

James Madison University Staff Emeriti Association

Minutes

January 15, 2026; 10:30 a.m., Wine Price, Room 3030

**Attendees: Tina Updike, Donna Burch, Jackie Ciccone, Judy Marshall, Paula See,
Kathy Starick**

Absent: Kathy Sarver, Milla Sue Wisecarver

Minutes from August 12, 2025 were approved.

Tina provided updates and members discussed SEA goals for 2025-2026

Staff Emeriti membership:

- **24 new members recognized and added as members following the December retirement brunch as well as 4 recent members who retired so far in 2026.
Total members currently: 353**

Increased awareness:

- **Tina continues to update the SEA website and will submit report for the Fall edition of Madison Magazine.**
- **Presence at the 2025 Retirees Brunch seems to be successful to promote awareness. Tina, Paula, and Jackie attended the recent brunch on December 3, and Tina spoke to the new retirees about SEA group activities and encouraged their involvement. President Schmidt also attended the event and expressed interest in attending a future scheduled event in support of the group.**

Volunteer activity:

- **SEA continues to support the JMU Food Pantry project. Contributions to date, including donations collected 2/23/2025 through 11/25/2025, total \$10,655. Gifts are greatly appreciated and continue to be a much needed resource on campus.**

Membership development

- **Review of successful Fall 2025 events: group lunch at Ledo's in September; October tour of newly renovated Potomac Hall followed by lunch at Taste of**

Thai; and a holiday gathering in December to view the Christmas Star Planetarium program followed by a reception at Hotel Madison.

Spring 2026 events

Discussion of ideas for events from February through May 2026. Various suggestions were based on previous schedules, locations with sufficient space and private dining rooms, as well as committee member responses to recent surveys.

The following will be researched and announced:

- **Lunch to kick off the spring schedule - Jackie suggested First Watch in Harrisonburg as a new location and will arrange event for February.**
- **Tour of Carrier Library - originally hoping for Spring Break but will likely be pushed to Fall Break due to scheduled furniture deliveries. Tina will update.**
- **Mini-golf outing at Mulligans Golf Center followed by ice cream social at Smileys, possibly in April when the weather is nicer. Donna will make arrangements.**
- **Tour of Rocktown Historical Society in Dayton, followed by lunch. Judy will contact them.**
- **Year-end luncheon on campus in May, to be arranged based upon availability of dining space in the Montpelier Room and President Jim's schedule. He would like to be included. Tina will maintain contact with the President's office and provide updates to save the date.**

Other business.

- **Members are encouraged to complete the security training to maintain JMU email and other access.**
- **Kathy Sarver has been instrumental as liaison for SEA and per her upcoming retirement (spring semester?), a new contact will need to be identified.**
- **Sympathy cards have been sent to several members following losses.**
- **Next planning committee meeting scheduled for May 12, 2026 [rescheduled for April 22] at Casa Gallardo.**