Board elects four new members

Four new members have been elected to the Barnes Hospital board of directors, according to an announcement by Armand C. Stalnaker, chairman of the board. The addition brings to 18 the number of directors who govern the 1,150-bed teaching hospital recognized as one of the top ten hospitals in the United States. The board this year approved a change in the bylaws increasing the size of the board to a minimum of 16 and a maximum of 20 directors. The bylaws also now provide that the chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee, president of Barnes Hospital Society and president of Barnes Hospital Auxiliary be eligible annually for nomination for a one-year term.

The newly elected members are Frederick S. Wood, vice-president, contracts and pricing, General Dynamics Corporation, elected for a five-year term; Darlene Roland (Mrs. A. Charles Roland III), president, Barnes Auxiliary, Dr. Jack Kayes, ophthalmologist and president, Barnes Hospital Society; and Dr. John M. Fredrickson, otolaryngologist-in-chief and chairman, Medical Advisory Committee.

Mr. Wood was named vice-president, contracts and pricing, for General Dynamics Corporation in 1978 and assumed additional responsibility for the materials division in 1981. He joined the company after 17 years of service with the U.S. government, most recently as international business advisor for the F-16 at U.S. Air Force Aeronautical Systems Division in Dayton, Ohio.

Mr. Wood received his undergraduate degree in business and economics from the University of Dayton in his native Ohio. He graduated from the Defense Management Systems School in Monterey, California, in 1970 and from the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 1974.

He serves on the board of advisors of the National Contract Management Association and is a member of the board of trustees of the University of Dayton. He is on the boards of the Coro Foundation, the Arts and Education Council of Greater St. Louis, the Commission of the Botanical Garden and the Museum District of the City and County of St. Louis.

Mrs. Roland joined the Barnes Hospital Auxiliary in 1974. In 1978, she was elected president of the organization. Over the past seven years, she has served as chairman of the Auxiliary’s nominating committee, chairman of the Baby Photo Service, as a patient representative, and as chairman of the Wishing Well Gift and Flower Shops. She was elected president of the organization in April 1985.

Mrs. Roland, a native of St. Louis, attended the University of Missouri-Columbia where she was a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma, a scholastic honorary, and Sigma Rho Sigma, an honorary based on scholastic performance and activity involvement. Mrs. Roland serves on the board of CASA (St. Louis Conservatory and Schools of the Arts) and is a past president of the association. She also was an officer of the Women’s Advisory Board of Landmark Banks and was involved in the St. Louis Area Girl Scouts’ Council for nine years.

Dr. Fredrickson received his bachelor of arts degree by the Kinkoping University in Sweden and a master’s degree in physics, chemistry and biology. He also earned a Ph.D. in biology from the University of Freiburg, Germany. He now serves as chairman of the department of otolaryngology at WUMS. Previously, he served as senior otolaryngologist at Toronto General Hospital in Toronto, Ontario; as professor, department of otolaryngology at the University of Toronto; and as a consultant for the Princess Margaret Hospital ENT cancer clinic.

Dr. Fredrickson received his bachelor of arts and medical degrees from the University of British Columbia and, as an undergraduate, majored in physics, chemistry and biology. He also was endowed with an honorary medical degree by the Kinkoping University in Sweden in recognition of excellence in vestibular research. He served residencies at Vancouver General Hospital, Shaughnessy Hospital in Vancouver, the University of Chicago and the University of St. Louis, as well as a consultant to the Princess Margaret Hospital ENT cancer clinic.

Dangers of smoking prompt new policy

While millions of smokers across the nation took part in the American Cancer Society’s Ninth Annual Great American Smokeout, Barnes took steps to assist those attempting to kick the habit with the issuance of a new smoking policy. Effective November 21, 1985, Barnes stopped selling tobacco products on the premises and redefined the traditional smoking/non-smoking areas. (Continued on page 2)
No-smoking policy
(Continued from page 1)

“Barnes medical staff and administration felt that it was time to effect such a policy in the best interest of our patients, visitors and employees,” said Dr. John Fredrickson, Barnes oto-laryngologist-in-chief and chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee.

“Hospitals like Barnes, few in number and high in visibility, have a real obligation to be leaders,” added Dr. R. Morton Bolman, head of the heart transplant program. “Sometimes being a leader requires boldness and courage. I feel that such a time is at hand, and that we must act responsibly toward the public, our consumers, as well as our employees. Cigarette smoking is one of the major enemies that we fight daily in our attempt to prevent coronary artery disease and all types of lung disease.”

Barnes’ new smoking policy—or no-smoking policy—was implemented to offset the health problems associated with smoking. Aside from the cessation of tobacco sale, the smoking policy changes indicate a meaningful shift in emphasis. Rather than designating a singular waiting area as a non-smoking area, all public areas are considered non-smoking areas unless otherwise clearly designated. Certain areas have been assigned as smoking areas and are marked as such.

The patient smoking policy remains unchanged as semi-private rooms are assigned according to common preference. However, if a non-smoker must temporarily share a room with a patient who smokes, the non-smoking patient receives top priority for a room transfer and may be offered a private room at no extra charge if one is available until an appropriate non-smoking roommate is located. Smoking by visitors is not permitted in patient rooms.

Ashtrays have been removed from the lobbies and corridors, but remain in place at the hospital entrances, and appropriate signage is displayed throughout the hospital which clearly reminds everyone of the no-smoking policy.

According to the American Cancer Society, the risk of developing lung cancer is 10 times greater for smokers than for non-smokers. Lung cancer, largely a preventable disease, accounts for almost 30 percent of all cancer deaths in the United States. Cigarette smokers, representing less than a third of the adult population, account for about 83 percent of all cases of lung cancer. Cigarette smoking also has been implicated as a cause of cancer in other parts of the body, including the mouth, pharynx, larynx, esophagus, bladder and pancreas, and is associated with an increased risk of heart disease.

The Surgeon General’s report indicates that cigarette smoke is detrimental not only to smokers but also to those who inhale environmental smoke. Studies have shown that so-called “passive smokers” have a higher level of urinary cotinine, a metabolite of nicotine, than those who aren’t exposed to environmental smoke. Cigarette smoke has long been recognized as an eye irritant and other findings report differences in lung function measurements in older populations chronically exposed to involuntary smoking.

Smokeless tobacco, used by some 22 million Americans as an alternative to cigarette smoking, is also associated with dangers to health. Tobacco chewers and snuff tippers become prone to problems ranging from bad breath to oral cancer that affects the gums, cheeks, teeth, palate, larynx, pharynx and esophagus.

Barnes/Sutter opens west county center
Barnes/Sutter Healthcare is moving west with the opening of a second occupational health facility at the intersection of Lindbergh Boulevard and Schuetz Road in west St. Louis county. Called Barnes/Sutter Healthcare, Olivette Center, the satellite provides primarily the same range of medical services offered at its downtown counterpart.

“With the addition of a west county center,” said Ken Hetlage, Barnes assistant administrator and administrative liaison for Barnes/Sutter Healthcare, “We hope to enhance regional coverage of our clients’ occupational and personal healthcare needs. The expansion of the service area will be especially beneficial for our clients with more than one branch or facility.”

Services available at the Olivette location include pre-placement and fit-for-duty health exams, disability evaluations, workers’ compensation ratings, FAA pilot and DOT truck drivers exams, a full range of emergency services for industrial accidents and illnesses, walk-in services for private patients and an executive physical program that includes lab work, x-rays and cardiac stress testing. The breast screening program and on-site physical therapy services are offered solely at the Downtown Center.

Since its acquisition loss less than two years ago, Barnes/Sutter Healthcare, Downtown Center, has realized a four percent increase in patient visits, which represents the first increase in patient volume at that facility since 1978.

MSI appoints manager of lithotripter service
Dean Matthews has been named operations manager of the extracorporeal shock wave lithotripter operated by Midwest Stone Institute (MSI) and housed at Barnes Hospital. Extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy is a non-invasive technique that pulverizes kidney stones through the use of shock waves. It is expected to negate the need for conventional surgery in 80 percent or more of kidney stone sufferers.

The newly appointed operations manager is responsible for the coordination of the lithotripter service, including scheduling patient appointments with physician-operators, ordering supplies, budgeting, overseeing the secretarial staff, managing publicity, and organizing a patient follow-up system and communication network with private urologists. The goal of the manager is to ensure optimal use of the lithotripter through coordination of these services.

He reports to the director of surgical nursing at Barnes and the executive committee of MSI, and interacts daily with the medical director of MSI.

Mr. Matthews, who was named to the position last month, holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration with a marketing emphasis from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. He is currently enrolled in UMSL’s master’s degree program in business administration.

Mr. Matthews’ work experience includes an extensive background in electrical installation, maintenance and repair. He joined Barnes’ plant engineering department in 1980 as an electrician aged in 1986 and was promoted to technician in 1988, supervising a crew of 12 in maintaining the hospital’s physical plant and systems. Prior to employment at Barnes, Mr. Matthews was an electrician for William Byrd Press in Richmond, Virginia, and an interior communications electrician in the United States Navy.

MSI is a joint venture of several area hospitals and physicians operating the first lithotripter in the state. Hospitals participating in the cooperative effort include Barnes, Christian Hospital, Northeast-Northwest, Deaconess Hospital, Incarnate Word Hospital, Jewish Hospital, Missouri Baptist Hospital, Normandy Osteopathic Hospitals, St. Anthony’s Medical Center, St. Francis Medical Center (Cape Girardeau), St. John’s Mercy Medical Center, St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood, St. Luke’s Hospital, St. Mary’s Health Care Center and University Hospital.

Inquiries about the lithotripter service can be directed to Mr. Matthews at (314) 362-7070.

Barnes nets 5 awards in statewide competition
Barnes Bulletin received statewide recognition by capturing an award of excellence in the employee publication division of the Missouri Hospital Association for Hospital Public Relations and Marketing’s annual “Muleshoe” competition. Barnes netted a total of five Muleshoe awards, more than any other hospital in the state. The winners were announced October 31 at the Missouri Hospital Association annual convention.

The 1984 Annual Report produced by public relations director Daisy Shepard was awarded top honors in its division, as was a colorful series of informational visitors’ cards in the special purpose publication category. Barnes Health News, the hospital’s quarterly magazine produced by public relations assistant director Charlene Bancroft, was recognized for excellence in external publications, and an advertisement produced by the department received a second place award for advertising in a single medium.

Copies of the publications, as well as free subscriptions to Bulletin and Barnes Health News, are available through the public relations department on the ground floor of Queeny Tower, or by calling 362-5290.
New drug aids some transplant patients

Herman Williams, 52, of Marion, Illinois, is typical of high-risk transplant patients who are being helped by a new anti-rejection drug now available at Barnes Hospital for certain patients. Mr. Williams, a former pipefitter suffering from kidney disease, had rejected one transplanted kidney in 1983. He underwent a second transplant operation in August, 1985, and became the first Barnes patient to be treated with OKT3, a new drug that prevents rejection in a majority of difficult-to-treat patients who otherwise would lose transplanted organs. After successful treatment with OKT3, Mr. Williams was discharged October 19.

The agent, OKT3, is a specially engineered "monoclonal" antibody that earlier this year was tested nationally on 129 kidney transplant patients. Researchers included Dr. M. Wayne Flye, head of the Barnes liver transplant program who participated in the initial clinical trials while on the staff of Yale-New Haven Hospital in Connecticut.

Dr. Flye said that the drug can reverse acute rejection in about 70 percent of kidney transplant patients. It may also be used for liver and heart transplant patients when rejection cannot be reversed by conventional immunosuppressants. "Individuals who have a history of rejection are at higher risk. The success with turning around rejection of the second transplanted kidney, as in Mr. Williams' instance, speaks for the success of the drug," said Dr. Flye.

OKT3 is injected for a 10 to 14 day period when patients' rejection cannot be controlled with other drugs. It removes specific white cells that are responsible for rejection.

"The development of OKT3 is an exciting step in immunosuppression therapy," added Dr. Flye. "We're converting what had been a zero percent success rate in a subset group of transplant patients to about a 70 to 70 percent success." He said that this patient subset represents about 10 percent of transplant patients.

Dr. Flye explained that lymphocytes, white cells which fight infection, occur in two forms, B cells and T cells. The T cells are also involved in organ rejection. In controlling the T cells, researchers have looked at specific molecules or markers on the surface of the cells. The new antibody is specifically directed against those T cells which attack transplant organs.

Dr. Flye said the OKT3 therapy is limited to 10 to 14 days because the body develops "antibodies to the antibody" after that time. By the end of two weeks, however, the rejection is usually controlled and can be maintained with conventional therapy.

Heart transplant team honors 1985 recipients

November, traditionally associated with Thanksgiving, marked a time of special thanks for members of the Barnes heart transplant team. The team hosted an appreciation reception honoring Barnes' heart transplant recipients and recognizing the health care professionals within the hospital and throughout the region who play a vital role in the success of the heart transplant program.

Ten of 12 Barnes heart transplant patients and members of their families, and one transplant candidate awaiting a donor heart attended the reception, held November 4 at the Whittemore House on the Washington University campus. The reception afforded the recipients an opportunity to meet one another outside the hospital setting.

Dr. R. Morton Bolman, head of the Barnes heart transplant program that began in January of this year, emphasized the value of the feeling of community among the recipients. "I think something like this helps to build up people's spirits," he said. "Seeing one another reinforces belief in the transplants' success. Each time a transplant occurs, it's a miraculous thing."

Productivity pay heralds improved benefits

The holidays have brought Barnes employees a little extra stocking stuffer to tuck away or add to the festivity of the season. In late November, each employee received an extra paycheck equivalent to three percent of projected 1985 individual earnings. In addition, expanded choices in the employee benefit program and an additional productivity improvement payment for 1986 were announced.

Improvements in the employee benefit package were developed in response to an employee attitude survey conducted last year. The survey indicated that employees wanted more choices available in the benefit program. Employees may now choose from three health care options, including two health maintenance organizations, and may select expanded types and amounts of life, dental and personal accident insurance for themselves and dependents.

Other changes in the benefit program include the availability of spending accounts funded with pre-tax dollars for medical and childcare purposes, and the opportunity for employees with at least two weeks of accrued vacation to trade in one week of that time for equivalent payment.

"I believe this combination of changes represents a big step forward in the benefit program," said Robert Frank, Barnes president, "and reflects recognition of the excellent work performed this year. I have every confidence that Barnes employees will continue to make Barnes one of the finest providers of patient care in the United States."

Alzheimer's center offers information, research

An Alzheimer's Disease Information and Research Center has opened in the Queeny Tower lobby of Barnes Hospital. Operated by the Washington University School of Medicine, the center is one of only 10 such resources across the country and is funded by the National Institute on Aging. Dr. Leonid Berg, psychologist/neurologist, is director of the center.

Alzheimer's disease, a neurological disorder with no known cause or cure, affects some 1.5 to 2 million Americans, and is the most common cause of severe intellectual impairment and institutionalization among the elderly. The disease destroys certain vital brain cells, disrupting intellectual processes and causing a progressive loss of memory and ability to function. The course of Alzheimer's disease usually lasts several years, during which a patient may eventually require total care in the most basic daily activities.

The Alzheimer's disease center offers general information about the disease, the names of organizations which provide support for families of patients, appropriate testing and referrals, and participation in research studies. The center will also train scientists and health care professionals and provide information on research advances to the public. Goals of research are to compare healthy aging with that of dementia of the Alzheimer's type.

The Alzheimer's center is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and may be reached at (314) 362-2881.
The magical enchantment of Santa Land at downtown Famous-Barr has delighted youngsters of all ages through the years. The popular children’s attraction dates back to the 1930s.

St. Louis shopping centers come alive with dazzling lights and festive displays. This magnificent 40-foot tree graces the lobby of Plaza Frontenac.

The majestic masonry of St. Louis Union Station is bedecked in holiday garland as the historic landmark once again bustles with activity. Though no longer used as a train depot, Union Station houses the Omni International Hotel and more than 100 restaurants, boutiques and specialty shops. The refurbished station reopened in August, 1985.

Those who drive through downtown Kirkwood may enjoy the community’s holiday spirit, marked by brightly decorated streetposts, shops and public buildings.
In St. Louis

St. Louis Centre, acclaimed as the largest enclosed urban shopping mall in the country, provides a spectacular holiday display along with more than 110 shops. St. Louis Centre, the dream of a group of local business developers, is located between Washington, Locust, 6th and 7th streets downtown.

The elegant Powell Symphony Hall on North Grand Boulevard offers a special holiday program each year. This year's selections include a holiday pops performance, Handel's Messiah and Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker ballet. Above, pops conductor Richard Hayman poses on the grand staircase.

From penguins to pandas to Phil the Gorilla replicas, the Zoo-tique at the St. Louis Zoo at Forest Park offers something for all animal lovers. The Christmas boutique is operated by the Zoo Friends Association in the administration building and features ornaments, toys and novelty items for sale to benefit the zoo.
Media spotlight

As a national leader in patient care and medical research, Barnes serves as an information resource center. From January through October, 1985, more than 1,100 queries from broadcast and print media representatives were made to the public relations department requesting that Barnes medical and professional staff explain current health care concerns and discoveries.

Highlights of the media’s coverage of Barnes during the last month include:

Society’s increasing acceptance of cosmetic surgery was featured in an extensive United Press International story October 2. Dr. V. LeRoy Neustadt, plastic and reconstructive surgeon who was among those interviewed nationally, said cosmetic surgery is becoming more common among younger patients who have widely varied occupations and lifestyles.

Hospital maternity services were discussed by Pam Lesser, R.N., clinical nursing director, during an interview with KSDK-TV’s Tom O’Neal October 8. Ms. Lesser said patients at Barnes have a wide variety of options available to them and the assurance of specialists on duty 24 hours a day.

The effects of sharply rising malpractice insurance costs were presented in a series on KTVI-TV by Lisa Allen. Ms. Allen on October 10 interviewed Kathy Wire, Barnes risk manager, who said rising costs represent a crisis for some small community hospitals.

The open-house of Barnes Lodge October 14 was covered by all major metro media. Carol Palmer, director of social work, told reporters that the five-bedroom Lodge provides low-cost accommodations for downtown patients and their families who must remain near the hospital for long periods. The Lodge is located within walking distance of the hospital.

"Don’t forget to take your blood pressure pill" is being said less often with the availability of transdermal patches. Dr. Kenneth Shafer, a cardiologist, discussed transdermal medication for hypertension patients in an interview on KSDK-TV October 15. Dr. Shafer explained that "transdermal" means that the medication is contained in an adhesive patch and is slowly absorbed through the skin.

Progress in treatment and research of Alzheimer’s disease was explained October 17-19 by Dr. Leonard Berg, neurologist/psychiatrist, on KMOX-AM. Dr. Berg said progress has been made in using medications to help patients function better, although, so far, none can reverse the progressive intellectual decline.

Robert E. Frank, Barnes president, was among hospital CEOs interviewed October 17 during a series on KMOX-TV by Al Wiman on health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and preferred provider organizations (PPOs). Mr. Frank said the emergence of such patient-care delivery systems means that consumers have a variety of insurance plans available and should carefully choose programs that suit individual and family needs.

Breast cancer detection and treatment and breast reconstruction were explained by surgeon Dr. Jerome Levy in an article in the Belleville (Illinois) News-Democrat October 22 by Michelle Meehan. Dr. Levy, who is writing a book on the subject, recommended that women in high-risk groups have physical examinations twice yearly and mammograms once a year.

Dr. William J. Campbell, an infectious disease specialist, explained October 22-24 during a series on KMOX-AM that medicine can today control physical symptoms of herpes, which is spread by sexual contact, but that patients find the "mental distress" of the disease to be the more difficult aspect.

Working the nightshift was depicted in a series on KTVI-TV by reporter Russ Mitchell. Dave Huber, R.N., emergency department assistant head nurse, was interviewed October 24. Mr. Huber admitted that the late hours affect his lifestyle, including having a "nightcap" about 7 a.m.

Linda Knight, Ph.D., coordinator of the Barnes StayWell program, discussed wellness programs with reporter Mary Ruoff for an extensive story in The Riverfront Times October 30. Ms. Knight said the program at Barnes is unique in offering risk assessment, courses to alter a person’s risk, and support groups. StayWell is offered in a package for businesses to make available to employees, and also is open to individuals.

"There’s nothing you can do with tobacco that’s safe," Dr. Allen Sclaroff, an oral and maxillo-facial surgeon, said on KWGU-FM on November 4 during an interview about "smokeless tobacco.

Dr. Sclaroff said the incidence of gum disease and oral cancer among men in their 20s and 30s is rising because many people in this group began using smokeless tobacco as teenagers.

Geriatric anesthesia was the subject of numerous media interviews with Dr. William Owens, anesthesiologist-in-chief, during October. At the annual meeting of the American Society of Anesthesiologists in San Francisco, California, Dr. Owens was featured in radio, television, magazine and wire service interviews. The following week, Dr. Owens was the guest on three radio broadcasts in St. Louis and also spoke with representatives of four newspapers and magazines, including Good Housekeeping.

Hospital notes

The following assistant physicians are reported on staff: Drs. Carl Blatt, Marion Peters and John H. Rice.

Dr. Charles Anderson, vascular surgeon and Barnes general surgeon-in-chief, served as guest lecturer for a symposium on vascular surgery held November 21-26 in Bologna, Italy. Dr. Anderson also was guest speaker at St. Mary’s Hospital in Centralia, Illinois, in October, where he reported on the results of carotid artery surgery performed by the vascular service at Barnes.

Dr. J. Regan Thomas, otolaryngologist, has been named vice-president of the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the organization’s annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Thomas’ responsibilities include overseeing the fellowship programs and educational activities of the 3,000-member academy.

Reverend Janet M. Lutz, director of pastoral care, offered a presentation on "Religious Issues in Family Violence" at a workshop sponsored by the central region of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors.

The C.V. Mosby Company and the Times Mirror Foundation have announced a $100,000 gift to support research by Dr. Emil R. Unanue, Barnes pathologist-in-chief, and to endow a pathology laboratory at WUMS. Dr. Unanue, an immunopathologist, has investigated interactions among immune cells and has been instrumental in showing the critical role played by certain cells which activate the body’s immune system to foreign invaders.

Jonas Fund supports cancer research

It is not often that a 19-year-old boy considers the long-term funding of cancer research and takes steps to do something about it. But Jonathan Adam Jonas, with the help and support of his family, did.

Jonathan, a cancer patient himself, was instrumental in establishing the Jonathan Adam Jonas Cancer Research Fund last spring with his parents, Debra and Stephen, and brothers, Jeffrey and Jared. Jonathan died on March 14, 1985, but his efforts to help other cancer patients through research support have been continued.

The purpose of the tribute fund is to further cancer research by supporting the purchase of equipment and materials. The fund is supported by general contributions and by a special tribute card gift opportunity, through which donors may receive a packet of cards to commemorate special events such as family births, anniversaries and other occasions. The cards, inscribed “To Life” and noting a contribution to the Jonas fund, may be sent to each honoree.

Donations to the Jonathan Adam Jonas Cancer Research Fund may be made through the Barnes Development Office, Barnes Hospital Plaza, St. Louis, Missouri, 63110.

Gifts to Barnes Hospital

Listed below are the names of persons (honorees in boldface) who have made contributions during the period October 11 through November 8 to the funds at Barnes Hospital. Because Barnes is a private hospital and does not receive public funds, it relies on the gifts of individuals to continue providing quality patient care and to support research aimed at improving the lives of our patients.

Auxiliary Tribute Fund

IN HONOR OF:
Medical Care Received at Barnes Hospital
Daniel A. Glaser
IN MEMORY OF:
Myer Abelman
Mrs. S. M. Harris
Father of Mary T. Clarke
Barry and Marilyn Siegel
Anne Bein
Barnes Hospital
Purchasing Department
Management Staff of
Mailroom and Dispatch
Bobbie Lee
Linda Bartlonia
Sandy Clark
Rosie Peiners
Judy Harrold
Tracey Vonder Haar
Eddie Allen
Timothy Layton
Mary York
Denise Paterson
Lois Stith
Arthur Knoll
Leslie V. Covic

Home Health Care Fund

IN HONOR OF:
Donna Pupillo, R.N.
Lois M. Harris and Jordan Jones
Joseph C. Edwards, M.D.
Care of the Patient Fund

M/M Charles E. Barnum
Tax deferred annuities offer retirement savings

In today's economy, there are few people—regardless of age—who haven't given thought to their retirement finances. Many are turning to individual retirement accounts and other long-term savings plans in preparation for a time when their incomes will be significantly reduced.

Barnes employees seeking to make a sound investment in the future while lowering their current taxable income have a unique savings opportunity available through a tax-sheltered annuity program. A tax-sheltered annuity is an individual retirement savings program in which contributions and accumulated earnings are tax-free until they are withdrawn at retirement. (As in all tax-sheltered savings programs, early withdrawals are subject to penalty.)

Only employees of qualified non-profit organizations or institutions such as hospitals, schools and churches are eligible for the program. Contributions must be payroll-deducted. The maximum amount allowed to be contributed each year is approximately 16 percent of an employee's gross annual income and the minimum contribution is $15 per pay period.

A tax-sheltered annuity can be opened in addition to an existing IRA and enables an employee to both further decrease current taxable income and increase accumulated funds for retirement. Barnes employees may choose between two tax-sheltered annuity programs offering competitive rates of interest. To learn more about the program, contact George Kimmich at 362-5300.

Volunteers sought for Alzheimer's disease study

Researchers at WUMS are seeking volunteers to participate in studies comparing healthy aging with the progression of Alzheimer's disease.

The study needs volunteers aged 65 to 85 who are experiencing some form of memory loss and/or dementia without obvious cause. Volunteers should not have other serious conditions, including stroke, heart failure, lung failure or cancer.

The studies involve only tests that carry no significant danger: detailed history, physical examination, blood work, EEG and evoked potentials, quantitative CT scan, psychometric battery, and procedures testing daily living skills. All tests are free and volunteers will remain under the care of their personal physicians, who will be informed of study results after data analysis.

For further information or to participate in the study, call (314) 362-2683.