The Buckeye Bullet 3

By Nancy Wardwell

“World’s fastest electric car in Kingman, AZ” was serendipitously discovered recently in an automotive museum by a traveller and excitedly reported at an OSURA committee meeting. Ohio State holds many records in many endeavors, but without a doubt the Buckeye Bullet 3 is the fastest!

On September 23, 2016 the Venturi Buckeye Bullet 3 smashed its own record for an electric car with 341.4 mph on the Bonneville Salt Flats.

The Buckeye Bullet is a series of experimental electric cars created by OSU students as a joint project with the French company Venturi. The students are primarily from the College of Engineering, led by Dr. Giorgio Rizzoni, and work in space provided by OSU’s Center of Automotive Research.

The quest for the land speed record began in 1993 when now OSURA member Larry Kennedy, Chair of Mechanical Engineering, asked Giorgio Rizzoni to advise a new electric vehicle student racing team. Their first vehicle was the “Smokin’ Buckeye,” an open wheel, formula style car powered by 31 lead acid batteries. Ohio State dominated the competition and won every national championship awarded.

Center for Automotive Research

Giorgio Rizzoni is now the Director of The Center for Automotive Research. According to its website (car.osu.edu), it is the preeminent research center in sustainable and safe mobility in the United States and an interdisciplinary research center in The Ohio State University’s College of Engineering. With a concentration on preparing the next generation of automotive leaders, CAR is recognized for interdisciplinary emphasis on systems engineering, advanced unique experimental facilities, collaboration on advanced product development projects with industry, and a balance of government and privately sponsored research. CAR’s research focuses on energy, safety and the environment.

The Buckeye Bullet is by no means the only project of the Ohio State Center for Automotive Research (CAR). Other projects include:

- Formula Buckeye – designs, fabricates, and races a high-performance, open-wheeled racecar. OSU competes against more than 120 other colleges and universities
- EcoCar3 – challenges 16 North American universities to redesign a 2016 Chevrolet Camaro to further reduce its environmental impact while maintaining the iconic Camaro performance and safety
- Baja Buckeye – design, build, and race an off-road vehicle to compete in Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) National competitions
- Buckeye Current – designs and builds an electric racing motorcycle
- Underwater Robotics – develops autonomous underwater vehicles

Do go to car.osu.edu and explore the interdisciplinary, global works of the Center for Automotive Research related to mobility, energy, and safety. Their 2017 Annual Report is a great place to start.

Finally, in a city like Columbus where two major interstate highways intersect in our midtown, perhaps the most meaningful project is the Clean Energy Research Truck whose goal is to develop cost-effective measures to improve on road freight of medium and heavy-duty trucks!
FROM: The President

ACTIVE OSURA VOLUNTEERS – take a BOW; we stand and applaud you

Now that my year is over, it is time for the players (active OSURA volunteers) to come back on stage to take a bow; we must acknowledge and commend them for their achievements and contributions. OSURA ran well because of parts they played during the course of this year (2017-18).

The OSURA Head of the Communications Committee and Editor of the monthly Newsletter, Nancy Wardwell (President of OSURA, 2009-10), diligently covered many areas of interest, updated the details of OSURA communications for members, printed advanced notice of OSURA events and meetings, wrote special interest articles, listed new retirees and those who departed us, featured senior living and health issues, enclosed ballots and special announcements, and provided many other features for OSURA members. Nancy, in essence, is the printed word and as such, the voice of OSURA. OSURA is very fortunate to have Nancy at this helm and in its governing ranks. Incidentally, Nancy also serves as the Chair of the OCHER(1) group, representing all major universities in Ohio. She is assisted in the journalistic activity by Sally Dellinger, who also chairs the Friendship Committee.

The Treasurer, Dan Jensen, meticulously manages the monetary aspects of OSURA, pays the bills, and “balances the books.” Along with the Chair of the Finance Committee, Jerry Newsom (President, 2015-2016), they keep a watchful eye on the finances of OSURA and report monthly to the Executive Board.

Jerry Newsom wears several other hats for OSURA including generating a new OSURA directory, serving as the liaison to our pension and health care systems, keeping us abreast of any changes with the STRS(2) programs, and regularly attends meetings of the monitoring agencies (e.g., HPA[3], OCHER, ORSC[4]); this latter activity requires Jerry to spend several hours each month downtown. Michele Hobbs performs similar tasks as the OSURA liaison to OPERS(5) and OCHER.

Hallan Noltimier (President, 2014-2015) and his Benefits committee have done a great job at assembling the players and their reports of the many benefits afforded the members of OSURA, including the aforementioned STRS, OPERS, HPA, OCHER, on campus FCBC(6) (represented by Rai Goerler); state and federal legislative news affecting retirees; various senior citizen programs; an extensive listing of senior discounts; and many other benefits.

Based on the results of a recent survey of members, both Cultural Arts and Travel rank high as favorite OSURA activities and the reasons many elect to belong to OSURA. The former committee is chaired by Rai Goerler (President, 2013-14) and the latter by Abielle Zghoul. I’ve personally enjoyed attending their meetings; all marked by interesting ideas, planning and ventures.

This year has been challenging for the Membership Committee, particularly as it has had to deal with membership numbers, addresses, mailings, directories, and conflicting computer programs and databases. The new Chair, Gemma McLuckie, has performed at an outstanding level in approaching and solving these complex issues.

A gem of OSURA is the Annual Fall Conference, a day-long gathering of over 300 members attending a keynote lecture, breakout sessions (educational, entertaining, and informative) and campus tours. This incredible, multifaceted feat is generated and run by the innovative, hard-working Conference Planning Committee, Chaired by Rachael Turner. This event is supported and sponsored by commercial entities and various OSU Departments.

The monthly LunchBunch talks and semiannual OSURA “Picnic outings” are run by the Social Committee, Chaired by Elone Zeller; the monthly Dinner-Lecture series by Howard Gauthier (President 2011-12), who will be stepping down after 9+ years at this helm, Special Interest Groups (LitterPickers, Walking/Hiking, Book Club, Photographic Society, Health+Wellness, Tertulia breakfasts) headed by Mary Cull, assisting with the new directory and reviewing and rewriting the Bylaws as needed for Board Approval by Marie Taris (President, 2010-11); our Historian and keeper of records is Tom Sweeney (President, 2003-04), who also heads the Campus Campaign for OSURA; and David Crawford, who manages the Nominations Committee and leads our efforts in BUCKS for CHARITY. Obviously, there is insufficient space to mention all the committee members, and I deeply apologize for missing anyone I should have mentioned. (We’re all susceptible to “senior moments.”)

The reports of committees and the minutes of the Board meetings are managed by newly re-elected Shirley Fields and over the past year, Steven D’Ambrosio expediently took charge of the Vice-President’s duties (e.g., Nominations, Retreat, and directory). Shirley McCoy (President, 2016-17) takes a bow for the smooth transition from the Office of Human Resources to the
Alumni Association (AA) and for continued monitoring of AA-merit reimbursement of OSURA events.

These are your players on stage; the movers that make OSURA function and perform well. It has, indeed, been a pleasure working alongside this group of deeply caring, attentive individuals.

I wish Steven D’Ambrosio all the luck in the world for a successful and rewarding year as your next OSURA president.

For the privilege of submitting this last letter to you as the 2017-18 President of OSURA,

I remain respectfully yours,

Carl V. Leier
President of OSURA

1. OCHER=Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees
2. STRS=State Teachers Retirement System
3. HPA=Health care and Pension Advocates
4. ORSC=Ohio Retirement Study Council
5. OPERS=Ohio Public Employees Retirement System
6. FCBC=Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee

Welcome New Retirees

Elizabeth Tarpy Alcalde
Arts & Sciences Administration

Robert Duane Cottrell
French and Italian

Daniel Allen Malkoff
Legal Affairs Administration

Rajiv Shivpuri
Integrated Systems Engineering

Robert Lloyd Arnold
Art

Donald L. Cousar
Planning & Real Estate

Jerry Carl McGowan
Facilities Building Services

Richard H. Sloan
EHE Human Sciences

James Lester Baker
Disability Services

Frank Maxfield Croft
Civil, Envir & Geod Eng

Margaret A. Mills
English

Willard Dexter Smith
Marion Campus

William Richard Bauer
Mansfield Campus

Roxie Edward Dabney
Rec Sports

Lillie Valeria Orr
Budget & Planning

Florence Rose Spangler
FCOB Administration

Dorothy Louise Bayless
Budget & Planning

Lauren V. Farr
FAES Communications

Francis Edward Paskievitch
Facilities Utilities

Mary Lou Stewart
Shared Services

Barbara Jean Berlinger
Shared Services

Francis Lee Fluharty
OARDC Animal Sciences

Kathleen Anne Summerfield
EHE Centers

Michelle Mangham Blackwell
Sociology

Nadine Sue Fogt
OSUE County Operations

Marshall William Swain
Philosophy

Charles Andrew Blanton
Facilities

Christina Gaye Fultz
EHE Department Administration

Jeff Lewis Taylor
Facilities Operations

Ernest Blount
Receiving

Janice Welch Gulker
History

Nancy Ruth Trabue
Stores

Connie N. Bolek
OSU Health Plan Inc

Carin Lynne Hill
Cancer Hosp & Research Inst

David Lee Tucker
University Hospitals

Howard Emory Bowman
Facilities Maintenance

Marilyn Caroline Humphries
University Development

Fred Daniel Tweedy
Facilities Operations

Eddie Carswell
Facilities Building Services

Jack Jay Jackson
Wexner Administration

Jill Ann Warner
University Hospitals

Phyllis Jean Charles
Budget & Planning

Maryann Mildred Kenney
Arts & Sciences Admin

Jane Alice Wilson
Sociology

John Patrick Cheatham
Pediatrics

Helen Rita Knisley
Facilities Building Services

Kenneth Wright
Budget & Planning

Marilyn J. Clapham
Office of the CFO

Bruce Alan Leach
University Libraries

Robert Eugene Wright
Budget & Planning

Hayden E. Coleman
Facilities Maintenance

Joyce Marie Leimbach
EHE Centers

George A. Sheppard
Budget & Planning

Crystal C. Rutan
Cancer Hosp & Research Inst
Calendar of Events

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

July 25 (Wednesday)
Membership Committee
Time/Place: 10 a.m., Longaberger

July
Benefits Committee
No meeting this month – will meet again August 7

July
Board Meeting
No meeting this month – will meet again August 14

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

July 24 (Tuesday)
Tertulia Breakfast
Please 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)

July 25 (Wednesday)
Bridge Group
Join us – 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)

July
Lunch Bunch
No event this month... but join us August 16 when we consider "Safety First" with CPD Officer Steve Smith.
Contact Person: Elenore R. Zeller
(Social Committee)

July, August
Photo Society
No meeting until Thursday, September 13th
Arranger: Jack Nasar (Photographic Society SIG)

July, August
Book Club
While the OSURA Book Club is on summer hiatus until September 19, why not start reading our first book in the new reading year? Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the F.B.I. by David Grann. The Osage Indian tribe was sent to hard-scrabble Oklahoma—a land thought only good as an Indian reservation. But, the oil found underneath suddenly gave them great riches. This caused envy, greed, evil, money, and murder in an attempt to steal their mineral rights.
Arranger: Lee Hill (Book Club SIG)

July, August
Walking/Hiking Group
No planned group walk until September. So get out there and explore other places on your own. Stroll the beach, woods, and trails of summer...but don’t forget the sunscreen.
Arranger: Hallan Noltimier (Walking/Hiking SIG)

July, August
Dinner Series
No event until we reconvene on September 27th for another year of great programs.

SPECIAL EVENTS

July 16 (Monday)
Litter Picking Team
Challenge Level 3
Please join us as we pick up litter from the Longaberger Alumni House through the Bloch Cancer Survivors Plaza to the Lane Avenue Gardens of the Chadwick Arboretum. Wear your walking shoes, sunblock and hat. Gloves, tongs, trash bags and buckets provided.
Meet by: 8:30 a.m. in the lobby of the Longaberger, 2200 Olentangy River Road. Parking is free. (In the event of inclement weather, this group will not meet.)
Arranger: Mary Cull (Litter Pickers SIG)

July 18 (Wednesday)
The Wilds Tour
Cumberland, OH
Challenge Level 2
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
See where threatened and endangered animals from all over the world live in mixed-species groups roaming expansive natural habitats, where scientists and educators are working to better understand and conserve the world’s animals and natural resources. www.thewilds.org
Meet by: 8:15 a.m. at Longaberger parking lot, 2200 Olentangy River Road (this is a change)
Return: approximately 6 p.m.
Cost: $68.50; includes Wilds admissions, transportation, lunch, snack and tips
Registration Deadline: Register at osura.alumni.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by July 1
Arrangers: Alabelle Zghoul and Betty Hriesik
(Travel Committee)

Alabelle Zghoul, Travel Committee Chair, arranged a wonderful trip to Amish Country in May.
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.

August 8 (Wednesday)
Huntington Baseball Park Tour

Challenge Level 2
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Enjoy a talk about baseball in Columbus and a special guided tour of Huntington Park, the home of our Columbus Clippers. See places you cannot visit during baseball games. You will get a new and better appreciation of our team.

Meet by: 10:15 a.m. at the Park, 330 Huntington Park Lane
Return: approximately noon
Cost: No cost...except for possibly parking
Registration Deadline: Register at OSURA, CulturalArts.Travel@gmail.com PREFERRED, or call 614-292-2281 by August 1
Arranger: Julian Larson (Cultural Arts Committee)

August 29 (Wednesday)
Special Sights in Cincinnati and Newport, KY

Challenge Level 3
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Come join us for a stop at the American Sign Museum in Cincinnati, followed by a buffet lunch cruise on a BB Riverboat on the Ohio River, and finally a tour of the Newport KY Aquarium.

Meet by: 6:45 a.m. at Longaberger parking lot, 2200 Olentangy River Road
Return: approximately 6:30 p.m.
Cost: $98; includes admissions, transportation, buffet lunch, snacks and tips
Registration Deadline: Register at osura.alumni.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by August 20
Arrangers: Jessica Pritchard and Alabelle Zghoul (Travel Committee)

October 11 (Thursday)
Whistle While You Walk

Challenge Level 3
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Tour the American Whistle Factory (americanwhistle.com), lunch on your own cost at La Chatelaine, 627 N. High Street, Old Worthington (lachatelainebakery.com) and take a guided walking tour of Old Worthington led by Stephanie Hauelsen (worthingtonhistory.com)

Meet by: 10:15 a.m. at 6540 Huntley Road, between 161 and Schrock Road. Participants will drive to La Chatelaine between 11:30 a.m. and noon
Return: approximately 2:30 p.m.
Cost: $9; includes factory and walking tours
Registration Deadline: Register at osura.alumni.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by September 27
Arranger: Diane Driessen (Cultural Arts Committee)

NEW
UPCOMING EVENT
November 1-13
Spain’s Costa del Sol & The Portuguese Riviera

Arranger: Alabelle Zghoul (Travel Committee)

The OSURA Potlucks are some of the best of all our programs. Great food, fun, and fellowship – and wonderful programs. Be sure to add the Holiday Potluck to your calendar!
FROM: The Benefits Committee

The attempt by OPERS to put a new limit on cost of living increases (COLAs) in their pension payments was defeated by protests to the legislature. Protests were much more muted when STRS stopped future COLAs (at least for now), but that is changing. At the public speaking session at the last two STRS Board meetings, several people voiced their anger at the situation. What was lacking, however, was any suggestion of alternatives. Before the COLAs were ended, STRS ceased being in compliance with the legislated mandate on the ratio of assets to liabilities, for example. No one was happy about losing COLAs, but no one could see a viable alternative until the finances of the pension fund are significantly improved.

There is good news on the health-care fund, however. Changes to the formulae for subsidies for health insurance, lower claims, improved return on investments, and higher reimbursements from the feds put the health-care fund in a strong position. The STRS Board therefore kept the premiums unchanged in 2019 for the Aetna Medicare Advantage Plan for retirees with 30 years of service. In spite of steadily increasing costs of health care, this is the fourth year in a row with the same premium, which is quite remarkable. The Board also approved continuing the subsidy given to Medicare participants ($29.90 per month) which was scheduled to expire next January 1st.

Luckily for us, Ohio is not one of the states with dire problems in their pension funds. For years, state contributions to Illinois' retirement systems were reduced or skipped, and now the unfunded pension liability amounts to $129 billion! New Jersey is not too far behind. We have our problems, but they are nothing like those of some other states.

STRS Report

By Gerald Newsom

In Memoriam

C. Grey Austin
May 13 | University Ombudsman, 94

E. Thomas Boles
June 12 | Medicine, 97

Robert L. Brummel
May 9 | University Hospitals Pastoral Care, 82

Joseph Cooley Ferrar
May 16 | Mathematics, 78

William Loren "Bill" Flinn
June 9 | Food, Agr, Envir Science 79

Norbert C. Holthaus
May 23 | OSU Extension, 90

Mae Ruth Roberts
May 12 | 88

August F. Schmitthenner
May 1 | OARDC Plant Pathology, 92

Ruth Helen Schweiger
May 16 | University Senate, 91

James C. "Jim" Skeeles
June 13 | OSU Extension, 68

Kathleen A. Smith
May 17 | Agriculture, 98

Shirley Kay Timmons
May 12 | OSU-Ext, 92

John A. Upshaw
May 14 | OSU-Lima, 64

Litter Pickers prepare for action!
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Jerry Newsom

Past president Jerry Newsom has filled his retirement years from deferred maintenance on their house to a study of the navigation of Richard Byrd’s claimed flight to the North Pole to involvement in OSURA. He taught in Ohio State’s Astronomy Department for 35 years, starting as an assistant professor before the 1970 riots. He served as acting chair for a couple years and was vice chair at the time of his retirement in 2004. He also worked in the college office for a year and a half along the way.

Newsom first joined the OSURA Executive Board as a member-at-large, but moved quickly to the presidency in 2015-2016 and continues in several capacities. As vice president and president he was an ex officio member on all OSURA committees. Following that he has represented the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (a forum for promoting the welfare of retirees from Ohio’s public universities) on Healthcare and Pension Advocates, a group which offers advice to the State Teachers Retirement System Board. He serves on the Benefits, Conference, Membership, and Social Committees and chairs the Finance Committee. In this latter position he calls upon his experience monitoring the Astronomy Department budget for many years. He admits that although the Astronomy Department’s budget is much larger than OSURA’s (departments pay salaries, after all), keeping track of OSURA is more of a challenge. Both OSURA and the Alumni Association are still in the learning phase, as we describe to the Alumni Association what information we need and they figure out how to provide it. We’re most of the way there, aided by the fact that Alumni Association staff are always anxious to help.

Seeing the effort that goes into the planning and the enjoyment retirees derive from their participation, Newsom finds his OSURA experience rewarding, “What does OSURA mean to you?” Jerry Newsom answers, “OSURA means talented and devoted retirees working to enrich the lives of their fellow retirees. It is an outstanding organization.”

OSURA Spotlight

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN
OSURA 2018 Outstanding Service Award for 2018

If you would like to nominate an individual who has contributed to the betterment of OSURA retirees through leadership and service, now is your chance. This annual award will be presented at our conference in September to someone whose efforts have enriched the quality of retirees’ lives. The nomination process (detailed on the OSURA website) requires a statement to explain why your nominee should be considered, and submitted by July 15, 2018 to OSURA Customer Service at 2200 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, Ohio, 43210 or electronically to: osura@osu.edu

All retirees from The Ohio State University – faculty and staff – as well as their spouses/partners are members of The Ohio State University Retirees Association. That’s a lot of people. Some (currently over 2700) choose to become regular members by making an OSURA Membership Donation to the OSU Alumni Association; those who do not make such a donation are considered “inactive members.”

The OSURA Membership Committee is charged with managing not only the solicitation of new members from recently retired as well as the “inactives,” but promoting renewal of annual memberships. In addition they maintain current files of membership data and assist in preparation of the roster of members for the annual directory. They do this in close connection with the staff of The Ohio State University Alumni Association, of which OSURA is a special-interest society. The committee comes together monthly, in addition to individual and small-group interactions in the meantime. They also review applications for Associate Memberships which are available to persons retired from places other than Ohio State or who are nearing retirement from OSU.

Gemma McLuckie and Diane Selby co-chair the Membership Committee of Carl Leier, Don Larson, Marie Taris, Nancy Beja, Nancy Wardwell, Raimund Goerler, Steve D’Ambrosio, Diane Whalen, and Gerald Newsom along with Craig Little from the Alumni Association and take active roles in sustaining the purpose of OSURA: to enhance the well-being of retirees from The Ohio State University.
Tickets to Short North Stage’s 2018/19 season are available to OSURA members and their guests at a discount of $10.00 per ticket for the first Sunday performances. The musicals and dates are:

- The Toxic Avenger – August 26
- The Rocky Horror Show – October 14
- La Cage Aux Folles – November 4
- Mamma Mia! – December 9
- Pippin – March 24
- Hedwig and the Angry Inch – June 9

Order tickets at shortnorthstage.org or call 614-725-4042. Use the discount code OSURA.

Questions? Contact Diane Driessen, Cultural Arts Committee, dianedriessen1@gmail.com or 614-457-9346.