When you combine serendipity with tenacity, good things can happen. That’s certainly been the case for Art and Ann Lowe, the Marion couple making a major difference in the lives of local students. Art and Ann met when they were children in Washington, D.C. Art’s roots go back to his grandfather who was a White House electrician. Ann’s father was chief legal counsel to the Federal Communications Commission. During the Eisenhower administration, the families lived next to each other. Art attended George Washington University where he received a B.A. in finance—and was working on his M.B.A. when the Vietnam War interrupted. After a stint in officer’s training school, he found himself a second lieutenant in the Air Force, overseeing maintenance operations for an F-100 fighter squadron at Phan Rang Air Base on the South China Sea. It wasn’t where he’d planned to write his Master’s thesis, but with regular shipments of research materials from home, he got it done. One day at the air base, a studio card arrived with his book shipment. In it was a short note from his former neighbor, Ann Gowdy. She wished him well and told him about her plans to attend Miami University in Ohio. When Art arrived back in the States, he detoured to Oxford, Ohio, on his way to Orlando. “That’s where the love bug hit,” says Ann. They were married a year later.

As Art wrapped up his Air Force obligations, Ann worked in retail and was a substitute teacher. She’d eventually go to Xavier University to get a Master’s in educational administration. Meanwhile, Art was chasing a job in Cleveland when a snow storm (serendipity) interrupted his plans. Unable to get to Cleveland, he interviewed with Central Trust in Cincinnati (tenacity) and was offered a job in their investment department. He managed the bank’s bond portfolio. In the 1970s, he moved to a similar position for an insurance firm in Westerville. Eventually, Art started his own money management and investment banking firm with Ann providing technical research. She obtained her securities license (tenacity) in 1980 and went to work for Americom Bank in Marion (serendipity) in 1993. She and partner Phyllis Minks branched off on their own as LPL Financial in 2003.

Education has played a major role in the couple’s success, as well as the success of their daughters Allyson and Marian. Allyson received her Ph.D. from Ohio State and is now dean of the pre-law program at Carlow University in Pittsburgh. Marian is working toward her M.B.A. through the Fisher College of Business Executive M.B.A. program. (continued)
Dr. Gregory S. Rose, Dean and Director, The Ohio State University at Marion

After 90 years on quarters, The Ohio State University has returned to semesters. This brings us into alignment with national peers and institutions around Ohio, many of which also converted to semesters this year, and will ease the transfer of courses among colleges. While Ohio State’s first official semester occurred this past summer, it was a truncated session. So realistically, Autumn 2012 is our inaugural semester.

Since 1922, Ohio State’s academic calendar had three 10 week quarters (Autumn, Winter, Spring) plus a slightly shorter Summer Quarter, with Autumn Quarter beginning about September 20 and Spring Quarter ending about June 10. Now, two 14 week semesters form the regular academic year—Autumn Semester beginning about August 20 and Spring Semester ending about May 1—plus a May Term and a Summer Session. The calendar change also required a major revision of the curriculum. A full-time student under quarters typically took three 5 credit hour courses during each of three quarters. Under semesters, a full-time student will take five 3 credit hour courses during each of two semesters.

This very busy past summer of transition was about one month shorter than usual because of the calendar change. Staff squeezed three months of orientation and preparation for new students into two. Faculty revised existing courses and developed new ones. And students had one month less to earn money for college. The semester transition reminds us that while nothing stays the same, we adapt and go forward to continue the good work of bringing higher education to our region. This transition brings to mind the line from Carmen Ohio: “Time and change will surely show, how firm thy friendship, O-HI-O.”

Pledges and Donations Top $1 Million for New Marion Campus Science and Engineering Building

We are grateful to the following community-minded organizations and individuals who have made generous contributions toward the construction of a new Science and Engineering Building for the Marion Campus:

Merle Lashey
Jerry Davis
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Won’t you please consider joining this list of benefactors? Contact Dave Claborn at 740/725-6360 or claborn.17@osu.edu for more information.

Serendipity and Tenacity. . . (continued)

In addition to the scholarship they funded several years ago, this year Art and Ann Lowe committed $275,000 toward the Marion County GoBuck$ program that provides Ohio State Marion tuition vouchers to Marion County students. The goal is to encourage Marion County’s K-12 students to do well in school, then seek higher education. The Lowes want to provide them with the same opportunity they’ve had—attendance at an excellent university that, combined with individual tenacity, leads to a remarkable career. “We want to plant that seed right here,” says Ann. Their gift, matched with others, will flower in the lives of countless Marion County young people—and, they hope, change the face of their adopted home town.
Fall Is a Time of Opportunity

Karen Ream
Assistant Director of Development and Community Relations of The Ohio State University at Marion

Fall is an exciting time on any college campus and Ohio State Marion is no exception. College creates many memories and our students are just beginning to generate theirs, many of which will last a lifetime. This year, our freshmen, anticipating new adventures, are eager to expand their intellectual horizons, as they, along with returning upperclassmen, pursue their degrees in Marion.

Ohio State Marion is fully incorporated into the “One University” theme of The Ohio State University, and that has given us the opportunity to be a part of Homecoming on the Columbus campus. Our representatives for the court this year include Randi-Fay Hilt, Mariam Hellalat, Stephanie Austin, James Gentzel, Gonzalo Adriaizola-Medoza, and Christopher Wilds. I not only congratulate these fine young people but also applaud their ability to be outstanding ambassadors of the Marion campus.

As our students begin new ventures, I want to remind you of the many opportunities that are afforded to people of all ages on our campus. I invite you to join us for LEI, our lifetime enrichment program; Five Nights on Campus, our performing arts series; Program 60 permitting those 60 and over the opportunity to audit academic classes; and for numerous other occasions that will occur on campus this year. We encourage you to create memories by participating in one of the many programs that await you on the Marion campus.

Scholarship Donors Honored at Luncheon

The annual Scholarship Donor/Recipient Luncheon was held on October 19, 2012, in the Guthery Community Room in Maynard Hall. Each year this event honors those individuals who have shared their personal and financial resources for the benefit of students at The Ohio State University at Marion.

Donors not only provide much needed financial support, but they also serve as role models to show others that philanthropy is a way of life and not just a transaction of resources. Student scholarship recipients are given the opportunity to meet the donors and representatives who have provided the funds for their scholarship awards. Dean’s scholar Marcie Coder spoke on behalf of all student scholarship recipients.
Garnering rave reviews everywhere, Lone Raven performs an eclectic blend of traditional music from various areas of the world, as well as their own original compositions. With over 20 instruments on stage, the band is fueled by the twin fiddles of Elizabeth Blinkenstaff and Kara Markley, while driven by an explosive rhythm section consisting of Craig Markley and Sid Omasta, and featuring the award-winning guitar playing of Neil Jacobs.

Larissa Thurston Bateman is a Marion native whose career as a singer, dancer, and actress has led her around the world. She was a member of the Broadway Company of CATS and has appeared in episodes of Law & Order, All My Children, The Conan O’Brien Show, as well as commercials and independent films. Joining her will be NBC4 news anchor, Cabot Rea, whose real passion has always been music, and pianist and composer David Tolley. Together they will share a delightful evening of songs and stories.

Led by Marion native, Dave Haldeman, Bone Voyage Jazz Band is a Cincinnati-based jazz septet playing the music of the 20th century with the refreshing sound of two trombones plus trumpets, clarinet/sax, vibraphone, and rhythm. Known for its wide repertoire, ranging from Bourbon Street to Broadway, Traditional Dixieland Jazz to Swing, and Mainstream Jazz to Latin Jazz, the band is currently in residence at the Cactus Pear Southwest Bistro in Blue Ash, Ohio. Get ready for a musical trip down memory lane!

For tickets and further information, call 740/725-6253 or visit osumarion.osu.edu/5-nights