UM RETIREE ORGANIZATIONS
MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT
By Mary Anne Morgenegg,
UMKCRA VP and President-Elect

On July 24, 2013, in Columbia, President Wolfe spoke to the leadership of the UM Retirees’ organizations. After introductions of meeting participants, President Wolfe reported the following:

House Bill 253
House Bill 253, a bill passed by the MO House and Senate, would decrease both the amounts of income tax for individuals and corporations in the State. This decrease would reduce State revenues by $800 million, or possibly $1.2 billion because of loss of federal funds. Missouri is already a low tax state. Governor Nixon vetoed the Bill. A vote to override the veto will be held in September.

The Legislature, when passing HB253, indicated that these changes would help Missouri compete against Kansas. In vetoing the bill, Governor Nixon expressed concerns about how the State will be able to recoup this loss of revenue. He froze funds that were earmarked for the University, including a 4% increase of its operating budget for next year, and the planned MU medical school expansion to Springfield. While not yet implemented, its impact on our institutions is already evident.

The changes in the KS tax codes have already generated a $200 million deficit in the State. Tuition in State colleges and universities has risen (7% at K State, 5% at KU). Kansas, for the first time in its history, must tie most of its operating expenses to tuition costs. That occurred some years ago in Missouri. Because of the

UMKCRA 2013 Calendar
Watch for More Details!

- September 29 – 8:00 am UMKC
  5K Regalia Run/Walk – The Quad
- September 30 – 4:00 to 6:00 pm – Former Campus Leadership and Retiree Reception – Miller Nichols Library
- October 1 – 7:30 to 9:00 am – UMKCRA Breakfast – Pierson Auditorium
  9:30 am Commemoration Day Ceremony – Swinney Recreation Center
  2:00 to 5:00 pm - Campus Open House – Cross Campus
- November 6 – 9:00 to 11:00 – UMKCRA Board Meeting – Gillham Park Room
- December 1 – Recognition Award Nominations Deadline
- December 7 – 11:00 to 1:00 – Holiday Reception and Luncheon – Pierson Auditorium
- Other program suggestions?
  Please contact John Ditto or Marj Finley.
Hancock Amendment, total state revenues are limited to a percentage of personal income and increases over a certain amount must be approved by voters. That figure is currently $84 million, far short of the projected loss of revenue.

With an $800 million state shortfall, higher education would be faced with hard options. These include tuition increases of between 8 and 16 percent, cutting workforce, decreased wages, or even enrollment caps. The cuts could also affect financial aid.

Missouri’s budget is $20 billion annually. The majority of this money comes from the federal government. Missouri is the third-most dependent State on federal funds. Federal money is program specific.

President Wolfe announced that not all funds had been cut. The 1% increase in salaries, the first increase in 4 years, will remain part of the budget. He also indicated that he is not opposed to tax cuts, however, if allowed to be implemented, HB253 will severely impact higher education in the State.

If the tax changes are implemented, more fall budget cuts would have to be made. We need to explain the ramifications of overriding the veto. In September the House will return from recess. There is not a super Republican majority as there is in the Senate. Board of Curator members and other interested parties should contact House members to discuss these concerns and encourage them that the veto should stand.

In the meantime, campuses are being asked to develop contingency plans that may be implemented if the veto is overturned. We must focus on our strategic initiatives when prioritizing spending cuts.

President Wolfe asked Melanie Barger, UM System Communications, to send participants talking points regarding House 253. These are attached to this report. He also mentioned that that a great deal of money is being spent on commercials supporting HB253. This makes our being informed and vocal even more important.

**Personnel Actions**
The UMC Chancellor’s 28-member search committee would meet for the first time on July 24, 2013. One of the search committee
members is a retiree from Mizzou, Dr. Rose Porter. A search firm has been engaged. The same search firm had been used to find a replacement for Dr. Nikki Krawitz.

Dr. Hank Foley been named Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs for the UM System. Dr. Foley comes from Penn State, where he served as Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School. During his time there, Penn State generated $400 million in research.

REPORT OF UM RETIREES ASSOCIATION LEADERS SUMMER MEETING
July 24, 2013

Attendees: Elizabeth Cummins-Vonalt, Sharon Davis, Dave Dearth, Nan Erickson, David Ganz, Lawrence C. George, Patricia Hovis-French, Ken Hutchinson, Jim Koller, Nancy Mills, Mary Anne Morgenegg, Shirley Patterson, Rose Porter, Bob Stewart, Earl Wilson, and guest, Melanie Barger

LEADERS’ DISCUSSIONS

Introductions were made, and Sharon Davis (St. Louis) and Jim Koller (Columbia) were welcomed.

Reminder: The date for the remaining meeting in 2013 is Wednesday, October 23.

Report from Nancy Mills, Chair of Kansas City Emeritus College Committee: The committee’s work began in January 2011. Process included checking with 14 other emeritus colleges to see how they were established and what their goals are; surveying Kansas City retired faculty to see if they would value such a college and the activities they would like to see; and meeting with various consistencies—trying to strengthen rather than compete with other groups. The committee chose a model that is treated as an academic unit. The first dean has been appointed by the Provost and will attend the Deans Council and report to the Provost as other deans do.

Some goals of the Emeritus College are to provide retired faculty with (1) enrichment activities, (2) opportunities for speaking and offering programming on and off campus, (3) funding for continuing research, and (4) creative and artistic activities, such as musical
performances. Committee members currently are holding fundraising activities in order to fund an endowment.

Their current retiree association is for both staff and faculty. However, Nancy noted that the Emeritus College will not be involved in any political lobbying, so that is one way that it differs from the retiree association.

Updates from Retiree Groups:

**Columbia**—Increased emphasis on membership needed. Earl Wilson, MURA’s treasurer, obtained the non-for-profit organization status [501(c)(4)] for MURA resulting in sales tax exemption and non-profit mail rates.

**Kansas City**—Special activities are planned for retirees to celebrate the establishment of the University of Missouri-Kansas City (80 years ago). Trying to (1) establish faculty and staff retiree awards, (2) obtain oral histories from retirees, and (3) publish the deaths of retirees in a timely and accurate manner in newsletters. Also, interested in creating an Osher program. *(FYI, Pat: Lucille Salerno is Director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at MU, and her phone number is 573-884-5927; John Parker was the “visionary” of this program at MU, and his phone number is 573-442-5215.)*

**Rolla**—Seven luncheons plus a picnic per year generate good attendance, but finding adequate space to meet with accessible parking still is difficult. Retiree deaths as well as birthdays are announced at the social events. One newsletter is sent yearly.

**St. Louis**—Two luncheons scheduled per year. Hard to build a membership base. Trying to send their newsletter via email. A hard copy of the directory is mailed to all members. Main goals are increasing membership and keeping all retirees informed as to association and campus activities.

Melanie Barger, Manager of Constituency Communications, UM System: Melanie reviewed her efforts to keep all UM retirees informed and connected. She shared a draft of the e-newsletter format which she will individualize by campus and the UM System (five different newsletters). Melanie hopes that each campus e-newsletter will be ready to be sent to its retirees in early September. Each newsletter will contain updates, as well as news
from the specific campus or system (e.g., human interest stories, annual membership solicitation, and links to retiree websites).

PRESIDENT WOLFE and VICE PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ

President Wolfe’s remarks mainly focused on HB253. He voiced his concerns about the impact on the state and the University in particular if HB253’s veto is overturned. Possible effects on the University would be a tuition increase, positions and programs eliminated, and capped enrollment. Missourians have been proud and supportive of being a low-tax state. However, alternative revenue sources need to be identified. Leaders of the four campuses are working on contingency plans if the veto is overturned. President Wolfe asked Melanie Barger to forward to us information about HB253 with “talking points” that we can use when we visit with our state legislators and fellow Missourians.

Other news shared by President Wolfe: Student growth is on the rise for this fall; more dollars are being moved to support the strategic plans; search committee for the new MU chancellor will be announced soon; and, as always, there is a continued focus on what the University of Missouri does best.

Vice President Rodriguez discussed the first meeting of the ad hoc task force to review how UM benefits (called Total Rewards) are currently being funded. Guarantees already established will not be changed. Recommendations by this task force, of which Rose Porter is a member, are expected sometime after the holidays.

Meeting adjourned, followed by lunch.

(Editor’s Note: Here are the talking points prepared by UM staff to assist those retirees resident in Missouri who wish to contact their State Representative and their State Senator and express an opinion.)

Talking Points on impact of HB253 (vetoed by Governor, subject to override at special session of the Missouri Legislature)

- Passed by the General Assembly in response to tax cuts enacted last year in Kansas and concern that jobs will go to other states with lower taxes.
Includes several individual and corporate tax reductions that would be phased in over a period of time. Some, but not all, of the tax cuts would hinge on a revenue growth trigger, but there is no reversal in cases where revenue drops.

The fiscal note indicates HB 253 would result in an estimated $800 million annual loss in revenue once fully phased in; others have said it could be as high as $1.2 billion.

President Wolfe is not philosophically opposed to tax cuts, as long as we are completing the equation by finding revenue elsewhere, or identifying where cuts would be made, to make up for the resulting decrease in general revenue. HB 253 does not do this.

In Kansas, higher education is facing challenges as a result of its tax cut. Tuition increased by 7 percent at Kansas State and to nearly 5 percent at the University of Kansas to help make up for funding shortages. The Kansas legislature has also suggested such possibilities as salary cuts and program reductions.

Kansas institutions have bemoaned the fact that for the first time, tuition makes up a larger percentage of higher education budgets than state appropriations. In Missouri, we surpassed that point a decade ago. HB253 would only make our situation worse.

Because most areas of the state budget are tied to matching funds or statutory requirements, the areas of the budget lawmakers and the Governor can turn to for shortfalls is limited. Higher education is one of those areas that face deeper cuts in tough budget times.

Already, we have seen Governor withholdings of 4% of our operating budget for next year, as well as restrictions in our medical school expansion in Springfield, due to concerns of the tax cut bill. It is having a real impact on our institutions already.

With an $800 million state shortfall, higher education would be faced with options that include tuition increases of
between 8 and 16 percent, cutting workforce, decreased wages, or even enrollment caps.

- Our students could be faced with cuts in state financial aid offerings, increased taxes on textbooks and, most likely, limited course offerings that make completing a degree in 4 years all the more difficult.

- The typical MU undergraduate student would pay $200 or more in new textbook sales taxes over the course of their education as a result of HB253, because the current sales tax exemption for textbooks is eliminated in the language for HB253.

**Action:**

- Don’t vote to override the veto, or
- Don’t bring it to a vote at all.

**Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of UMKCRA Passed by Board**

*Editor’s Note: Proposed changes to the UMKCRA Constitution and By-Laws were approved by the Board on May 1, 2013, and now must be voted on by the general membership at the December, 2013, business meeting and luncheon. The proposed changes will be published in full in the August newsletter (along with the slate of nominees) to meet the 21 day advance notice requirement for items on the business agenda). Those changes dealing with membership and committees mostly tidy up the language for clarity and consistency purposes. Those changes dealing with the duties of the Treasurer are to accommodate the fact that all bookkeeping activities associated with UMKCRA accounts and all records are now kept by UMKC. The proposal on funds distribution should dissolution of UMKCRA occur stipulates which scholarship fund or funds are to receive them and reserves a role for the UMKCRA Board in making that decision.*

**Constitution**

**Article III. Membership**

**Section 1. Regular Member.** Any retired employee or surviving spouse of a deceased retiree of the University of Missouri-Kansas City may become a Regular Member of the Association by paying annual dues. A Regular Member shall
be entitled to vote, hold office, and participate in the affairs of the Association and to receive all its mailings.

Section 2. Life Member. A person who is a regular Member or is qualified to be a Regular Member who pays the life membership fee is a Life Member. A Life Member is not subject to annual dues. On the death of a life member, a surviving spouse may assume the life membership.

Section 1. Members. Any retired employee or surviving spouse of a deceased retiree of the University of Missouri-Kansas City may become a Regular or Life Member of the Association.

Section 2. Regular Member. A Regular Member pays the annual dues and shall be entitled to vote, hold office, and participate in the affairs of the Association and to receive all its mailings.

Section 3. Life Member. A Life Member pays the lifetime fee, does not pay annual dues and has the same privileges as a Regular Member. On the death of a Life Member, a surviving spouse may assume the life membership.

Section 3. Pre-retirement Member. Any active employee or inactive, former employee of the University of Missouri-Kansas City over the age of 55 and eligible for retirement from UMKC may become a Pre-retirement member of the Association by paying annual dues. A Pre-retirement Member shall be entitled to vote, serve on the Board of Directors, participate in the affairs of the Association and receive all its mailings. To avoid a conflict of interest, a Pre-retirement member may not hold the office of President of the Association.

Section 4. Pre-retirement Member. Any active employee or inactive, former employee of the University of Missouri-Kansas City over the age of 55 and eligible for retirement from UMKC may become a Pre-retirement member of the Association by paying annual dues. A Pre-retirement Member shall be entitled to vote, serve on the Board of Directors, participate in the affairs of the Association and receive all its mailings. To avoid a conflict of interest, a Pre-retirement member may not hold the office of President of the Association. Upon retirement a Pre-retirement Member may
become a Regular or Life Member by paying dues or the fee appropriate to these memberships.

[Sections 4.-9. become Sections 5.-10, respectively.]

Section 4. Associate Member. An individual who retired from an institution of higher education other than UMKC, who wants---

Section 5. Associate Member. An individual who retired from an institution of higher education other than UMKC and who wants---

Section 5. Honorary Member. An individual whom the Association wishes to honor may be awarded an Honorary Membership.

Section 6. Honorary Member. An individual whom the Association wishes to honor may be awarded an Honorary Membership through the action of the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Affiliate Member. An individual who was a current or former member of the UMKC Women’s Club at the time of its dissolution and would like to participate in the affairs of the Association and receive Association mailings. They may serve on those standing and ad hoc committees of UMKCRA relevant to the purposes of the affiliation.

Section 7. Affiliate Member. An individual who was a current or former member of the UMKC Women’s Club at the time of its dissolution and would like to participate in the affairs of the Association and receive Association mailings. They may serve on those standing and ad hoc committees of UMKCRA that are concerned with matters formerly dealt with by the Women’s Club.

Bylaws

Section 1.

The Treasurer shall

A. Receive, record, deposit. and disburse as appropriate. all Association funds;
B. create and maintain appropriate financial records;
C. recommend appropriate fund depositories for funds;
D. provide appropriate financial reports to the Board and Association;
E. Chair the Finance Committee

The Treasurer shall

A. Manage the funds of the Association in cooperation with the Manager, Business/ Fiscal Operations, University Advancement;
B. Conduct the financial affairs of the Association by providing information and advice to the Board of Directors and implementing the policies and procedures set by the Board of Directors;
C. Schedule and convene meetings of the Finance Committee;
D. Draft agenda items for meetings;
E. Assure that the newsworthy articles about ongoing committee activities are posted in the UMKCRA website and a written report is provided at each Board of Directors meeting;
F. Update the Finance Committee section of the website.

Section 3.

Finance Committee

Members: The Association Treasurer is the Chairperson and at least two other members appointed by the President.

Membership Committee

Members: The Chairperson, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors, and at least two other members appointed by the President.

Program Committee

Members: The Chairperson and at least three other members appointed by the President.
Program Committee
Members: The Chairperson, the Vice-President, and at least three
other members appointed by the President.

Volunteering Committee
[remove "c. maintain the Committee Procedures Guide." This is
already required of all standing committees at the beginning
of Section 3, and is not presently listed among the charges of
any of the other standing committees.]

Article IX, Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of the Association all remaining
funds shall be transferred to the scholarship funds of the
University of Missouri-Kansas City.

As a part of a dissolution of the Association all remaining funds
shall be transferred to the UMKC Retirees Association Scholarship
Fund of the University of Missouri-Kansas City or to one or more
scholarship funds at the University of Missouri-Kansas City as
directed by the UMCKRA Board of Directors.

UMKCRA NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT, AUGUST 14,
2013
By Denny Schemmel, Chair

The Nominations Committee has met and is pleased to present the
Board a slate of new officers and Board members for next year,
2014. Brief bios are included to help introduce the newest
members. We are aware that the by-laws call for the presentation
of this slate at least 21 days prior to the December election, which
meant in the past presenting this slate at the November Board
meeting. However, we want to avoid the possibility of the
November Newsletter being late and missing this 21 day deadline,
so we are prepared to present these names at this meeting.
Here are the nominees: Vice-President and President-Elect (2014)
Lora Lacy-Haun; Treasurer (for 2014-2015) Ted Sheldon; Board
Members for a Three Year Term (2014-2017), Brenda Fasken,
Bob Piepho, and Merton Shatzkin

Bios for UMKCRA newsletter and Board. Obtained by Denny
Schemmel and edited by Dale Neuman.
Brenda Fasken arrived on the UMKC campus in 1968 as a student in the Conservatory of Music and finished her student years in 1976 with a degree in Sociology. She retired from the University in January 2013 after serving 39+ years as a full time employee. During that time she spent 28 years in the School of Education, moving from Secretary to Manager of Business & Fiscal Operations; 3 years with Campus Facilities as Manager of Business & Fiscal Operations, 8 years as a Project Administrator in Administrative Affairs. Currently, she is still on campus part-time working for Parking Operations.

Lora Lacey-Haun assumed the position of Dean for the School of Nursing at UMKC in February 2004. Prior she served as the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies at UMKC from 2002 – 2004 and the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies at the School of Nursing from 1993 until 2002. She received her bachelor and masters degrees in nursing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in 1977 and 1980, respectively. She received her doctorate from the University of Missouri – Kansas City in Curriculum and Instruction/Adult Education in 1988. She has been on faculty at UMKC School of Nursing since August 1981. Since becoming the Dean in 2004, she has worked with faculty to develop the school’s program of research in the area of health care disparities and health needs of the underserved, most of which is community based. In 2010, Dr. Lacey-Haun was recognized by the UAB School of Nursing as one of 50 Visionary Alumni in celebration of the School’s 50th anniversary. In February of 2013, she was recognized in Ingram’s Magazine as one of 9 Icons in Education from Missouri and Kansas.

Bob Piepho came to UMKC as Dean of the School of Pharmacy in 1986 and served in that position through July, 2010. He then returned to the faculty and retired in March, 2012. He received numerous awards for teaching as well as being recognized as Teacher of the Year by the Class of 2008. During his time as Dean, the School transitioned from the B.S. Pharmacy Program to the Doctor of Pharmacy degree, grew research funding from $250,000 to over $1,000,000 per year, developed a Satellite Doctor of Pharmacy program with UM-Columbia and received numerous community service awards. He has served on many UMKC Task Forces, was instrumental in the formation of the President’s Academic Leadership Institute and served on its Board for 12
years. He also has been involved with the American Heart Association, Truman Medical Center, the Parkinson’s Foundation of the Heartland, and is past Chair of the Boards of Premier Life and John Knox Village.

**UMKCRA Communications Committee Report**

August 14, 2013  
By Dale Neuman, Chair

The Communications Committee did not hold a real-time meeting but rather, some committee members exchanged emails after addressing the charge of the Chair to go to the UMKCRA Website and find things that needed to be addressed to improve its functionality, user-friendliness and timeliness. All three are issues that will need to be worked on with timeliness the most critical. User-friendliness and functionality may be inter-related as finding what one is looking for and then being able to readily access it seem connected. Sometimes it is just a matter of a device on the website not working properly (e.g. magnifier or zoom). It also may be that the Board will have to decide whether the website’s purpose and content need to be reexamined given the emergence of other social media that members may be more ready and able to employ.

The Chair plans to compile a list of specifics after all members of the Committee have been able to take a look at the site to see what they feel needs to be improved. (Some were out of town and not available to do so in the time frame available).

**Membership Committee Report for August 5, 2013**

By Richard Hetherington and Leo Sweeney, Co-Chairs

As suggested in our last report to the Board, the Membership Committee has been meeting to develop a new definition of "membership" in UMKCRA. While there is broad interest within the committee for the idea that all retirees should be brought into the conversation, the details of how to implement this change while keeping true to the original mission, goals and procedures currently in place have proved to be challenging. It is hoped that a proposal will be ready for the Board's review and recommendations at the November Board Meeting.
UMKCRA RECOGNITIONS COMMITTEE REPORT
AUGUST 14, 2013
By Denny Schemmel

The Recognitions Committee met formally just after the May, 2013 Board meeting and again just prior to the August, 2013 Board meeting. Dick Hetherington has made a few modest clarifying changes to the forms used in the nominations process. The Committee believes it has two very qualified candidates, one from the staff side and one from the faculty side, to present to the Board at its December meeting. Efforts are currently underway to ensure the proper paperwork is completed with respect to the nomination/application process.

UMKCRA Treasurer's Report
August 14, 2013
By Ted Sheldon, Treasurer

The UMKC Retirees Association finished the first half of 2013 in good financial condition (see Table 1 below). On June 30, 2013 the Association held total assets of $16,386.18. This amount included $8,475.23 in the Investment Account and $7,910.95 in the Operating Account. One year earlier, on June 30 2012, total assets amounted to $14,408.99, including $7,522.48 in the Investment Account and $6,886.51 in the Operating Account.

TABLE 1: BALANCE SHEET

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Account</th>
<th>8/12/2013 Balance</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Bank Accounts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMKCRA Investment Acct</td>
<td>$ 8,475.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMKCRA Operating Acct</td>
<td>7,910.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL Cash and Bank</td>
<td>$ 6,386.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$ 6,386.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIABILITIES</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQUITY</td>
<td>$ 16,386.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY $ 16,386.18

RETIREES INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

Funds invested in the Retirees Investment Account are subject to increases and decreases in the value of investments held by the fund. Funds in the Investment Account are managed as part of the University’s investment pools in accord with the policies and goals set for those pools. After registering an increase for 2012 of $279.42, the first six months of 2013 saw a further increase of $350.22. This amounts to an annualized growth rate of about 8.6% for the first half of 2013. The Association continues to share in the improvement of the national economy.

OPERATING ACCOUNT (See Table 2 Below)

The balance in the Operating Account amounted to $7,910.95 on June 30, 2013, $82.79 less than on the same date in 2012. The first half of 2013 saw income of $5,194.00; expenses amounted to $5,011.79. As Table 2 shows, both annual dues and life dues income are down substantially this year. Annual dues income was only 14 percent of the budgeted amount, and life dues income was marginally higher at 33 percent of the budgeted amount. The good news is that the Chancellor’s support of $3,400 was received on June 30, 2013. Also compensating for these low income figures was the generally low level of expenses paid out.

A Transaction report detailing all income and expense transactions on the operating account is available on request by contacting the Treasurer at sheldontp@gmail.com.

TABLE 2: Income and Expenses by Category, January 1 through June 30, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
<th>Difference</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INCOME</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chancellor</td>
<td>$3,400.00</td>
<td>$3,400.00</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events-Receipts &amp; Fees</td>
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<td>$3,200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gift Income</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member Dues Paid-</td>
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<td>$1,400.00</td>
<td>$1,210.00</td>
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Annual

<table>
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<th>Member Dues Paid-Life</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL INCOME</td>
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<td>9,500.00</td>
<td>4,306.00</td>
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EXPENSES

<table>
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<th>Category</th>
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<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dues and Subscriptions</td>
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<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifts &amp; Appreciations</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals &amp; Entertainment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speaker Fees</td>
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<td>(325.19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage &amp; Delivery</td>
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<td>1,247.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
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<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL EXPENSES                 | 5,011.79 | 9,500.00 | 4,488.21 |

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Board authorized a contribution to the Scholarship Fund of $5,000. The Treasurer recommends the transfer of $2,500 from the Operating Account by September 1, 2013. Also, it is recommended that the second transfer of $2,500 await the Board’s decision on the funding of the Association going forward.

This report does not cover scholarship funds sponsored by the UMKC Retiree’s Assn. and administered by UMKC.

The Exciting World of Bird Watching

Sandy Van Engelenhoven, former UMKCRA Board Member

After retirement, my husband and I found a new way to enjoy one of our favorite things to do – take a nice walk and watch the birds we see along the trail. We discovered that there are wonderful bird watching and nature festivals all over the world and so far we’ve been to three in two different locations. Jerry and I highly recommend these festivals for the fun, exercise and the joy of meeting new people, seeing new places and, of course, the birds.
My husband, Jerry, has always been interested in wildlife and he finally convinced me to share the fun of watching all the gorgeous birds that are everywhere. First we watched in our backyard. There were goldfinches, robins, hummingbirds, blue jays – all kinds of birds – a couple times we even had a red-tailed hawk land in our yard, as well as a barred owl. Those were both exciting birds to see so close. Then we took longer walks – Burr Oak Woods in Blue Springs is a great place to bird watch. And all you really need is a good pair of binoculars, walking shoes and a bird guide to help you identify what you see.

But in 2010, we decided to go a little further in our search for different birds. We signed up for a birding festival in Texas – the Rio Grande Birding Festival in Harlingen, TX. This is one of the largest festivals in the world. It takes place over five days in early November each year. While there, we met folks from all over. Besides folks from several states, we also met people from Ecuador, Brazil, New Zealand, England, etc. In fact, it was so much fun, we went again in 2012.

We went on hikes at places such as Resaca de la Palma state park, Laguna Atascosa, Estero Llano Grande state park, as well as a boat ride down the Rio Grande and around the bay near South Padre Island. We saw lots of shorebirds, gulls, rails, as well as raptors and some birds that we wouldn’t see in Missouri. These were birds like the green jay, chachalaca, and the common pauraque. On the ride near South Padre Island we even saw dolphins. One night we took a van ride in Harlingen looking for green parakeets and red-crowned parrots. We found them! They were roosting in trees and on wires for the night. What an adventure! Our guides included Jeff Gordon, President of the American Birding Association, and other professional nature writers and photographers. They helped identify birds for us and explained what to look for, listen for, and just entertained us with stories about being out in nature.

In May, 2013, we decided to try another festival – the New River Birding and Nature Festival in southern West Virginia. We spent several days riding in busses up and down mountains (with wild hairpin turns on one-lane roads), hiking on trails near old mines, and visiting with wonderful guides including the Editor of Bird Watcher’s Digest, Bill Thompson III, Bill’s wife author Julie
Zickefoose, and Ernesto, one of the best guides in Central America (he’s from Costa Rica). The spring warbler migration was happening and we saw lots of warblers – Swainson’s, gold-winged, black and white, the chat with its bright gold breast shining in the sun, and many more. We also saw scarlet tanagers, eastern bluebirds, and bobolinks.

One special event at this festival was the ramp lunch provided for us on both Friday and Saturday by local folks from Appalachia. Ramps are a wild plant something like an onion but having a very onion-garlic taste (and smell!). The ramps were fixed several ways – scrambled eggs with ramps, fried potatoes and ramps, a ramp casserole of potatoes, ramps, ham and eggs, sautéed ramps (which my husband said tasted like collard greens with lots of onions and garlic). We also had pinto beans and cornbread. It was a great meal – and an unusual treat for most of us.

These are the types of adventures you can have, too. None of these walks were terribly difficult (most of the folks with us were our age with a few younger “kids” in the mix) and the people you’ll meet are wonderful! We really recommend a trip such as these to you.

There are lots of festivals out there – some closer to home, some halfway around the world. If you buy a copy of Bird Watcher’s Digest, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s periodical Living Bird, or another bird magazine, you can find lots of information on birding adventures and festivals. Get out there and experience nature in a new way!

UMKC’s Founders Week Events – Sept. 28 to Oct. 5, 2013

As you may know in 2013, UMKC is celebrating its 80th anniversary. A number of events of interest to retirees will be held during that week.

- 9-30-13 Former Campus Leadership and Retiree Reception
- 10-1-13 UMKCRA Breakfast
- Campus Open House including the new Bloch Executive Hall and the Miller Nichols Classroom Addition
- Commemoration Day Ceremony

Note: dates are tentative and more information will be available soon through UMKC and UMKCRA sources.
The UMKCRA Newsletter is edited by Dale Neuman. Please contact Dale at 816-942-9091 or neumand@umkc.edu with questions or comments about the newsletter. Rita Messina has joined the newsletter team as an assistant to the editor. Kim Rudolph of the Alumni and Constituent Relations Office manages design, layout and production.