



Photo by Allen Wiechert

Annual Report of the Endacott Society 2008-2009

Officers

President: Jerry Niebaum (2008-2009)

President-elect: Vic Wallace (President 2009-2010)

Past-president: Arnold Weiss (President 2007-2008)

Secretary: Audrey Kamb-Studdard

Treasurer: Edna Galle

According to Endacott Society Bylaws:

”The immediate Past President shall serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee and shall by February 1 appoint a minimum of two additional members to this Committee, which shall meet to prepare a slate of officers to be presented at the Annual Meeting.”

The Nominating Committee (Arnold Weiss, Chair; Arno Knapper; Evelyn Swartz) proposes the following candidates for election at the Spring 2009 Annual Meeting, to serve during the 2009-2010 year:

For President-Elect -- **Bruce Linton**

For Secretary – **Pat Kelly** (replacing Audrey Kamb-Studdard)

For Treasurer - **Edna Galle** (currently serving, and to continue in office)

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Afternoon Lecture Series

Stan and Janet Roth (sdroth@ku.edu, jroth@ku.edu, 843-4764),
and Bill Hambleton (wwhamble@ku.edu, 843-2508)

Held on the second Thursday of each month at 2:00 p.m., the Afternoon Lecture is a time to provide interesting speakers and to celebrate birthdays of members for the month. The attendance for each month ranged from 36 to 61 persons with an average of 46 persons. Howard O'Conner provided the monthly count.

Maxine Patterson chaired the refreshment committee with Howard O'Connor, Bob Patterson, and Earl and Mary Schweppe serving as the dedicated helpers each month. Responsible for ordering the cakes and serving, the committee placed the order for the cakes from Kari at HyVee on Clinton Parkway approximately one week before the lecture date. Two quarter sheet cakes and an eight inch round birthday cake were delivered to the Alumni Center close to noon on the day of the event.

Following the recognition of persons having birthdays, the afternoon program began at 2:45 p.m. The Program Committee was composed of Bill Hambleton, Stan Roth, and Janet Roth, Chair. The programs for the year were:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| June 12 | Grant Goodman, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus in History,
"Japanese Prostitutes in Southeast Asia 1870's to 1920's" |
| July 17 | Young Pianists from the International Institute for Young Musicians
introduced by Scott McBride Smith |
| Aug. 14 | William Hambleton, Ph.D., Director Emeritus of the Kansas Geological Survey,
"Everybody's Digitizing It" |
| Sept. 11 | Evelyn Swartz, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of the School of Education, "Revisiting
the Past" |
| Oct. 9 | Bob Hohn, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of the School of Education,
"How to Solve all of your Problems" |
| Nov. 13 | Kyle Gerstner, Naturalist Photographer,
"Through the Lens of Kyle Gerstner" |
| Dec. 11 | George Strawn, Chief Information Officer for the National Science Foundation,
"Information Technology and the Future" |
| Jan. 8 | Janet Hudzicki, Ph.D, CLS , Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Allied
Health, Clinical Laboratory Sciences, University of Kansas Medical Center
"Clinical Laboratory Sciences—C.S.I. for the Living" |
| Feb.12 | Allen Macfarlane, Kansas Geological Survey,
"Meet the Friendly Dulcimer" |
| Mar. 12 | Eileen Roddy, Free lance writer and writer of the column "Slice of Life" for the
LJW, "My Cup of Tea" |

April 9 Paul Tucker, Ph.D., Director of Choral Studies, and the KU Chamber Singers provided a program of choral beauty

May 14 John Staniunas, Chair of the Theater and Film Dept.
"Sing me a Story, Tell me a Song...just how do they make those sounds and why?"

Armchair Travel

Stitt Robinson (wsrobin@ku.edu, 843-1499)

Armchair Travel of the Endacott Society had another successful year with meetings on the 4th Thursday of September, October, January, February, and April. Coffee and tea were available at 2:00 o'clock and the program followed at 2:30 for a one-hour session.

September. Al Sellen presented a program on Cathedrals and Churches in Europe with an effective identification of each one and its historical significance.

October. Dick Moore and Bobbie McCorkle gave us a fascinating River Cruise on both the Mississippi River and the Columbia River.

January. Charles Stansifer reported on his many trips to Costa Rica that brought back many memories for those faculty members who traveled there on the K.U. teaching program established by Dean Waggoner.

February. Sandra Wiechert took us on another interesting walk in the English Lake District with an identification of relationships with other members of the group.

April. Jerry and Judy Niebaum concluded the year with an excellent program on Ireland that included background Irish tunes and even a bus on the map that carried us from place to place.

Attendance for all the programs was consistently high, ranging from the thirties and forties to the low fifties.

We thank members of the Endacott Society for their regular attendance.

Host: Stitt and Connie Robinson

Card and Game Theory

Art Lamb (artlamb@sunflower.com, 749-4647)

During the past year Card and Game Theory met each month on the third Thursday at 1:30p.m., with the exception of Spring Break in March when it was the fourth Thursday. The procedure was much the same each month with three or four tables of bridge and one table of sometimes loud and eager Scrabble players.

I will not serve a third year as chair of this group, mainly because my work load at the Senior Center {and my age} encourage me to do less. So, it will be necessary to select a new chair for next year. Ruth Ann Culvahouse, the prior chair, had suggested a woman in her bridge group who would accept the job. Since this lady and most of that group are not active participants in

the Wednesday Endacott meetings, I would suggest that the new president get someone who is with us on Wednesdays to do the small details which are a part of the routine.

Respectfully submitted, Art Lamb

Cinema Studies

Grant Goodman (plim@ku.edu, 841-1066) and Fred Madaus (fmadaus@ku.edu, 841-4939)

During academic 2008-2009 (including Summer, 2008) Cinema Studies viewed the following films:

"The Reckless Moment"
"Gigi"
"Laura"
"Anatomy of a Murder"
"Advise and Consent"
"Silk Stockings"
"Singing in the Rain"
"Radio Days"
"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof"
"Hud"

The average attendance at these films has been 20-25. Coffee is available at each showing. The films cost the Endacott Society nothing since they are being loaned to us by Prof. Paul Lim.

Respectfully submitted, Grant Goodman

Computer Study

Jerry Niebaum (jniebaum@sunflower.com, 842-3127)

By year end Computer Study will have met 35 times this year with average attendance of about 20. Details of our meetings are maintained on a web site at: <http://oldku.org/> The domain address and web site were created outside the university and are not kept on university servers. Largest attendance this year was 30 for a session on Skype and phone service over the Internet. This year we've had 18 different guest speakers. This is the fourth year that Jerry Niebaum has been convener for the group. No changes in format are anticipated for next year.

Submitted by Jerry Niebaum

Domestic Public Policy Study

Jim Drury (jdrury@ku.edu)

We generally have ten to twelve, but it depends on many things, weather, competition with other events, etc. Our guests have been:

Lawrence city manager, Dave Corliss
The County Assessor,
The District Attorney
The County Clerk, Jamie Shew
The County Agricultural Agent

Cordially, Jim Drury

Drama Study Group

Arnold Weiss (ahweiss@ku.edu, 842-5502)

During the year under report, Drama Study Group continued its now established practice, meeting monthly (with rare exceptions on the second Friday) through the year. From what follows it will be seen that numbers continue low, as has generally been the case; but that fact is balanced by the gratifying loyalty of all concerned. This year, as before, significant numbers of Society members have openly expressed their regret at not being able to attend Drama Study events, compelled, as they regularly are, to choose from among the multiple attractions offered by the Society's rich menu of activities.

As has been standard practice, selection of vehicles for study seeks, whenever possible, to match the schedule of plays currently, recently or soon to be presented at area theatres, thus automatically providing a bonus in the form of opportunity for discussion beyond straight play reading.

Modest as the group's numbers may be, finding enough copies of satisfactory texts can occasionally pose problems; in only rare instances, however, has it been necessary to resort to photocopying material to supplement the usually sufficient supply of texts available at the KU or Lawrence Public Library or in the private collection of one or another of the group's members. In such cases, the group's regular annual budget of \$100 has always proved more than ample.

One new and potentially happy turn may develop, possibly in the coming year. It has been suggested that the group might reprise one or another of its sessions as, e.g., a feature of one of the Society's Afternoon Lecture events. Beside the hoped-for entertainment effect for the Society at large, this could give the group some desired additional exposure and the chance to move beyond its usual and more conventional straight play reading.

Details of the year's activities follow:

	Date	Author and Play	Attendance
2008	June 6	A. A. Milne, Winnie-the-Pooh	6
	July	Midsummer break: no meeting	
	August 8	Arthur Miller, Death of a Salesman	5
	Sept 12	" " " " " "	4
	Oct 10	" " " " " "	5
	Nov 14	Harold Pinter, The Homecoming	6
	Dec 12	" " " "	6
2009	Jan 9	Jean Anouilh, The Lark	7
	Feb 13	" " " "	5
	March 13	Clifford Odets, The Country Girl	6
	April 10	" " " " "	5
	May 8	Ben Jonson, The Alchemist	-

Respectfully submitted, Arnold Weiss May 1, 2009

Foreign Policy Study

Marilyn Bradt (mbradt@carrollswb.com, 843-7751)

The second Monday of the month is Foreign Policy meeting day—mostly. We do not meet in June, July or August, at which time we assume the world is on hold. In general the group bases

its discussion on topics from the booklet, Great Decisions, published by the Foreign Policy Association, though occasionally we depart from the text to take up discussion of an issue of special or immediate interest. Members of the group take responsibility for leading the discussion, providing additional information as needed, or sometimes arranging to import an expert in the field to help us.

Attendance varies from 12 to 20, with an average of 14 or 15. Our calendar-planning year does not coincide with the Endacott Society's year, so the following list of topics and discussion leaders includes part of 2008 now concluded, and plans for 2009.

2008

June 9	Private Philanthropy	Margo Gordon
July/Aug	no meeting	
September 8	Iraq: the End Game	Jim Seaver
October 13	Talking to Our Enemies	Jim Drury
November 10	U.S.-China Trade	John Poertner
December 8	Russia	Lee Ketzell

2009

January	NAFTA	Audrey Kamb-Studdard
February 9	Cuba After Castro	John Poertner
March 9	Egypt in the 21st Century	Jim Seaver
April 13	Global Food Supply	Margo Gordon
May 11	Energy & the Global Economy	H.W. Buck
September 14	Universal Human Rights	Danny Drury
October 12	The Arctic Age	Hob Crockett
November 9	The U.S. & Rising Powers	Al Sellen
December	undetermined	

Submitted by, Marilyn Bradt

Evening Lecture Series

Tom Eblen (teblen@sunflower.com, 865-3634)

As usual, we held five evening lectures with attendance ranging from about 70 to nearly 100. John Mullens handled the Hy-Vee meat orders.

We experienced some midyear difficulties with people failing to sign up in advance, which created last-minute difficulties for the Alumni Center staff and our late arrivals. That problem was improved at the April event.

Aug. 28, 2008 – Dale Seufferling, president of the KU Endowment Association, explained how endowment worked and answered many questions.

Oct. 2, 2009 – Tom Waechter, assistant director of KU's Design and Construction Management, reviewed KU's Campus Heritage: The Getty Project. The project examined the history of campus development and future options.

Nov. 20, 2008 – Joe Pierron, a justice on the Kansas Court of Appeals, led us through legal theory in specific cases and the outcomes of those cases.

Jan. 29, 2009 – Bev Worster, Beth Schultz, Kyle Gerstner and Jason Fizell, shared the development of their new book, “The Nature of Kansas Lands,” a project of the Kansas Land Trust, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the beautiful and productive lands of Kansas.

April 20, 2009 – After two cancellations by scheduled speakers, Endacott member Tom Eblen, a consultant with the Kansas Press Association, shared his thoughts on the changes in newspaper journalism.

Respectfully, Tom Eblen

Gardening

Dick Schiefelbusch (schief@ku.edu, 843-5869) and Arno Knapper (knapper@ku.edu, 312-9422)

The Gardening Seminar meets weekly during the calendar year at 9a.m. prior to the Wednesday meetings of the Ten O’Clock Scholars. Dick Schiefelbusch and Arno Knapper serve as discussion leaders.

Occasionally, visitors are invited to meet with seminar members to address special problems and/or to contribute their expertise on a number of subjects. Otherwise, the Seminar relies primarily upon the interests, expertise, and problems of the Seminar participants for discussions at the weekly meetings. The group never has lacked for discussion topics. In addition to those discussions, members bring plants and starts of plants to share with others during seasonal plant exchanges. Quite frequently, plant specimens are brought in for identification. Friends of Seminar members occasionally contribute perennials gathered during thinning processes of their gardens. Through the generosity of the participants, some Seminar members have enlarged their gardens considerably.

From time to time, the Gardening Seminar participants enjoy VCR films from the Lawrence Public Library’s extensive collection of VCR films on gardening, ranging from seasonal how-to-do-it projects to tours of famous gardens.

The seminar uses the weekly Newsletters from the K-State Research & Extension Office. These newsletters are used mostly for tips on gardening and the control of insect and disease damage, as well as, simply, points for discussion.

During the summer of 2008, the Seminar toured the Master Gardeners’ gardens at the Douglas County 4-H Fairgrounds, the Visitors’ gardens at the Depot in North Lawrence, as well as the City gardens near the ballparks in southwest Lawrence.

The Seminar plans to continue its weekly meetings during 2009-2010 at the same time in the same format.

Submitted by Richard Schiefelbusch and Arno Knapper

Great Books Study Group

Ellen Gold (843-6933), Don Chambers (captnemo@ku.edu, 843-5805)

The Great Books group has been reading selections from the Great Conversations Series: e.g., Montaigne on Friendship, Pascal, a bit of Freud, short stories by Conrad and Alice Munro, a novelette by Saul Bellow, etc. The group is not large but the faithful, 6-8 of us, meet each month in the Adams Center Library for lively discussions, coffee and (usually) a topical limerick by David Hiebert.

No special events and no particular suggestions for the future though the group could use more members.

Submitted by Ellen Gold and Don Chambers

Library

Richard and Phyllis Sapp

Responsibilities of the Library Committee are listed below and were followed by the Committee. The treasurer processes subscriptions to periodicals. In May 2009 members are being polled via the Endacott Society newsletter to determine continuance of the various periodical subscriptions.

Check-out Books

Retirees check these books out and in on an honor basis. The directions are on a south wall shelf by the box of check-out cards. The library committee replaces returned books and destroys cards as the books are re-shelved. They also make sure check-out cards are available and the books are in order on the shelves.

Periodicals

Each week newly received periodicals will be found on the retirees' desk in the office. These will be placed on the magazine shelves. Out of date periodicals will be removed and taken to the coffee room for anyone who wishes to take them. Rule of thumb is to remove all but the two most recent magazines. Any magazines that are not picked up in the coffee room may be left for Adams Center employees to dispose of, or may be recycled by members of the library committee.

“Books for Grabs” Table

These used books are donated by retirees, and any member may take books to read. There is no checking in and out. The library committee sees that the table is kept neat. Books in bad repair and older books left on the table for approximately six months are removed by the librarians. The older books are donated to the Lawrence public library book sale.

Submitted by Phyllis and Dick Sapp and Al Sellen

Lunch Bunch

Bobbie McCorkle (barbaramccorkle@sbcglobal.net, 838-4193)
and Richard Moore (rmoore@sunflower.com, 843-3697)

As usual, the Lunch Bunch continues to be a popular activity of the Endacott Society. During the period May 2008-April 2009 we've met 44 times at 16 different restaurants, with from 12 to 24 members munching away. This year's average attendance was 16, down a bit from last year,

the downturn most notable since the beginning of 2009. Has the economic climate has made a difference?

We always follow the same procedure: phone the restaurant a day or two in advance, reserve space, ask that orders be taken as people arrive, get a show-of-hands at the morning's coffee of those expecting to attend, and then phone the restaurant with an approximate number to expect. It is always good to make the number flexible - 18 may indicate they are coming and then anywhere from 14 to 21 may show up! In general, this system works well.

Our list of restaurants this year included Applebee, Biggs BBQ, Casa Agave, Impromptu, King's Buffet, First Watch, Free State, Johnny's Tavern, La Tropicana, Longhorn, Old Chicago, Paisano's, Perkins, 23 Street Brewery, and Stone Creek. We dropped JB Stout's, as members had many complaints; Old Chicago was tried after a long hiatus, but not found very appealing and will be dropped; and we got quite mixed reviews of Casa Agave, which we may try again.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara McCorkle and Dick Moore

Music

Arno Knapper (knapper@ku.edu, 312-9422)

A review of previous reports reveals that the activities of the music hour don't change much. So, here comes what appears to be a repeat.

Following Wednesday morning meetings of the Ten O'Clock Scholars, a musical program is presented for those who would like a few minutes of rest and relaxation or, if they prefer, a few moments of excitement and stimulation. Arno Knapper was in charge of the regular Wednesday morning musical programs, which are drawn from a fairly large library of records, tapes, discs, and video shorts that belong to the Endacott Society. The music room is available throughout each day to members of the Endacott Society who like to enjoy a magnificent sound system and a number of mediums for play-back.

The Endacott Society has a collection of recordings on long-play records, tapes, CD discs, VCR's and video discs. Most of the musical collections are classical, but there are some popular pieces of special significance. The VCR's are mostly operas and Broadway musicals. Although the equipment and musical library are locked when not in use, the keys to the equipment are available for any member who wishes to use them when the Adams Center is open.

Some members bring their own recordings so they can hear them on really superb sound equipment and share them with other members and friends privately or during the Wednesday morning musical programs.

For 2008-2009 most of the programs came from private collections owned by members of the Endacott Society. The programs were primarily classical in nature, but a few sessions were devoted to requests for music from special eras, such as popular music of the 40's or as VCR records of special interest.

The attendance for 2008-2009 varied but usually numbered from four to ten people.

Submitted by Arno F. Knapper

Newsletter

Vic Wallace (wallace@sunflower.com)

Eleven issues of the Endacott Society Newsletter were published in the year ending in June 2009 -- one each month from July 2008 through June 2009, except that the July and August issues were combined. All members of the Endacott Society receive the newsletter, by mail, one copy per household, in the last week of the month before. That represents about 350 copies. In addition, the Newsletter is published on the Endacott Society Webpage: <http://groups.ku.edu/~endacottsociety/>, usually by the 23rd of the month before. The newsletters are also archived on the website.

Victor Wallace served as Editor for the year. Valerie Spicher, Graphic Designer at KUAA, is responsible for layout and arranging for printing and distribution of the print Newsletter, and Earl Schweppe manages archiving and configuration on the Website. Many thanks to all who contributed timely news, and especially to Valerie Spicher for her professional layout and efficient scheduling of the printing and mailing.

Victor Lew Wallace, Editor

Opera Study

Jim Seaver (jseaver@sunflower.com) and Al Sellen (jnalsellen@aol.com)

During the past year the operas studied were from central Europe, specifically the Czech operas of Smetana, Dvorak and Janacek. Most of them were composed before Czechoslovakia became an independent country. These more unusual operas were less familiar and it was a bit more difficult to obtain the DVDs, but they proved to be most enjoyable. For each Friday afternoon event Jim Seaver provided introductory and other helpful comments. Attendance varied from twenty to twenty-five. Coffee, tea and cookies were provided during an intermission. Laurie Doud has worked most effectively in the scheduling of rooms and arranging drinks. The operas seen were:

<i>The Bartered Bride</i> by Smetana (1866)	August 15, 2008
<i>Rusalka</i> by Dvorak (1901)	October 17
<i>Jenufa</i> by Janacek (1904)	January 16, 2009
<i>The Cunning Little Vixen</i> by Janacek (1924)	March 6

For the next season the group voted to see operas of Mozart. An extra opera is planned for June to begin our look at that composer early. Videos and DVDs used over the years are available in the Music Room cabinet to be checked out.

Vic and Mary Wallace again generously made their home available on Saturday afternoons for persons to listen to the Metropolitan Opera radio broadcasts via computer with exceptional reception. Jim Seaver provided librettos to follow the operas plus his knowledge and insight. Coffee and snacks were served during the intermissions. Numbers were typically eight to ten.

Since the Southwind Theater now has the Met High Definition live broadcasts here in Lawrence our opera persons went there on those Saturday afternoons.

Activities are going along very well and there have been no problems. The current leadership of Jim Seaver, Al Sellen and Vic Wallace will continue.

Submitted by Al Sellen

Oral History

Sandra Wiechert (wiechert@ku.edu, 842-5467)

Committee members: Brower Burchill, Hob Crockett, Tom Eblen, Grant Goodman, Pat Kelly, Richard Kershenbaum, Stitt Robinson, Barbara Watkins, Jewell Willhite, and me.

Interviewers: Tom Eblen, Pat Kelley, Jewell Willhite

Transcribers: Sharon Vaughn, Jenni Wedel, Jewell Willhite

Project support: Debra Bia, Chancellor's Office; John Burrigh, KU Bookstores; Becky Schulte, Spencer Archivist; Dwight Parman, KUAA VP Finance.

Oral histories completed since May 2008:

Victor Contoski, Dennis Dailey, Eric Floor, Bryant Freeman, Willard Guy, Charles Himmelberg, Nancy Hughes, Jill Kleinberg, Alfred Lata, Ogden Lindsley, Dennis Moss, Richard Musser, Andrea Norris, Allan Press, Randy Van Schmus, and Mary Wallace.

Oral histories in process:

Marshall Jackson, Linda Mullens, James Budde, Charles Decedue, Diane Lazzarino, Joseph Reitz, Ray Davis, James Hillesheim, Neil Salkind, Ken Bishop, Joseph Reitz, Laurence Draper, and Bill Tuttle. A few more late interviews are scheduled. Almost all backlog histories are caught up now.

Most interviews were done at Audio Reader, using equipment there. Jewell uses her own recording and transcribing equipment. The interviewers guided the new KU retirees to tell of their childhoods, family background, education, military service, professional careers, reflections on KU's present and future, and their plans for retirement. These tapes were given to the transcribers. Interviewees have the chance to correct and edit, either on hard copy or by email. Transcribers then prepare three final copies: for the retiree, the Adams Center Library (from where they may be checked out), and Spencer Archives where the original interview tape is kept as well.

Funding has been partially provided by the Grace Medes Fund, plus extra needed funds from KU Endowment. We have just been informed extra funds will not be given for the next fiscal year. Dwight Parman says the Alumni Association can provide needed funding for the immediate future. The Association appreciates the importance of the Oral History Project and wants it to continue as at present. We are grateful, and worried!

Longtime committee members Hob Crockett and Brower Burchill have retired. Their support and interviewing skills will be missed. Brower had maintained the Index; this work is being taken over and put on the Internet by Jerry Niebaum.

These interviews are of high quality, well researched and well crafted, allowing the retirees to expand on their backgrounds, accomplishments, and ideas. We feel they are of vital importance to the history of the University of Kansas, and they are *so interesting!*
Do spend some time reading them.

Sandra Wiechert, Chair of the Oral History Committee

Out of Town Travel

Committee: Jerry Niebaum (jniebaum@sunflower.com, 842-3127), Fred Madaus, Ev Swartz, Max Lucas, and Edwyna Gilbert.

Three out of town trips were completed successfully and a fourth will be taken on May 15 with a group tour of Nelson-Atkins Museum in Kansas City, including a tour of the Block Building led by Tom Nelson, an architect from the firm responsible for the addition. We will also view a special exhibit, "From the Land of the Taj Mahal."

On Thursday, September 25, twenty-eight members of the Endacott Society met for dinner at the Circle S Ranch outside Lawrence. Those who had not visited the ranch before were able to tour the area and check out the guest facilities.

On October 20, thirty-five Society members boarded a bus at Hillcrest Shopping Center for an afternoon of wine tasting and dinner. Stops were scheduled at Bluejacket Crossing, a Kansas Winery, southeast of Eudora and then Holyfield Winery and Vineyard in west Wyandotte County. At both locations the group was treated to an ample period of wine tasting followed by tours of the wineries and discussions on starting and running a winery.

The afternoon was completed with a dinner stop at Bichelmeyer's Steakhouse Restaurant in Tonganoxie. We returned home knowing a lot more about the wine business in Kansas.

On April 13-14 thirty-six Endacott members and friends shared a bus trip to Marceline, Missouri to the Walt Disney Boyhood Home Museum; then, on to the Mark Twain Museum in Hannibal, Missouri; and finally to the Abraham Lincoln Library & Museum in Springfield, Illinois. We stayed at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel on East Adams Street, not far from the museum.

The Lincoln Museum is a really excellent high tech presentation of Lincoln's life and times.. We allowed 3 hours for the tour and that seemed about the right length of time to cover it well, including the extensive gift shop.

Submitted by Jerry Niebaum, Fred Madaus, Ev Swartz, and Max Lucas

Retirees Benefits

Fred Madaus (fmadaus@ku.edu, 841,4939)

For the most part the fall season Benefits program progressed normally. University, City telephone books, as well as University Events calendars were distributed as soon as they were made available. As usual these items were delivered early in the academic year

Late October, November and early December was dominated by the Open Enrollment for the State Health care and prescription Drug programs. Two meetings were held by the Kansas Health Care Commission in Topeka to review and explain the policy selection process. Also two informational meetings for Endacott Society members were scheduled and well attended. The Coordinator of the State Healthcare Programs in Topeka, Deb Dumus and her assistant, attended the second of these informational meetings. These meetings were intended to provide general information about the State Programs and assist those who needed help with completion of the official change forms.

In early spring, we were notified of the suspension of most University benefits. Most of the follow-up, coordination and protest of these events are being done by the Society President and President-Elect.

Submitted by Fred Madaus

Singing for Fun

Roberta Spires (rspires@ku.edu, 842-6820)

Singing for fun meets regularly on the first Thursday of the month. We meet in the music room at the Adams Alumni Center at 2:00 p.m. Our full-time accompanist is Winnie Gallup assisted by Al Gallup and Edwyna Gilbert (they hand and then retrieve the music being played for the month and replace it in the proper folders).

The director keeps a smidge of order and asks for any historical information that might be pertinent and educational. Robert Casad, as well as Winnie Gallup are invaluable resources in this department' We sing songs from 1890's through 1959 - mostly American ballads and folk tunes.)

The Alumni Center provides extra chairs as well as a large carafe of iced water and plastic or paper cups for drinking. I might add here that no food is permitted as one cannot sing and eat at the same time (my dictum). The session lasts one hour (2:00- 3:00 p.m.). Booklets of song lyrics are provided for the participants. There are now 7 books and a specialty collection available. The director is working on an eighth. The specialty booklet contains Cole Porter, Gilbert & Sullivan, Romberg, and Victor Herbert lyrics. Music for the accompanist is in a special folder. We average 22 participants a session (12 being the smallest and 25 (several) being the largest attendance.

We ask for a \$50.00 yearly budget. We don't always need much but once in a while music must be purchased.

The past year (2008-2009) looked like this:

2008 - MAY 1, JUNE 5, JULY 2 (sang some patriotic songs as well as our standards),
AUGUST 4, SEPTEMBER 4, OCTOBER 2, NOVEMBER 9 (we sang at Drury Place at the request of one of the residents - big success),
DECEMBER 4 (WWI and WW II songs et al.).
2009 - JANUARY 1 (the only meeting that had to be cancelled!)
FEBRUARY 5 (romance ballads),
MARCH 5 (Irish songs),
APRIL 2, MAY 7 (a few songs from "Ain't Misbehavin' " as well as the regular songs).

That's it for the year. We did sing most of the songs from "The Music Man" when it was playing at KU but I don't remember the month.

PROBLEMS - The only problem we have is that I must announce our program several weeks in a row or people don't always know or remember when we meet. As the newsletter never gets out before the first of the month, not even one day, when the meeting falls on the first, second or third day of the month it's often too early for people to have received it and therefore cannot read about it ahead of time. The other problem which is not a real one is my inability to contact everybody through e-mail if there is a bad weather cancellation. We must be sure that everyone listed in the directory who has an e-mail address can receive notification of anything.

Thank you, director Roberta Spires

Presidents Report

We now have nearly 400 members in the Endacott Society and good participation by a large segment of our membership. Activity leaders have done excellent work in providing creative and interesting programs that attracted large numbers. It was a relatively quiet year until April 1, 2009, when Provost Lariviere announced the elimination of retiree benefits. I responded to his announcement with a letter and by creation of a blog site at: <http://oldku.blogspot.com> The announcement and response are available online at the blog site. My response letter of April 9 outlined the following:

“... we will be contacting members of the Friends of the Lied Board for a hearing of our complaint. We believe that they should understand the broader ramifications of an arguably shortsighted decision. Second, we will be suggesting to our Endacott members that they consider adding restrictions to their contributions to Friends of the Lied to be used only on reinstatement of a retiree ticket program. Third, we will be soliciting retirees to consider adding restrictions to other contributions to the university. Fourth, we will work with university SenEx to make current faculty and staff aware of this breach of faith with retiree benefits. Fifth, we will work with the Alumni Association to make it a priority concern for that organization. Sixth, we will work with the new incoming administration to reverse your decision. Finally, there will be no further action on the creation of a retiree volunteer corps.”

The Friends of the Lied Board were contacted and have not yet responded to our request for a hearing. The SenEx Committee on Retirees Rights and Benefits, chaired by George Crawford, has sent a letter of protest to the provost. I have met with Kevin Corbett, president of the alumni association, and he is supportive of our complaint. He has agreed to work with Dale Seuferling, president of the endowment association, to craft a response strategy.

I have felt extremely well supported by our membership as we have tried to respond to this breach of faith by the university for benefits pledged to us at retirement.

Otherwise, it has been a fun and interesting year, and it has been an honor and privilege to serve as your president.

Submitted by Jerry Niebaum

Treasurers Report

Minutes of 2008 Annual Meeting

By Margo Gordon for Audrey Kamb-Studdard

Endacott Society Annual Meeting, June 18, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Arnold Weiss. The group voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and with the Treasurers Report. Both the secretary and the treasurer were out of town.

President Weiss pointed out that written copies of the annual reports of all committees are available to anyone wanting them, and a copy was available on each table at the Coffee Time preceding this meeting

Ev Swartz suggested we find ways to encourage more people to bring refreshments to Wednesday morning Coffee. The same folks seem to do this over and over.

President Weiss asked for a report from the Nominating Committee. Tom Eblen, chair of this committee presented the following slate:

President - Jerry Niebaum (previously elected as president-elect)

President-Elect - Vic Wallace

Secretary - Audrey Kamb-Studdard (continuing)

Treasurer - Edna Galle (Continuing)

There were no nominations from the floor. Arno Knapper moved the acceptance of the slate. Art Lamb seconded and the motion passed.

Jim Drury asked about the financial status of the Society; are we overspending? President Weiss said we are in good shape, status about the same as last year.

Jerry Niebaum asked that all committee chairs submit their budgets for next year to him as soon as possible. He also asked the group to help him make the Society what we want it to be.

Gen McMahon asked that if anyone had submitted bills for the refreshments brought for Wednesday Coffees, that needed to be taken into account for the budget.

Rita Haugh raised the question - are we concerned about new members, about the fact that so few of the newly retired faculty join the Endacott Society? The group agreed that we ARE concerned and spent a good bit of time suggesting ways to deal with this.

- 1) We need to invite people personally to come to Coffee or some other Endacott activity.
- 2) Perhaps we are not very inviting at the coffees - tendency for some to sit in same place with same people, not always open to welcoming new folks.
- 3) How about assembling a group of new retirees and ASK them what THEY might like for the Endacott Society to do perhaps start some new groups and activities.
- 4) Have a special potluck dinner to honor the new retirees, and introduce them, about Endacott.
- 5) Send a letter from the Endacott Society President to each new retiree, with a copy of the Newsletter and perhaps a brochure about our activities. This has been done, with little response, but should be continued. Try to find a way to make the Society more appealing.

- 6) The suggestion of having a reception before the annual Retirees' Dinner was pretty much vetoed. Has been tried, was very expensive, seemed confusing to some, and was not well attended.
- 7) If the U. still has meetings of soon-to-be retirees, try to get on the agenda to explain Endacott Society and issue invitation to join.
- 8) Perhaps at the Retirees' Dinner in May, see if an invitation to Endacott might be issued. Although the Dinner is not well attended by brand new retirees, it IS well attended by other retirees so we might appeal to those 2, 3, 4 years after retirement. Some did not like this idea.
- 9) How about using the Internet as a means of communicating with the new retirees?
- 10) Should we make new retirees honorary members of Endacott the first year?
- 11) How about having a "Newcomers' Group" within the Endacott, to focus on the new retirees?

Some other comments. The Oral History Project always introduces the Endacott Society to the new retirees whose oral history is being taken (Some do not agree to have an oral history taken). Perhaps we are just part of a national trend pointing out that the next generation tend not to be joiners. Also, perhaps new retirees are still too involved in other activities and making the transition to retirement, so tend not to join Endacott right away: It should be noted that our numbers are not going down - and that's good, but we just don't grow. We should also try to get the inactive MEMBERS of the Society more involved.

Question was raised about eligibility to the Endacott Society. There are 2 elements: being retired KU faculty, classified or unclassified staff, AND being a member of the KU Alumni Association. Suggestion was made to find out the names of retirees who already belong to the Alumni Association, send them a Newsletter and issue a special invitation to join the Endacott Society.

It was agreed we need to consider ALL ideas for involvement, but should remember that THE most effective thing is a personal invitation to attend a Society function.

President Weiss thanked all the officers and committee chairs for their excellent service throughout the past year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Margo Gordon, Secretary Pro Tem

**ENDACOTT SOCIETY WEDNESDAY
COFFEE HOSTS June 2008-May 2009**

Alderson	1
Barker	1
Burrows	1
Cink	2
Culvahouse	1
Eblen	1
Friesen	2
Galle	2
Gallup	1
Gilbert	2
Gold	1
Gordon	1
Hambleton	1
Haugh	1
Kamb-Studdard	1
King	1
Knapper	1
Lamb	2
Lawton	2
Linton	1
McMahon	1
McCorkle	2
Madaus	2
Miller	1
Mitchell	2
Moore	2
Mullens	2
Niebaum	1
Patterson	1
Roth	1
Sapp	2
Schweppe	2
Seaver	1
Smith	1
Spires	1
Stannard	1
Stansifer	1
Swartz	2
Tilghman	2
Weiss	1
Wiechert	2

Submitted by Genevieve Taylor McMahon