

**April 21, 2016**  
**POETIC DEVICES SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF FOURTH GRADE STUDENTS**  
**Susan Matters**  
**West Elementary School**  
*Introduction by Patricia Black*

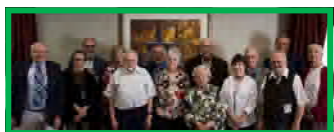
**Susan Matters** has a Bachelor of Science in Education from the College of Charleston in South Carolina, a Master’s in the Fine Arts of Teaching through the University of Rio Grande in Rio Grande, Ohio, and a Master’s in Educational Leadership from the American College of Education in Chicago, Illinois. Susan has been teaching for 18 years in the southeastern Ohio region, the last 10 years in Athens. She currently is responsible for the English language arts and science instruction to all of the fourth grade students at West Elementary School. She has been a member of the Building Leadership Team, Teacher Based Teams, District Leadership Team. And, she was a District Value Added Specialist for the past several years.

**Why \$15 for lunch is a good deal... unless you are on a very restricted diet**


I have been asked why we pay “so much” for our lunch at the Emeriti luncheons. Consider how much you would pay if you bought it in the main dining room? The main course (and salad and veggies) would be, on average, \$15. To this, add coffee (\$2.50) and dessert (\$4.00) for \$21.50. But, wait, we are not done. Add a gratuity (\$4.20) and tax (\$1.50) and you have a total cost of \$27.20. So, even if you don’t have the desert and drink only water at lunch, the \$15 we pay is, indeed, a good deal. *Ed Baum, treasurer*

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**EMERITI LUNCHEON**  
 Thursday  
**April 21, 2016**  
**11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**



**BALLROOM**

**RESERVATIONS** must be made to attend the luncheon. If you are not on the “ALWAYS” list of regular attendees, you **MUST** call or email Ruth Nostrant at 593-5194 or nostrant@ohio.edu by **Friday, April 15**. 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.

**MENU** **\$15.00**

*Mixed Greens*  
*Pasta Salad*  
*Chicken & Dumplings*  
*Eggplant Parmesan*  
*Broccoli*  
*Chocolate Fondue & Fresh Fruit*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - Alan Boyd



On February 13, Rachel Martin (*NPR Weekend Edition*) interviewed Alice Martin, the oldest Peace Corps Volunteer, age 87, stationed in Morocco. The interview can be read on NPR's web site or on Facebook. Reading about her adventures reminded me of the two years Sue and I spent in Ethiopia. We are now Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and I am proud to say we are joined by six of our close relatives as RPCV's. Ethiopia was our first trip abroad, an experience that became the foundation for our subsequent lives, our professions, friends, and understanding of our country. I believe that the small budget allocated by congress for the Peace Corps is

the best money spent by our government. Many people in the countries in which volunteers serve benefit greatly from the skilled assistance volunteers provide; but, more importantly, our country benefits even more from the understanding volunteers gain from their experience abroad. A major reason why the Peace Corps provides so much valuable experience is because volunteers live in the same place—sometimes a small village—for the full two years of their service, becoming active members of those communities. They are not tourists. Volunteers come home with fond memories and often many lasting relationships. Sue and I have been very happy we spent those two years in Ethiopia, and, as a result, have been able to get involved in the community of RPCV's both at Indiana University and here at Ohio University.

So, are you looking for a new adventure? Did you know that there is no age limit to becoming a Peace Corps Volunteer? In fact, the Peace Corps is officially looking for older, experienced volunteers, in addition to the usual recent college graduates. If anyone is interested in exploring the possibilities of the Peace Corps, Sue or I will be happy to put you in touch with the recruiter who is responsible for Ohio University. And, if anyone is interested in hearing some of our stories, we will be happy to share them with you. The Peace Corps has been very much a part of our lives and we would be happy to help it become part of yours. *Alan*

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### Notes on March's Luncheon Presentation by Merri Biechler and Shelley Delaney "Tammy Faye's Final Audition"

In 2007, thirteen professional theater artists came together in Athens to found the Brick Monkey Theater Ensemble with the expressed intent of producing professional theater of a caliber to match our internationally acclaimed and thriving arts community. The most recent production is *Tammy Faye's Final Audition*, written by Merri Biechler and acted by Shelley Delaney. This production is a two-year project, a type of "fringe" play, and has been presented at several fringe festivals. In this play, as Tammy Faye nears the end of her life, she attempts a comeback. In a fevered dream, she enlists the men in her life to audition for one final TV show. *Ed Baum*

## THE MAY LUNCHEON SPEAKER

The speaker for our luncheon on May 19 is Provost Pam Benoit.

## OCHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Alan Boyd, Karen Vedder, and I attended the OCHER meeting in Columbus on March 22. The information we received was rather disappointing, but not the basis for any immediate alarm. With respect to the STRS, the system has had a very poor year investment-wise, with the value of retirement assets declining by about \$4 billion in the first eight months of this fiscal year.

STRS has a plan in effect that hopes to raise the funded proportion of retirement liabilities from roughly 69 percent (last June) gradually to about 80 percent in a decade (80 percent funding is considered rather good and conservative). That, however, assumes an annual rate of return on investment assets of 7.75 percent. Unless there is a robust recovery in asset values (e.g., the stock market) in the next few months, it is not likely that goal will be met for this year, so the funded proportion of liabilities might actually fall rather than rise. If this were to continue for a sustained period of time, the retirement benefit plan would have to undergo some meaningful modification. But there is nothing to panic about at this time. Still, I would speculate that at some time in the next couple of years that the system may lower its assumed investment rate of return which likely might have some consequences for emeriti. Solutions that STRS would like the legislature to enact include increasing the “mitigation rate” (the amount paid from the earnings of younger persons into our retirement fund to help finance the unfunded part of our pensions) from its current four percent rate, but the chances of that happening soon are nearly zero owing to political opposition.

The more immediate concern relates to health care. STRS is putting ZERO into the health care fund presently, and is rather significantly drawing down annually the slightly over \$3 billion in that fund. The STRS Board is going to discuss around 10 changes in the system that would reduce the current subsidy, most of which are modest in size. The possibility that the system will be out of cash within 15 years is real unless some changes are made (e.g., restoring subsidies). Several options are being weighed, including one similar to what PERS did, which involves individuals receiving an account for insurance needs, and making their own decisions how to use it. No decisions, however, have been made yet.

*Rich Vedder*

## SAVE THE DATES!

**May 18-22:** On the Green Weekend. See last month’s newsletter for more information.

**June 5:** Visit the Zenner House and hear Rich Vedder speak about the famous people he has met. More next month.

## DO WE HAVE YOUR INFORMATION?

Late last summer, you received a letter from the Membership Committee asking that you update your information. Even if nothing has changed, please locate the card, provide the requested information, and return it as soon as possible. If you cannot locate the card, please contact Margaret Thomas ([thomasm@ohio.edu](mailto:thomasm@ohio.edu) or (740) 593-8765) and ask how best to provide the information.


## CLUTTER?

Are important messages ending up in the Clutter folder? If you want Outlook to stop doing that, here are steps to take for those owning an iPad, iPhone, or using a desktop PC. I do not have access to a Mac or Android device to check the steps.



### Same first step for each device:

1) Access your Outlook/CatMail account through the web sign-in, i.e., <https://mail.ohio.edu>

### For a PC: After accessing CatMail:

- 1) Look for the gear symbol (  ) on the upper right of the screen. Click on the symbol.
- 2) There will be a dropdown menu; go to the bottom of the menu and click on Options.
- 3) The menu moves to the left side of the screen. The third item listed is Mail. If Mail does not have a menu under it, click on the black triangle (▶) to release the menu items.
- 4) The first menu item is Auto processing. The second item under Auto processing is Clutter; click on Clutter.
- 5) There are two boxes under Clutter, **uncheck** “Separate items identified as Clutter.” Click Save.

### For an iPhone: After accessing CatMail:




- 1) Tap the  symbol on the left of the screen.
- 2) Tap the gear symbol (  ) on the upper right of the screen.
- 3) There will be a dropdown menu; go to the bottom and click on Options.
- 4) The menu moves to the left side of the screen. Scroll down until you see Clutter (it should be the eighth item). Tap Clutter.
- 5) There are two boxes under Clutter, **uncheck** “Separate items identified as Clutter.” Tap Done; then Done again on the Options screen.

### For an iPad: After accessing CatMail:

- 1) Locate the three dots (...) at the lower right of the screen. Tap on the dots.
- 2) On the dropdown menu, tap on Options (the second item).
- 3) The menu moves to the left side of the screen. The third item listed is Mail.
- 4) The first item under Mail is Auto processing.
- 5) The second item under Auto processing is Clutter. Tap Clutter.
- 6) There are two boxes under Clutter, **uncheck** “Separate items identified as Clutter.” Tap Save.

**What you do on one device removes Clutter from all of your devices linked through OU CatMail.** *Anita James*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					01 	02
03	04	05	06 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Emeriti Park-9 a.m.</i>	07 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	08	09
10	11	12	13 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Emeriti Park-9 a.m.</i>	14 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	15 	16
17	18	19 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	20 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Emeriti Park-9 a.m.</i>	21 Emeriti Board Meeting  <b>EMERITI LUNCH</b> <i>OU Inn</i>	22	23
24	25	26	27 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Emeriti Park-9 a.m.</i> 	28 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	29	30

**PHOTOS FROM THE LUNCH PRESENTATION BY MERRI BIECHLER AND SHELLEY DELANY**

