

The Emeriti News

A Quarterly Newsletter for Northwestern University Emerita & Emeritus Faculty

On the web at <https://emeriti.northwestern.edu/emeriti-news/>

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Spring 2021, Issue #22 – Evanston, Illinois

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By [Roger Boye](#)

As the expression goes, the best things in life are free, and that is true of our membership in the Northwestern Emeriti Organization.

Unlike comparable groups at many other universities, there is no annual membership fee. We can take NEO mini-courses in conjunction with the Evanston Public Library for free. Four times a year, as if by magic, a professionally edited newsletter appears in our inboxes. And on the other side of the coronavirus, "Rediscover NU" will resume, where NEO members living in the Chicago area can enjoy behind-the-scenes, VIP visits to special sites on the Evanston and Chicago campuses. Even for some events at which there is a charge, such as a fancy NEO luncheon or dinner, the university pays about half the cost.

Still, as I noted in my column in the winter newsletter, NEO could be doing more to serve the nearly 30 percent of our members who live outside the greater Chicago area (that is, in zip codes that begin with numbers other than "60").

Judging from recent feedback, if there is a silver lining to the coronavirus, it is that all of our members now have live, real-time access to our monthly programs and speakers. With Zoom, the audience size no



NEO President Roger Boye during his presentation to NEO on the history of Medill, February 3, 2021, on Zoom. (See our [report](#) below.)

longer is limited to the capacity of an Evanston-area restaurant. Members on both coasts and elsewhere say it is exciting to be part of these programs and hope that access will continue in one form or another once the virus subsides.

Another comment I hear often is high praise for our quarterly newsletter. The [winter issue](#), for example, was 20 pages of quality content from start to finish. The credit goes to librarian emeritus and newsletter editor [Jeff Garrett](#) and his small team, who spend an enormous amount of time assigning and editing stories as well as designing the pages. It is no easy chore and Jeff has been at it now for more than two years. One section among others that draws accolades is “Passings” (as sad as it is to hear that news), expertly produced by our emeritus colleague [George Harmon](#). As fellow NEO member **Willard Fry** said in an email, reading that section reminds him of how lucky he was to have worked with such remarkable colleagues.

Finally, emerita **Paula Stern**, who lives in the state of Washington, asks whether there would be any benefit from having someone outside the “60” zip codes serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Council. That’s an intriguing idea. Historically, virtually all members of the Council have been from the Chicago area, in part because, pre-virus, the Council always met in person on or near campus.

It is a little early to know whether the Council could be expanded because the NEO Charter would have to be revised. But if there is one thing the coronavirus has taught NEO leaders, it is, in planning events, to consider the interests of *all* our members no matter where they might live.

FROM THE EDITOR

By [Jeff Garrett](#), Editor, *The Emeriti News*

Past NEO president [David Zarefsky](#) memorably described attaining emeritus status as a “promotion.” And truly, it is an honor many still fully employed colleagues can only be jealous of. One thing that makes it such a privilege is the release from teaching, research, and publishing obligations, though many of us continue to be active in all of these areas. But we are also free to do whatever else we please—without losing retirement benefits.

We document this “whatever else” on the pages of this newsletter. In our last issue, for example, we advertised the new Photography Interest Group, formed by past NEO president [Al Telser](#). In that same issue, on the “Emeriti Bookshelf,” we drew attention to NEO member **Peter Dallos**’s late-in-life emergence as a sculptor in metal, with his recent work “Modern Times,” inspired by the films of Charlie Chaplin and Fritz Lang. Several of the books we highlight on our pages are *not* scholarly (though some are), but rather crime novels, genealogical studies, or informal life retrospectives—with science and research offered, if at all, only as background or digressions. And finally, perhaps the *pièce de resistance*, in our last issue we published poetry by a nuclear engineer, **Elmer Lewis**. Retired humanities scholars may scoff, but personally, given the choice, I would much rather read a poem by an engineer than drive over a bridge



Photo credit: Nina Barrett

designed by a poet. So, yes, we will continue to feature poems by engineers—and yours, too, if you have some good ones—in *the Emeriti News*.

You will find this issue’s dose of whimsy at the tail end of this issue: [Don’t peek!](#) Instead, read on! There’s much to enjoy in this issue of ***The Emeriti News!***

PROVOST’S CORNER

By [Celina Flowers](#), Assistant Provost

On March 10, just as this newsletter was going to press, Northwestern Provost [Kathleen Hagerty](#) sat down via Zoom with about 50 members of the Northwestern Emeriti Organization to discuss the State of the University, and I want to devote my column this issue to summarizing her remarks.



Assistant Provost for Faculty Celina Flowers

Provost Hagerty began by recalling the numerous challenges the university community has faced over this past year of Covid-19, and how we have succeeded in meeting those challenges. First and foremost has been the protection of the **health and safety** of our community members in a landscape that has been shifting constantly, having to coordinate with so many entities, including the CDC and the Illinois, Chicago, and Evanston departments of public health. Then there has been the **transition to remote instruction**. Beginning last year in March, our faculty accomplished the herculean task of switching everything to virtual delivery in just two weeks’ time. While all this was happening, we have been challenged to provide transparent, responsive, and coordinated **communication to all stakeholders**, including students, their families, staff, faculty, and alums. The **research enterprise** was massively disrupted: people have not been able to travel to conduct research, and libraries and archives have been closed physically. **Campus culture** has been impacted and



Provost Hagerty during our conversation on March 10—in full heavy-lifting mode.

transformed: having to adjust to remote work and engagement, moving large campus events online—commencement, Dance Marathon, campus tours, among others. Res halls and dining have been reinvented. And, of course, **athletics**: “I could talk a long time about athletics,” the provost said.

Planning is now underway for what a **post-pandemic world** will look like. With the easing of restrictions and the hope of wider vaccinations on the horizon, we

are finally able to start thinking about gradually saying “yes” to things, which of course necessitates very careful planning.

We don’t necessarily want to go back entirely to the pre-pandemic way of operating. What we’re trying to do is to take the best of what is working well, and find ways to keep those practices. For example, there are many good things about Zoom and virtual instruction. It can help students with a wide array of different learning styles be able to engage more fully in the course. Students really like having recorded lectures that they can review at their own pace, and being able to have breakout groups and instant poll or quiz options. We want to keep these learning tools but begin bringing back the in-person interactions and social aspects that they (and all of us) really miss.

In a wide-ranging Q&A following the provost’s remarks, NEO members asked many questions, among them about her vision for **the role of NEO**. Provost Hagerty emphasized the importance of NEO for sustaining social ties and connections; helping potential and new retirees acclimate to an important new phase in their lives and careers; as well as providing an intellectual community and home for them. In closing this worthwhile event, Roger Boye thanked Provost Hagerty for sharing both her time and her insights, inviting her back to a NEO gathering in a new and transformed post-pandemic world.

THE NEW IN MEMORIAM SECTION ON THE NEO WEBSITE

The NEO website now has a new link along the top rail: [In Memoriam](#).

It will announce the most recent passings of NEO members. The Executive Council felt that “In Memoriam” would be a better way to keep NEO members up-to-date with the sad news than sending emails on the listserv.

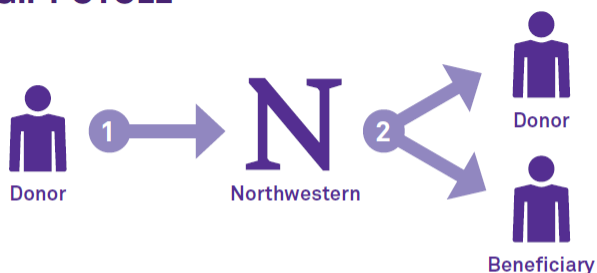
Deceased members will still be recognized with longer, more detailed tributes in the “[Passings](#)” column of *The Emeriti News*, written and edited by emeritus colleague [George Harmon](#). But three or four months can go by between issues of the newsletter so “In Memoriam” will serve as an information bridge in the meantime.

NEO administrative assistant [Jason Abbas](#) created the link and maintains the page.—[Roger Boye](#)

THE CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY: THE GIFT THAT GIVES BACK BY [AUGIE BOSSU](#), ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, GIFT PLANNING

Are you considering a deferred gift to support Northwestern? Are you interested in receiving fixed income for the rest of your life and/or the life of a loved one? Do special tax advantages like a sizeable tax deduction and the potential avoidance of income tax payment appeal to you? If so, please consider establishing a **charitable gift annuity** (CGA) with the University.

GIFT CYCLE



1. You transfer assets to Northwestern and receive a tax deduction.
2. Northwestern pays you, and up to one other individual, a fixed amount of income for life.

special event occurs, such as retirement or turning a certain age. Your payout rate is locked in at the time the CGA is established.

- The CGA has been a popular gift option among alumni and friends of Northwestern for decades. In fact, a number of retired faculty members have set up CGAs and have been enjoying the benefits for years.

There are Special Tax Advantages . . .

- Upon establishing a CGA, you will be entitled to a federal income tax deduction equal to the present value of the gift.
- If you use appreciated assets to fund a CGA, you may be able to avoid paying capital gains tax.
- The annual income payments you receive will be tax-free for a period of years.

An Added Bonus: With the [extension of the CARES Act](#), the cap on annual cash gifts for those who itemize in 2021 has been increased once again, from 60% to 100% of the donor's adjusted gross income (AGI).

As with any charitable gift we strongly encourage you to consult with your financial, tax, and legal advisors. If you would like to learn more about how a CGA could work for you, or if you would be interested in receiving a personalized illustration, please **contact the [Office of Gift Planning](#)** by [email](#) or at (800) 826-6709. We look forward to assisting you!

What is a CGA?

- In exchange for a gift of cash or securities (minimum of \$15,000), Northwestern agrees to pay a fixed income for life to you and up to one other individual.
- The payout rate is determined by the age of the annuitant(s) at the time the contribution is made, and payments are backed by the full faith and credit of the University.
- You may defer income payments until a

SOFTWARE FOR EMERITI: SPSS AT NORTHWESTERN

In our continuing survey of free software available to NU emeriti, Professor Emeritus **Kenneth Janda** (Political Science) talks about [SPSS](#), a statistical package pioneered by staff and faculty housed in the old

Vogelback Computing Center, which opened in 1972 and was torn down in 1999. (“Vogelback Bytes the Dust,” as the *Daily Northwestern* reported the demolition at the time.)

If you have a mass of quantitative data to analyze, try using [SPSS](#), an integrated set of computer programs for labeling, recoding, and massaging variables and computing relationships among them. Originally titled the **Statistical Package for the Social Sciences**, SPSS was conceived by Norman Nie, a political science graduate student at Stanford, and created by C. Hadlai Hull and Dale Brent, young Stanford computer scientists, in 1968. Nie then had a distinguished career as a political science professor, mostly at the University of Chicago, but he gained greater fame and fortune as CEO of SPSS, Inc. IBM acquired his product in 2009 and reinterpreted SPSS as **Statistical Product and Services Solutions**.



Article author **Ken Janda** (middle), at a holiday party in Vogelback in the early 1980s. Standing to his left, [Ben Slivka](#), then a NU student, who in June 1985 started a job at Microsoft where within a few years he became the project leader of the team that developed Internet Explorer; and (l.) **Marty Rachmeler**, Director of Northwestern’s Technology Transfer Program, who later left NU for a similar position at UC San Diego. Photo courtesy Bruce Foster.

SPSS was designed to run on IBM mainframe computers, and Northwestern’s Vogelback Computing Center then used Control Data Corporation computers. Flying back with Norman Nie from a 1970 NSF conference on computing software, I arranged for him to visit Northwestern to discuss converting SPSS to run on CDC computers. By 1971, Vogelback was the licensed converter of SPSS software. **Bruce Foster**, then Manager of Software Development, now retired, recalls: “Vogelback staff contributed a lot to SPSS in the ‘70s by adding procedures like T-TEST, DISCRIM and MANOVA and by

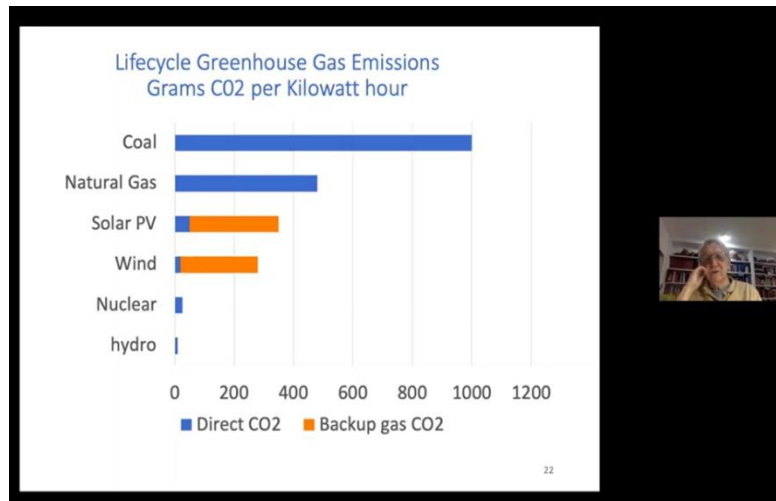
extending procedures like REGRESSION and FACTOR . . . We rewrote and extended many internal routines in SPSS to make the program faster and easier to develop new routines. . . . Vogelback Computing Center was known world-wide for its leadership in the SPSS community.”

By the 1980s, SPSS was running on personal computers. The current version is number 27. Northwestern offers version 21 for Windows. A Mac user, I run version 18 on a 2006 iMac (an old Intel chip computer) that I use only for SPSS. That saves me the cost of acquiring the software to run on my current iMac using a different chip. Using many thousands of interviews from national surveys of all seventeen presidential elections since 1952, I cross-tabulated respondents’ party identifications by region, urban-rural residence, education, income, religion, ethnicity, and ideology. The analysis was for my new book, ***A Tale of Two Parties: Living Amongst Democrats and Republicans since 1952***¹, which Routledge Press has just published—once I’d incorporated the results of the November 2020 election.—*Ken Janda*

¹ See “The Emeriti Bookshelf” in the [Winter issue](#) of *The Emeriti News*, p. 13, for details.

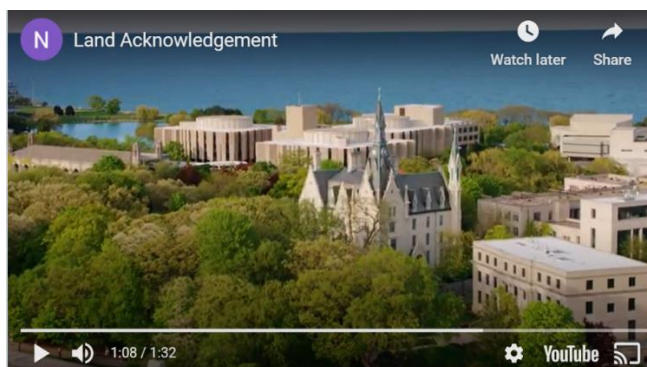
NEO-EPL MINI-COURSES UPDATE

As is widely known, NEO collaborates with [Evanston Public Library](#) to bring high-quality, non-credit, no-charge university-level teaching to the Evanston community—as well as to NEO members, wherever they live—through “mini-courses” taught by Northwestern emeriti and emeritae. The fifth mini-course in this successful partnership, initiated by emerita [Michal Ginsburg](#) during her tenure as NEO president, was in full swing just as this issue of *The Emeriti*



News went to press. Emeritus professor of mechanical engineering **Elmer Lewis** attracted an audience of around 90 for his class “[Fighting Climate Change with Sun, Wind, Water, and Nuclear Energy,](#)” taking place on two successive Tuesday evenings, March 9 and 16.

The timing could not have been more (morbidly) perfect. The **collapse of the Texas energy grid** had occurred just three weeks before, with misinformation on its causes being abundantly distributed by politicians and pundits. And then March 11 marked the **10th anniversary of the Fukushima nuclear disaster**, leading the public to ask many questions about the viability and safety of nuclear energy as a



From the [land acknowledgement statement](#) for Northwestern's Evanston campus: “The land on the southwestern shore of Ininewewi-gichigami (Lake Michigan) sits on the traditional homelands of the people of the Council of Three Fires, the Ojibwe, the Potawatomi, and Odawa as well as the Menominee, Miami, and Ho-Chunk nations.”

strategy to combat climate change. In his two-session course, Prof. Lewis addressed the nuts and bolts questions of modern-day energy provision with the authority of an internationally respected expert. In his second class, he also talked about being a much-in-demand specialist for media interviews, from MSNBC to Fox News, when the Fukushima disaster broke ten years ago. For those who missed it, you may “attend” Prof. Lewis’s mini-course, virtually and after the fact, by clicking [here](#) for the first class and [here](#) for the second.

On May 11 and 18, we host the next mini-course offered as part of the NEO-EPL partnership:

Prof. **Patty Loew**, Director of Northwestern’s [Center for Native American and Indigenous Research](#), will be discussing the **indigenous history of the Upper Great Lakes region** with special attention paid to the

land along the southwestern shores of Lake Michigan—where Evanston is today. This mini-course will surely be popular with both the Evanston and Northwestern communities. Read more—and sign up early—at the [registration site](#) maintained by Evanston Public Library!—[Jeff Garrett](#)

RECENT TALKS & EVENTS I

REMEMBERING ARNOLD WEBER

At its monthly virtual luncheon on January 7, the Northwestern Emeriti Organization hosted a “**Retrospective on Arnold Weber,**” featuring a reflective presentation by [Marilyn McCoy](#), Vice President of Administration and Planning. From 1985 until 1994 Weber served as the fourteenth president at Northwestern, subsequently becoming president emeritus until he passed away at his home on August 20, 2020.

As NEO President **Roger Boye** noted, “no one at Northwestern had a closer professional relationship with Arnold Weber than Marilyn McCoy, who knew him for four decades, starting in 1980 at the University of Colorado. She worked closely with him for fifteen years. The two of them came to Northwestern from the University



University Vice President Marilyn McCoy. Courtesy NU Archives.

of Colorado at almost the same time in the mid-1980s.”

McCoy noted that Weber was the first president in 79 years to have come from outside North-

western. “Arnold was the American dream come true. He had so much inherent talent and was able to move through our education and work system and be elevated time again to have such a positive impact on the world.” Before coming to Northwestern, he had taught for a year at MIT and for fifteen years at the University of Chicago. He had held appointments as dean and provost at Carnegie Mellon and as president at the University of Colorado. He had also served as the first head of management in the Office of Management and Budget under George Shultz, as well as on several corporate boards.

Many of Weber’s colleagues and other friends joined in a lively discussion filled with reminiscences. Life Trustee **Howard Trienens** served on the search committee that led to Weber’s selection. Recalling the concern over the University’s budget deficits at the time, Trienens felt that Weber was “the ideal choice.” As chair of the



Arnold Weber. Courtesy Northwestern University Archives.

Board of Trustees, Trienens worked closely with Weber as president, noting that within six years Weber had “turned deficits into surpluses that could be used to improve the University.”

Several participants commented on the program review and budgetary processes that Weber put into place. Past School of Communication dean **David Zarefsky** observed that Weber used his financial acumen not only to balance the budget, but even more importantly to “advance academic values of the status of the faculty, students, as well as the research and teaching activities of the University. He always knew where his values were, and he was always transparent.”

Many in the audience shared stories about Weber’s demanding style of management, his penetrating sense of humor, his awareness of research activities across the university, and his commitment to help faculty by investing in human capital and infrastructure in the pursuit of academic excellence. Arnold’s son, David Weber, observed that at home his father was “warm and funny, but he could be tough.” He wanted the audience to know “how much he cared about his time [at Northwestern] and how proud he was of his accomplishments . . . His work at Northwestern was his favorite thing.”

We may all appreciate Arnie’s many contributions as we enter campus through one of his most visible enhancements to the campus landscape, named the “Weber Arch” in his honor.—*Ron Braeutigam*

RECENT TALKS & EVENTS II

MEDILL AT 100: A RETROSPECTIVE BY [ROGER BOYE](#)



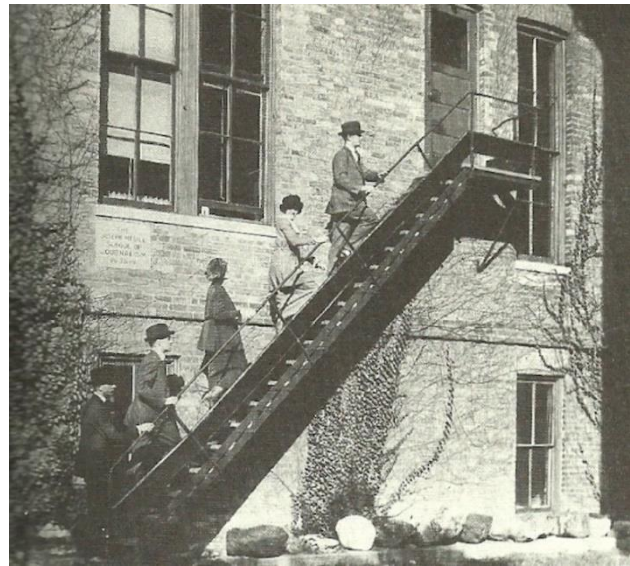
All photographs reproduced in this article courtesy of the Chicago Tribune.

Emeritus professor—and current NEO President—**Roger Boye** is also the unofficial historian (as well as unofficial archivist/affable raconteur) of [Medill](#), or, long form: the **Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications**. Medill recently celebrated its centenary with a host of (virtual) events. On February 3, Boye shared with NEO colleagues images and stories of a school that regularly ranks in the top 5 graduate programs in journalism in the U.S.—and consistently #1 in the United States for its BSJ program, ["the most prestigious undergraduate journalism program in the country."](#) The photos and text that follow are all taken from Roger’s talk, “Medill’s 100 Years in 100 Pictures.”

The Joseph Medill School of Journalism was dedicated on February 8, 1921, at a ceremony attended by about 1,500 people in the old Patten Gymnasium on the Evanston Campus. Joseph Medill Patterson, co-publisher of the *Chicago Tribune* and grandson of Joseph Medill, invited dignitaries who would attend the ceremony to join him for dinner beforehand at the *Tribune* plant in Chicago. He asked them to wear “evening full dress.” Patterson is in the middle of this photo holding some papers in his left hand.

Northwestern University President Walter Dill Scott is second from the right in “evening full dress.” The third man from the right, next to Scott, is Kenesaw Mountain Landis, a federal judge in Chicago, who, from 1920 until his death in 1944, served as the first commissioner of baseball.

The first Medill classes in Evanston were in the fall semester of 1921 in the attic of a building called “Old Gymnasium.” It was described in a book as “the shabby little brick building built by students themselves in the late 1870s.” It was remodeled before Medill took over the attic but the only way to get there was by climbing up the fire escape. A 1922 Medill graduate said years later that “it was hard to get up those stairs in the winter, with the ice and snow and wind, but we did it.” The Old Gymnasium was located where the lobby of the McCormick Foundation Center is today, just north of Fisk Hall. McCormick is used entirely for Medill classes.



Over the years Medill students have taken many field trips in the Chicago area. This October 1927 photograph shows students and faculty visiting the offices of the Evanston News-Index, a daily newspaper. Four faculty can be seen clustered together in the background. It is likely the woman is Genevieve Forbes, ace *Tribune* reporter, who started teaching part time in 1922, just one year after the school’s dedication. As a *Tribune* reporter, among many other things, she had traveled to Ireland so that she could go “undercover,” posing as a girl wanting to come to America. The horrid conditions she described in a

series of stories, which included women and girls being forced to disrobe and stand in front of a spotlight for “medical exams,” led to the firing of the Ellis Island commissioner within 10 days of the last of her stories, and then to hearings in the U.S. House, where she testified.

Like other journalism schools in the first half of the 1900s, Medill’s journalism courses were heavily newspaper focused, leading to criticism by some educators that the curriculum of journalism schools was more appropriate for a trade school than for a liberal arts university. For many years, Medill had a



type lab, a print lab, and a photo lab. In this picture from the type lab, circa 1944, students set type by hand—a laborious, time-consuming, and often disliked process.

Medill’s “[cherub program](#)” started in 1934. This 1951 photo shows the cherubs working on an assignment. The teacher standing in a white shirt is Floyd Arpan, who had a key role in starting the



program. From the early 1940s until 1954, Medill classes met in what had been the chemistry wing of the Fayerweather Hall of Science, which was located just west of Fisk Hall, where East and West Fairchild are today. When Medill moved into the building, Dean Kenneth Olson could not have been more pleased. “This will provide the best teaching facilities the school has ever had,” he said. Within ten years, he called Fayerweather “the slums of the campus.” Fayerweather was built in 1885 and torn down in 1955. Medill moved into a renovated Fisk Hall in 1954, which was

designed by the legendary architect Daniel Burnham and built in 1898 to be the home of the Northwestern Academy, a prep school for high school students.—[Roger Boye](#)

“STUDENTS CAN DO IT”:

A CONVERSATION WITH MUSIC LIBRARIAN EMERITUS DON ROBERTS

We are delighted to share this excerpt from our interview with **Don L. Roberts** (r.), emeritus music librarian and curator. Between 1969 and 2002, Don put Northwestern on the map as the premier American institution collecting music composed after 1945. Joining him for this conversation on behalf of *The Emeriti News* is **Bernard J. Dobroski**, emeritus dean of Northwestern’s School of Music. The complete



transcript of this one-hour interview is deposited with Northwestern University Archives, where it will remain accessible in perpetuity to scholars both within and outside the Northwestern community. We join their conversation midstream . . .

BJD: Don, you not only collected music manuscripts for Northwestern, you also promoted their *performance*. Could you perhaps share a story of such a performance?



Sir Michael Tippett visiting Northwestern's Music Library in 1974, guided by a young Don Roberts. Photo courtesy University Archives.

DLR: Well, in 1971, I had just acquired the manuscript of [Sir Michael Tippett](#)'s opera, [The Knot Garden](#). I suggested to Sir Michael that maybe Northwestern students could do the American premiere? "Oh," he said, "I don't think students could do that!" And I said, "Well, it's a psychological opera, and they might know more about some of the issues than professional opera singers." Michael was quickly won over. The rest is history. Michael came to Northwestern for the premiere and was totally ecstatic about it all—as, of course, were our student performers.

BJD: You often mention [Tom Buckman](#), university librarian [between 1968 and 1971], as being a major contributor to your success at Northwestern . . .

DLR: Tom was exactly the right person to be there then, because it was under his guidance and with his enthusiastic support that we decided to go after music composed after World War II. At the time, nobody was collecting it in any comprehensive way, so it was still relatively easy to get and quite inexpensive—because you didn't have to get into the antiquarian market. Because we got in on the ground floor, Northwestern's Music Library became the most systematic collection of post-World War II music of any academic library in America and probably the world.

BJD: Tell us about acquiring the materials from composer [John Cage](#) [1912–1992].

DLR: Well, it started with a phone call one day. I hear this voice speaking softly: "Mr. Roberts?" "Yes?" "This is John Cage." And I thought: the great John Cage would not have a very small, gentle, almost meek voice like that. I played along for a while until I realized that it *was* John Cage. He had heard about our activities relating to music since

1945. He asked if I knew his [Notations](#) book [1969]. I said I did, and he said, "I'd like to explore the possibility of my collection of original music notations coming to Northwestern." This was an astonishing proposition. He had written all these composers and asked them to send manuscripts. They did. The manuscripts varied from tiny little sketches to

complete works, like Pierre Boulez' Second Piano Sonata. And then, of course, six Beatles manuscripts—though they contain no music notation because the Beatles didn't read music. Instead, they were paintings. This all came to us. Over time I bugged John about *his* materials, his manuscripts, his

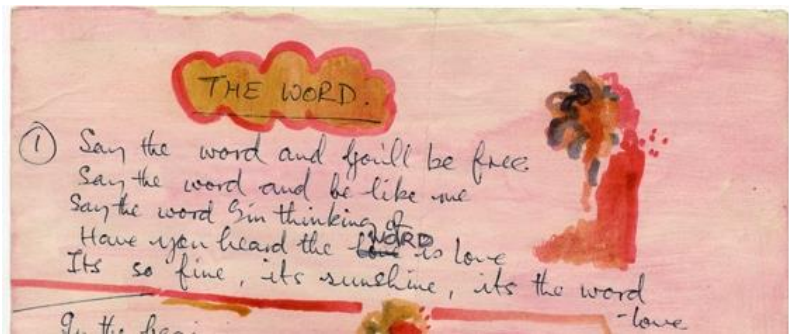


Image from "The Word" manuscript by The Beatles from the John Cage Notations Project Collection, Northwestern University Libraries. Courtesy Northwestern University Music Library.

correspondence, and he agreed that his correspondence and anything relating to the performing arts would come to Northwestern. And it did.



Don Roberts with John Cage during the composer's last visit to Northwestern in 1992. Photo credit: Loren Robare. Photo courtesy NU Archives.

Here's a funny story. Shortly before Cage's death [in 1992], during his last visit to Northwestern, we were doing a program of his music at Lutkin Hall and one of the pieces was 4'33", which as you know is four minutes and 33 seconds of *silence*—which can be fun. And out came [Fred Hemke](#) [1935–2019] and a saxophone quartet—and of course the audience started laughing. It was also hilarious because the diminutive young lady in the quartet was carrying a bass saxophone, which is quite large. And yet another reason it was so funny was an inside joke: she was a well-known percussionist.

BJD: You mention university librarian Tom Buckman, but you also reference [Tom Miller](#) [dean of the School of Music from 1971 to 1989] . . .

DLR: I was blessed to have been at Northwestern when two dynamic new leaders came in—one in the library, one in the music school—and to have been a part of both of those incredible, tsunami-like waves of beneficial change.

SOM Emeritus Dean (and our correspondent) Bernie Dobroski warming up for a performance of John Cage's 4'33" at NU Library in 2012—John Cage's 100th birthday. (Watch the entire performance [here.](#))

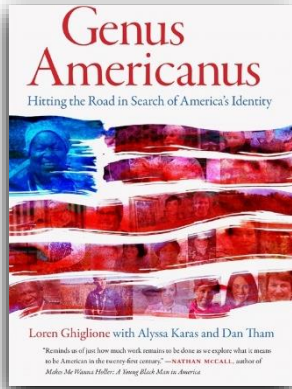


THE EMERITI BOOKSHELF

This column draws attention to recent books published by Northwestern emeriti—fiction as well as non-fiction—especially titles of interest to general audiences. We also include older works by emeritae/-i featured in this newsletter, as well as interesting works by non-emeriti who have spoken at recent NEO events. Unless another source is stated, these books may be purchased directly from local independent bookstores—many of which, largely as a result of the pandemic, now have robust and efficient e-commerce sites—or from [Bookshop.org](#), [Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), [Indiebound](#), as well as other online sources.

Readers are encouraged to send title information to [the editor](#) to be considered for inclusion in this column. Note: You do not need to be the author to suggest a title for mention. Feel free to confidentially inform on friends and colleagues!

Loren Ghiglione, with Alyssa Karas and Dan Tham. **Genus Americanus: Hitting the Road in Search of America's Identity**. Athens, Ga.: University of Georgia Press, 2020. 360 p. with 46 b/w photos. ISBN: 9-780-8203-5800-0 (hardcover). \$32.95.



Shortly before the end of Barack Obama's term in office, former Medill dean **Loren Ghiglione**, accompanied by two 20-somethings in a minivan, took off on a three-month, 28-state, 14,000-mile roadtrip across America, interviewing 150 Americans they met along the way. These conversations focused on issues of race, gender, sexual orientation, and immigration status—all categories contributing to a sense of American identity on the brink of Donald Trump's presidency: a

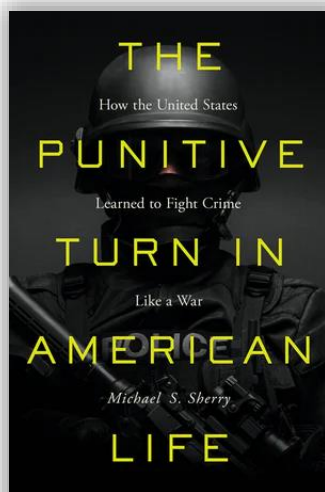


Co-author Ghiglione interviewing Connie Ritter, his team's guide at the Mark Twain Birthplace State Historic Site in Stoutsville, Missouri. Photo courtesy Loren Ghiglione.

fascinating snapshot of the country before those four years that transformed the nation. (See also the [final section](#) of this newsletter for more on the creation of this book!)

Michael S. Sherry. **The Punitive Turn in American Life: How the United States Learned to Fight Crime Like a War**. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2020. 312 p. ISBN: 978-1-4696-6070-7

(hardcover); 978-1-4696-6071-4 (ebook). \$32.95 (hardcover).



By the 1990s, the "war on crime," launched with a flourish of militarized rhetoric by Lyndon Johnson in 1965, had been successfully broadcast to millions of Americans, but at an enormous cost—to those arrested, imprisoned, or killed, not to mention to the social fabric of the nation. With the election of Donald J. Trump in 2016, the currents of vengeance that ran through the punitive turn, underwriting torture at home and abroad, had found a new voice. From the racist system of mass incarceration and the militarization of criminal justice to gated communities, public schools patrolled by police, and armies of private security, this new book chronicles the United States' slide into becoming a meaner, punishment-obsessed nation.

Michael S. Sherry is the Richard W. Leopold Professor Emeritus of History at Northwestern.

PASSINGS

Column Editor [George Harmon](#)

Note: We list Passings in alphabetical order, and we publish them each quarter as we learn of the news. Please keep us informed of such events, readers, and don't be shy about adding your own observations about our beloved emeriti.



Robert Owen Cooley, 86, passed away January 12, 2019. He grew up on a family farm in Utah, attended the University of Utah, completed his doctor of dental surgery at Northwestern's dental school in 1956, served two years in the Air Force and practiced 11 years in Shelley, Idaho. In 1967 he returned to Northwestern for a master's in science and certificate in pediatric dentistry at Children's Memorial Hospital. He became chairman of pediatric dentistry at Northwestern. Later he served as a humanitarian missionary with his wife, Rozann, in Jakarta, Indonesia, and then set up the pediatric dentistry residency program at the University of Nevada. Robert was a bishop and a high councilman for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and served 15 years as a member of the General Missionary Board and as first councilor in the mission presidency of the Chicago Illinois Mission. [Obituary.](#)

Mauro Dal Canto, 76, well known for scholarly contributions on multiple sclerosis and similar diseases, died while flying a new gyroplane on December 16, 2020, in Park City, Utah. He researched demyelination and remyelination, advancing the concept that macrophages create myeline degeneration through liberation of soluble factors now known as cytokines. Born in Italy, he studied medicine at the University of Pisa and joined NU's medical school in 1974, serving as director of neuropathology and associate chair of education for the department. He was a skier, classical pianist, pilot, ballroom dancer, and scuba diver. Mauro met his lifetime love, Fiora, as a teenager in Italy. They shared almost 53 years together. [Obituary.](#)

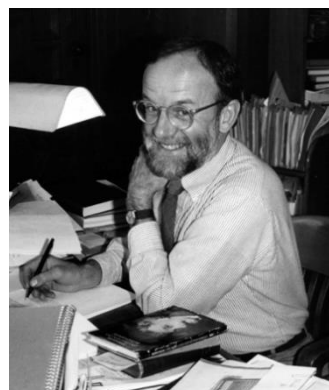


Audiologist **Dean C. Garstecki**, 75, of Wilmette and Bonita Springs, Fla., a nationally recognized expert in hearing and hearing-loss management, died September 4, 2020. He taught in Communication Sciences and Disorders for 35 years, helping improve the department's national standing during his 11 years as chair. Dean earned degrees from Marquette and a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. He taught graduate courses in hearing loss management, hearing loss in older adults, research in clinical audiology, and

professional ethics. Dean researched why so many older adults refused to use hearing aids despite their proven benefits and also warned of the dangers of earpods, earbuds, and headphones, advocating the “60/60 rule”: headphones no longer than 60 minutes a day and below 60 percent volume. Earmuff headphones can decrease outside noise, he stressed, allowing listeners to turn the volume down.

[Obituary.](#)

Arturo Manas came to the United States in 1960 in exile from Cuba. A resident of Rockford, Ill., Arturo passed away peacefully at the age of 92 at Rockford’s Wesley Willows on January 7, 2020. He practiced pediatrics at Evanston Hospital and in Glenview for 30 years. In Cuba, he had graduated first in his class from Colegio de La Salle in Havana, then was valedictorian of his class at the Escuela de Ciencias Médicas of the Universidad de la Habana. In 1952 he and Marta Diaz Humara were married. Arturo was an enthusiastic reader who loved history, especially of the Civil War and World War II, and he immensely enjoyed being with his many friends at North Shore Country Club. Surviving are a son, Arturo S., M.D., two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. [Obituary.](#)



Russell Maylone, 80, curator of Special Collections at Northwestern University Library, died December 12, 2020, at home in Bath, Maine. He graduated from Syracuse University in 1961. After earning a master’s degree from the University of Washington, he worked in the rare books department at the Free Library of Philadelphia. In 1969 he came to Evanston, serving as Curator of Special Collections (rare books and manuscripts) for 37 years at the University Library. He and his wife, Sandy, moved to Bath in 2009. Russell served on the board of Sagadahoc Preservation, Inc., and was a corporator at the Patten Free Library in Bath. [Obituary.](#)

Endodontist **Thomas Kostas Poulakidas** won a Bronze Star in Vietnam as a captain in the Army’s famed First Cavalry Division. After the war he married Aiki, built an endodontics practice and became a professor at Northwestern. Tom, 82, of Lake Forest, passed away May 29, 2020. Son of a Greek Orthodox priest, he developed a deep love for the church that guided him through life. He studied chemistry at the University of Oklahoma, earned a doctorate of dental medicine at Loyola, and completed his specialty in endodontics at Northwestern. He loved fishing with his grandchildren in Green Lake, Wis., researching stocks, and cultivating his garden. [Obituary.](#)



As a young medical student, **Izaak Fransiscus Adrianus van Elk** (called Jaak) joined the Dutch resistance when Nazis invaded the Netherlands in 1940. Later on, he was chief physician in the Royal Netherlands Navy for 1,600 men on the HNLMS *Karel Doorman*, the Netherlands’ only aircraft carrier, and then



worked as a physician in Aruba. He immigrated to the United States in the 1950s and was the initial cardiologist at the new Lutheran General Hospital, where he performed the first cardiac catheterization in the Midwest. Jaak, who died December 26, 2020, at 103 at home in Northbrook, was a part-time professor at Northwestern for many years. In the 1960s, he led research using hyperbaric oxygen therapy that saved "blue babies" and consulted for the Navy as it used this technology



HNLMS Karel Doorman of the Royal Netherlands Navy. Dr. Van Elk was chief physician on this ship in the late 1940s.

to treat victims of deep-sea accidents. [Obituary.](#)

THE EMERITI CALENDAR

Note: All events will be virtual over Zoom until current precautions have been lifted. Zoom links and passwords (if required) will be communicated to all NEO members in advance. Contact [Jason Abbas](#) in the NEO office for assistance.

Monday, March 29, 1:00–2:30 p.m.	Executive Council Meeting
Friday, April 9, 1:00–2:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Presentation: Speaker Carl Smith , Department of English. "Chicago's Great Fire: The Destruction and Resurrection of an Iconic American City."
Friday, April 16, 1:00–2:00 p.m.	NEO Retirement Presentation: Speaker Patrick Bitterman , estate planning attorney at Quarles & Brady. "Estate and Gift Planning."
Monday, April 26, 1:00–2:30 p.m.	Executive Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 11, 7:00–8:30 p.m.	NEO-EPL Mini-course: "An Indigenous History of the Upper Great Lakes Region." Instructor Patty Loew , Medill and Director of the Center for Native American and Indigenous Research. Part 1, registration required.
Wednesday, May 12, 1:00–2:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Presentation: Speaker Mary Pattillo , Department of African American Studies and Sociology. "Beyond Incarceration: How Legal Fines and Fees Affect Housing Stability."
Tuesday, May 18, 7:00–8:30 p.m.	NEO-EPL Mini-course: "An Indigenous History of the Upper Great Lakes Region." Instructor Patty Loew ,

Medill and Director of the Center for Native American and Indigenous Research. Part 2 (“An Indigenous Tour of Northwestern”), [registration](#) required.

Monday, May 24, 1:00–2:30 p.m.

Executive Council Meeting

Thursday, June 10, 1:00–2:00 p.m.

Lunchtime Presentation: Speaker [Robert Gundlach](#), founding director of the Cook Family Writing Program, professor, Department of Linguistics, and Faculty Athletics Representative to the NCAA and the Big Ten Conference. “Navigating the Intersection of Collegiate Athletics and Academics.”

Monday, June 21, 1:00–2:30 p.m.

Executive Council Meeting

NEO OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS, 2020–21

President	Roger Boye (Medill, 2020–21)
President-elect	Erv Goldberg (Molecular Biosciences, 2020–21)
Secretary	Steve Fisher (Mathematics, 2020–21)
Treasurer	Phyllis Lyons (Asian Languages & Cultures, 2020–21)
Immediate Past President	Michal Ginsburg (French & Italian, 2020–21)
Councilors	Ronald Braeutigam (Economics, 2020–22) Barbara Deal (Pediatrics, 2020–22) Chuck Dowding (Civil & Environmental Engineering, 2019–21) Larry Henschen (Electrical & Computer Engineering, 2020–21) Fred Lewis (Chemistry, 2019–21) Jane Rankin (Comm Sciences & Disorders, 2020–22)
Faculty Senate Representative	Rick Cohn (Pediatrics, continuing)
Provost’s Office Representative	Celina Flowers (Assistant Provost for Faculty, ex-officio)
Newsletter Editor	Jeff Garrett (Libraries & German, continuing)

AND, FINALLY, FROM OUR
“TRAIN THEM UP IN THE WAY THEY SHOULD GO . . .”
DEPARTMENT



To close out the issue, we share this photo of our NEO colleague (and former Medill dean) **Loren Ghiglione** with his two co-authors on the book [*Genus Americanus: Hitting the Road in Search of America's Identity*](#), **Alyssa Karas** and **Dan Tham** (see the

listing in the [Emeriti Bookshelf](#)), having entirely too much fun in between conducting the 150 interviews which make up the core of their book. Here they are in Virginia City, Nevada, where Mark Twain prospected and wrote for the Territorial Enterprise newspaper, playing bank robbers and bar maid at [Priscilla Pennyworth's Old Time Photos](#). Oh, the value of a Northwestern education!

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The Emeriti News is published four times per year (fall, winter, spring, and summer) for the emeritae/emeriti of Northwestern University and other interested parties.

The Editor wishes to give special thanks to the following individuals not otherwise acknowledged who assisted behind the scenes in preparing this issue for publication: Ramune Kubilius, Kevin Leonard, Joan Linsenmeier, Greg MacAyeal, Laura Sowatsky, and David Zarefsky.

Our next issue (Summer 2021) will be published in mid to late June.
Press deadline: Thursday, June 10, 2021.