

Northwest Retiree Association

General Meeting: 2 p.m. Sept. 16, 2025 in Rm. 301 of Maryville First United Methodist Church

Present:

Board Members: Robert Dewhirst (President), Sue Wood (Vice President and What's Up this Week/Month), Theo Ross (Treasurer), Karen Schaffer (Member-at-large), John Shaw (Member-at-large), , Rosalie Weathermon (Past President) Nancy Farlow (Member-at-large), **Via Zoom:** Christine Benson (Secretary) Pat Lucido (Member-At-Large)

Ex-officio: Brenda Untiedt, Duane Havard

Board Members Absent: Jim Eiswert (Member-at-Large), Janice Brandon-Falcone (Member-at-large)

Minutes

I. Call To Order—2:00 PM

II. New Business

Report on the reorganization of the University's Foundation office

- Brenda Untiedt introduced Duane Havard who serves as the Director of Alumni Relations.
- Duane will serve as the new liaison to the organization and will help secure classrooms and alumni rooms for NWRA events. Meeting room at the alumni house can hold approximately 15 people.
- Duane will send newsletters each month and will follow up with retired staff members and mid-academic year retirees.
- Brenda Untiedt will still serve as the scholarship liaison.
- Brenda Untiedt will work on revising the NWRA brochure using student employee help.

Minutes of the August 22, 2025 General Meeting were approved via email and mail by members attending that meeting.

III. Old Business

Discussion of upcoming events

- **September 30:** Rosalie Weathermon will present "The Challenges of Settlers Coming to the Conception MO Area and the Founding of the Conception Abbey. Mid-1800's in Nodaway County Missouri." Location to be determined. Sue Wood will check with St. Gregory's to determine if the Parish Hall would be available.
- **October 14:** Rob Voss will lead a presentation about AI in education. Location to be determined.
- **November 6:** Visit the Walter Cronkite Museum on the Missouri Western campus in St. Joseph. Tentative plans are to leave at 10:00, participate in a guided tour from 11-12, and have lunch in St. Joseph afterwards

Discussion of other possible events which will be held in the later this Fall or in the Spring

- Joel Benson will do a Lunch and Learn beginning in January. Janice Falcone will assist on 2 lessons
- A visit to Karen From's "A Little Bit of Leaven" bakery
- A panel discussion emphasizing the concerns and considerations of people who are caretakers for people with an illness
- Stargazing with John Shaw
- Theo Ross brought up an idea to possibly host a "debate" or discussion featuring differing viewpoints on political issues. After some consideration, the group decided that while it was a great idea, not something this group should pursue.

Other Discussion items

- Theo Ross reported that we were able to put \$1000 from the general fund into the scholarship fund
- Theo Ross, John Shaw and Rosalie Weathermon will be attending the Powering Dreams event and will meet the NWEA scholarship winner.
- Nancy Farlow will assume the role of reaching out to new retirees, a job which Christine Benson had been doing in addition to her secretarial duties. Christine will assist Nancy in the transition.
- Ideas for other types of "Happy Hours" to meet the needs of those who are not in Maryville or who are unable to attend at the Pub were discussed. We will be offering "Zoom Happy Hours" as well as Happy Hours at coffee shops. Sue Wood will coordinate.

IV. Schedule next general meeting

- The meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13, at 4:00 in a room to be determined.

V. Adjournment—2:54 PM

- Theo Ross moved to adjourn, Karen Schaffer seconded.

Christine thanks Sue Wood for taking minutes and managing the Zoom session for this meeting.