

# EMERITI NEWS

OHIO UNIVERSITY

## Program for January

Ed Pauley, director of the Kennedy Museum of Art, will be speaking about transdisciplinary exhibitions and the future museum complex concept. The transdisciplinary approach, which encourages guest curators representing different fields of study to work together, creates a foundation for the fresh interpretation of art and other objects.

## Emeriti Luncheon

January 18, 2018, 11:30 a.m., Ohio University Inn

### MENU

Chopped Salad

Beef Stroganoff

Oven-roasted Chicken with Gravy

Buttered Egg Noodles

Brussels Sprouts

Roasted Redskin Potatoes

Assorted Cheesecakes

### Things to remember about the luncheon

1. It costs \$15.
2. Notify Tom Franz by Jan. 11 if you will attend on Jan.18. (740 593-5347; [franz@ohio.edu](mailto:franz@ohio.edu))
3. If you are signed on as “always attends” but can’t be there, notify Tom Franz. (740 593-5347; [franz@ohio.edu](mailto:franz@ohio.edu).)
4. Pick up your dessert first!

## Notes from the Emeriti President

With three cats and a dog, we are among the more than 50% of U.S. households, according to the ASPCA, which have one or more pets. ASPCA estimates that there are 70-80 million dogs and 74-96 million cats in our homes. Pets have long been a part of American life. With two exceptions--James K. Polk and Donald Trump--every president of the United States from George Washington, who had two dogs, to Barack Obama, who had two dogs, every White House has had pets, including an iguana, parrots and hamsters. I think pets are mostly a Western phenomenon. Our pets add to the enjoyment of our home--affectionate, funny at times and always interested in what we are doing. Lucy, our dog, always wants to come with us when we are leaving the house. She has a sixth

sense about when she can and when she can't go and it shows in her facial expression as she watches us get ready to leave. Of course, our pets are an added expense and a responsibility, but we think they are worth it. Lucy gives me plenty of opportunity to take walks and make friends with other dog owners, and there is nothing like a cat curled up in my lap to warm my spirits. Studies have shown that interacting with pets adds to the quality of a person's life. However, in spite of the above statistics, there are animals in the dog shelter waiting for a home. If you do not have a pet yet, consider adopting one. You won't regret it. **Alan Boyd**

### Emeriti Board

President – Alan Boyd

Vice President and Program Chair – Art Marinelli

Secretary – Doug Baxter

Treasurer – Leslie Flemming

Membership – Margaret Thomas

Volunteers – Phyllis Baxter

Benefits – Karen and Richard Vedder

Emeriti Park – Richard Dean

Volunteers – Phyllis Baxter

Nominations – John Howell

Website – Joe Essman

Newsletter - Patricia Black

## Mentoring

If you have missed the contact with students since you retired you might consider mentoring. George Weckman has been doing that for several years and here is what he has to say about it:

“Mentoring Students about Aging”

Among the delights of retirement in Athens is the chance to speak often at length with bright young person about one’s advancing years. Prof. Julie Brown offers a course on aging each Fall Aging. She is Assistant Professor of Gerontology in the Department of Social and Public Health in OU’s College of Health Sciences and Professions. Every student in the class is paired with someone or a couple who are in the senior citizen category. I have enjoyed three years of participation in this program. For twenty hours, about two each week, my mentee and I talk, walk, and see things together. I share my delights with them, like the Dairy Barn and Kennedy Museum, show them films from my past, explain my decisions about living, and welcome them into my home. It is good to reflect on life, especially as it approaches its end. One hopes that young people can benefit from an elder’s perspective on many issues. Unlike often difficult family discussions, this mentorship is deliberately focused on thinking through possible struggles and adjustments in old age. I have learned a lot as I have tried to articulate my expectations and decisions. This is a new form of professorship for me these days.

## Volunteering

The advice to retirees is indisputable: **VOLUNTEER, STAY ACTIVE!** It will give you a shot of dopamine to help others and keep you on your toes. Of course, most emeriti have always been

active and engaged in many, many ways, benefiting their professions and their community. Retirement seems to require that we recalibrate to take into account changing circumstances in our lives. We have more time but also more challenges, many of which are frankly daunting. The Emeriti Association periodically describes the activities for which it solicits volunteers in the hope that you will engage in those which fit your lifestyle. During the growing season our Emeriti Park offers opportunities on midmorning Wednesdays to do light gardening tasks with other emeriti. Watch for announcements in the newsletter or at our luncheon for when the season is beginning. It is a fun activity with parking set aside for you on that day (call Alan Boyd or Dick Dean for details) and, of course, there’s a small café in Grover for further socializing.

Two museums in town have also solicited our participation in welcoming guests, thus freeing staff to work on upcoming exhibits. Volunteering for the museums is simple. We pass a signup sheet for each at our monthly luncheon and solicit by email if we still have needs. You get a reminder postcard of the time you’ve agreed to, but if you can’t come, follow the instructions on the postcard to notify us. Serving benefits our community and, we believe, you.

The university’s Kennedy Museum uses students as greeters much of the time as part of their training in museum work. But at lunch time, noon to 2 o’clock, on

Thursdays we have been giving the student a break to run errands or eat. Volunteers simply sit at a desk and greet visitors. There is information at the desk about the current exhibit as well as answers to most questions you're likely to be asked. Bring a book or a friend to chat with in case there's not much traffic. Sometimes, however, a class or a club or an out-of-town group will come through. You never know how busy you'll be. Contrary to rumor, it is possible to park legally across from the museum. Call Lori Spencer at (740) 592-4981 to find out your options or carefully read the signs in the lot. Believe me, they really want you to come and have a pleasant experience!

Emeriti also volunteer at the Dairy Barn, on Tuesday afternoons in two-and-a-half hour shifts. This, too, involves greeting visitors (instructions are provided). It's a very pleasant, recently remodeled setting and you can even browse the gift shop when you're done. Parking is near the main entrance, now in the building's rear. Our contact there is Claire White (740) 592-4981. **Phyllis Baxter**

## **Obituaries**

### **Reid Sinclair**

Reid Baytop Sinclair, 85, died November 20, 2017 in Raleigh, North

Reid Baytop Sinclair, 85, died November 20, 2017 in Raleigh, North Carolina. He retired from Ohio University in 2000, having taught English in the College

## **Unlikely Things I Heard About That Actually Worked**

The gasket was leaking on my big freezer so I went to C&E Hardware on Richland Avenue about getting a new one. When the very helpful man there checked the catalog we were both blown away to learn the price was \$99. He told me that his little, old, grey-haired Granny smeared a goodly amount of Vaseline on a faulty gasket and it worked wonders. Well, I could buy a LOT of Vaseline for \$99, so I tried it. It did, indeed work! It's a bit messy but the freezer is in the garage and thus out of the public eye. \$99 indeed!

of Arts and Sciences and, later, business writing and communication in the College of Business Administration. Before joining the Ohio University faculty, he was a lecturer at Wake Forest and the University of Richmond and chaired the English Department at Campbell University in North Carolina. Reid was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Randolph-Macon College in Virginia and earned his PhD in English Literature at Vanderbilt University. He

served as an Army intelligence officer during the Korean War. Locally, he served as a CASA guardian ad litem in the Athens County juvenile court and was active in the Church of the Good Shepherd Episcopal

Church. He greatly appreciated the music and literature, the mountains and the people of Appalachia. He is survived by a brother, four children, two step-children and nine grandchildren.

## **Joanne Prisley**

Joanne Dove Prisley, 85, died December 3, 2017, in Athens.

She received an A.B. and M.A. from Ohio University, graduating with high honors. She joined Alpha Gamma Delta (Zeta Chapter) Sorority, was an active member for many years and was awarded the Arc of Epsilon Pi with diamond and pearl for more than 35 years of continued service. She was a member of scholarship honoraries Alpha Lambda Delta, Chimes and Phi Beta Kappa (Chairman). She met her husband, Dr. Alexander Prisley, when they were students at OU. After a period at Brown University they returned to Athens in 1963 when Alex joined the faculty of the Government (now Political Science) Department at Ohio University.

Joanne was employed in various positions including: consumer market analyst with Proctor and Gamble, industrial marketanalyst with B.F. Goodrich Chemical Co., 5th grade teacher in Youngstown, resident counselor of Bryan Hall,

administrative assistant and secretary to the librarian of John Carter Brown Library at Brown University, Assistant Dean of Women at OU, administrative assistant to the chairman of the Ohio Democratic Party, and acting director/curator of the Athens County Historical Society and Museum. She participated in numerous educational, civic, religious, political and social activities and served on numerous community committees. Among the many accolades she received she was most proud of being named "Official Town Crank" by Mayor Sara Hendricker and worked hard to live up to it.

Her husband Alexander Vladimir Prisley died in 2005.

## **OHIO UNIVERSITY**

**Emeriti Association**

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