The Fall Luncheon/Meeting Program meeting at The Townhouse Restaurant in Oviedo was a smashing success! Our members enjoyed the “Meet and Greet”. They selected their seating and ordered lunch from the menu. The meeting was called to order by Jean Kijek, President. Minutes of the Spring 2022 Luncheon/Meeting were approved and seconded. John Salter blessed the food, remembered our members who passed and those who lost homes due to Hurricane Ian, and requested donations for students who lost their apartments, furnishings and clothes. Vice-president Mary McKinney decorated the tables for our luncheon, with assistance from Judy Gallo. John Salter, presented the Treasurer’s report. He stated that we need more members, as well as donations for the Carrie Lehman Memorial Scholarship. Nominations to the Board were made, and the membership voted to have Jean Kijek to continue as President, Mary McKinney as Vice-president, John Salter as treasurer, and A. J. Range, as Board member. Helen Hill volunteered to work on The Star newsletter with Walt Bogumil, editor. Joanne McCully and Cheryl Kinlaw volunteered to work on scholarships. Judy Sindlinger volunteered to be secretary pro tem. The membership voted unanimously to continue our luncheons at The Townhouse Restaurant. They like the variety of menu items and the delicious food, and very reasonable prices.

New Members

Stephen Alan Berman, College of Medicine; Lee Chow, Physics; Laura Cleaver, College of Medicine; Sam Dagher, Management; Marcy Galbreath, Writing & Rhetoric; Darlene Hadrika, School of Visual Arts & Design; Julian B. Hale, Psychology; Alan Holtz, First Year Experience; Cheryll Kinlaw, SDES; Lawrence L. Martin, Public Affairs; Margarita Santiago, Finance & Accounting; Robb Seltzer, Rosen College of Hospitality Management; Maureen Waked, Engineering, Bradley Waldo, WUCF-FM; Alvin Y. Wang, Psychology. Plus some brand new members: Julian B. Hale, Margarita Santiago, Bradley Waldo, and Marcy Galbreath
Here is a synopsis of the information presented by Dennis Dulniak who volunteered to be our speaker.

He presented an amazing program on Dementia. He began his talk about the Study of Neuroplasticity which refers to the ability of the brain to re-route or re-wire itself. He made the following points:

* There are about 120 kinds of dementia
* There are studies using PET scans, spinal taps, looking for biomarkers for dementia

  * Dementia Friendly Dining
    ** safe environment for dining
    ** no loud noises
    ** talk from front not behind
  * Men’s support group – need other men to talk with and share experiences
  * Cruise with Holland America for Dementia group – respite, shore excursions, relaxing
  * Dennis started Nan’s Books Foundation in honor of his late wife, sending books to Title 1 schools and libraries
  * Recommended the book *36 Hour Day*

*There are Four Dementia Friendly Restaurants in our region – Dementia -friendly dining restaurants are food service establishments that provide friendly, safe, and enjoyable places where families and friends may bring their Loved Ones who are living with Alzheimer’s and other forms of Dementia.*

**The Townhouse Restaurant, 139 N Central Avenue, Oviedo, 32765 (407) 365-5151 Every Wednesday 2 – 5 PM**

**Something FishY, 249 W SR 436, Altamonte Springs, 32714 (407) 951-8686 Every Sunday 11 am – 7 PM Call for reservations**

**Patio Grill, 2900 South Orlando Drive, Sanford, 32773 (407) 322-3000 Every 2 nd Tuesday 9am – 2PM**

**The Meatball Shoppe, 7325 Lake Underhill Rd, Orlando, FL 32822 (407) 270-6505 Every Tuesday 2 PM – 5 PM**

Thank you, Dennis for a great program. Everyone at the luncheon benefited from the presentation, information and your sincere, compassionate presence!

Dennis Dulniak, Founder and Caregiver, Central Florida Dementia-Friendly Dining, Email for the Central Florida Dementia website – cfldfd01@gmail.com
UCFRA Dues

Just a gentle reminder that annual Association dues become payable on January 1st of each year. To make your $20 payment for 2023, simply send a check payable to the UCF Retirement Association to: John Salter 1954 Westbourne Dr. Oviedo, FL 32765. The renewal form is attached as part of this newsletter. For 2023 only, the due date for the membership dues will be February 15. Thank you!

EDITOR OPPORTUNITY

PS: as your "retiring" editor of the UCF Retirement Association I must apologize for the late issuance of this newsletter. As we are now reviving the Association I hope that you will continue your membership. Look forward to seeing you at the meetings!

"Who Dat?"

This picture is from 1978 so you may not recognize him however he is still active around the University. While I knew him as a faculty member who had a terrific sense of organization I later learned that he was a "secret" humanitarian who spent many of his summers with a youth group rebuilding homes for the poor and impoverished.

Remember When?

On behalf of the UCF retirees Association I’d like to express our condolences to the friends and family members. It would be helpful to hear from our members reporting the illness or loss of folks who have contributed so much to our university. Please contact , Jean Kijek Care and Concern coordinator pro tem.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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407-737-1804

The UCFRA Star is published quarterly by the UCF Retirement Association to provide news about activities, membership, and the UCF campus.
Owing to the disruption caused by Covid 19 I want to formally apologize to our membership if I have not kept up with the passing of some of our wonderful colleagues. It is been my honor to serve as your editor.

Former UCF colleague **Les Harding**, served on the UCFRA Board in 2016-2017. Always an ardent fan of the UCF Knights, he was attending the Knights football game and experienced a fatal heart attack at a game.

Before retiring, Les worked for many years in Finance & Accounting. Les Harding joined the university as an accountant when he was 26 and remained with Finance and Accounting, although he worked in a number of different sections: contracts and grants, auxiliaries, general accounting and, as a senior accountant.

"I get to dress comfortably and I found out as an undergraduate that I hated doing taxes," he said. He never had to work in taxes, and enjoyed watching the university grow and become prominent. "My favorite milestones are the name change and when we started a football team."

**Maritza Correa Lopez**, of Orlando, FL passed away on Friday, July 24, 2020. Upon graduating with accolades from the University of Puerto Rico, San Juan Main Campus, in 1972, Maritza began a civil servant career which spanned twelve (12) years as she compassionately helped others in need at the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Department of Labor & Human Resources, and ending at the Department of Family Affairs, where she served as an Executive Director of the Human Resources Division.

In the late 90’s, Maritza began a second career as civil servant with the University of Central Florida. At UCF she was promoted and became a Fiscal Assistant Supervisor, with the College of Education / Budget Office.

In November 2014, Maritza retired for a second time from state work after having given everything she had to that institution of higher learning. Maritza was always proud and happy of the years spent at UCF, and her fellow employees gave her a great retirement party that she treasured.

Maritza was very fortunate that thru her life she was able to travel to the U.S.A., Caribbean, Central America, South America, Europe and China/Japan. All her life, Maritza had a style that was colorful and vibrant. She always looked elegant, and Maritza knew how to make the holidays magical, and family centered. Maritza always decorated the family home so festively for each holiday. She always loved a good party and probably loved a bad one if it was still a party.
James Gracey

James “Jim” William Gracey, age 80 passed away Thursday, January 5, 2023 and had a graveside service with full military honors at Glen Haven Memorial Park, Winter Park, FL. A native Floridian, he was born October 28, 1942 in Sanford, FL. He was married to Judy for 55 Years and had one son John.

He served in the U.S. Air Force and retired from UCF in 2000 after a 30+ year career most of which was spent as Director of the Career Resource Center. He served as President of the UCF Retirement Association.

He was an avid basketball player winning many awards. He was a multi-medal winning participant in the FL Senior and Golden Age Games. Also, an animal lover, Jim spent many years raising dogs, cats, and championship quarter horses at his home in Oviedo.

Dr. Carl Peter Rautenstrauch

After a brief illness, “Pete” passed away on January 22, 2023 at the age of 86. He was a retired Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics. He was a long time member of the UCF Retirement Association. He retired in 2004. He enjoyed his many years in the math departmental beginning when the University was founded. Pete was a wonderful gentleman, always smiling, helpful and trying to do his best! He studied Physics at the University of Florida and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1958, a Masters of Art degree in Mathematics at University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa in 1960, and a PhD in Mathematics at Auburn University in 1967. He was an excellent dog trainer. He was married to his loving wife Tabitha. His service will be February 11, 2023 at 11 am at Holy Cross Episcopal Church, 401 South Park Ave, Sanford, FL.

Linda Bonta

Linda Bonta, of Union Park, Florida, departed this life on September 25, 2022 following a brief decline in health. Linda was born in Windy, KY. She was a student at Florida Technological University and received her Bachelors of Science in Business Administration in1977. She received her Master of Arts degree from the University of Central Florida in 1983. Linda became a pillar within the UCF community. She became an accountant at UCF then worked through the ranks to achieve the title of Controller. She would later retire from University of Central Florida after 40 years of faithful and dedicated service. She then joined the UCF Retirement Association and served as UCFRA Treasurer for several years. She loved to meet with her UCF friends and go to eat together and reminisce. Over the course of her life, Linda would go on to adopt four children. She understood the importance of loving the fatherless and cared for them very much, accepting them as her very own. Linda leaves a sweet legacy for all of us to cherish.

Beloved Brevard Educator and Philanthropist Dr. Pat Manning, passed away at 91. “When my daughter enrolled in the first grade, I went to school,” Breezing through the University of Tampa in two years, she earned her master’s degree from the University of Florida and her doctorate from Nova University. She went on to enjoy a brilliant career that would take her around the world. In the 1970s, after a stint at Mims Elementary and Parkway Junior High School, she began teaching at Florida Technological University, a precursor to the University of Central Florida. “The campus was still in a rural area with horses, cows and open range,” she said. “I’d take Hwy. 50 to work. The road had wooden bridges that every so often vandals would burn down.” For her tireless volunteer and philanthropic contributions, and reaching out to so many in our community, she was recognized by Space Coast Daily as a Space Coast Humanitarian in 2010. In her long career with UCF, Pat began as an instructor and retired in 1998 as professor emeritus, after publishing countless articles and books and lecturing in far-flung locations.
Planning to attend the UCFRA Spring Program/Luncheon Meeting? ___YES ___NO.

Location: we have reserved the Townhouse Restaurant for April 27 at 11:15 am - 12:30 PM.

SEE YOU THERE!