



Faculty Emeriti Association **NEWSLETTER**

FALL 2024, VOLUME 19, ISSUE 2

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From the President's Desk

by Kay Knickrehm, President, Faculty Emeriti Association

Greetings All,

Fall has been beautiful here in the Shenandoah Valley, but now winter approaches. I hope it finds you snug and warm and that your holiday season is filled with happiness. If you live nearby, I am hoping to see you at our holiday gala luncheon December 12. After that, I will hunker down and wait for the spring thaw.

We have enjoyed another year under the auspices of the Office of Family Engagement, but our time there is coming to an end. It was always a bit of a strange location for us, however, first Sherry King and then Tracey Kite made us feel welcome and well cared for. Nick Langridge made sure that we had a comfortable home in Advancement until such a time as he could find a new place for us in Academic Affairs. We are grateful for his care.

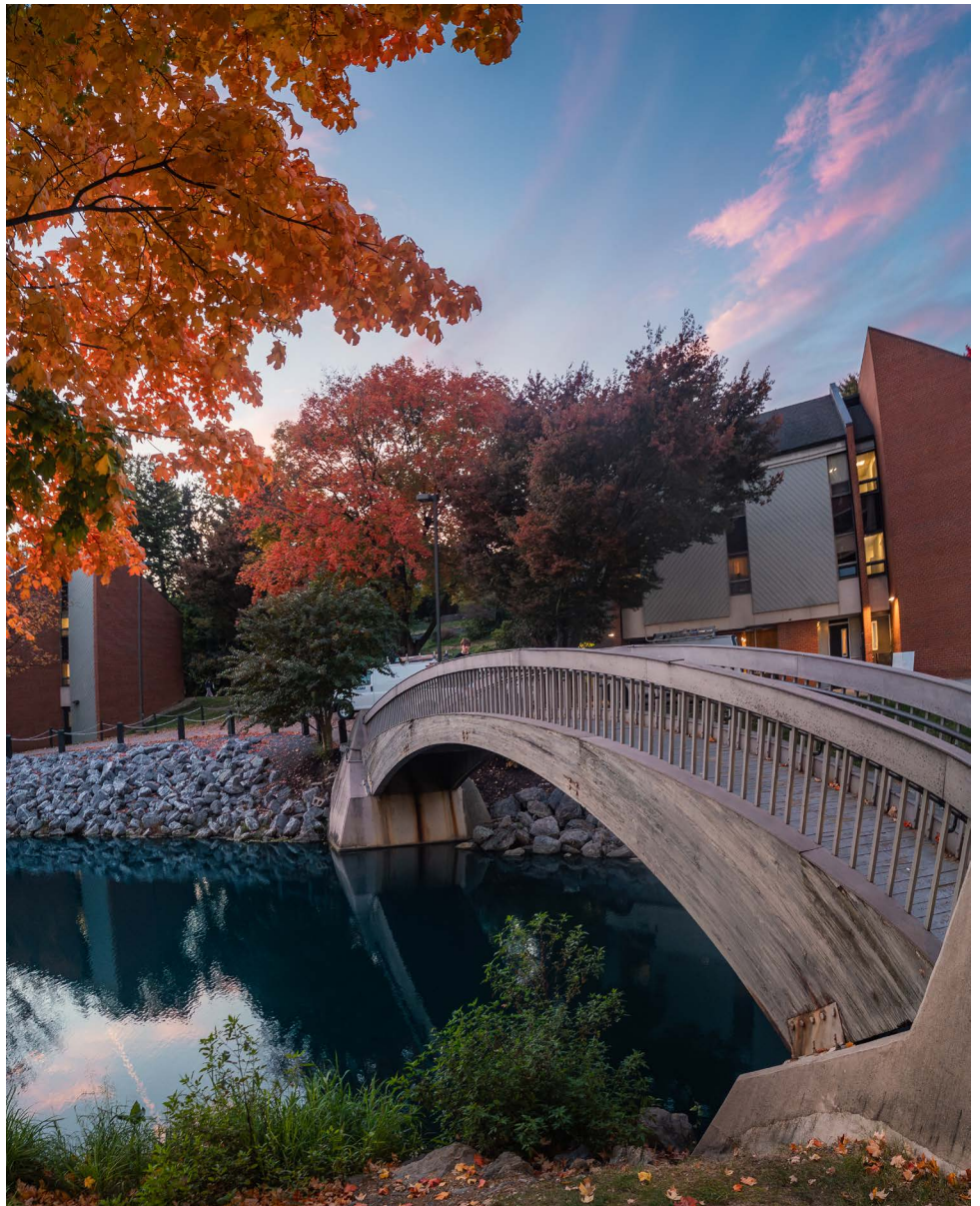
I am very pleased to announce that this year we will be transitioning to the School of Professional and Continuing Education in Academic Affairs. Our new home makes perfect sense for us and will give us many opportunities for continuing engagement with the university. The dean, Nick Swartz, welcomes us with enthusiasm. He is well aware of how needy we are (!) and has promised us the kind of support that we have come to expect from Family Engagement. He has some wonderful ideas of how to make our lives even better and Steve Smith and I are both excited. If you have any questions about this move, please feel free to get in touch with Steve or me.

Our one (profound) regret will be losing Jennifer Sommers. Jennifer is one of the world's most efficient humans and I have been endlessly grateful for all the times

she has saved me from imminent disaster and humiliation. She is not only eternally helpful, but also cheerful. I would suggest that she might go with us to SPCE, but I am afraid that Tracey would cause me grievous bodily harm. (I know she doesn't seem violent, but there are limits after all!)

Again, happy holidays to all of you. I appreciate the support you have given me as president and I look forward to seeing or hearing from you in the next year.

Kay



News & Updates

by Kay Knickrehm, President, Faculty Emeriti Association

FEA Moving to Academics:

In September, FEA president, Kay Knickrehm, and vice-president, Steve Smith, met with Bob Kolvoord, Provost for Academic Affairs, and Nick Langridge, Vice-President for Advancement, to discuss a future home for the FEA.

The association has been happily housed in Family Engagement for several years, but recently their responsibilities have grown and they feel the need to concentrate their resources on their central mission. We will always be grateful to Sherry King, Tracey Kite, and Jennifer Sommers for their generous support of our activities.

During this academic year, the FEA will be transitioning to the School of Professional and Continuing Education. The FEA fits well with its programs to engage with the community at large. It is home to the Lifelong Learning Institute with which we have close ties. In addition, its programs and academic partnerships will offer opportunities for our members who wish to be engaged with academics.

Dean Nicholas Swartz and Associate Dean Sarah MacDonald have welcomed us with enthusiasm and Nick has promised to support us in our many activities, including our newsletter, our events and field trips, and our interest groups. We look forward to working with them.

Mural In Honor of Charles Ziegenfus

A mural was dedicated in downtown Harrisonburg at 14 E Water Street honoring Charles Ziegenfus who passed away in March 2023. The mural depicts Ziegenfus' hand releasing an American Kestrel into the wild and was painted by Christy Baker. Zig taught in both the biology and math departments and often took his ornithology class into the field to observe birds in their natural habitat. He was a founder of the Rockingham Bird Club. Zig taught at JMU for 60 years before retiring and becoming a member of the emeriti association. He received a number of awards including the Mitchell A. Byrd Award from the Virginia Society of Ornithology. The artist worked with the family on the design and placement of the mural.

The artwork features the American Kestrel Project, a tribute to the late professor Charles Ziegenfus' involvement with conservation efforts to install, maintain and monitor kestrel nest boxes in Virginia. The mural faces the East Water Street parking lot.



JMU Faculty Emeriti Interest Groups

by Martha Ross, Interest Group Coordinator, Faculty Emeriti Association

The Beer & Cider Group

meets bi-monthly to share interesting imported or craft beers and hard ciders. In July, they went to the Golden Pony for the weekend brunch enjoyed on the outside deck. October was the annual Oktoberfest gathering at Stable Craft with feature photo ops with props to get in the spirit! December will be our annual holiday gathering. Contact: Deane & Clarence Geier singer.123@gmail.com

The Book Club

has met each month on the 3rd Monday by Zoom. We meet by Zoom to allow members who have moved away, or are on vacation, or whatever to participate. We generally have 8-10 members participating in discussion. We welcome anyone who would like to participate. Send me an email, and I will add you to the list. Contact: Mary Atkins maryatkins149@gmail.com

The Breakfast Group

typically meets at Panera Bread in Harrisonburg, the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 9am. There are usually 5-10 Emeriti members and spouses. New members are always welcome! Contact: Jim Benedict benedijo@jmu.edu

The Bridge Club

The bridge group is pleased to welcome three new members. We continue to play on the first Wednesday of each month at Sunnyside. If you have an interest in joining us, but believe your bridge skills are a bit rusty, all we ask is that you understand the fundamentals of the game and we will ease you back into playing. Contact: Kay Knickrehm knickrkm@jmu.edu

The Dinner Group

meets for a potluck dinner every month or two. Contact: Doris Pye & Ron Wyanko dapye@comcast.net

The Friends Group

provides assistance to any members needing help with transportation, meals, etc. Contact: Violet Allain allainvl@jmu.edu

The Lunch Group

has continued the tradition of eating lunch once a month at a locally owned restaurant. We are a welcoming group of about 15-20 faculty, along with their friends and spouses. We like to try different ethnic foods, and we are always looking for new places to explore. We also like to frequent our standard favorites. To accommodate everyone's schedules, we vary the day of the week M-F on a rotating basis. Contact: Ann Henriksen henrikad@jmu.edu

The Movie & Theater Group

Contact: Violet Allain allainvl@jmu.edu

The Spanish Language Learners Group

have Zoom meetings on Thursday afternoons and lunch each month at a Spanish-speaking restaurant. Contact: Elizabeth Ihle elizaihle@gmail.com

The Whisk(e)y Appreciation Group

The Whiskey Appreciation Group got together at Jimmy Madison's on Thursday, June 13 to catch up, have some laughs and enjoy some various bourbons, whiskeys and scotch. A good time was had by all. Those gathering included Carter and Mary Ellen Lyons, Clarence and Deane Geier, Tom and Rosemary King, Brad Roof, Bob Coakley and Steve Smith. Our bartender, Mason, took very good care of all of us.

Various flights were enjoyed, including Woodford Reserve, Bulleit, Jim Beam, Larceny, Four Roses, Makers Mark, Glenmorangie, and even a very adventurous person who tried the Skrewball Peanut Butter Whiskey!

The FEA Whiskey Appreciation Group (WAG) met at the home of Fran and



The Beer Group at Island Wing in May

Steve Smith on Thursday, August 22, 2024 from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm to enjoy each other's company and imbibe in the spirits....We had a record 32 who attended and even had a few folks who had to cancel at the last minute. All friends seemed to have a great time, comparing whiskeys, bourbons, whiskys, scotch, and even a gin, which somehow made into the mix.

Future WAG gatherings will be offered at members' homes. Contact: Steve Smith smith3cs@jmu.edu

The Wine Social Group

enjoys their monthly events hosted at a member's house. Half the group brings appetizers and the other brings wine to share. It's a chance to try new wines and enjoy a lively group! Gatherings since the summer have been hosted by Tassie Pippert, Janet Gloeckner, Violet and Mike Allain, Kathy Swartz. Contact: Janet Gloekner gloeckjw@jmu.edu

Join a group (see contact person):

jmu.edu/emeriti/membership/interest-groups.shtml



Beer Group during Oktoberfest at Stable Craft Brewing

Whisk(e)y Appreciation Group at Jimmy Madison's



Oktoberfest photo props



Recognizing Our Illustrious Members

by Violet Allain and Mary Lou Wylie, Members, Faculty Emeriti Association

Carol Kniebusch Noe

Carol Kniebusch Noe, Professor Emerita in the School of Music, began her tenure at JMU in 1973 and has enjoyed an amazing life as a professional flute performer and as a judge for the American Kennel Club dog shows in the US and internationally. Many of you may remember when Carol played James Madison's crystal flute commemorating the 250th anniversary of his birthday at a special concert. Carol was also honored as the recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award in 1989, when there was only one award for the entire university. Carol retired from JMU in 2001.

Initially Carol has bred, raised and shown Pekingese dogs since the early 1970s and began judging dog shows in 1998 being approved for the Toy and Non-Sporting Groups. Recently she has been given two significant recognitions. On June 7th of this year she was surprised at a Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club dog show with a presentation of a certificate in appreciation of her many years of devoted service to the Kennel Club. Carol was also given a floral arrangement by a club member who orchestrated this surprise presentation.

Carol was featured in the 2023 edition of Who's Who of Professional Women in the Women of Influence Series. This book includes noteworthy women from all professions who have made significant contributions. The article about Carol is in the Executive Spotlight section of the book and details her profession in music and her exemplary position as a dog judge.

Truly, an amazing life.

This article is the first in a series recognizing our members' achievements.

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we inform you of our colleagues who passed away since our last newsletter. We remember them fondly.

- **Dr. Bob Atkins**, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry passed away on Aug. 20, 2024
- **Dr. Norm Garrison**, Professor in the Biology Dept., passed away on Mar. 22, 2024
- **Dr. Jim Laffey**, Professor in the College of Education, died on Feb. 21, 2024
- **Dr. David Ley**, Professor of Secondary Education passed away on Aug. 28, 2024
- **Nancy O'Hare**, professor of Speech Pathology and Audiology, department head, and director of the JMU Speech and Hearing Center passed away May 23, 2024. She also served as a former President to the Faculty Emeriti Association from 2006-2010, and was the mayor of Staunton from 1987-1990
- **Dr. Beverly Silver**, who taught in the JMU Biology Department and was very active with the Faculty Emeriti Association, died August 17, 2024

Welcome New Members

Dr. Thomas Adajian, Philosophy & Religion

Dr. Stephen Bolstad, School of Music,
Director of Bands

Jeffrey Bourne, Athletics

Dr. JoAnne Brewster, Graduate Psychology

Dr. Heather Coltman, Provost Office

Dr. S. Kirk Elwood, College of Business,
Economics

Ms. Susan Ferguson, Accounting

Dr. Chapman Hood Frazier, Middle and
Secondary Education

Dr. Amy Goodall, Geography

Ms. Kandy Grant, College of Education

Dr. Lincoln Gray, Communication Sciences
& Disorders

Mr. Rustin Greene, School of Media Arts
and Design

Dr. Andrew Guertler, University Health
Center

Ms. Donna Harper, Access & Enrollment

Dr. Kimberlee Hartzler-Weakley, Health
Sciences

Mrs. Tamara Hatch, Sponsored Programs

Ms. Jennifer Keach, Libraries

Dr. Mary Kimsey, Geography

Dr. Peter Kohn, Mathematics & Statistics

Dr. LouAnn Lovin, Mathematics & Statistics

Ms. Jan Sievers Mahon, EJC Arboretum

Dr. Bernice Marcopulos, Graduate
Psychology

Mr. Jack McCaslin, Art

Ms. Julia Merkel, Libraries

Ms. Susan Moyers, Financial Aid &
Scholarships

Edwin O'Shea, (posthumously), Math

Dr. Mary Jean Speare, Music

Mr. Duane Swanson, Facilities Management

Dr. Wayne Teel, CISE School of Integrated
Sciences

Mr. Joseph Urgo, Madison Union

Dr. Stephanie Wasta, Educational
Foundations and Exceptionalities
Department

Events

by Brenda Seal, Program Chair, Faculty Emeriti Association

Our summer "picnic" on August 13 featured our own Jim Benedict, Professor Emeritus in Psychology, and local singers, *The Vocal Chords*. Jim's leadership with the group includes both scheduling and directing. The medley of summer tunes sung acapella entertained us as members arrived and mingled. Despite increasing noise levels, the vocalists' on-key harmonies and vitality made for a joyful event. They returned to the stage following the luncheon with a grand finale that lured many of us to sing along.

The Board and FEA extend a genuine thanks to Jim and singers Merv Wonderlich, Dave Holl, Richard Phillips, Will Nolan, Dick Stutzman, Fred Schwartz, and Curtis Nolley. Beautiful melodies, beautiful voices!



The October 17 Fall Luncheon was held in the Montpelier Room and with guest speaker, Dr. Bethany Nowvskie, Dean of Libraries and Professor of English. Dean Nowvskie shared slides of the Carrier Library renovations, impressing us on the library's future directions as a new state-of-the-arts-and-sciences learning and research center. The pictures offered here from her collection show how early features of the original library are being preserved and blended into the new building.

Many thanks to Dean Nowvskie for joining and updating us at our fall luncheon. You can view the Carrier Renovation website: lib.jmu.edu/renovation

Upcoming Events

SPRING LUNCHEON

April 9, 2025, 11:30 reception, noon meal
Montpelier Room, above E-Hall

We welcome your suggestions for speakers, entertainment, and menu recommendations. Send your creative thoughts to brendacseal@gmail.com or to other members of the FEA Board.

See Updates Online:

jmu.edu/emeriti/upcoming-events.shtml



Previous East View



Future East View

National Gallery of Art Trip

By Elizabeth Ihle, Special Events Committee Chair, Faculty Emeriti Association

The emeriti faculty had excellent weather for their trip on Tuesday, November 12th, to the National Gallery of Art to see the exhibition "Paris: 1874" on loan from the Musée d'Orsay. Forty-six of us went and were pleased by what we saw.

The exhibit is probably one of the most important shows to come to Washington this decade. The Paris museum loaned both art displayed in 1874 in the Salon, the long-established annual juried art show of new works, and the art show created by the rejected artists like Monet, Cézanne, Pizzaro, and Renoir. It was pretty easy to tell which paintings came from which. The "star" of the show was Monet's famous Impression—Sunrise, the seldom-loaned painting that gave the Impressionist Movement its name.

Since the gallery was not issuing entry line reservations, we had to wait about 25 minutes before being allowed in, but the gallery had provided lots of information for us to entertain us while we waited. Because Americans were among the first to appreciate Impressionism and buy its art, it's no surprise that the National Gallery was chosen as the exhibit's only stop in the United States.

Many thanks to the Office of Family Engagement and Transportation for making this trip so easy for us.



Enrichment Activities in the Harrisonburg Area

This is a new feature listing opportunities for enrichment for our members. If you would like to add to this section, please let us know about future opportunities of which you are aware:

A wide variety of **Lifelong Learning Institute** courses and activities at JMU can be found at:

www.jmu.edu/pce/programs/all/lli/index.shtml

JuiceWorks will be offering an adult daytime class in 3-D printing at their studio in Harrisonburg. January 8, 15, 22, & 29 from 10am-12pm for those four Wednesdays for \$170 per person.

direct scheduling link: juiceworks3d.as.me

The **Friendly City Clay and Art Center** in Harrisonburg is featuring a number of winter classes that include: pottery (both wheel thrown and hand built) and workshops in mosaics and painting. www.friendlycityclay.com/classes/adults

Blue Ridge Community College offers a variety of classes in art, music and lifelong learning for adults.

www.brcc.edu/workforce-development/personal-enrichment

