Pomerene Hall

By Nancy Wardwell

Talk about change! The elegant neo-Gothic Pomerene Hall is getting a 21st century makeover. It was built in 1922 to be a Women's Student Union and housed the Dean of Women and Women's Physical Education. It is being transformed to “neo-tech” to house the Translational Data Analytics Institute.

Pomerene Hall was one of the gems on campus. It was designed by Campus Architect and Professor Howard Dwight Smith, perhaps best known as the designer of Ohio Stadium. He pulled out all the stops for Pomerene.

The gymnasium was built not as a place for basketball, but was a classic, early Dudley Sargent style with stall bars, climbing ropes, incline ladders and other equipment of early fitness programs.

In addition to paneled offices and plush social and meeting spaces, the ground level was home to the “Refectory”. The Food Service unit was the laboratory for students in the Institutional Management Division of the School of Home Economics. Generations of students flocked there for well-prepared favorites like beef pinwheels and their famous custard.

The details of the building were extraordinary. The beautifully crafted plaster ceilings, stone-carved fireplaces and abundant wood paneling were a tribute to Frank Pomerene, an 1891 OSU graduate and a member of the Board of Trustees. The impressive article written by Chris Booker in the Ohio State University web News. He quotes Ruth Miller, Senior Project Manager, Ohio State Facilities Operations and Development, Design, and Construction Team:

“Inside the building you can see great craftsmanship from almost 100 years ago,” Miller said. “We’re taking the time to make sure as much of the natural building remains when it’s finished.”

The renovation is scheduled to be completed in 2018. Many are anxious to see just how it will be accomplished – bringing high-tech function to the old neo-Gothic beauty.
FROM: The President

I can hardly believe it’s June already. I have one month left in my OSURA Presidency. Time flies when you’re having fun! And yes, it has been fun. I have enjoyed getting to know so many OSURA members at events and by exchanging email messages.

OSURA has come a long way with our transition to the Alumni Association this last year. Along the way, we have had “learning curves” on both sides. The OSURA Board and Transition Team, along with Human Resource’s Diana Lantz, Michele Bondurant and Tami Jones, worked to identify the details of what it takes to make OSURA run as an organization. The Alumni Association leaders Chad Warren and Craig Little, as well as the staff, have worked with us to try to make this transition as seamless as possible to you the OSURA Members. I appreciate everyone’s time, work and your patience to make this happen as we continue to make this transition successful.

April showers did bring May flowers to OSURA through our Spring Fling event held on May 17th. The event was at the Longaberger Alumni House, sponsored by the Membership Committee. The event was for OSU Retirees who haven’t become Active Members of OSURA yet. Some of the attendees had just started retirement and some had been retired over 20 years from OSU. It was great to be able to reach out to these OSU Retirees again and reintroduce them to OSURA. This was possible because we are part of the Alumni Association.

We had an attendance of 52 people, with 31 of them being OSU Retirees who responded to invitations. Door prizes of flowers donated by the OSURA Social Committee and “OSU Swag” donated by the Alumni Association were given out. Attendees got to learn what OSURA is and offers through our Committee and Special Interest Group activities. We gained two new active members at the event! I would like to thank the Membership Committee, Board Members, Committee and SIG Representatives for coming and making the event successful!

Take care!

Shirley Fields McCoy
President, OSURA Executive Board
The insert in this Newsletter carries the changes to our Bylaws necessitated by our new affiliation with the OSU Alumni Association.

The Bylaws and Constitution are printed in their entirety in the OSURA Directory. The changes to the Bylaws were proposed by the Bylaws Committee and approved for consideration by the Executive Board, May 9, 2017.

Troubled Politics in Polarized Times: Dr. Paul Beck, Professor Emeritus, will consider our current condition, how we got there, and how the present compares with the past.

Legacy of the Michigan-Ohio State Rivalry between Bo and Woody: Shemy Schembechler, Bo’s son and Columbus resident, recounts stories of the mutual respect and competitive spirit of two of football’s greatest coaches.

The Power of a Pet: Rustin Moore, DVM, PhD, Dean of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine, will share how interaction with a pet enhances the health and well-being of people.

Improve Your Strength at Any Age: Spencer Fee, Wellness Coordinator at Wesley Glen Retirement Community, will help us experience techniques for building muscle and bone strength.

I Was the First Female Drum Major at OSU and in the Big Ten: Shelley Graf, Physical Therapy Manager of OSU Rehab Services, will tell her story from when she started twirling a baton at age 7 through her years as the OSU Drum Major and with the Alumni Band today.

International Experience: An Important Component of Today’s Ohio State Education: Dr. Wayne Carlson, Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, will discuss successful international programs such as students studying abroad and international students currently on campus.

Regional Campuses Develop Leaders and Provide Access to the Benefits of OSU: Dr. Charlene Gilbert, Dean and Director, OSU Lima, will present the students’ access to 200 majors at Lima and the convenience of completing many bachelor degree programs close to home.

The Changing Face of Orthopedic Surgery at the Ohio State University: Dr. Chris Kaeding, MD, Professor, Head Team Physician, and Director of The Crane Sports Medicine Center will discuss the improvements in Orthopedic Surgery for injured patients and OSU athletes.

The Elevator to Success is Broken: You Must Take the Stairs: Robert Ward, Associate Professor, School of Music, together with a group of students on stage, will explain the inner workings of the Ohio State Men’s Glee Club.

What Do I Need to Know About Elder Law? Blaine Brockman, Elder Law Attorney, will answer your questions regarding topics such as wills, probate, and power of attorney.

Evidence-Based Practice: Real Life Success Stories: Dr. Bernadette Melnyk, University Chief Wellness Officer and Dean of the OSU College of Nursing, will present her views on life-long wellness.

The Research Landscape at OSU: Caroline Whitacre PhD, Senior Vice President for Research, will focus on research initiatives with examples of interdisciplinary approaches launched by the Discovery Themes Program.
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

June 6 (Tuesday)
Benefits Committee
Time/Place: 9:15 a.m., Longaberger Alumni House, 2200 Olentangy River Road

June 13 (Tuesday)
Board Meeting
Time/Place: 9 a.m., Longaberger Alumni House, 2200 Olentangy River Road

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

June 12 (Monday)
Litter Picking Team
Challenge Level 3
We will meet in the lobby of the Longaberger Alumni House. Parking is free. Come help us keep campus clean from Longaberger Alumni House through the Bloch Cancer Survivors Plaza and end with the Lane Avenue Gardens of the Chadwick Arboretum. Wear your walking shoes, sunblock and hat. We will have gloves, tongs, trash bags and buckets. Please join us.
Meet by: 8:30 a.m. at the Longaberger Alumni House, 2200 Olentangy River Road
Arranger: Shirley McCoy (Litter Pickers SIG)

June 27 (Tuesday)
Tertulia Breakfast
Come join OSURA members and friends for breakfast and conversation.
Time/Place: 8 a.m., OSU Faculty Club
Cost: On your own
Arranger: Jerry Dare (Tertulia Breakfast SIG)

June 28 (Wednesday)
Bridge Group
Join us; new members always welcomed. There is no membership fee and it costs only 25 cents for prizes the day you play. Come enjoy the fellowship, and have fun playing a good game of bridge at the same time.
Time/Place: 1 p.m., Friendship Village of Dublin, North CR
Arranger: Steve Miller (Bridge Group SIG)

June
Lunch Bunch
No event this month... but don’t forget to sign up for the Annual Picnic scheduled for Monday, June 26.
Arrangers: Phyllis Carroll (Social Committee)

June, July, August
Photo Society
No meeting until Thursday, September 14th
Arranger: Lawrence Kennedy (Photographic Society SIG)

June, July, August
Walking/Hiking Group
No planned group walk until September. This gives you time to explore other places on your own. Hit the beach, woods, and trails of summer....but don’t forget the sunscreen.
Arranger: Hallan Noltimier (Walking/Hiking SIG)

June, July, August
Book Club
While the OSURA Book Club is on summer hiatus until September 13th (a week early) why not start reading our first book in the new reading year? The General vs. the President: Mac Arthur and Truman at the Brink of Nuclear War, by H.W. Brands. Truman, the civilian neophyte President beset by national and international problems, and MacArthur, a revered general with an outsized ego in command of U.S. troops in a faraway war in Korea, clashed over the use of nuclear weapons as a military tactic. The result was a constitutional crisis to ultimately decide who is boss.
Arranger: Lee Hill (Book Club SIG)

June, July, August
Dinner Series
No event until we reconvene on September 28th for another year of great programs.
Arranger: Howard Gauthier (Dinner Series SIG)

SPECIAL EVENTS

June 2 (Friday)
Art and More in Downtown Columbus
OSU Urban Arts Space and Moyer Ohio Judicial Center
REGISTRATION CLOSED
Meet by: 11 a.m., Lazarus Building, 50 W. Town Street, Suite 30
Return: 2 p.m.
Arranger: Diane Driessen (Cultural Arts Committee)

June 26 (Monday)
Lunch Bunch Summer Picnic
Amelita Mirolo Barn
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Come prepared for an afternoon of delicious food, fun activities, prizes and exciting entertainment at our annual potluck picnic. Bring your favorite dish to share and a non-perishable food item to donate to the Buckeye Food Alliance/OSU Food Pantry. Everything else will be provided.

Challenge Levels
1 Light – may include a few stairs.
2 Moderate – may include a few sets of stairs.
3 Moderate + – may include climbing many stairs and/or uneven terrain.
4 High – may include lots of walking, climbing stairs, hilly walkways and/or extended weather exposure.
Registration Instructions

1. Registrations requiring payment: Registrations can be made by going on-line to osura.osu.edu or by calling 614-292-2281 or 1-800-762-5646. You can pay by credit card (preferred), or if you mail in a check make it payable to OSUAA. Put the name of the trip in the Note/Memo section of the check and send or drop off to:

Customer Service
C/o OSURA
Longaberger Alumni House
2200 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, OH 43210
The reservation is not made until payment is received.

2. Registrations NOT requiring payment: Registrations will be made through the Arranger’s email provided in the description of the event, or if you do not have computer access call 614-292-2281.

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**LITTER PICKERS**

Monday, June 12, 2017
8:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Longaberger Alumni House

We will meet in the lobby of the Longaberger Alumni House. Parking is free. Come help us keep campus clean from Longaberger Alumni House through the Bloch Cancer Survivors Plaza and end with the Lane Avenue Gardens of the Chadwick Arboretum. Wear your walking shoes, sunblock and hat. We will have gloves, tongs, trash bags and buckets.

Arranger: Shirley McCoy
(Litter Pickers SIG)

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**July 19 (Wednesday)**

**Wright Patterson AFB Tour**

Dayton, OH
Challenge Level 1
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Visit the museum’s galleries showcasing many rare, one-of-a-kind aircraft and aerospace vehicles and thousands of historical items that chronicle the evolution of military flights from the Wright brothers to today’s stealth aircraft, including Air Force One. nationalmuseum.AF.mil

Meet by: 7:30 a.m., back parking lot at Kohl’s, 3360 Olentangy River Road

Return: approx. 5:30 p.m.

Cost: $40.00; includes motor coach transportation, boxed lunch, admissions, movie ticket, snacks and tips

Registration/Payment Deadline: Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by July 14.

Arrangers: Jessica Pritchard and Alabelle Zghoul (Travel Committee)

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**August 9 (Wednesday)**

**Ark Encounter**

Williamstown, KY
Challenge Level 3
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

The Ark Encounter features a full-size Noah’s Ark, built according to the dimensions given in the Bible: 510 ft. long, 85 ft. wide and 51 ft. high. The moment the towering ark comes into view, from the friendly animals in the zoo, to the jaw-dropping exhibits inside the ark, you’ll experience the pages of The Bible like never before. ArkEncounter.com

Meet by: 7:15 a.m., back parking lot at Kohl’s, 3360 Olentangy River Road

Return: approx. 7:30 p.m.

Cost: $58.50; includes motor coach transportation, Ark tour, snacks and tips

Registration/Payment Deadline: Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by July 9.

Arrangers: Alabelle Zghoul and Betty Hriesik (Travel Committee)

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**September 2-10**

**The “Magnificent” Canadian Rockies**

Vancouver, Jasper, Lake Louise, Banff, Calgary
REGISTRATION CLOSED

Depart: TBA September 2 (Saturday)
Return: TBA September 10 (Sunday)

Payment Deadline: Final payment due July 4

Arranger: Alabelle Zghoul (Travel Committee)

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MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT: Morris Beja

Morris (Murray) has been at OSU for fifty-six years; he and his first wife, Nancy, arrived in 1961. He has been retired for sixteen years. With so many decades—with so much time and change—it’s hard to single out highlights, but central were his eleven years as Chair of the Department of English.

He has never been seriously tempted to leave OSU, but he has had terrific experiences as a visiting professor in Greece, Ireland, and—since retirement—at Northwestern and in China, and accompanying his wife, Ellen Carol Jones, in Japan, where she was a visiting professor. (Ellen, by the way, is an OSU alumna, with B.A. and M.A. degrees, as well as a Ph.D. from Cornell, where Murray had also once been a graduate student.)

Murray’s publications have centered on modern British and Irish literature (notably James Joyce and Virginia Woolf) and on film. For 28 years he was either President or Executive Secretary of the International James Joyce Foundation. For most of that time the Foundation was headquartered at Ohio State, which has supported it with facilities, space, and a Graduate Administrative Associate.

Another highlight he would have to mention is that Samuel Beckett wrote a fine, moving play especially for a Symposium at Ohio State on his work that Murray co-directed, and Beckett even generously titled it Ohio Impromptu.

In retirement, Murray has continued his scholarship on Joyce and film. With Ellen he has edited a volume of film essays that is expected to be published next year.

He is grateful for the many ways OSU encourages retirees to keep up with what is going on in the University, as with the Emeritus Academy and, centrally, OSURA. He has appreciated a great deal of what OSURA does, and would particularly like to express gratitude for its updates on STRS and other campus news—and to Michael Benedict for his enormously helpful periodic Cultural Arts Bulletin.

One bit of evidence of how firm Murray’s friendship and ties to Ohio State are is that, with a colleague, Chris Zacher, he has been working on a history of the English Department, from its origins in 1870 to the start of the twenty-first century.

OSU Email Policy  By Jerry Newsom

In April OSU announced a new policy on e-mails, stating that after September 29 if you receive emails through Ohio State “you will no longer have the option to forward your email to a non-OSU domain.” People understandably interpreted this to mean that they would no longer have the option to forward their email to a non-OSU domain. But thankfully it turns out that is not what the words were supposed to mean. If you receive e-mail through OSU (such as smith.10@osu.edu), you will still be able to click the Forward icon to send the email on to someone else. It’s unfortunate that the OSU announcement was unclear and caused considerable concern unnecessarily.
People with a cluster of risk factors known as metabolic syndrome who slept fewer than six hours a night were twice as likely to die from heart disease or stroke within 15 years compared to people without the syndrome.

The cluster of risks included: body mass index higher than 30 and elevated blood pressure, total cholesterol, fasting blood sugar and triglyceride levels. When people have three or more of these factors, they are said to have metabolic syndrome, a significant health condition that is found in about one-third of adults in the United States, though the percent varies based on several factors, including age, gender, ethnicity and others. It raises the risk of heart disease and diabetes more than any of the single factors alone.

It is recommended that adults get at least seven hours of sleep a night for optimal health. Deaths from all causes – not just heart disease – were also associated with sleeping less in those with the metabolic syndrome.

Source: American Heart Association and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

Changes to Insure Solvency

By Jerry Newsom

As reported in last month’s Newsletter, STRS has to cut expenses to maintain solvency in their pension fund for the long haul, most likely by eliminating cost of living increases (COLAs) for quite a few years. The STRS Board made it official at its April meeting, voting to suspend the COLA indefinitely. Finances will be reviewed again in five years and the Board can see at that time if finances permit reinstating the COLA.

The big surprise at the Board meeting was on the STRS health care funding. They had been considering several different plans that would keep the fund solvent for projected 35 or 50 years or indefinitely. Between the March and April meetings, however, the projections changed dramatically. The plan that projected solvency for 35 years is now projected to last for 23 years. The two plans with an expected solvency of 50 years now are projected to last 24 and 29 years respectively. The plan that was expected to keep the health care fund solvent indefinitely now is expected to exhaust the funding in 33 years. New plans will be drawn up, likely with lower subsidy toward premiums paid by STRS retirees. The only good news is that claims for health care in the last couple of years have been lower than expected, so perhaps STRS health insurance plans can continue unchanged for 2018, with changes likely to go into effect in 2019.
First Community Village

Where residents come first, and relationships last a lifetime

First Community Village was founded over 50 years ago. That’s half a century of building lasting bonds with neighbors like Ohio State University. Come for a visit, and see why our focus on lifelong learning makes us so popular with OSU alumni.

Schedule a visit or call to speak with one of our retirement counselors at 1-888-467-0618.

Get to know your neighbors at firstcommunityvillage.org

Independent Living • Assisted Living
Rehabilitation • Memory Care • Skilled Nursing

June 26 | 11:15 a.m.
at the beautiful Amelita Mirolo Barn

SEE YOU AT THE
Summer Potluck Picnic!
Article IV - Membership and Dues: Donations

Section 1 - Regular Active Members

Regular Members are Retirees of the University (or of an organization recognized by the Executive Board as being closely related to the University, for example, The Ohio State University Faculty Club) who are current in their dues to OSURA shall become an Active Member by making a donation to OSURA at the minimum annual or at the minimum Lifetime membership level.

Section 2 - Associate Members

Associate members are Retirees from places other than the University who have an interest in and can contribute to the purpose of OSURA can be eligible for an Associate Membership. Also, individuals who are nearing retirement from the University are eligible to become Associate Members. Associate Members must be approved by the Membership Committee and must make a donation to OSURA at the minimum annual membership level remain current in their annual dues to OSURA to retain their memberships. Associate Members do not have the right to vote or hold any position requiring membership on the Executive Board.

Section 3 - Spouses/Partners

a. The spouse or partner of a Regular an Active Member or of an Associate Member is automatically a Regular an Active Member or an Associate Member, respectively.

b. The surviving spouse/partner of a Regular an Active Member or Associate Member may continue membership. If the Regular Active Member maintained lifetime membership, lifetime membership shall carry over for the surviving spouse/partner.

c. The surviving spouse/partner of an Inactive Member is eligible to become a Regular an Active Member.

Section 4 - Dues Membership Donations

All Regular Members shall pay annual or lifetime membership dues as set by the Executive Board sets the level of minimum donation required for Active membership status. Active members make either an annual donation to OSURA or a donation at the Lifetime membership level.

Section 5 - Inactive Members

Retirees of the University (or of organizations recognized by the Executive Board as being closely related to the University), along with their spouses/partners, who are not current in their dues donation to OSURA shall be classified as Inactive Members. Inactive Members shall have none of the rights and privileges of Regular Active Members.

Article V – Officers

Section 1 – The Officers

The officers of OSURA shall consist of President, Vice President (who is also the President-Elect), Secretary, Treasurer and Immediate Past President, all of whom must be Regular Active Members of OSURA.

Section 3: Secretary

The Secretary shall send out notices of the Executive Board and general membership meetings and keep minutes of these meetings. The Secretary shall send reports of these meetings and the activities of OSURA to the Association. The Secretary shall have the custody of the names and addresses of those retirees who become Regular Active or Associate Members of OSURA and shall notify the Association of any updates or changes that OSURA might receive. OSURA shall not release the membership list for political, personal or commercial purposes.

Section 4: Treasurer

The Treasurer shall supervise all receipts and expenditures of OSURA in keeping with an appropriate system of control over the financial resources of the organization. If dues are charged, the Treasurer shall work with the Association staff to obtain the necessary reports to provide updates to the Executive Board.
The Treasurer shall oversee the preparation and distribution of monthly financial reports. The Treasurer shall obtain and record the information necessary for monthly financial reports to the Executive Board and the Finance Committee. The Treasurer shall disburse funds subject to the approval of the Executive Board and its established policies. As requested, the Treasurer shall complete and submit annual financial forms to the Association. Additionally, he or she shall complete and submit any documents that may be required by the Internal Revenue Service.

Section 5: Immediate Past President

The Immediate Past President shall work with the President to further the objectives of OSURA. The Immediate Past President shall officiate at Executive Board meetings in the absence of the President and the Vice President.

Article VII – the Executive Board (hereafter referred to as the Board)

Section 1: Composition

The Board, all of whom must be Regular Active Members of OSURA, shall consist of:

a. the officers named in Article V;

b. the Historian(s);

c. the Chairpersons of the following Standing Committees: Benefits, Bylaws, Communications, Conference Planning, Cultural Arts, Finance, Friendship, Membership, Social, Special Interest Groups Coordinating and Travel. A committee chairperson may designate another member of his or her committee to serve as the Board member representing the committee;

d. six members-at-large elected to the Board by the membership of OSURA;

e. members, without vote, designated from time to time by the Board and serving as liaison to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio, the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, and other organizations, projects, and committees, both internal and external to the University;

f. the President/CEO of the Association, or designee, as an ex officio, without a vote.

g. the staff designee from the University Office of Human Resources responsible to work with OSURA, as an ex officio, without a vote.

Article IX – Committees

Section 1: Standing Committees

The Standing Committees are: Benefits, Bylaws, Communications, Conference Planning, Cultural Arts, Finance, Friendship, Membership, Social, Special Interests Groups Coordinating and Travel. The duties of the Standing Committees are described in the OSURA Operating Manual. The Standing Committee chairpersons shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board for a three-year term and they are eligible to serve additional terms.

Section 2: Nominating Committee

a. The Nominating Committee shall have five members, each of whom shall be Regular Active Members. Two members shall be from the Board and the other three shall be from the general membership, who shall all be elected at the first Board Meeting of the calendar year.

b. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of officers and the ballot to the membership in May.

c. Ballots shall be returned to the Nominating Committee for determining the outcome of the election. The Membership shall be notified of the results prior to July 1.

From Bylaws adopted August 17, 2016