Board of Trustees Meet…

The autumn meeting of the full Board of Trustees was held on Friday, October 29th on the Baldwin City campus with a retreat on Saturday, October 30th at the University’s Northland Campus in Kansas City on Tiffany Springs Road near MCI airport.

Major topics discussed on Friday were University’s finances along with an operational review update. Also on the agenda was a full discussion and solicitation of Board input to the University’s upcoming HLC accreditation self-study that leads to the campus visit scheduled for November, 2011.

The Saturday morning three-hour session was focused entirely on discussion and formulation of Board direction and input to the University’s Strategic Plan.

Baker Scholarship Gala Ahead…

The 3rd Annual Scholarship Gala will be held, Saturday, November 20th at the Hyatt Regency, Crown Center Hotel. This year’s theme is “LIVE-From the Orange Carpet”. As guests arrive they will experience treatment not unlike that which stars in Hollywood receive as they walk the Red carpet into each year’s Academy Awards program.

This year, the Gala will feature three separate auctions…a silent auction…a live auction for trips, a golf vacation and a wonderful Tom Russell painting and the annual auction which leads to direct support of numerous scholarships for outstanding students. The program will feature performances of students from the Buel Hill String Quartet, a piano performance by Baker senior, Will Duncan and a solo vocal by Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities, Matthew Potterton. Sharing the Master of Ceremonies responsibilities will be Johnny Rowlands ’73 and yours truly…(I will NOT be singing this year!) Please contact Kathy McCrary at 1-800-726-1554 for information/reservations. I hope to see you on the Orange carpet!
This month we are going to change things up just a bit and offer several opportunities for you to match wits with the old trivia provider. The first question is one open to pretty much everyone. It has origins in the earliest days of the University but continues being an active part of our culture. The pictures of individuals I’m asking you to identify will most likely be best suited for identification by a rather select number of CAS classmates from the mid-60’s to early 70’s. The pictures were such though that I thought everyone might enjoy seeing what was done in 1967 for a campus fund raiser!

The 1st Question: Name the 3 remaining designations given each entering CAS class...example...House of Hanover...

Questions 2-4...Name the individuals who pictures appeared in a 1967 “Play-mates Calendar”...

“Miss March”  “Miss December”  “Miss January”
Responses From the October Arbor…

Patricia Dunnavant ’62…”As always, I enjoyed reading the latest edition of Under The Arbor. Thanks for making me a year younger....at my age I'll take that extra year tacked onto my graduating date. What fun it was seeing a picture I recognized from my era at Baker. I actually graduated in 1962...suppose any of my classmates will catch that?” (No one noticed—probably because you look so young!)...(p.s. Remember Patty—my first line of responsibilities with Baker is fund raising! :))

Doug Parks ’78…”Jerry, just as a point of information. I don’t know any of the players in the picture but what you referred to as a tuba is actually a sousaphone and the instrument being played by the woman behind the trombone player is a baritone or euphonium. Either name is correct for that instrument.” (Thanks Doug...I knew I was in WAY over my head on that one...I should have paid more attention in my Man and the Fine Arts class!)

Gary Rayson ’79...Thanks for including my "special memory" of Baker Football in this month's Arbor. Although I did double major at Baker in mathematics, it was chemistry that has occupied my career (much to the credit of Prof. R. Milford White). I am currently a full Professor in Chemistry at New Mexico State University. I fear my colleagues in the Mathematics Department would not be impressed with my current "mastery" of that subject (my classes with Profs. Courtney, Forman, and Lynch were "many" years ago). Again, thanks for including my memory.” (You are welcome! Sorry for my having listed your academic field incorrectly! My brain must have had a chemical imbalance that day!)

Scott Chase ’93 (former Student SID)...Scott also knew the answer to the trivia question and was understandably miffed to learn he had been beaten out for being first with the correct answer by non-other than the editor of the Arbor’s son. (All I can say it is one of the first recorded times that Kevin has ever paid any attention to anything I have written or said! :) Sorry, Scott! Keep trying!)

Please feel free to send comments or replies to any Arbor by sending a note to me at:
Jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu

(Careful what you send...you may see it again! :))

Baker Homecoming—2010…

Here’s a miniature re-cap of everything you missed by not attending Homecoming year…

- 172 attended Hall of Fame Induction Banquet of:
  - Bob Courtney ’57
  - Bill White ’59
  - Fred Purvis ’70
  - Brad Roepke ’83
  - Terry Roepke ’85
  - Jessica Walters Ohlde ’02

- 11 former Hall of Fame Inductees attended dinner
- A beautiful Chapel service was held Sat. morning
- The trees on campus were just at peak color!!!
- Approximately 100 former players attended the Friday night banquet, tailgate lunch and game
- The earliest teams were represented by Hall of Famer Gene Chubb ’51 (1947-1950 teams)
- (a few returning players in the crowd from the tailgate luncheon and game that I saw and/or talked with...Will Montoya ’84, Chris Spires ’84, Charles Agro ’79, Tim Burkendine ’70, Mike Stouffer ’70, Roy Baker ’72, Tom Correll ’72, Tom Eppler ’73, Stan Shaw ’79, Ken Hargrove ’80, Bob Viola ’79, John Heckathorne ’79, Doug Wince ’80, George Shore ’54, Andrew Patch ’07, Jack Armstrong ’57, Ernie Anselmi ’52, Ric Nepote ’81, former Coach and AD, Dan Harris and a special Homecoming attendee was former first lady, Ginny Walker.
- The stands were full for the football game
- A short but wind-blown rain storm hit just minutes before the halftime but was gone in 2-3 minutes
- Baker won the football game 23-12! (now 4-4!)
- Ladies’ Soccer team won over Lindenwood 2-0
- Men’s Soccer team won over Lindenwood 4-3
- Men’s Basketball team scrimmaged the alumni
- Adam Steele, junior linebacker from O.P. KS was named conference Defensive Player of the Week
- Homecoming Week competition results:
  - Homecoming Queen: Molly Schmeidler (nominated by Alpha Chi Omega)
  - Homecoming King: Andrew Linenberger (nominated by Zeta Chi)
- Winners of the overall Homecoming Week Competition was the team of:
  - Alpha Chi Omega
  - Kappa Sigma

It was a GREAT Homecoming Weekend! We hope you will arrange your schedule to attend next year!
Alaskan Adventure-2011...Please Join Us…

For more information on the Alaska cruise schedule for June, 2011 please contact John Novotny, our travel advisor from Travellers in Lawrence. John has all the details and current pricing information. John can be reached at 1-800-382-6700. Hope to see YOU aboard!!!

Upcoming Events…

NOVEMBER
11th - Baker After-Hours Social / Dallas
5:30pm to 7:30pm at Fox Sports Grill, The Shops at Legacy, 5741 Legacy Rd., Plano, TX

20th – Gala – 6pm - Cocktail Reception & Silent Auction/7:30pm – Dinner & Program
Hyatt Regency Crown Center

DECEMBER
5th– 80th Annual Christmas Candlelight Vespers
December 5th, 4:00 and 7:30 p.m.
First United Methodist Church, Baldwin City

9th – Baker Donor Appreciation Holiday Celebration – 5 to 7 pm Collin’s House, Baldwin City
(By Invitation Only)

Baker Trivia Answer for October…

The question: Name the 2008 Baker Graduate that is currently the long-snapper for the New York Jets of the NFL… (His number is 46 and he was mentioned for having good/sure hands during a rainy Monday-night game last month.)
The Answer: Tanner Purdum. After graduation he added over 70 lbs through diet and workouts. Then he sent DVD’s to all NFL teams asking for a tryout. The Jets responded and later signed Tanner. Congratulations and best wishes for a great season and career!!! The first person with the correct answer was an alumnus named Kevin Weakley ’91… hum...name sounds familiar!!! :)

Sunflowers Grow in California…

I had a note and a picture of a couple of good old Kansas Sunflowers grown in the wine country of Napa, California. The picture came from Bill and Jeanne O’Byrne class of 1953. Thanks for the picture, but please, don’t try to make any wine from those seeds! :)

Have a Great Month (and Happy Thanksgiving) in November…
I’ll write again in December!

Jerry L. Weakley ‘70/’92
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Changes Coming in 2011...

Provided the changes that came about in the political scenery on Tuesday, November 2nd weren’t enough to hold you for a while, there are changes a-plenty forthcoming on January 1st. The changes I write of now concern taxes...which will undoubtedly affect the great majority of citizens of this country.

A host of tax provisions enacted in 2001 and 2003--commonly referred to collectively as the "Bush Tax Cuts"--expire at the end of the year. While it's possible that new legislation could extend some or all of these expiring tax provisions, election-year politics make it difficult to predict what action, if any, Congress will take. With that in mind, here's what you need to know about the major changes that are scheduled at this time for 2011.

Federal income tax brackets:

Right now, there are six income tax brackets: 10%, 15%, 25%, 28%, 33%, and 35%. For 2010, these brackets apply to married couples filing joint federal income tax returns in the following manner: In 2011 (provided there is no change to current legislation) there will be no 10% bracket and the remaining brackets will revert to their pre-2002 levels: 15%, 28%, 31%, 36% and 39.6%.

Long-term capital gains tax rates:

For 2010, if you sell shares of stock that you've held for more than a year, any gain is a long-term capital gain, generally taxed at a maximum rate of 15%. If you're in the 10% or 15% marginal income tax bracket, however, you'll pay no federal tax on the long-term gain (a 0% tax rate applies). That means if you're a married couple filing a joint federal income tax return, and your taxable income is $68,000 or less, you pay no federal tax on the gain. **However, these rates expire at the end of 2010.** Beginning in 2011, a 20% rate will generally apply to long-term capital gains. Individuals in the 15% tax bracket (remember, there won't be a 10% bracket in 2011) will pay the tax at a rate of 10%. Special rules (and slightly lower rates) will apply for qualifying property held for five years or more. Finally, while qualifying dividends are taxed in 2010 using the same capital gains tax rates described above (i.e., 15% and 0%), in 2011 they'll be taxed as ordinary income subject to the increased 2011 tax brackets.

Other changes include:

Changes to the Estate Tax, a phase-out of itemized deductions and exemption amounts for higher-income individuals, the return of the “Marriage Penalty” and other assorted cuts in tax credits.

I suggest you contact your legal/financial advisor now so that you can learn more about how to protect your income and your estate from many of these changes!

P.S. Call me at 785-594-8332 if you would like more information on how to make a gift to Baker using any number of appreciated assets.

*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. Crescendo software is often used to prepare estimates.*

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!