From the Arbor…

@ Baker University…

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

Trustees Meet…

The University’s Board of Trustees held its third and final full board meeting the first day of May on the Baldwin City Campus. The meeting entertained subjects on enrollment updates and forecasts, reports and updates from the university’s current Strategic Planning initiative, Baker 2020, student presentations from academic champions, reports on new programs, faculty reports, committee meetings/report-outs, an executive session and a full business meeting of the entire Board membership.

Richard Howell, ’74, has served the previous two years as chairman of the board. On July 1, Alan Mauch, ’72, will move into the chairmanship for the second time following a stint in that position under President Dan Lambert.

Charitable Contributions…A Look at National Figures…

According to a recent report published by CAE (Council for Aid to Education), charitable contributions to colleges and universities in the United States increased 10.8 percent to a total of $37.45 billion in 2014. This is the strongest gain in voluntary support since 2000, when giving to colleges increased 13.7 percent. At $37.45 billion, the total is the highest recorded since the inception of the CAE survey in 1957.

One of the main contributing factors that stuck out when I looked over the survey results was the result of a significant increase in the number of institutions reporting gifts of major important artwork from donors with an accompanying high dollar valuation placed upon the artwork by those in the business qualified to appraise such art.

Another important contributing factor was an increasing percentage of planned gifts and major gifts to totals reported by institutions. The definition of a “Major Gift” may vary institution by institution but many consider it to be in excess of $25,000. Harvard led the way with reported gifts of $1.16 billion. (I often wondered just what the impact of a $5-10 million gift to Baker would have…but, I do know for certain that it would make an immense difference in virtually every possible area of the university)!

Wildcat Watch…

See for yourself what is new on the Baldwin City campus by going to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ap4upvrGdsQ&list=UUpYdUtchg_j51KCM

Alumnae Greek Council Holds 3rd Annual Spring Fling…

Nearly 80 NPC sorority alumnae from Baker attended the 3rd Annual Spring Fling at Hallbrook Country Club in Leawood, Kansas on Saturday, April 11. Dr. Lynne Murray was the featured guest of honor and speaker for the brunch event.

During the program the AGC recognized 50-year chapter members from Alpha Chi Omega, Delta Delta Delta, Phi Mu and Zeta Tau Alpha (pledges from the fall ’64 and initiated in the spring of ’65).

The Alumnae Greek Council (AGC) was formed by alumnae of AXO, DDD and ZTA to strengthen Baker NPC sororities through cooperative alumnae activities and funding to encourage women to become members of all chapters. AGC has worked with Baker administration, Panhellenic Council and individual chapters to encourage cooperation and innovative pre-recruitment activities designed to increase knowledge of and interest in sorority membership for incoming students.
Corrected Copy of Truman Letter from Last Arbor...

Somehow the link to the Truman letter referenced in the last Arbor directed readers to the incorrect letter. (Most likely this was caused by either sunspots or the North Korean Military)! In any case, astute reader Connie Deel ’79, was the first of several to point out the error of my ways. I was then able to find the letter I intended to have you review. Instead of taking a chance the sunspots are out in force again today, I am copying the letter that Harry Truman sent to his wife, Bess, regarding his stop in Baldwin City for the purpose of investigating it as a potential sight for a permanent monument dedicated to pioneer woman.

September 27, 1931

“Bess...We left the Meuhlebach on time arrived in Olathe at 9:30 looked at their site and then went home with ex Gov. Hodges to coffee and toast served by the good looking daughters of the Hodges Bros. They each have one about eighteen. We then made a canvass of the situation and had to wait until 11:45 for the cars from Baldwin to arrive. Got to Baldwin at 1:30 where they gave us lunch and the President of Baker University told us why we should put the monument on the campus. It is a very remarkable school having been founded in the fifties and was coeducational from its founding. It is one of Kansas' three accredited Universities and has about 600 students. About four hundred couples have married from the University and there is only one divorce, happened last year. Some record I'd say.”

Arbor Responses… (From Former Baker President-Dan Lambert...

Jerry, I enjoyed the discussion re: Baker and Baldwin's intersection with the Country's chief and near chief executives. It is there, I'm sure, some mention of Charles W. Fairbanks, who like Dan Quayle and Dick Cheney, ascended to the vice-presidency following their visits to the campus. Fairbanks, again like Quayle, was the junior senator from Indiana and again like Quayle, was a real dark horse when plucked from some obscurity and placed on the Republican ticket with Theodore Roosevelt. Fairbanks' commencement address is available in the archives and in my judgment rates high marks for relevance and eloquence, adjectives also applied by administrators to Quayle's 1988 commencement talk AFTER he was named to the Bush 1 slate. (Editor's note: Not sure, but this last comment may have been made tongue in cheek since I drove Mr. Quayle to campus from the airport and he wrote his speech in my backseat of the car!...I was none too impressed !)

Osborne Chapel to Be Rededicated...

A special rededication service will be held Saturday, May 16, on the Baldwin City campus in conjunction with several other activities on Alumni Weekend. The service, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the construction of the traditional English chapel in Sproxton, England, was originally planned to be held in conjunction with the inauguration of President Lynne Murray in October with was postponed due to the death of a Baker student.

The brief service will feature former Baker President Dr. Dan Lambert retelling the story of how this important campus addition was acquired, funded, transported and rebuilt here at Baker where it continues to serve a multiplicity of spiritual needs for the entire University.

The Rev. Dr. Ira DeSpain, ’70, who retired last year after many years on staff as minister to the university, will be on the program and will also receive official presentation of Emeritus Status from Dr. Murray.

The service will be held at 11:00a.m. in the Osborne Chapel. I hope you plan to attend this important and historically significant rededication service.

Arbor Responses Continued…

Regarding the noting of the passing of former interim President, Dr. R. Wright Spears…

Jerry,

Thank-you for the tribute to Dr. Spears in the last Arbor – he was president during my student years and I liked him so much.

Darcy

(Darcy Russell ’80...Current Chair of the Department of Biology)
Shedding a Little Light on an Interesting Subject Found in an Article from the *Baldwin Ledger*, 6 October 1916...

“The enemy is coming; and it is time that the Baker University couples who indulge in that noble pastime of spooning should beware and lay some plans accordingly. President Mason of the University is making strenuous efforts to limit the dates of the students of his institution to a maximum of three and possibly two dates a week. Information has come to the presidential office that Baker students are over indulging in dates, and to make the matter worse it has been reported by eye witnesses that these lone couples seek the darkest spots in town.

The matter seems to have reached such large proportions that last week Dr. Mason called the presidents of the different fraternities and sororities and their matrons and various householders in town to his office and discussed plans for the limitations of dates. The lack of light in these out of the way places seems deplorable to some and it is rumored that efforts will be made to effect the installation of more lights on the streets. But, this matter will have to be taken before the city council.

If the movement along the lines of the President's wishes is successful it is a certainty that the old Baker record of the large number of marriages between Baker men and women will be sadly diminished because lovers must date”.

Editors’ note: Sounds to me like the “Roaring '20s” may have gotten started at Baker just a bit earlier than elsewhere in the country! ;)

Help Baker CAS Recruit it’s Next Class...

Please consider those among your family, friends, church or social activities groups who may have a student that would benefit from and find future success through enrolling at Baker University.

For more information, contact Mr. Kevin Kropf, Senior Director of Admissions, at 785.594.8327.
Alumni/Campus Activities…

May 15-17...Alumni Weekend Activities:
Check the University’s web site and occasional e-mails for complete information on this important upcoming series of events, activities and graduation exercises.

Stay in Touch...and Get Engaged with BU!!!

A Maple Leaf Memory from Moi…

To help get the ball rolling for the next issue with regard to the question being asked...(provide memories you may have from past Maple Leaf Festivals)...I offer this memory: Most likely in the early to mid-1980s I was witness to one of the funniest yet potentially tragic events most certainly in Maple Leaf Festival history.

I was sitting in front of Constant Hall and just in back of a group of mostly octogenarians from the retirement home here in Baldwin City. They had early on been escorted to this location and many were seated in folding chairs of all descriptions/shapes/sizes immediately on the street nearest the passing parade participants.

Everyone of this older set seemed to be enjoying the beautiful day, the passing bands, the ornate cars and farm implements and even the clowns when there appeared a “Circus-type” wagon with what appeared to be a gorilla in a cage. For all the world, “the gorilla” was doing his/her best to act as though it was a). A gorilla and b). Not happy to be inside the cage. Just upon reaching the closest point to the then seated octogenarians “the gorilla” broke through the “bars” of the cage and made an immediate move toward the group. Several in that group responded as anyone would by leaning back and away from “the gorilla” and several actually fell over backward in their chairs with legs and support hose pointing straight toward the heavens. Thankfully, no one, at least at that point, seemed to be injured. Those who had fell over backward were helped back into an upright position in their seat and “the gorilla” climbed back into the cage and moved on...

Have a great May...

I’ll write again this Summer...

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Trivia Question For May...

The Question: Memories from Previous Maple Leaf Festivals...

The Answers: Will be featured in the next issue of From the Arbor…(I know this is NOT a questions so much as a request...but, please just play along! :)

If you have a question or a topic that you believe would make a suitable “Monthly Trivia Question,” Please send it to me at:

jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu

Friend the Baker “Official” Facebook site and receive all the news as it happens on the University’s several campuses, athletic fields or with students/alumni!!! Friend us Today!!!
Process for Donating Stock to the University as a Gift...

I receive about a call or two every month asking how to go about donating stock to the university as a gift. I thought it might be wise to visit that subject in this month's Arbor. It is really not all that difficult a process as I just personally did the same thing in March just to test out the system. In my case, I went to my own brokerage firm (mine happens to be on-line). I went to the section entitled transfers and followed the instructions to fill out the information that I list below: (If your account is not on-line...just call your broker for help)...

Transfer to: M&L Marshall and Lisley Bank

DTC Participant #992

11270 West Park Place Suite 400

Milwaukee, WI 53224

F/B/O INTRUST Bank, N.A. #74-2051-01-4

For Further Credit to Baker University-Custody Account # 75-0083-08-1

INTRUST Wealth Management

105 N. Main

Wichita, KS 67202

Free Delivery/Receipts contact Phone # 414-815-3729

Settlement Contact Phone # 414-815-3518

Jerry L Weakley
VP Endowment & Planned Giving

Name of Stock_________________

Ticker Symbol___________

Number of Shares_______

THEN: Please call me, write me or email me to tell me of the forth-coming transfer and let me know your name and how you would like to apply the gift to the university (Annual Fund/Endowment) etc.

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, send a copy of your plan to us!