

# UMAR News Spring 2006

*Newsletter of The University of Memphis Association of Retirees*

---

---

## UMAR names first scholarship recipient

By Bob Boone

Kimberlee Tucker, an outstanding Senior currently enrolled at the university, was named the 2005-2006 recipient of the \$1000 UMAR Memorial Scholarship at the 2005 Christmas luncheon. Kimberlee will graduate at the end of the Spring 2006 semester with a dual major in psychology and criminal justice. Ms. Tucker's mother is a current university employee at the Earthquake Center, where Kimberlee is also a student worker.

We were very pleased to have Kimberlee with us at the Christmas Luncheon for the scholarship presentation. She is certainly a wonderful first recipient of our scholarship.

This is the first award UMAR has been able to fund from the scholarship account. We hope to make this an annual scholarship for an academically talented junior or senior student. Please help fund future scholarship awards by sending a check to the University of Memphis Foundation for the UMAR Scholarship Fund, Account #279.

The process of selecting a recipient for 2006-2007 is beginning now, with hopes of awarding the scholarship by the end of the 2006 term for the upcoming school year.



President Raines and Bob Boone present award to Kimberlee Tucker

Basic requirements for student eligibility are current full time enrollment at The University of Memphis, successful completion of two years of college with at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average, and demonstrated participation in university/community activities. Preference will be given to applicants who are grandchildren or children of UMAR members or of current faculty/staff.

If you have questions regarding any aspect of the UMAR scholarship program, or know of a potential applicant, please contact Bob Boone, UMAR Scholarship Coordinator, telephone (901)757-5733.

## Arata is unanimous choice for 2005 Traces Award

By Lester J. Pourciau, Jr.

The 2005 Traces Award was given to Dr. Dorothy Arata for her substantive efforts in support of UMAR and her other activities supportive of a variety of social programs in the greater Memphis area. When she retired as Dean of the Graduate School, she continued to maintain contact with colleagues and assisted them in a variety of ways. She has been a member of both UMAR and the Friends of the University Libraries and has served as an officer in both of these organizations.

Dot ("Just Dot; Dr. Arata died in 1993," she tells people when introduced) was born in NYC in 1928 and

spent all but the last twenty-four years in the North. She took her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, a post-doc from Cornell Medical College, and an Internship from the University of Iowa.

"I knew all about severe winters. My last northern residence was Michigan State University from whence I came to Memphis State University in 1982. I found an immediate improvement in the weather as well as a pleasant, low-key lifestyle in this southern city. My life since 1993 is blatantly and joyously hedonistic, tasting from the impressively mixed palate served up by the City of Memphis."

The Traces Award was initiated in 2003 and has been given to four individuals in recognition of their continuing lives of service and scholarship. It was given first for the year 2002 to Dr. Lasley Dameron, Professor Emeritus of English; in 2003 to this writer, Professor Emeritus of Libraries; and in 2004 to Dr. Douglas Mayo, Professor Emeritus of Education. Selecting the 2005 recipient was easy: Dot received "eleventeen" nominations. A call for nominations for the 2006 award will be issued later.





Pat Tinsley explains Medicare Part D to retirees at the UMAR program in December.

## Program helps retirees understand new Medicare drug benefit plan

“The most terrifying words in the English language are: I’m from the government and I’m here to help.”

- Ronald Reagan

A large group of University retirees attended a special program sponsored by UMAR to help explain the new Medicare Plan D. Pat Tinsley, who helped many in attendance in their retirement planning through the U of M Human Resources Department, explained the new prescription drug coverage available for all Medicare recipients beginning in January 2006. Mrs. Tinsley, who is now retired herself, explained the changes through a PowerPoint presentation, handouts, and

direct questions from the audience.

Most of those in attendance had signed up for one of the three insurance plans offered through the state group insurance program upon retiring and had been notified that the state was consolidating the three plans into one called The Tennessee Plan, which does not include prescription drug costs. They were advised to sign up for the new Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage, but many found the whole process intimidating. The session with Mrs. Tinsley answered many questions and most left with a clearer understanding of what they needed to do to get pharmacy benefits through Medicare.



## Presidents take lectern at Holiday event

What do past and current presidents of UMAR have in common with the University of Memphis president? They all shared in the joy of the holiday season with UMAR members and guests at the Wilson Holiday Inn on December 8, 2005. After a sumptuous buffet luncheon, Bill Crump, 2005 president, presided over the business session, which included the presentation of awards, the election of 2006 UMAR officers, and the introduction of committees. President Shirley Raines, the program feature speaker, charmed everyone as usual with her enthusiastic review of the great strides being made by U of M students in both scholarship and sports. Frank Dyer, who as President elect organized the Holiday Luncheon, ended the program to begin his reign as 2006 UMAR president.

## Travel Tales

### Amsterdam to Budapest by Riverboat

By Charles Stagg



For 15 days and 14 nights (June 13-27, 2005) in Europe my wife Mary and I called MS Switzerland II home, as we traveled the Rhine, Main, Main-Danube Canal (with 67 locks to get our riverboat over the Continental Divide), and Danube, with shore excursions every day. It was one of the best trips we’ve ever had with Tauck World Discovery, where all meals, all shore excursions, all tips to everyone involved, and trips from and to airports were included at no extra cost. Three tour directors and two trainees helped manage all 97 passengers in shore expeditions every day.

These ventures included gems such as concerts (Passau Cathedral with the world’s second largest pipe organ, and a palace concert in Vienna with the Vienna Residence Orchestra); two Benedictine monasteries, including the library of the one at Melk; cathedrals, palaces, castles, museums, and walking tours in Amsterdam, Cologne, Koblenz, Heidelberg, Nuremburg, Wurzburg, Bamberg, Bratislava, Vienna, Budapest, etc.; notable WWII areas such as in Nuremburg the prison and adjoining courthouse where WWII prisoners were tried for war crimes and a partially-completed major stadium and office complex begun by Hitler.

Also fascinating were a tour of the ship’s kitchen led by the chef and one of the ship’s bridge led by the captain. We heard a presentation (using slides) by the chief engineer on the use, value, and care of river and canal locks, as well as one on German employment, taxes, government, economics, educational system, etc., by a tour director. For all shore expeditions, in addition to our Tauck tour directors, we also had local guides who spoke excellent English. On the lighter side, we toured the chocolate factory and museum in Cologne, visited a winery in Rudesheim for wine-tasting, and had our ship’s crew do two night-time comedy shows for us. This trip provided new adventures, even in the places we had been before.

Just one word of further comment: wonderful trip! And with only one change of planes: from Hungarian National airlines (Budapest back to Amsterdam) to Northwest/KLM, round trip Memphis-Amsterdam-Memphis. Whee!



## The President's Corner

By Frank Dyer

It is with pride that I assume my role as President of the University of Memphis Association of Retirees for the 2006 year. Bill Crump, Past President, leaves big shoes to fill. Bill is serving as Program Chair for this year and has already lined up several exciting programs. New members of the Executive Committee are Ronald (Butch) Alford, Tom Caplinger, and Joanne Lippy. These three new members have already contributed greatly to our first two meetings of the 2006 year.

UMAR Scholarship Chair, Bob Boone, reports that our scholarship fund continues to grow. Please remember the Scholarship Program when you wish to either honor or memorialize someone. The UMAR Scholarship is now in its second year and is a wonderful way to help a University of Memphis student.

We will continue with our support of the Heritage Room, the Volunteerism program and our association with other Tennessee retirement associations. We will continue to try and keep all members aware of UMAR activities through our newsletter and other mailings.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

As of the end of February, UMAR is operating with a positive balance of \$1700. Butch Alford and Tom Caplinger are preparing for our membership campaign. During our December business meeting, our members voted to stop offering lifetime membership. So anyone that paid lifetime membership before December 31, 2005, will not be requested to pay annual dues.

However, you will receive a membership brochure to facilitate a contribution to the UMAR scholarship fund, if desired. Lifetime members are listed on the insert of this newsletter, along with the membership and scholarship forms.

*Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.*



### **UMAR officers 2006**

President: Frank Dyer; President Elect: Delano Black; Secretary: Dot Arata; Treasurer: Rita Richardson.

### **Other Executive Board Members**

Faculty Representatives: Charles Stagg and Tom Caplinger  
Staff Representatives: Bob Yates and Butch Alford  
Past Presidents: Bill Crump and Les Pourciau  
Scholarship Committee Chair: Bob Boone  
Sunshine Committee Chair: Joanne Lippy  
Program Committee Chair: Bill Crump  
Newsletter Editor: Janell Rudolph  
Heritage Room Committee: Les Pourciau and Doug Mayo  
Traces Award Committee Chair: Les Pourciau  
Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chair; Bob Yates  
Special Assistant: David Collins  
U of M Liaison: Everlena Smith

### SUNSHINE CORNER

Joanne Lippy is the recently appointed new chairperson for the Sunshine Committee. She succeeds Carolyn Zoccola, who served in this capacity for the past two years. Thank you, Carolyn, for a job well done!

Joanne retired March 1, 2004, and immediately became a UMAR member. If you become aware that a member of UMAR is ill or has passed away, please contact Joanne with the information. Her phone is 388-6515 and email address is [jolippy@memphis.edu](mailto:jolippy@memphis.edu). Your help would be very much appreciated.

### **In Memoriam**

Dr. Bobby Gene Greer, February 2006  
Ms. Markesan Morrison, February 2006  
Dr. Yvonne Smith Wilson, May 2005  
Mrs Lawrence (Sarah) Wynne, February 2006

**Downtown  
Memphis**



## Mix and Match Spring Trip

By Bill Crump



**March 21**

On March 21, 2006, UMAR will be involved in four different activities in downtown Memphis. You may choose to participate in as many as you would have an interest. We will begin the day by meeting at the Child Advocacy Center at 1085 Poplar Avenue. It is located just across the expressway before you get to the VA Hospital. At the center we will be shown their facilities and told about their activities. As a service project for UMAR we will each be asked to bring a medium to large new Teddy Bear as a donation. The center gives a bear to each child that visits. We will leave the Child Advocacy Center and go to Calvary Church to hear Rabbi Micah Greenstein. He will be speaking at noon as part of their Lenten Series. Following the Rabbi's talk we will have lunch in the Waffle Shop. At 2:00 p.m. we will walk across the street and tour the Memphis Fire Museum. It is one of the little known jewels of Memphis. Admission is free for seniors.

### Schedule:

11:00 Child Advocacy Center  
11:45 Calvary Episcopal Church  
12:45 Lunch in the Waffle Shop  
2:00 Fire Museum Tour

Call Everlena Smith at (901) 678-4376 in order to make reservations for lunch as we will have reserved seating. It is expected that there will be a large crowd to hear Rabbi Greenstein and therefore no reserved seating is available in the church. **Reservations deadline is March 17.**

Parking at the Child Advocacy Center is either in their lot or if the lot is full then on the north side of Poplar. Parking for the other events can be found in the basement garage of the 100 N. Main Building (enter off Second Street), behind the church or at the Jefferson Street Garage. To save on parking fees—carpooling is advised.

Questions? Call Bill Crump at (901) 678-0958.

Please send news about your current activities and interests to share with UMAR members. Include your name, former U of M department, address, phone, e-mail address, and, if you wish, a photo to Janell Rudolph, *UMAR News* Editor, 8952 E. Glendale Ct., Cordova, TN 38018. Email to [nrudolph@memphis.edu](mailto:nrudolph@memphis.edu). Letters may be edited to fit space limitations.



**UMAR**  
635 Normal Street  
The University of Memphis  
Memphis, TN 38152  
267200

*Ever growing, ever learning ~*

Non-profit organization  
U.S. postage paid  
Memphis, Tennessee  
Permit n. 207

*UMAR News* is the newsletter for the University of Memphis Association of Retirees, formerly the Emeriti Club.

The University of Memphis. A Tennessee Board of Regents Institution. An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action University