



From the Arbor

@ Baker University...

Monthly news from Jerry Weakley, VP for Endowment and Planned Giving

Volume 11, Issue 7

August, 2013

Numbers of Importance:

- Admissions 785.594.8325
- Alumni Office- 888-781-2586
- Make a donation- 800-726-1554
- Create a planned gift or create an endowed scholarship- 785-594-8332 or 913-449-9540 (Jerry Weakley)
- Baker Orange www.thebakerorange.com

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Students at CAS Arriving Daily...

A procession of cars, trucks and SUVs are arriving daily in Baldwin City. They stop and park in front of Greek houses, dorms and university apartments. Shortly thereafter the occupants begin unloading clothing, computers, furniture, snacks and various other items. The opening of school at CAS at Baker, in its 155th year, is not far off! :)

Work Completed Union Phase I...Dining Opens...

Work was completed right on schedule the week of August 19th and Baker students already on campus before the start of classes were able to enjoy the new dining opportunities afforded by the newly completed facility.

Rather than the former dual-line cafeteria style facility that had been in place since the Student Union was initially built in 1961, the new facility is "station-based," similar to a food court at a shopping mall. Students, faculty, staff and guests will have several daily food stations available that will offer meal choices that include such items as pizza, pasta, a daily entrée, vegetarian selections, grilled food, international offerings, desserts and beverages.

Initial comments from students who got a sneak peek included: "WOW", "what a difference," "this is awesome" and "cool" (I didn't realize that word was still being used but, what goes around apparently has come back around)! :)

Fundraising for the second phase of the overall project is just now getting under way with plans to have the monies in place so that work can begin as soon as possible on all the other upgrades to the building that have been planned. Included in phase two will be areas set aside for a café and coffee bar, where pastries, deli sandwiches and special coffees will be available. Office upgrades and renovations are also planned.

Just as a family needs a common ground, a place to gather, or in current genre, "to crash", so do the many members of Baker's community. Through this project the University is attempting to design, build and equip a union facility in which its family can connect, eat, laugh, play, study and meet. Early indicators suggest the new Union is certainly such a place!

I hope that each of you will consider making a substantial gift to this critical project that will help Baker maintain its edge in recruiting the best and brightest students available! Thanks!

Wandering Wildcats...2014...Make Plans to Join Us!!!

As I mentioned in my opening letter, former First-Lady Carolyn Lambert had much to do with the support of Alumni travel opportunities that led to the founding of the **Wandering Wildcats**. In **June** of 2014, the University's **Wandering Wildcats** will indeed be wandering again. Just before President **Pat Long** and husband her **Dennis**, have a chance to "sail off into the sunset of retirement" they will be hosting one final **Wandering Wildcats** adventure, that is, as always, open to everyone.

Part A...Sunday, June 1st, 2014, fly to New York City from Kansas City or your own home city where we will board the brand new NCL cruise ship (that sailed for the first time in **May** of this year) the **Breakaway...bound for Bermuda!** This ship has been designed to offer every possible comfort and unique ways to connect passengers with their experience aboard. With Broadway shows, 28 superb dining destinations and sizzling nightlife...this ship truly has it all!

Our ultimate island destination, Bermuda, has long been known for its intrinsic beauty, history, **golf**, gorgeous **pink-sand** beaches and unsurpassed shopping on a modern, clean and safe British island.

The cruise is two relaxing days at sea followed by harboring at the famous King's Wharf. The ship remains your sleeping and dining locale while providing a jumping off point for tours and activities that abound on the island. After three days ashore, the ship returns leisurely to its berth in New York City. Those not continuing to Part B will fly home later that day (Saturday the 7th of **June**).

Part B...Returning to New York, those continuing on will stay for two nights in a midtown Manhattan Hotel convenient to Rockefeller Center, Times Square and the nightlife along Broadway. A special tour is being planned to the World Trade Center **memorial led by Baker graduate, Charles Agro '79, a longtime member of the staff of the Port Authority of New York/New Jersey under whose jurisdiction fall all bridges, tunnels, airports and the World Trade Center.** This is sure to be a memorable experience to hear of Charles' own experiences connected with the destruction of the Twin Towers. That next day, will be left for individuals and small groups to visit any of a multitude of highlights of the Big Apple. Sunday evening, **Baker's own Rick Quattrini '75** will be arranging an evening dining adventure on a large luxurious ship specially designed as a gourmet restaurant. Onboard World Yacht you will enjoy a meal to remember as you glide by the skyscrapers and spectacular lights of Manhattan. **We will have air-ticket and package pricing in the next week.** As always, travel advisor, **John Novotny**, of Travellers in Lawrence, Kansas, will be handling all the details. I hope you will plan to join us! To express interest, call me at 785-594-8332 or by email at jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu. So far I have heard that 8 couples are interested and planning to go on our next adventure!!! **(Alumni and former students in New York and New Jersey will also be invited to participate in both the tour and the Dine Around Manhattan cruise by invitation in the spring.)**

Homecoming Set For **October** 4-5...

Make plans now to attend **Homecoming** this year!!! There are several activities being planned, highlighted by inductions of 5 great individuals into the University's Athletic Hall of Fame and the all-important **Homecoming** football game with arch nemesis, MidAmerica Nazarene. Festivities begin on Friday night as the University recognizes its most outstanding student-athletes from 2012-2013 along with the induction of several outstanding former athletes and coaches to its Athletic Hall of Fame.

Joining our previous inductees will be:

James P. (Jim) Dick '63 (Track)
 Jerry Jones '64 (Coaching)
 George Robert (Bob) Peters '70 (Senior Track)
 Johnie C. Seals, Jr. '80 (Basketball)
 Meghan Lewis Houtsma '02 (Golf)

The induction will be held on Friday, **October** 4th at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Overland Park, KS. On Saturday, activities surrounding the Hall of Fame class will move to the Baldwin City campus with a morning reception for inductees (current and former), families, friends and alumni in the Athletic Hall of Fame rotunda of the Collins Sports and Convention Center. (Everyone is invited).

The annual tailgate lunch is planned for the northwest corner across from Liston Stadium at noon followed by the important Homecoming game with MidAmerica at 2:00. All game attendees are welcome and are complimentary at the tailgate lunch!

The Hall of Fame inductees will be introduced to the **Homecoming** game attendees at half-time along with all former inductees in attendance at the game as well.

If you would like to nominate a former **Baker** athlete or coach for induction into this premier group, please send a letter of nominations for the Athletic Hall of Fame to me as follows:

Jerry Weakley, %**Baker** University Athletic Hall of Fame, P.). Box 65, Baldwin City, KS 66006 or by e-mail to me at jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu. Please list as many qualifications, records/reasons you feel your candidate is qualified for such honor.

Baker Trivia Answer For June/July...

The Question...

There is a small round aluminum plate sunk in concrete somewhere on the Baldwin City campus that details the altitude of that exact spot.

Where is that plate located, what was the agency who conducted the research leading to the revelation of the altitude listed, what was the elevation on the plate and the date on the plate???

The Answers...

The plate is located on the south side of the west entrance stairs to Constant Administration Building. It was placed in the concrete there in 1965 as an official marker for the true elevation, 1,064 feet above sea level. The agency responsible for the measurement and placement of the plate was the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Responses to the Arbor...

"Love the Arbor and the stories from alumni. Most of my stories probably shouldn't be published!"
Steve Coats '72...Rincon, Puerto Rico
(Thanks, Steve...Why not? It was great to see you at Stag this year! :))

"In the April Arbor your cover letter mentioned flowering trees and flowers on campus. My flower story is this. I worked on campus and one job was mowing the grass. The particular mower was a five-foot wide "walk-behind". One school day as I was doing the sidewalk in front of Centenary Hall I was looking at something and accidentally mowed down a 10-foot bed of flowers that was bordering the sidewalk. My first reaction was to look around to see if someone had seen my faux pas. No one was paying any attention to me. I was more careful on the other side of the sidewalk and I avoided the flowers. I always noticed the unbalanced plantings at that spot on the campus. Fast forward to the next spring. The side I mowed last fall was twice as lush as the other. I guess that vindicates me, sort of.

Paul Coole '48...Lenexa, KS. Thanks, Paul...great story!!!

Calling All Baker Couples...

More than a 1,000 couples have found their lifelong partners at Baker. If you met your spouse at Baker or were married at the Osborne Chapel, we would appreciate you sharing a photo from your wedding day by emailing alumni@bakeru.edu or sending a copy of the photo to Office of Alumni Relations, Baker University, P.O. Box 65, Baldwin City, KS 66006-0065. Please include your first and last names, maiden name, graduation year, your wedding date, where you were married, the Baker classmates who were members of the wedding party, a short note about how you met and if The University Minister, Ira DeSpain '70 officiated at the ceremony. The photos will be part of an alumni project throughout the year and likely will be posted on Baker Facebook and in upcoming Baker alumni magazine. Stay tuned for more exciting information regarding an event related to this currently being discussed for Alumni Weekend! Thanks for your cooperation and wanting to participate in this project!!!
(The first couple married in Osborne Chapel recently celebrated their 17th anniversary on August 10. The first couple married there are Greg and Brandy (Wagner) Webber of Olathe. Congrats to you both!!!)

Baker VS Ottawa To Start the Season Again...

Make plans now to attend the continuation of one of college football's oldest rivalries...Baker vs Ottawa. Now in its fourth year, The County Line Clash, the new name for the BU/OU game, will return to the friendly environs of Liston Stadium for a 6:00 kickoff on Saturday, September 7.

The annual game between these two teams (prior to being put on the shelf after 1993) was once said to be the oldest such college football rivalry west of the Missouri River. The rivalry lay fallow for 16 years until Coach Mike Grossner of Baker and Ottawa Coach Kent Kessinger, who played with Grossner at Bethany College, got together and decided it was time to reactivate the rivalry with an annual kickoff game. The Braves won the first game of the resumed series in 2010 while the Wildcats have come out on top the last two years.

Over the course of the entire series of games Baker has won 46, Ottawa has won 33 and there have been two ties. If you have an interesting story connected to this longstanding rivalry please send it to me! Hope to see you at the game!!!

Alumni/Campus Activities...

September 7...The County Line Clash- football game. **Baker vs Ottawa.** Liston Stadium, Baldwin City...6:00 p.m. Tickets available at the gate. For more information on the game and tickets for the upcoming season, insert this address in your browser: <http://www.bakeru.edu/sports/football/news-archive/item/9033-baker-ottawa-set-to-kick-off-2013-with-'county-line-clash'?template=bu>

October 4...Athletic Hall of Fame induction ...DoubleTree Hotel, Overland Park...6 p.m.

October 5...Homecoming...Baldwin City Campus...tailgate luncheon, noon...Game with Mid-America Nazarene, 2 pm.

October 11...Fall Meeting of the Board of Trustees...Baldwin City Campus.

October 18-19-20...Annual Maple Leaf Festival...Baldwin City, Kansas

December 8...Christmas Vespers Programs...Rice Auditorium, Baldwin City Campus. Times TBA.

February 14-15...Winter Meeting of the Board of Trustees and Board Retreat.

April 12...The Annual Scholarship Auction Gala...The Sheraton Convention Center Hotel, Overland Park, KS. 6:00 p.m.

Presidential Search Continues...

The Presidential Search Committee members met recently to discuss progress and to initiate the systematic review of applications. This initial review, the first of several stages in the candidate vetting process, will continue until shortly after the **September 3** deadline for applications.

The multifaceted process of building a robust and diverse pool of well-qualified candidates continues in earnest. If you know of a promising prospect or know people who might be able to suggest such prospects, please reach out to our consultant, Ms. Julie Tea,



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Trivia Question For August...

(This is not a very long question, but if you want to do some research it will lead to a longer and most interesting story...)

The Question:

What is the relationship between the Jamieson Film Company of Texas and **Baker University**?

The Answer:

Will be detailed in the next issue of *From the Arbor*.

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jet@agbsearch.com The nominations and suggestions that we receive from those closest to the **Baker** family may be among the most meaningful in the process of candidate generation.

The committee members will meet again in **September** to begin reducing the pool of applicants to a smaller group for further review and evaluation.

Have a great month of August...

I'll write again in **September...**

Jerry L. Weakley '70/MBA '92

Vice President for

Endowment and Planned Giving

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Baker is proud to be affiliated with the
United Methodist Church.



Deferred Gifts to Higher Education Rebound...

According to *Give and Take*, a newsletter written and published by the Sharpe Group, one of the nation's most well-known consultants to higher education and philanthropies, higher education institutions in the country have finally begun to rebound in terms of the number and amount of deferred gifts made this past two years.

“Estimated contributions to colleges and universities in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2012, rose by 2.3% to a total of \$31 billion. Leading the way to this more modest increase were reports of gift annuities, charitable trusts and other deferred gifts which were up 15.3%”.

The trend to this increased giving in a deferred manner actually began a year earlier. 2008 saw an all-time high of over \$740 million (the present value of the remainder of those gifts) in deferred gifts before the impact of the recession the nation experienced 2008-2009 affected such giving.

It is estimated that with the continued growth of the stock market, low interest rates in the general market and general household wealth increases that the trend of the previous two years should continue. The impact of the retirement of baby boomers is also likely to spur increases to deferred gifts to charities that have the ability to return tax favored income over the course of the rest of their lives.

If you would like to consider making any form of deferred gift, or simply receiving information about the types of deferred gifts available to you here at Baker, please contact me so we can discuss alternatives. You may reach me 785-594-8332 or % Baker University, P.O. Box 65, Baldwin City, KS. 66006.



Jerry L Weakley
VP Endowment & Planned Giving

P.S. * The Above information is provided only for your consideration and should not be construed as “Legal or Tax Advice”. Always consult your own professional advisor before acting upon this or similar information.

As Dr. James Chubb '22 used to say when he visited classmates and alumni while on the road for Baker... “Please remember to leave something for Baker in your Will!”...and if you do-please let us know your plan!