



# Newsletter

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## March 2009

### PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

#### OSURA: How and Why

After visiting with the leaders of our counterpart retirees associations around the Big Ten and the other state universities in Ohio, it became clear to me that OSURA is the most vital and the most active of all in serving its members. While other associations have worthy programs, OSURA exceeds them all by any measure. I pondered the reasons why. The facile reason is that OSURA has such good members, and that is true, but other universities also have equally good retirees. There must be other reasons.

Obviously, one is the consistent support of OSU through the Office of Human Resources. It provides an office with a half-time office manager, moral support, and money. Without that there would be far fewer activities and events with no newsletter as we know it. (Our dues do not nearly cover our expenses.) Retirees would have little of the information they have now about our pension funds and the legislative actions that members need to protect themselves, especially in these troubled times.

Although the support of the Office of Human Resources is a necessary condition for OSURA's success, it is not sufficient. I believe the wisdom of OSURA's founding men and women was fundamental in shaping OSURA to succeed. That history is not new to many of you, but it is worth repeating. From the beginning OSURA's founders set the pattern of "get it done" and practicality that persist today. As the first president, Ransom Whitney advised the group to do the real stuff first and worry about the details later. Instead of beginning with the time consuming formality of writing a constitution or bylaws, they just blasted off with a salvo of actions. Consider the first few months in 1983 when it all started.

- April 13, First organizational meeting of a group of 19: They named it OSURA, set membership eligibility, and formed provisional subcommittees.
- May 25, General meeting with 150 present: Among other things they elected officers and board members.
- June 1, First Board meeting: By then there were 307 dues-paying members.
- June 15, Second Board meeting: They put publicity out, set up an office, and had a membership roster.
- June 25, First newsletter out: It was typed, duplicated (mimeograph ink-stained hands and all), and mailed by volunteers.
- July 19, General meeting: Over 50 attended with 500 paid members and spouses by then.
- October 11, First Annual General Meeting: The speaker was from STRS.
- October 19, First Program Committee event: A geology walk.

Knowing, as we all do, the less-than-blazing speed of university committees, I am awed by the pace of those early days. That spirit of getting it done still prevails, as does the pragmatism reflected in the bylaws they wrote. With knowledge gained by experience, they wrote bylaws that still serve us well today. They and the mission statement are quite general and allow the flexibility for change and growth.

The founders' basic decision to include both faculty and staff was all important. The mix of skills, perspectives, and enthusiasm which that combination provides is fundamental to OSURA's success.

*(Continued on Page 4)*

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# OSURA News

## Officers

### President

Thomas A. Willke

### Vice President/President Elect

Nancy S. Wardwell

### Secretary

Richard M. Hill

### Treasurer

C. Thomas Ridenour

### Communications Secretary

Carlene Hamilton

### Past President

J. Robert Warmbrod

## Executive Board

### Members at Large

Shirley A. Chase

Clarence J. Cunningham

Joseph A. Lipsky

Penelope F. O'Neil

Joyce A. Smith

Marie T. Taris

## Committee Chairs

### Benefits-

Louis P. DiOrio

### Budget and Finance-

Charles E. Corbato

### Bylaws-

Thomas L. Sweeney

### Communications-

Carlene Hamilton

### Endowment-

Shirley A. Chase

### Friendship-

Mary Anne Herbst

### Membership-

Donald W. Larson

### Program Coordinating-

William J. Studer

### Cultural Arts-

Odette Blum

### Social-

Penelope F. O'Neil

### Travel-

Betty A. Maynard

## 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

Thomas A. Willke

### Staff Compensation and

### Benefits Committee-

Eleanor C. Conlon

## Historian

Fern E. Hunt

## Office Manager

Kathi Hess

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, February 10

Discussion of the Communications Policy on e-mail was initiated and will be continued from time to time to determine how e-mail should be used to communicate with members. The OSURA Directory for 2008-2009 lists 1,341 "@" addresses (~46%) of our membership, with another ~200 in same-households being reachable also.

Current membership total is 3,215. About one-third of complimentary members have become regular members in their second year of retirement.

Cultural Arts event offerings are down due to a shortage of event leaders, but some new events are being listed in the newsletter.

A change in the handling of payments for foreign travel is being implemented: All payments (cash or credit card) will go to the travel agency, rather than the OSURA office.

The Campus Campaign appeals letter appeared in the February OSURA newsletter, with instructions for ensuring OSURA member credit. The gift packets should reach OSURA members about mid-February. The OSURA Endowment Fund (605420) is suggested, since its interest earnings make many of our events possible. The "69" must appear on the check memo to assure that the gift is credited to OSURA.

A meeting with University representatives on how to proceed with involving retirees as volunteers at Ohio State was productive. This project may become part of the University's "Outreach & Engagement."

The "10 year" rule for membership in the Faculty Club has been eliminated for all OSURA members – faculty and

staff: All are now eligible for membership at the reduced rate of \$21 per month. Meeting space (without setups) is free to OSURA groups, and events just for OSURA are welcomed and encouraged. Parking for staff is being studied. (*Editor's Note: See Page 4 for more information on this benefit and Page 3 for information on the Italian Dinner at the Faculty Club on April 3.*)

## OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Last year, OSURA established an award to be given to an individual who has contributed to the betterment of The Ohio State University retirees through leadership and service to retirement causes. The person's contributions may be in any area related to retirees and retirement, such as administration or legislation, but will be measured on how these efforts enrich retirees' quality of life now and in the future.

### Procedure

1. Nominations may be made by any member of OSURA using a form provided by the OSURA office (also on Page 9 of this newsletter as well as the OSURA web site, [hr.osu.edu/osura](http://hr.osu.edu/osura)).
2. The OSURA Executive Board will process the nominations and make the final choice.
3. The award will be presented at the OSURA annual meeting.

### Nominating Procedure

Nominations must include:

1. A completed OSURA nomination form.
2. A nominating statement citing specific contributions of the nominee to retirement causes (two pages maximum).

Written or electronic nominations must be received in the OSURA office by April 15.

# OSURA Calendar

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

- Mar 6..... *Alice in Wonderland*, BalletMet Senior Dress Rehearsal, carpool from Fawcett Center, 9:30 a.m. – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Mar 10..... Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m., Longaberger Alumni House
- Mar 12..... Photo Society, 5:15 p.m., cocktails; 6:00 p.m., dinner; 7:00 p.m., program at Faculty Club
- Mar 18..... Book Club, 1:30 p.m., Carriage Hill Party House, Lafayette Drive
- Mar 19..... Lunch Bunch, 11:30 a.m., Damon's, 3025 Olentangy River Road – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Mar 24..... Tertulia Breakfast, 8:00 a.m., Faculty Club
- Mar 25..... Toledo Museum's Glass Collection, depart from Fawcett Center, 9:00 a.m. – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Mar 25..... Bridge Group, 1:00 p.m., Friendship Village, Dublin
- Apr 2 ..... Estate Planning Seminar, 1:30 p.m., Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center, 2201 Fred Taylor Drive – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Apr 15 ..... Piatt Castles & Zane Shawnee Caverns, depart Fawcett Center, 8:30 a.m. – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Apr 23-May 4 .. France Magnifique, departure TBA – REGISTRATION CLOSED
- Apr 24 ..... *The Great Gatsby*, BalletMet Senior Dress Rehearsal, carpool from Fawcett Center, 9:30 a.m. – REGISTRATION REQUIRED (**NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**)
- Jun 3..... Kingwood Gardens and Malabar Farms, depart Fawcett Center, 7:30 a.m. – 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; 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.

## SO YOU CAN PLAN AHEAD

The following events are in the planning stages – preparations are not far enough along to accept reservations, but they are listed here so you can pencil them in your calendar. When all details are in place (cost, times, content, ...), they will be listed in the OSURA Calendar of the newsletter; until then, if you want information, contact the arranger.

- June 9, Annual Meeting (Tom Willke, Arranger)
- June 24, Summer Picnic, Park of Roses Shelter House (Penny O'Neil, Arranger)
- June 30, Tour of Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center and Chadwick Arboretum (Don Cooper, Arranger)
- September 15-19, Michigan: Frankenmuth, Mackinac Island, and Upper Peninsula (JoAnn Rueger and Betty Maynard, Arrangers)
- September 24, Coping with Change XII (Nancy Wardwell, Arranger)
- December 9, Holiday Buffet, Antrim Park Shelter House (Penny O'Neil, Arranger)

## ITALIAN DINNER AT THE FACULTY CLUB - Friday, April 3, 6:30 p.m.

The **Italian Dinner** will be served family style at community tables. The menu includes Traditional Antipasti Platter, Insalata Caprese, Sautéed Gnocchi, Glazed Carrot Risotto. Rigatoni Pasta tossed with Roasted Tomato Sauce and Meatballs, Vitello Ai Funghi, Assorted Cannolis with Fruit Salad, and Wine. (A full cash bar will be available.) Cost is \$35 per person plus tax and facility fee. Call the Faculty Club (614-292-2262) to make your reservation; be sure to state that you are a member of OSURA and how you will be paying (by cash, check, credit card, or Faculty Club membership number). This event is on the same evening as the **Faculty Club's Annual Art Auction** which will be held in the Main Dining Room beginning at 6:00 p.m., with the live auction at 7:30.

## More OSURA News

### WELCOME NEW RETIREES

*We congratulate our colleagues who retired from The Ohio State University in January 2009*

**Bodonyi**, Richard J., Aerospace Engineering \* **Branham**, Dan W., Facilities and Building Services \* **Browning**, Janis R., Recreational Sports \* **Buening**, Thomas L., University Hospitals \* **Chubb**, Gerald P., Aviation \* **Coffing**, Gary L., Agricultural Technologies \* **Dahlstrand**, Frederick C., OSU Mansfield \* **Dempsey**, Diane M., Veterinary Hospitals \* **Dickey**, Annie G., University Hospitals \* **Duff**, Allen J., RIO Operations Headquarters \* **Eggers**, Paul J., OARDC-Outlying Stations \* **Graham**, Phillip L., RIO Operations Headquarters \* **Graham**, Cindy M., University Hospitals \* **Gregorek**, Gerald M., Aerospace Engineering \* **Grogan**, Thomas W., WOSU Stations \* **Gyuro**, Mary J., Education and Human Ecology Administration \* **Hammond**, Cindy D., Internal Medicine \* **Hayden**, Trudy M., University Hospitals \* **Killilea**, Janine M., Solove Cancer Hospital and Research Institute \* **Krygier**, Melissa G., Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Administration \* **Lancaster**, Margaret L., Ross Heart Hospital \* **Long**, Diana L., Solove Cancer Hospital and Research Institute \* **Lynd**, Charles W., Education and Human Ecology Administration \* **Madlener**, Donna M., Ross Heart Hospital \* **Marquand**, Terry L., RIO Operations Headquarters \* **Marsh**, Charlotte A., Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center \* **McClendon**, Gaylan R., Facilities and Building Services \* **McDonald**, Miller B., Horticulture and Crop Science \* **Naour**, Joanne P., Health Sciences Library \* **Ott**, Linda L., OSU Extension County Operations \* **Palavin**, James M., University Registrar \* **Patrick**, Helen L., Transportation and Parking \* **Pharis**, Mary A., Dining Services \* **Porter**, Phyllis A., University Hospitals \* **Rader**, Cary, OSU Newark \* **Schaefer**, John Joel, Emergency Management and Fire Prevention \* **Scott**, Karen A., Pathology \* **Sizemore**, Angelene K., Education and Human Ecology Administration \* **Smith**, Daniel L., Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center \* **Snively**, Timothy J., Harding Hospital \* **Somers**, Robin E., OSU Newark \* **St. Martin**, Steven K., Horticulture and Crop Science \* **Tyler**, Toni R., Health Systems Corporate Services \* **Vanderhoof**, Vonda K., Solove Cancer Hospital and Research Institute \* **Villanueva**, Violeta S., University Hospitals \* **Von Rabenau**, Burkhard B., Knowlton School of Architecture \* **Wilson**, Kenneth G., Physics \* **Wycuff**, Carolyn L., Education and Human Ecology Teaching and Learning

*Help welcome our colleagues to retirement and OSURA. Call those you know, encourage them to return their OSURA membership application, and invite them to attend an OSURA event with you.*

#### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** (Continued from Page 1)

Another important mix is that of those who serve a while and move on and of those who give long service. Most officers, Board and committee members come and go, and that renews ideas and vitality. In contrast, a few serve many years, and with their special talents, experience, and dedication they provide the sustaining pedal point and continuity that a successful organization needs. Probably most members do not realize how much of the services OSURA provides is due to these few dedicated people who spend a huge number of hours on OSURA business.

That is the legacy we inherited. In the future OSURA will be true to that legacy of serving OSU retirees only if enough members continue the tradition of contributing their time, talent or treasure.

- Tom Willke

#### **NOMINATIONS**

Watch your mail for the annual mailing asking for nominations for the 2009-2010 OSURA Board. Be thinking of friends and colleagues whose talents fit these really interesting, productive, and rewarding experiences and share their names with the Nominating Committee. (No need to get their permission; the committee will do that.)

#### **A SPECIAL OFFER FOR OSURA MEMBERS – FACULTY AND STAFF**

The Faculty Club and OSU Retirees Association have partnered to build a winning combination. Having both OSURA and Faculty Club memberships can help you not only stay connected to the colleagues and friends you made on campus, but stay connected to all the passion and spirit that are the essence of The Ohio State University.

Now, you and your spouse can become Sustaining Members of the OSU Faculty Club with a reduced initiation fee and low monthly dues of \$21 (a 40 percent discounted rate). **Retired staff as well as retired faculty who are members of OSURA are eligible for membership.**

We encourage you to apply for membership soon. This offer to current OSURA members is available for a limited time. Contact the Faculty Club's Membership office for details and information: 614-688-8584, or email to [cheryl@ohio-statefacultyclub.com](mailto:cheryl@ohio-statefacultyclub.com), or the Faculty Club web site, [www.ohio-statefacultyclub.com](http://www.ohio-statefacultyclub.com).

Our Endowment Fund  
helps subsidize the OSURA

#### **TAX SEMINAR.**

Your **2009 Campus Campaign** gift to the OSURA Endowment Fund (#605420) continues to make this benefit possible.

## Income Tax Seminar

This article summarizes the OSURA Income Tax Seminar held on January 23 conducted by Warren Lee and David Miller, emeritus faculty, Department of Agricultural Environmental and Development Economics, OSU. Legislation passed in 2008 to address the nation's housing and financial market problems and a serious economic downturn contained several tax provisions. This legislation includes the Economic Stimulus Act, The Housing Assistance Act, and the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act.

### Housing Issues

There are some changes in the rules for exclusion of the gain from the sale of your main home. The basic rules are unchanged. The maximum exclusion amount is \$250,000 for single tax filers or \$500,000 for married filing joint returns. You must have owned and occupied the home for at least 2 of the 5 years before the sale, and not have used the exclusion within 2 years prior to the sale.

Beginning in 2008, surviving spouses who meet the ownership and use tests may qualify to exclude up to \$500,000 of gain on the sale of the main home within two years of the spouse's death.

Effective for 2009 and later tax years, no exclusion is allowed for periods that the home was not used as your main home. For example, if you sell a home that was previously owned as a vacation rental property, only the gain from the period that it was used as a main home qualifies for the exclusion.

Beginning October 1, 2008, sellers can no longer provide down payment assistance to buyers obtaining federally insured mortgage loans.

There is a new, higher standard deduction for homeowners who do not itemize their deductions on Schedule A. For 2008, your standard deduction is increased by the amount of any state and local real estate taxes you paid up to \$500 (\$1,000 if married filing jointly). To claim this higher deduction, check the box and enter on line 39c of Form 1040.

### Other Individual Taxpayer Relief Provisions

Once again Congress has provided temporary relief from the Alternative Minimum Tax. AMT exemption amounts were increased for 2008 to \$46,200 (\$69,950 for married filing jointly or qualifying widower; \$34,975 if married filing separately).

Several provisions that were scheduled to expire at the end of 2007 have been extended through 2008-09. Taxpayers who itemize their deductions may elect to deduct state and local general sales taxes instead of state and local income taxes. Qualified tuition and educator expense deductions were also extended. IRA owners over age 70½ may continue to exclude from income any qualified charitable distributions up to \$100,000.

The general rules for required minimum distributions from retirement plans have not changed. However, the 50 percent penalty for not taking RMDs in 2009 has been waived *so it is not mandatory that you take your RMDs in 2009*. RMDs for 2008 were not affected.

### Changes for Group Term Life Benefits

Beginning in 2008, if you participate in the optional group term life insurance available through OSU, the University will report the amount of group term life insurance coverage in excess of \$50,000 as taxable wages to retirees on Form W-2. The amount reported as income depends on the amount of coverage and is reduced by the amount we pay as retirees (\$276 annually). This amount will be reported in Box 12 on Form W-2 with a Code "C." Retirees are also responsible for their portion of the uncollected Social Security and Medicare taxes. These uncollected taxes will be reported in Box 12, Form W-2, with a Code "M" for the uncollected Social Security taxes and Code "N" for the uncollected Medicare taxes. These additional taxes owed will be included on your Form 1040, line 61, Total Tax, with a Code of "UT."

The foregoing highlights only selected major changes. You are encouraged to consult relevant IRS publications and your tax professional for guidance.

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### CONFERENCE ON CONCERNS RELATIVE TO PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

OCHER (Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees) will sponsor a conference to determine potential engagements and actions to cope with national and state political and economic concerns relative to public retirement systems exempt from Social Security and to examine issues of health care programs that are associated with defined benefits and public pension systems. OSURA members are welcome to attend. The conference will be held at the STRS-Ohio offices on May 19. Speakers at the morning session are Terri Bierdeman, director, Government Relations, STRS Ohio, and Beth Almedia, from the National Institute on Retirement Security. During the afternoon, panels will discuss national and state concerns. Registration materials are being developed.

# Benefits

## FROM THE BENEFITS COMMITTEE MEETING, February 3

Among the caveats in selecting long-term care insurance listed in the January newsletter should be added, "Is the insurance company fiscally sound?" In these days of bailouts for insurance companies (e.g. AIG), one must be concerned that the issuing company will survive the current economic crisis. New buyers of LTCI might want to check with A. M. Best (ambest.com), an insurance rating body, to ascertain the solvency of various insurance companies.

Attendance at the OSURA Income Tax Seminar was about 65. Evaluations for the program were at the high end.

### STRS

- STRS teachers are living longer.
- Fewer new faculty are opting out for ARP.
- 50,000 STRS members are now on e-mail.

### OPERS

Among topics discussed at the January meeting of the OPERS Board were: impacts of the Governor's State-of-the-State message (e.g., on the biennial budget); Mandatory Defined Contribution is expected to arise again; a reduction in state work force (could adversely affect OPERS income); tighter regulations on bailout monies at the Federal level. OPERS is joining a national group to fight mandatory defined contributions.

### Legislative Update

National: Four Senate and House committees could/will impact pensions: House (1) Ways and Means and (2) Education and Labor; Senate (3) Finance and (4) Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

State: The top three state issues now are: (a) Budget for the next biennium; (b) college costs; and (c) health care entitlements (Medicaid) in Ohio. It is hoped that H.B. 315 will be reintroduced soon – a strategy meeting on this subject is planned for later in February; however, the Health Care Stabilization Fund is now down to \$2.7 billion from \$4 billion about one year ago.

Our Endowment Fund  
helps subsidize the OSURA  
**COPING WITH CHANGE CONFERENCE.**

Your **2009 Campus Campaign** gift to the  
OSURA Endowment Fund (#605420)  
continues to make this benefit possible.

## RESEARCH STUDY ON "HOW WE MAKE DECISIONS" STILL NEEDS OSU RETIREES TO PARTICIPATE

Scott Mullins, a Ph.D. candidate in education at Ohio State, is seeking 40 members of OSURA--20 retired faculty and 20 retired staff--to be participants in a research study investigating whether people see listening to and following their feelings in making decisions as something that helps them negotiate life as happily as they can. It is also trying to find a way to tell the difference between human verbal responses that come from a mental origin, from those that come from a proposed feeling nature of who we are. Two face-to-face interviews and two follow-up meetings will be conducted with each participant. Each interview will last 60-90 minutes and each follow-up meeting, 45 minutes and will take place in the Columbus area. The total amount of time each participant will be involved in the study is 4½-5½ hours over roughly 3½ months, beginning as soon as possible. If you are interested in participating, and/or want to learn more about participating, call Scott Mullins, 614-843-0496.

### IN MEMORIAM

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

- Biddle**, George D., January 13, Maintenance, age 82  
**Serif**, George Samuel, January 15, Biochemistry, age 80  
**Whitehead**, Edward J., January 14, University Hospitals, age 76  
**Neville**, Nancy J., January 19, University Registrar, age 52  
**Warmolts**, John R., January 19, Medicine, age 74  
**Vail**, Wilma M., January 20, University Hospitals, age 78  
**Freshman**, Dorothy Elizabeth, January 25, Preventive Medicine, age 88  
**Farris**, Dallas, January 30, age 80  
**Parks**, Joyce Timanus, February 2, University Hospitals, age 85  
**Smith**, Clara Emma, January 28, age 94  
**Scott Sr.**, John Henry, February 3, University Hospitals, age 72

*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.*

## Description of Events

See Pages 12 and 13 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 12 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.

### **MARCH 6 (FRIDAY) \*** **ALICE IN WONDERLAND, BALLETMET SENIOR DRESS REHEARSAL**

*Challenge Level 1*

Follow Alice down the rabbit hole where the Mad Hatter, croquet with the Queen, and square dancing with lobsters is par for the course. Logic is no match for madness among the delirious denizens of Wonderland.

Time and Place: 9:30 a.m. from Fawcett Center (carpool); meet in lobby to sign in.

Return: Approximately 1:00 p.m. departure from Riffe Center

Cost: \$11 (ticket); it would be appropriate for passengers to offer a small sum to drivers for gasoline and parking.

Refund Deadline: **February 27**

Arranger: Don Cooper (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

### **MARCH 12 (THURSDAY)** **PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY**

Gene Gilliom will present "The Changing Face of China." Members' image theme is "faces." Non-members are welcome.

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

Arranger: John Houston (*Photographic Society*)

### **MARCH 18 (WEDNESDAY)** **BOOK CLUB**

Discussion will be about a book by Susan Jacoby - *Age Of American Unreason*. The cover reads: "What has caused the current outbreak of anti-intellectualism which is at odds with the heritage of Enlightenment that suffused the thought of the founders of America? Among the causes Susan Jacoby finds are: addiction to infotainment, a decline in reading, mediocre education, triumphalist religious fundamentalism, a dearth of fair-minded public intellectuals." What do you think? Come join our sure-to-be lively discussion! For information call Lee Hill (614-459-4743) or Mara Huling (614-882-4591). P.S. we begin with goodies at 1:30 p.m.

Time and Place: 1:30 p.m., Carriage Hill Party House, Lafayette Drive (Contact Lee Hill, 614-459-4743, for directions.)

Arranger: Marajean Huling (*Book Club SIG*)

### **MARCH 19 (THURSDAY)** **LUNCH BUNCH**

Our speaker will be Professor Ian Sheldon from the Department of Agricultural Environmental and Development Economics. Dr. Sheldon will speak on "The Global Financial Crisis: To Regulate or Not to Regulate?" He will discuss the main drivers of the financial crisis and what most economists agree are the main priorities for dealing with this crisis. He will talk about the changes that should be made in the domestic and international regulation of financial markets.

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

Cost: Order from the menu

Arrangers: OSURA Social Committee

### **MARCH 24 (TUESDAY)** **TERTULIA BREAKFAST**

A group meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month for breakfast and conversation. Why not join them?

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

Cost: Breakfast on your own

Arranger: William Riley (*Tertulia Breakfast SIG*)

### **MARCH 25 (WEDNESDAY) \*** **TOLEDO MUSEUM'S GLASS COLLECTION (TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART)**

*Challenge Level 2*

The Toledo Museum of Art's world-renowned glass collection features more than 5,000 works of art from ancient to contemporary times. It is housed in the recently opened Glass Pavilion which has received a design award for "Best Museum." The Glass Pavilion offers visitors the unique opportunity to appreciate the history of glass as an artistic medium, as well as witness its creation in the glassmaking studio, both within an architectural marvel of glass.

Registration is closed, but 12 on a waiting list would allow for rental of a larger bus. If interested please register immediately.

Depart: 9:00 a.m. from Fawcett Center

Return: Approximately 7:00 p.m.

Cost: \$45 (bus transportation, docent fee, box lunch, snacks, driver's tip)

Registration Closes: **March 4** (early date due to docent scheduling)

Refund Deadline: **March 11**

Arranger: Odette Blum (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

### **MARCH 25 (WEDNESDAY)**

#### **BRIDGE GROUP**

Join this group for a good game of Bridge.

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

Arrangers: Sherry Detillian and Marianne Naber (*Bridge Group SIG*)

### **APRIL 2 (THURSDAY)**

#### **ESTATE PLANNING SEMINAR**

Russell N. Cunningham, attorney and certified specialist in estate planning, trust, and probate law, and James C. Skeeles, Extension educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources Community Development, The Ohio State University, will present aspects of estate planning and answer your questions – so come prepared with those you hope to have answered. See Page 10 for more details on this conference.

Time and Place: 1:30 p.m. (doors open at 1:00 p.m.), Multipurpose Room A, Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center, 2201 Fred Taylor Drive

Cost: None (unless you purchase the Basic Estate Planning Fact Sheet at the seminar, \$20)

Registration Deadline: March 20

Arrangers: Diane Selby and Fern Hunt (*Benefits Committee*)

### **APRIL 15 (WEDNESDAY) \***

#### **PIATT CASTLES & ZANE SHAWNEE CAVERNS**

*Challenge Level 3*

Spring is here! It is time to discover OHIO. At the first stop, discover Piatt Castles, Mac-A-Cheek and Mac-O-Chee. These Victorian-era castles were built in 1864 by two brothers. An old-fashioned farm lunch will be served at an Amish home where the cooking is done by the lady of the house and her daughter. After lunch, go "underground" to discover Zane Shawnee Caverns and then tour the American Indian Museum. Those who want to stay above ground can visit the museum that includes a scale model of an early Shawnee village.

Depart: 8:30 a.m. from Fawcett Center

Return: Approximately 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$75 (bus transportation, tour fees, admissions, lunch, all tips)

Cancel and Refund Date: March 24

Arrangers: JoAnn Rueger and Gladys Murray (*Travel Committee*)

### **APRIL 23-MAY 4 \***

#### **FRANCE MAGNIFIQUE**

*Challenge Level 3*

REGISTRATION CLOSED

Depart: TBA April 23

Return: TBA May 4

Arrangers: Betty Maynard and Barb Preston (*Travel Committee*)

### **APRIL 24 (FRIDAY) \* ← NOTE DATE CHANGE**

#### **THE GREAT GATSBY,**

#### **BALLETMET SENIOR DRESS REHEARSAL**

*Challenge Level 1*

This classic novel of extravagance, deception, and despair during the height of Prohibition is exquisitely portrayed through expressive dance and elaborate sets in this world premier production. Travel back to the Jazz Age, and into the entangled lives of debonair Jay Gatsby, pragmatic Nick Carraway, and the charming Daisy Buchanan. Their indiscretions, fueled by forbidden passion and financed by bootlegged dollars, are sure to leave a lasting impression on all who embark on this emotional journey.

Time and Place: 9:30 a.m. from Fawcett Center (carpool); meet in lobby just beyond Service Desk to sign in.

Return: Depart Riffe Center approximately 1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$11 (ticket); it would be appropriate for passengers to offer a small sum to drivers for gasoline and parking.

Refund Deadline: April 2

Arranger: Don Cooper (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

### **JUNE 3 (WEDNESDAY) \***

#### **KINGWOOD GARDENS AND MALABAR FARMS**

*Challenge Level 3*

Be guided through the gardens (wildflowers, peonies, iris and roses in bloom), greenhouse, and mansion at Kingwood Center. Enjoy a buffet lunch at the Café on Main with time to visit the historical carousel before going to Malabar Farm. This is America's most famous farm, the country estate of Louis Bromfield, Pulitzer Prize winning author, progressive farmer, and conservationist. Take a wagon ride and tour the 32-room home where Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall were married.

Depart: 7:30 a.m. from Fawcett Center

Return: 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$45 (bus transportation, tour fees, buffet lunch, snacks, and all tips)

Refund Deadline: May 1

Arrangers: Carol Baker and William Studer (*Travel Committee*)



RETIREES ASSOCIATION  
OSURA

**OSURA Outstanding Service Award  
NOMINATION FORM**

I wish to nominate the following person:

Nominee's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title and Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
Nominator's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

*I am an OSURA member.*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach the nominating statement citing specific contributions of the nominee to retirement causes (two pages maximum) and send by U.S. mail to:

The Ohio State University Retirees Association (OSURA)  
1590 North High Street, Suite 300  
Columbus, OH 43201-2190

or electronically to: [osura@hr.osu.edu](mailto:osura@hr.osu.edu).



RETIREES ASSOCIATION  
OSURA

1590 North High Street, Suite 300  
Columbus, OH 43201-2190  
Office: 614-292-2916  
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MARCH 2009  
NEWSLETTER

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## ESTATE PLANNING SEMINAR

Thursday, April 2, 2009

1:30-3:30 p.m. (Doors open at 1:00 p.m.)

**Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center, 2201 Fred Taylor Drive (Multipurpose Room A)**

(Free parking in baseball stadium lot across Fred Taylor Drive)

**Russell N. Cunningham**

and

**James C. Skeeles, Ph.D.**

Attorney and Ohio State Bar Association  
Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust and  
Probate Law, Barrett, Easterday, Cunningham,  
and Eselgroth L.L.P.

Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural  
Resources Community Development  
The Ohio State University

### Sampling of Topics

*What is estate planning? Is a will really necessary? Who needs an attorney? Who are your heirs and how can they be contacted? Do you have a list of your important assets and papers? Where are they, and the list? How costly is it to settle an estate? Are there ways to minimize costs? What is a trust? How does the new Ohio Trust Code impact your plans? How can charitable giving be included? What to do about Medicare, Medigap, Medicaid, long-term care insurance, and nursing homes?*

### **REFERENCE: Basic Estate Planning Fact Sheet**

Available online at <http://ohioline.osu/ep-fact/index.html> (free)

or

at the seminar for \$20 per set

**No registration fee but preregistration required (call the OSURA office, 614-292-2916, by March 20)**