Greetings from the President

There are so many important things going on this month that I had difficulty deciding what to write about. Homeland security in war time? State and university budget cuts? When I was a child, eager to grow up and enter the exciting world of adulthood, I couldn’t imagine the mixed feelings that come with maturity. Devastating problems confront us at the same time that we celebrate joyful events. The juxtaposition of circumstances and emotions can be astonishing sometimes. It’s often a challenge to decide what to focus upon.

In the midst of fearsome circumstances, I’m grateful for my membership in UNOPA because it provides a good place to focus my energy. Because of my membership in this association, I’m in contact with colleagues who are proactive and positive. They’re informed about the issues which affect the university community, and they know how to get things done. That’s why we’re asked to appoint members to committees like the one that is now being formed to administer the new “Faculty and Staff Budget Reduction Impact Fund.” This gives me hope for the future, and it makes me proud because I know that as a UNOPA member, I’m part of the solution.

During the formation of the United States of America, there was consensus among the founders that much of the work of running a country could be done by people in voluntary associations, and that these associations would make better decisions than government agencies could. The founders predicted ordinary people would be willing to donate their time to participate in self-government for the benefit of their own communities, and that those ordinary people could be trusted to do a fine job. They believed this was a good way to keep government interference and costs down, while providing great service to the citizens.

UNOPA and UAAD are excellent examples of this uniquely American idea! They aren’t paid employees, but members participate in a multitude of programs—everything from managing the employee assistance fund to debating parking options on an advisory committee—which benefit our university community in large and small ways every day. Can you imagine what it would cost to administer all those programs and decisions without volunteers? I’d like to know the economic value of our association’s contribution, but we don’t have to conduct a study to know it’s substantial. Thank you, everyone, for supporting UNOPA. If you’re an associate or retired member, be assured you’re doing good simply by paying your dues and helping active members continue this work.

Someone suggested that “my year” is almost over. I don’t see it that way, because we still have many important events and initiatives in the works. Elections, awards, state conference, and meetings with administrators are still to come, and I’m looking forward to all of it. So don’t expect me to slow down yet—I’m having too much fun!

Congratulations to all the nominees for UNOPA office; it speaks well of you that others want to follow your lead. Whether you’re elected to office or serve in another leadership capacity, you’ll be glad you stepped up to the plate and took a swing. How do I know? Because Carol Bom, your President-elect, is truly a pleasure to work with. Thank you nominees, from the bottom of my heart, for being willing to serve on the Executive Board. Your readiness to give time and energy in the great American tradition of volunteerism is a blessing to UNOPA and the University of Nebraska!

Christine Cary
UNOPA President
UNOPA News

UNOPA General Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2003
City Union

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
President Chris Cary welcomed all members to the March 11, 2003 General meeting of UNOPA at the East Union. She extended a special welcome to guests before introducing the head table and guest speaker Ron Johnson.

CALL TO ORDER
President Chris Cary called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon.

MINUTES
The minutes of the February 11, 2003 General meeting were approved as published in UNOPA Notes.

OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORTS
President
President Cary thanked the 40th Anniversary Committee for doing such an outstanding job organizing the 40th Anniversary event. It was a great success and members were treated to a lovely dinner and 40 years of UNOPA memories. Since our last meeting, Chris’s UNOPA activities have been focused on budget reductions. She attended two special meetings led by Chancellor Perlman where he presented information about the University’s prospects. She will testify before the Academic Planning Committee on March 12th to reiterate our support for the University and Chancellor Perlman. She wants everyone to feel proud of UNOPA and our efforts to support the office/service staff at UNL. Chris announced that Herb Howe’s nomination for National Educational Administrator of the Year would be mailed this week. Herb will attend the awards luncheon next month to receive recognition for this nomination. To encourage attendance at the annual National Association of Educational Office Professionals (NAEOP) Conference in Boise, Idaho in July 2003, Chris wore her official conference shirt and explained a little about this exciting national conference. She also wants to investigate the possibilities of educational incentives for employees. Debbie Hendricks invited the membership to the Tidball Awards Celebration on March 30th at 7 PM at St. Marks on the Campus.

Hospitality
Helen Dukes was the winner of $26.50 in the 50/50 drawing. With the program “Birds in Your Backyard” in mind, tables were decorated with birds, birdseed and birdhouses. These centerpieces, as well as other bird related gifts, were given as door prizes.

Nominating
Faye Massa read the slate of candidates for the next UNOPA officer election. Those nominated are: President-elect—Becky Hastings and Sandy Watmore; Recording Secretary—Marcy Tintera, Joan Frederick, and Betty Tutt; Corresponding Secretary—Amy Stewart, Deb Roscau and Doreen Wagenaar; Treasurer—Kathy Thompson and Jerry Schluckebier. There were no nominations from the floor. President Cary appointed the Nomination Committee as tellers for the election.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS
Board
The Executive Board met in a special session on February 25th where President Cary briefed them on the information she had received in meetings with Chancellor Perlman. The board approved a statement of support for the University, which she read at the March 10th State Legislative Appropriations Committee hearing. This statement was also printed in the March 11th Lincoln Journal Star opinion-editorial page. The regular Executive Board meeting was held on March 6th with only one board member absent and all voting members present. President Cary expressed her thanks to these members for their dedication to UNOPA this year. A decision was made to mail the UNOPA Notes by the 25th of the month, in order to give members more time to mail their meeting reservations.

Proposals to Change Standing Rule 3
Currently this standing rule reads: “All Executive Board meetings are open to any members, unless stipulated by the President.”
April General Meeting:
by Carol Bom, President-elect

Reserve your spot today to come to the April 8, 2003 UNOPA general meeting! We will be awarding three of our annual awards at this time. The award nominees and judges will be present as we hear who the fortunate winners will be. The Rose Frolik Award, the Floyd S. Oldt Outstanding Staff Award, and the Floyd S. Oldt Silver Pen Award will all be presented. It is an honor to be nominated for any of these prestigious awards. Please come and congratulate all of those nominated, and thank the judges for giving of their time to attend and do the judging!

Also at the April meeting will be the recognition of our past presidents and retirees. This is also a great time to renew acquaintances and see former friends who don’t normally get to attend our monthly meetings.

For those of you who weren’t able to attend the 40th Anniversary Celebration, the display boards and scrapbooks that we have on hand will also be on display for this meeting. The program committee and a sub-scrapbook committee worked many hours on these presentations, so please come to see them at this meeting.

Getting Ready to Serve
by Carol Bom, Program Director

Thanks to all the nominees who put their name on the ballot to run for an elected office! It is a great privilege to serve this organization, and I appreciate everyone who has stepped forward and said they’d be willing to serve UNOPA in these capacities. It is exciting to know that we have an opportunity to help this group continue to be a vital force on the UNL campus.

It is time to consider serving on the Board of Directors for the coming year. Once the elections are completed and we have a slate of officers, we will be putting together the Board for next year. How would you like to help? As Chris stated in last month’s president’s letter, we need at least 40 people to serve on the Board and our various committees. That is a lot of people! Together, we can continue to make UNOPA strong.

Please email me or call me and let me know what you would like to do. Each committee needs at least three members, so even if you don’t feel like you want to be on the Board, you can let me know what committee you’d like to serve with. The Board of Directors meets once a month, and then each committee meets as needed to complete their task. It is a time commitment, so be sure you have the support of your supervisor and they know that you will be gone for some meetings now and then throughout the year. Networking is another great way to meet your fellow UNOPA members and have fun working on projects throughout the year. Networking is another great benefit of serving on committees. It is great to be able to put a name with a face after you have talked with someone on the phone about a cost center number or an invoice or trash removal, and now you are working with them on a committee!

My email is cbom1@unl.edu, and my phone number is 472-9131. I am happy to answer any questions you may have about these positions. Let’s hit the ground running as we prepare for the coming year! Together, we’ll make it happen!

Member Concerns
by Kathy Schindler, Corresponding Secretary

A sympathy card was sent to Amy Stewart following the death of her grandfather and a get-well card was sent to Diane Wasser following shoulder surgery.

In March, we received a thank-you note from Marj McKinty at LMEF for inviting her to speak at the UNOPA February meeting. We also received a congratulations letter on our 40th Anniversary from Lisa Morehouse, NEOPA president.

Linda Luedtke was sent a congratulations card for being the recipient of the Applause Award from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Many Thanks!
by Carol Bom, Program Director

Thank you to the Program Committee—Shirley Horstman, Amy Stewart, Melinda St. Clair, Cathy Leazer, Katherine Gulland and Mari Greer—for their help on the display boards they made for our meetings. Thanks also to the scrapbookers—Shirley Horstman, Amy Stewart, Chris Cary, Katherine Gulland and Cheryl Ross—for their extra help on this wonderful project!

The proposed change would read as follows:

“All Executive Board meetings are open to any members, unless stipulated by the President. Minutes of the Executive Board, with the exception of closed meetings, are available to members upon request.”

Rational for the change:

A number of years ago, due to lack of parliamentary procedure and history of the organization, a number of mistakes were made that required substantial time to correct by another Executive Board when the mistakes were realized. Following this, several members of the past presidents requested and received monthly copies of minutes and have done so for many years. This was the past presidents way of assisting the organization.

Sandy Lineberry moved that the motion to “Change Standing Rule 3” be taken off the table. Motion was discussed. Motion failed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Board meeting will be April 3, 2003, at 3 PM at 1700 Y St.
- Next meeting will be the Awards Luncheon, April 8, 2003 from 11:45-1:00 PM at Abel Sandoz Ballroom

PROGRAM

Ron Johnson, Extension Wildlife Specialist from the School of Natural Resources, gave a very interesting talk about “Birds in Your Backyard” and showed colorful slides of birds and their habitats.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Linda Luedtke, Recording Secretary
Announcements

VOTE for your next Executive Board!

Mark your ballot
(pages 5 & 6)
cut page from newsletter
and send to Faye Massa,
1700 Y St, 0694.

Ballots must be in by Wednesday, April 2, 2003!!

NEOPA Spring Conference
April 10-11, 2003
UNL East Union

Get your registration in NOW!
(For registration forms, go to www.unl.edu/unopa)

You don’t have to be a member of NEOPA to attend this
delicious conference! Everyone is welcome!

Join us at this “sparkling”, fun-filled, motivational and inspirational conference!
From personal leadership styles, to personal wellness and appearance, to celebrating
our uniqueness, it is all right here in this one-day “Sparkle Where You Are” conference.

Hear Nationally Acclaimed Humorist and Motivational Speaker

T. Marní Vos

Don’t miss this great opportunity!
**UNOPA OFFICER BALLOT**

**PLEASE RETURN BY:** Wednesday, April 2, 2003.

**SEND TO:** Faye Massa, 1700 Y Street, 0694

4 Please mark your ballot, voting for one candidate in each category.

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**PRESIDENT-ELECT**

☐ Becky Hastings

I will be at the University five years this May. I have spent those five years working in the Inventory Department and loving every minute of it (usually). I have been a member of UNOPA for four years and have served on the Awards Committee and the Ways and Means Committee for the last two years. I am married and am in the military—Nebraska Air National Guard. I have four stepchildren and five stepgrandchildren along with six 4-legged children (2 dogs, 1 cat, 2 horses and 1 donkey). Being a part of UNOPA has allowed me to meet a lot of new people and has been a great experience. Holding the President-elect position would give me a challenge that I would welcome!

☐ Sandy Watmore

I have worked in the Business and Finance Division at UNL for 27 years. Currently I have a dual assignment for Vending Services as the liaison between UNL–LinPepCo and for Transportation Services as a clerical assistant. My Vending Services duties include collecting and relaying service reports, ordering beverage products, paying invoices, and renovating vending sites on our campuses. For Transportation Services, I act as receptionist, compile payroll records, order fuel and supplies, and complete general office duties.

During my 25 years as a member of UNOPA, I have been Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary, served as director and/or helped with standing committees (including Awards, Conference, Foundations, Hospitality, Membership, Nominating, Publicity, Professional Growth, Program, Summer Social, UNOPA Notes and Ways & Means), and represented UNOPA on several Ad Hoc Committees. I earned my PSP and CEOE in 1990 and am active in the PSP Foundation Committee. Some of my rewards for my many years of membership and involvement in UNOPA include professional growth and developing lasting friendships. I have been a member of the national educational association (NAEOP) for the last 13 years and the state association (NEOPA) for the last 12 years. My involvement has included attending several conferences (state, regional and national), completing two terms as NEOPA Treasurer, and chairing or serving as a member of many of their standing committees.

My husband of 29 years (Mike), our 12-year-old daughter (Lauren), and I live on 31 acres near Denton with five assorted dogs and cats (no horses). Mike is the Quality Manager at Square D Company and Lauren is a 6th grade student at Beattie Elementary School. I enjoy sewing, quilting, attending auctions, supporting Lauren’s numerous school and social activities, flower gardening, attending UNL gymnastics events, and spending a great deal of time with my recently widowed mother. I am a member of the Lied Center's volunteer staff, serve as a substitute Sunday school teacher, and have worked with the Nebraska Alzheimer’s Association.

If elected as your President-elect, I look forward to leading UNOPA’s continuing efforts to offer physical and emotional support to the office/clerical staff who are finding their jobs eliminated because of the economic slump and budget cuts. We need to maintain a decorum of optimism that the University will survive and prosper in the future and every one of us will be needed to support this future surge.

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

☐ Joan Frederick

I have been a staff member at the University of Nebraska for over 30 years, and an administrative assistant in the INTSORMIL program since 1983. My main responsibilities are in financial management, but I have had the pleasure of working with international students and scientists from all over Africa and Central America as well as other universities. I’ve organized conferences at several sites in the U.S. as well as in Mexico and Africa. The great thing about my job is the variety; each day brings new opportunities as well as challenges and meeting new people.

I’ve been a member of UNOPA for about 10 years, serving as Newsletter Editor, Awards Chair and on the Membership Committee, and enjoy the friendship of other UNOPA members. For fun I like to travel, read and play bridge.

☐ Marcy Tintera

I am a 26-year UNL employee having worked in the following areas: 4-H & Youth Development; Agricultural Economics; Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife; and the School of Natural Resource Sciences. A year ago I made the move to the Law College where I am currently a faculty assistant. I’ve been a UNOPA member most of these 26 years serving as chair or member of several UNOPA offices and committees including Ways and Means, Professional Growth and Corresponding Secretary. I have also served on a couple of UNL committees including Parking Advisory and the Grievance Committee. Some of my off-work...
activities include reading (I’m a member of a reading club), creating counted cross stitch pieces, ushering at the Lied Center, and playing with and caring for my dog, KC.

**Betty Tutt**

I started at the University 15 years ago at Agricultural Communications (now Communications and Information Technology) as an accounting clerk. After 13 years there, I transferred in June 2001 to the office of the Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance where I am an administrative technician. It has been great getting to experience life on both East and City Campuses.

I joined UNOPA shortly after I came to UNL, and have been a member ever since. During the current year I hold the office of Treasurer and I have enjoyed being more involved.

**Treasurer**

**Patricia A. Liedle**

I currently serve as office supervisor of the UNL Water Center. I provide office services within the department via telephone, word processing, mailings, meetings, customer relations, and serve as treasurer for the Nebraska Water Conference Council in addition to a wide variety of related responsibilities. I have also held the following positions: Staff Secretary II—AG*SAT (Now A*DEC) and Staff Secretary II—Cedars Home for Children.

One goal I would like to see UNOPA achieve is to establish a mentoring program within our own organization. I believe that if we network position levels willing to offer guidance and support for those who would like to advance their positions within the University system would be very helpful. I would also like to see more social interaction and not just monthly meetings and one social event per year.

Offices previously held in UNOPA consist of Summer Social Director 1995, Membership Director 1995-96, Corresponding Secretary 1996-97, Ways and Means Director 2001-02 and have served on several other committees. I have been a member of UNOPA since 1993.

Serving as your treasurer would be a challenge that I look forward to. It is good to experience the different elected offices if you are ever considering being the president of an organization. This helps to understand everyone’s office during the time consuming role of president.

I enjoy hosting foreign students—especially Japanese Agricultural Trainees in my home—dancing, cross-stitch, crocheting and baking. I am the proud mother of Tanner (6 months), and have a stepdaughter, Amanda (14) who attends Northeast High School. I have been married for six years to Rick and our family’s love is camping in our fifth wheel with our friends.

**Jerry Schluckebier**

I am an Accounting Clerk III with the Natural Resources Business Center on East Campus. As far as I’m concerned, there is no better job at the University. I’ve been here about two and a half years. Since joining UNOPA two years ago, I’ve participated in three professional development workshops, helping with the football parking lot, and the monthly meetings. This year I am a member of the Executive Board as the chairman of the Way and Means Committee.

In my personal life, this is a big spring for me. My two sons will both be married—one on May 24th and one on June 14th—so it will be a busy, fun time.

**Kathy Thompson**

I have been at the University 15 years this past July. I have worked at various places on campus. I had not been involved in UNOPA much until recently. I have always followed UNOPA and occasionally came to a meeting when work allowed. I am now in a position that I can participate. I now work in the new Business Center created for Business and Finance.

**Corresponding Secretary**

**Deborah Rosenau**

Deborah has withdrawn her name for election at this time.

**Amy Stewart**

“Life might not be the party we hoped for, but while we are here we might as well dance.”

The Custodial Division inducted me into the UNL community in 1996 and I then transferred to the City Union in 1999. Since joining the University I have served on a committee(s) for UNOPA each year of service. UNOPA has been a great way to learn more about the University, how things work on campus and to meet new people. My husband is currently overseas with the military so that makes me temporarily a single parent of our two children, Benjamin 11 and Carson who is 3. Currently I am serving as a Family Readiness Support Leader for the families of the soldiers that are serving for Task Force Huskers, Enduring Freedom. In my spare time I like to read, garden, scrapbook and volunteer around Lincoln for several different agencies.

**Doreen Wagenaar**

This is my 4th year at UNL. I worked in the Humanities Center and Judaic Studies through September 2002 and then was promoted to my current position as Administrative Tech II in Art and Art History. I’ve been a UNOPA member most of the time I’ve been at UNL and have served on one of the UNOPA Employee Concerns Committees since last year. I graduated from UNL in 1991.
40 Years of Memories

Editor's Note: As much as things change, many things still stay the same. It really has been a joy to do the newsletter and, no, we haven't had any problems like stated in the first article below. We just printed it for fun like they did!

During our anniversary year we are pulling interesting facts and information from early UNOPA Notes newsletters. I have tried to recreate these articles just as they have appeared...with no editing to the text. Ed.

UNOPA NOTES - Volume III, Number 5, 1965

THE JOY OF BEING ON THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Getting out the newsletter is no picnic,
If we print jokes people say we are silly,
If we don't they say we are too serious,
If we clip things from other papers
We are too lazy to write them ourselves.
If we don't we are stuck on our own stuff.
If we stick too close to editorials
We ought to be out hunting news.
If we get out and try to hustle some
We ought to be giving helpful hints.
If we don't print contributions
We don't appreciate true genius.
And if we do, the paper is filled with all sorts of stuff.
If we make a change in someone's writeup
We are too critical.
If we don't we are asleep at the switch.
If we write good articles people say we stole them.
If we write bad ones people say they are original.
If we don't write any at all, then we don't know what to do.
Now it's like someone to say we swiped this from another newsletter!!
Your right -- WE DID!

ARE YOU A GOOD COOK? WHY NOT TRY THIS OLD RECIPE IN 1965?

Take twelve fine, full-grown months, see that these are thoroughly free from all old memories of bitterness, rancor, hate and jealousy; cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them as fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time.

Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. This batch will keep for just one year. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many persons spoil the entire lot in this way), but prepare one day at a time, as follows:

Into each day put twelve parts of faith, eleven of patience, ten of courage, nine of work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest), eight of hope, seven of fidelity, six of liberality, five of kindness, four of rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad—don't do it), three of prayer, no conscientious scruples, put in about a teaspoomfull of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.

Pour into the whole, love and mix with a vim. Cook thoroughly in a fervent heat; garnish with a few smiles and a sprig of joy; then serve with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness, and a Happy New Year is a certainty.

DOES YOUR JOB SEEM DULL?

Jan Wacker suggests that "One good way to destroy the monotony of any particular job is to think of some way to improve it."

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"It's strange how unimportant your job seems when you ask for a raise, but how important it is when you want a day off!"

UNOPA NOTES - Volume III, Number 6, 1965

WORDS

Words are such funny things,
They can be lovely or give bitter stings.
Think hard before you let them go--
You cannot get them back, you know!

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"Free speech" and "cheap talk" do not mean the same thing.

****

One of the nicest things about telling the truth is that you don't have to remember what you said!

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AUTOMATION

Things are moving so fast nowadays, that people who say it can't be done are interrupted by someone doing it. . . .

Take "automation" for instance. The story is told about a jet airliner, fully loaded with passengers, which took off from a large eastern airport. The take-off was perfect and after a few minutes in the air the intercom blasted forth . . . . "Good Morning, ladies and gentlemen. You are now flying at an altitude of 5,000 feet. Weather ahead is clear and you may expect a very pleasant flight. We wish to congratulate you! You are the first passengers ever to make a flight in a jet liner which operates 'without a crew'. Please do not be alarmed. Everything is in good order and your flight is being guided by remote control at the airport. There is absolutely nothing that can go wrong. This jet has been completely serviced by mechanics and is running according to plan. Everything has been thoroughly checked and rechecked. Positively nothing can go wrong --just relax and enjoy your flight! Again, we congratulate you on being so fortunate as to be chosen for this maiden flight. Everything is mechanical and absolutely foolproof, foolproof, foolproof, . . . . . . ?"

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A WORD TO THE WISE IS SUFFICIENT

Some folks think that uncovering the other fellow's faults will cover up their own.

****

Many a molehill can be made into a mountain by constantly adding dirt.

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When you are dishing out dirt, you are losing ground.
Education is the birthright of every person. We as members of the University of Nebraska Office Personnel Association pledge ourselves to safeguard that right. We acknowledge the unique role of educational office personnel and the importance of their contributions to the university and the community.

The purpose of UNOPA is to provide professional growth and promote high professional standards for education office personnel with the University of Nebraska, as partners upholding the quality of service to the university educational system and the community.