



PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Kim Trupp, AURA President, 2018-2020

The 23rd annual luncheon meeting of the Auburn University Retiree Association on May 24 of this year at Saughatchee Country Club

provided a wonderful opportunity for AURA members to re-connect with former colleagues and friends from their days of working on the AUM and AU campuses. This meeting ended the 2017-2018 year and, at its conclusion began the 2018-2019 year. As usual, the presentation of the Wilford S. Bailey Award was the highlight. This award recognizes outstanding service to education and retirees in the state of Alabama by an individual or organization.

This year's recipient was Senator Gerald Dial, in recognition of his contributions to public education and to education retirees. An outspoken advocate for COLAs (cost-of-living adjustments) for retirees, Senator Dial's work was instrumental in the award of a one-time payment which retirees received in their June pension checks. Senator Dial was present at the luncheon to accept the award, and we were pleased that some of his family were able to attend for this special occasion.

Mildred Switzer, District 10 director of the Alabama Education Retirees Association (AERA) returned for a second year to attend the luncheon. As the representative for higher education retirees on the AERA board, she has a keen interest in activating more higher education units like AURA and in helping currently active units to expand both membership and opportunities for their members.

Jill Jackson, the relatively new executive director of AERA, was also in attendance and she provided an update on AERA activities and encouraged all retirees

to remain vigilant of any legislative activities that might affect their health insurance and pension benefits. Normally we would provide you with a legislative update in this newsletter, but due to the upcoming elections, the Alabama Legislature has not been in session so there is no report at this time. Look for more legislative information in the winter newsletter.

Outgoing AURA board members were also recognized and presented with certificates of appreciation and incoming board members and officers were introduced and welcomed. Larry Ridgeway, outgoing AURA president, received special thanks for his dedicated service to AURA as a board member and for serving for the last two years as AURA president. It is now my pleasure to serve as your president for the next two years, and I welcome your ideas, suggestions and comments. Contact information for all board members and officers can be found later in this newsletter.

It may still be hot outside but the Fall Dinner meeting is coming up soon. The meeting will be on Tuesday, October 2, at 6:00 PM at the Auburn University Alumni Center. Chef Billy Lee with Terra Cotta Catering, will return to serve another delicious meal and our special guest speaker will be Greg Williams, coach of the five-time national champion AU Equestrian team. You'll read more about Coach Williams and the meeting details (including RSVP deadline to attend) later in this newsletter.

Finally, your AURA board meets monthly to plan and undertake activities on behalf of the membership, but I encourage you to take advantage of opportunities to serve on any of the AURA committees. Those are listed in this newsletter, and we welcome new faces and new energy! I look forward to seeing many of you on October 2. ♦

AURA COMMITTEES 2018-2019

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – CHAIR: SHERRI FULFORD

Monitors legislative action that impacts RSA pension and health insurance programs and provides updates to the AURA board and membership.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE – CHAIR: MARCIE SMITH

Develops and implements strategies to increase AURA membership and participation with emphasis on recent retirees.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION COMMITTEE – CHAIR: TO BE DETERMINED

Solicits nominations and recommends recipients to the AURA board for the Wilford S. Bailey Award and arranges appropriate recognition for the outgoing president and AURA board members.

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE – CHAIR: KEVIN LODEN

Assists the AURA newsletter editor in preparing three newsletters annually and additional correspondence electronically and by mail, as needed.

SOCIAL AND PROGRAM COMMITTEE – CHAIR: LYNNE HAMMOND

Plans and executes social activities and programs of interest to the membership including the Fall Dinner and annual meeting in May.

If you are interested in knowing more about any of these committees, please contact Kim Trupp at trupski@auburn.edu or (334) 744-3452.

PHOTOS FROM ANNUAL MEETING



AUBURN UNIVERSITY RETIREE ASSOCIATION (AURA) BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2018-2019

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TWO YEARS REMAINING



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TWO YEARS REMAINING



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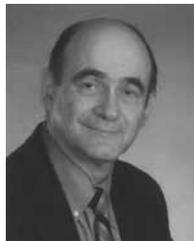
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TWO YEARS REMAINING

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TWO YEARS REMAINING



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Mark Your Calendar

AURA FALL DINNER MEETING

When: Tuesday, October 2, 2018

Where: Auburn Alumni Center, 317 S. College St.
Park in the gravel lot behind the building and come in the back door. If you have a handicap placard or license plate, you may park in the paved lot directly behind the building.

Speaker: Greg Williams
Coach, Auburn University Equestrian Team

Time: 5:30 p.m. Registration
6 p.m. Dinner by Terra Cotta Catering followed by Coach Williams' address.

Cost: Free to AURA members and their spouses or guests

Please let us know if you will be attending and if you will be bringing your spouse or a guest by contacting: Lynne Hammond: hammolb@auburn.edu or 334-744-1602

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2018 OR UNTIL ALL SEATS ARE FILLED, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.



Auburn University Head Equestrian Coach Greg Williams

With five NCEA overall national championships at Auburn, Head Equestrian Coach Greg Williams has become one of the most respected coaches in the sport. He put the program on the map with its first national championship in 2006 and has taken home four more championships in the past seven years. Now in his 24th season at the helm, and the 17th season as a varsity sport, Williams has continued to add wealth and prestige to Auburn equestrian.

The equestrian club program debuted in 1996 and, since that time, Coach Williams orchestrated the building of the Auburn Equestrian Center. His efforts helped to change the program's status from club to Auburn's 21st varsity sport. His student athletes have combined for 50 All-America accolades since the 2010-2011 season. Williams and his team put together the best season in program history in 2016, finishing with a 16-1 overall record that garnered NCEA and SEC crowns. In addition to excelling in competition, Williams' teams have also produced in the classroom. Auburn has 43 NCEA Scholastic All-Americans since that organization began recognizing the honor in the spring 2013.

Williams graduated from Auburn University with a bachelor's degree in animal sciences in 1986, and began his career at Auburn running the Horse Teaching and Researching Unit. He and his wife, Sandi, have two daughters. ♦

FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES STATUS, CHECK YOUR NEWSLETTER ADDRESS LABEL!

After your name, there will be a “P” followed by a year. This means your dues are paid through December of that year. *If you have not paid your dues for 2018 and wish to remain a member of AURA, please complete the form below and mail it with your payment.*

AU-AUM Retiree AURA Membership Form

Name _____ AU _____ AUM _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|---------|
| _____ Single Retiree | \$25.00 | _____ Surviving Spouse..... | \$10.00 |
| _____ Retiree and Spouse | \$25.00 | _____ Sponsor..... | \$25.00 |
| _____ Retiree & Retiree Spouse | \$25.00 | _____ Gift Contribution \$_____ | |

If you have any questions, please contact **Marcie Smith** at smithmkc@gmail.com or **Kim Trupp** at trupski@auburn.edu.

Please make your check payable to AURA and mail to: AURA • P.O. Box 1436 • Auburn, AL 36831-1436



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