President’s Message...

Dear Friends,

Thanks to all who attended the Registration Event in October. The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art was filled with UWA members enjoying visiting with friends as they tasted the incredible food and viewed the scrapbooks lovingly created by Starla Boyd. I think most of us are still under the charm of our guest speaker museum director Ghislain d’Humieres.

Over the last several months we have all heard a lot about “Change” – Why not include a little change in your schedule this academic year - attend at least one of the many different interest group activities... a book club meeting, eating with the Out-to-Lunch Bunch, getting “artsy” listening to the Gallery Talks and having fun with the Bunco Squad. Your “Change” could be getting involved and forming new friendships. Go For It! You will love it and be hooked on UWA!

Juanitta Goins, President
321-7934
bobgoins@cox.net

Dr. J. Rufus Fears: “Christ and the Roman Empire” Sunday, December 7th

Please mark your calendar and bring your spouse or friend to hear J. Rufus Fears, who will speak on the fascinating subject, Christ and the Roman Empire, Sunday, December 7, 2008, at the Stephenson Research and Technology Center. We are so fortunate, that after last year’s rave reviews of his lecture, he has once again agreed to keep us spellbound with his knowledge of history.

J. Rufus Fears is David Ross Boyd Blankenship Chair in the History of Liberty. Professor Fears has his Ph.D. from Harvard University and is an internationally distinguished scholar and author of numerous studies in Greek and Roman history, the history of freedom, and the lessons of history of our own day.

Professor Fears leads annual study trips to historical sites in Europe and America, including “In the Footsteps of Winston Churchill,” “In the Footsteps of Robert E. Lee,” “In the Footsteps of Peter and Paul,” and “In the Footsteps of George Washington.” In June 2009, he will lead a study trip to Rome, “In the Footsteps of the Caesars”—a trip you may want to include in your travel plans.

Sunday December 7, 2008, 2-4 p.m.
Wine and Cheese Reception
Professor Fears’ Lecture
Stephenson Research & Technology Center
101 David L. Boren Boulevard
(north of Weather Center/Jenkins & Hwy 9- use north entrance)
For info: Janet Crain, 321-8184 or Judith Evans, 329-4138

The new UWA Directory (available at Dec. 7 event) will have photos of members so we can know each other a little better. Please be sure your dues of $25 have been sent to Judy Smith, UWA Treasurer; 930 Schulze Dr.; Norman, OK 73071.
Spotlight on Member Jackie Farley

What keeps former UWA board member Jackie Farley really busy is Wise Women Inc., the business she founded in 2005. It is a concierge service for individuals and businesses caught in the circle of too much to do and too little time.

Also, her Wise Women Senior Services gives a helping hand with doctor appointments, shopping, cleaning, travel arrangements, arranging for meals, finding repair persons, or checking in on a senior on a weekly basis as a way of keeping ones calendar organized. In addition, her staff works with families who need a stand-in for their loved one—to be there when you can’t.

Jackie Farley grew up and graduated from high school in Tipton, Oklahoma, and obtained a B.A. from OU in History and a master’s degree in Physical Education and Recreation. She began as an Intramural Coordinator at OU in 1977 and retired as the Director of Recreational Services at OU in 2005.

Jackie continues to teach the History of Women in Sports as an adjunct professor in Women's Studies; she also teaches seminars for Training and Development.

Jackie has served on the Meals on Wheels Board of Directors for about 10 years and recently joined the East Main Place Board of Directors. She is on the City of Norman Parks Board and is chairing the committee developing a Master Plan for the Norman Parks and Recreation Department. She also loves to travel, study history, attend women's basketball games and has three “babies” at home, her dogs.

— Janet Crain, President-Elect

Registration Event, Oct. 5, 2008

Ghislain d’Humieres, OU’s Bill and Wylodean Saxon Director of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art welcomed UWA members to the museum. He discussed the unique Russian Exhibit and the museum’s immediate plans for expansion.

Judith Evans introduced the director providing the membership with the following details of his career before he joined the University of Oklahoma in June 2007.

After studying History and Art History at the Sorbonne in Paris, Ghislain became a specialist in 18th Century Furniture for Sotheby’s in London and New York.

Later he studied at the Gemological Institute of America, then became Director of the Jewelry Department at Christie’s of Los Angeles for the West Coast and South America before transferring to Christie’s in Geneva.

Ghislain took an eighteen-month sabbatical in Guatemala where he worked with street children involved in drugs and prostitution.

After his sabbatical, Ghislain accepted the position of Assistant Director in charge of the re-opening October 2005 of the de Young Museum, a new state-of-the-art facility that integrates art, architecture and the natural landscape. It is one of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. (The 100-year old de Young Museum building had been damaged by an earthquake and closed in 2000.)

On behalf of the membership, Janet Crain presented Ghislain with cuff links with the OU museum’s (FJJMA) logo.

Gallery Talks

“Gallery Talks” first meeting will be Tuesday, November 18 at noon (12:00) in the Sandy Bell Gallery of the FJJMA. There will be a noontime concert from 12 to 12:30 (Flute Ensemble, Valerie Watts, Director). After the concert I will give an introduction to the Museum & its collections, including the current fabulous Russian Exhibit. We will meet in the concert area downstairs.

As you know there is free admission to the museum on Tuesdays and there is a noontime concert every week.

— Barbara Starling, 740-7322 bbjstarling@aol.com

Editor’s Note: Barbara has been a docent at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art (FJJMA) for ten years.
Meet New Member Anita Kantowski
Anita is an artist, china painter and teacher. Miniature portrait work has been her primary focus. She attends state conventions as a booth holder, giving demonstrations and seminars throughout the US and in Mexico City.

Her work has been published in many art magazines and she had a one-woman show at the Cleveland County Historical Museum in Norman. She has had two television appearances, one as a featured artist on an OKC network and the other on porcelain china painting on educational television.

Anita has held many offices including president in her local World Organization of China Painters club (WOCP), president of Oklahoma WOCP. She has been a WOCP Dealer Director since 1997.

Anita currently teaches two weekly classes, travels to state china painter’s conventions and gives seminars on china painting. If interested in learning china painting, give her a call, 321-4285.

Anita grew up in Galveston, Texas, and met her husband Ronald at Ball High School. They married while in college and she accompanied him while he finished his degrees. In 1968, they moved to Norman when Ronald was offered a position at OU teaching Physics. They have three children and seven grandchildren. All amazing, of course.

Meet New Member M’Liss Graham
M’Liss Graham recently moved to Norman with her husband, Charles, who is the new Dean of Architecture. For the past 25 years, she lived in College Station, Texas, where her husband taught Architecture classes, held administrative positions, and became a nationally known specialist in the field of forensic architecture.

M’Liss has recently retired from twenty years of teaching students with special needs. M’Liss often tells people, “We raised our three daughters to be smart, beautiful, highly respected women and launched them from the nest. Then, we kicked the nest out of the tree and launched ourselves.”

Coming to Norman has certainly been an adventure for both Charles and M’Liss. She looks forward to using her hostessing skills as she helps Charles become a “hands on” Dean, getting to know both staff and students in a personal way by entertaining them in their new home.

In her spare time, M’Liss likes to garden, sew, and cook. As a sixth generation Texan, she looks forward to spending time studying the genealogy of her family. She loves to travel with Charles and her favorite places are Scotland and the Canadian Rockies. Her favorite discovery in Norman, so far, has been the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art. She’s excited about supporting OU Women’s Basketball.

Thinking of...
Barbara Starling, children and grandchild accidents & health
Jane Abraham, baby girl, Emily Jane Abraham, born 10/28/2008
Leona Huffaker, disabled & in Grace Living Center
Cathy Fagan, brother died

UWA Salad Luncheon Bunch
Our next luncheon will be Tuesday, December 2 at Doris Whinery’s with co-hostess Margaret Beaird.
If you would like to join us on the first Tuesday of the month, please contact Janet Crain, 321-8184.

iGroup Contacts

Antiques Group:
   Sue Harrington, 329-6932
Books-Contemporary:
   Juanitta Goins, 321-7934
Books-Eclectic:
   Mary Carpenter, 321-4667
Bunco Squad:
   Starla Boyd, 329-5217 or 205-0681
Gallery Talks:
   Barbara Starling, 740-7322
Investment Club:
   Jane Barrett, 329-6851
New Sooners and Adventurers:
   Juanitta Goins, 321-7934
Out-to-Lunch Bunch:
   Regina McNabb, 364-9278
Salad Luncheon:
   Janet Crain, 321-8184

—Jann Knotts, Interest Group Coordinator, 360-9435
jgknotts@finsvcs.com
Starla Boyd
shown here at the October 5th Registration Event with two of her many talents: designing the UWA scrapebooks and organizing the Bunco Squad. The Bunco iGroup meets at Starla’s house on the 2nd Wednesday, 7-9 p.m. Call her at 329-5217 or 205-0681 to join the fun.

Be a Secret Santa for Cleveland County DHS foster children
Tish Marek (405-229-0176 or 366-8823) will have a box for donated toys and receipts for cash or check donations at our Dec. 7th event. Secret Santa program is managed by the Citizens Advisory Board of Cleveland County Child Welfare Unit. This will be the 22nd year. The wish lists of 680 to 700 children are waiting to be filled!

UWA BOARD 2008-09
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