

Newsletter

November 2016

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President's Post



What is Your Time Worth?

In the first chapter of *Walden*, his chronicle of a year spent in a cabin at Walden Pond in Massachusetts, the nineteenth century naturalist and writer Henry David Thoreau remarks that in our lives we get the things we want or need by trading away pieces of our time in return for them. But, he continues, the problem is that time is the only commodity we possess whose amount we can never be sure of. He echoes Benjamin Franklin's earlier injunction, in *Poor Richard's Almanac*, to "waste not an hour, as you can be sure of not a moment."

The significance of these insights is lost on the young, who believe in their own immortality. As we get older, of course, and aging and health related changes begin to accumulate, we begin to ask ourselves – will we have time for all the things on our bucket list – the things we wanted to accomplish in our lives? And as we age, time speeds up: anyone who remembers the endlessness of a youthful summer and compares it with the rapidly passing summers of late middle age has experienced what French philosopher Henri Bergson calls the subjectivity of time.

As our careers begin, we want to find the right job, the right profession, the right setting. Once in the good place, we begin to think about advancement. Opportunities come along – "Should I go into administration," we ask, "or back to school?" All the while, if we have a family, spouses have their own careers, and children need nurturing and guidance. In these middle years, life doesn't slow down enough for us to get philosophical about time – tonight it's a basketball game, this weekend a college visit, next month a trip to Disney World.

And, suddenly, sometime after fifty, this terrific pace slows down. After being the focus of life for years, suddenly the children are gone – so we double the size of the house! Couples, freed of the 24/7 demands of parenthood, make each other's acquaintance once again – they take a cruise, go on dates, sit in the movies and hold hands.

And this is the time we begin to think seriously about the future, a future we now clearly recognize is not infinite. For the first time in many years, we attach significance to the fact that we were not born with the letters Ph.D. on our birth certificates. As we look at the stack of research papers we graded on the weekend, we begin to wonder – "is this all there is until the end?" Unbidden, an image arises of us slumped forward at a desk, a stack of papers next to us.

Life must be about more than that, we think. But then we ask – "Can I retire – ever?"

Continued on Page 2

FERRIS FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP MATCH NEWS UPDATE! !

As of October 25, 2016, we <u>surpassed our initial goal of \$25,000</u>; therefore we will be able to make our first \$1,000 scholarship award next academic year (2017-18)! Thanks to all who have donated to this worthwhile project. Our ultimate goal is to raise enough money to be able to make an award to a student in each of the 5 undergraduate Colleges every year. With the Ferris Futures matching funds, we hope to reach this stretch goal by 2022. The FSUEA will have a *"bundling drive"* the first two weeks in December, 2016. Any and all donations, regardless of the amounts, will be "bundled" together and then will be matched dollar for dollar by the Ferris Futures program. You will be receiving a mailing regarding this event in late November. You will be asked to mail in a check during this time period or simply bring a check to the FSUEA Winter Dinner (Tuesday, December 6—see Reservation Form on Page 7). If you have any questions concerning this new development, please contact me, Bob Carter, at cadimstr@aol.com or call me at 231-796-4738

Reminder: TIAA, Fidelity Retirement Fund Changes Becoming Effective Nov. 30

Emeriti are reminded that the mailing you received this Fall regarding changes in the FSU retirement plan vendors and fund offerings listed these upcoming "action" dates:

<u>November 30</u>: After the market closes on November 30, 2016, any assets in discontinued investments in the FSU TIAA or Fidelity vendors' plans will be transferred to the replacement investments indicated on the transfer chart enclosed with your mailing.

<u>December 1</u>: The revised investment fund menu takes effect and you can log in to your account and make changes to your allocations if desired.

<u>February 1, 2017</u>: On or about February 1, the new joint TIAA/Fidelity website will be available. TIAA is becoming the "master administrator" on the FSU plans.

<u>Mid February, 2017</u>: a one-time retroactive fee credit should be provided to TIAA and Fidelity participants, as a result of lower fees associated with the plan changes that became effective December 1.

Note: MPSERS pensions are not affected by these plan changes. Likewise, investments held outside of TIAA or Fidelity are not affected.

<u>President's Post, continued from Page 1</u>

A family emergency, a midlife divorce, unwise investment strategies –all these can mean that our retirement plan is something like "one day I won't wake up."

And if retirement is possible, what will we do every day for the rest of our life? Television and golfing do not fill up a day in the long run. And being retired means one is freed from the demands of work and career maintenance – but there is a new demand: fill up that space in the day formerly taken up by work. Some people, unable to find new purposes, are unable to handle this sudden leisure, and no sooner do they retire than they start a second career.

But if you have retired at the right point in your life, you are financially secure, and you have your health, you begin to feel that you have won the lottery. You don't need to work and you still have lots of energy, so you are free to volunteer, learn to paint, and travel. And it suddenly hits you as you play ball with your grandchildren, that you are spending your time wisely.



Coordinator We are looking to enrich our media sites (Facebook/web page). To do that we would like Ferris emeriti to submit pictures, stories and information about things that Emeriti are doing. People that have them can email them to me or upload them onto our Facebook page. In

either case a description of the ac-

tivity should be included. Thanks,

Dale Hobart

DaleHobart@ferris.edu

The emeriti web page can be found here

http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/ alumni/Emeriti/

And the Facebook page can be found here

https://www.facebook.com/ FSUEA

Emeriti in Retirement: What Are They Doing Now?

Editor's note: This is the first of what we hope can be a periodic column featuring some of the interesting *"second acts"* our members have pursued since retiring from FSU. If you or someone you know has an interesting "second act", send a note to me at RandyVance@ferris.edu.



Richard L. Hamilton (Dick) was director of the Technology Transfer Center (TTC) at FSU from 1988-1998. He was appointed director after he retired from General Motors Corporation. He closed out his industrial career as manufacturing engineering manager of a power train division. He holds a BS in Mechanical Engineering degree from General Motors Institute of Technology (Kettering University), and an MS in Industrial Technology degree from Western Michigan University.

The TTC (later known as Corporate and Professional Development) was established as part of Michigan's Economic Development recovery structure spanning two decades. His responsibilities were to provide leadership and direction for the university's outreach to small and medium sized manufacturers through faculty participation with on-site employee technical training, and to provide student interns with problem solving experience. The Center included The Inventor's Center of Michigan with expertise in product design, and prototype-model making with the first university based stereo lithography system in the State of Michigan. The Center also initiated the first FSU multi-media development program to assist faculty.

For many of us our goal in retirement is to do the things we never had enough time to do when we were working. Ruth Ann and Dick were always interested in family genealogy and because of that, they took numerous trips exploring the United States where their ancestors first settled. After retirement on June 30, 1998, one of those trips was to Gettysburg Battlefield National Park to find the actual site where his ancestor fought in the Civil War. With the help of a National Park ranger at Harpers Ferry, they discovered where he fought and where he was killed at the Battle of Falling Waters on 14 July 1863 at the close of the Gettysburg Campaign.

Dick and Ruth Ann moved to Arizona in 1999 and reside at SaddleBrooke retirement community north of Tucson. While recovering from knee and shoulder surgeries, he accepted the tennis club news reporter's job to write articles for the SaddleBrooke community monthly newspapers. This is how he got started in story writing. In this experience, he found joy in telling stories about club members while encouraging them in their pursuit of excellence.

With Dick's newspaper connection, he asked and was granted permission by the editor to write a Civil War series extra for the newspaper that ran for twelve months. He used this writing as the foundation for his first book. That same year Dick attended a 'Friends of the Library' event where Michael Blake (author of Dances With Wolves) was the main speaker, and Dick had a moment to speak with him about his own writing. He asked, and Blake graciously accepted the opportunity to read his manuscript. Two weeks later, Dick received a letter from Blake that contained a positive review and words of encouragement to finish the story and publish it. So, in 2008 Dick wrote his first book, *Oh Hast Thou Forgotten, Michigan Cavalry in the Civil War: The Gettysburg Campaign* (2008). It is a historical fiction novel where the principle character is his ancestor, 1st Sgt. George T. Patten, and Michael Blake wrote the book Foreword.

Since that first book Ruth Ann and Dick have presented numerous Civil War speaking programs throughout Michigan, Arizona, and Wisconsin where he dresses in his ancestor's uniform likeness and speaks in the first person about his life in the Michigan Cavalry Brigade in the Civil War.

Other publications that he has authored and that are available on Amazon.com in paperback and Kindle edition are:

Oh! Hast Thou Forgotten, Michigan Cavalry in the Civil War: The Gettysburg Campaign (Unabridged CD audio version of the book and CD music & battlefield soundtrack-2009). The book narrator is a high school friend who has a voice like actor Sam Elliot, and the soundtrack was specially commissioned and produced by three vocal and instrumental artists.

The Plant, Oh Quality Where Art Thou. This book is a historical novel about the culture of General Motors from early 1990 to 2009 and tells the GM career story of principal character Tom Luggs (2009).

Shiloh to Durham Station, 18th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment: With Captain Robert S. McMichael's Civil War Letters (2010). Dick received these Civil War letters from his high school football coach and his wife. They were taking care of the great grandson of Capt. McMichael and he died of Alzheimer's disease and left no heirs. McMichael left his ancestor's letters with his caretakers. A Christmas card from coach and his wife contained a note that read, "I know you'll find a story in here someplace!"

Events Calendar

Emeriti Association Upcoming Events November 2016 - June 2017

November 7 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114 December 5 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114 December 6 -Winter Dinner, 6 pm, Falcon Head Golf Club December 17 - Florida Emeriti Luncheon - Mattison's 41 Restaurant, Sarasota 2017 January 9 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114 January 18 – Florida Emeriti Luncheon – Mattison's 41 Restaurant, Sarasota January 28 - FSUEA/FSU Alumni Association combined event, TPC Prestancia, Sarasota February 6 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114 February 8- Soup Talk, 12 pm, United Church, 120 S. State St., Big Rapids February 9– Arizona Emeriti Luncheon, Golden Corral, Tucson, AZ, 1:30 p.m. February 15- Florida Emeriti Luncheon - Mattison's 41 Restaurant, Sarasota March 6 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114 March 15 – Florida Emeriti Luncheon – Mattison's 41 Restaurant, Sarasota April 3 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114 April 5– Florida Emeriti Luncheon -- Mattison's 41 Restaurant, Sarasota May 1 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114 May 10– Spring Luncheon, 11:30 am social time, 12 pm lunch, The Rock Cafe June 5- Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114

All FSUEA Board meetings are scheduled for 10-11:30 am and held in Prakken 114

FSUEA Officers

2016-2017

Doug Haneline, President Ferris State University 420 Oak Street, PRK 101 Big Rapids, MI 49307 Office Hours: Tuesdays 1-4 in PRK 114; exception: Monday 1-4 on Board meeting days

FSU Emeriti Association Office: PRK 114 Office phone: 231.591.2510 Email: FSUEA@ferris.edu or hanelind@ferris.edu



The Board meets the first or second Monday of the month year round

Officers

President Vice-President Secretary Treasurer

Doug Haneline Jerena Keys Jeff Nagelbush **Randy Vance**

hanelind@ferris.edu jerenakeys@ferris.edu nagelbuj@ferris.edu randyvance@ferris.edu

Committee Chairs and Directors

Dale Hobart

Jim Jacobs

Bob Friar

Bob Carter

Walt Luecke

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<u>Emeriti in Retirement, continued from Page 3</u>

A Man From Montana: Memoirs of My Life in Western Montana, by Freeman A. Halverson. (Edited 2011). Dick edited and published these memoirs for a friend in Arizona. Freeman homesteaded from Wisconsin to Montana in 1910, the last land grant in the U.S. until Alaska fifty years later.

Pals Forever: Memoirs of a Labrador in His Own Words. (2012), The memoirs about their Labrador on their small farm in Barry County were compiled during their trips driving back and forth from Arizona to Michigan.

Dearest Lydia: 1856-1864 Courtship & Civil War Letters From George T. & Lydia Ann Denton-Patten With Letters From Family and Friends (2016). This book is comprised of letters between Dick's maternal great, great grandparents. The letters have survived for six generations. They were written during their courtship and while he was off to war serving in the 6th Michigan Cavalry Regiment. Over a period of three months, Dick carefully and with magnifying glass transcribed them for publication.

Dick is working on his next book that will be published by the time this FSU Emeriti article goes to print. The title of the book is *According to Festus: Profound Words of Wisdom by Festus Haggen of Gunsmoke Fame With Supporting Biblical Proverbs* (2016).

His books are self-published through CreateSpace.com, an Amazon company. He researched several companies and found Amazon to be the appropriate company for him to work with because of their professional design staff, print-ondemand, worldwide sales, and royalty features. He has several thoughts about another book, but has not decided at this point which it will be.

His recommendation for folks considering retirement is to find where they may grow in that phase of their life in pursuits they may never have tried before. Ruth Ann and Dick play Bridge (she more than him) and he plays tennis doubles. His teams have won several Southwest USTA Sectional tournaments and he has played in four USTA Nationals. Approaching his eighth decade he still plays twice a week. They were in the SaddleBrooke Off-Road Club for several years and were treated with sites of Arizona backcountry not seen from the highway. They were active in genealogy and are now in the maintenance mode having turned over new research pursuits to his younger brother after uncovering his relationship to Abraham Lincoln, John Adams, and John Alden & Priscilla Mullins. Dick is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, Camp 17, Sunfield, Michigan. They are very active in the Catalina Lutheran Church, LCMS and he is a LCMSU Board member on the University of Arizona Campus in Tucson. Although they no longer reside in Michigan, their sports loyalties are "Go Blue", "Go Green", and "Go Bulldogs".

They thoroughly enjoy seeing and visiting with their fellow Arizona FSU Emeriti every year in February, and thank Barb and Newell Johnson for their dedication and "Bulldog" loyalty in planning and organizing the annual event. Dick says, "Thanks Ferris State for a great career, and thank you Randy Vance for asking me to write something for the Emeriti communiqué. Those who say, 'you only live once', have it all wrong, because you can 'live twice'! Have a great day!"

Questions about your Emeriti benefits?

If you have questions about any of your emeriti benefits, contact:

Emeriti Association Liaison MaryKay Maclver Phone: 231.591.3739 or 888.378.3647 Email: <u>MaryKayMaclver@ferris.edu</u>

Emeriti Association members may access a list of benefits available by going to the EA website at http://www.ferris.edu/ HTMLS/alumni/Emeriti/

Donate to the Emeriti Association

If you have not already done so, please consider donating to the Emeriti Association to help with expenses related to publications and mailings. The EA is funded by member donations. \$25.00 is suggested. Make checks payable to Ferris State University with FSUEA in the memo line. Send to **Attn: Sherry Erbes, Advancement Services, PRK 101, 420 Oak Street, Big Rapids, MI 49307.**

Emeriti Directory Available

The 2015-2017 Emeriti Association Membership Directory is available by contacting MaryKay at <u>MaryKayMaclver@ferris.edu</u> or by phone at 231.591.3739. The electronic version is kept up to date with information provided by members. Please contact MaryKay with any address updates or corrections.

Emeriti Discounts

Emeriti Association members are entitled to the same faculty/ staff discounts and rates for on-campus services. Off-campus discounts by third party vendors are not guaranteed. We recommend that you ask if an FSU discount is offered and show your Emeriti ID to verify your association with the university.

United Way 2016 Campaign is Underway

Once again, FSU Emeriti are invited to join the United Way campaign, and have your contribution be counted toward the university's goal. You should have received a letter from FSUEA United Way Co-chairs Jerena Keys and Bob Friar. Please mail your check made out to Mecosta Osceola Area United Way to Jerena Keys, 203 W. Pine Street, Big Rapids, MI 49307, and she will take it in to be counted as an emeriti donation toward the university goal. The official deadline is November 11, but the university will accept donations through the end of the calendar year.



Report from the Social Chair

On October 5th, 43 Emeriti shared lunch together at Falcon Head Golf Course and a good time was had by all. Our next function is the Winter Dinner at Falcon Head Golf Course with Prime Rib carved to the plate with all the trimmings. We will again have baskets for a raffle to raise money for the Emeriti Scholarship Fund. Come prepared to buy tickets. The cost of dinner is \$22 each - send to Walter Luecke at 16270-220th Ave. Big Rapids, MI 49307. Telephone, 796-4989 Make checks out to FSUEA. The dinner is **Tuesday. December 6th at 6pm**. The bar will be open at 5:30, and **reservations should be in the mail by November 22nd** (that's Tuesday before Thanksgiving). See Page 7 for reservation form.

Walter Luecke 16270-220th Ave. Big Rapids, MI 49307 phone: 231-796-4989 wluecke@sbcglobal.net



2016-2017 FSUEA Board of Directors

L to R: Barb Johnson, Doug Haneline (Pres.), Jerena Keys (Vice Pres.), Randy Vance (Treasurer), Dale Hobart, Jim Jacobs, Jeff Nagelbush (Sec,), University Advancement & Marketing Liaison MaryKay MacIver, Bob Krueger, Bob Friar; not available for photo; Walt Luecke

In Memoriam: Current Faculty/Staff and Emeriti Deaths, September - October 2016

None reported

Granting of Emeriti Status by the FSU Board of Trustees

Bauman, Cynthia – Paralegal, Governmental Relations & General Counsel, July 29, 2016 Conley-Sowels, Christine – Professor, Retention & Student Success, December 19, 2016 Kamptner, Elaine - Executive Assistant to the President, President's Office, January 6, 2017 McCullough, Elaine - Professor, Languages & Literature, May 8, 2016 Potter, William - Associate Provost, Retention & Student Success, January 3, 2017

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EMERITI WINTER DINNER TUESDAY. DECEMBER 6, 2016 Reservation Form

The Winter Dinner will take place on Tuesday, December 6th at Falcon Head Golf Course (social time 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m.). The cost is \$22.00 per person. Reservations and checks due **November 22nd**. Make checks payable to FSUEA.

PLEASE complete and return with your check

Reservations for the Winter Dinner at Falcon Head Golf Course, December 6, 2016.

Name(s):

Address:

	Number participating	Total cost
Dinner fee (\$22.00 per person)		
Total amount enclosed		

Please make checks payable to FSU Emeriti Association. Mail check and reservation form **by November 22**, **2016** (Tuesday BEFORE Thanksgiving) to:

Walt Luecke 16270 220th Ave. Big Rapids, MI 49307 Phone: 231-796-4989



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