

► My Corner

By Barbara Mallette

"Gardening simply does not allow one to be mentally old, because too many hopes and dreams are yet to be realized."
-Allan Armitage



We seemed to be waiting a long time this summer for string beans large enough to pick, ripe blueberries, and red tomatoes. Typically, by the time the fall semester commences, we are knee deep in tomatoes, blueberries have come and gone, and the zucchini plants have just about finished producing. Not so this year: tomatoes are just beginning to ripen; we are still picking blueberries; the green beans are finally producing edible pods; and suddenly, we have plenty of small, medium and occasionally large zucchinis.



The vegetables aren't the only plants that appeared to be affected by the sunny, hot, dry weather we experienced these past few months. We sought refuge in the shade or the basement when feeling wilted. Additionally, we witnessed three phenomena in our gardens: flowering plants seem either sluggish in producing blooms, the blossoms that have the strength to emerge are vibrant for a short period before brown spots appear; and some flowering trees have begun to drop their leaves. Fortunately, the August heavy morning dews seem to be relieving the thirst of the flowering plants. Sunflowers with substantial flowers are attracting pollinators and seed-eating birds.



As the gardens transit to another season, so do we make adjustments to summer's end. We bid goodbye to the orioles and hummingbirds that have entertained us these warm months. With hope in our hearts, we await broccoli to begin producing again as the nights cool. We delight in the appearance of late summer flowers, black-eyed Susans and toad lilies. Soccer season begins in the near future; pre-season gives way to the actual professional football season. Soon mums will replace coleus plants to welcome fall to our property. And we know that soon, raking and gathering leaves will consume the disappearing daylight hours.



But for now, we relish time spent outside and delight in the sounds of people in our area enjoying music on the beach, cookouts, campfires, and fireflies.



"If your knees aren't green by the end of the day, you ought to seriously re-examine your life."
-Bill Watterson

The Emeritus Newsletter is also available in electronic form. Please email Denise Szalkowski at denise.szalkowski@fredonia.edu if you are interested in receiving the newsletter through email instead of a paper copy. Thank you!

► Save the Date

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- The 2019-2020 season marks the 50th anniversary of the opening of Rockefeller Arts Center, making it the oldest and original performing arts center in the entire State University of New York system. The season opens with two special events:
 - ◆ 50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner, Friday, September 20 at 6 p.m., Williams Center. To make your reservation, call the Campus Ticket Office at (716) 673-3501.
 - ◆ 50th Anniversary Gala Pops Concert, Saturday, September 21 at 7:30 p.m., Harry A. King Concert Hall. Tickets are available through the Campus Ticket Office in the Williams Center, (716) 673-3501.

For more information, please contact kellie.sacilowski@fredonia.edu

- Homecoming Events, October 18-20, 2019 <https://events.fredonia.edu/homecoming>
- Mini-Maker Faire, October 19, 2019, Williams Center and Science Center https://events.fredonia.edu/maker_faire
- Emeriti Holiday Open House, Lanford House, December 12, 2019, 12:00-2:00 PM
- Spring luncheon, Shorewood Country Club, Dunkirk, Date: TBD

► Events@Fredonia

Please check out the website for upcoming public events being held. <http://events.fredonia.edu>. Below is just a couple of the great events taking place on campus this fall.

- The Marion Art Gallery presents: Martha Colburn: Imagined Histories, September 3-November 22. Please check out the website for more details.
- "Be the Change: Tools for a Movement" Maytum Convocation Lecture by Cameron Kasky. His presentation will be given in King Concert Hall on September 18 at 3:00 p.m. The lecture is offered for free, but tickets are required, and will be available at the Fredonia Ticket Office in the Williams Center. For more information, please check out the website, <https://www.fredonia.edu/academics/convocation>.
- Freedonia Marxonía: Freedonia Marxonía 2019, October 3 and 4. This year, Fredonia's Founders Day will celebrate Fredonia's campus-community relationship by partnering with Freedonia Marxonía. For more information, please check out the website: <https://fredonia.libguides.com/marxonía>



Emeriti Group October Luncheon Clarion Hotel, 30 Lake Shore Drive East Dunkirk, NY Thursday, October 17, 2019

Please reserve Thursday, October 17 for our next Emeritus Luncheon at the Clarion Hotel.

Please send your reservations **and** meal choice by October 7. Please note the price for each entrée.

We will meet and mingle over lemonade at 11:30 AM; lunch will be served at 12:00 noon.

Luncheon Entree

Roasted Pork Loin

or

Baked Rigatoni & Garlic Bread

With garden salad

Chef's choice of potato and vegetable

Warm rolls and butter

Fresh brewed regular and decaffeinated coffee and tea

Dessert

Please make your check payable to **Emeritus Group** and send to Barb's address below along with your meal choice.

Barbara Mallette
PO Box 328
Cassadaga, NY 14718

We look forward to seeing you.
Barbara and Doug

Name _____

_____ Roasted Pork Loin \$19.00 per person

_____ Baked Rigatoni \$14.00 per person

Guest Name _____

_____ Roasted Pork Loin \$19.00 per person

_____ Baked Rigatoni \$14.00 per person

Number attending _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____

Please mail no later than October 7.

► **A message from Interim President Dennis L. Hefner**



Dear Emeriti:

It feels a bit strange to write to you after being on the receiving end of the President's Message in the Emeritus News for the past seven years. Some physical aspects of the campus have changed, but fortunately the faculty, staff, and students are the same hard-working, collegial people I had the privilege of working with during my 16 years as President.

For those who continue to use Fredonia email, you've already received a copy of my All-Campus Remarks, so I'll focus on a few of the highlights for the coming year. First, and most important to me, is the search for SUNY Fredonia's 14th President. The search committee will be fully in place sometime in September, just in time to review the submissions received from search firms. Once the firm is selected, the advertisement will be developed and placed. Campus interviews should occur in the early spring semester, with announcement of the new President later that spring. Shortly after, I can once again join your ranks!

Rockefeller Arts Center celebrates its [50th anniversary](https://bit.ly/2m06hjQ) on September 20-21 with a celebration dinner followed the next day by a gala pops concert in King Concert Hall featuring 15 of our most illustrious alums, many of whom you probably had as students or saw in various campus performances. This event will be the largest gathering of prominent alums performing in a single concert, and should be a memorable event.

This year's [Convocation](https://bit.ly/2m06qDU) speaker is Cameron Kasky, who was a student at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School during the time of the shooting. He will be speaking on Wednesday, September 18 about his experiences primarily after the shooting and the student advocacy sparked by that terrible tragedy. The Convocation Committee has certainly selected a critically important topic for this year's event.

Jan and I look forward to hosting a special reception for Emeriti at the Lanford House on December 12, 12:00-2:00 PM. And yes, I brought my candy-making equipment and supplies, including that 50 year old marble slab, back to Fredonia.

I look forward to seeing you at events on campus and at the October 17 Fall Emeriti Luncheon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis L. Hefner".

Dennis Hefner
Interim President

► Emeritus Spotlight

Wayne Yunghans

By Barbara Mallette and Wayne Yunghans

"Most young people find botany a dull study. So it is, as taught from the text-books in the schools; but study it yourself in the fields and woods, and you will find it a source of perennial delight."
- John Burroughs



Wayne's eyes light up when he talks about field work at the College Lodge and planting red osier dogwood in his yard. A listener catches on to his love of botany early in the conversation. His love of botany has roots in his childhood in Ohio. Wayne Yunghans lived in a suburb outside Cleveland, close to Route 20. Doesn't it seem fortuitous that years later Wayne would live again not far from that infamous route?

Wayne, his brother, sister, and cousins would pick cherries which his mother and aunt sold to a fruit stand on Route 20. During much of Wayne's childhood, he lived near the Cuyahoga River. He spent a great deal of time in the woods and spent time at his grandparents' farm. Wayne spoke warmly of his grandparents who raised cherries, grapes, and other fruits and vegetables. He remembers playing in their barn as a child, cautious of the exciting but scary loft. Wayne's grandfather taught in a parochial school, eventually accepting a principalship at a Lutheran school.

Wayne recalls being attracted to plants and plant life. In biology class, he developed an affinity for the plant kingdom and decided to pursue being a biologist. After completing high school at Cuyahoga Heights, Wayne attended Heidelberg College. His brother went to Heidelberg. During a visit to his brother, Wayne found the campus and programs inviting. He enrolled and obtained a Bachelors of Science in botany and further pursued this major in the Botany and Plant Pathology Department at Purdue University. His studies focused on plant physiology, isolating organelles in corns and onions. Purdue offered Wayne opportunities to extend his knowledge of animal research. In some of his research, Wayne had to isolate membranes from rat liver cells. As he was completing his Master's Degree, Wayne was drafted. Upon the completion of the degree, Wayne found himself at boot camp. Because of his educational level in cell biology, the US Army assigned Wayne to Fort Detrick in Maryland. Here he worked in the bacteriology lab where he studied the growth of bacteria as model organism. While he was stationed in Maryland, Wayne married Pen Dieter (whom he met at Heidelberg in a biology lab).

The draw for academia and continued research was far greater than reenlistment; Wayne received an early discharge from the Army. Wayne and Pen returned to Purdue where he pursued a doctorate and she earned a Master's Degree in counseling. One attraction was the opportunity for Wayne to conduct plant and animal research with his major professor. As they welcomed their first son, Steven, both Wayne and Pen were finishing programs. Wayne's doctorate in cell membrane biology proved valuable on a trip east to see Pen's family in Holly. As we know, the view of "Fort Apache" does catch a traveler's eye (There is something alluring to the half-buried Services Complex). Wayne stopped at Fredonia and inquired about the Biology Department. His chance visit resulted in his being hired, as the department needed a replacement in cell biology immediately. Accepting the position in Summer 1974, Wayne, Pen and Steven moved to Fredonia. The following year, a second son, Daniel, was born.

Wayne began teaching Cell Biology and a variety of other courses at Fredonia including General Biology, Radiation Biology, Hormone Mechanisms, Biomembranes, and Biochemistry. Graduate students and undergraduate students pursued research projects on membrane steroid receptors with Kevin Fox and Wayne: phosphoprotein interaction with DNA polymerase, methane production from grape pomace, microinjection of luciferase gene into fish eggs, studies on enzymes of the synthesis of spearmint flavor, and the incorporation of the membrane aquaporin (i.e., the water transport protein) into artificial membranes. Wayne's collaboration with Kevin Fox resulted in two publications on the effects of steroid hormones on membranes. In the 1980's and 1990's, Wayne collaborated with Dr. Val Dunham on gene identification. Wayne recalls these years as "exciting times." Their soy bean research resulted in one publication at the same time, they initiated the Recombinant Gene Technology major to train students in the new technique of gene manipulation. Wayne comments, "Certainly these were profound times to be studying biology."



► Emeritus Spotlight—*continued*



Woodbury Winery was involved in a research project run by Wayne funded by New York State. He found that grape skins and bacteria produced methane gas. Digesters could be used to run wine production machinery. When the energy crisis waned, the state's enthusiasm for such projects waned.

Wayne is enjoying retirement. Immediately following his retirement, Wayne developed and taught a field biology course; his graduate students trekked to Burnam's Hollow (Arkwright) to study local flora. He is an active member of the Emeritus Group. Culling family "heirlooms" and sorting through his college materials remains a priority as does spending time with his sons, their wives, and four grandchildren. The outside continues to be a draw for Wayne who spends time tending to his perennials and planting annual flowers.

Wayne has many fond memories of Fredonia. He is appreciative of the contributions and efforts of the many undergraduate and graduate students with whom he has worked. In addition, the support and quality of his Biology Department colleagues over the years as well as the Research Office, Deans, Vice Presidents, and Presidents enabled Wayne Yunghans to enjoy a wonderful career.

"If I were to talk to Lindsay Lohan, I'd encourage her to get the hell out of acting and into something soothing. Take up botany or something."

-Mara Wilson

► Emeritus Newsbit

Janet and I found German, French, and a few British, but virtually no American tourists in Cyprus, both north (Turkish) and south (Greek), during a three-week visit with our son Nick and his wife (and children ages 4 and 2), in April and May. Explored mountains (with lingering snow), and wonderful sunny beaches, but our main focus was on old hill towns and historic harbor cities, ancient churches (often UNESCO Heritage sites) with Byzantine and later frescoes, old abbeys, castles, quaint villages, including Bellapaix (where Lawrence Durrell lived and wrote for many years), Greco-Roman remains (at Salamis), and many a playground. Wonderful Mediterranean food and wine throughout! Most fascinating were the Gothic cathedral and many old churches of Famagusta--preserved, but turned into *mosques* when the northern part of Cyprus was invaded by the Ottomans in the 16th century; the city also has its original massive 14-16th century walls around it. And three weeks with no American news in any newspaper (or on local TV)--now that was a real vacation!

- Dan Reiff

The New York State Archives announced that the program "Anna & Henrietta Mercy: Militant Maids of the Lower East Side" took place on September 8.

The guest speaker was Linda Czuba Brigance, professor emeritus at SUNY Fredonia, whose article, "Slurs, Smears and Suffrage," appeared in the Winter 2019 issue of *New York Archives* magazine.

For more information, please check out the websites below. A recap will be posted under the past events on the Humanist Society webpage.

<https://newyorkhistoryblog.org/2019/08/militant-maids-of-the-lower-east-side/>

or

<http://humanistsociety.net/index.html>

Informational Website

Retired Public Employees Association –
<https://rpea.org/> - Sign up for informational emails and RPEA newsletters.

► In Memoriam of Campus Employees

Dr. Paul Oliver Davey, Professor Emeritus, passed away on May 5, 2019. Dr. Davey began his successful career at the State University of New York at Fredonia in 1964 as Associate Professor of Physics and retired in 1993.

Mr. Anthony J. "Tony" Rutski passed away on May 16, 2019. Tony joined the Faculty Student Association at the State University of New York at Fredonia in 1965 as a Cook and progressively advanced in title to Commissary Manager. Tony retired from FSA in 1995.

Memorial gifts can be made in Tony's name to Chautauqua Hospice and Palliative Care, 20 W. Fairmount Avenue, Lake NY, 14750.

Dr. Richard Charles Larson, Professor Emeritus, passed away on May 24, 2019. Dr. Larson had a successful teaching career at the State University of New York at Fredonia from 1972 until his retirement in 1998.

Condolences may be shared with the family at <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/timesunion/obituary.aspx?n=richard-larson&pid=192972436&fhid=12937>.

Please consider an enduring tribute through your gift in any amount to The Larson Memorial Scholarship, c/o Fredonia College Foundation, 272 Central Avenue, Fredonia, NY, 14063.

Professor Emeritus Robert Jordan passed away on May 25, 2019. Professor Emeritus Jordan was a faculty member in the School of Music at the State University of New York at Fredonia from 1980 until his retirement in 2004. As a teacher and pianist, he was committed to the art of music-making and the development of young talent. He touched the lives of thousands of students. During his tenure, he received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, was a Fulbright Scholar, and a recipient of the Kasling Award.

Ms. Anita Rettig passed away on May 25, 2019. As an employee of the Green Thumb program, Anita assisted the Departments of Philosophy and World Languages and Cultures from November 2011 through April 2019.

Mrs. Janet E. Meissner passed away on June 7, 2019. Mrs. Meissner was employed by the State University of New York at Fredonia from 1978 until her retirement in 2010 as Lecturer/Instructor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences.

Memorials can be made to the Mayville United Methodist Church. To leave a remembrance or to post condolences to the family, please visit <http://www.freayfuneralhome.com/obits>

Dr. Richard E. Dowds passed away on July 8, 2019. Professor Emeritus Dowds was a faculty member in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at the State University of New York at Fredonia from 1965 until his retirement in 1995.

Memorial contributions in Richard Dowds' memory may be made to the American Cancer Society (www.cancer.org). Online condolences may be made at larsontimkofuneralhome.com



Emeritus members at the summer luncheon held at The College Lodge on June 13, 2019.

