



Endacott Society 2024 - 2025 Annual Report



Endacott Society Ten O'Clock Scholars, Coffee Hour – Hello to Zoom participants

Wednesday June 25, 2025
Adams Alumni Center
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Table of Contents

President's Report	3
Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Endacott Society	4
Endacott Society Treasurer's Report 2023-2024	6
Standing Committees	
Membership Report	7
Nominating Committee	7
Newsletter Report	8
Scrapbook	8
Care Correspondence	8
KU Retiree Rights and Benefits Committee Report	8
Activities	9
Armchair Travel	9
Arts and Sciences Afternoon Lectures	9
Cinema Studies	9
Drama Studies	9
Endacott at the Lied Center	10
Evening Lecture and Potluck Dinner Series	10
Games Theory	10
Garden Seminar	10
Great Books	11
Library Report	11
Lunch Bunch	12
Old Time Radio Shows	12
Oral History Project	12
Out of Town Travel	13
Service Projects: Campus Cupboard	13
Student Ambassadors	13
Tai Chi	14
Technology Studies	14
Technology Support	14
Wednesday Coffee Hour (Ten O'Clock Scholars)	14

President's Report:

I want to thank everyone who participated in the work (and the fun) of the Endacott Society during my year as president. I am especially grateful to my immediate predecessor, Dave Mannering, and his two immediate predecessors, MaryKay Mahoney and Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka. All three of them were sources of good advice, corporate memory, and even some sympathy during 2024-25. Their heavy lifting, while the Adams Alumni Center was being renovated and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was being worked out, made my 12 months in this office comparatively smooth sailing.

I am likewise grateful to Vice President Lindy Eakin, Treasurer Pam Houston, and Secretary David Bushouse. All of them fulfilled their duties and were a sounding board for me on several occasions. The absence of a genuine “crisis” this year is largely due, I think, to the presence of a steady group of officers, and experienced leaders of the various activity groups. A wise president stands back and lets those leaders do their job!

I met with KU Alumni Association (KUAA) President Heath Peterson early in my tenure. I assured him that Endacott seeks to be a partner with KUAA, not just one of its many “affinity networks.” That’s based on our 40-plus year relationship as a self-governing volunteer organization that exists to engage retirees in service to the university and in fellowship with each other. Of great help to us this year was the assistance of Justin Cohen, Senior Director of Operations and Event Services, and his staff. Under the terms of the MOU, as anticipated, there were some space availability issues last fall. As the year progressed, however, we had little trouble keeping to a regular schedule for Wednesday coffee, the four potluck suppers, and other activities in Adams. When conflicts arose, Justin helped find a satisfactory resolution. I am grateful for that. When needed, the Senior Resource Center remains a convenient back-up.

Also notable was the integration on January 1 of the KU Medical Center Alumni Association into the KUAA, “creating a unified organization dedicated to serving all KU alumni.” One question that occurred to me was “What about Endacott?” With Heath’s encouragement, I’ve communicated multiple times this spring with KUMC staff responsible for faculty affairs and human resources. I confirmed that KUMC has no retirees group comparable to Endacott, and its ongoing outreach to its retirees (at the Kansas City, Wichita and Salina campuses) is quite limited compared to Lawrence. We’ve made it clear that all KUMC retirees are eligible to join Endacott (and hence KUAA), welcome to attend events such as potluck suppers, and welcome to join in out-of-town travel or other activities. Communicating this to KUMC retirees as a group has proven to be a challenge, but I think the effort to reach out is worthwhile. Both we and they would benefit from this interchange.

Worthwhile, I think, because a trio of KU faculty authors – John Poggio, David Ekerdt and Edward Meyen – published a study this year titled “Schools and Their Faculty Retirees: The Potential for Mutual Goodwill.” It utilized results from KU’s 2023 University Senate Retiree Rights and Benefits Committee survey, along with a national survey of four-year-degree universities. While everyone agrees it would be mutually beneficial for institutions and their retirees to stay engaged, it turns out very few schools make the effort or have the resources to do so, and that’s a shame. KU’s Lawrence campus, because of Endacott and our partners at KUAA and in the KU administration, is one of the exceptions.

I do not see an Endacott-like organization on the horizon at KUMC under KUAA auspices, though we would be a good model for that. The pool of retirees, the traditions, and the available resources are quite different. My hope is that we will see some KUMC retiree participation here in the future, especially among those who reside in Lawrence and Douglas County. I tried to arrange a KUMC speaker for the June 17 potluck supper, and was hoping some KUMC retirees might join us for the May 22 trip to Powell Gardens. Neither happened, but persistence may pay off down the line.

There was some frustration expressed this year that a few of our many activity groups are struggling to maintain a strong level of participation. Perhaps we have too many groups and should consolidate, or need some different groups and should expand? One of Endacott's strengths, I think, is that "where two or three are gathered together" with a common interest we have the makings of a new group. It need not be a huge group to justify the effort – especially when you're a volunteer organization with a place to meet and some funds if needed. I suggested we discuss this further, but had no takers this spring. I think it would be worthwhile to revisit the general topic. We might, for example, consider forming a KUMC retirees group, or a group to focus on something that's popular but not covered now? Pickle Ball Studies? I encourage us to embrace changes that would attract more members with varied interests.

Finally, I have emphasized two things throughout my term. One is to stay engaged: with Endacott, with family and friends, with the campus and the community. I cited retirement expert Christine Benz: "You need a network of people who care about you. . You need a plan for your days. You need activities that bring you joy. Those things are more important to a happy and satisfying retirement than a well-designed portfolio and a carefully calibrated spending rate." Endacott members are prime examples of the truth of that statement.

I've also encouraged us to be advocates for the cause of higher education. As Chancellor Doug Girod put it in March: "Federal policy changes have created unprecedented uncertainty for higher education and indicate a fundamental transformation of the relationship between universities and the federal government. . There is no question that federal funding for higher education could be substantially reduced or eliminated in many areas." He stressed the need "to position the university to manage disruptions to federal funding and position KU for higher education's new reality."

This "new reality" is tragic since, as Wesleyan University President Michael Roth stated recently, "The partnership between the federal government and higher education has been extraordinarily successful, leading to scientific breakthroughs, cultural contributions and to a more educated citizenry. When we have worked together, we have served the nation so well, regardless of which party was in power."

I was proud in March, when federally ordered staff and faculty cuts hit Haskell Indian Nations University without warning, that Endacott members (the nine I'm aware of) spontaneously pooled personal gifts to the Haskell Foundation in the amount of \$1,700. In delivering the checks, I described it as "a sincere expression of support for and solidarity with the HINU community from retired higher education colleagues at KU." It was also a statement about the importance of individual advocacy on behalf of an "industry" to which we gave so much and which gave so much to us.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve the Endacott Society during 2024-25!

Kevin Boatright, President

Minutes of the 2023-2024 Annual Meeting of the Endacott Society

On June 26, 2024, President Dave Mannering called the annual meeting to order at 10:30 am in the Paul Adams Room in the Adams Alumni Center. The **2023-2024 Annual Report** was projected on the five screens and also posted a week earlier on www.EndacottSociety.org.

Minutes: David Bushouse presented the June 21, 2023 meeting minutes published in the Annual Report, which were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Pam Houston explained the new budget process inaugurated this year. Interest groups and projects were assigned a budget amount when requested. She reported on

the major expenses: the Alumni Center TGIT, the Library donation and the Evening Lecture series. Endowed funds and contribution accounts were discussed. The report was approved.

President's Report: Dave Mannering read highlights of the President's Report. He mentioned the three service projects started in fall 2023 and suggested that additional new ones be added in the future.

Standing Committee Reports:

Endacott Society Membership Linda Mullens

Linda reported the efforts to contact new retirees. A discussion of recruiting strategies followed.

Nominating Committee MaryKay Mahoney

President-Elect: Lindy Eakin
Secretary: David Bushouse (continuing)
Treasurer: Pam Houston (continuing)

Submitted by the Nominating Committee:

MaryKay Mahoney, Past President and Committee Chair

Cal Cink, Jo Cink and Laurie Doud

The slate was approved by acclamation.

Newsletter Laurie Doud

Care Correspondence Carolyn Madaus

Scrapbook Laurie Doud

Retirees Rights and Benefits Committee Gary Minden

Activity Reports:

Armchair Travel Ron Schorr

Arts and Science Lectures Kevin Boatright

Cinema Studies: Documentaries, Foreign, Domestic Tom Adams

Drama Study Michael Shaw

Endacott at the Lied Center MaryKay Mahoney

Evening Lecture Series Linda Mullens

Games Theory Dave Mannering for Steven Lee

Gardening Seminar Cal Cink

Great Books Jim Woelfel

Library Jim Woelfel

Lunch Bunch Gary Minden for Ron Schorr

Office Report Dave Mannering

Old Time Radio Shows Dave Mannering for John Nicholson

Oral History Lindy Eakin

Out of Town Travel David Marden and Judy Niebaum

Special Event: Endacott Society 40th Anniversary Celebration Kevin Boatright

Student Ambassadors Tom Adams

Tai Chi Haskell Springer

Technology Studies Dave Mannering

Technology Support Dave Mannering

Wednesday Coffee Hour (Ten O'Clock Scholars) Dave Mannering

Other Business:

Linda Mullens offered thanks from all members for Dave Mannering.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.

M. David Bushouse, Secretary

Treasurer's Report 2024-2025

Income Through 6/30/25

Phillips Petroleum	
Distribution from Long-Term Investment	\$17,336.54
Phillips Total Income	\$17,336.54
Retired Faculty Expressions of Appreciation	
Annual Transfer	\$7,935.23
Contributions	\$1,400.00
LT Investment Income Distribution	\$2,464.17
Exp of App Total Income	\$11,799.40
Faculty Support	
LT Investment Income Distribution	\$1,181.75
Faculty Support Total Income	\$1,181.75
Total Income	\$30,317.69

Expenditures

Phillips Petroleum Account

Art Exhibit Lunch	\$342.79
Care Correspondence (Stamps)	\$29.20
Cinema Studies	\$212.77
Games Theory (room rental = \$160, games and snacks - \$281.81)	\$441.81
Potluck Dinners	\$2,916.61
Scrapbook	\$17.90
Technology Studies	\$18.00
Technology Support	\$81.95
Ten O'Clock Scholars Monthly Birthday cake (July – May)	\$474.38
Room rental at Senior Resource Center (4 meetings)	\$300.00
Coffee	\$6,830.76
Prepayment FY 2026 Jayhawk Welcome Center Operating Subsidy	\$5,000.00
Phillips Petroleum Total Expenditures	\$16,666.17

Expressions of Appreciation

Annual Jayhawk Welcome Center Operating Subsidy	\$5,000.00
Credit Card Fee	\$1.25
Expressions of Appreciation Total Expenditures	\$5,001.25

KU Retired Faculty Support

Books for office	\$75.00
Coffee for Ten O'Clock Scholars	\$65.94
Train Station Rental for Ten O'Clock Scholars	\$165.00
KU Retired Faculty Total Expenditures	\$305.94

Oral History Project

Software Translation Subscription	\$99.99
Copy Paper	\$17.49
Interviews and Transcription	\$277.50
Oral History Total Expenditures	\$394.98

Phillips Petroleum ending balance	\$670.37*
--	------------------

Expressions of Appreciation ending balance	\$6,798.15
KU Retired Faculty Support ending balance	\$875.81
Oral History Project ending balance	\$1,105.02
(\$1,500 transfer from Grace Medes Account. Can be used for Oral History Project only.)	

Pam Houston, Treasurer

Standing Committees:

Membership Report

1. Membership as of June 2024 was 387. As of June 2025, the membership was 389. Snapshots, however, are sometimes difficult to compare since annual memberships come due throughout the year for individuals. According to the Alumni Association, we gained 18 new members during this academic year.
2. I obtained lists of retired faculty and staff from July 2023 thru June 2024. The list totaled 76 retirees. The Endacott group suggested that we also 're-recruit' those who retired in 2023.
 - a. Worked with the Alumni Association to cross check the retiree names for current Alumni Association membership and secondary cross check for Endacott Society membership.
 - b. Goals:
 - Those who are already Alumni Association members but not Endacott Members will be encouraged to become active in Endacott.
 - Remaining retirees will be encouraged to join Alumni Association and become active in the Endacott Society, most likely at the reduced rate offered.
3. Recruitment of the 2022-23 and 2023-24 retirees:
 - a. On September 16, 2024, a letter from the Endacott Society (on KU Alumni Association letterhead) was sent to retirees who are current alumni members who are not active in Endacott. A similar letter was sent to those who are not current alumni members. Both explained our activities and included an Endacott Society brochure. Updated in 2022, this brochure also contains an application for membership.
 - b. An invitation for them to be guests at the upcoming October Evening Lecture and dinner was included in this letter. Seven (7) new retirees came to the October or December dinner. Three (3) of these new retirees are on our current membership list.
 - c. The email about the monthly newsletter (included month schedule of events) was to have been sent to all new retirees for three months (September thru November). This step fell through the cracks this year and did not happen.
 - d. Evaluate success of the process.
 - Nothing formal was evaluated during 2024-25.
 - As suggested in prior years, we re-contacted those who have been retired one year or longer to inquire about their interest in joining Endacott.
 - It has been suggested that we list the latest retirees in a fall newsletter. This was not done.
4. Membership recruitment is an ongoing project. Working with Hala Hamid of the KU Alumni Association is delightful. She is extremely helpful in our recruitment process.

Linda Mullens

Nominating Committee 2025-2026

In accordance with the by-laws, the Nominating Committee submits the following slate of Endacott Society members to be elected for officer positions effective from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. All have agreed to serve.

President-Elect:	Gary Minden
Secretary:	Betty Bunce

Treasurer: Linda Mullens

Submitted by the Nominating Committee:

David Mannering, Past President and Chair, Jim Woelfel, Judy Niebaum, David Marden

Newsletter Report

Another fiscal year is coming to an end, and I am told that the longest serving editor held the job for 13 years--a challenge posed to surpass the old record which would take me into my 80's. Hmmm.

Many, many thanks to Audrey Kamb-Studdard for continuing to proofread the newsletter before it goes out! I'm so fortunate she is continuing to take on this role.

I'm also grateful for all the Event Chair's detailed program information submitted by the deadline. They do a fantastic job with their descriptions of the next month's activities.

Laurie Doud, Editor

Scrapbook (formerly Bulletin Board and Scrapbook)

Items in the scrapbook mostly contain the monthly newsletters, obituaries, and letters to the editor submitted to the LJW by our members. It's almost time to start filling a second album.

Laurie Doud

Care Correspondence

Several Endacott members donated a variety of beautiful and meaningful cards for my use during the year, and I appreciate their thoughtfulness. The notes I sent out included Birthdays (50), Sympathy (6), Get Well (6), Anniversary (2), Thankyou (2), and Out-Reach (20), which includes Thinking of You and Holiday cards. It has been my honor to provide this service.

Jo Cink

KU Retiree Rights and Benefits Committee

The KU Retirees Rights and Benefits Committee (RRBC) is a standing committee of the KU University Senate. The basic purpose is:

“to promote communication with retirees, support their participation in the life of the university, inform retirees of their rights, and otherwise improve the experience of retirees both as an acknowledgment of valued service and as an important asset for the university.”
[University Senate website]

During the FY2025 year the committee focused on three items:

- The committee met with Melissa Cole, Director of Benefits for HR. The discussion concerned the retirement process and the resources available to retirees. The Endacott Society was mentioned.
- The committee had an internal discussion concerning the effects of the One KU strategic plan.
- The committee met with Ed Hudson, Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer (CIO) about concerns for retiree access to KUIT resources. His main concerns for supporting retirees were (a) the cost of supporting additional software licenses and technical support and (b) supporting unknown computing environments.

The final report should (soon) be available on The University Senate RRB Committee website at: <https://governance.ku.edu/retirees-rights-and-benefits>.

Gary J. Minden

Events and Activities

Armchair Travel

12 September 2024. Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka. Nigeria: Travel, Culture.

12 December 2024. Laura Borchert. A Taste of Colorful Colombia, South America trip, November 2023

3 March 2024. Richard Kerschenbaum and Jenny Lattimore. A travelog of their 2022 trip, starting in Stuttgart and on to the western Turkish cities of Antalya, Bursa, and Istanbul.

1 May 2025. Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka, 2024 conference trip to Beijing

Ron Schorr

Arts and Sciences Afternoon Lecture Programs

During my two years as an Endacott officer, I've been unable to give full attention to this activity. In part, I was also looking to line up speakers for the four potluck suppers; or was absorbed with other volunteer obligations on-campus and off. I would like to return to a schedule of three or four speakers per academic year. A concern I've always had is the uncertainty of attendance. It's been awkward to make arrangements with a speaker and then have a small audience show up. This suggests 1) I've not always invited the right speakers for our audience, or 2) not been promoting them enough. So, I welcome advice on how to take this activity off hiatus starting in the fall.

It was almost fiscal 2025 when Kris Krishtalka presented last June 24 on his latest novel, *Native Blood*.

On January 28, Jennifer Kraenzle, the new Director of KU's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, was our guest for a review of this program.

Kevin Boatright

Cinema Studies

The Cinema Studies Group scheduled three meetings each month at the Lawrence Public Library during the year. They were scheduled on the second and fourth Tuesdays and the third or fourth Friday to avoid conflicts with other Endacott activities. Movie descriptions were published in our monthly Newsletter. We met a total of only 21 times this year thanks to the weather. Several new members joined us this spring which held the total number to 29. The number of people attending each movie ranged from 4 to 11 with an average of 6. Coffee, tea and snacks were provided at most meetings for a total cost of \$221.20.

In summary, those 29 people were able to enjoy over 40 hours of video at the 21 meetings at a cost of only \$10.53 per meeting!

J. Tom Adams and Nora Clark, Co-Chairs

Drama Studies

The Drama Studies group, some ten members strong with a few guests, has brought to life a varied group of plays this season that include:

Goldsmith, "She Stoops to Conquer"

Inge, "Bus Stop"

Synge, "Riders to the Sea"

Wilde, "The Importance of Being Earnest"

Brecht, "The Good Woman of Setzuan"

O'Neill, "The Hairy Ape"

Shakespeare, "A Midsummer's Night Dream"

two plays by four contemporary South African playwrights, Fugard, "Master Harold and the Boys," and three playwrights, Ntwa, Ngema, and Bgenam, who wrote "Woza Albert."

Pioneer Ridge, especially their activities director Lisa Wall, has been the gracious host of our meetings on the first and third Tuesdays at 1:30. Members of our group have provided provisions abundant. Readers and listeners are welcome; just contact michaelhearneshaw@gmail.com for more info.

Mike Shaw

Endacott at the Lied Center

Again this year, Derek Kwan, Executive Director of the Lied Center, invited Endacott members and guests – as a group - to attend a selected performance at no charge. In 2024, we heard the Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra from Bulgaria. In 2023, we heard the Lviv National Philharmonic Orchestra from Ukraine. Derek provided three options and the consensus at a meeting of Ten O'clock Scholars last fall was to attend a performance by the Paul Taylor Dance Company on April 16.

The Endacott response was excellent. The Lied Center provided 60 free tickets in a block of seats close to the stage. It was an excellent and well-attended performance by the New York-based troupe. Derek acknowledged Endacott publicly during his pre-show welcoming remarks, and those of us who attended enjoyed the experience greatly. We remain grateful to Derek and the Lied Center for this gracious gesture.

Kevin Boatright

Evening Lecture and Potluck Dinner Series

Four annual lectures and potlucks are usually scheduled for the third Thursday of the month. They are advertised in the monthly Endacott Newsletter and in an email to the Retirees ListServe. Those on phased retirement were inadvertently omitted this year.

Justin Cohen at Alumni Center provided for the presenter's equipment needs and arranged for the correct number of dinner tables. President Kevin Boatright lined up the speakers. Linda Mullens managed reservations and ordered food and catering services from HyVee.

2024-25	Presenter	Program Title	Res.	Attend
Thursday, 10-Oct-24	Dr. Arash Mafi	What is Right with the College?	46	46
Thursday, 19-Dec-24	Dr. Paul Laird	Wicked	49	47
Thursday, 20-Mar-25	Dr. Sarah Bell	Kansas Historical Society	35	35
Tuesday, 17-Jun-25	Sheryle D'Amico	Clinical Partnership with KUMC		

Linda Mullens

Games Theory

In 2024-25 we held Games Theory on the third Thursday every month in the Garden Room at the Senior Resource Center (SRC). Games Theory is a joint venture with the Endacott Society and the SRC. We averaged 8 to 10 people each month. At each event, we played team games of various kinds, and everyone reported having a good time. We played games like mind-reading, Face the Music, Apples-to-Apples, and Balderdash to name a few. We spent approximately \$70 on games and about \$100 on treats for the year. Not including room rental.

Steven Lee

Garden Seminar

While most of us who enjoy gardening have reduced our plots and variety of plants over the years, we still enjoy learning about new techniques, new varieties of plants and ways of dealing with pests. Garden Seminar in-person sessions on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month (September- May) are an ideal way for us to share this information. We try to include a variety of natural history topics and invite a number of guest speakers, including an annual visit by Sharon

Ashworth, our local Douglas County Extension Horticulturist. In spite of a number of weather cancellations this winter, we had 15 interesting meetings this year, including the following topics:

- The Princess of Wales Conservatory at Kew Gardens
- Birds that sing in your Backyard
- Fall blooms in our gardens
- Evergreens in Kansas
- Growing dahlias
- Winter bird feeding
- Community Science in Christmas Bird Counts
- Growing herbs indoors
- Research-based gardening for beginners
- New All-American Selections of flowers and vegetables
- Methods for increasing vegetable yields. Becoming a butterfly gardener
- Heat loving Kansas perennials
- Housing for birds in your garden.

Cal and Jo Cink: Co-chairs of the Garden Seminar

Great Books

In 2024-25 we continued to meet on Zoom on the second Wednesday of each month. We read and discussed novels, novellas, and short stories by noted authors past and recent. With a core group of 10-12 loyal “regulars” in attendance, our discussions are consistently lively and enriching. I thoroughly enjoy and appreciate their company and never fail to have my own ideas widened and deepened by their contributions. I think I can also say confidently that we have a good time together!

The readings for 2024-25 were the following:

- June 2024: Edith Wharton, three short stories: “The Muse’s Tragedy,” “The Pelican,” and “Xingu.”
- July: Alice Munro, two short stories from *Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage*: “Comfort” and “Nettles”
- August: Elie Wiesel’s novel *Day*
- September: Edna O’Brien, three short stories from *Saints and Sinners*: “Inner Cowboy,” “Green Georgette,” and “My Two Mothers”
- October: Graham Greene, six short stories from *Twenty-one Stories*: “The Case for the Defence,” “A Little Place off the Edgware Road,” “A Drive in the Country,” “Jubilee,” “I Spy,” and “The End of the Party”
- November: Tillie Olsen, four stories from *Tell Me a Riddle*: “I Stand Here Ironing,” “Hey, Sailor, What Ship?,” “O Yes” and “Tell Me a Riddle”
- December: Adalbert Stifter’s Christmas novel *Rock Crystal*
- January 2025: Jhumpa Lahiri, three stories from *Interpreter of Maladies*: “Interpreter of Maladies,” “Mrs. Sen’s,” and “The Third and Final Continent”
- February: Saul Bellow’s novella *The Actual*
- March: Zora Neale Hurston, five short stories from *Hitting a Straight Lick with a Crooked Stick*: “Drenched in Light,” “Muttsy,” “Under the Bridge,” “The Book of Harlem,” and “The Country in the Woman”
- April: Continued discussion of stories by Zora Neale Hurston: “The Gilded Six-Bits,” “Spunk,” “Magnolia Flower,” and “Sweat”
- May: Fyodor Dostoevsky’s novel *Notes from Underground*
- June: Margaret Atwood, “Tig and Nell” (three stories) and “Nell and Tig” (four stories), from *Old Babes in the Wood*

Jim Woelfel

Library Report

The largest portion of the Endacott library collection, occupying the east wall of the office, is the oral histories of members past and present. The rest of the collection consists of books and other publications, organized into the following categories: Kansas history, KU history, nature and gardening in Kansas, and the arts in Kansas and at KU. Each of those categories also preserves works by and about KU and Kansas authors.

Among the most recent acquisitions are:

Diana Carlin et al., Remember the First Ladies
Dennis Doherty, ed., Embattled Lawrence, vol. 2
and seven books authored by Richard De George: Business Ethics, The Ethics of Information Technology and Business, A Guide to Philosophical Bibliography, The Nature and Limits of Authority, The New Marxism, Patterns of Soviet Thought, and The Structuralists (ed. Richard and Fernande De George).

Jim Woelfel

Lunch Bunch

Every week following our Wednesday coffee meetings, a group of gregarious members meet for lunch. During the winter and when the weather was unpleasant, we would meet at various restaurants in town. When the weather was nice, we met in the Weinberg Pavilion at the Lawrence Rotary Arboretum.

Ron Schorr

Old Time Radio Shows

Our group meets for about two hours, on the last Monday of the month, to learn about, listen to, and discuss Old Time Radio shows. We do not meet in December. No preparation is required of attendees except to show up and enjoy. The shows from the '30s, '40s, and '50s, and their associated commercials elicit lively discussion both about the shows and related aspects of life during those times, such as the roles of homemakers and the nature of advertising. We normally listen to three half-hour episodes at each meeting. On occasion, we may do a one-hour episode or listen to multiple 15-minute shows.

Our meetings are held only on Zoom. The Zoom format has been working well for this group. We average about ten people attending each meeting and encourage guests to attend when they are able. No reservations are needed. Anyone interested in attending should just click on the Zoom link in the Zoom guide, or in the monthly announcement of the meeting sent to everyone in the Retiree's group.

The newest addition to our group was the inclusion of captioning for each show. This was added for listeners who have difficulty understanding the programs or are dealing with hearing issues.

This year, we listened to episodes of such famous Old Time Radio as Burns and Allen, Challenge of the Yukon (Sgt. Preston), Superman, Suspense, Jack Benny, Fibber McGee and Molly, The Shadow, and The Lone Ranger. Additionally, we listened to several audition programs, some from programs that went on to become very famous, and others which died in one-off obscurity, but all fun to listen to.

I look forward to sharing new programs and information during the next year. Mostly, though, I look forward to continuing to meet in our community and sharing something we all seem to enjoy.

John R. Nicholson

Oral History Project

The Oral History Project is in somewhat of a transition period. Since most of the people who serve as interviewers are members of the Endacott Society, they are already retired from their professional career. This past year many of our interviewers are "retiring" from the project. I would like to thank Martin Bergee, David Bushouse, Nora Clark, Audrey Kamb-Studdard, and Iris Smith Fischer for their work on the project. The coming year will be one of recruiting more volunteer interviewers for the project. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please let me know. We have had strong support from Professor Jonathon Hagel in the History department who has a number of students working with him on the project.

We have completed four interviews and transcriptions that have been filed in the Spencer Archives: Helen Alexander, Betty Bunce, James Thorp and Scott Watson. In addition, we have a number of

interviews in the process of transcription and editing: Steven Epstein, Eve Levin, Rebecca Schulte, Tom Krieshok, Charles Eldredge and Beverly Mack.

We continue to work with Spencer Research Library to reconcile our collections (that we each have all the copies the other has). They are continuing to develop procedures to digitize more of their collections. We have also set up shared folders to better share information and collections.

Lindy Eakin

Out of Town Travel

The out-of-town travel group of 11 members went to Kansas City on October 11 to visit two fascinating museums. The morning was dedicated to the National Museum of Toys and Miniatures on the UMKC campus. A very knowledgeable docent led our group. One of the exhibits featured her as a young woman in the 1950s with her favorite doll.

After stopping for lunch at Gates BBQ near the location of the original restaurant, the group headed to the new Rabbit hOle Museum in North Kansas City where we explored exhibits from various classics of children's literature after entering the museum space through an almost too realistic rabbit hole. The Great Green Room was one of many favorites.

The out-of-town travel group visited the TWA Museum in Kansas City on Thursday, March 27. The Museum recounts the history of Kansas City's "hometown airline" in a hangar on the original Kansas City Municipal Airport location beneath the Missouri River bluffs. It is staffed primarily by volunteer retired TWA employees and contains many artifacts and stories from TWA's glory days in Kansas City and the world.

On Thursday, May 22, 18 Endacott Society members toured Powell Gardens, a nonprofit public botanical garden of about 175 acres southeast of Kansas City. We enjoyed a perfect late spring day observing many native plant and flower varieties interspersed with art objects.

Thanks to our corps of volunteer drivers for making these 2024/25 outings possible.

Judy Niebaum and Dave Marden

Service Project

Endacott Society Food Drive for the KU Campus Cupboard

Our members contributed over 200 food items to our third annual food drive for the KU Campus Cupboard. We gathered donated grocery items at our four February and March Wednesday Coffee meetings in 2025. Thanks to all who donated to this project and contributed to this worthy Endacott service project. Several of our members made financial contributions via KU Endowment at Food for Jayhawks. Campus Cupboard is a food pantry in the Kansas Memorial Union, operated by KU Student Affairs and the Center for Community Outreach.

Jo and Cal Cink

Student Ambassadors

Purpose: To participate in students' Life Cycles to share relevant stories about unique life experiences.

The number of Social Media Platforms now exceeds 150 and begs the question, "Which ones should I use and not use?" A search of some student organizations was begun last fall to find students who might be prepared to speak to us on this subject. We found several but project coordinators from HUG, Helping Unite Generations, a community outreach organization, were willing to undertake this project. After several info meetings with them, followed by two months of their extracurricular work, they presented their work in early December to a meeting of our Technology Group attended by over 20 members. A link to their presentation: [Social Media \(1\).pdf](#)

A Mini Golf Group was initiated in cooperation with the Senior Resource Center (SRC) for students of all ages, beginners, amateurs and remedials. Classes began in March, meeting from 10 to 11 o'clock each Friday morning in the SRC game room. We began indoors with basic putting drills and moved outside for live putting and chipping, weather permitting. A total of 22 persons, 2 or 3 each class, have attended to date.

J. Tom Adams

Tai Chi

Ever since moving indoors at the Senior Resource Center, the Tai Chi group has met regularly, Fridays at 9:00, learning and practicing Yang Style Tai Chi 24, unimpeded by adverse weather. So long as the group's satisfaction remains strong we will continue to improve indefinitely.

Haskell Springer

Technology Studies

Technology Studies had 17 programs which met at 9:00AM on the first and third Wednesdays in the Alumni Center. The speakers and their number of presentations were:

Dave Mannering (10), Richard Kershenbaum (1), Jack Horner (2), Stephen King (1), John Nicholson (1), Larry Hoyle (1), and The Helping Unit Generations (HUG) Student Group (1).

Topics ranged widely, including the latest technology-infused toys, quantum computing, social media, robots, and AI.

The attendance ranged from 10 to 20. Meetings were not Zoomed this year. There were no programs in July or August.

David Mannering

Technology Support

Support was provided for a few Zoom meetings and presentations. The newsletters and monthly meeting calendars were posted to the Endacott Society web site. The web site was migrated to KUAA's new web host, but our role was just to authorize access for the technicians.

A few names were added or deleted from the Retirees E-mail List as needed.

David Mannering

Wednesday Coffee Hour (Ten O'Clock Scholars)

I'm a relative newcomer to the weekly Endacott tradition known as Ten O'clock Scholars. Before becoming vice president two years ago, I did not participate. I wasn't entirely sure what its purpose was or whether I was even eligible – as an “ordinary” member – to attend. I've learned a lot in two years and have tried my best to dispel the notion that the Wednesday coffee hour is an academic Elks Lodge, with secret rites and rituals. The president does ring a sort of Sanctus bell to bring the group to order, but it's not nearly as magical and mystical as I once imagined. It's also a lot of fun.

Every Wednesday morning, I see a well-orchestrated hive in action: bringing and arranging treats; setting up the boxes of name badges; laying out sign-up sheets; cleaning up carefully afterward, etc. A kind and caring cadre of indispensable volunteers makes it all work in perfect bee-like harmony.

It's an opportunity for people to catch up informally on what's happening in their lives. It's an opportunity for the president to report on some activities, at KU or in the wider world. Then it's an opportunity for group leaders to tell what's coming up and to invite participation. Mostly, it's an opportunity to engage with other people as friends and equals.

With a steady attendance of 25-30 every Wednesday of the year (except for holidays and blizzards), there's nothing like it at KU for consistency, civility and charm. It resembles a small-

town Kansas café, where all the news is shared, all the business gets done, and no one leaves hungry. Folks might sit with the same members at the same tables, having the same conversations as last week. But that's okay, and a little reassuring that's there's still such a thing as pleasant and normal in this world. (All that's lacking is an official Endacott seed cap for the gents.)

Then, on the third Wednesday, at the appointed hour, at the table in the back: BIRTHDAY CAKE!

I've learned that Ten O'clock Scholars is the epitome of the Endacott community. We'd love to have more people attend, regularly or occasionally, so spread the word and dispel the mystique.

Kevin Boatright