

EMERITI NEWS



OHIO
UNIVERSITY

A newsletter from the Ohio University Emeriti Association



Debbie Phillips is sworn in on May 28 as Assistant Minority Leader of the Ohio House by Congresswoman Joyce Beatty. Also sworn in then were Minority Whip Michael Ashford, left, and Assistant Minority Whip Dan Ramos, center

June 20, 2013

LEADERSHIP IN THE MINORITY

Debbie Phillips

Representative to Ohio Legislature

(Introduced by Luther Haseley)



State Representative Debbie Phillips (D-Albany) is serving her third term representing the 94th Ohio House District, which includes Meigs County and parts of Athens, Washington and Vinton Counties. This District is also home to Ohio University and Hocking College. Phillips is a member of the Ohio House Democratic Caucus Leadership team, serving as Assistant Minority Leader.

Prior to her election to the House, she chaired Athens City Council's Planning and Development Committee, overseeing proposed developments, subdivisions, and implementation of the city's Comprehensive Plan.

A graduate of Ohio University, Rep. Phillips has built a career fighting for educational opportunities for Ohio's children. She was the founding executive director of the Ohio Fair Schools Campaign, to promote quality public education. Rep. Phillips is a trained mediator who has provided training in peer mediation and conflict resolution in schools.

In the 130th General Assembly Rep. Phillips intends to continue her focus on educational excellence in Ohio, to promote advanced energy opportunities to strengthen Ohio's economy, and to be a strong advocate for the people of the 94th District.

In addition to her work on education issues Rep. Phillips serves on the Finance committee, the Rules and Reference committee and on the Primary and Secondary Education subcommittee.

Rep. Phillips' work has been recognized by many awards, including those from the Southeast Ohio Educa-

tion Association, AMVETS of Ohio, the Ohio Board of Developmental Disabilities, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, the Ohio Federation of Teachers, and the Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools.

Her most recent legislative achievements involve working on both early childhood education and distance learning, excusing low-income students from fees for core courses, promoting Appalachian Ohio's growing economy in the clean-energy sector, helping local governments cut through red tape and find efficiencies, and reducing employee misclassification to assist employers with fair ascertainment of taxes and benefits.



BALLROOM

OHIO UNIVERSITY INN
And Conference Center

MENU

Watermelon Salad
Tuna Salad
Pasta Salad
Soup of the Day
Salmon with Mango Salsa
Roasted Chicken
Roasted Squash
Green Beans
Assorted Cakes & Fresh Fruit
Beverages

EMERITI LUNCHEON

Thursday
June 20, 2013
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 14**. You may pay by cash or by check made payable to OU Emeriti.



A Message From The President - GEORGE WECKMAN

These three years as Emeriti president have been interesting, as in the old Chinese curse “May you live in interesting times.” I exaggerate, but only slightly. My tenure as association president has included: parking issues, Park lighting, negotiations with the Inn, re-establishing regular meetings of our officers with the president, appointing a Distinguished Service Committee to re-establish annual awarding of that recognition, switching to the online newsletter, moving our office from the Ridges to Walter Hall, and planning special events, including an annual public event sponsored by the Emeriti – to name a few particulars. We have been successful in most of these matters but not without effort. So I am happy to hand the gavel over to Dru, my friend and editor

Thus, this is the last of my president’s essays. Many of you have commented, usually favorably, on my writing. Every writer likes to know he or she is being read. Collecting my thoughts and writing these monthly paragraphs have spawned a similar series of incidental opinion columns in *The Messenger*. In an age of information inundation, my short bits sneak into a reader’s diet without much time spent.

The quick analysis of a current concern seems to be my peculiar essay style. It started during college days with a weekly column in the student newspaper. After academic writing for 50 years, it has been a pleasure to return to the casual essay. I never liked footnotes, and we all know that scholarly tomes sit on the shelf, not in the mind.

So my parting (or Parthian) shot is in praise of being succinct. Efficiency in thought is good, as is expedition in meetings and alacrity in business. Lingering over matters and mulling at length is not my style or my recommendation. Let’s keep moving in our senior years. If it’s the rocking chair for us, let’s rock fast.

As I began 29 issues ago, I end with much appreciation for all who have worked for this organization. Board members have been diligent and helpful. From the beauty of the Park to the information shared at luncheons, the Emeriti Association is worthwhile and beneficial. Long may it thrive!

George

Notes on "Building a Foundation for Transformation" - May's luncheon presentation by President Roderick McDavis

This is a time of change in higher education. Every part of a college must be evolving. Today nontraditional students in the U.S. outnumber traditional students in higher education. A good example is the growth of the University of Phoenix. Non-traditional educational opportunities mean greater competition for the traditional university. There is also greater competition among “brick and mortar” institutions because there are fewer high school graduates than there were 10 years ago. There are fewer international students.

Thus we need to increase our competitive advantage. We must be truly transformative. Examples of change are the quarter to semester transition, the remodeling of old Baker Center into the Schoonover Center for Communication, and the expansion of the Heritage College of Medicine to Dublin and Cleveland. Other changes include a total compensation review for all university personnel, a 20-year improvement plan for residential housing, a new fine arts facility, a new multipurpose building, and a \$100 million investment plan, a new plan for guaranteed tuition for students, and an increased focus on outcomes (e.g., graduation rates) as a basis for higher education funding. Our current eight-year capital campaign, begun in 2007 has raised \$420 million of the \$450 million goal.

Thank you to all emeriti for helping make Ohio University a truly transformative university.

Ed Baum

Distinguished Service Awards to be given at June luncheon

The Distinguished Service Awards for this year will be announced at the June 20 luncheon, according to Al Leep, chair of the DSA Committee. The decision of the committee was to keep the information confidential until the awards are made. Details and accomplishments of the recipients will appear in the September *Emeriti News*.

The DSA was founded in 1993 and had one or two awardees annually except for 1996, when eight persons were recognized. There was one 1997, then none until 2007 and 2009. A committee was appointed in 2009-10 to study the DSA and recommend criteria if bringing it back seemed advisable. The DSA was re-established formally in 2010-11 with a committee of former winners (Bob Dakin, Max Evans, Al Leep), with Dru Riley Everts as the Board liaison.

Emeriti recognized in 2011 were Ted Foster (posthumously) and Richard and Ruth Nostrant. Those recognized in 2012 were Bob Hynes and Ed Baum. In 2012-13 Baum was also added to the Awards Committee as another recent winner. Other committee members and the Board liaison remained the same.

Other earlier winners included two presidents (Charles Ping and Robert Glidden) and one vice president (Adrie Nab) for their support of the Emeriti and its projects) and members Ray Skinner, Charles Carlson, Julia Nehls, Bill Baasel, Margaret Deppen, and Gifford & Mary Doxsee.

IN MEMORIAM



JAMES C. GILFERT, 85, died May 1, 2013. After serving in the Navy during WWII, he earned his BS at Antioch College and his MS and PhD in physics at Ohio State University. He taught at OSU for 10 years, coming to Ohio University's Electrical Engineering Dept. in 1967.

The Gilferts started Athens Technical Specialists, Inc. in 1982 and went into the manufacturing business in 1988, growing within OU's Innovation Center for 12 years before moving into their own building.

Jim is survived by his wife, Sara, 2 sons, 1 daughter, and 5 grandchildren.



ROBERT C. WICKHAM, 100, died May 30, 2013 at Lindley Inn in Athens. Born in Utah, he came to Athens to attend Ohio University, graduating in 1937 with a BS in chemistry. After teaching high school in northern Ohio, he came back to OU in 1947 to get his MA in Industrial Arts. He then taught Engineering

Graphics at OU, retiring in 1974.

Bob is survived by his wife, Carolyn, 3 sons, 1 daughter, 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Notes from May OCHER meeting and follow-ups

The STRS Board approved the pension plan changes already passed by the state legislature except for the following: the 0.1% per year (for 4 years) reduction in the 2.3% multiplier (times years of svc) that determines the health premium subsidy added into your monthly STRS check will be postponed until 2015 instead of starting in 2014. A proposed added health premium for smokers of \$25 was rejected as financially trivial for the system. Emergency room deductible costs will rise in 2014 to \$150 for Medical Mutual or \$65 for Aetna Medicare patients. Drug costs will remain the same except that the limit on out-of-pocket costs will be reduced by \$200 (that's good). Late enrollment in the health insurance programs will be eliminated.

The newsletter of PERI (Public Employees Retirees Inc.), a political action organization for PERS (Public Employees Retirement System) members, was recommended as particularly informative about pension legislation for public employees. Operi.org is the web address.

The STRS investment portfolio, managed primarily by STRS investment staff, was up 12.4% for the year as of March 31, to a market value of \$68B. Ohio's 10-year average is 8.37%.

Of the 1,208 new faculty in Ohio universities and colleges since July 1, 2012, 87% joined the STRS pension system. That number had been running about 60% and as low as 47% since alternative plans have been allowed. Universities and colleges nationwide have been turning to part-time and adjunct teaching staff. Cuyahoga Community College faculty has gone from 10% part-time in 1995 to 76% by 2009. Student employees at Ohio University and part-time faculty in some Ohio community colleges have been told they cannot work more than 29 hours per week lest they have to be provided health care under the new health laws. Akron is already facing a \$26.7 million deficit next year (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/26/13).

Art Woolley

RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESERVATIONS

Members who make luncheon reservations for themselves and guests are financially responsible for them whether they appear at the luncheon or not, according to a formal vote taken on the matter at the May Board meeting. Some emeriti choose to be on the list of regular attendees, and others choose to make individual reservations by the Friday before the next third-Thursday luncheon. By whatever method your name is on the final list Ruth Nostrant uses to notify the OU Inn of the number expected, you should take care of that charge if she includes you in the count. The Board counts on cooperation from everyone in this in order to keep our books balanced.

SPECIAL EVENT

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

EMERITI SOCIAL

Wine & Cheese Reception

*At the Konneker Alumni Center
Following Concert on the Green*

Out-Sight On Thursday, May 16, 2013, members of the OU Emeriti Association met with the new OU Emeriti who had recently been given the Emeriti title by the OU Board of Trustees. They met at the OU Inn for a noon luncheon-meeting. This Recognition Event began on Monday, September 18, 1995. It was sponsored by the Office of the President and the Ohio University Emeriti Board. Spouses were also invited. The first event was held at the home of then President and Mrs. Glidden. The hope at that time was that this reception could become an annual event. And.. it has for 18 years.

C. V. Carlson

A Tidbit or Two – Emeriti Memories

We are trying to collect information about our wonderful members and special events for an undated Emeriti booklet. If you have thoughts, recollections, ideas, tidbits – anything of interest to share with us, please contact Dru Riley Evarts, Jo Priskey or me (Margaret Thomas). I am more than happy to receive email, talk to you on the phone or interview/reminisce over a cup of coffee. Email (thomasm@ohio.edu) or give me a call (593-8765).

Margaret Thomas


SUMMER TREATS

As summer approaches, our community is rich in things we can enjoy together between our June meeting and September, when our luncheons and speakers come back into view. The local news and broadcast media around here do a wonderful job of keeping us posted, so stay tuned. Here are just a few that may interest you.

June 15: Tenor Norm Cohn and pianist George Weckman in a 3 PM performance, ‘LOVE is a Song,’ at Christ Lutheran Church, 69 Mill St. A broad range from Tchaikowsky to Kern/Hammerstein. Free admission..

June 5 thru July 3: (earlier this year because of switch to semesters) Communiiversity Band concerts at 7 PM every Wednesday under the elms alongside Memorial Auditorium (inside if rain visits). *Our special concert is on June 12*, with an Emeriti reception at Konneker Center after. That evening the Communiiversity Band will play the first half of the concert, and the Capital Winds (semiprofessional group from Columbus) will play the second half. Both conductors have been invited to join us at the reception. After all the band concerts, summer pleasure skips to **August 7**, for “Mozart on the Green” chamber music. All these concerts are free.

June 6-9, 13-16, 27-30, July 3-7 (except July 4): – OVST’s “Willie Wonka & the Chocolate Factory,” Forum Theater. Go to ovst.org for details and ticketing.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JUNE	10	11 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	12 Emeriti Volunteer Kennedy Museum Emeriti Park-9AM Emeriti Social Konneker Center	13	14	15
16	17	18 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	19 Emeriti Volunteer7 Kennedy Museum Emeriti Park-9AM	20 Emeriti Board Meeting EMERITI LUNCH OU Inn	21	22
23	24	25 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	26 Emeriti Volunteer Kennedy Museum Emeriti Park-9AM	27	28	29
30	1 JULY	2 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	3 Emeriti Volunteer Kennedy Museum Emeriti Park-9AM	4 	5	6

*Edie Russ, Editor
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