

March 19, 2015 THE POWER OF POETRY Alan Cohen Founder, Power of Poetry Festival and Wellspring of Imagination Workshop

Introduction by Mary Anne Flournoy



www.powerofpoetry.org/wellspring

Alan Cohen is a retired elementary teacher, naturalist and adventure traveler, and lover of the arts. He is also a fabulous cook. He allowed himself to fall in love with poetry in his 30's and has been writing and exposing people to the Power of Poetry ever since. Cohen has edited three poetry anthologies: *Red Thread Gold Thread, Follow the Thread*, and *Wellspring 2013*.

Cohen founded Power of Poetry in 2001 and Wellspring of Imagination in 2013. He has brought state and national poets to perform in the Hocking Hills, including Ted Kooser, Coleman Barks, and Naomi Shibab. Wellspring of Imagination is an intensive three-day workshop with nationally known poets teaching highly motivated high school students. There is a performance for the public at the end of the event. At the conclusion of the workshop, students are assigned to one of the poets teaching in the workshop who will mentor the student for a year. The students' work was published in *Wellspring 2013*.

Cohen will be accompanied to the Emeriti luncheon by Emma Fenstermaker, a senior at Athens High School, who was an outstanding student at the 2013 Wellspring of Imagination workshop.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - Dru Riley Evarts

I want to use my column this month for two very important purposes: (1) to encourage your support of our once-a-year public event, and (2) to increase your participation in the management function of the Emeriti Association.

An Afternoon at the Kennedy: George Weckman dreamed up the idea of a once-ayear event in which Emeriti members, active faculty and staff, students at all levels, townspeople, and anyone else who would like to participate could join us to enjoy a special event. Attendance has increased each year, last year hitting 86, which was about what the lobby in the newly opened Schoonover Center would hold comfortably.



This year (March 24 at the Kennedy Museum) our special event will be a delightful gathering featuring the progress of the Kennedy, the work of its outstanding director, Ed Pauley, who has guided our art museum into one of the most selective recognitions possible, and enjoyment of its glass art display, with which we will have Jenine Culligan, from the Huntington Museum to help us enjoy it. See George's story in this newsletter to get more details. Please come. Bring friends. Encourage others to come along also. We want to share our enjoyment with the community.

Management of Our Association: At our April meeting, we will elect our 2015-16 Executive Board (those who will plan for and guide the Emeriti Association through the next academic year). That means that we must post the Nominations chair's suggested slate at the March meeting so that members have time to think about these nominations. The list will also be published in the April newsletter so that other members may see who is being considered.

How about **YOU**? Could you consider serving in one of these offices so that the Emeriti Association could become all that you would like to see it be? Would you like to suggest anyone else for one of these offices (with that person's consent, of course). If you have either kind of proposal, contact Luther Haseley at haseley@ohio.edu or 740-592-3680. He will answer questions or take nominations.

The offices include president, vice president and program chair, secretary, treasurer, and the following chairs: program, volunteer service, Emeriti Park, benefits, communication, website, and archivist/historian. You may make suggestions up until April 10 in order to leave time for ballots to be prepared. Volunteering yourself or nominating others does not indicate any criticism of those on the first listing. Doing so simply means, "Hey, I would like to help, too, and here is where I think I would fit best."

Dru

OCHER PREVIEW

Our Emeriti president and one other Board member will be attending the OCHER (Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees) meeting in Columbus on March 17, just two days before the March Emeriti general meeting and luncheon here. They will have a great deal to report to both groups.

Ohio remains one of just 13 states that have independent retirement plans (such as STRS and PERS) available to public employees. Because Social Security is considered by much of the public to be tenuous as people live longer and there may not be enough younger workers paying into that federal system in the future to support all retirees, public employee groups are watching closely for any federal moves concerning retirement plans in those 13 states.

Other agenda items will include examination of health care plans, defined benefit plans (such as STRS and PERS), as opposed to defined contribution plans, which are more dependent on market returns; news from other public colleges around the state, and new research that shows that public employee pension checks spent within their states have a \$20 billion impact annually on those economies.

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BITS AND PIECES OF NOTE

INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI REUNION INVITES OUR PARTICIPATION

The International Alumni Reunion is scheduled for April 15 through 18, and emeriti are cordially invited to take part in any way they can. It will recognize both the 100 nations represented in our international student body over the years and the 50th anniversary of our Center for International Studies.

The celebration will begin with Wednesday evening student-led tours of the campus followed by a welcoming address by Keynote Speaker Derreck Kayongo at a dessert reception.

Thursday will continue with guest registration at Yamada House; international visits at the colleges of Health Sciences & Professions, Arts & Sciences, Business, and Education; a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Center for International Studies; a flag ceremony and luncheon following the brunches at the College Green and the Schoonover Center; international film screenings at the Athena Cinema; International Student Union networking reception at Grover Center; and a progressive dinner at the Academic and Research Center, the Innovation Center, and the Kennedy Museum of Art.

On Friday, there will be a regional gathering and international strategic planning luncheon, an archival exhibit, and an international reunion gala, plus other ad hoc gatherings as they develop.

The weekend will conclude on Saturday with the International Street Fair on Court Street. That will be preceded by a farewell breakfast for guests registered for the weekend.

Most of us have had international students in class or have interacted with them in some other ways. This would be a good chance to see some of them again and to hear how their Ohio University educations have affected them and their countries.

You can find more about the weekend at www.ohioalumnireunion.org or by calling 740-593 -1840.

MAKE THIS A PRIORITY!

EMERITI ASSOCIATION CELEBRATION OF THE KENNEDY MUSEUM AND AMERICAN ART GLASS

Tuesday, March 24

Welcome, emeriti and friends, to an afternoon at our Kennedy Museum. There are many activities to enjoy at this wonderful institution in our midst. Things to do:

- Eat lunch at the museum café. (Let George Weckman (weckman@ohio.edu) know if you are planning to do this so he can make sure there is sufficient food.)
- See the exhibits: art glass, Navaho blankets, Zuni jewelry, and more.

Program starting after 1:30:

- Learn about the accreditation of the museum by the American Alliance of Museums from Ed Pauley, the museum's director. Only 4.5% of museums in the U.S. are so listed.
- Hear a presentation on the art glass exhibit. The speaker will be Jenine E. Culligan, senior curator at the Huntington Museum of Art. She previously worked at the Delaware Art Museum in Wilmington and has art degrees from the University of Kentucky and Case Western Reserve University. Her specialty is American art of the last 150 years.

Parking is available to all who have current university hangtags in the three lots near the museum. If you do not have a hangtag, try to carpool with someone who does. There are a few metered spaces and a phone number or app for charging parking to a credit card.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Each year, members of the Emeriti Association who have distinguished themselves in service to the association or in pursuit of activities that further the goals of the association are recognized by the Distinguished Service Award. If you wish to nominate someone, please submit your nomination in writing to Ed Baum (baum@ohio.edu), chair of the Distinguished Service Award Committee, no later than April 5. It should contain a description of the reasons for the nomination.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01 MAR	02	03 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	04	05	06 Emeriti Volunteer Kennedy Museum	07
08	09	10 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	11	12	13 Emeriti Volunteer Kennedy Museum	14
15	16	17	18	19 Emeriti Board Meeting EMERITI LUNCH OU Inn	20 Emeriti Volunteer Kennedy Museum	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Emeriti Volunteer Kennedy Museum	28
29	30	31 Emeriti Volunteer Dairy Barn	Last month, Ohio University switched emeriti to a new email system. For those of you who may need help in navigating the new system, Lisa Rudy from IT will be at our March luncheon. She will stay after the meeting to provide individual help. It will be a hands-on experience, so bring your mobile device(s) with you if you need assistance.			

Anita James, Editor P.O. Box 157 Athens, OH 45701

