



A newsletter from the Ohio University Emeriti Association

January 17, 2010

LIFE IN A CHANGING UNIVERSITY

Dr. Pam Benoit

Executive Vice President and Provost

(Presented by Jim Bruning)



Pam Benoit joined Ohio University on July 1, 2009, as Executive Vice President and Provost. Dr. Benoit brought to Ohio University 20 years of experience as an educator, a scholar of communication, and an administrator charged with improving quality and accessibility.

Following the receipt of an MA in Communication from Central Michigan University and a PhD in Communication from Wayne State University, Dr. Benoit joined the faculty at Bowling Green State University. In 1984 she accepted a position in the Department of Communication at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

She has authored or co-authored a number of books, book chapters, articles and reports, and has been the recipient of many awards.

In 2006 she became the Vice Provost for Advanced Studies and Dean of the Graduate School at Missouri and made substantive contributions to the university's success in the areas of enrollment management, diversity, program review, economic development, recruitment of students, faculty and staff, and strategic planning. In each of her administrative positions, Dr. Benoit, who is a trained mediator, was actively involved in resolving conflicts and providing conflict resolution assistance to students and faculty through grievance and appeals panels, targeted programming, and campus mediation services.



BALLROOM

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, **January 17**. You may pay by cash or by check made payable to OU Emeriti.

You can add your name(s) to the Regular Attendees List and not have to call each month unless you cannot attend.

EMERITI LUNCHEON

**Thursday
January 17, 2013
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

\$14.00

MENU

*Soup of the Day
Spinach Salad with Dried Seasonal Fruit
Cucumber & Tomato Salad with
Balsamic Drizzle
Oven Roasted Vegetables
Sliced Roasted Pork Loin with Assorted
Bread for Sandwiches
Roasted Chicken
Mashed Potatoes
Assorted Cakes & Fresh Fruit
Beverages*



A Message From The President - GEORGE WECKMAN

“Put your money where your mouth is.” This expression indicates that words are cheap, just hot air. We talk more powerfully when we speak via dollars. We call it “currency” because it runs around talking for us. What we do with money says more for us and about us than our appearance, attitude, or speech.

This comes to mind during the season of gift buying. The frenzy of commercial activity this time of year focuses clearly on our desire to express love, appreciation, and respect with money or with things bought with money. Even things personally crafted are bought with an investment of time and energy (“time is money”).

So it’s a bit silly to criticize the commerce of Christmas – it IS the reason for the season: expensive love! Theologians sometimes explain the life and death of Jesus as a ransom payment. The devil has to be given something of great value to release humans from his power. They also explain it as a gift to God to compensate for the mistakes of human beings. So the life that begins in the nativity stories is understood in economic terms.

Christian or not, many people join in this festival of buying for love, repaying the blessings of friends and family by giving expensive things. Isn’t that wonderful! Similarly, just a month ago people expressed their patriotism by promoting their political priorities with time and money, speaking in support of their chosen parties and candidates. Isn’t that wonderful too!

Academics might wish that talk alone -- with reason and persuasion, with concern and compassion -- could do the job, but that talk can be amplified and underlined with money. So we should be ready to invest in our loves, speaking our desires for a better world in dollars. We will not always be heard or heeded. All talk must be received and understood first, and then people can reject the message. There are many examples of such rejection in recent political talk, and, of course, no amount of money or talk can buy reciprocal love.

Despite our frustrations, money is a better vehicle of communication than fists or guns. They talk too, but their vocabulary is limited and nasty. We can win love and defeat our enemies more effectively when we talk through gifts and positive words, instead of warfare.

May this new year be full of beneficial speech, in words and money!

George

Notes on Our Luncheon Performers, December 20, 2012

SATB is a local choir whose mission is to create powerful and inspiring music in partnership with social justice organizations to bring support and awareness to their causes. They sing dynamic choral music from around the world to celebrate diversity and humanity. At each of their performances they partner with a local group as a fundraiser for that group (such as ATCO and Habitat for Humanity).

Led by Metra Smith Peterson (daughter of Bob Smith) ten members of SATB (three of whom are emeriti) sang a number of the lesser-known songs of the season including “Follow,” “Patapan” and, of course, the traditional “Silent Night” and “Twas the Night Before Christmas” followed by a parody of “The Twelve Days of Christmas.”

Ed Baum

Distinguished Service Award Committee invites your input

Our Distinguished Service Award is given in the spring to recognize contributions of persons who have served our Emeriti Association with distinction. Decisions about it are handled by a committee that will begin meeting in mid-January to determine the person or persons to be honored at our June luncheon. Most recent honorees were Dick and Ruth Nostrant and (posthumously) Ted Foster in 2011, and Ed Baum and Bob Hynes in 2012.

If you want to nominate a person whose service to the organization should be recognized, you may contact any member of the Distinguished Service Award Committee, which is made up of previous winners. These include Al Leep, chair (593-7012 or leep@ohio.edu), Max Evans (592-2665 or evansm@ohio.edu), Bob Dakin (593-3114 or rdakin@columbus.rr.com), and Ed Baum (593-8675 or Baum@ohio.edu).

NOTES FROM THE BENEFITS CHAIR

The following is old news if you attended the December Emeriti luncheon.

If you, like me, received a notice from the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) that they would not automatically deduct from your local bank account the usual monthly Medicare premium, be sure to send in a check for whatever amount CMS bills you. You may have to do the same thing again next month if your check missed/misses the deadline. (The deadline on my last CMS statement was Dec. 25.) I talked, eventually, to a representative from the Medicare Advanced Resolutions office. She apologized, remarking dejectedly that it was the second year in a row Medicare has made the same end-of-the-year accounting error. The error, in my case, was that my entire premium for November had been credited to my Part B account with nothing going to my Part D account. Consequently, my Part D account was in arrears canceling my EZ-pay automatic local bank account deduction (and giving me a temporary surplus in my Part B account). Once CMS gets their accounting straightened out, your statements will say on the bill, "This is not a bill." Until that happens, send a check for the amount billed as soon as you can after receiving your statement.

IN MEMORIAM



RONALD L. WHITAKER, 74, died December 14, 2012 at Riverside Hospital in Columbus.

A graduate of Washington Court-house High School, he received his B.S. degree from Wittenberg University and his Master's Degree from Ohio University. He was an assistant

professor in the College of Health and Human Services, retiring in 2000.

Ronald is survived by his wife, Ruth Ann, 2 daughters, 2 grandsons and a step-grandson.



DUANE B. SCHNEIDER, 75, of Yarmouth Port, MA, died December 26, 2012.

After completing his undergraduate work at Miami of Ohio, he earned a Master's Degree in English at Kent State University and a PhD in English at the University of Colorado where he became an English instructor for 5 years before coming to the English Dept. at Ohio University in 1970. In 1985 he became the director of the OU Press. Duane retired in 1995.

He is survived by his wife, Crystal, 2 sons, 2 daughters, 1 grandson, and 5 granddaughters.

If you have Part A Medicare as well as Part B and receive a Social Security pension check, your Medicare premium is normally deducted from your check and the problem described above should be irrelevant to you.

Art Woolley, Benefits Chair

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 JANUARY	7	8 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	9 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	10 Athens Village Brown Bag Lunch <i>12 Noon, ACVNA</i>	11	12
13	14	15 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	16 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	17 Emeriti Board Meeting EMERITI LUNCH <i>OU Inn</i>	18	19
20	21	22 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	23 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	24	25	26
27	28	29 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	30 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	31	1 FEBRUARY	2
3	4	5 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	6 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	7	8	9

UPCOMING EMERITI LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

February 21: Kathy Krendl
Otterbein College President

March 21: Vipin Koshal, D.O.
Cardiologist & Internist

EMERITI BOARD 2012-2013

President	George Weckman
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Mark your calendar for a Gwen Ifill Q & A session on Feb. 25

Gwen Ifill, managing editor and moderator of PBS's *Washington Week in Review* and senior correspondent of its *NewsHour*, will be with us at a special Emeriti gathering at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, February 25, for a Q & A session in Baker Center's Multicultural area. She will be in Athens for the 90th anniversary celebration of the Journalism program later that day. We greatly appreciate the School of Journalism's willingness to share her with us.

The main event of Ifill's visit to Ohio University is the speech she will be delivering in Baker Center's Ballroom at 7:30 p.m. that day. At that time, she will also receive the Carr Van Anda Award, the School of Journalism's highest recognition of professionals who have made major contributions to the field of journalism. Our Q & A sessions will last an hour or so, leaving you plenty of time to have dinner at Latitude 39 or elsewhere in or out of Baker Center before time for her speech, which is certain to touch on many of the major issues that affect us all. Please mark your calendars now. More details on this gathering will appear in the February issue of the *Emeriti News*.

Edie Russ, Editor
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