

Emeriti Association

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News

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June 18, 2009

“Technology and Entrepreneurism in Our Region: The Rural Acceleration Model”

John Glazer

Director, TechGROWTH Ohio

(Working out of the OU Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs)



After an early career as a university teacher, John Glazer served as the long-standing President and CEO of Little Professor Book Centers, Inc., a national bookstore franchising company and the largest organization of independent bookstores in the U.S. Mr. Glazer eventually acquired the company, repositioning it as Praxis Bookstore Group to serve a wider range of community bookstores outside the franchise umbrella. He has been involved in a number of economic development projects both in the Detroit area and internationally. He has worked with founders and entrepreneurs to start up enterprises, finance them, and initiate the training, marketing, and service programs to help them succeed.

EMERITI BOARD 2008-2009

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Tours & Activities	Joe Essman
Elections	Catherine Brown
Historian	Chuck Carlson

Thursday, June 18, 2009
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Luncheon Menu

*Tossed Salad, Spinach Salad, Coleslaw
Beef Stroganoff
Roasted Turkey
Rice with Pine Nuts
Medley of Carrots, Broccoli & Cauliflower
Rolls & Butter
Assorted Desserts/Fruit
Beverages*



BALLROOM

\$13.00

RESERVATIONS must be made to attend the luncheon. You **MUST** call Ruth Nostrant at 593-5194 by **Friday, June 12**. You can add your name(s) to the Regular Attendees List and not have to call each month unless you cannot attend. You may pay by cash or by check made payable to OU Emeriti.

A Message From The President - ED BAUM



Hi Fellow Emeriti,

June signals the end of the academic (and emeriti) year. It is a time for us both to reflect on what we have done this past year and what may be in store for us in the year to come.

At the May luncheon I noted several activities of members of our association: ten luncheons with programs ranging from prison ministry to the state of the university; ten newsletters; volunteers for the Kennedy Museum, the Dairy Barn, and the Emeriti Park; a special seminar on taxes and how changes might affect you; a summer social; and active representation in the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER - thank you Ted and Chuck).

So, what for the coming year? Many of the same activities, perhaps another special workshop or seminar, a summer social, and monthly luncheon meetings. Marg Thomas, the new Vice President in charge of programs is busy developing program ideas. Already we have on tap Jim Schaus, O.U. Athletic Director who could not be with us this month, and President McDavis for May. Marg would like some of your ideas also. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please send them to her at thomasm@ohio.edu.

I hope to see many of you at the June luncheon. But if I don't, let me wish you a great summer. And, I do hope that you will join us at Konneker Center on Wednesday, July 1, following the band concert for our summer social.

Ed

Report on the May 19, 2009 "Engagements and Actions for Public Retirement Systems," Sponsored by the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER)

Present were eighty-seven individuals from ten of the eleven Ohio four-year universities, along with representatives of five professional associations and four pension systems including the Illinois State Universities Annuitants Association. The Conference began at 9:30 AM and finished at 3:15 PM. There were two keynote speeches in the morning focusing on coalitions among state pension systems and the economic effectiveness of defined benefit pension systems. In the afternoon, two panel discussions focused on pension system concerns at the national level and pension system concerns in Ohio especially compared with the Illinois University retirement system. This report will focus on the highlights of the first of the two keynote addresses. A more detailed account of the other address and the panels will be sent to members of the Emeriti Association listserv.

Executive Board Discussion May 21, 2009

- OCHER
- Tours & Activities
- Volunteers
- Endowment Funds
- Life Member
Certificate of Deposit
- Assets: \$41,670.17
- Membership: 321

Terri Bierdeman, Director of Governmental Relations for STRS, delivered one of two key-note addresses describing the work and organization of "National Coalitions of State Pension Systems." Bierdeman emphasized: 1. That a few letters to elected representatives can be effective; that masses of letters, e-mails, cards, etc. get weighed rather than evaluated. 2. That Senator Voinovich maintains his vow to block mandating social security for public employees; that Peter R. Orszag, President Obama's budget director, has some years ago declared mandating social security for public employees was a "no brainer." We lose Voinovich in two years. 3. Bierdeman made it clear that STRS and its allies in the important pension lobbying groups are engaged in the complex issues facing pension systems making sure that if we need to act, we'll get the information and direction we need to act quickly and effectively. There are three organizations with which STRS is involved that provide extensive research and position papers about pension issues and efforts. They are: The National Council on Teacher Retirement (NCTR), www.nctr.org; The National Association of State Retirement Administrators (NASRA), www.nasra.org; and the Council of Institutional Investors (CII), www.cii.org.

- Ted Foster

HIGHLIGHTING SOME EMERITI ACTIVITIES September 2008 - June 2009 *(Chuck Carlson)*

Luncheon Programs: The luncheons and programs continue to be an important part of the Emeriti Association. The first luncheon meeting was Sept. 18 with Dr. Mark Phillips speaking about and demonstrating, *How and Why I Compose*. On Oct. 16 Langron Mahechani & Dr. Mary Anne Flournoy talked about *Building Self-Reliance and Caring for Aids Orphans in Zimbabwe*. On Nov. 20, Dr. Gifford B. Doxsee discussed *The Kairos Prison Ministry*. The Athens Music Club presented on Dec. 18 *Holiday Music* featuring the *Renaissance Singers*. On Jan. 15, Stan Haehl & Larry Waters presented *Help Finding Your Way In The Cancer Maze: the ACS Patient Navigator & ACS Services*. Then on Feb. 19, Edward E. Pauley talked about the *Kennedy Museum of Art and the Visitor Experience*. The Geigers, Alan and Sandy presented the program on Mar. 19, entitled *The Killing Fields: The Rise of the University of Cambodia*. An Emeriti trio, Flournoy, Ploghoft & Gagliano shared readings under the title, *The Magic of Poetry*, on Apr. 16. President McDavis helped “pin” the new Emeriti on May 21 and talked about *The State of the University & Prospects for the Future*. The final luncheon meeting will be held on June 18 and the speaker will be John Glazer talking about *TechGrowth Ohio*. Organized by Program Chair, Felix Gagliano.

Emeriti Deaths for the year reported in the Newsletter:

(Sept.) Virginia C. Woolley, James Fales, Willard H. Elsbree; (Oct.) Lucile Jennings; (Jan.) Frances Fuller; (Feb.) Richard I. Miller; (May) John James Arnold; (June) Vera Smith.

OCHER Meetings: Sept. 16, Mar. 17, and May 19, held in Columbus at the STRS building. The final meeting was an OCHER Conference, with over 70 in attendance. The theme: *Engagements and Actions for Public Retirement Systems*. OU delegates were Ed Baum and Chuck Carlson. Ted Foster served as the OCHER President.

Newsletter Informational Experiments: Table Talk, Looking Over Your Shoulder, Anniversaries, Non-Association Emeriti Activities. Continuation under advisement for next year’s Newsletter.

Committee Activities: *Benefits Committee* about Tax Seminar on Feb. 16; *Election Committee* 2009-2010 Association nominees; *Finance Committee* recommendations about creating and using accounts in the OU Foundation; *Volunteer Services Committee* soliciting Emeriti volunteers for Dairy Barn and Kennedy Museum; *Emeriti Park Committee* working with OU Administration about security lighting, and creating a Park work group; and *Membership Committee* working with Administration to develop procedures for new Emeriti Recognition Program.

New Friends of the Emeriti: (Nov.) Pat Light, (Apr.) Howard Federspiel.

RECOLLECTIONS

From the Archives of
the Department of Incidental Intelligence

It was that euphoric increment of time between the completion of all the requirements for the degree and the swishing of the tassel and a group of soon to be minted alumni had gathered at the student center.

The discussion centered on the brightness of the future. The initial object of achievement was to enter the new car market, then progressed to houses, to building a better mouse trap, to building a Taj Mahal, or at least a Taj. One member was quiet but obviously anxious to enter the fray. He finally said “You guys are pikers. I’m working on my second million.” He then deflated and said “That first million was so tough that I gave up on it!”

To the reader - What million are you working on?

(Ed Russ)



In Memoriam VERA SMITH

Vera Louise Smith, of Athens, passed away on Friday May 29, 2009, at her home with her family after a sudden fatal illness.

She married Robert Dean Smith on June 26, 1955 and moved to Athens in September of that year. A graduate of Kearney State College with a BFA in Music Education, she taught music in a number of area schools culminating in a 20-year position as music and choir director for Athens Middle School and High School. She was always willing to contribute her time and boundless energy to anything involving music. She held offices in and was an important contributor to a number of professional and community organizations relating to her career. Some of her projects included helping with music programs at Meigs Middle School, directing The Ohio Honors Chorale; directing the Athens Renaissance Singers, playing tenor recorder in the Athens Recorder Consort and singing in the OU Choral Union in addition to a number of church choirs over the years.

She is survived by her husband, a daughter, two sons and their spouses, 8 grandchildren, and 2 brothers.

CURRENT NEWS OF EMERITI

Professor Emeritus Bruce Ergood has just returned from south eastern Honduras where for the past three months he and his wife, Jane, have introduced a successful – and sustainable – egg producing program in six mountain villages. Bruce has been a volunteer with the Episcopal Church there since hurricane Mitch (1998) and when offered a teaching position at the Escuela Agricola Panamericana in Zamorano realized that he could combine the teaching with the work they were doing training and sustaining rural health workers.. As a Latinamericanist with work experience in Mexico, Argentina, Ecuador, Belize, and Honduras, he was able to present information useful to a bi-lingual international group of students studying agriculture and food production. Zamorano, as this university is commonly called, is the largest agricultural college in Central America, serving students from over 12 countries. Its beautiful campus is located 29 km east of Tegucigalpa, the nation’s capital, where it trains over 500 hundred students in animal and food science and research. Ergood taught in a relatively new career major: Socio-economic Development and Environment, and has been invited to return next winter. “It is a stimulating challenge to teach here,” he commented, “but it certainly helps when you can speak Spanish.”

At the Russ College of Engineering and Technology Spring Awards Banquet, **Joe Essman** was honored with a special surprise award from TEAMS - JETS in appreciation of his having helped over 200,000 high school students experience engineering.

Julia Nehls was chosen this year for O’Bleness Memorial Hospital’s annual special volunteer award. The Excellence in Service award is given to recognize hospital volunteers who exceed expectations for commitment and service.

SPECIAL EVENT

Wednesday, July 1
Wine & Cheese Reception
at Konneker Alumni Center
following Concert on the Green

BOOK CLUTTER?

Do you have more books than you--or your children--will ever read? Put them to good use through the Friends of the Ohio University Libraries quarterly book sales (\$5000 a year to the libraries).

To learn how, call 593-2702. Or call Art Woolley, 592-2298, to have them picked up this summer.

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