



Newsletter

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February 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Interest from Endowment Fund Supports OSURA Programs and Activities

On August 30, 1995 The Ohio State University Retirees Association Endowment Fund was established as a named fund within The Ohio State University Endowment. The OSURA Endowment Fund was established by members and friends of the OSU Retirees Association in honor and memory of retirees who devoted their professional lives to University services. The annual interest income yielded by the Endowment Fund is to be used to support OSURA's programs and activities.

At the end of its first year (June 30, 1996), \$21,600 had been contributed to the OSURA Endowment Fund. As of November 30, 2007, the total contributions and additions to the Endowment Fund were \$78,475, which had a market value of \$93,826.

Interest income from the OSURA Endowment fund is used to partially support three major programs and activities –

- **Coping With Change Conference** (held annually in September)
- **Income Tax Seminar** (held annually in January)
- **OSURA Annual Meeting** (June)

For the current year (July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008), interest income from the Endowment Fund accounts for 20 percent of OSURA's operating budget. Endowment interest income makes it possible for OSURA to provide these programs and activities at a reasonable cost to retirees.

OSURA ENDOWMENT FUND (Established August 30, 1995)						
Date	Principal	Market Value		Date	Principal	Market Value
June 30, 1996	\$21,600	\$24,319		June 30, 1997	\$29,092	\$34,833
June 30, 1998	\$34,327	\$45,402		June 30, 1999	\$38,792	\$54,798
June 30, 2000	\$43,243	\$67,093		June 30, 2001	\$49,531	\$59,643
June 30, 2002	\$55,937	\$54,866		June 30, 2003	\$62,473	\$58,164
June 30, 2004	\$66,076	\$68,075		June 30, 2005	\$72,097	\$74,511
June 30, 2006	\$75,212	\$81,563		June 30, 2007	\$78,589	\$95,162
Nov 30, 2007	\$79,475	\$93,826				

Since 2000, new contributions to the OSURA Endowment Fund range from just over \$3,000 to more than \$6,000 annually. Designating our **2008 OSU Capital Campaign** contributions to the **OSURA Endowment Fund** (Fund #605420) is an extraordinary way for each of us to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the founding of OSURA. I encourage you to make a "Silver Anniversary" contribution to the OSURA Endowment Fund.

Don Cook chairs the OSURA Endowment Committee. Richard Hill is OSURA's representative on the OSU Campaign Council.

J. Robert Warmbrod, President

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OSURA News

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Richard M. Hill

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Louis P. DiOrio

Budget and Finance-

Charles E. Corbato

Bylaws-

Thomas L. Sweeney

Communications-

Carlene Hamilton

Endowment-

Don E. Cook

Friendship-

Nancy S. Wardwell

Membership-

John A. Stottlemeyer

Program Coordinating-

William J. Studer

Cultural Arts-

Odette Blum

Social-

Penelope F. O'Neil

Travel-

Ruth M. Conone

Representatives

Campus Campaign-

Richard M. Hill

Bucks for Charity-

Penelope F. O'Neil

Faculty Compensation and

Benefits Committee-

Richard M. Hill

Ohio Council of Higher Education

Retirees-

Louis P. DiOrio and

J. Robert Warmbrod

Staff Compensation and

Benefits Committee-

Eleanor C. Conlon

Historian

Fern E. Hunt

Office Manager

Judith A. McMahon

FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, January 8

The Board passed Resolutions in Memoriam of Past Presidents Chalmer G. Hixson and Geoffrey Keller.

A recruitment letter to 1,169 emeriti yielded 4 new Life and 26 new Annual memberships to date. Paid memberships continue to rise (by an estimated 7 percent over last year), with a membership total expected soon to exceed 3,000.

A Coping With Change overview appears in the Winter 2008 *Resources* HR publication. The OSURA 25th Anniversary logo is at the head of this column.

A glitch in the computer system delayed the e-mail notification that the January issue of the newsletter had been posted on the OSURA web site. It is hoped that the problem has been solved for future issues.

A link to the OSU Calendar is now included on the OSURA web-page.

The Friendship Committee is mailing cards to the families of deceased members alerting them to the possibility of death benefits. Response so far has been significant.

The Cultural Arts has added a new member to its committee: Tom Hubbard.

Note was made that the "Lunch Bunch" might reach even greater potential with additional publicity.

Good progress has been made on all fronts for celebration of OSURA's 25th anniversary. The Blackwell will be the event's site on April 13, 2008.

The post-retirement handbook needs to be updated and replenished soon. OSURA will be offering its assistance to HR on this project.

OSURA mourns the death of
Past President

CHALMER G. HIXSON

Chalmer Hixson, president of OSURA in 1992-1993, died on December 16 at the age of 92. He served The Ohio State University in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, retiring in 1971. Among his contributions to OSURA was establishment of the Endowment.

BUCKS FOR CHARITY

At press time, the University had exceeded its goals: \$1,178,527 had been pledged (goal was \$1,175,000) by 5,181 donors (goal was 4,500 donors). An \$8,000 pledge had been received from an OSU retiree. Bucks for Charity is The Ohio State University's drive for social agencies in the central Ohio area.

CAMPUS CAMPAIGN

Through this campaign, donors assist The Ohio State University's programs. Emeriti and Retirees (E&R) account for a significant percent of the donors and the amount of money pledged; for instance, in the first six months of this campaign year, 13.6 percent of the donors were E&R and 52.3 percent of the pledged dollars were from this group (920 E&R pledged \$1,521,284; 12 E&R pledges were deferred).

Overall, there were 6,749 donors pledging \$2,905,590 in the first six months of this year's campaign.

Our Endowment Fund
helps subsidize the OSURA
ANNUAL TAX SEMINAR

Your **2008 Campus Campaign** gift to
the

OSURA Endowment Fund (#605420)
continues to make this benefit possible.

Calendar

See "Description of Events" later in this newsletter for details.

- Feb 8 *Lovestruck*: Ravel to Sinatra, Balletmet Senior Dress Rehearsal, form carpools at Fawcett Center at 9:45 a.m. – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Feb 12 Executive Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m., Drinko Room, Longaberger Alumni House, 2200 Olentangy River Road
- Feb 14 Photographic Society, 5:15 p.m., cocktails; 6:00 p.m., dinner; 7:30 p.m., program, at the Faculty Club
- Feb 20 Book Club, 1:30 p.m., Carriage Hill Party House, Lafayette Drive, Upper Arlington
- Feb 21 Lunch Bunch, 11:30 a.m., Damon's OSU, 3025 Olentangy River Road
- Feb 26 Tertulia Breakfast, 8:00 a.m., Faculty Club
- Feb 27 Bridge Group, 1:00 p.m., Friendship Village, Dublin
- Mar 16 Cantilena Concerts, 2:00 p.m., The Columbus Museum of Art, 480 East Broad Street**
- Apr 16 The Museum of the United States Air Force, Fairborn, Ohio, depart at 8:30 a.m. from Fawcett Center – REGISTRATION REQUIRED**
- Apr 17-26 British Landscapes, depart from Columbus International Airport – EVENT CLOSED
- Apr 24 Olentangy Wetland Research Park, form carpools at Fawcett Center at 9:45 a.m. – REGISTRATION REQUIRED**
- May 5-10 Southern Hospitality: Charleston, SC, and Savannah, GA, depart from Fawcett Center at 7:00 a.m. – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Jun 17 Glenn Miller Orchestra at Bearcreek Farms, depart at 8:30 a.m. from Fawcett Center – REGISTRATION REQUIRED**
- Oct 24-Nov 2 Celebrations in Mexico, depart from Columbus International Airport – REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Notes:

- Bold font indicates that the event is new and listed for the first time.
- Arrive at the Fawcett Center 15 minutes earlier than the time of departure listed.
- Call the OSURA office if interested in an event for which registration is closed to see if space is available.

RESERVATIONS:

For those events marked "Registration Required":

- Call OSURA office (614-292-2916) and leave detailed message for Judi McMahon; you will receive a return call regarding your reservation request/status.
- PAYMENT is due in the office ONE WEEK after CONFIRMATION to keep reservation.
- Make check payable to OSURA (please write event date(s) and name(s) on check).
- Mail to Suite 300, 1590 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43201-2190.

**MAKE YOUR
RESERVATIONS AS SOON
AS YOU KNOW YOU ARE
INTERESTED IN AN EVENT!
Some fill quickly and you
may be closed out if you
delay.**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

April 13 – OSURA 25th Anniversary Celebration
June 12 – Annual Meeting, Faculty Club
September 25 – Coping with Change XI, Fawcett Center

Watch for more information as details become available.

University News

From OSU Today

The Fisher College of Business has received a \$1.08 million gift from Nationwide Insurance to create an enhanced risk management curriculum and to support finance research by naming Nationwide Fellows and Scholars.

Cincinnati-based dentist Ed Maag, a dental school graduate from the Class of 1956, has made a commitment of \$1 million to the College of Dentistry that will establish the financial foundation for the college's new and/or renovated building project.

Personnel Appointments

- Peter Weiler has been named senior vice president for University Development.
- David Schuller has been appointed vice president for Medical Center Expansion and Outreach.
- Michael Caligiuri will succeed David Schuller as chief executive officer of The James.
- Valerie Bergdall has been named director of University Laboratory Animal Resources.

Faculty, staff and student workers have moved into the new Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau Ohio 4-H Center. The first stand-alone 4-H center on a university campus, the facility was built to the specifications of the national Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program and is the first "green" building on the OSU campus.

RESEARCH PROJECT OPPORTUNITY

The OSU Cognition and Aging Study is looking for adults ages 60-90 to participate in research on memory, processing speed, and aging. Participants will be needed for 7 one-hour sessions and will be paid \$15 per session. Sessions take place on OSU campus (parking provided) and at Columbus area senior citizens centers. If you would like to contribute to this project, please call Melissa Abo, 614-292-7518.

The University Photo Archives has launched six online image galleries containing a sampling of the nearly 2 million images held at the Archives (<http://library.osu.edu/sites/archives/exhibits.php>). The photo galleries contain a total of 120 photographs, ranging from 1875 to 2005. Images include several university historic firsts, including the first OSU graduating class (1878), the first football team (1890), and the first Brutus Buckeye (1965). The galleries also contain a variety of scenic photos of campus buildings and sites over the years.
(<http://library.osu.edu/sites/archives/exhibits.php>)

Continuing Education and FIRSLINK are offering a new certification in Nonprofit Leadership. Together the organizations have identified courses and competencies that individuals who work in the nonprofit field need to be successful and have integrated them into the classes needed for completion of the certificate program.

WELCOME NEW RETIREES

We congratulate our colleagues who retired from The Ohio State University in November and December 2007.

Anderson, John K., University Hospitals * **Bacher**, Barbara M., Biomedical Informatics * **Bainbridge**, Suzanne L., University Hospitals * **Barnett**, Lynne R., University Development * **Beavers**, Carl E., Printing Services * **Biancamano**, John J., Legal Affairs * **Bova**, James G., Radiology * **Brown**, Josephine, University Hospitals * **Butler**, Robert D., Building Services * **Burgess**, Cheryl A., Industrial, Welding and System Engineering * **Calloway**, Kathleen J., University Hospitals * **Castle**, Regenia Y., Ross Heart Hospital * **Cherry**, Cynthia R., Purchasing * **Clark**, Barbara C., Periodontology * **Cloyd**, Maefield, University Hospitals East * **Cook**, Kathleen M., Dentistry * **Cordial**, Charlotte, Cancer Hospital and Research Institute * **Cutler**, Cynthia L., Cancer Hospital and Research Institute * **Daly**, Sandra L., Public Health * **Dunlap**, Mary E., Extension-County Operations * **Farrar**, Barbara A., Child Care Program * **Jarvis**, Shirley Y., University Hospitals * **Johnson**, Shirley A., Building Services * **Jones**, Richard C., Facilities Building Services * **Lambert**, Peggi E., Roads and Grounds * **Lorbach**, Shari L., Humanities * **Ludwig**, Barbara G., Education and Human Ecology * **Lynch**, Michael L., Building Services * **Maghes**, Lorraine A., Food Services * **Martinelli**, Sandra L., University Hospitals * **Maughan**, Patrick G., University Security Services * **Menges**, Leslie M., University Hospitals * **Millard**, David G., Information Technology * **Moessner**, Susan J., General Internal Medicine * **O'Neill**, Elizabeth E., Computer Science and Engineering * **Pace**, Willie J., Building Services * **Padula**, David J., Facilities Maintenance * **Pollard**, Myron L., University Hospitals * **Proffitt**, Frankie L., Extension-County Operations * **Scott**, David C., University Police * **Simon**, Mary K., Pharmacy * **Smith**, Jane E., Family Medicine * **Smith**, Mark E., Facilities Roads and Grounds * **Smith**, Stephen G., Roads and Grounds * **Solomon**, Nanette L., Cancer Hospital and Research Institute * **Speer**, Cheryl C., University Hospitals * **Ulbrich**, Betty L., University Hospitals * **Waits**, Ellen D., Social Work * **Yeatts**, Lorraine L., Cancer Hospital and Research Institute

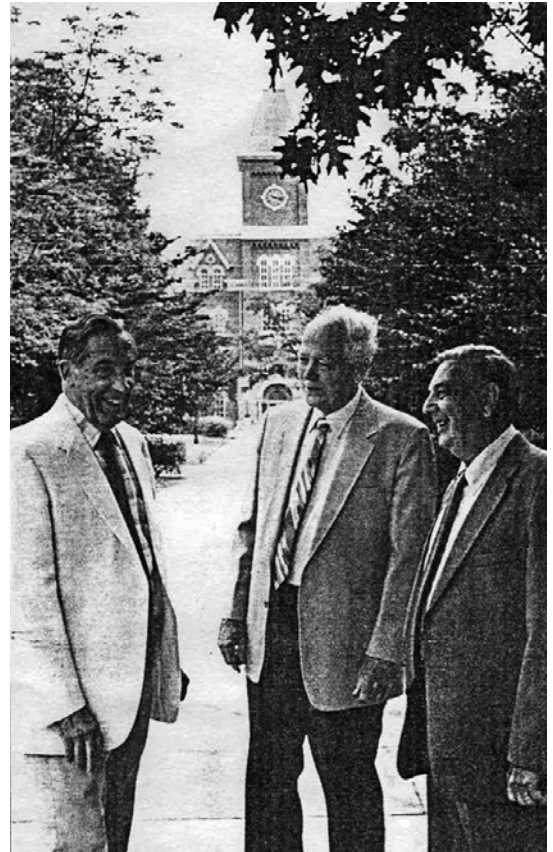
HOLD THE DATE!

Sunday, April 13, 2008
4 p.m. (reception, dinner, program)
The Blackwell Inn
2110 Tuttle Park Place
Columbus, Ohio
(on main campus)

25th Anniversary Celebration The Ohio State University Retirees Association

Renew friendships and share memories
of the university and the association.

Details will be mailed in late February



OSURA's Early Presidents: Lewis A. Hess, 1986-1987;
D. Ransom Whitney, 1983-1985; J. Osborn Fuller, 1985-
1986

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

2007

Mary G. Arnold	Terrance Davis	William R. Hilton	F. Joan Loomis	Paul J. Thomas
Alton J. Ball	Barbara Dole	Michele L. Hobbs	Richard H. McCreery	Barbara Tzagournis
Keith W. Bedford	David Elliot	Lois Horton	Marla R. Milsted	Kathy Underwood
Charles E. Bell	Lawrence L. Eubanks	John W. Hsia	Richard D. Mortensen	Joel L. Weaver
Val Bolen	Reinhard Gahbauer	Richard J. Kelsey	Popat J. Patil	Eva W. Weber
David F. Boothe	Nancy W. Gettinby	Arnold Kvetenadze	Janie E. Pierce	Dennis L. Weinau
Michael Brugger	Ricky M. Gildow	Donald J. Larson	Barbara C. Rich	Deanne Witiak
Margaret E. Burns	Betty H. Gipp	Linda D. Lewis	Kamilla T. Sigafos	Samuel M. Woods
Patricia W. Carlton	Richard S. Hassler	Richard E. Lighthiser	Daniel L. Smith	Michael Zwettler
J. B. Davis	Robert Haverkamp	Susan K. Logan	Adam J. Speicher	

Benefits

FROM THE BENEFITS COMMITTEE, January 4 Legislative Update

Ohio: (a) S.B. 148 is pending, designed to modify retirement benefits for newly hired School Employees Retirement System (SERS) members (age 55 and at least 30 years of service; age 60 after 25 years of service; and age 62 with a minimum of 10 years of service. (b) S.B. 191 (would exempt a portion of public pension income from Ohio state income tax) and S.B. 162 (would exempt unearned income of persons 65 and older from Ohio state income tax).

H.B. 315 is still being discussed in the Ohio Retirement Study Council. (See the December 2007 issue of this newsletter for a fuller explanation of this bill.)

A letter to the editor of *Barron's* from the executive director of the National Institute on Retirement Security states in part: "According to the definitive source on public pension funding, *The Public Fund Survey*, the average funding level is 85.8 percent. The survey also shows that the major source of public pension funding is investment earnings and employee contributions – not taxpayer contributions. Investment income provided nearly 75 percent of funding for the period 1982 to 2005." This letter was prompted by an editorial in the November 19 issue of *Barron's*.

National: (a) Long-term Care (LTC) legislation allowing the use of pretax dollars (S. 2337) has been introduced.

PERI

The March 6 PERI program will include presentations by Ted Celeste and Jim Hughes, under the general title of "Politics and Pensions" (1:00 P.M. at the Upper Arlington Public Library).

403b Progress Report

The www.403bwise.com web-site provides information on developments taking place. A meeting with Human Resources representative has been scheduled to relay OSURA interests and concerns, and to learn HR's activities in this arena (among mutual interests might be elimination of surrender charges associated with changing plans, and other points of competitive negotiations). Steps for membership education should follow that meeting.

IN MEMORIAM

We honor and thank our colleagues for their service and the many contributions that made our university a finer place.

Adams, Janet S., December 9,
International Studies, age 87
Barnes, Sally Ann, December 9,
Aerospace Engineering, age 48
Blankenship, Helen, November 1,
University Systems and Technology and OSURA
Boyle, Joseph R., January 2, Medicine, age 89
Culbertson, Jack A., December 8, Education, age 89
Georges, Robert E., November 18,
Business and Human Resources, age 86
Griggs, AnnaLee, December 20,
University Hospitals, age 82
Hixson, Chalmer G., December 16,
Health, Physical Education and Recreation and OSURA,
age 92
Livingston, Herbert S., November 29, Music, age 91
Marshall, Bertha L Jenkins, December 12,
University Hospitals, age 90
Muntzing, Joyce, October 22, age 73
Provost, James A., October 22,
Physical Activity and Educational Services, age 83
Ransom, William J., December 22, Business, age 83
Roach, Barbara L., December 20,
Business Research and OSURA, age 73
Rothman, Glenn S., November 28, Art, age 77
Schneider, Helen, October 21,
Extension-Madison County, age 89
Snavely, Cloyd A., December 21,
Metallurgical Engineering, age 90
Voss, Jerrold R., November 20, Architecture, age 75
Ward, Paul F., December 10, Law, age 92
Woods, M. Dolores, November 1,
Human Ecology, age 84

When you know of the death of an OSU retiree or employee or spouse of an OSU retiree/employee, please contact the OSURA office – 614-292-2916.

Our Endowment Fund
helps subsidize the OSURA
"COPING WITH CHANGE" CONFERENCES

Your **2008 Campus Campaign** gift to the
OSURA Endowment Fund (#605420)
continues to make this benefit possible.

Description of Events

See Pages 10 and 11 in the OSURA Directory or the OSURA web site for "Travel and Event Policies and Procedures."

- **Procedure for Reservations:** See Page 3 of this newsletter.
- **Challenge Levels:**
 - 1 – Minimal walking/standing, may include a few stairs
 - 2 – Moderate walking/standing, could include a few sets of stairs
 - 3 – Moderate walking/standing, includes climbing many stairs and/or uneven terrain
 - 4 – Lots of walking/standing, includes climbing stairs or hilly walkways and/or extended weather exposure

Note: Most trips will allow travelers to remain on the bus, if desired. Disabled persons should refer to Page 10 in the OSURA Directory for information on assistance.
- **Events Marked with *:** Participants must sign Disclaimer on Event Roster on the day of the event.
- **Registration closes:** This is the deadline for reservations because it is the date vendors must be paid in full for the event.
- **Refund Deadline:** Reservations must be cancelled by this date to receive a refund of payment/deposit; cancellations after this date will be reviewed by the arranger and the OSURA office for refund decisions.

FEBRUARY 8 (FRIDAY) *

LOVESTRUCK: RAVEL TO SINATRA

BALLETMET SENIOR DRESS REHEARSAL

Challenge Level 1

A perfect Valentine's Day event. Includes *Sinatra Suite*, a nostalgic tribute to Ol' Blue Eyes by the celebrated Twyla Tharp; Heinz Poll's *Bolero*, set to the mesmerizing music of Ravel; and *A Different Drummer* set to the percussive sounds of Steve Reich.

Time and Place: Arrive at the Fawcett Center by 9:45 a.m. to allow ample time to organize carpools. If you can drive, please notify Don Cooper, 614-798-1016.

Return: 1:30 p.m.

Cost: \$12 (ticket and funds to reimburse drivers)

Refund Deadline: **February 1** ←

Arranger: Don Cooper (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

FEBRUARY 14 (THURSDAY)

PHOTO SOCIETY

The Valentine dinner will be followed by Gary Burk, astronomer, speaking on an aspect of astronomical photography. No member images; announcement of the photo contest winners. Call 614-292-2262 for dinner reservations and entree choice.

Time and Place: 5:15 p.m. cocktails; 6:00 p.m. dinner; 7:30 p.m. program at the Faculty Club

Cost: Dinner on your own

Arranger: John Houston (Photographic Society)

FEBRUARY 20 (WEDNESDAY)

BOOK CLUB

The book to be discussed is *Julie and Julia, My Year of Cooking Dangerously* by Julie Powell. Can one woman, in one year, cook all 524 recipes in Julia Child's *Mastering the Art of French Cooking . . .* and why did she try?!

Time and Place: 1:30 p.m., Carriage Hill Party House, Lafayette Drive

Cost: None

Arranger: Marajeau Huling (*Book Club SIG*)

FEBRUARY 21 (THURSDAY)

LUNCH BUNCH

In keeping with the "Month of Presidents," Abraham Lincoln (aka Gerry Payn) will speak about the trials and tribulations he experienced as the 16th President of the United States. He will talk about his election, his family, choosing his cabinet, difficulties with his generals, and his unpopularity as President. Don't miss this impressive speaker as he performs in costume (and whiskers!). To reserve a space, answer the e-mail from Penny O'Neil or leave her a message at 614-889-9055.

Time and Place: 11:30 a.m., Damon's OSU, 3025 Olentangy River Road

Cost: Order from the menu

Arrangers: OSURA Social Committee

FEBRUARY 26 (TUESDAY)

TERTULIA BREAKFAST

Join OSURA for breakfast and conversation.

Time and Place: 8:00 a.m., Faculty Club

Cost: Breakfast on your own

Arranger: William Riley (*Tertulia Breakfast SIG*)

FEBRUARY 27 (WEDNESDAY)

BRIDGE GROUP

Please come and enjoy a good game of bridge. New members are welcome.

Time and Place: 1:00 p.m., Friendship Village Dublin, North CR

Arrangers: Sherry Detillian and Marianne Naber

MARCH 16 (SUNDAY)

CANTILENA CONCERTS

Challenge Level 1

Cantilena Concerts presents David Radzynski, violin with Yael Manor, piano, playing works of Brahms, Debussy, Tartini, Wieniawski and Jan Radzynski. Either, meet at Fawcett Center for ticket, carpool or drive on your own. Call Eileen Davis 614-268-2779 to pick up tickets at door or receive by mail.

Time and Place: 2:00 p.m., The Columbus Museum of Art, 480 East Broad Street
Cost: \$10, includes free parking token. Ticket holders receive 10 percent discount on lunch (on your own)
Arranger: Don Cooper (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

APRIL 16 (WEDNESDAY) *
THE MUSEUM OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, FAIRBORN (DAYTON), OHIO

Challenge Level 2
History comes alive with a tour of the Museum of the United States Air Force and the I-Max Theater. Lunch will be at the Hope Hotel at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.
Depart: 8:30 a.m. from Fawcett Center
Return: 6:00 p.m.
Cost: \$50 (transportation, museum tour, I-Max Theater, lunch)
Refund Deadline: April 1
Arrangers: Richard and JoAnn Rueger (*Travel Committee*)

APRIL 17-26 *
**BRITISH LANDSCAPES:
ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES**

Challenge Level 3
EVENT CLOSED
Depart: TBA April 17, from Columbus International Airport
Return: TBA April 26
Arrangers: Betty Maynard and Ruth Conone (*Travel Committee*)

APRIL 24 (THURSDAY) *
OLENTANGY WETLAND RESEARCH PARK

Challenge Level 2
Walking and guided tour of the Wetlands Research Park
Depart: 9:45 a.m. from Fawcett Center (carpool)
Return: 12:01 p.m.
Cost: None, although registration required
Arrangers: Don Cooper and Tom Sweeney (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

MAY 5-10 *
**SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY: CHARLESTON, SC
AND SAVANNAH, GA**

Challenge Level 2
There are many exciting, historical places in Charleston and Savannah to visit. There will be tours of both cities, a plantation and antebellum mansion; a harbor cruise; tours of the *USS Yorktown* and the *USS Hundley*; and dinner at the Lady and Sons Restaurant, owned and operated by Paula Deen.
Depart: 7:00 a.m. May 5 from Fawcett Center
Return: TBA May 10
Cost: \$813 double; \$899 single (transportation, 5

nights lodging, 5 breakfasts, 5 full course dinners, all tours, and snacks.)
Arrangers: Richard and JoAnn Rueger (*Travel Committee*)

JUNE 17 (TUESDAY) *
GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA AT BEARCREEK FARMS (BRYANT, INDIANA)

Challenge Level 1
Join OSURA for a delicious lunch and a show featuring the Glenn Miller Orchestra playing songs from the 30's and 40's. Revive those memories of times past.
Depart: 8:30 a.m. from Fawcett Center
Return: 6:30 p.m.
Cost: \$63 (lunch, transportation, show, snacks)
Refund Deadline: June 1
Arrangers: Richard and JoAnn Rueger (*Travel Committee*)

OCTOBER 24-NOVEMBER 2, 2008 *
CELEBRATIONS IN MEXICO

Challenge Level 3
A study tour to Mexico at the most exciting time of the year, Days of the Dead. Visit two studio homes, (Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera), the Saturday Bazaar, and cultural and historic sites in Mexico City. Oaxaca is the center of a large indigenous area, and home to museums and archeological ruins. Also visit small villages, each known for its distinctive art or craft. Tour the mountain-top archeological site of Monte Alban and observe Days of the Dead cemetery and family home celebrations.
Depart: TBA October 24 from Columbus International Airport
Return: TBA November 2
Cost: \$2,695, double occupancy; \$350 single supplement (round trip air fare from Columbus, lodging, admission fees, 22 meals, ...) Deposit of \$800 per person; final payment due August 22
Registration Closes: June 15
Arranger: Vivian B. Harvey and Carol Baker (*Travel Committee*)

MORE 2008 EVENTS

The Travel Committee is planning a trip to Branson, Missouri, November 30-December 6 for the Christmas Shows. Details will be published in the May newsletter.

Our Endowment Fund
helps subsidize the OSURA
ANNUAL MEETING

Your **2008 Campus Campaign** gift to the
OSURA Endowment Fund (#605420)
continues to make this benefit possible.

More OSURA News

STRS-OHIO DEATH BENEFIT

The information published in the January 2008 newsletter relayed the death benefits for members enrolled in the Combined Plan.

If you are enrolled in the Defined Benefit Plan, the following applies to you.

(<http://www.strsoh.org/retirees/3d.html>)

After retirement, an automatic \$1,000 death benefit is payable to your named beneficiary upon your death. This is treated as a nontaxable life insurance payment, and, as such, no federal taxes are withheld when the payment is made. **This benefit is automatic to members who are enrolled in the STRS Ohio Defined Benefit Plan.**

Service retirement and disability benefit recipients may purchase an additional death benefit of \$1,000 or \$2,000. This taxable benefit is optional and is funded by the benefit recipient through deductions from the regular monthly STRS Ohio pension. This additional death benefit is available when you file your *Service Retirement Application*. If you are under age 65 when you retire, you will have a second opportunity to increase your death benefit within the three months immediately preceding age 65.

(Clip this information and file with your important papers – and be sure your executor and family members know about this benefit.)

OSU EVENTS OF INTEREST

Compiled by Carole Browne, OSURA Cultural Arts Committee

- A Conversation with Spike Lee, 2008 Wexner Prize recipient, February 12, 7:00 p.m., Mershon Auditorium (614-292-3535)
- The Three Bully Goats Griff, by Patrick Rainville Dorn (Theatre), Contemporary Music Festival, February 2, 3:00 p.m., Mount Hall Studio Theatre, 1050 Carmack Road (614-292-2295)
- Beyond These Walls: Department of Art Biennial Alumni Exhibition, February 5, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Hopkins Hall Gallery, 128 N. Oval Mall (614-292-5072)
- Graduate Dance Concert, February 8, 8:00 p.m., Sullivant Theatre, Sullivant Hall, 1813 North High Street (614-292-7977)
- The Labyrinth of Desire by Caridad Svich. February 16, 7:30 p.m., Roy Bowen Theatre, Drake Center, 1849 Cannon Drive (614-292-2295)
- Much Ado About Nothing, by Shakespeare, February 27, 9:00 a.m., Thurber Theatre, Drake Center, 1849 Cannon Drive (614-292-2295)

Note: A link to the University Calendar has been added to the OSURA web site so you can find out about more events. Log on to hr.osu.edu/osura, click on "Links." Under "Other University Links," click on "University Events Calendar." There you can search by the type of event in which you are interested (e.g., exhibit, music, performance), or by date, or perhaps other ways.

A CULTURAL ADVENTURE: MEXICO CITY and OAXACA October 24 to November 2



Fly into Mexico City where you will visit the studio homes of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, Mexico's most famous artists. Shop in the outdoor markets and visit the Colonial city of Cuernavaca and more before flying to Oaxaca and experiencing the surrounding rural villages as they celebrate Days of the Dead.

Cost for double occupancy: \$2,695 (Single Supplement: \$350)
Deposit is \$800 per person.

Included in cost: roundtrip airfare from Columbus and Mexico City to Oaxaca, hotel accommodations, admission fees, taxes, surcharges, 22 meals, as well as luggage handling and cancellation waiver and insurance...

Participants limited so please enroll early. Registration closes June 15 and final payment due on August 22.

Information brochures available from the OSURA office



RETIREES ASSOCIATION
OSURA

FEBRUARY 2008 NEWSLETTER
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THAT FIRST YEAR

Many of OSURA's activities were started within a few months of its founding.

"OSURA News Letter #1" was issued on June 23, 1983, less than a month after the organizational meeting on May 25. It was two pages and published quarterly.

In 1983 there were about 350 paid memberships; dues were \$5 for both retiree and spouse. We are approaching 3,000 members now and annual dues are \$12. A few years later Life Membership was established, with dues figured according to the age of the member. That was changed several years ago and Life Membership dues are now \$135, no matter the age of the retiree at the time of purchasing life membership.

According to New Letter #1, "One of the goals of this association is to keep abreast of the benefits or possible changes in benefits that come to us through PERS, STRS, or Ohio State University. To this end, the Board has established a Resource Committee on Benefits." "Other retiree groups such as ORTA and PERI have some common goals with OSURA. To keep in touch with these and other such associations, the Board has formed an Information Committee on Other Retiree Groups." STRS was the subject of a general meeting on October 11, 1983, with representatives of STRS and OSURA and it was "hoped" that a future program be aimed at PERS. Today the OSURA Benefits Committee monitors the benefits for OSU retirees. OSURA is affiliated with the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER), a coalition of retiree associations of Ohio public universities. At the annual Coping with Change Conference (No. 11 scheduled for September 25), members hear about the health benefits programs of STRS-OH and OPERS as well as other issues of interest to retirees.

There was a meeting on July 19, 1983, to gauge the interest of members in social activities: coffee and doughnuts were available at the "bargain rate" of 50 cents per person; parking was free. Tune in next month for outcomes of that meeting.

