

## ARFS CELEBRATES 20th YEAR ANNIVERSARY at RETIREE REUNION

The annual ARFS reunion for UWG retirees, held in conjunction with the annual ARFS Business Meeting and recognition of retirees, was held Saturday, October 26, 2024. The group met this year in the Campus Center Ballroom. Catering of a delicious brunch was provided by Dine West and paid for by an anonymous donor.

Current University of Wisconsin Chancellor, Andy Leavitt, who was instrumental in getting ARFS started in his former role at UWG as VP for Advancement, came back to campus for the event. He, Glenn Novak, and Frank Pritchett were honored as members of the “Founding Coalition” of ARFS in 2004.

Anne Richards, outgoing president of ARFS, summarized some of the changes taking place at the university in the past year as well as ways in which ARFS has distributed helpful information gained from attendance at various retiree association meetings to current retirees. Information about retirement was also provided by ARFS representatives to employees who are beginning to ask questions about eventually becoming retirees themselves. Anne also explained the origins of the ARFS organization, its progression and usefulness to retirees throughout the years, the benefits it has provided retirees, and the roles Andy, Glenn, Frank, and Debbie Novak played in getting ARFS up and running as an organization.

A slide show of retirees from past years was set up by MaKena Burns (Alumni and Constituent Engagement) who also took responsibility for set-up and decorations, assisted by Kristy McAdam, recently employed in the same division at UWG. UCM photographer Hailey Wilkinson took photos. Beyond the photos of this event found in this issue, others can be found on the ARFS website.

Blynn Olivier Parker joined us from the UWG Library with a display from Special Collections (including a photo of Meg Cooper from 34 years earlier, when she was first employed at UWG!). Anne Richards was gifted with an appreciation book for her years of service to ARFS.





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## 2024 ANNUAL RETIREE REUNION Cont'd

Nine of this year's retirees received their medallions in person. Cecilia Lee read the poem she had written



for last year's reunion (which was published in the Summer issue of The REJUVENATOR, p. 4). From left to right: Anne Richards, Mardel Shumake, Amy Farmer, Melanie Clay, Myrna Gantner, Vickie Geisler, Jim Burton, Javier Hasbun, Julie Chibbaro, Jim Yoder.

### **The following individuals were honored at this year's reunion/reception:**

Lynn S. Anderson	Amy Farmer	Robyn Huss
Janet S. Barden	Myrna W. Gantner	Mark A. Kunkel
Amin Boumenir	Vickie J. Geisler	Brian McCrary
Subhan Jim Burton (2022-2023 retiree)	A. Bart Gillespie	Elsa V. Pena
Julie Chibbaro	Steve Goodson	Stacey L. Rowland
Kelley Christopher	B. Keith Harris	Mardel Shumake
Melanie Nunnally Clay	Jennifer A. Hayes	Renee Sparks
David Dean	Javier E. Hasbun	James A. Yoder

### **CURRENT OFFICERS AND AT LARGE MEMBERS ARFS Coordinating Council**

The following officers and new members of the Coordinating Council were elected at the Annual meeting:

<b>Officers:</b>	Vice President – Clois Reese (2024-2026)
President – Micheal Crafton (2024-2026)	Secretary – Meg Cooper (2024-2026)
Past President – Anne C. Richards (2024-2026)	Treasurer – Rolanda Farmer (2024-2026)

#### **At-Large Members**

Lisa Ledbetter (2024-2026)	Jerry Mock (2024-2026)	Sally Roberts (2024-2025)
Cecilia Lee (2024-2026)	Patricia Pinkard (2024-2026)	Francie Taylor (2024-2025)
Ann McCleary (2024-2025)	Mike Renfrow (2024-2026)	Trish Wells (2024-2026)

Thanks to our Nominating Committee: Meg Cooper, Ann McCleary, Anne Richards, John Von Eschenbach

### **RETIREE LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED to Kelli Kaiser.**



The 2024-2025 awardee of the Retiree Legacy Scholarship is Kelli Kaiser. Kelli is a senior majoring in Special Education-Adapted Curriculum who hopes to help youth with significant disabilities succeed in school and then transition to a successful adulthood. She attended the 2024 annual retiree reunion, along with her family and boyfriend. She also spoke to the attendees thanking them for the scholarship and telling the group a little about herself. She had a large support group with her, including her parents, sister, and grandparents.

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## 2024 ANNUAL RETIREE REUNION Cont'd

### UWG TRIVIA CONTEST

A TRIVIA CONTEST was held (see below for answers). Thanks to Rolanda Farmer and Alice Wesley for contributing prizes and to the Alumni employees who checked the answer sheets to determine winners.

1. What was the original name of the school that became the University of West Georgia?  
Agricultural and Mechanical School
2. The shortest-serving principal/president of the institution now known as UWG was?  
William Row
3. Who was the first advisor for international students on the campus?  
Georgia Martin
4. The commencement speaker in 1929 was  
Franklin D. Roosevelt
5. In 1919, the governors of thirteen states were asked for the gift of a tree variety native to their particular state to be planted on front campus. What variety of tree was requested?  
Oak
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ National Team practiced for the 1996 Olympics at UWG.  
Ukrainian
7. In what year was the first Black student enrolled at West Georgia?  
1963
8. The longest serving principal/president of the institution now known as UWG was  
Irvine Ingram
9. The first football team at West Georgia was called the  
Tigers
10. What year did the Newnan Center open?  
1988
11. In 1947, what event was held for the first time on campus?  
Homecoming
12. Which ARFS Coordinating Council member succeeded in breaking into the Print Services building on Juneteenth of 2024?  
Francie Taylor  
Note from Francie: In good faith, I opened the door that had a sign indicating that the automatic door wasn't working and to "pull hard." I did, and the rest is history.
13. How many different names existed for the department housing Special Education programs from 1990 to the current time, inclusive?  
8
14. Which "power couple" chaired West Georgia's Centennial Celebration?  
Anne and Fred Richards
15. Which UWG team won their NCAA III National Championship?  
Football

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## UWG TRIVIA CONTEST – QUIZ ANSWERS: Cont'd

16. The children's book about UWG is titled  
Wolfie Finds His Howl!
17. What building has been renamed Outfitters?  
Bookstore
18. Which of the following is now a major part of the Department of Civic Engagement and Public Service?  
Criminology
19. Who was president when the institution currently known as UWG became a university?  
Beheruz Sethna
20. In 1933, a majority of the student body first chose what name as the school emblem?  
Hill-billies
21. Which now-retired UWG employee carried the Olympic torch through campus on its relay to Atlanta?  
Linda Picklesimer
22. How many national titles have been won by UWG Cheerleading Squads?  
30
23. The building current named West Commons was formerly \_\_\_\_\_.  
Z-6
24. What is the "West Georgian"?  
UWG's newspaper

### **Bonus Question**

Which West Georgia symbol/logo does your group like best?

- a. Horse mounting block (steps) - runner-up
- b. Flame – clear winner
- c. Shield (road sign) – last place
- d. Wolf – runner-up

Thanks to Meg Cooper, Rolanda Farmer, Anne Richards, Francie Taylor and Alice Wesley, members of the Program/Events Committee, who contributed so much in many different ways to the success of this event.





## WONDER HOW TO NEGOTIATE AMP PARKING ON CAMPUS?

Anyone coming onto campus recently has likely noticed all the signs for AMP parking.

These signs now replace most of the spots formerly assigned to VISITOR parking. If you pull into one of these spaces, there is no charge if you are there for 30 minutes or less. If you are parked longer, however, you are subject to fines if you don't pay a fee.

For those not familiar with QR codes (like the ones on the AMP parking signs) you have to take a picture of the QR code with a smart phone. This will lead you to a prompt asking you to register your name and vehicle, indicate your location (by clicking on options presented), and estimate how long you plan to leave your vehicle in that location. Based on that estimate, you will be asked to provide a credit card number for billing purposes.

Cost of parking is \$1 per hour after the first free 30 minutes. If it turns out you overstay your original

estimated time, the system will notify you on your phone that you owe additional money, and you must take care of this yet again by inputting your credit card information. Only on Saturdays is there no ticketing for parking in AMP spots.

If you have arranged to get a University Friends parking hang tag, you can still park in designated spaces assigned to Faculty and Staff across campus. But **EVEN IF YOU HAVE A FRIENDS hang tag**, you can be ticketed if you park in a spot assigned for AMP parking if you are there longer than 30 minutes and haven't entered your credit card information as required.



## ALERT – RE USG healthcare stipend for Medicare-eligible retirees and their Medicare-eligible dependents:

The USG currently provides a stipend of \$2,640/year to Medicare-eligible retirees and their Medicare-eligible dependents to defray at least some of the costs of healthcare coverage that go beyond what Medicare provides. **In order to retain eligibility for these funds, however, a retiree MUST secure either a healthcare plan or a prescription drug plan (or both) through the ALIGHT RETIREE HEALTH SOLUTIONS exchange.**

During open enrollment periods, television advertisements abound that are designed to encourage retirees to consider new healthcare plans. Please be mindful that if you are Medicare-eligible and receive

the stipend from the USG, you **CAN NOT** simply sign up on your own for a plan you have come across that appeals to you. **At least one of the plans you sign up for must be processed through ALIGHT. [Phone: 1-866-212-5052 (TTY 711). Monday-Friday 8 am – 8 pm CT]**

**alight**®

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Kelii is the granddaughter of retiree Roger Kaiser (former Director of Athletics and Head Basketball Coach).



## CYBERSECURITY TIPS/AVOIDING FINANCIAL SCAMS

1. Do not rush into action. Cybercriminals typically use language that conveys a sense of urgency.
2. Pause to determine if a message you receive by phone or computer is legitimate by carefully copying the source into your Internet search bar.
3. Block phone numbers or emails that send suspicious messages promising unexpected promotions and links.
4. Do NOT click on any links you receive via text or email that you are not expecting or do not come from a familiar source.
5. If you receive an offer that requires you to pay for a free prize, even if the cost is just shipping, throw it in the trash. This is most likely an effort to get additional information about you from you.
6. Be aware that the IRS will never contact you via text, email, or social media. Instead, it uses old-fashioned post-office mailing. And even if you receive correspondence via post office mail from the IRS, call your local IRS office to confirm its legitimacy before acting on its contents.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR RETIREMENT?

Professor **Jane McCandless** (former interim Chair, UWG Departments of Philosophy and Mass Communications; former Chair of the UWG Department of Sociology; former Dean, College of Social Sciences; and former Chair of the Board of Directors of the Carroll Rape Crises Center), is now current Chair of the Board of Directors of Carroll Mental Health Advocates and also serves as a Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer. Additionally, she made a recent donation to the Tanner Health System to provide funding for the training of five new Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) who offer specialized support to survivors of sexual assault.

Professor Joseph Tyler has completed an autobiographical monograph published by Storyworth Claymont, DE. as Vol. 91 of MY LIFE STORIES.

