



Northwest Retiree Association

General Meeting: 4 p.m. May 14 in Hughes Field House Rm. 211-212

Board Members Present: Robert Dewhirst (President), Sue Wood (Vice President and What’s Up this Week/Month), Christine Benson (Secretary), Theo Ross (Treasurer), Jim Eiswert (Member-at-Large), Karen Schaffer (Member-at-large), John Shaw (Member-at-large), Rosalie Weathermon (Past President), Janice Brandon-Falcone (Member-at-large) and Nancy Farlow (Member-at-large--Membership), Pat Lucido (Member-At-Large, FB Manager)—via Zoom.

Ex-officio: Duane Havard

Members: Joel Benson, Johanne Fairchild, Ted Gouge, Channing Horner, Louise Horner, Richard Field, Nancy Zeliff, Sandi Mull, Barbara Nelsen, Kenneth Nelsen, Debbie Clark

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order—4:00 p.m. by Bob Dewhirst
- II. Welcome – NWRA President Bob Dewhirst welcomed people and introduced Duane Havard, the NWRA Liaison to the Foundation. Duane asked if we had any questions (there were none) and said, if you need anything from the university, please go through him.
- III. Approval of Agenda—Janice moved to approve the agenda, John seconded, and approval was unanimous. (Minutes of the November 13, 2025 meeting were approved online by members attending that meeting.)
- IV. Treasurer’s Report – Theo Ross

Northwest Retiree Leadership Scholarship Fund

	Balance February 28, 2026	\$23,559.18
	Income	
	March \$650.55 (\$500 in cash contributions + \$150.55 in earnings)	
	April \$1,550.00 (\$550 in cash contributions + \$1,000 from Operations Fund)	
	Expenses	
	March \$515.34 (\$500 for scholarship and \$15.34 for expenses)	
	April -0-	
	Balance April 30, 2026	\$25,244.39

With the passage of the \$25,000 mark, the \$1000 annual Scholarship is now ENDOWED, assuming current stock market trends. Donations will continue to add to this fund, and when it is large enough, we will offer a second scholarship.

Operating Fund

	Balance February 28, 2026	\$6,482.87
	Income	
	March \$110 (cash – membership dues)	
	April \$270 (cash – membership dues)	

Expenses		
March	-0-	
April	\$1,000 (transfer to Scholarship Fund)	
Balance April 30, 2026		\$5,862.87

Christine suggested that NWRA buy an omni-directional microphone for Zooming. John moved that we buy one for no more than \$300. Karen seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. (Christine Benson will shop around, get input from the officers, and go through Theo & Duane to take the cost out of the NWRA operating budget.)

V. Election of Board of Directors Members—Call for Nominations

Bold Indicates members already serving for 2026-2207

1. Board Members at At Large

Currently Serving: John Shaw (2nd year)

Currently Serving: Janice Falcone (2nd year)

Currently Serving: Jim Eiswert (2nd year)

For each of the open positions, after naming people who had agreed to fill each position and asking if there were others who wanted to volunteer, the non-bolded open positions below were filled unanimously after the nominations and seconds indicated below. For all at-large positions, Christine nominated, and Janice seconded.

Open Position—2-year position: Karen Schaffer

Open Position—2-year position: Nancy Foley

Open Position—2-year position: Pat Lucido

2. President Sue Wood (1 year)

3. Past President Bob Dewhirst (1 year)

4. Vice President/President-elect: Pat Immel (Jim nominated, Bob seconded)

5. Secretary: (Elected in even years for 2 years) Nancy Farlow (Christine nom., Bob seconded)

6. Treasurer: Theo Ross (elected in odd years for 2 years)

7. Sue thanked all 2025-26 Board members and particularly called out Christine 4 years as Secretary. Christine said thank you and agreed to be an advisor, as needed.

VI. Old Business:

1. People gave brief summaries of outings/events held since the last general meeting. People enjoyed all of them:

Joel Benson's Lunch and Learn, Bit of Leaven Bakery Tour, Rob Voss's AI programs, Rosalee Weathermon's presentation on the Founding of Conception Abbey. Walter Cronite Tour, Smithsonian exhibit, John Shaw's telescope presentation, Janice Falcone helping write a feature in Northwest Missourian, the Happy Hours (Zoom, coffee/food on 4th Tuesdays at Haven—with Zoom, and 2nd Fridays at The Pub)

2. Committee reports

a. Events planning—Karen Schaffer named several possibilities and others added suggestions. (See VII. 4 below for the list)

b. Correspondence with new members--Nancy Farlow had no report. (Christine suggested that this be part of the next Board meeting for new officer planning.)

- c. Thank you notes to scholarship donors—Janice Falcone asked how she could get access to names of people who have donated. She will ask Duane Havard.
 - d. Benefits updates—John Shaw said he makes updates every winter when Medicare guidelines are published. Sue asked that she also get them so she can post it in What's Up emails/letters.
 - e. Art auction for scholarship—Janice Falcone had no report
- VII. New Business/Announcements/Upcoming Events:
1. Possible Homecoming activities—The general consensus was that such activities have not been fruitful for adding members, so with no new ideas, we will not pursue this.
 2. Lunch and Learn classes—Joel will do another one in the spring on either Colonial America and the Revolution OR Greece and Rome. Several reacted favorably to Greece and Rome.
 3. Sue Wood said she would do a presentation when she returns from her Cowabunga Safari in Africa this summer.
 4. Off campus outings, tours or activities suggestions:
 - WWI Museum & Lunch (Due to FIMA World Cup traffic, go in the fall.)
 - Homestead National Historical Park in Beatrice, NE
 - University of Nebraska State Museum on the campus of Univ. of NE-Lincoln
 - Miniature golf at Cool Crest in St. Joseph, MO
 - Amelia Earhart Hangar Museum in Atchison, KS
 - Bingo at the Elk's Club in old police station in Maryville
 - New Theater Restaurant
 - National Museum of Toys and Miniatures in Kansas City, MO
 - Truman Library in Kansas City, MO
 - Linda Hall Library on the campus of Univ. of MO--KC
 5. Announcements:
 - a. Christine announced that there is a new Bookstore/Coffee shop in Maryville. The Plot Twist Café is located at 215 W 5th St. in Maryville
 - b. Congratulations to Nancy Zelif—winner the 2026 Distinguished Faculty Emeritus Award.
 - c. Nancy Zelif handed out flyers with information about the upcoming community Q & A sessions regarding the proposed building of a data center south of Maryville. See below. (Nancy does not live in Nodaway County but considers this her community, which is why she is sharing information. She is available if anyone wants to talk about the issue.)
 - d. Ted Gouge is doing a talk on the History of Sports in America in the last 250 years.
 - e. Joel is doing a 20 min. talk for a local ladies group on July 21.
 - f. Sue will put in What's Up any other announcements sent to her.
- VIII. Membership List:
- 4/1/2025: (81 members—20 Lifetime, 61 Regular)
- 5/5/2026: (101 members—38 Lifetime, 63 Regular)
- The latest list was available at the door, so people could confirm their information.
 - If you are not a lifetime member, dues cover July 1 – June 30. Online AFTER July 1, go to: www.nwmissouri.edu/alumni/nwretirees , then *Renew*; or see Theo Ross.
- IX. Next General Meeting: Tentatively scheduled August 2026, near the start of school.
- X. Adjournment—4:55 p.m. (Afterwards, people introduced themselves.)

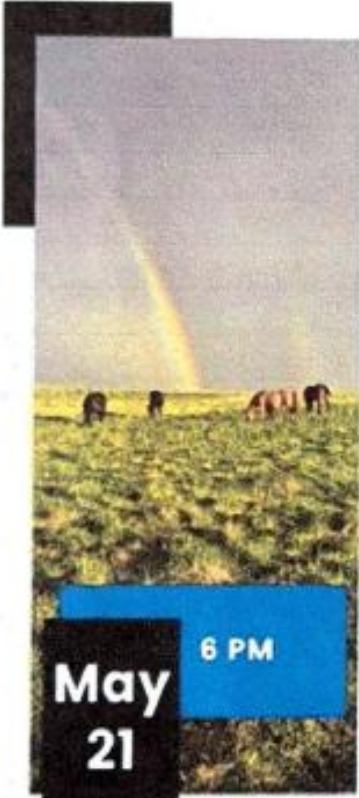


Community Members deserve clear information, transparency, & opportunities to ask questions from every perspective



Stay Informed

- County Commissioners meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 8 am in Commissioner’s Office in County Administrative Center.
- Maryville City Council meets every 2nd and 4th Monday at 5:30 pm in Maryville Public Safety Meeting Room.



May 21 6 PM

Community Meeting
Hosted by Nearby Land Owners
Salem Church (North of Pumpkin Center)



May 26
6 pm

Community Meeting
Sponsored by
NodawaySaysNo.org

*Maryville Community Ctr
West Court
1407 N. Country Club Rd
Maryville MO*

Panelists presenting on
*Environmental impact
*Economic and employment impact
*Transparency vs Secrecy
*Community Decision Making



June 3 6 PM

Public Forum: Hosted by
Scale Microgrids (Data Center Builders)
Mozingo Event Center
1 Fall Drive, Maryville, MO