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A newsletter from the Ohio University Emeriti Association



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# WHAT IS THE BUZZ WITH BEES? Ed Newman, Athens/Meigs Bee Inspector

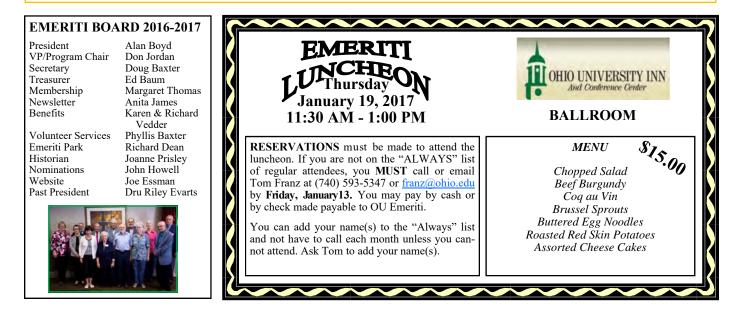
Introduced by Dru Evarts



About 44% of honeybees were lost last year, according to a number of news sources. And that is not new. A figure nearly that high has caused people to worry over the past decade as bee colonies began to decline and losses grew higher each year. What does this mean to the human race? What is happening in our own Southeast Ohio area?

Ed Newman, who takes over the position of Athens/Meigs County bee inspector in the spring and has experience from managing his own hives as well, will be our speaker on this subject at the Jan. 19th Emeriti luncheon. He earned his bachelor's degree and did his master's research at Ohio University and worked in Facilities Management, where his major accomplishment in recycling led to recognition for his program as the best in the state (some years tied with Miami) and very highly ranked in the nation.

Ed started beekeeping in the spring of 1984, when he bought two colonies of bees from another local keeper. By June he was able to harvest 172 pounds of honey from those two hives. After that he was "hooked," he said, and he has been keeping bees since then. Since retirement, he has remained active in organizations that benefit the community, including the Athens-Hocking Recycling Center, to expand services and capacity to enable businesses, residences, and communities to work toward zero waste while creating economic opportunities and reducing environmental problems. He collects bricks and works on local brick history while serving on the Crime Solvers Anonymous Board, Sugarbush Foundation, Westside Community Organization, Buckeye Solid Waste Association of North America, and the RecycleMania Board, an intercollegiate recycling competition. [Left-hand photo by Patty Mitchell.]



### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - Alan Boyd



I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Did you know that in the U.S. we have ten federally recognized holidays and over 100 recognition days? These days can be religiously centered, as well as patriotic and historical. Some are specifically related to a particular state of the union, e.g., Oct 10, Native American Day, is celebrated only in South Dakota. Others may be associated with a certain religious group, e.g., Hanukkah, which is related to Judaism.

Many years ago, Christmas was celebrated by the workers by demonstrating in front of landowners houses demanding that they receive gifts. I wonder if this custom is reflected in the lyrics in *We Wish You a Merry Christmas* when the carolers demand a figgy pudding. This custom is reflected today through our gifts to each other and charities.

Music and dancing have long been included in holiday celebrations, along with story telling, special meals, and the gathering of friends and relatives to celebrate together. So I hope your holiday season included a few of these traditions and a good time was had by all. Happy New Year.

**OCHER Report** 

At its December meeting, the State Teachers Retirement System Board received a recommendation from its actuarial consultants that the assumed investment return be lowered from the present 7.75 percent to 7.0 percent. I understand, via someone in the room, that board members were in something of a state of shock, with one proclaiming, "you are asking us to decide whether to board the Titanic or the Lusitania."

Things are not that dire, but I strongly suspect that STRS will lower its assumed investment return by March. The largest U.S. public employee systems, Calpers, is likely to lower its assumed rate from the current 7.5 percent (already lower than STRS) to 7.0 or 7.25 percent. The reality is in recent years retirement systems are not earning the assumed rate of return, so they are increasingly inadequately funded, causing an eventual crisis unless corrected.

It would be highly speculative to say what STRS will actually do impacting us. One idea already under discussion is cancelling one or more future cost-of-living pension increases. Theoretically, they could raid the health insurance fund, already woefully inadequate, to shore up the pension fund a bit, although I sense that is less likely. I do NOT anticipate any actual reductions in pensions.

On a more cheerful note, the rise in the American stock market could help increase the return on investments this fiscal year, although probably not enough, or soon enough, to impact much on the decision regarding the assumed long run rate of return on investments. *Rich Vedder* 

> Notes on December's Luncheon Presentation by the SATB Choir Welcome The Holiday Season!

The fifteen members of the SATB (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) Choir, led by Mehta Peterson, serenaded the emeriti with a selection of holiday songs. Among the favorites presented were *Deck the Halls, I Wonder as I Wander, Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas, Jingle Bells,* and the *Yorkshire Wassail.* These were part of their December concert. Their next concert will be a "cabaret" on Feb. 18.



### **EMERITI NOTICES**

#### Meal Reservations!!

Please make sure you let Tom Franz know if you'll be attending the luncheon no later than Friday, January 13. His contact information is on page 1.

### **Nominations Are Open!**

John Howell, Nominations Chair, is encouraging members to self-nominate for vacancies on the 2017-18 Emeriti Board. Right now, there are at least two open positions for next year: treasurer and newsletter editor. If you are wondering about the responsibilities, check with Ed Baum (baum@ohio.edu) or Anita James (james@ohio.edu), respectively. A board is only as strong as the people who step forward to serve!

#### **Speakers for the Spring Semester**

The following people are scheduled to be our luncheon speakers during the spring semester:

February 16—Dale and Ann McFeatters, *The Press in the 2016 Election* 

March 16—Jason Pina, OU Dean of Students

April 20—Keith Morrow, *Changes in Wildlife in* SE Ohio

May 18—Judith Yaross Lee, Distinguished Professor.

June 15—TBA

Don't forget to get your 2017 parking hang tag!

Lila Ruth Golos, 86, died peacefully in her sleep in the early morning of Dec. 12, 2016, from complications with Parkinson's disease. Lila was born in Rochester, NY. She married Ellery Golos on March 20, 1965, and they spent 40 years in Athens, before moving to Minnesota.



While working as a realtor, Lila created the Moving Experience (M.E.), a group dedicated to helping people make connections and transition to a new town. After being diagnosed with Parkinson's she became passionate about the cause, establishing a group at the Struthers Parkinson's Center for those newly diagnosed. Ahead of her time in many ways, Lila was a true inspiration.

Lila was preceded in death by her parents and sister. She is survived by her husband, Ellery; two daughters; a sister; two brothers; and many loving cousins, nieces and nephews.

## **IN MEMORIAM**

**Joseph R. Sligo**, 92, passed away peacefully in his sleep Oct. 26, 2016, at the Sunrise of Gilbert Arizona retirement community. He was born in Bellaire, Ohio. Joe graduated from high school in Wheeling, WV, spent three years in the military during World War II, and one year at William & Mary College in Williamsburg,



VA, before his arrival as an undergraduate at Ohio University. He earned a bachelor of science in education with a major in mathematics from OU in 1948, and a master of education in 1950. In 1955, he received a PhD in statistical methods and measurement from the University of Iowa and returned to Ohio University in the fall of 1956 and served the College of Education and the university with great energy and devotion for more than 31 years.

Joe is survived by his wife of 66 years, Marguerite, of Gilbert, AZ; a son; a daughter; and a granddaughter. He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother; an infant son; and his grand-son.

Adam James Marsh, 86, died on Nov. 24, 2016, after a short illness. He was born in Dickinson, ND, and had resided in Largo, FL, since 2005. He worked for 27 years as an administrator at Ohio University, serving as director of the Research Institute.



He earned a BS in chemistry from the University of Washington, and an MBA from Ohio

University. He served in the Army as a lab chemist during the Korean War. Before his tenure at OU, he was employed in industry as a research chemist, project engineer and plant manager. Adam was an active member of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Athens. He was an expert woodworker who created fine furniture, including several pieces still in use at the church.

Adam was preceded in death by Helen, his wife of 56 years; a brother; and a sister. He is survived by a son; a daughter; two loving grandchildren; and two sisters.

Margaret "Peggy" Cohn, 87, died on Dec. 1, 2016, in Pittsburgh, PA. Born in Jacksonville, IL, Peggy earned her AB in biology from Illinois College and her MS from the University of Washington. She proceeded to earn her PhD in zoology from Yale Universi-



ty. It was at Yale that she met and married Norman Cohn.

In 1972, Peggy joined the new Honors Tutorial College, becoming its director in 1977, and dean in 1991. Peggy retired from Ohio University as dean emerita in 1995, but continued to be involved in the community and the arts. She was a lifelong member of the League of Women Voters and worked tirelessly at both local and state levels for voter registration. One of Peggy's most lasting accomplishments was the 2009 founding (with her husband and Ted and Sue Foster) of The Athens Village, which continues to allow its Athens County members to live independently and safely through a cooperative arrangement.

Peg was preceded in death by Norm; and is survived by two sons, a daughter, three grandchildren, a brother, and a brotherin-law.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01 JAN	02	03	04	05	06	07
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Emeriti Board Meeting EMERITI LUNCH OU Inn	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	01 FEB	02	03	04



Don Shamblin

# Emeriti in SATB Choir



Alan Boyd (on the right)



Bob Williams

Anita James, Editor P.O. Box 157

