

UT Health Science Center - RETIREE ASSOCIATION

# POSTSCRIPTS

## General Membership Meeting

- WHEN:** Thursday, **June 25**, 2009
- TIME:** 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
- WHERE:** Room 305, Student Alumni Center
- LUNCH:** Reservations Only  
Call June Medvec, 901-837-1423, to make reservations. Family members and guests are welcome.
- COST:** \$7 (First time attendees receive free meal.)
- PARKING:** **NOTE THE SAC GARAGE IS CLOSED FOR RENOVATION.** Free parking is available in J, F, or I lots.
- PROGRAM:** **Speaker - Dr. Mary A. Aubertin**  
Topic: Medications and the Retiree.

### DO YOU HAVE NEWS?

Please send any items of interest for Postscripts to Carolyn Gibson, Editor. E Mail to [cgibson@utm.edu](mailto:cgibson@utm.edu) or send by snail mail to 2686 Meadow Hill Cove, Germantown, TN 31838.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

2009 LUNCHEON MEETING DATES  
SEPTEMBER 17  
DECEMBER 11

### ID BADGES REQUIRED !!

Retirees must have UT ID Badges to enter the SAC. Badges are free and may be procured at the UT Campus Police Office

June, 2009

## From the President

My term as President of the Retirees Association is almost over, and it seems like only yesterday that I became President. The next meeting on June 25 will be my last meeting as President. I want to thank all of the retirees for the support that they have given me this past year and the Executive Board, in particular, for all of their hard work. One of our achievements has been the development and implementation of a web site for the Retirees Association ([www.utm.edu/retirees](http://www.utm.edu/retirees)). This web site will be used as much as possible to communicate with all retirees. If you have not yet accessed the web site, please do so, and make suggestions about how the site can be improved to be more useful for all retirees.

As will be documented elsewhere in this issue of Postscripts, we were all very saddened at the recent passing of our long time friend and colleague, Bill Robinson. Bill was a true friend and advocate of UTHSC and the UT system and was beloved by all who knew him, particularly students. Commencement will never really be the same without Bill's guiding hand, and his invariably accurate predictions of exactly how long the ceremony would take, almost to the minute!! In addition, his instructions to the Commencement speaker usually included some reference to the trapdoor under the podium that was programmed to open suddenly if the speaker went over the allotted time!! Bill was a true gentleman.

The Executive Board has established the William (Bill) C Robinson Academic Support Fund in the Student Academic Support Services (SASS) and this fund, administered by the Director of SASS, Kathy Gibbs, will be used to benefit all students who may have need of extra academic support through tutoring or access to distance learning. I can think of no better way to honor Bill's memory than the establishment of this fund. If any retiree would like to contribute to this fund, please contact Kathy Gibbs at 901-448-5056 or at [sass@utm.edu](mailto:sass@utm.edu).

This is usually the time that new officers of the Retirees Association are elected, specifically a Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and at large Board members. Sherrill Wolf, the current Treasurer, has agreed to continue in this position for at least one more year. June Medvec who has served tirelessly as Secretary since 2005 has indicated that she would like to be replaced. At-large Board member Erv Geiger has moved to Florida, and a replacement for this position is needed. Also, at-large Board members Teavell Cannon and Ed Orr have served for more than four years and have indicated their desire to be replaced.

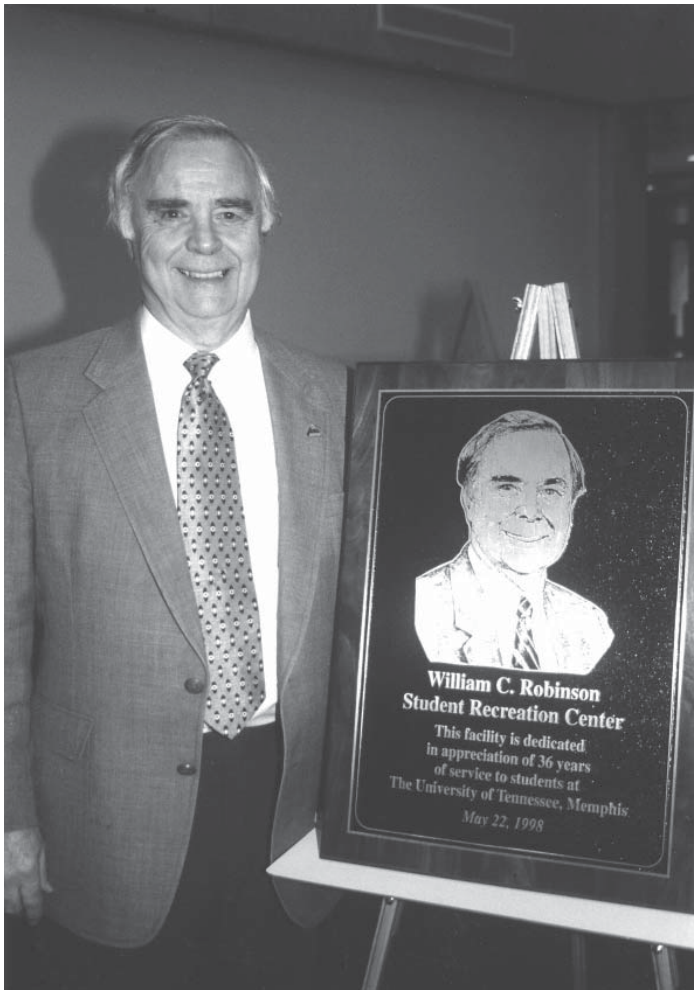
Although election for officers normally occurs at the June meeting, the Executive Board, acting as a nominating committee, has determined that the elections should be delayed until September so that those retirees, particularly non-faculty, who are interested in serving in leadership positions in the Retirees Association can be identified and/or express their desire to serve.

The Executive Board is also in the process of revising the Constitution and Bylaws so that:

1. The Secretary and Treasurer are both elected for a two year term;
  2. The immediate Past President chairs the Executive Board; and
  3. The number and term of office for the at-large Board members are revised.
- These Constitution and Bylaw changes will be presented to the Retirees Association for approval at the September meeting.

The Retirees Association is in good hands with the new President, Harry Mincer, and I have no doubt that he will lead the Association forward. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the luncheon meeting on June 25.

Peter D. Jones



## TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM C. "BILL" ROBINSON

*By Jim Stockdale, U.T. colleague and friend for 47 years.*

Bill Robinson, revered Emeritus Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, died on April 29, 2009, after a long battle with pulmonary fibrosis. He was a past president of the Retirees Association. Bill had a thirty-six year career with the University of Tennessee, all in the area of student affairs, from 1962 until his retirement in 1998. Bill's accomplishments were many, highlighted by the design, planning and building of the Wassell-Randolph Student Alumni Center complex finished in 1969, which he then had the responsibility for managing. During his career he had all non-academic student departments reporting to him including: Admissions, Registrar, Financial Aid, Food Services, Student Housing, Bookstore, Student Life, Campus Recreation, Student Government, and many more. Many of Bill's achievements included the editing and management of the school's yearbook, *The Asklepion*; the building of the UT Doc's Sports Field; the creation of the Imhotep Society; and in starting and assisting the Student Government Association Executive Council (SGAEC). He is beloved by thousands of graduates whom he nourished and counseled as students over the years. Bill planned, organized, directed, and loved serving as Grand Marshall for a total of 134 University Commencements which he continued until the onset of his illness. Upon his retirement, the University honored him by naming the school's athletic facility (gymnasium, swimming pool, exercise facilities & racquetball courts) the "William C. Robinson Student Recreation Center." Upon retirement Bill continued to serve the University by working in a part time position with the Office of Alumni & Development. Bill was instrumental in doing most of the initial work in putting together much of the University's oral history archives for former leading faculty and administrators.

Bill was a lay leader for many years in the Whitehaven United Methodist Church. He was also Chairman of the Board of the Wesley School. Bill was a long term member and past president of the Whitehaven Kiwanis Club. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of forty-five years, Sylvia. He leaves two daughters, Wendy Clayton and Suzy Turman; a sister, Nannette Grimm; and three grandchildren.

Perhaps the best tribute to Bill is "that he never met a stranger." Whether, student, faculty or staff, Bill was always there to help get the job done. And with a smile. Nobody ever heard him say "no" to any request. He will be sorely missed.

## IN MEMORIAM

*William Cox "Bill" Robinson, April 29, 2009, Emeritus Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.*

*Roy Shane, III M.D., March 28, 2009, Professor of Pediatric Nephrology.*

*Lorene Hill Tipton, April 29, 2009, College of Medicine, Coleman Building.*

## RECENT RETIREES

### CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME!!

**Sharon Lisa Baker Gooch**, Business Manager, College of Allied Health Sciences.

**Mark A. Bozicevich**, Supervisor, Biomedical Instrumentation.

**Mary Catherine Barnes Scallions**, Coordinator, Restorative Dentistry.

**Donnell F. Russell**, HD Ref and Air Mechanic, Physical Plant Building.

**Melvin Willis**, Maintenance Mechanic, Physical Plant Building.



## RETIREE SPOTLIGHT



*Sherrill with his eight grandchildren in chronological order left to right: Ethan, Quinton, Sarah Kate, Kayla, Avery, Cora, Samuel, Layne, and wife, Linda.*

The spotlight is shining on **Sherrill Wolf**! Sherrill began work for the University in 1964 on the Nashville Campus, an Extension night school that included an undergraduate program and a graduate college of social work. The campus was located on Broad Street in Nashville; the student body numbered 1500. Sherrill was Assistant Manager of the Nashville UT Bookstore, became Manager, and stayed until 1971. He left to work for the Internal Revenue Service, but kept that position only a short time before coming to UTHSC in 1972 as Assistant General Store Manager. He was promoted to Manager, and next became Director of Auxiliary Services in 1995, an administrative job he held until his retirement June 30, 2007. With over 41 years of service to UT, Sherrill says the most difficult adjustment to retirement was getting used to becoming a part-time employee, because he now works three days a week as consultant to the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Finance and Operations. Sherrill also serves as Treasurer of the UT Retirees Association.

When working full time, Sherrill says his work was interesting with diverse responsibilities that made every day different. One of the biggest challenges Sherrill faced was the advent of the Internet. Students began ordering books and supplies online, a practice that changed the profit margin for the store. Since last July, Barnes and Noble operates the UTHSC Bookstore, a large chain that manages many university and college stores across the nation.

Sherrill is active in his church, Boulevard Baptist, in Southaven MS. where he teaches the Young Married Sunday School class, and before that he was a teacher of older adults. Sherrill can't escape financial duties even in retirement; he is also Treasurer of his Pinehurst Subdivision Neighborhood Homeowners Association.

Sherrill and his wife, Linda, have eight grandchildren ranging in age from three years to nine years. To visit the grandchildren, Sherrill and Linda travel to San Antonio, TX, West Lafayette, IN, and Franklin TN. Linda retired three years before Sherrill. His advice to the newly retired is to develop hobbies. Sherrill enjoys reading, especially mystery novels. Look forward to seeing Sherrill at each retiree's luncheon meeting; he is the man at the front table collecting lunch money and dues! UTHSC retirees are lucky to have such an experienced and conscientious financial expert on our Board.

# HIGHLIGHTS

March 19, 2009 Luncheon Meeting

Dr. Peter Jones opened the meeting by introducing Bethany K. Goolsby, J.D., Assistant Vice Chancellor for Planned Giving. Ms Goolsby discussed various options for charitable giving to UTHSC including gifts of: cash, appreciated assets, bequests, and life income gifts including charitable annuity trusts, single-life gift annuities and annuities established in wills. Other options include life estate contracts and gifts of retirement assets.

Ms. Goolsby spoke about the Hershel P. Wall, M.D. Legacy Society that was “established to honor the distinguished alumni and special friends who have made a commitment to the University of Tennessee Health Science Center through a planned gift arrangement.” For more detailed information on donations to UTHSC visit the web site, [www.plannedgiving.tennessee.edu](http://www.plannedgiving.tennessee.edu) or contact MS. Goolsby by phone (448-5516) or e-mail, [bgoolsby@utm.edu](mailto:bgoolsby@utm.edu).

Chancellor Wall provided an update on university issues including recent administrative changes since the resignation of UT President, Dr. John Petersen, effective June 30, 2009. Dr. Jan Simek is serving as Interim President, and Dr. Jimmy Cheek has been recruited as the next President. Updates on each College follow:

**Allied Health:** The Dean of Allied Health, Dr. William Frey, retired in December. Dr. Barbara Connolly, Chair of the Physical Therapy Department is serving as Interim Dean. Dr. Connolly is nationally recognized in her field and is willing to serve until the position is filled.

**Dentistry:** Recent Commercial Appeal articles have focused on problems in the College of Dentistry, a school that was among the top five in the nation fifteen years ago. Today, the school is ranked near the bottom with an aging building and the need to recruit new faculty and upgrade equipment. An accreditation site visit for this College is scheduled for next year. A new Dean has been named, Dr. Tim Hottle, who comes to UTHSC from Case Western. Dr. Wall emphasized that Dr. Winfield Dunn has been instrumental in tirelessly advocating for the College and spearheading efforts to raise necessary funds. Fifteen million dollars is needed to renovate, upgrade, and provide operating funds. Focus is on rebuilding research initiatives, filling empty chairs, and recruiting faculty. Dr. Wall is optimistic that positive change and growth are on the immediate horizon for the UT College of Dentistry, the oldest College of its kind in the South.

**Graduate Health Sciences:** Dr. Ed Schneider is Interim Dean of this College that includes: Programs and Chairs in Biomedical Engineering and Imaging, Dentistry, Epidemiology, Health Science Administration, Integrated Program in Biomedical Sciences, Nursing, and Pharmaceutical Sciences. This College is being restructured with input from consultants from the University of Massachusetts, Vanderbilt, and Emory. Consultation also comes from leaders at St. Jude, an integral partner with UTHSC.

(Editor’s note: Since this retirees meeting, Dr. Cheryl Scheid, Ph.D, was named interim dean after Dr. Schneider stepped down. Dr. Scheid is also Vice Chancellor of Academic and Faculty Affairs and is UTHSC Provost.)

**Medicine:** Dean of the College of Medicine, Dr. Steve Schwab, has filled seven empty chairs. Dr. Wall expects the Institute of Transplant Surgery to be among the top ten in the nation.

**Nursing:** Dean of the College of Nursing, Dr. Donna Hathaway, is nationally recognized in her field. The BSN program in the College is being phased out and ends with the graduation of the current class in December 2009. The College will continue to offer two graduate level programs, Doctor of Nursing Practice and the two-year program, Clinical Nurse Leader, which leads to the MSN degree.

**Pharmacy:** The UTHSC College of Pharmacy is ranked number 16 (out of 110) schools in the nation. Dean, Dick Gourley, Pharm.D., opened another Pharmacy school on the Knoxville campus last year. Enrollment will be 160 to 200 students. In 2010, the new Pharmacy Building will open on the UTHSC campus, the first building funded by state dollars on this campus in 20 years.

The remainder of Dr. Wall’s time was spent answering questions about relationships with partnering hospitals, discussions about the vital role of The Med to the MidSouth area, and the financial issues that remain problematic for The Med.

Dr. Jones concluded the meeting with thanks to Dr. Wall.