

From the President

Welcome to all new and returning members. Hopefully our programs/travel and Health Day will be of interest and enjoyment to you. UMRA has been working with Human Resources (HR) and the university to increase awareness of its retiree population. I am seeing the word “retiree” in many places. In September, I was invited to represent UMRA at the President’s Leadership Breakfast. It was a very interesting presentation by President Schlissel where he outlined the areas that will be the focus of several initiatives: Poverty Solutions; Academic Innovations; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion; and Environment and Sustainability. You can read about them in the Oct. 10 University Record, or on line.



Rodger Wolf has continued to work on our database and particularly trying to get the information of our past and current members who are deceased. In this Newsletter is a listing of those who have died in 2016. Please give us feedback if you find this listing helpful to know about your coworkers/others you have known at the university.

Judy Dean has outlined for you the work on the Bicentennial Committee. Please help her out if you can find the time, she has a committee and her email is listed in this Newsletter. The Bicentennial event is a year-long endeavor and is beginning now. You, our retirees, are an integral part of these past 200 years. Get involved! Go to bicentennial.umich.edu – there are many activities planned and there is so much to be read about our history and heritage. What incredible people made/make up this great university. Now is the time to learn and experience this marvelous event. Seriously, DO IT!! As you can see, our particular event is June 27, 2017, but please, don’t let that be your only involvement.

Do you volunteer, at the university or at non-university activities? Consider volunteering for UMRA, we need volunteers for our Bicentennial Committee and our new Communications Planning Team. There are also many places in the university that could not function without volunteers. Consider Hill Auditorium and all the theatres, stadiums, as well as University Hospital and many departments. Volunteering is a healthy way to stay active; it enhances your mental capacity and is a boon for the university.

I am looking forward to a great Winter and Spring with the UMRA group. We’ll see you at the December meeting for a great discussion on Genealogy.

Pat Butler