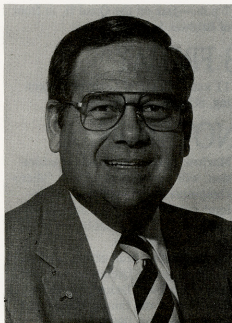


Pryor Elected MBA President



Richard Pryor, a member of the Board of Governors and the president and chief executive officer of the Bank of Jacomo in Blue Springs, Mo., has been elected president of the Missouri Bankers Association.

The Missouri Bankers Association is a professional association which provides legislative representation, educational programs and other services for approximately 97 percent of the state's banks. Pryor will serve a one-year term as president of the MBA, completing a three-year progression from vice president to president-elect to his present position.

Pryor is also serving a two-year term as a member of the Board at NMSU. He was appointed by Gov. John Ashcroft in 1986.

Since 1973, Pryor has held his current position at the Bank of Jacomo. He is also chairman of the board for Ray County Bank in Richmond, Mo., and a board member for Individual Assurance Co. of Kansas City, Mo.

He is currently business chairman for the Cancer Crusade of Blue Springs, Mo.; a member and past president of the Blue Springs Chamber of Commerce; a member, past president and past district treasurer of the Blue Springs Rotary Club; an advisory board member to the Community Bankers

Council of the American Bankers Association; a member of the Bank Administration Institute; a member and past president of the Performing Arts Council of Blue Springs; and a board member of the gubernatorially appointed Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Commission.

Grad Preserves Vanishing Culture

May 16, Saturday

... The plane took off—gave us some "Tang" and we soon landed. The airport has really changed. Nice large photos of the country (Guatemala) were organized . . . Things are looking up!

Jason Haxton, graduate student, wrote in a journal each night he stayed in Guatemala, describing the events that took place during his two-week stay in May. Haxton's trip to the jungle was his third in order to research Mayan pottery for his doctoral thesis. Haxton and his wife, Lori, visited the northern region of the country which is inhabited by direct descendants of the Mayas conquered by the Spaniards almost 300 years ago.

On Haxton's first trip to San Jose Peten, he tried to acquire pottery and found that the Mayas hadn't been practicing pottery making for the past 12 years. Clay needed for the pottery was on private property, so only a few pieces of Mayan pottery remained. On a subsequent trip to the region, Haxton helped a villager obtain the clay. On his return this May, the village potter had made Haxton 11 pieces of traditional Mayan pottery.

Haxton now holds the only collection of Mayan pottery from the region. His collection, he said, is more

traditionally Mayan than works from other areas of Guatemala.

After deciding to earn a master's degree in humanities, adding to his master's in counseling and a bachelor's degree in commercial art, Haxton focused his thesis on the extinction of the ancient tradition of pottery making and the Mayas who practiced the art. Only a few of the elders still use the culture they inherited. When they die, their heritage will most likely die with them.

May 17, Sunday

I drank three rojas (cream sodas). You get so dehydrated here.

Most of Haxton's diet for the two-week stay consisted of liquids. Because of the climate, foreigners consume an average of 10 sodas daily, constantly feeling thirsty and hungry. Haxton sustained from eating meat while he was there. In most Latin American countries, meat is sold in open markets, exposed to the elements, flies and local dogs.

"You dream of Pagliai's pizza, chocolate shakes, french fries, a good Chicken McNugget," Haxton said.

Although Guatemala lacks several of the delicacies Americans love, there are several varieties of fruit experienced only in the tropical area.

(cont.)

Culture (cont.)



Lori Haxton, assistant director of Residence Life, learns the Indian method of carrying a baby from a village woman in Guatemala.

"They gave us a special treat. They were pouring the juice off of the berries (from a jug). One berry would be like taking a shot of tequila. After four or five, it was like someone hitting you on the head with a hammer," Haxton said.

May 22, Friday

Was awakened by a tremor—ran out and talked with a woman from S. [Southern] California. She said not to shut door because in a quake the frames shift.

Besides battling earthquakes, Haxton lived in fear of not returning safely to the States.

"We go there with the attitude that nothing bad is going to happen, but there is no political asylum there," Haxton explained. "If you make a mistake, and you're thrown in prison, you have to get yourself out. That's what's scary about it."

May 25, Monday

Also will go to the ruins called Motul—one hour walk from San Jose through the jungle

One of the most recent archaeological finds, Motul remains the same as it did centuries before. Visiting the site

proved to be the highlight of the trip, Haxton said. In order to reach the ancient temples five miles away, Haxton and his party had to walk through the jungle fires.

"I wanted to see Motul," Haxton said. "We had to go under a burning tree and the earth was dried up. As we got to the top (of the temple), the wind picked up. It hit us from out of nowhere and then the gentlest rain came down to put out the fire."

While the fires around them were dying, the group didn't even get wet as they returned to the village. It was an experience Haxton said he would never forget.

May 30, Saturday

The last day here in Guatemala City. I've packed and repacked. All set to go!

Along with the souvenirs Haxton brought back, he also obtained enough information to finish his thesis. Haxton shared his adventures and his pottery with students from the Baldwin Academy, June 25. Although he stays busy teaching humanities classes, Haxton creates the time to share his knowledge of the Mayan culture with anyone interested in hearing it.

This Week

30 TUESDAY

- 2-5 p.m.—Retirement reception for Capt. Olin Johnson, SUB, Alumni Room

1 WEDNESDAY

- 7 p.m.—Jazz on the Quad II, in front of Baldwin Auditorium

3 FRIDAY

- 11 a.m.—Board of Governors meeting, SUB, Conference Room

NOTABLES

- **Marlow Ediger**, professor of education, will have his manuscript "Micro-computers in the Reading Curriculum" published in The Educational Quarterly, which is published by the government of India.
- **Ed Carpenter**, head of the Division of Language and Literature, was named the 1988 United Way Drive Chairman by the United Way of Adair County Board of Directors.

As drive chairman, Carpenter will direct the annual United Way fund drive. He will supervise more than 15 community drive divisions, such as the NMSU and the Kirksville R-III School District divisions, ensuring that each reaches or surpasses its goal.

For the past 10 years, Carpenter has served as chairman of the NMSU United Way Century Club drive, which works with donors of \$100 or more.

A reception will be held Tuesday, June 30, 1987 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Student Union Building honoring retiring Olin E. "Swede" Johnson, director of Safety & Security