

# REA NEWSLETTER

Spring 2024



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear REA members,

Happy 2024! It was nice to see everyone at the annual Holiday Social and Luncheon. Here's to a wonderful new year.

Thanks to Tori Bennett for coordinating the event and for being an excellent liaison with the Division of Advancement, Dan Lucas for the Foundation update, Ellen Till and Anna Lochas for the table decorations and the door prize baskets, and all of the Board members for their valuable contributions of time and service.

We have some upcoming events at the CFPA and at the Sports Complex listed in our events section, and we hope to see you there.

If you have an interest in serving on the Board please give me a shout out. We meet once a month, and we would love your input.

As you can probably tell we have a solid relationship with the Pensacola Camellia Club. The Camilla Garden on campus was created by past members Gordon Eade and Ben Williamson. We try to honor their memories by keeping it clean while creating a beautiful serene spot on campus for meditation and study.

We are:  
Staying Involved, Keeping Informed.  
Bill Healey



Retired Employees  
Association  
UNIVERSITY of WEST FLORIDA

# UPCOMING SPRING EVENTS

## **Cocoa and Camellias**

Wed. February 14  
10:00 a.m.  
@ UWF Camellia Garden

## **Camellia Garden Work Day**

Sat. February 24  
9:00 a.m.  
@ UWF Camellia Garden

## **Gardening Demonstrations and Plant Sale by PCC**

Sun. February 25  
12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
@ UWF Camellia Garden

## **Dutch Treat Lunch**

Mon. March 4  
11:30 a.m.  
@ Taylor's Lunch  
& Breakfast

## **Camellia Garden Tour with PCC & Leisure Learning**

Sat. March 13  
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
@ UWF Camellia Garden

## **REA Day at the Ball Park UWF Baseball & Softball**

Sat. April 6  
1:00 p.m.  
@ UWF Jim Spooner Field

## **The Drowsy Chaperone**

Sun. April 14  
2:30 p.m.  
@ UWF CFPA

## **REA Annual Meeting**

Thur. May 9  
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
@ Argonaut Athletic Club

# REA EVENT RECAP - OKTOBERFEST 2023

We held an Oktoberfest celebration on Saturday, October 14, 2023 at the UWF Aquatic Center Courtyard.



Barbara & Tom Henderson & Ellen Till



Pat & Reeder Smith

# REA EVENT RECAP - OKTOBERFEST 2023



Linda & Sam Gibbs



Anna Shiplee & Louise Tolbert



Kay & Doug Friedrich



Tulsa & Grady Morein



Pete Young



Judy & Jim Weaver

# REA EVENT RECAP - OKTOBERFEST 2023



Ingrid & Carl Backman



Anna Lochas & Ellen Till



Jacqui & Bob Berger



Rick Koch & Kris Behan



Pat Dyehouse



Ellen Till, Bill Healey, & Carl Backman

# REA EVENT RECAP - HOLIDAY PARTY 2023

We hosted our annual Holiday Party on Thursday, December 7, 2023 at the UWF Conference Center.



# REA EVENT RECAP - HOLIDAY PARTY 2023



# REA EVENT RECAP - HOLIDAY PARTY 2023



# CONNOR'S

# ORNER



## Happy New Year everyone!

Connor here. I hope you are looking forward to 2024 just as I am. Mom has arranged for me to get some physical therapy for my arthritis (and hopefully to lose some of the extra weight I picked up during the COVID time.) So now, once or twice a week I get to take a stroll in what is called an underwater treadmill. The water bears some of the weight letting me walk longer and easier, strengthening the muscles and using up extra calories. Boy, as my mom says, getting old ain't for sissys. It takes hard work and dedication. This summer I will turn 12 (that's 84 in dog years!) I'll be working hard to make sure that I can continue to spread some canine love both at the Airport and at Mom's favorite University, UWF.

## MEMBER SUBMISSION

Poem by Louise Tolbert

Over the bridge to Pensacola I came  
To Azalea Trace on floor six  
The apartment is small but fine after all  
And the services the best so they claim.

The residents are friendly that certainly is so  
And the food gets prizes it's true  
120 acres are kept by those very adept  
My decision was a good one I know.

Former neighbors and friends I can always see  
I am just twenty four miles from my home  
UWF is next door so I have friends very near  
And people pay visits to me.

The schedule is full with classes and fun  
Exercise is very easy to do  
I am in the gym, the library and the halls  
And daily see the rise of the sun.

Wishes are coming from the old email address  
The landline did not move with me  
The cell is the same so please give me a call  
To hear me praise life without stress.

10100 Hillview Dr. apt 601 is the place  
32514 is the zip  
Pensacola is the town where I now reside  
In lovely Azalea Trace.

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## Joy Ward invites REA members to parkrun at UWF

I am more of a walker than runner, and I enjoy the outdoors. That's how I got involved with parkrun. It gets me out of the house Saturday mornings to arrive at Rec Plex North on UWF's campus for the start at 7:30am sharp. Sometimes I do a walk/run and sometimes I just come out to volunteer and share a smile and an encouraging cheer at the finish line. There is usually about 70 participants in the timed 5K. We see fit young people to energetic 80-year-olds. Dog walkers are welcome too (if your pooch is leashed and well-behaved). It's nice to see so many people experience the satisfaction of getting more active. Each week we have a post run coffee social at the Argonaut Village Starbucks. Parkrun is an international organization that is free to join. Pensacola's parkrun has a unique partnership with UWF in that parkrun at Rec Plex North is the first American parkrun on a university campus. Why not come check it out? For more information, visit the website.

Pensacola's Rec Plex North parkrun/walk  
<https://www.parkrun.us/recplexnorth/>



## IN REMEMBRANCE

**David Seiler**  
July 2023

**Ina Freeman**  
August 2023

**Elaine Smith**  
October 2023

**Jack Broach**  
December 2023

**Bobbie Curtis**  
December 2023

**Paul Hamilton**  
December 2023

**Annie Ruth Howard**  
January 2024

# REMEMBER WHEN

Article from the July 31, 1986 issue of the UWF Fountain.

## Student activities director sets priorities for new post

James R. Hurd has been named director of student activities at UWF.

Hurd, who has a master's degree in student personnel services from Northwestern State University of Louisiana, has been program director of the Texas A&M University Memorial Student Center since June 1984. He also served Texas A&M as a program adviser and as a senior program adviser.

"After nearly two years of searching for a student activities director, we are delighted to have selected someone with the experience of Jim Hurd," said Ken Curtis, UWF vice president for student affairs.

Hurd already has identified priorities to be accomplished after his Aug. 8 arrival at UWF. "First, I want to find out what the student organizations feel their needs are, to give us a basis from which to work," said Hurd, who plans to solicit the input of Greeks and other student groups by making personal visits to their meetings.

Another priority is an evaluation of the facility which houses the student activities office and the existing programs of student activities.

"Possibilities include a student art



James Hurd

gallery, additional lounge space to make the facility more inviting to students and more meeting room space to get student organizations back in the building," Hurd said. "The goal is to strengthen the affiliation students feel toward the university."

Hurd and his wife, Patti, both Georgia natives, and their 6-month-old daughter, Jenny, will reside in Milton.

Jim worked at the University until his retirement in 2019. He and his wife Patti now live in Apex, North Carolina, a suburb of Raleigh. They have three daughters and seven grandchildren.

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please let us know if you would like to include anything in the next newsletter. We would like to include some narrative and pictures about travel, hobbies, or other experiences that would be of interest to other members. Please send this information to [rea@uwf.edu](mailto:rea@uwf.edu)