

Remembering Ross

by Thomas H. Thompson



Ross Nielsen

Ross Nielsen died of a heart attack at the age of 82 while on vacation in Texas.

To say that Ross was important to the UNI Emeritus Association would be an understatement. Beginning in 1986, Ross

worked tirelessly to establish what is now the UNI Emeritus Association. He was the person who dealt with the university administration, wrote the proposals and oversaw the creation of the Association as an officially recognized organ of the university. The rights and privileges of emeritus faculty were reduced to writing and received official approval. Ross served as the first chair of the organization and his influence and advice have contributed since then to its success. As Ross concluded his last service as chair, the Advisory Council presented him with a certificate of appreciation honoring his extraordinary dedication to the purposes of the body he founded.

In 1996, Ross published a 100-page history of the emeritus Association (still available). He and his late wife established no fewer than five endowments in the UNI Foundation. One of these, the Ross A.

Nielsen Professional Service Award, is an annual award of \$2000 for "an extraordinary record of meritorious service to both UNI and the individual's academic discipline." Few can match this outstanding record of university citizenship.

I bring you one more memory of Ross. In response to an e-mail from me reminding him of the monthly emeritus lunch, he begged off, citing a golf game with Bob Leahy. Ross explained: "Senior golfers like to shoot a score equal to or less than their age. ...I shot my age of 81, needing only a bogey on hole 18 to make that score." His brother, Keith, recalled, "...he was an avid golfer and scored his age many times. He scored an 80 a few days before his death in Corpus Christi, Texas."

Ross was an overachiever in the game of golf, and in the game of life.

Comments from the Past Chair . . .

My term as Chair has come to an end. I am leaving the office in good hands with Robert D. Talbott.

I have enjoyed my time serving you and the association. One always looks back at things that could have been done, or done better, but we also have to look back at things that went well.

Members contributed \$4,055 in our first effort to create some financial independence for the Association. If you have joined us since that fund-raising effort, or did not have a chance to assist us then, contributions are always accepted, and are tax deductible if made to the UNI foundation.

Please send your check to "UNIEA; Office of University Advancement; Attention: Yvonne Duggan, Room 205; Commons; UNI; Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0282."

With the contributions, we have sent surveys to the membership, purchased new badge holders for meetings, made a \$100 contribution to the UNI Museum (they furnish the Advisory Board with a convenient meeting area), and a \$275 challenge grant to KUNI.

The UNIEA By Laws/Rights and Privileges are in the final stage of approval. Both will be printed and sent to members this spring. The UNI Administration wanted to separate the two documents. For the present, the President's Cabinet will be

the approving body for our By Laws and Vice President Calhoun will work with us on the Rights and Privileges.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Spring 2001 Luncheon and the Recognition Breakfast, both of which will be on Saturday, April 28. If you have any suggestions for a luncheon program, please contact Dean Talbott.

I again thank you for your support of the UNIEA and for the wonderful support you have given me in my two years as chair.

Sincerely,

Elton Green

2001 Leadership Team UNI Emeritus Association

Chair: Dean R. Talbott (2002)
268-0705

Vice Chair: Thomas H. Thompson
(2001) 266-2551

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Edward Amend (2002) 987-2317
Gerald D. Bisbey (2001) 266-8855
Fred Hallberg (2003) 987-2016
James LaRue (2003) 266-3114
J.W. (Bill) Maucker (2001) 268-1138
**term ends at close of year indicated*

UNIEA SECRETARY

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2000 COMMITTEES

Membership Monitor:

Harley Erickson (266-8673)

Spouse Membership Monitor:

Edward Rutkowski (266-8851)

Newsletter Editor:

Thomas G. Ryan (266-6145)

Annual UNIEA Luncheon Committee:

Nancie Handorf (266-0494)
Marleta Matheson (266-2352)

Monthly Luncheons:

Thomas G. Ryan, Chair (266-6145)

Retirement-Planning Round Table:

James Handorf, Chair (266-0494)
Jan Abel (266-5465)

Nominating Committee:

Thomas G. Ryan, Chair

Members UNI Teaching and Service Awards Committee:

George F. Day (234-8524)
Howard V. Jones (233-9515)

The Class of 2000

*by Harley Erickson
and Edward Rutkowski*

Roy Chung
(SBS/Geography)
Donald R. Erusha
(ED/Health, PE & Leisure Services)
Albert R. Gilgen
(SBS/Psychology)
George D. Glenn
(HFA/Theatre)
Kenneth N. Green
(ED/Health, PE & Leisure Services)
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(ED/Curriculum & Instruction)
Gerald W. Intemann
(NS/College of Natural Science)
Hilliard Kent Macomber
(NS/Physics)
Phil J. Nelson
(ED/Teaching)
Jons C. Olsson
(ADM/Broadcasting)

UNIEA 2001 Luncheon

by Dean R. Talbott

The 12th Annual UNIEA Luncheon is scheduled for 12:30, Saturday, April 28, in the East Dining Room of the Towers Dining Center. This event includes Emeritus faculty and administrators, their spouses or guests, and the spouses of deceased emeriti.

You will probably want to attend the Recognition Breakfast for retirees earlier that morning, and then arrive at the Towers Complex early to visit with former colleagues. You may have already registered for either or both events.

Name tags, which will serve as your "ticket" for the luncheon, will be available at the door.

Thanks!!

By Dean Talbott

I would like to thank Elton Green, the Board members, Tom Ryan, and all the others who have contributed to the success of the past year. I will try to keep up the progress made while Elton was chair.

After paying the KUNI/KHKE pledge,

the current balance is \$3,182.36. The new statement of "Rights and Privileges" is in the final stages of approval and should be sent to all members in March.

Remember the annual luncheon is scheduled for April 28, 2001, in the Towers East Dining Room at 12:30 p.m.

In Memoriam

It is the nature of faculty members achieving emeritus status to scatter to the four winds, making it difficult to maintain contact with former colleagues. Therefore, it seems appropriate for UNIEA News to inform the members annually regarding emeriti recently deceased. Please remember the following, each of whom contributed significantly to the programs of the university over an extended period of years:

Henri Chabert (1961-1983)
Douglas D. Doerzman (1967-1992)
Lawrence J. Eilers (1968-1989)
Olive J. Holiday (1949-1974)
Edna Mantor (1923-1968)
William O. Maricle (1949-1981)
Ross A. Nielsen (1947-1986)
Ralph J. Schwartz (1963-1989)
M.B. Smith (1947-1982)
Gordon A. Timpany (1967-1997)
Dorothy Wineke (1949-1992)

Inspiration!

by Steve Carignan

The doors of the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center (GBPAC) have opened and the Cedar Valley has responded with outstanding support for this unique resource.

With more than 200 public events in the 1680-seat Great Hall alone, attendance figures continue to surpass expectations. More than 85,000 tickets have been issued to date for ticketed performances, a figure made all the more amazing when you realize that more than half of the 200 events in the Great Hall are free. Add in attendance for performances in 125-seat Jebe Hall and Davis Hall which hosts a full calendar of recitals and performances and the goal of 120,000 people coming to the Center in its first year is within reach. Not bad for a metropolitan area of around 100,000.

The Center has also hosted an impressive number of sold out performances in its first year including, The opening Gala, Gregory Hines, Maya Angelou, five Glee Club performances, Performances by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra, Canadian Brass, Cherish the Ladies, Beausoleil, James Earl Jones and, two performances of STOMP. In addition, while some good tickets are still available, the musicals Chicago and Crazy For You, and concerts by Judy Collins, the Kodo Drummers and the Afro-Cuban All-stars also seem destined to sell out.

Anyone who observed the construction of the Gallagher-Bluedorn will not be surprised to learn that Story Construction, the PAC's Builder, was awarded both the "Year 2000 Project of the Year Award" and the "2000 Award for Excellence" for the GBPAC project.

The other exciting thing about the new Performing Arts Center is the catalytic role it has played, increasing the level of cultural activity on and off campus. Rock concerts have returned to the dome with a concert that sold out in three hours, a reborn student concert committee has produced one successful rock concert and is on the trail of another event this spring. The School of Music is enjoying record-

setting attendance and the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra has increased its subscription base by 50%. It is no longer a question of a small number of performing arts devotees split between local cultural resources. Rather, the overall pool of cultural supporters and patrons has grown and become more active. People who have never experienced the performing arts are giving them a try and finding what some knew all along – live performance is superior to movies, television and recordings. The opportunity to connect with an artist, see their passion, focus and skill tested moment by moment is unique to the performing arts whether that performance takes place at the Gallagher-Bluedorn, the Oster Regent, or the Hope Martin Theatre.

If you haven't tried a performance at the new Performing Arts Center, DO! It will change your life. If you have tried one, thank you for your support. Without you, the work couldn't continue.

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Steve Carignan is interim executive director of the GBPAC.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



At least two pieces of good news this year. There is little room for this piece and, thanks to George Day, this issue is free of an error which appeared in each of its predecessors. It's "In Memoriam," not "In Memorium."

Can anyone tell me what STOMP is? It attracted two full-house audiences at the GBPAC.

Editor

Tom Ryan

UNIEA Web Site <http://www.uni.edu/emeritus>

By Robert E. Kramer, Webmaster

In the spring of 1999, UNIEA introduced its Web site. Since then the site has had over 5,000 visitors from 38 countries. Aside from providing text information about UNIEA, it also contains audio segments and pictures.

Perhaps the most important feature of the site is its "Membership" page. On this page are listed all UNIEA members showing their address, telephone number, and (if available) their e-mail address. The page is important since it is the "link" to the UNI Electronic Directory. When people visit the UNI Web site and click on the campus "Directory" button they are given a page which lists, among other things, the link to the "Emeritus Faculty Directory." UNIEA members are reminded to send address and telephone number changes to Yvonne Duggan, Office of University Advancement, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0282, 319/273-2484 or 800/782-9522. Yvonne's e-mail address is yvonne.duggan@uni.edu.

The Web site consists of 13 major pages. These include the **Home** page, **Announcements**, the **History** of UNIEA, the **Purpose** of the organization, membership **Eligibility, Rights and Privileges, Officers, The Membership** page, **Meetings, Newsletter, Sites of Interest, Archives**, and a **Search** page. These 13 pages contain over 2,375 elements that make up the entire UNIEA site.

One of the pages used most often by visitors is the "Sites of Interest" page. Here you find links to 22 Internet sites that may be of interest to Emeritus faculty. Each of these is further linked to over 300 other sites. The page provides quick access to timely information, and "unusual sites."

Finally, we are in the process of redesigning the UNIEA site and have set a May date for the "new look." If you have any suggestions relating to the redesign, please send them to Yvonne at the address given above or e-mail them to me robert.kramer@cfu.net. Thank you.

Feedback from Members

Janice Abel

Retirement is a word I wish we could erase from the dictionary. I would rather think of it as "paid leave." When I went on "paid leave," I intentionally sought a change of career. Administrative jobs do not allow one to read and write very much. During my time at UNI I squeezed out a professional article or two but that was about it.

So when I left I wanted to become a writer. And I am finding my niche as a writer. I started out interviewing retired women in the Cedar Falls/Waterloo community and then brought some of those interviews together in a book called Community Shapers: Conversations with Retired Women. This book was used in connection with a 1996 UNI Museum exhibit to celebrate women's studies.

After that, my sister Ruth and I completed another book, From the Wishmore to You. This is about growing up in the '40s in a Mainstreet cafe` in La Porte City, Iowa. Both of these books are available at local stores and through Internet book-sellers.

About a year ago I began writing fiction and am spending time getting into the lives of such fictional characters as Nick Wheeler, a major league baseball hopeful; Darma Starr, a space commander living in a world destined to self destruct; and Josie Drummer, a college graduate who finds herself in a time spin any of us might find adventurous.

So you see my life is full of adventure only limited by my imagination. Reality testing for myself includes spending great times with Cedar Falls friends and family. All this of course has been possible for me only because I enjoy good health. Each day I become more sensitive to the fragile nature of life and realize it can be swept away in an instant.

Gerald Bisbey

Gerald Bisbey spends much time on volunteer work including, recently, his first telethon for Salvation Army fund raising. He has been an Army bell ringer for

a number of years, is involved with Kiwanis and the Elks, and sings in his church choir. He and P.J. Porter have helped EPI do some research and they have published two articles. He has also taught extension classes.

The Bisbeys have recently purchased a condo in Rockledge, Florida and have changed their residence to that state. They are keeping their Iowa condo.

Ken Butzier

Here I am, two days after your deadline, like a freshman just getting started on a paper. We were in Albuquerque over Christmas and I have had a flare-up of Parkinson's related disabling symptoms since returning.

Yes, we do have about a foot of snow on the ground and the snowmobilers love it. If the weather is too bad, we don't have to go out, but most everyone goes anyway. We are on beautiful Lake Kabekona, which is connected (by canoe) to Leech Lake. We have a strong and active Lake Association with about 250 members. There are regular coffees, parties, dinners, etc. Most of the people we know are retired so there is little restriction on their time. It's strange, however, everyone is so busy that we wonder how we found time to teach or work.' Besides the active social life, there are many opportunities to volunteer to help out with worthwhile projects at church and in the communities of Walker and Laporte. Retirees volunteer for most anything, right?

Last summer, Mary and I were both involved in a start-up dinner theatre venture in the Walker area. I helped with the technical aspects and Mary was in the show - "A Musical Review of the Century."

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the beauty of the land. Each season is wonderful, but fall is our favorite. The woods are gorgeous, the temperature is cool, and there are no mosquitoes. We love it here.

Dick and Betty Strub live four cabins down the shore and Floyd and Judy Anderson live across the lake. Of course Jim and Jean Kelly and Merlin and Lois Taylor are here summers. So we keep in touch with UNI all the time.

Bob Claus

I just opened your UNIEA letter of November 7. (I just returned from Wisconsin to take care of a few things here). I am still going and coming, taking care of two homes. I lost my faithful traveling companion (dog Daisy-16 years old) a couple months ago.

I am going to London for Christmas this year to attend the wonderful Christmas programs and music at King's Chapel in Cambridge, St. Martins-in-the Fields and St. Patrick's Cathedral in London. I'll go to my one living relative (an uncle) in Indiana for Thanksgiving again this year.

Bernard L. (Ben) Clausen

For my first years of retirement I slowed down by working part time for the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the USDA at the Waterloo office. I taught at American Institute of Commerce for a few quarters and did a couple summer workshops at Council Bluffs with Jeanne Harms. My wife, Dot, continues to work as a Coordinator in Continuing Education at Hawkeye Community College.

The past few years we have been travelling to Illinois where son Scott has now completed his MM in both choral conducting and vocal performance at Northwestern University. His recitals and performances of course required parental participation. He now choral director at the Methodist Church in Palatine and a vocal music instructor at Elgin, IL.

We also travel the other direction to Oregon where son Stuart is a Senior at Oregon State University majoring in marine zoology. He has been doing work and study at the Hatfield Marine Science Center on the coast. He enjoys leading field trips and doing interpretation work for the public.

For a nice diversion this summer, Dot and I took a week vacation to Glacier National Park. My genealogy research on the internet has been a most interesting exploration into American history.

Don and Jo Ann Cummings

Before retiring we received a lot of feedback from others about the joys of retirement. It didn't take long for us to agree and realize the advantages of being able to make our own schedules and spend time pursuing interests for which we didn't have time when we were working.

For the last two years our time has been spent doing more reading, camping with our trailer in the fall when schools are in session, and spending more time outside working in our garden. Although Don has always followed a regular exercise schedule, Jo Ann finally got into the swing of exercising almost every day.

For the past two years we spent February/March in Green Valley, Arizona, where the sun shines almost every day and the temperature is warm with low humidity. Don has taken up golf or, as he puts it, "practicing so he can eventually play golf." This winter we're going to be there for four months and we're looking forward to visits from our son of Los Angeles and friends from Cedar Falls.

We've also spent time visiting relatives in Colorado and Wisconsin. Being in Arizona, however, helped us realize how much we enjoyed "vacationing" in our home in the spring and summer. In the future we'll be deciding on other places to travel, or possibly spend more time in Iowa where there's plenty to do.

William H. Dreier

In 1985 my wife and I agreed we had retired from being paid for teaching but not from enjoying life, activity, and family.

We continued to live in our College Hill home where the last two of our children were born, and all five had lived in their childhood and youth. We enjoyed having more time for teaching and leadership at Valley View Baptist Church where we were charter members.

I continued to attend and often presented papers at National Rural Education conferences but now my wife went with me. We enjoyed the fall colors as we drove to various parts of the country. We also continued with the Inter-Faith Charismatic Fellowship. I became a co-leader for its Thursday evening meetings.

We had more time to travel to visit our son and his family in Iowa City. Once or twice a year we fly to Oregon to visit three children and their families.

One of our ventures was to join and work with the College Hill Neighborhood Association (CHNA), its activities, newsletter and meetings. CHNA is an attempt by permanent residents of the area to regulate and shape the flood of apartmentization of a sizable area close enough to UNI to attract landlords and their student renters.

I became active with the UNI Marshall Center School and the movement to have Iowa's one room schools become learning museums. We also find Elderhostels to attend, preferably during Iowa's coldest months. We have attended 12 Elderhostels in the past 15 years, and I have taught two at UNI, both centered on The Story of the Country School.

One very special event was attending the 50th Anniversary of D-Day with the 9th Air Force. Over on the Queen Elizabeth II, we visited London and Utah Beach, took part in the ceremonies in France, and flew home on British Airlines.

Now after 15 years of retirement and 48 years of living on College Street we begin a new chapter. We sold our home in August 2000 and moved to one of the Western Home Communities on South Main in Cedar Falls.

We are enjoying our computer, evening meals with the others here at Windgrace, and more time to read. I continue my Cardiac Rehab 45 minutes three days a week along with biking or walking and Mary Ellen with her aerobics program at Sartori.

Life is good and we look forward to more years of faith, friends and family.

Mac Eblen

The great gift of retirement is time. Time to read, time to garden, time for tea with friends, time to play with my kittens. And most of all time for journeys. A journey may be near, introducing a student from Russia to the Amana Colonies, or distant, visiting Moscow and St. Petersburg, as I did in May 2000.

August brought a trip to the spectacular coast of Newfoundland and the delights

of French cuisine on the tiny island of St. Pierre, still a part of France and policed by French gendarmes.

In November I traded the hurried crush of airports and the sardine-in-a-can economy class plane seat for the calm of train stations and the space of a sleeping car compartment. Between Iowa and California, Amtrak winds through the Rockies and the Sierra Nevada Range with awesome mountain scenery around each curve.

An Elderhostel, "Christmas in Mexico," takes me to Vera Cruz for three weeks that include Christmas, New Years, and Three Kings Day. Nativity parades, fireworks, posadas, candle-lit churches, and a week home stay with a Mexican family are included with warm sun, Gulf beaches, and practice time for my rusty Spanish.

Time is surely the treasure of retirement.

Ralph Goodman

I took early retirement from UNI (Linguistics) in 1988 in order to retrain as a Massage Therapist. My business, Cedar Falls Massage Therapy, is ongoing and richly rewarding. In making this choice I believe I was seeking balance: Linguistics, the most massively left-brained field I can think of, atrophied my right brain muscles: my massage therapy work stretched those muscles.

Massage therapy, I discovered to my great surprise, is a vast field; I have been led not only into a deeper knowledge of physical health and disease, but also into arcane areas of interconnections of body, mind, emotion, and spirit. I have gained much personal satisfaction in helping others in all of these areas. I continue my learning, travelling to all parts of the U.S. for courses and experiences, and even to Brazil to absorb and participate in some dramatic healing marvels.

In addition, right brained groups meet in my home almost weekly for "experiential" sessions related to massage, various physical and emotional therapies, healing, meditation, experimentation. But I have not entirely ignored balance; I host powerful left-brained professors monthly to chew, digest, analyze, and synthesize information from often difficult and thought-

provoking nonfiction books.

Since 1992 I have pursued a visual art hobby, filling the house with some 95 paintings, pastels, and sketches. I have also bought a few fine professional art works including one of great beauty by our own Cedar Falls' Tatiana Ivachenko.

On a more personal note, we now have 11 grandchildren and one great grandchild, eight of whom live near Madison, Wisconsin, where Harriet and I visit regularly. They are all truly a joy.

Gordon Harrington

The beginning of the past decade was the transition from phased to full retirement. Since then I have frequently considered going back to work to find some free time. Professionally there is still writing of the occasional journal paper and refereeing the papers of others. Several months have gone into a grant proposal.

There are two or three father-son major fishing trips a year. Unhappily some of my other fishing companions have gone on to fish the River Styx.

The world is my oyster now and seeing it has been a substantial element of the decade. There was a very happy month in Japan with my best friend and some of his students from a university there. Three weeks later he was gone and I am so glad we had those last days together.

There have been Elderhostels in Minneapolis, Seattle, and Hawaii and fishing and farm stays Down Under. A moonbow arched across the Straits of Messina and sun dogs showed themselves on the Indian Sea. Of the Rivera, the Amalfi Coast, Venice, and the Greek Isles--Crete fascinated me the most. The most exciting was a bus and boat trip from Athens to Singapore. But, everything went wrong circumnavigating a major part of South America. Cuzco and Machu Pichu were fascinating through the hallucinations brought on by acute altitude sickness.

The busiest and the most culturally intensive was six weeks in China. The most enjoyable was Amsterdam to Vienna by boat. The most athletic was hiking the Austrian and Italian Tyrol. The most recent, France by riverboat. The most immediate is Lisbon, Madrid, and the Costa Del Sol in just a few days.

In between there have been regular family visits to Dallas, Seattle, Tampa Bay, and Toronto.

Karl and Martha Holvik

Retired since 1984 and 1986, respectively, we can truly say we enjoy our retirement...the change of pace (it used to be run - run - run) and the opportunity to make our own schedules, or, if the spirit moves us, to have no schedule. "Boredom" is not in our vocabulary.

A trip to Alaska, visits with friends in Green Valley, AZ, trips to our home state, Minnesota, to enjoy 50th Anniversary reunions of high school and college alma maters...these are a good sampling of our life of retirement.

We are happy to be living in Cedar Falls, continuing to see our friends, enjoying many events on the UNI Campus, doing some volunteer work, and grateful for the relatively good health which makes all of this possible.

Family news update: daughter Linda and her husband, Phil Tetzloff, are long-term residents of Marshalltown where they are both teaching. Their son, Mike, is a sophomore at UNI. Daughter Karen, our songbird, continues to live in New York City, only two hours from her teaching duties at Vassar College, and a good base for an active performing career.

Life is good!

John Kamerick

Since retirement from UNI we have been shamelessly enjoying ourselves, doing all those things we could not do earlier. Our children have located themselves across the country, from Delaware to California. Obviously they need us to visit them at least once a year and we have fulfilled our duty.

In addition we have made European trips five times in the last ten years, usually when we exchanged houses and cars with friends.

One of the great advantages of retirement is the time it provides for reading, a plus we both have thoroughly enjoyed and shows up in overcrowded book case.

We believe we have done a little for the common good. Elaine has held various offices in The League of Women Voters and now is in charge of the Speakers

Bureau for the County. We both have given some service to the Diocese of Venice, most recently leading a workshop in how to establish Peace and Justice Committees in parishes.

Like most of the old types in Sarasota we show up at the Y two or three times a week, where, I have noticed, the handball travels faster than 15 years ago but the conversation remains the same.

Retirement---it's wonderful.

Howard Knutson

When I retired from UNI in 1981, Donna and I moved to a home we had built on a lake in Cherokee Village, AR. We quickly became involved in Village activities; Donna with church and hospital auxiliary, and I -- who had not even owned a musical instrument for 42 years -- bought a new clarinet so I could join a Little German Band playing for October-Fests, dances, and other events. We both were both in Community Theatre, acting in a number of plays. I also continued part-time teaching. Donna and I also continued our consultant work in Iowa with school district and Area Educational Agencies.

Travel has been one of our major pleasures. After a trip to the Soviet Union in 1983 with Cornell College alums, we got involved with Earthwatch, a volunteer organization to provide leg-work for research projects all over the world. We worked on a sheep station in Australia for our first project, then to an archeological dig at a country Chateau in France, followed by a dig in old Roman ruins in Autumn. Hard Work!! We subsequently have traveled in the British Isles, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Austria, and Holland. Had three winters in New Zealand (their summers) and returned to Australia.

Our place in Cherokee Village eventually became too much to take care of, so five years ago we bought a Cottage in Parkway Village, a retirement complex with dining hall, indoor pool and weight room as well as assisted living and full care facilities. We like the extra leisure, although Donna is still very much in-

volved with the Ozark Folk Center at Mountain View and with her church. I have put away my clarinet, but have taken up the recorder. We both play in a Parkway Village group and I also play in the Little Rock Aulus Recorder Society.

We love the mid-South with its change of seasons. Arkansas is a beautiful state, and we enjoy its many cultural opportunities, especially the symphony and other musical groups.

We are in our 20th year of retirement, and I often think of Bill Reninger's statement when he came back from retirement to serve as Provost, that "retirement is the highest state of civilization".

John Page

I retired in 1988 and Mary Lou the year after. Our three children and their families had moved to distant places and we began to look at warmer places to spend the winter. Eventually we chose Green Valley, AZ and moved here for our permanent residence over six years ago. We have not been disappointed.

This is an active age-restricted community and we both keep involved in many things. Our health remains good. My interests in art and golf continue and for both the weather is very favorable. My art has focused on some interesting rock formations in a nearby canyon and I work there frequently either drawing, painting or doing monoprints. I have a small studio in our house that is sufficient for my present needs.

Our location makes us a popular destination for our six grandchildren so we see them often. We travel to their homes as well and of course there is the telephone, all of which keeps our family connected. We travel considerably now, by ourselves or with a group such as Elderhostel, and have visited Australia, China, Russia, and Mexico in just the past few years.

The year we moved here I spent a very special two weeks golfing in Scotland with three former UNI colleagues, Murray Austin, Bob Leahy and Jack Wilkinson, playing a different course each day and it was my most memorable golfing experience.

Ned Ratekin

Since 1993, Ned and Ruth Ratekin have operated a B&B, The Carlson House, in Swedesburg, Iowa.

Guests are rarely a problem. There was the older fellow I asked, after spotting the pack in his pocket, to do his smoking on the porches. He did not eat much of anything for breakfast. "Not hungry", he said. When we went upstairs to clean after they left, evidence of his smoking was strong. We were really upset. A short time later the wife wrote to us that her husband had died - lung cancer. We were not so upset after that.

And then there was the dowager from Hawaii who challenged us a bit. When she and her 70-year-old son and his wife arrived for their night's stay, we asked her what time she wanted us to serve breakfast. "I don't know," she said. Ruth politely asked again for an approximate time, and she shouted, with remarkable belligerence for her age, "How should I know. Your brochure says breakfast is served at the guest's convenience, and I won't know what is convenient until I wake up in the morning." The son, embarrassed in a "well, that's Mom" way, saved the situation. A few weeks later we received a long letter from her praising our service and patience.

It was 7:00 Christmas Eve, 1998, and snowing. Just right for the season, but deadly on the highway. The Carlson House had been closed for the year, and we were almost packed to go on our annual escape south immediately after Christmas. The doorbell rang, and there stood a young couple, the wife holding an infant. Christmas Eve, a couple with a child, needing a room. They were delightful to get to know.

We have now lodged over a thousand guests in our B&B, and we do not know how to stop. It has taken on the flavor of a mission as much as a moneymaker with us. We are still fascinated by the interesting people we meet.

We do get involved in a few other things. Ruth has been chair of the Mt. Pleasant Board of the Southeast Iowa Symphony. Both of us are officers in the Swedish Heritage Society in Swedesburg. Ruth has constant opportunity to apply her hospitality and business skills, and I have learned to whip up a mean Swedish pancake. So, retirement has been good to us.

Ed and Helen Rutkowski

I retired in 1990 and we had no choice, we had to stay here because my son was finishing law school and we had no other family. Actually, we could call our retirement an accidental happening. My son had run his Lionel train off the tracks and I yelled at him. The engine ended up being my train and a part-time vocation repairing Lionel and other electric trains. We enjoyed it.

We met people from many different walks of life and we traveled to many interesting places. My son became a JAG officer in the navy and this allowed us to travel more. We spent three summer vacations in historic Charleston, S.C. When my son was transferred to Italy we spent two weeks in Naples, Rome, and Paris. In Rome, I caught and (nailed) a pickpocket going through my pocket while getting on a bus. For me it was the personal highlight of the trip.

My son met another JAG officer and they became engaged, this meant trips to Washington D.C. and a wedding in the chapel of William and Mary College in historic Williamsburg.

To stay well I work out the Wellness Center at UNI. Helen and I have a season's ticket at the new performing arts center, and we have season football tickets at the UNI Dome. We followed the team to Youngstown this summer. I also did some background research for the Green Bay Packers for the rejuvenation of their stadium. I have left the toy train repair and now I am beginning to record music of the big band era and we have signed up for an UNI Alumni Travel tour of Central Europe. Our retirement has kept us busy.

Ralph Schwartz

In 1989 Ralph Schwartz retired from Communicative Disorders, two years before wife Jane bid adieu to the Modern Language Department. For the first eight years, they saw much of the world. Fifteen cruises, including two to Alaska and three months of one Iowa winter in Australia and New Zealand.

Among others, a Mediterranean cruise and one to Finland and Russia. The most recent was in 1998, featuring Caribbean

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Islands. Jane says "St. Thomas is the best!"

Her hip replacement surgery ended distant travel, so they concentrated on area plays, concerts operas and art exhibits.

Ralph was hospitalized at Allen his last five months, dying 12 hours after Jane fell and broke a femur. This earned her three months at the Western Home where she enjoyed visits from UNIEA members, among others. Home since October 10, she is making excellent progress and looking forward to attending UNI and UNIEA functions soon.

Carl and Wanda Wehner

It has now been 8 1/2 years since we retired. We have stayed busy so the time has passed very quickly. We have had time to become involved in several volunteer activities.

I have been involved with the Cedar Falls Meals on Wheels program for most of that time; we served as coordinators of the drivers for five years but I am now back to just driving one day a week. I also worked several years at the Cedar Valley Food Bank, going around picking up day-old bread once a week.

We have also been more involved with church activities; we have co-chaired the United Methodist Thanksgiving In-gathering for northeast Iowa for four years.

Wanda continues to do a lot of quilting and volunteering at the Little Red School House and the UNI Museum.

I still have time for several recreational activities: gardening, bridge playing and attending household auctions. I also continue to have my two annual garage sales for which I have acquired a reputation.

A group of former Mathematics Department colleagues gather once a week for coffee to hash over old times and keep up with other happenings.



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