr. James W. Rodgers, (UK Professor of Theatre, Emeritus) and music by Dr. Joseph Baber (UK Music Professor). In this newly commissioned work—the making of a legend—a young Lincoln is on a quest of self-knowledge and personal destiny. For this program, students of UK Opera Theatre under Dr. Everett McCorvey's direction will present selections dealing with painful episodes in Lincoln's life—the death of his sister, his father's crude exploitation of his labor, and his love affair with Ann Rutledge.

RIVER OF TIME—a history set to music

UK Opera Theatre and Kentucky Humanities Council will present four new selections from *River of Time* on April 7, 2009 at the Hilary J. Boone Center. In the opening, saddened by his sister's sudden death, Lincoln's poignant 'Prayer to His Mother' recalls their happy life together in Kentucky. Next, Lincoln sings of his determination to be 'Free' from his father's exploitation. After he escaped this bondage by moving to New Salem, Illinois and seeking to direct his own life, he falls deeply in love with beautiful Ann Rutledge who was already engaged to another! In the third selection, Lincoln confides to his father, James, that he feels like '...a lonely piece of driftwood, searching for a place to fit in...' Ann returns his love but cannot persuade her fiancé to break their contract. She laments her missed opportunities for happiness in 'Poetry and Lovenotes.'



Performers include from left to right: Nicholas Provanzale (Abe Lincoln), Nan McSwain (accompanist), Christopher Baker (Tom Lincoln).

All UK Faculty Retirees plus guests are invited to celebrate 20 years of championing Emeriti Faculty causes.
Encourage retiree friends to join you. Use the form at the end of the newsletter to register.

U.K. ASSN. OF EMERITI FACULTY — FIRST TWENTY YEARS, 1988-2008

In 1987, under the auspices of Roberta James, director of the UK Council on Aging, five recently retired faculty members met to consider establishing an association for UK retirees: Paul Oberst, Law; Gifford Blyton, Communications; Fannie Miller, Education; Don Ivy, Music; and Jean Pival, English. Their first task was to research other universities with such organizations: their institutional affiliation, degree of independence, and membership patterns. After searching, they found no definite pattern: some originated from institutional benefits offices, some were independent, some were open to both faculty and staff retirees.

Sensing little interest for such a project from UK officials, the committee opted for an independent association. First, they needed to determine interest in the project. Financially backed by the Council on Aging, the group distributed a questionnaire to 100 faculty retirees. The findings from that mailing verified interest in an organization that would provide a venue for continued professional and social interaction with other retirees, but would also serve as a “watchdog” of retiree rights and privileges. After much debate, the committee determined that membership in the organization should primarily be faculty, but also open to staff retirees who had a close relationship with students or educational programs.

By 1988, the committee formulated by-laws for an organization whose purpose was to enable retirees and their surviving spouses to maintain association with the University, to promote common interests, and to be of service to the University and its educational goals. They set dues at \$15 annually, which include spouses as members. The officers and chairs of standing committees serve as an Executive Committee which meets prior to each membership meeting and once in the summer. Elections are held once a year at the spring membership meeting. UKAEF continues to function in this manner as originally decided.

In September 1988, the association held its first meeting with a program format of luncheon followed by speaker/business meeting. Since then, using that same format, the organization has met four times each year. Four newsletters per year announce meetings and keep members informed of pertinent activities of the organization and of university decisions that will impact retirees, such as retiree benefits.

In 1994, treasurer Sydney Ulmer and Jean Pival, with the help of Fred Whiteside, a UK College of Law retiree, the Association was incorporated as a non-profit, non-stock corporation, and was granted non-profit status allowing for bulk-mailing and tax-free purchases.

In 1995, at the suggestion of Michael Adelstein and Paul Oberst, the Association voted to set up a scholarship or fellowship for doctoral students planning to teach at the college/

university level. In 2002, thanks to sizable contributions by William Wagner and Juan Hernandez, the Association in collaboration with the Development Office set up an endowed fund of \$50,000, matched by the Commonwealth of Kentucky Research Challenge Trust Fund (“Bucks for Brains”). The Fellowship fund of \$100,000 is administered by the Graduate School, with direct input from the Association. An AEF committee evaluates the fellowship applications and nominates awardees to the membership for approval. Each year, the Association, through donations from members, adds to the Fellowship fund. Because of participation in this project, the Association was designated “University of Kentucky Fellow.” Since the Fellowship Awards began in January 1996, to January 2009, forty \$1000-\$1500 fellowships have been awarded.

In 1993, the Association began a study of university-based retirement centers. Acting on a news item sent to the Executive Committee by Lila Boyarsky, an *ad hoc* committee was set up, chaired by her. The committee’s charge was to research existing facilities and to test the interest of UK retirees and the University in such an enterprise. In 1998, the committee joined forces with Ed Carter, coordinator of the Coldstream Project. At that time, the University offered land on Coldstream Farm for a three-tiered retirement facility. Although contracts were drawn up with the Evergreen Heritage Group from Louisville, the project was never voted on by the Board of Trustees. In 2004, President Lee Todd rejuvenated the effort and a committee chaired by Jack Blanton was commissioned to choose a company to build a three-tier, life-long learning facility. Praxeis was chosen and, after several false starts, a project location was chosen between Brannon Crossing and Ashgrove Pike. Lila Boyarsky, a spouse member, chaired the Retirement Facility Committee for ten years, always optimistic that someday UK would have such a facility.

Members of the Association have from its inception been actively involved with University functions—teaching and tutoring, working with students on projects, reading undergraduate applications for scholarships and Medical School admissions, assisting with fund drives, recording for the blind, helping in libraries, and participating in UK’s community outreach programs.

In accordance with its by-law stipulation to promote common interests, Robert Stroup, Economics, chaired the Benefits Committee for many years, working diligently to protect retiree benefits. The Association championed retiree parking privileges; lobbied legislature to prevent passage of a bill to tax TIAA-CREF; and successfully petitioned for voting seats on the UK Senate and the Employee Benefits Committee.

Over twenty years, retired faculty from a wide range of disciplines held offices in the organization.

Presidents:

- Gifford Blyton, Communications (1988-89)
- Jean Pival, English (1989-90)
- Harriett Rose, Psychology and Testing (1990-91)
- Richard Anderson, Business & Economics (1991-92); (1992-93)
- Thomas Ford, Sociology (1994-95)
- Beatrice Gaunder, Nursing (1995-96)
- William Wagner, Chemistry (1996-97; 1997-98)
- John Shawcross, English (1999-2000)
- Theodore Guiglia, Medicine (2000-01; 2001-02)
- Jacqueline Noonan, Pediatrics (2002-2003; 2003-04)
- Robert Straus, Behavioral Science (2005-06)
- Thomas Lillich, Dentistry (2006-2007; 2007-08)
- Mary Witt, Horticulture (2008-09)

Executive Secretary:

- Jean Pival (2005-2008)

Recording Secretaries:

- Michael Adelstein, English (1988-1990)
- Jean Pival, English (1990-2005)
- Thomas Blues, English (2006-2007)
- Ed Sagan, Education (2007-2009)

Treasurers:

- Don Ivy, Music (1988-1994)
- Sydney Ulmer, Political Science (1994-96)
- Beth Hicks, Nursing (1996-97)
- Kurt Anschel, Agricultural Economics (1997-99)
- William J. Stober, Economics (1999-present)

UKAEF ELECTION SLATE

President: James Wells
Vice-President: William Green
Executive Secretary: Jean Pival
Recording Secretary: Edgar Sagan
Treasurer: William Stober

Please cut, fill in information as requested and mail with your check enclosed.
Reservations must be received by March 25—deadline imposed by Boone Center.

**RESERVATION FOR UKAEF DINNER ON TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2009
4:00-8:30 PM**

Name: _____ Guest: _____

Address: _____ Zip +4: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

_____ Tickets @ \$38 each= _____

Do you need someone to provide transportation to this event? _____

Mail this completed form with your check, made payable to UKAEF, to:
WM. J. STOBER, 516 MUNDY'S LANDING, VERSAILLES, KY 40383
873-8580 or E-mail: Wjstob@aol.com

Note: To receive a refund, reservations must be canceled by Wednesday, March 25, 2009.



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