
Message from the President



Gayle Kearns-Buie
EFA President

Greetings, all!

Hopefully, we have survived the Pandemic and are ready for some summer activities with EFA. We had a great time at our picnic with 55+ in attendance. We also enjoyed lunch at The Railyard on June 3. We do plan to have a few more summer activities before our August Kaffeeklatsch—stay tuned for more information from Jan.

I want to give a big shout out to all who have donated to the EFA Scholarship fund. At the picnic, we received donations of approximately \$1,025. This is so amazing as we continue to help UCO students receive their education. The scholarship recipient for this year is Dwaisha Ashley from the College of Fine Arts and Design. Dwaisha will attend our Fall Brunch and receive her certificate and be introduced to the group.

With UCO totally open and back to some normalcy, we hope to meet for KK on July 1st. With the retirement of Anne Holzberlein, the Foundation has a new executive director, Mr. Art Cotton. We look forward to possibly meeting him on July 1st or August 5th at KK.

We honored Dr. Fred Grosz with the Hall Duncan Inspiration Award at the May 13th picnic at Hafer Park. Fred is the reason we have this amazing EFA group. With his leadership and tenacity, along with some other key faculty players, EFA was realized as a formal organization. Fred did so much in his 10 years plus of service to EFA—serving as the inaugural president and in many other leadership capacities.

We have some leadership opportunities for those of you who might be interested. Dr. Pat LaGrow just assumed the duties as Membership chair, replacing Fred Grosz, and Dr. Linda Rider (thank you, Linda) will serve as our Courtesy Committee chair. However, we would appreciate nominations for president-elect and for chairman of the Board of Directors, replacing Dr. Bill Radke who will be completing his term as chairman. Also, thank you to Dr. Pat Coutts for chairing our Book Club this year—it has been amazing.

The Fall Brunch date has been set—Tuesday, October 19, 2021, in the Nigh University Center at 10:00 a.m. I hope many of you are able to join us. Watch for more information as we approach the date.

I want to extend a sincere word of appreciation and thanks for allowing me to serve as your president this past year and a half and thank my dedicated Board and Executive Committee for their commitment to ensuring our organization meets the needs of retired faculty, staff, and administrators. If you haven't renewed your dues, please reach out to Dr. Pat LaGrow to do so. Thank you for being part of EFA, and I look forward to seeing you at future EFA events! Don't miss out on the fun when our fun resumes!

Gayle A. Kearns-Buie

Congratulations

On May 1, the Oklahoma Tennis Association dedicated a statue in honor of Coach Francis Baxter at the new Edmond Tennis Center.



Spring Picnic and Business Meeting



A large group of EFA members and guests gathered at Hafer Park in Edmond for the Spring Picnic and Business Meeting on May 13. After time for visiting and eating, EFA President Gayle Kearns welcomed the group and made a few announcements. Pat LaGrow assumed responsibility for chairing the Membership Committee after Fred Grosz expressed his wish to step down from that position. Linda Rider has agreed to be the new chair of the Courtesy Committee to free Pat of this duty.

Gayle then introduced UCO deans and asked them to share whatever information they wished, followed by the introduction of new members, newly or soon-to-be retired faculty, EFA Executive Committee members, founding members of EFA, and former EFA presidents. She then indicated that we hope to increase our Endowed Scholarship fund to at least \$50,000 over the next few years. Doing so will enable us to award two student scholarships each year. Tim Bridges, EFA secretary/treasurer, updated the group on the status of our association funds and the scholarship fund. Gayle announced that anyone donating to the scholarship fund at the picnic or who bought one of the plants used as center-pieces or one of the leftover lunches from Cowboy Chicken would be entered in a drawing to win one of two prizes of two tickets each to the Fall Brunch and Business Meeting.

Fred Grosz, a founding member and the first president of EFA, was asked to make a few remarks about the creation of an organization for retired faculty/staff at UCO.



Fred Grosz and Sue Lynn Sasser

Sue Lynn Sasser, president-elect, then presented Fred with the Hall Duncan Inspiration Award in recognition of his being a founding member, the first president, and long-time chair of the Membership Committee, as well as initiating discussions about establishing a scholarship and creating the Hall Duncan Inspiration Award.

Sue Lynn then announced that we cannot resume our on-campus kaffeeklatsches until August, but that we would have a “lunchklatsch” at The Railyard on June 3.

Fred Grosz Day

May 13 was declared Fred Grosz Day at UCO, as indicated in a signed proclamation by Provost and VP of Academic Affairs Charlotte Simmons. The proclamation was designed to capture the many contributions that Fred has made to the University and to EFA. As part of the celebration, he was awarded the Hall Duncan Inspiration Award at the Picnic and Business Meeting held that day. This award is given to an EFA member who exemplifies the spirit and tenacity of the late Professor Emeritus Duncan. Fred received the award for his service to EFA, which includes serving as its first president as well as being responsible for encouraging the University to start the organization. Following the picnic, Provost Simmons hosted a reception on campus for Fred where she read the proclamation and thanked him for his many years of service.

Submitted by Sue Lynn Sasser



Campus School Confidential: Inside Old North and its 1950s CSC Demonstration School

Submitted by Richard Bernard

There is a pirate ship. In an Old North basement classroom? Yes, it is January 1954, and never mind that adults see only a messy jumble of large wooden blocks and a broomstick flagpole. We 5-year-olds in Mrs. (JoAnn) Frame's Campus School kindergarten class know it is a pirate ship. How do we know? We built it before nap time, that is how.

A few years later, upstairs in the classroom by the middle staircase, Mrs. (Dee) Ray is reading the 4th grade a story. Mrs. Ray is a student teacher and a wonderful story reader. The one about Cherokee General Stand Waite is a spellbinder, but when she reads Mrs. (Gladys) Gayle's class the book about the space alien boy, we are hooked on the printed word. When Mrs. Ray reads, we climb on an invisible bus and drive off on eye-opening adventures.

The following year, Mrs. (Florence) White, the 5th grade teacher down the hall, loves us. She prepares us for adolescence so well that I do not collapse in a puddle of my own making when Sandra Grywalski kisses me at recess. In front of the other kids. On my lips. Well, on mine and on those of six other boys! Sandy is such a flirt.

It is the year of the square dance, 1957, as our state has just turned 50 years old, an anniversary which mandates performances of the musical, "Oklahoma" in every school across the state. From Old North, young performers march in single file into the Evans Hall Great Room where, with disproportionate enthusiasm, Sandy Gosselin (the non-kissing Sandy), Mike Freeman, Steve Fears and the rest of the little Ado-Annies and Curlys do-si-do, allemand-left, and promenade home.

But it is Mrs. (Catherine) Haden who gives us 6th graders across the hall the confidence to face the future. She brings guest speakers to class: Three Campus School graduates of the previous year—big kids—in our own classroom to prep us for Jr. High. You share lockers. You do not have to finish your milk. THERE IS NO RECESS! Oh, Sandy, how could we have known what lay ahead for us without Mrs. Haden's help?

Between September 1953, when my classmates and I first entered Old North as kindergartners, to May 1961, when we crossed Boulevard to a Jr. High filled with strangers from Edmond's two other sixth grade schools, Campus School prepared us for this new world. Central State College's on-campus demonstration school for student teacher training made us into Edmond's educational elite. Or at least we thought we were.

Who else, after all, had their own gym (Old Wantland Hall) with a swimming pool in the basement and a spiral staircase between floors? Who else had music lessons from a college teacher called Dr. Gardener? Where else could anyone have made a stage debut in theater so grand as Old Mitchell Hall, playing a one-armed, wooden Christmas soldier (with his real left arm in his pants) while the lovely, magic ballerina Pam Manners danced around him? I digress.

What other school had a wonderful Speech and Hearing Program, and because of it, gave Edmond children classmates from Oklahoma City, who were so wealthy they did not have patches on their jeans? Whose 5th and 6th grade football teams (Colts and Little Bronchos) had real college student coaches? Not the Russell Daugherty Greens or the Ida Freeman Blues.

And who ever had such a wonderful student teacher as Mrs. Ray, who read stories to us?

Campus School in Old North carries precious memories for this group of Edmond Baby Boomers, some of whom grew up to be doctors, network engineers, stock brokers, one State Treasurer (Edward Ellis, 1987-90), college deans, and best of all, teachers.

Three cheers for Campus School and the Central State College teachers who cared so much about their youngest students. Three cheers for Old North, where dreams came true for wooden soldiers and pretty ballerinas.

Lunch at The Railyard

Almost 30 EFA members enjoyed lunch at Edmond's The Railyard food hall on a beautiful June 3 day.



Edith Carlstone, Leah Westmoreland, Mary Sheets,
Frank Nelson, Pam Kuzminski, Tana Stufflebean

In Memoriam

Jimmy Dean (Dec. 21, 1929-Feb. 21, 2021) was born in Yeager, OK. He retired from the Accounting Department in 1999. **David von Minden** (Feb. 24, 2021) grew up in La Grange, TX. David taught in the Chemistry Department from 1996 to 2020. **Bitsy Watson Allen** (May 15, 1935-March 8, 2021) was born in Wichita, KS. She taught in the Nursing Department. **Upton Henderson** (March 26, 1931-March 14, 2021) was born in Indio, CA. He taught in the Department of Economics from 1971 to 2000. **Robert Terrell** (May 16, 1947-April 12, 2021) was born in Cincinnati, OH. Bob taught accounting at UCO for 35 years. **Susan Hamilton** (April 6, 1943-May 7, 2021) was born in New Brighton, PA. Susan was the administrative assistant to the dean in the College of Math and Science from 1987 to 2002.

Academic Affairs
100 North University Drive
Edmond, Oklahoma 73034