



Faculty Emeriti Association

NEWSLETTER

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From the President's Desk

by Shelia A. Moorman, President,
Faculty Emeriti Association

Greetings JMU Faculty Emeriti
Association members,

My message to you in July reflected the "new normal"; also joy, hope and a bright shining light. In the interim, as we all know, the struggle with COVID-19 continues even as we have resumed many of our activities. We have taken advantage of the late summer and fall weather to gather together, enjoying food and drink and of course the wonderful company outdoors. In this edition of our newsletter you will find updates on interest groups, annual activities and how we plan to meet the challenge of winter temperatures in the near future.

Our tradition of awarding the Faculty Emeriti Association Legacy Grant to a deserving full-time tenured faculty member has continued, with the 17th Grant awarded at the Opening Faculty Meeting in August. It may be used to further the recipient's professional development or enhance their instruction. Check out the details about Dr. Sharon L. Blatz.

I was thrilled that our annual events, the August Picnic and Fall Luncheon, were both well attended. It's obvious that we are all excited to see one another. The Luncheon gave us an opportunity to spend time in the very impressive Atlantic Union Bank Center. If you haven't seen it, please take advantage of the tours being offered by JMU Athletics. I'm excited for Basketball season to arrive, and to cheer on the Dukes.



Finally, some friendly advice...if you haven't relocated in the last 10-15 years or even if you have no plans to relocate...give some serious thought to simplifying. "Simplify" is to make something less complicated or less cluttered. Making the decision to relocate has forced this process to rear its ugly head. As advised, every possession has the potential to be kept, donated or hauled to the landfill.

Friends and family have been offered beloved treasures with varying degrees of success. True friendship has been displayed with offers to load up their truck with deliveries. The details are mind numbing. I strongly recommend that SIMPLIFICATION not be delayed! I'm certain that the rewards will be many. Wish us luck!

As the leaves slowly begin to change displaying the wonderful colors of fall, I wish all the best to each of you. I sincerely hope we can spend time together again soon.

Fondly,
Shelia



JMU Faculty Emeriti Interest Group Update

by Martha Ross, Interest Group Chair, Faculty Emeriti Association

Interest groups are active and meeting in a variety of ways. If anyone wants to join a group, please contact the group chair or Martha Ross rossmk@jmu.edu

Several of our groups socialize around food and beverages.

Jim Benedict chairs the **Breakfast Group**. They have met twice this fall at Panera Bread. Gatherings are on the second Wednesday of each month and they hope to meet there again in November.

The **Emeriti Lunch Group** resumed its monthly meetings by taking advantage of a beautiful late summer day and the large, covered patio at Bridgewater's Cracked Pillar restaurant. When we move to inside venues for the winter months, we will be under new leadership. Bill Voige will be stepping down as coordinator of the group and will be replaced by Anne Henriksen.

Doris Pye and Ron Wyanko chair the **Dinner Group** that meets every month or so for potluck dinners.

The **Beer and Wine Group** is chaired by Barbara McKee, Deane and Clarence Geier. In August they met at the Island Wing Company and October at Stable Craft Brewing to share interesting imported or craft beers and hard ciders.

The **Whiskey Appreciation Group** has a new chair this year, Steve Smith. He reports that they have been busy soliciting FEA members to join this group and have greatly expanded from 10 or so folks to around 30 who have signed up! That shows an obvious curiosity in this interest group. They are going to

Belmont Farms, south of Culpeper on November 9 to taste whiskey, vodka, gin, rum, moonshine, etc. Anyone who has not previously joined the WAGs, let Steve know and he'll be glad to add you to the group.

Janet Gloeckner chairs the **Wine Social Group**. The September gathering was held in the backyard of her house on September 24th. Thirty people attended and a variety of foods were shared and the selection of wines was enjoyable – a beautiful afternoon. As the weather gets cooler, the group will be moving back to Zoom socials.

Other groups include:

The **Book Group**, chaired by Mary Atkins, has been meeting by Zoom each month since August, when the selection was *The Premonition: A Pandemic Challenge* by Michael Lewis. September's selection was *Philip Glass: Words Without Music* by Philip Glass, October's was *The Plot* by Jean Hanff Koretz and November will be *The Yellow House: Van Gogh, Gauguin and Nine Turbulent Weeks in Arles* by Martin Gayford, followed by December choice,

Squeeze Me by Carl Hiassen. The method of selecting books varies and the groups is trying to compile a list for 2022 so that members can read ahead if desired. The person who selects the books rotates and usually that person leads the discussion.

Violet Allain reports that the **Film/Play Interest Group** has been cautious about returning to inside venues but are looking forward to outings in the future.

The **Bridge Group**, chaired by Kay Knickrehm, has not been meeting in person, but those who are comfortable doing so are playing in small groups.

Play Reading Group meets two or three times a year to read a play – no theatrical experience needed. Kay and Tom Arthur coordinate this group.

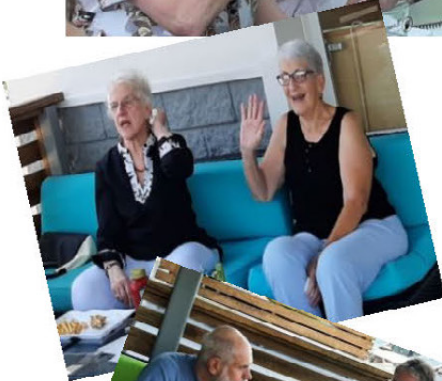
Friends Group, is chaired by Violet Allain. The group is on call to assist any of our members who need help, such as driving to medical treatments or providing meals.

Finally, a few new groups were suggested at the start of the year – Crafting, Small Group Day Trips, and Music/Concert attendance. If anyone is interested in these activities, please let Martha Ross know and she will help organize the group.



BEER AND CIDER CLUB

- August -



- October -



FEA Annual Fall Luncheon Highlights

By Steve Smith, Member-At-Large, Faculty Emeriti Association

On Wednesday, October 20, Faculty Emeriti Association President Shelia Moorman led 50 FEA members and guests in attendance at the annual fall luncheon in the Atlantic Union Bank Center, to celebrate the accolades of English Professor Katey Castellano, who was selected as the 2019 FEA Legacy Grant Award Recipient. Dr. Castellano, who has been at JMU for 15 years, shared information about her research on Jamaican born Robert Wedderburn and his anti-slavery advocacy writings from the late 1700s and early 1800s. The Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, Dr. Robert Aguirre, was also in attendance.

The Faculty Emeriti Association provides an annual grant in support of the work and research of current faculty members who are selected by the Dean of the College and in Dr. Castellano's case, the College of Arts and Letters matched the FEA funding. Grant recipients are rotated among the various Colleges of the University each year.

Following the luncheon and Dr. Castellano's remarks, the FEA members were treated to a tour of the Atlantic Union Bank Center by Ty Phillips, the JMU Assistant Athletic Director for Facilities and Events.



President Shelia Moorman enjoys the October 2021 FEA Luncheon with Dr. Katey Castellano, recipient of the 2019 FEA Legacy Grant.



Ty Phillips leads the FEA on a tour of the Atlantic Union Bank Center



A Lifelong Anniversary 25-Years in the Making

by Shonta Sellers, the Director of Communications and Marketing for the School of Professional & Continuing Education

This year marks the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the JMU Lifelong Learning Institute. The program, founded in the fall of 1996 by JMU professors Dr. Cecil Bradfield and R. Ann Meyers, provides a vibrant learning community for older adults.

Carol Fleming, Assistant Dean of the School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE), has provided oversight of the Institute since 2017. She's impressed with how the staff and members have grown the program and is excited to see what the future brings.

"The success of the Institute has been a community effort. In addition to the nearly 600 instructors who have taught in the program since 1996, there are hundreds of members who have served as designers, leaders, and co-creators. Their dedicated commitment

and service helped build the strong foundation we enjoy today" stated Rodney Wolfenbarger, former director of the Life Long Learning Institute.

Wolfenbarger further commented, "We're also fortunate to have access to abundant local talent, which includes current and retired JMU faculty. Many of our longtime and most celebrated instructors are part of the emeriti association. It's a wonderful partnership. Our students benefit from their deep knowledge and wisdom and emeriti faculty find another avenue to continue their engagement with the university post-retirement, doing what they most enjoy and what has defined much of their lives and careers: pursuing, creating, and sharing knowledge with others."

"25 years ago, we started with just four classes and 96 students. Today, we offer

a full schedule of nearly 100 courses each year and enjoy membership enrollments of more than 700 students. Our community embraces and values the opportunities we make available to adults for continuing education and enrichment." added Carol Fleming.

Fleming said the continuing success of the program is attributed to the high level of community engagement. Students pay a modest annual fee that entitles them to membership status and benefits. These include voting to elect representative leadership and the opportunity to actively participate in program planning.

"The model works because it invites students to participate as partners in education. They set the curriculum in consultation with their peers and help ensure that it remains responsive to

the interests and needs of the learning community,” Fleming said.

One of the elected advisory board roles is that of Historian, an office currently held by Dr. Bill Ingham, Professor Emeritus of Physics at JMU. Ingham has spent considerable time over the past two months researching the program archives. He’s identified nearly 600 instructors who have taught within the program since its inception and has cataloged more than 1,500 courses.

Melissa Lubin, Dean of SPCE, celebrated this collective spirit while addressing attendees as part of the event’s closing remarks.

“The essence of LLI is a love of learning, a sense of collaboration, and a culture of caring. Your enthusiasm, curiosity, commitment, and dedication are contagious. Your mentorship guides and supports us, especially during

challenging times. And you remind us all of what is possible when everyone is invited to contribute to the creative and implementation process.”

Lubin said it was moving to see how deeply students have connected throughout the years.

“It was breathtaking to hear from members who have been learning with us since 1996 and continue their enrollment today. Their commitment to deepening our understanding of existing knowledge is inspiring. That tells us that they find fulfillment here and enjoy the opportunities we provide to come together, share intellectual interests, and make new friends through the range of exciting programs they help organize.”

Lubin also expressed appreciation for her colleagues for their contributions to such a special evening, including Dr.

Heather Coltman, who provided guests with a personalized anniversary gift. Dr. Coltman, who serves as JMU’s Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, entertained the audience by performing two musical selections, piano pieces by Chopin and Scott Joplin, an American composer dubbed the King of Ragtime.

“I loved the performances and it’s fitting as that’s what LLI is about. Everyone contributes,” Lubin said. “And we invite everyone to join us as we continue this legacy of learning.”

Visit the LLI website to learn more about courses, register for an event, become a member, and so much more: www.jmu.edu/lli.



Membership Report

By Kay Knickrehm, Vice-President, Faculty Emeriti Association

We are pleased to welcome our new members for 2021:

- Linda Elliott, Donor Relations, retired 5/24/21
- Dr. Linda Hulton, Nursing, retired 5/24/21
- Pamela Johnson, School of Theatre & Dance, retiring 8/24/21
- Lorie Miller, UREC, retired 4/24/21
- Cynthia Thompson, School of Theatre & Dance, retiring 6/24/21
- David Taylor, University Advancement, retiring 6/24/21
- Michael Walsh, Admissions, retiring 6/24/21
- Dale Hulvey, Administration & Finance, retiring 8/24/21
- Dr. Beth Eck, Sociology & Anthropology, retiring 8/24/21
- Lee Ward, Madison Career Center, retiring 7/24/21
- Dr. James Stanley Sochacki, Mathematics & Statistics, retiring 8/24/21
- Dr. Marion White, International Business, retiring 8/24/21
- Dr. Holly McCartney, Early, Elementary and Reading Education, retired 5/24/21
- Dr. Paula Daly, Management, retiring 8/24/21
- Dr. Robert Kolodinsky, Management, retiring 8/24/21
- Dr. Maria Theresa Wessel, Health Sciences, retiring 8/24/21
- Dr. Dabney Bankert, English, retiring 8/24/21
- Dr. Glenn Hastedt, Justice Studies, retired 6/24/21
- Dr. James W. McConnel, Student Life & Involvement, retiring 7/24/21
- Dr. Arthur John Hamilton, Business Law, retiring 8/24/21
- Dr. Sandra Cereola, Accounting, retiring 8/24/21
- Dr. Jie Chen, Political Science, retiring 8/24/21

Currently we have 285 paid emeriti members, 9 associate members, and 4 honorary members. If you know of others who were awarded emeriti status but have allowed their membership to lapse, please urge them to rejoin us.

What Are Our Favorite Area Restaurants?

By Steven Rollman, Member-At-Large, Faculty Emeriti Association

Ever found yourself wondering which area restaurants are especially popular with fellow Emeriti? Me too. We've all lived in the Harrisonburg area for quite a few years and have tried a great many local eateries. Which places do we frequent? Where would we most likely take out-of-town visitors? Which hidden gems do we recommend to others? Where are we most likely to run into fellow Emeriti?

With your help I'll take a shot at trying to identify our favorites. If you'll take a minute to send a simple list of your three favorite area restaurants to me (rollmasa@comcast.net) I'll compile that information and report the results in a future edition of the Emeriti newsletter. Thanks for your help.



Do You Know?

by Violet Allain, Immediate Past-President, Faculty Emeriti Association

Who was the third President of the JMU Faculty Emeriti Association?

When were the pavers [the bricks with Emeriti Faculty names] installed in front of the Library?

Which JMU President officially endorsed the Emeriti Association?

Who received the first Legacy Grant in 2006?

Who was the first President of the Emeriti Association and when was he/she elected?

How many Interest Groups do we currently have in the Association?

What were in the first By-Laws of the Association?

The answers to these burning questions will be revealed at the Anniversary/Holiday Celebration on December 9th so be sure to attend and join in the fun!

At this luncheon we will learn about the history of the JMU Faculty Emeriti Association and celebrate our 20th anniversary as we look forward to the future.



2021 FEA Legacy Grant Awarded

by Shelia A. Moorman, President, Faculty Emeriti Association

On August 20th at the Opening Faculty Meeting, I was honored to present the 17th Legacy Grant to Dr. Sharon L. Blatz, Associate Professor and the Special Education K-12 Program Coordinator.

Dr. Blatz holds a Doctorate of Philosophy in Special Education from the University of Florida and has been at JMU since 2006. Over the past 15 years Professor Blatz has been the primary teacher for Special Education Methods Courses, and is involved with various teacher preparation initiatives in local schools. She is providing training and monitoring on a newly developed tool called the "Efficiency Map" to structure a special education resource room meeting the varied needs of the students it serves.

The Legacy Grant monies FEA members have donated will work to support the teachers in maintaining the schedule they have created, as well as in sharing the mapping system with others.

Congratulations to Dr. Sharon L. Blatz! We look forward to hearing from her at the Spring Luncheon.

FEA Upcoming Events

*By Steve Smith, Member-At-Large,
Faculty Emeriti Association*

Thursday, November 11th

**FEA Fall Lecture
Series: "Minerals with Wine"**

Enjoy a glass of wine at 3:30 pm just prior to a tour of the new Mineral Museum Gallery with our very own Lance Kearns. 4pm. Lower level, Festival, Room 1021. Park adjacent to the Festival.

Thursday, December 9th

**FEA Holiday Luncheon &
20th Year Celebration of FEA
Founding**

Club Level of Bridgeforth Stadium. 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Please join us for this very special occasion as we embrace the past 20 years of activities of the FEA, look to the future, and enjoy each other's company at holiday time. We'll entertain brief remarks from former FEA Presidents. You don't want to miss this memorable luncheon. Parking available in the parking deck, level 4.