



From the Arbor

@ Baker University...

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

Volume 9, Issue 7

July-August, 2011

Numbers of Importance:

- *Recommend a student-* 800-873-4282
- *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

Public Comments Invited on Self-Study...

Baker University is seeking comments from the public about the University in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The University will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit on November 7-9, 2011 by a team representing The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. **Baker** University is a charter member of HLC and has been accredited since 1913. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the University:

Public Comment on **Baker** University
The Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed; comments cannot be treated as confidential. **All comments must be received by October 7, 2011**

Students Honored as Teachers of Promise...

Two **Baker** School of Education students were honored during the spring semester as Teachers of Promise. Kristen Burchett, Overland Park, and Matt Ellis, Topeka, were recognized during the Kansas Exemplary Educators Network State Education Conference at the Capital Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Topeka. Burchett received a Bachelor of Science degree in May, majoring in elementary education. Ellis received a Bachelor of Science degree from **Baker** in May, majoring in mathematics and secondary education. Congratulations Kristen and Matt!!!

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The **Arbor** has been Brought to You by...

Jim Kean '60 and his wife Becky, of Boulder, Colorado, made a gift that allowed the University to continue to mail copies of the **Arbor** by the US Post Office to those unable to receive it by e-mail again this past year! Thank you, Jim and Becky!!! If you would like to be the donor/sponsor of this fiscal year's editions please call me at 785-594-8332.

2011 Football Broadcasts...

Tom Hedrick '56, a member of the Athletic Hall of Fame, who for the past 23 years has been the voice of the **Baker Wildcat** Football team, has informed me of some changes upcoming for the 2011 season in the broadcasts that I want to pass along.

Broadcasts on KNBU-FM (Baldwin City-89.7) and on the internet will begin with the first game against **Ottawa** on August 27th. All ten games in football and the major portion of the basketball season, as well, will be carried by these two sources.

Previous studies have found that over 90% of the school's dedicated listeners do so over the internet, with some enjoying the broadcasts not only locally but from Florida all the way to California and beyond...(Iraq and Afghanistan).

Advertising dollars will now be used for the team instead of for **KOFO**, the broadcast station from Ottawa that carried **Baker** games for the past 22 years.

Hedrick will also be doing 5 home football and 6 home basketball games with live internet feeds. The first game on the internet will be against new conference foe, **Peru State** (Nebraska) September 3rd at 5:30.

Assisting with the broadcasts as he has for many of the past several years will be Hall of Famer and former **BU** Director of Athletics, (Disco) Dan Harris.

So, just how do you access a **Baker** game on the internet???

The best way is to place www.bakeru.edu in your browser and then click "athletics", click on football and then click on either "Schedule" or "Live-broadcast".

I hope you will listen in anytime you can't be at the stadium!!!

A Great Idea that We Are Going to Pursue...

J. Robert Ewbank '55 wrote last month and made a great suggestion. He asked if I had ever considered featuring the many books written by **Baker** graduates? (I have not...mainly because there is no such list of same). So...let's get a list going that gives me the name, and critical data of any published book by a former student or alumnus. Please include the author (naturally), title, date, publisher and brief description. I will list them as received in future **Arbors**. This should be very interesting!

Let's start with the book that Robert has authored..."John Wesley, Natural Man, and the 'Isms' 2009, Wipf and Stock Publishers, Eugene, Oregon. ISBN 13:987-1-60608-578-3. Thanks again for the great idea, Robert!!!

Feel free to write in about books of **Baker** authors that you are aware of as well as those written by you!

An Open Letter From the Women of Zeta Alpha of Phi Mu...

Dear **Baker** Community,

"From the Zeta Alpha Chapter of Phi Mu we would first like to say thank you for all the continued support we have received throughout this process over the last few months. We presented our appeal to the Phi Mu National Council on May 8th and received the decision of the Council on May 15th. The Council upheld their decision to suspend operations effective May 22nd.

At the end of the school year all 14 collegians became alumna members of Phi Mu. We are deeply saddened that we will no longer be able to participate as members of the Greek Community. It is the hope of the National Council as well as the ZA alumna that Phi Mu will be able to return to **Baker's** campus in the future.

Again we thank you for all the support that has helped us through this tough time.!"

Responses From Previous **Arbors**...

Several more correct answers (**WOOD HALL**) to the May **Arbor** trivia question were received from: Hilda Tessmer Klein '51, Charles Hill '56, D. Allen Polen '62 and Paul S. Coole '48. Hilda remembered Wood Hall as a woman's dormitory, while Paul recalls having lived in the basement and being a houseboy to the girls "up above" along with his roommate, Nelson Martin. Nelson was one of the "Martin Bombers" of football lore along with brothers Gorby and Burleigh. Allen remembered the dorm was actually made of stucco of a pale-blue nature (which I guess would really belie the name of the structure). Charles, who grew up in Baldwin, remembered having worked for a time as a high school student for Rhine Cleaners and made many deliveries to the residents of **WOOD HALL**. He also included several other wonderful memories of Baldwin/**Baker** from the 1930's to 1940's that I will try to use in future **Arbors**. Thanks one and all for taking the time to write!!!

UMY Institute Turned 100 This Summer...

This summer, UMY Institute (formerly UMYF Institute) celebrated 100 years of gathering at Baker University. The original Institute movement was the brainchild of the Epworth League and was designed to train young people to be leaders in their Epworth League chapters as well as their local churches.

In 1910 former Baker professor Homer K. Ebright '04 and his wife attended the 1910 Institute which was held in tents in a terribly muddy park in Bonner Springs, Kansas as representatives of Baker. It was during this Institute that Ebright initiated the formal invitation on behalf of the University to host the 1911 Institute on the campus and in the "dry classrooms" of Baker. That invitation was accepted by the Epworth League's General Secretary, Edwin M. Randall (Baker class of 1886) and thus set the stage for the first of what has now become 100 consecutive summers of Institute at Baker.

The Service of celebration of this notable event was held at the Baldwin First United Methodist Church on June 19th with speakers representing every decade of the Institute's history. The celebratory event was organized by Baker alumnus Curt Cooper '90. Reports I have received tell me it was a great day enjoyed by a full-house of former "institutors", family members and United Methodists of the region! Congratulations Curt for putting on such a great event in honor of this important part of Methodist history and Baker's heritage!!!

Kickoff Tailgate for the Victory Sports Network First Down Classic...

Saturday, August 27th 5-7 p.m.

Under the Wildcat Alumni tent ...

Baker's Liston Stadium, Baldwin City, KS

Wildcat football fans are gearing up for Ottawa's first visit to Liston Stadium in nearly two decades as part of the Victory Sports Network First Down Classic.

Join Baker University and generous sponsor, Kansas State Bank, for a pregame tailgate as we kick off the 2011 season. All alumni, students, parents, faculty and staff are welcome as hamburgers, baked beans, chips and beverages will be served. Also that evening, student community service organizations Baker Serves and Ottawa's GOTCHA will be collecting items for a food drive. I hope to see you there!!!

Baker Trivia for July-August...

Identify the college mascot pictured below and the Heart of America conference school that it represents...



The answer will be found in next month's Arbor.

Wandering Wildcats Trip: 2012...

The Wandering Wildcats trip planned for June of 2012 is really gathering steam. To date we have 35 individuals who have made a deposit on the trip. Additionally, some 15 other individuals and families are continuing to have interest in going with our group.

Last month's Arbor contained the wrong date for departure noted by several astute readers. The correct date for the start of the cruise is the 17th of June. It concludes on the 29th of June. We will be flying into Venice, Italy from any major airport nearest your own home. After a night aboard the Crown Princess we set sail for an 11 day/night cruise in the Adriatic, Aegean and Mediterranean visiting many of the most beautiful and historic ports of Croatia, Turkey, Greece and Italy.

Each month I am highlighting a different stop the ship will be making. The first stop featured last month was Dubrovnik, Croatia. The ship's next stop will be Corfu, Greece. The island of Corfu is located just off the west coast of Greece. Corfu enjoys a mild Mediterranean climate with excellent beaches, making it a popular destination for vacationers. Corfu is very green compared to other Greek islands: hot and dry summers along with winter rains create lush vegetation which is dominated by over 2 million olive trees. Though olives are the main cultivation, Corfu's tourism now provides the most income. Corfu is best known for its beauty along with its food and wine!

For further details or pricing you may contact me at either 785-594-8332 or jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu or John Novotny, our travel agent at Traveller's in Lawrence, Kansas at 785-749-0700. (As of about 8-9 years ago we discontinued printing color brochures and letters for mailing to our group due to the extreme costs that we were forced to recover.) You can always access the information on the ports and the specific ship at www.princess.com. I hope you will join us!!!

Alumni/Campus Activities...

August:

27...Tailgate party-and Game versus Ottawa.
Liston Stadium, 5:00 p.m. tailgate/7:00 game

October:

7...Fall Meeting of the Board of Trustees

7...Alumnus Author James Houston Turner '69
Reception-Book Signing. 3:45-5:30
Collins House. Public is invited

21/22...Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Banquet
in Overland Park, Kansas. Homecoming on the
Baldwin City campus the next day.

November:

7-9...On-campus visits by the HLC Accreditation
Team.

March:

3...The 4th Annual Scholarship Gala
Sheraton Convention Center and Hotel,
Overland Park, KS.

June 2012...Italy, Croatia, Greece and Turkey
cruise with the **Wandering Wildcats**.

Facebook Friends Continue to Grow...

Join hundreds of other former **Baker** students and
alumni on Facebook!

Find out nearly instantaneously what's happening
with your University and during the school year
get scores from all the teams almost as they hap-
pen by signing on to and "friending" the various
departments and athletic teams that are repre-
sented on Facebook. Get up to the minute notifi-
cations on events and happenings on campus and
with the Alumni Association.

See who you might find is also a "friend"!!!



June Trivia Question...

Name the former **Baker** president who initiated the
incorporation of an Epworth League Training
School as a formal part of its annual commencement
programming in 1901. This event is seen now as be-
ing one of several significant precursors to the even-
tual founding of the Epworth League Institute. In
1910, this same president expressed an interest in
hosting an Institute on the **Baker** campus which
came about in 1911.

The Answer... President **Lemuel Murlin** who served
as president of **Baker** from 1894-1911. (No one wrote
in with the correct answer this month! :()

Alumni Weekend Conjures up Old Stories...

Still hunting for and collecting a few stories of pranks
and other fun memories from previous years...the stories
of which are legend in some cases. I received one story
from **Ron Holland '62** in some form and now here at
publication time I have temporarily misplaced it! :(So,
if you have a story of a prank or other fun story from your
days at **Baker...**(**regardless of campus or school**) please
send them to me at jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu. For my
part, I will try to do a better job of not losing them like I
did with Ron's....(Note to Ron: Please send again!)

(I would love to see someone imminently involved to
write the story of the "Trial of Gack and Jaw"...)

Have a Great Month of **August...**
I'll write again in **September**

Jerry L. Weakley '70/MBA '92

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Rate Changes Coming from American Council on Annuities...

(There's some good news along with the not so good!)

For 30 + years, **Baker** has joined with an association of other universities and non-profits through the American Council on Gift Annuities (ACGA) to actively promote responsible philanthropy through actuarially sound gift annuity rate recommendations. The ACGA is a qualified nonprofit organization formed in 1927 as the Committee on Gift Annuities for the purpose of providing educational and other services to American charities regarding gift annuities and other forms of planned gifts. It was incorporated (as) a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 1993.

One of the primary activities of the Council is the publication of suggested charitable gift annuity rates for use by charities and their donors. The Council retains the services of an actuarial firm to advise and consult on matters pertaining to life expectancies and related matters. The Council has a long and distinguished record in this area, and its suggested rates have long been recognized, not only by charities and donors, but also by state insurance departments and the IRS as being actuarially sound and in the best interests of all parties involved. By offering the same rates as any other organization member, **Baker** has chosen not to try to "sell" such instruments to donors regardless of rate. In other words, it makes those that wish to place a Charitable Gift Annuity with the University interested in it and NOT the rate of the annuity they will receive.

The most recent findings of the ACGA is that annuitants are living longer than previous studies have suggested. This is interesting also because the study revealed that more males than in previous studies have begun taking out annuities with their favored charities! (I had long heard stories that if a person wants to live to an old age that they should "take out an annuity with the University")...and now, I guess that old adage may be coming true!

The only down side to these new findings is the fact that the new rates just published by the ACGA reflect a minor decrease in the rates offered to prospective annuitants. Even so, a Charitable Gift Annuity with **Baker** would still offer the following rates to a couple that are 70 and 65 years of age of over 5.2% with a gift amount to the University of 21% of the corpus and income tax based upon only 34.1 % of the return. The last time I checked my bank/savings and loan were offering something around a 2% return.

For more information on what a specific amount or rate based upon your age would return from a Charitable Gift Annuity with **Baker** please call me at 785-594-8332 or e-mail me at jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu. We can even work out a Fund Administration Agreement that dictates how the Charitable Remainder of your Annuity will be used by the University at the time of the passing of the Annuitant/survivor.



Jerry L. Weakley
Vice President
Endowment/Planned Giving

P.S. * The Above information is provided only for your consideration and should not be construed as "Legal or Tax Advice". You should 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 plans!*