



A newsletter from the Ohio University Emeriti Association

June 21, 2012

## OUR EMERITI PARK - PAST, PRESENT &amp; FUTURE

Charles Carlson, Joe Tucker &amp; Richard Dean

*(Presented by Richard Dean)*

Joe Tucker &amp; Richard Dean

The title of our last program of this academic year speaks for itself. Each of three Emeriti members who have been very involved with the park will talk about a different era – Chuck Carlson speaking about the past, Joe Tucker about the present, and Richard Dean about the future. Dean is also introducing the program inasmuch as he is the current Emeriti Park chair and also the person who suggested taking a good look at our park.

Carlson retired from the School of Interpersonal Communication in 1989. Almost as soon as he joined the Emeriti Association, he took the job of vice president and program chair. He went on to become what was the longest-serving Emeriti president in modern times (1992-2000). Also in 1992, he became the chief fundraiser for the Emeriti Park, which was only an idea at the time. The first big step was helping to raise the \$100,000 needed to make the park a reality. He has written a history of the Park and has written a pamphlet, "Recollections," which was reproduced and distributed by the Alumni Association. He has been awarded the Distinguished Service Awards of both the Emeriti Association and the University Foundation.

Tucker retired from the Political Science Department in 1997, after having served as professor, department chair, associate provost for lifelong learning, and associate provost again (for another provost) in charge of academic matters. After he retired, he began almost immediately to serve on various Emeriti committees. He became vice president and program chair for two years, then president for two years. He was chair of the Park Committee for one of the longest tenures in that position after stepping down from the presidency. He and his wife Jan still work there every Wednesday during park season.

Dean, who retired from the School of Communication Studies in 2003, succeeded Tucker as Park chair. This is his second year at the job, and he has worked hard not only to gather a good team to work every Wednesday morning, but to straighten records and make plans to beautify or benefit the park in other ways. He will conclude this month's Emeriti program with a look into the future, including finishing the lighting project, developing means for future memorials, establishing an advisory committee, and working on other future improvements, such as more benches (especially on the gazebo), more trash containers, a garden on the east side of the lake, groundhog removal, and construction of a patio at the spillway.

After these speakers have told us about the Park's past, present, and future, questions and comments will be welcome.

## EMERITI BOARD 2011-2012

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Emeriti Park	Richard Dean
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Past President	

## EMERITI LUNCHEON



BALLROOM

Thursday,  
June 21, 2012  
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

**\$14.00**

**RESERVATIONS** must be made to attend the luncheon. If you are not on the list of regular attendees, you **MUST** call Ruth Nostrant at 593-5194 by Friday, **June 15**. You may pay by cash or by check made payable to OU Emeriti.

Fresh Fruit Salad  
Watermelon Salad  
**M** Tuna Salad  
**E** Pasta Salad  
**N** Soup of the Day  
**U** Salmon with Mango Salsa  
Roasted Squash  
Assorted Cakes  
Beverages



## A Message From The President - GEORGE WECKMAN

Poor Rip Van Winkle! He slept through a revolution. We don't want to do that. We must be awake, alert, and attentive to revolutions, especially changes in our association.

I exaggerate, of course. As in most revolutions, things are not going to be as different as one might fear or hope. However, as so much in modern life is new, as means of communication, especially, are transformed, we are forced to change or be left in the dust. So, one of the pillars of our organization, the monthly (except summer) newsletter is changing. It'll be electronic instead of paper as of October.

The paper newsletter is expensive, as much as \$400 an issue. That is a big chunk of our expenses, a luxury that might not be worth it. So we are already making each issue available on line, and starting next Fall that will be its primary form. We will honor the investment of those who have contributed to our endowment fund as lifetime members by sending them paper copies if they request them. Others can have paper copies sent to them for a payment of \$15 a year to our association.

The big advantage of this shift to electronic communication is the inclusion of all emeriti. We will transmit all the newsletters to all the emeriti for whom we have email addresses. Also, these savings allow us to eliminate the annual dues for the emeriti who are not lifetime members. We will continue to include in our association spouses and partners of emeriti, even after the death of the emeriti member.

What should you do to join the revolution?

First, make sure we have a correct email and postal address for you.

Second, let us know if you wish to have paper newsletters sent to you.

Third, if you have not already done so, support us and the University by sending us a check for \$125 or more made out to the Ohio University Foundation to become a lifetime member. For dual membership, adding a spouse or partner, write the check for \$150 or more.

Fourth, if you are not, or do not become, a lifetime member and you want paper newsletters sent to you this year, send us a \$15 check made out to the Ohio University Emeriti Association.

Fifth, send all this information, money, and requests to:

Emeriti Association  
P.O. Box 517  
Athens, OH 45701

Or: [emeriti@ohio.edu](mailto:emeriti@ohio.edu)

Have a pleasant summer. See you at the Konneker Alumni Center on Wednesday, July 11, after the Concert under the Elms (about 8 PM).

*George*

### Notes on Talk by William Beale at the May 17th Emeriti Luncheon "What You Should be Demanding of Technology"

Engineers have an opportunity to make things better. The question is, are they and, if not, what should we demand of them.

If you start with the "big picture," you can place "things" and "institutions" along a scale from very bad to very good. Too many people work on things that are negative: bigger cars, nuclear subs, cocaine. All their energy should be directed toward positive things: "green" houses, electric cars, solar energy. We need to shift our emphasis from negative to positive contributions. We must demand that engineers and others see the "big picture" and stop doing things that injure the environment.

*Ed Baum*

**FROM THE BENEFITS CHAIR**

In mid-May the Ohio Senate passed a bipartisan defined benefits pension bill for STRS members as well as a separate PERS pension bill. (STRS does offer a defined contribution plan for STRS members as well as a hybrid plan.) Senator Niehaus (R), President of the Senate, and Sen. Kearney (D), Minority Leader, also have written a joint letter published as an opinion column in the Cleveland Plain Dealer encouraging the Ohio House to pass the bills quickly in order to avert further damage to the financial integrity of the state pension systems. I have written Rep. Debbie Phillips to encourage passage.

The Senate bill will result in several changes to the pension plan. For those already retired, the major change will be an adjustment in the COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment). In fiscal year 2013 (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014) no COLA will be made. Thereafter, the annual COLA will be 2% instead of the current 3%. (Salary deductions for currently active teachers will rise incrementally 4% over the next 4 years.)

The Health Care Program will make several adjustments that will affect Emeriti members: An Emergency Room visit will cost \$50 out of pocket, an urgent care visit \$35 and a doctor’s office visit \$20. The subsidy provided to STRS members to help cover the premium charged for Medical Mutual and Aetna insurance will decrease. For example, a person with 30 years service will get a premium subsidy in 2013 of 69% instead of the current 72%. The cost of the premium prior to the subsidy reduction is recalculated annually depending on costs actually incurred. (This cost is currently going down annually, this year by 5%.) Non-generic drugs will cost significantly more when a generic is available. On the good side, the pension bill passed by the Senate still includes 1% of final average salary to help keep STRS health insurance (never guaranteed legally) moving toward long-term solvency.

Finally, the legislature has allowed the STRS Board to make further adjustments on its own authority as necessary to keep the financial integrity of the pension system up-to-date without the delays currently required legislative approval induces. Few STRS observers have identified any plausible incentives for the Board to act against the interests of retirees.

*Art Woolley*

**IN MEMORIAM**

**BETTY JO SULLIVAN**, 88, of Marietta, passed away May 4. Born in Mt. Pleasant, PA, she grew up in Pennsboro, WV. After graduating from West Virginia University with a degree in Home Economics, she completed a dietetic internship in Cincinnati, then worked as a hospital dietician. During the Korean War, she became a 1st Lt. with the Women’s Medical Specialist Corps.


Betty earned a Master’s Degree at Michigan State University and received her PhD in nutrition and dietetics from Ohio State University in 1971, after which she came to Ohio University where she taught nutrition until her retirement in 1989.

**Emeriti to Enjoy Band Concert & Konneker Reception July 11**

The University of Kentucky’s director of bands, Cody Birdwell, will conduct our Communiversy Band on July 11, when the Emeriti Association group gathers to enjoy the music and then cross University Terrace for a reception at Konneker Alumni Center. Both Ohio’s Andrew Trachsel and Kentucky’s Birdwell have been invited to join us for the reception. The program that night will be what they call “typical summer band fare” -- pops, classic, marches, etc. The concert begins under the elms at 7 PM. and the reception follows as soon as the group can get across the street (about 8 PM for those not attending the concert). Come! Enjoy! (A weather note: Rain calls for the concert to move inside Memorial Auditorium. It does not affect the reception.)

**Distinguished Service Awards at June Meeting**

Distinguished Service Awards are a highlight of our June luncheon meeting. These are intended to give recognition and express gratitude to persons who have worked very hard and successfully for the Emeriti Association. After a number of years in which no such awards were given, they were reinstated last year and put in the hands of three former winners – Robert Dakin, Max Evans, and Al Leep – plus Dru Riley Everts as Board representative. Richard and Ruth Nostrant were recognized last year for their long years of handling the treasurer’s duties together, and Ted Foster was honored posthumously for keeping us informed on benefits and being our OCHER representative. Only the committee knows of this year’s decision(s). Come, find out, and congratulate.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10 <b>JUNE</b>	11	12 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	13 Emeriti Volunteer Kentucky Museum Emeriti Park (9-10 AM)	14	15	16
17	18	19 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	20 Emeriti Volunteer Kentucky Museum Emeriti Park (9-10 AM)	21 Emeriti Board Meeting <b>EMERITI LUNCH</b> OU Inn OVST	22 OVST	23 OVST
24 OVST	25	26 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	27 Emeriti Volunteer Kentucky Museum Emeriti Park (9-10 AM)	28 OVST	29 OVST	30 OVST
1 <b>JULY</b> OVST	2	3 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	4 	5	6	7
8	9	10 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	11 Emeriti Volunteer Kentucky Museum Emeriti Park (8:30-9:30 AM) <b>EMERITI SOCIAL</b> Konneker Alumni Center	12 OVST	13 OVST	14 OVST
15 OVST	16	17 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	18 Emeriti Volunteer Kentucky Museum Emeriti Park (8:30-9:30 AM)	19 OUCU/Emeriti Trip OVST	20 OVST	21 OVST

**SPECIAL EVENT**  
**Wednesday, July 11, 2012**

**Emeriti Social - Wine & Cheese Reception**  
*At the Konneker Alumni Center*  
*Following Concert on the Green*

**Program Suggestions Sought by Committee**

The Program Committee for 2012-13 invites suggestions of members as to speakers or other types of presentations they would like to see and hear for the coming academic year. Ideas can be sent by e-mail to co-vice presidents and program chairs Dru Riley Evarts (*evarts@ohio.edu*) and Alan Boyd (*boyd@ohio.edu*), or they can be called to Evarts at 592-1231. Suggestions must be submitted before noon June 18 in order to be considered by the committee meeting that afternoon. Other committee members are Mary Ann Flournoy, Felix Gagliano, and Luther and Jeanne Haseley. They, also, would be glad to receive suggestions from other Emeriti members.

**EMERITI VOLUNTEERS**

The Emeriti continue to provide volunteers to the Kennedy Museum on Wednesday afternoons, and to the Dairy Barn on Tuesday afternoons. We appreciate those of you who have volunteered in recent months. If you have not volunteered recently, please consider it. Each volunteer works one 2 1/2 hour shift simply greeting visitors, keeping count of visitors, etc. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer, or sign up as the clipboards make their rounds during the Emeriti Luncheons.

Judith Daso, *daso@ohio.edu* or 592-4679

**OUCU/EMERITI TRIP**

**July 19: Heroes.- Real or Imagined**

**Real:** *Astronaut/Senator/Colonel/Fighter Pilot Ace/Nice Guy*  
**Imagined:** *Creator of heroes on horseback in the old West.*

Travel to the National Road/Zane Gray Museum and the John and Annie Glenn museum in Muskingum County for an interesting one day trip. Cost is \$43.00 for transportation and admission to the museums. **We need 25 persons by June 18.**

Leave East State Street OUCU Office at 9:30 AM; Forum Restaurant in Cambridge at 11:30 AM (*Order from the menu, not included*); John and Annie Glenn Museum at 12:45 PM; National Road/Zane Grey Museum at 2:15 PM. Leave for home at 3:30 pm - arrive at 6:00 PM

*Call Bill Coffey at 597-2845*

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