

# Newsletter

Suite 300, 1590 N. High Street, Columbus, OH 43201-2190 ● Telephone: 614-292-2916 ● Fax: 614-292-4424 ● E-mail: osura@hr.osu.edu ● Web Site: hr.osu.edu/osura

## October 2009

### President's Message

As much as I love women's basketball I confess that there is no season better than college football's. How many kids, in Ohio alone, "play" football? Not many if they want to stay on the team! There really isn't much "play" in much that we play! "Play" is a word with many shades of meaning. You can play a part in a play, play a musical instrument, play the radio, have too much play in the steering wheel, play with my emotions, but don't play around if you want to play football – or any sport for that matter.

So, how did play and playfulness get so far removed from much we play? Thirty or so years ago when sociologists and anthropologists began to recognize play as a life force, someone whose name is lost – to me anyway – applied Piaget's Hierarchy of Cognitive Learning to play. It works very well to describe the power of play in human development, and to explain the seemingly contradictory forms of ludic activity.

The first level is sensory-motor play. An infant wiggles because it feels good to move. We entertain them with sounds and textures and colors and are enchanted by their response to a little tossing and jiggling. Amusement parks, skiing, and driving an excellent car illustrate that sensory-motor play is not reserved for small children.

Level II is mimicry and imitation. In addition to learning language this way, kids play house and doctor and army and I'll bet that your first real bicycle spent as much time being a pony as mine did. Applied to adult activity, having the proper golf and tennis attire help put us in those roles. There are interesting studies of symbolic aspects to sport. War is one. Chess is obvious. And there is the territorial protection and use of a missile to score points as in football, baseball, and basketball.

In Level III limits and rules develop – games are formed, and a thing about games is that rules can change. We used to play endless styles of baseball. Depending on space, and who and how many showed up. We played Monkey Move Up or First Bounce or Fly, and sometimes the number of strikes depended on who owned the equipment. As adults it is downright fun to play a game where the stakes aren't high, and more fluid rules let us happily turn Solitaire cards one at a time – and to check the Sudoku solutions page.

When rules become laws we have arrived at Level IV. Field and court dimensions are precise. Costumed officials are hired to enforce the laws. At this level you don't even need to speak the same language as the other contestants. This is the wide world of sport: football and basketball and golf and tennis - - - and Contract Bridge.

Among adults there is a suspicion that these are the only appropriate activities for adults, and when we can no longer actually play them we watch them. Of course, I do not agree and I hope you get my message here: that health and balance lay in participating freely at all the levels. Also embedded here you will find my great concern that we encourage children to enter the very adult world of sport at too early a developmental age depriving them of the opportunity to freely and creatively play!

And, oh yes ---

GO BUCKS!

- Nancy Wardwell

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

President's Message.....	1
OSURA News.....	2
Calendar .....	3
So You Can Plan Ahead .....	3
Benefits .....	4
In Memoriam .....	4
Long-term Fiduciary and Financial Plans .....	5
Welcome New Retirees.....	6
Description of Events .....	7
OSU Library Cards .....	9
University News .....	10

# OSURA News

## Officers

### President

Nancy S. Wardwell

### Vice President/President Elect

Marie T. Taris

### Secretary

Richard M. Hill

### Treasurer

C. Thomas Ridenour

### Communications Secretary

Carlene Hamilton

### Past President

Thomas A. Willke

## Executive Board Members at Large

Clarence J. Cunningham

Howard L. Gauthier

Joseph A. Lipsky

Penelope F. O'Neil

Joyce A. Smith

James Tootle

## 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-

Mary Anne Herbst

### 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-

Judith A. McMahon

## Historian

Fern E. Hunt

## Office Manager

Kathi Hess

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD September 8

The Audit Report for OSURA, prepared by Susan Litton, dated August 1, 2009, was accepted.

The OSURA Budget for 2009-2010 was approved. The Association will realize a budgetary savings of \$365 over last year.

The Endowment Committee is sending "thank you" notes (72 recently) for gifts to the OSURA Endowment.

Three requests have been received over recent months for one-time grants from the Emergency Assistance Fund. Funds are still available, with other possible sources to be explored, if needed.

Total membership now stands at 3,024, a small decrease from last year.

The Membership Committee is reviewing membership categories.

Responses to the Comment Sheets returned with membership renewals were very favorable to the Association's efforts, but some useful suggestions for follow up were received as well.

Penny O'Neil has agreed to continue as the Bucks for Charity representative. The overall goal for this year will be \$1,225,000, with Karen Bell as chair, and Caroline Whitacre as co-chair.

The active phase of the 2010 Campus Campaign year will be March 1 through April 30. Emeritus/Retiree receipts for the 2009 year are tracking closely to those of 2008, even in this difficult economic climate.

President Nancy Wardwell gave an overview of the conference of retirees associations in Big 10 universities. (Her report is in the next column.)

## BIG 10

The 18<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Big Ten Retirees Associations was held at the University of Iowa August 14-16. All the associations sent delegates except Northwestern and they missed an excellent program that was packed with a rich variety of information.

We heard presentations from both the president and the provost of Iowa and we toured their campus, which is making a slow but dramatic recovery from the devastating flood in June of 2008.

A special focus of the conference was "Senior College" activities of the retiree associations. Several provide extensive offerings of courses for members. Iowa has the Senior College, Indiana offers a comprehensive Mini-university, and others participate in OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute). The latter is a network of learning opportunities at public and private universities throughout the U.S.

An interesting session included the executive director of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) and a faculty rep to the Big Ten comparing the emphasis of each, the CIC being the academic counterpart to the Big Ten concentration on athletics. There was a consensus that our associations represent more academic interests than athletic, but no formal declaration came forward.

The University of Michigan hosts the Big Ten Retirees website and unveiled an updated version. You can access it through the OSURA web site; Google: Big Ten Retirees Association; or directly through [www.umra.edu](http://www.umra.edu). It provides links to all the individual websites. It also has information on all past conferences and reminds us that OSU will again host the group in 2012. Next year's conference will be at Indiana University, August 20-22.

*Continued on Page 9*

# OSURA Calendar

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

- Oct 8 ..... Photo Society, 5:15 p.m., cocktails; 6:00 p.m., dinner; 7:30 p.m., program, Faculty Club
- Oct 13 ..... Executive Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m., Longaberger Alumni House, 2200 Olentangy River Road
- Oct 14 ..... Sternwheelers and Ohio Rivers, Marietta, Ohio, depart 7:30 a.m. from Fawcett Center – EVENT FULL; WAIT LIST
- Oct 15 ..... Lunch Bunch, 11:15 a.m., Buckeye Hall of Fame Café, 1421 Olentangy River Road – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Oct 16 ..... *Swan Lake*, BalletMet Senior Dress Rehearsal, meet at Fawcett Center at 9:30 a.m. to carpool to theater – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Oct 21 ..... Book Club, 1:30 p.m., Carriage Hill of Arlington Party House, Lafayette Drive
- Oct 21 ..... *Pagliacci*, Opera Columbus, carpool from Fawcett Center at 5:30 p.m. – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Oct 27 ..... Tertulia Breakfast, 8:00 a.m., Faculty Club
- Oct 28 ..... Bridge Group, 1:00 p.m., Friendship Village, Dublin
- Oct 29 ..... Columbus Cultural Arts Center Tour, carpool from Fawcett Center at 11:00 a.m. – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Nov 8 ..... Cantilena Concerts 1: Brasil Guitar Duo in Classical and Brazilian Music, carpool from Fawcett Center, 1:00 p.m. – SEE BELOW FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION
- Nov 29..... Cantilena Concerts 2: Holiday Celebration Concert, carpool from Fawcett Center, 1:00 p.m. – SEE BELOW FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION
- Dec 4..... LaComedia Dinner Theatre (Springboro, Ohio), depart 8:45 a.m. from Fawcett Center – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Dec 9..... Holiday Buffet, 11:30 a.m., Antrim Park Shelter House, 5800 Olentangy River Road
- Feb 5..... *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, BalletMet Senior Dress Rehearsal, carpool from Fawcett Center at 9:30 a.m. – REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Feb 10..... *Romeo and Juliet*, Opera Columbus, carpool from Fawcett Center at 5:30 p.m. -- REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- Apr 17-25..... Springtime Tulip River Cruise, Holland and Belgium, depart TBA from Columbus International Airport – EVENT FULL; CLOSED

## 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 1590 North High Street, Suite 300, Columbus, OH 43201-2190.

For the **Cantilena Concerts**:

- Either send request and check to Eileen Davis, Director, Cantilena Concerts, 2934 Indianola Avenue, Columbus, OH 43202, or call 614-268-2779 to use Visa or Mastercard. Please note: the OSURA office is not accepting reservations for these concerts.

**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 2010 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 into your calendar. When all details are in place (cost, times, content, etc.), they will be in the OSURA Calendar of the newsletter; until then, if you want information, contact the arranger.

- January 22, Income Tax Seminar (Tom Sweeney, Arranger)
- March 5, *Carmina Burana*, BalletMet Senior Dress Rehearsal (Don Cooper, Arranger)
- April 23, *American Legends*, BalletMet Senior Dress Rehearsal (Don Cooper, Arranger)

# Benefits

## FROM THE BENEFITS COMMITTEE MEETING, September 1

Life insurance and long-term care, specifically their independent and combined advantages, are being studied.

OSU's average faculty salary standings (2008-2009) within its benchmark cohort was 1.7 percent below the average; but for the same cohort and period, OSU's relative cost-of-living adjusted "buying power" was 9 percent above the average.

### OPERS

Investments have rebounded "significantly." The Board approved 4 out of 10 strategies for OPERS' Disability Initiative, and dealt with the definition of "any occupation," the offset of SSDI, time limit of employer responsibility/obligation, and limits to unfunded service credit.

### STRS-Ohio

STRS-Ohio implemented the Low-cost Generic Drug Program on June 8. This program provides a 90-day supply of designated maintenance generic medications through mail order for a \$9 co-payment instead of the normal \$25 co-payment. More than 230 generic medications are covered. Through July 24, 12,000 claims have been processed and STRS-Ohio members have saved nearly \$136,000 while the health care fund has retained about \$200,000.

The Public Pension Coordinating Council recently presented STRS with the 2008 Public Pension Standards Award for Funding and Administration in recognition of meeting professional standards set forth in the Public Pension Standards.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### National

In the White House proposal titled, "Financial Regulatory Reform: A New Foundation," there is language in support of strengthening the Defined Benefit System. Under the section that pertains to promoting retirement security, the proposal states, "There are a number of other critical issues in the area of retirement security that need to be addressed. We should explore ways to encourage the use of automatic feature to increase participation and improve saving and investment behavior in 401(K) plans, and restore more lifetime income throughout the retirement system – and defined benefit plans, defined contribution plans, and IRAs. We should aim to reduce costs, such as investment fees. We should investigate how to better preserve savings for retirement, reducing leakage from retirement plans. Finally, we should explore means of strengthening the Defined Benefit Plan system."

### State

At its July meeting, the ORSC (Ohio Retirement Study Council) reviewed HB 177, which would prohibit STRS from paying a Performance-based Incentive (PBI) when the system as a whole has a negative return on investments for the fiscal year. ORSC staff recommended that HB 177 not be recommended to the General Assembly for adoption based on the precedent it would establish with respect to the Legislature's involvement in matters of Board discretion. A majority of the Council voted to accept the ORSC staff's recommendation.

## IN MEMORIAM

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

**Aiken**, Warren Raymond, August 25, Veterinary Medicine, age 93 \* **Baum**, Walter, August 21, Clinical Medicine, age 90 \* **Beery**, L. Merl, Food Industry Council, age 62 \* **Ballock**, Gail A., August 27, Medical Center, age 70 \* **Craine**, John, August 29, University Extension County Operations, age 85 \* **Garapic**, Christopher, September 2, Printing Services, age 52 \* **Jossem**, E. Leonard, August 29, Physics, age 91 \* **Jones**, Fay, August 25, Research Foundation, age 66 \* **Limbird**, James H., August 16, OSU Extension, age 87 \* **Sopko**, Agnes, August 6, Preventive Medicine, age 84 \* **Wall**, Debora Gene West, August 24, Medical Center Business Office, age 89 \* **Warren**, Betty Lee, August 1, Research Foundation, age 88 \* **Williams**, Benjamin, August 27, Dentistry, age 87 \* **Winger**, Krista Gage, August 10, Arts and Sciences, age 32

*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.*

## STRS and OPERS Long-term Fiduciary and Financial Plans

Ohio law requires state pension systems to amortize any unfunded liability over a period of not more than 30 years. (The unfunded liability is the difference between the accrued liability and the accrued assets.) If the amortization period exceeds 30 years at any time, the system must present a reduction plan to the ORSC (Ohio Retirement Study Council). Both STRS-Ohio and OPERS (along with the other state retirement systems) submitted their plans to the ORSC for consideration as required prior to September 9. ORSC will meet October 14 and eventually make recommendations to the Ohio General Assembly. Here is a summary of the plans which the two systems proposed.

### STRS

In our current situation, STRS has the cash flow to pay present pension benefits when they are due. In today's economy, the value of preserving the security of the Defined Benefit Plan to STRS members is apparent. Because of reduced levels, investment assets plus future expected investment earnings plus contributions (which are 10 percent from members and 14 percent from employers) minus benefit payments will eventually equal a shortfall. Unless changes are made, STRS will eventually be unable to pay future benefits.

Following many months of discussion with input from STRS members, the Board unanimously approved a multifaceted plan. Board members are fully aware that these changes impact all STRS members. The details of the recommended plan are:

- Contribution Component. Increase member and employer contributions by a total of 5 percent by July 1, 2020. Ultimately, members would contribute 12.5 percent; employers, 16.5 percent.
- FAS (Final Average Salary) Component. Base final average salary on five highest years of earnings, beginning August 1, 2015.
- Retirement Eligibility Component. Beginning August 1, 2015, members may retire and receive an unreduced benefit at any age with 35 years service; age 60 with 30 years; or age 65 with 5 years. Members may retire earlier with an actuarially reduced benefit at age 55 with 30 years, or age 60 with 5 years. Members who meet age and service eligibility for service retirement as of July 1, 2015, under the current rule retain their eligibility.
- Benefit Formula Component. Benefit formula is 2.2 percent per year for the first 30 years; 2.5 percent per year thereafter, beginning August 1, 2015. The 35-year enhanced benefit is no longer needed to

encourage teachers to work longer and is eliminated. Those who have 30 years of service; who are age 55 with 25 years of service; or who are age 60 with 5 years of service as of July 1, 2015, receive the greater of: (a) the benefit as of July 1, 2015, under the current formula; OR (b) the benefit upon retirement under the new formula.

- COLA (Cost-of-living Adjustment). Beginning July 1, 2011, current retirees receive an annual 2 percent COLA. Members retiring July 1, 2011, or later receive a 1.5 percent COLA each year.

### OPERS

OPERS is within the 30-year requirement. Its plan did contain some changes, however, and is similar to, but not identical with, the STRS plan. Details are:

- Contribution Component. No change in the current 10 percent employee and 14 percent employer contribution.
- FAS (Final Average Salary) Component. Base final average salary on five highest years of earnings (now three highest years).
- Retirement Eligibility Component. Members may retire with full pension and health care benefits at age 55 and 32 years of service (currently, 30 years service); or at age 67 (instead of 65) or older with 5 years service. The minimum age to retire and receive health care would be 55.
- Benefit Formula Component. Benefit formula is 2.2 percent per year of FAS; the increase to 2.5 percent would be after 35 years of service instead of 30.
- COLA (Cost-of-living adjustment). Current retirees receive an annual 3 percent COLA and that would be maintained except when the Consumer Price Index increase is less than 3 percent.

The plans accomplish the goal of preserving the Defined Benefit Plan for Ohio's public educators and other retired state employees. STRS and OPERS members need not worry about outliving their benefits. These benefits continue to support local economies (more than \$3.6 billion are paid to Ohio residents alone); the taxes paid on these benefits can also continue to support local, state, and federal governments. A viable Defined Benefit Plan also reduces the likelihood that STRS and OPERS members will have to turn to public assistance, Medicaid, or social services in retirement.

Both the STRS and OPERS Boards will continue to review regularly the actuarial valuations of their

*Continued on Page 6*

## Other News

### WELCOME NEW RETIREES

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

**Angel**, Eve A., Cancer Hospital and Research Institute \* **Benecke**, Mary E., International Studies \* **Bennett**, Harry J., Facilities \* **Bracy**, Deborah L., University Hospitals \* **Carpenter**, David E., Radiation Medicine \* **Clay**, Edwin R., WOSU Stations \* **Collins**, William E., University Hospitals \* **Craddolph**, Janice M., University Hospitals East \* **Crusey**, Susan W., OSUE County Operations \* **Distel**, Donna M., University Libraries \* **Draughon**, Ada Y., Women's Studies \* **Fish**, David G., Office of Information and Technology \* **Franke**, Nancy L., University Hospitals \* **Griffin**, Gail A., Graduate School Administration \* **Hale**, Janice M., Cancer Hospital and Research Institute \* **Holman**, James R., OARDC \* **Hudson**, William M., Food Services \* **Howie**, Yvonne E., Harding Hospital \* **Jones**, Archie L., Facilities \* **Jones**, Tamara L., Spanish and Portuguese \* **Kindall**, John O., Vet Teaching Hospital \* **Kitchen**, Clarice A., Health Sciences Library \* **Knowlton**, Virginia A., ATI Academic Affairs \* **Martin**, Connie J., Ohio Supercomputer Center \* **McCleery**, William A., Development Administration \* **McClenathan**, Mary A., Internal Medicine \* **McClenathan**, Robert E., Facilities \* **Morris**, Bonnie J., Facilities \* **Morris**, Harvey, Facilities \* **Reeder**, Douglas D., Ross Heart Hospital \* **Rogers**, Susan G., University Hospitals \* **Schanbacher**, Floyd L., Animal Sciences \* **Schmitt**, Patricia E., Cancer Hospital and Research Institute \* **Scholl**, Randall L., Plant Cell and Molecular Biology \* **Selvanayagam**, Sakunthala R., Office of Financial Services \* **Tenson**, Joe C., University Hospitals \* **Westfall**, Brice J., Athletics \* **Wilton**, Linda D., University Hospitals \* **Yutzey**, John A., FCOB Administration \* **Zweben**, Stuart H., Engineering Administration

*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.*

#### CONGRATULATIONS

OSURA members Norma Harper and James Portman received Honorable Mention awards as 2009 Outstanding Senior Volunteers: Harper for her work with the Make-a-Wish Foundation of Greater Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana; and Portman for his service at the Wexner Center for the Arts.

#### SHE WAS ONE OF US

Gertrude Baines, the world's oldest person when she died in April at age 115, was retired from The Ohio State University. She had three "tours of duty" at OSU: 1928-1930; 1940-1941; and 1947 until her retirement in 1962. She worked as a maid (most of the time was classified Domestic Worker I) at Baker Hall, in Men's Residence Halls, and possibly other buildings.

Baines was born April 4, 1894, in Shellman, Georgia, when Grover Cleveland was president and the U.S. flag had only 44 stars. Her father was the son of slaves.

She received the title of longest living human being in January 2009, upon the death of Maria de Jesus, of Portugal, who was also 115. Next in line for the world title is 114-year-old Kama Chinen of Japan.

#### LONG-TERM FIDUCIARY AND FINANCIAL PLANS

*Continued from Page 5*

pension funds and their health care funds to monitor their progress over time. The Boards will continue to work with constituent groups as discussions continue with the Legislature.

As has been said by several different people, it is evident that the systems can not invest themselves out of this situation, but must increase contributions and decrease benefits.

The five pension systems presented their plans to the ORSC on September 9. ORSC members had questions of each of the plans as they were presented individually. There appeared to be concern about the statuses of the health plans of each of the systems while discussions of the plans were held to a minimum. Each system had a different approach to take care of its respective funding problems. The presentation on September 9 is only the first step in the process and the conversations will continue again in October.

#### UNIVERSITY RESEARCH STUDIES

##### STILL NEED PARTICIPANTS

Contact Paula Smiles (614-293-3644 or paula.smiles@osumc.edu) if you can participate in one of these research studies: Flu Vaccine, Type 2 Diabetes Research, Atrial Fibrillation. See August newsletter for details.

## 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.

### OCTOBER 8 (THURSDAY)

#### PHOTO SOCIETY

Members' best recent images. Limit 8 images per member. If digital images are presented they must be e-mailed to [jhuston1@columbus.rr.com](mailto:jhuston1@columbus.rr.com) prior to the meeting; images will not be loaded at the meeting.  
Time and Place: 5:15 p.m., cocktails; 6:00 p.m., dinner; 7:30 p.m. program at the OSU Faculty Club. Non-members are welcome.

Arranger: Richard Hill (*Photographic Society*)

### OCTOBER 14 (WEDNESDAY) \*

#### STERNWHEELERS AND OHIO RIVERS (MARIETTA, OHIO)

*Challenge Level 2*

EVENT FULL – WAIT LIST

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

Return: 5:00 p.m.

Arrangers: Hazel Benson and Rose Yonka (*Travel Committee*)

### OCTOBER 15 (THURSDAY)

#### LUNCH BUNCH

Jeff Kaplan, senior vice president and special assistant to the president, The Ohio State University, will speak on the University's "Knowledge Advancement Plan." Ohio State has begun a comprehensive master plan that will provide a flexible vision to guide the University's physical development around the mission and aspirations identified by the president. The scope of planning includes academics and research, arts, athletics and recreation, the medical district, residence life, the Olentangy River, sustainability, and transportation and parking.

Time and Place: 11:15 a.m. (lunch will be served at 11:30), Buckeye Hall of Fame Café, 1421 Olentangy River Road

Cost: \$10 cash for sit-down lunch

Arranger: Virginia Gordon (*Social Committee*)

### OCTOBER 16 (FRIDAY)

#### SWAN LAKE (BALLETMET SENIOR DRESS REHEARSAL)

*Swan Lake* features the inspiring music of Tchaikovsky and, in this World Premier production, new choreography by the notable David Nixon. It is a story which crosses the world of magic and mystical creatures (the swans are beautiful maidens at night) with that of the real world, and shows that betrayal and power can be conquered by love and forgiveness.

Depart: Meet at Fawcett Center at 9:30 a.m. to carpool to Ohio Theatre for 11:00 A.M. performance

Return: 1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$14 (ticket) It would be considerate to offer driver some remuneration for parking and gas.

Arranger: Don Cooper (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

### OCTOBER 21 (WEDNESDAY)

#### BOOK CLUB

Our book for October is *Team of Rivals; The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*, by Doris Kearns Goodwin. Lincoln used his rivals, each angry at losing to him in the election of 1860, to help him preserve the Union. He gave each an important position, listened to their advice, used their talents, and kept them close.

This book will serve for a lively discussion, not just of genius in politics, but of useful ideas for managing in business and society.

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

Arranger: Lee Hill (*Book Club SIG*)

### OCTOBER 21 (WEDNESDAY)

#### PAGLIACCI (OPERA COLUMBUS)

*Challenge Level 1*

Leoncavallo's famous opera tells the tragic story of Canio who finds out that his wife, Nedda, is having an affair with the young and handsome Silvio. Tonio, friend of Canio and in love with Nedda as well, has informed Canio of the affair. Canio must be the

"clown" and go on with the show, but tragic consequences ensue as reality and theatre blur in this verissimo shocker. Contains perhaps the most famous aria in opera.

Depart: 5:30 p.m. to carpool from Fawcett Center (meet in lobby just beyond front desk)

Return: Approximately 10:00 p.m.

Cost: \$12 (ticket) It would be considerate to offer driver remuneration to help with parking and gas.

Arranger: Don Cooper (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

### **OCTOBER 27 (TUESDAY)**

#### **TERTULIA BREAKFAST**

Good food, good conversation, good camaraderie!

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

Cost: Breakfast on your own

Arranger: William Riley (*Tertulia Breakfast SIG*)

### **OCTOBER 28 (WEDNESDAY)**

#### **BRIDGE GROUP**

A good game of Bridge and great conversation.

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

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

### **OCTOBER 29 (THURSDAY)**

#### **COLUMBUS CULTURAL ARTS CENTER TOUR**

*Challenge Level 1*

We will join a weekly event, "Conversations and Coffee." A Columbus area artist will explain his or her work and respond to questions. Box lunches will be served. The Cultural Arts Center offers classes in media from ceramics to sculpture and metalsmithing to painting. There will be a tour of the classes after the noon "Conversations and Coffee" which will give you an overview of the Cultural Arts Center and its classes which are available to all, from beginners to advanced. This was a successful and enjoyable trip last year.

Depart: 11:00 a.m. from Fawcett Center

Return: 2:00 p.m.

Cost: \$11 (box lunch, car pool, free admission)

Refund Deadline: October 20

Arrangers: Tom Hubbard and Tom Sweeney (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

### **NOVEMBER 8 (SUNDAY)**

#### **CANTILENA CONCERTS 1: BRASIL GUITAR DUO IN CLASSICAL AND BRAZILIAN MUSIC**

*Challenge Level 1*

Come hear the vision in music and art at Huntington Hall, Capital University. *Classical Guitar Magazine* had this to say about the Brasil Guitar duo: "The maturity of musicianship and the technical virtuosity displayed... is simply outstanding."

Depart: 1:00 p.m. Carpool from Fawcett Center

Return: Approximately 4:30 or 5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10 (adult ticket; free for children 12 and under)

*See Calendar on Page 3 for registration procedure.*

Arranger: Eileen Davis (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

### **NOVEMBER 29 (SUNDAY)**

#### **CANTILENA CONCERTS 2:**

#### **HOLIDAY CELEBRATION CONCERT**

*Challenge Level 1*

Enjoy the Jones/Norton Duo (flute and harp) with seasonal favorites, The Columbus Children's Choir in Robert Kapilow's *Polar Express*, and a group of spirituals by soloist Eric McKeever, baritone. The musical version of *Polar Express* follows the well-known story and is charming, elegant, and easy to listen to. Bring the grandkids for a fantastic holiday treat!

Depart: 1:00 p.m. Carpool from Fawcett Center

Return: Approximately 4:30 or 5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10 (adult ticket; free for children 12 and under)

*See Calendar on Page 3 for registration procedure.*

Arranger: Eileen Davis (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

### **DECEMBER 4 (FRIDAY) \***

#### **LA COMEDIA DINNER THEATRE**

#### **(SPRINGBORO, OHIO)**

*Challenge Level 2*

Treat yourself to a delicious buffet lunch at La Comedia Dinner Theatre. Then enjoy the *La Comedia Christmas Spectacular*, a musical journey that features spectacular dancing, fun-loving characters, and Santa Claus himself.

Depart: 8:45 a.m. from Fawcett Center

Return: 5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$59 (motorcoach transportation, buffet lunch, theatre ticket, bus driver tip)

Registration Closes: October 9

Refund Deadline: October 9

Arrangers: Barb Preston and Sylvia Jackson (*Travel Committee*)

### **DECEMBER 9 (WEDNESDAY)**

#### **HOLIDAY BUFFET**

*Challenge Level 1*

Join new and old friends for the Holiday Buffet. Bring a favorite dish (with serving utensil) to share and your own table service. Beverages will be provided. The White Elephant Exchange will be reinstated (value not to exceed \$10), so bring a gift and take another home. Call the OSURA office (614-292-2916) by December 4 to let the committee know you are coming.

Time and Place: 11:30 a.m., Antrim Park Shelter House, 5800 Olentangy River Road

Cost: Bring a dish to share

Arranger: Mary Anne Herbst (*Social Committee*)

**FEBRUARY 5 (FRIDAY) \***  
**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (BALLEMET SENIOR DRESS REHEARSAL)**

*Challenge Level 1*

Frolic in the forest for romance and laughter. Adventure abounds in this comedic ballet based on Shakespeare's story. Enjoy the antics of Puck, Bottom, fairies, and four young lovers as love is turned upside down. Mendelssohn's bewitching score (which he wrote at age 17) will leave you spellbound. Also in the program is a one-act world-premier work that blends Eastern and Western cultures.

Depart: 9:30 a.m., carpool from Fawcett Center (ballet starts at 11:00 a.m.)

Return: 1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$14 (ticket) It would be appropriate to offer driver some remuneration to help with gasoline and parking.

Arranger: Don Cooper (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

**FEBRUARY 10 (WEDNESDAY) \***  
**ROMEO AND JULIET (OPERA COLUMBUS)**

*Challenge Level 1*

In *Romeo et Juliette* two star-crossed lovers defy fate, family and society as they pursue a secret love. The

good friar, Laurent, marries the couple, but through a series of unfortunate circumstances, their love ends perilously. The opera features some of Gounot's most lyrical music, and captures the themes of love, fate, light, and dark in this most famous of love stories.

Depart: 5:30 p.m., carpool from Fawcett Center -- Meet in lobby just beyond front desk.

(opera starts at 7:00 p.m.)

Return: Approximately 10:00 p.m.

Cost: \$12 (ticket) It would be thoughtful to offer driver some remuneration to help with parking.

Refund Deadline: February 3

Arranger: Don Cooper (*Cultural Arts Committee*)

**APRIL 17-25 \***  
**SPRINGTIME TULIP RIVER CRUISE**  
**FEATURING DUTCH AND BELGIAN WATERWAYS**

*Challenge Level 3*

EVENT CLOSED

Depart: TBA April 17

Return: TBA April 25

Arranger: Betty Maynard (*Travel Committee*)

**OSU LIBRARY CARDS**

Many OSURA members have called the office to inquire about OSU library cards. This is one of the benefits of retired faculty/staff with 10 years of continuous service at The Ohio State University. (See Page 11 of *Retirement Handbook: Retirement Information and Resources for Ohio State Retirees.*)

You will need a BUCK ID card. Take it to the Thompson Library circulation desk during normal school term hours: 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 midnight, Monday through Thursday; 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Friday; 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Saturday; or 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight Sunday. Any staff at the desk should be able to answer questions and work with you to get a card.

If you do not have a BuckID, one can be obtained for \$5, as follows:

- If you retired in 1997, or later, go directly to: Buck ID Card Services, Room 219 Lincoln Tower, 1800 Cannon Drive (614-292-0400)
- If you retired prior to 1997, contact: Benefits/Retirement Services, OSU Office of Human Resources, 1590 High Street, Suite 300 (614-292-1050 or 1-800-678-6010 or [benefits@hr.osu.edu](mailto:benefits@hr.osu.edu)) and request an authorization form that you then must take to the Buck ID Card Services office in Lincoln Tower (see above).

According to library personnel, if you do not have a BUCK ID and can not obtain one before coming to the library, you will need a letter from the HR specialist in the department from which you retired, confirming your retirement status.

OSU staff and faculty retirees are eligible for library privileges. OSURA members would not be eligible by virtue of their membership (no surviving spouses, associate members, etc.); only actual retirees of OSU and the affiliated entities (Alumni Society, etc.) are eligible.

**BIG 10 RETIREES**

*Continued from Page 2*

One final note, besides the fellowship and collegiality, the music was wonderful! We were treated to a great brass quartet and a really good jazz trio. Both were local groups affiliated with another national network of musical opportunities for seniors called "New Horizons International Music Association." Designed not for the pros, it is primarily for us folks who loved being in a group – but haven't touched a horn since high school. I am hoping some OSURAns may want a new Special Interest Group.

- Nancy Wardwell



RETIREES ASSOCIATION  
OSURA

OCTOBER 2009  
NEWSLETTER

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## University News

*University News is compiled from OSU Today, the University web site, and The Columbus Dispatch.*

Recreational Sports is launching a new Ohio State Swim Club that develops swimmers for local, national, and international competition. The team is comprised of elementary through high school students from the greater Columbus area.

The American Language Program offers non-credit classes for those who want to improve their English skills but who cannot study English full-time in the intensive program. A variety of classes are taught every quarter. Classes are taught on the OSU campus with 25 hours of instruction.

A substantial part of President Gordon Gee's plan to move Ohio State from excellence to eminence is an increased focus on the University's global activities. Following President Gee's 12-day trip to India, the President's and Provost's Council on Strategic Internationalization presented a set of specific strategies in June to enhance Ohio State's already substantial presence around the world.

In a pre-game ceremony at the OSU-Navy football game September 5, Navy reservist Glenn Welling, an Ohio State University Extension educator, received the Bronze Star for his service in Iraq. During his service in Iraq, Welling was Command Master Chief for a Navy Provisional Detainee Battalion, in charge of personal and professional development for 450 sailors in the battalion. The battalion was first stationed at Camp Bucca, the world's largest detention facility, located in southern Iraq. Welling's Bronze Star recognizes the fact that during his command, there was not a single incident of misconduct or abuse of detainees.

Also at that game, former linebacker Chris Spielman was recognized for his induction into the College Football Hall of Fame, and Senator John Glenn and his wife, Annie, dotted the "I" in Script Ohio.