Of Function and Aesthetics

By Nancy Wardwell

No doubt you have noticed the rather glamorous building on Cannon Drive between W. 12th Avenue and Herrick Drive. You can see it from Route 315, glowing with iridescent pinks and greens and yellows.

It is the OSU South Campus Central Chiller Plant and it provides the Medical District and the entire 12th Avenue corridor with chilled water. In addition to comfort cooling, the chilled water provides cooling for research, cooling and dehumidification for clean rooms, and a heat sink for refrigerators and freezers. On a giant scale it is not unlike the condenser of a home air conditioner, but this one has a capacity of 30,000 tons of chilled water. Functionally the facility is designed to minimize the impact of the large equipment such as chillers, cooling towers, transformers, and generators. The LEED Silver Certified building has an envelope that showcases the equipment inside and records the sun’s energy on the outside.

The façade is unique. The materials used to construct the outer façade are concrete precast panels polished to a high sheen finish. Large glazed openings frame views of the chiller equipment. Dichronic glass fins are set in the joints of the precast panels and convey a sense of motion as the colors change from the movement of light and from the varying angle of view.

Dichronic glass is glass which displays two different colors by undergoing a color change due to the changes in certain lightening conditions. The special glass is produced by stacking layers of glass and micro layers of metals of oxides, which give the glass shifting colors depending on the angle of view. Usually the resulting glass is used for decorative purposes such as stained glass, jewelry, and other glass art.

There are a couple of other chiller installations on campus but what sets this one apart is the aesthetic dimension to the highly visible site on campus. This entrance is considered a major entry and gateway to campus and the materials chosen achieve that aesthetic.

The Chiller was completed in October 2016 and continues to demonstrate that even the most functional mechanics of our campus can be completely practical and still visually engaging – making a proper entrance to The Ohio State University.
As members of OSURA, we contributed to and supported our great University for many years and that support continues today. Here are several ways to provide support to our students this month.

**2020 Day of Giving:** On Sunday, March 22, Ohio State will celebrate its annual day of giving. As you know, OSURA has created an endowed fund to eliminate student food insecurity by supporting the Buckeye Food Alliance, the student food pantry. This is our gift to the University to mark its Sesquicentennial. A group of OSURA members has put together a matching fund to mark this day of giving. Any gift made to the fund on March 21-22 will be matched. This is a great opportunity to double your gift and help our students!

To make a gift to Fund #316596, you can call (614) 292-2141.

**Volunteer Opportunities:** Interested in helping out at the Denman Undergraduate Research Forum on Tuesday March 3? There is still time to sign up to be a judge; you do not have to be an “expert” to be a judge—just an ability to listen to student presentations and an interest in helping our brightest and best students. To sign up, send an e-mail to Dr. Ola Ahlqvist (ahlqvist.1@osu.edu); last minute additions are always welcome.

Saturday, April 4 will be another Service Day through the OSU Alumni Association. We will be volunteering to work with students at the Buckeye Food Alliance. We will be sending out information on how to sign up as details are given to us. Hope you can join us!

**Thanks:** Every month we pass along information from OPERS and STRS in this newsletter. This is due to the efforts of Jerry Newsom and Michelle Hobbs who attend meetings and comb through reports to get us this information. In addition, Jerry watches legislation at the Ohio Statehouse and at the national level that may impact us as retirees. Your letters and requests show me that this is important to you and you do read it. Thank you to Jerry (who also chairs our Finance Committee) and Michelle (who is secretary to the OSURA Benefits Committee) for keeping us informed!

Thanks, also, to Hal Moellering who represents retirees on the Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee. Hal, who is appointed by President Drake, is serving a two-year term on this committee that reviews faculty compensation and benefits and reports back on trends. Hal has also devoted years to monitoring OSU’s 401(c) retirement funds and pushing for reforms. This is another example of how OSURA members keep contributing to OSURA and the University.

I hope to see you on March 21 on the Oval for the community-wide celebration of Ohio State’s Sesquicentennial!

**Margaret H. Teaford**

President of OSURA
Welcome New Retirees

Toni Marie Bahnsen  
FAES Human Resources

Robert Edward Baker  
EHE Department Administration

Sandra Kay Bentley  
Animal Sciences

Roger Lee Bigelow  
OSURF - Administration

Gates Wilson Burrows  
Oh-Tech

Gary Warren Crocker  
CFAES Ag Operations - Admin

Mattie Marie Dacus  
Newark - Cost Shared

Jeanette A. Davis  
Ambulatory Services

Katharine Hanby Dillingham  
Shared Services

Daniel Brian Dolan  
Shared Services

L. Stanley Durkin  
Physics

Mary Beth Elswick  
Ambulatory Services

Gregory Eric Eriksen  
Facilities Operations

Lesley Kathryn Ferris  
Theatre

Steven Scott Fink  
English

Donna Jean Fishback  
Brain and Spine Hospital

Tamara Ann Frasure  
Comprehensive Cancer Center RU

Kathy Ellen Gamble  
OSUE County Operations

David Paul Giesler  
Facilities Operations

Kenneth W. Goings  
African Amer & African Studies

Evonne Merchant Grant  
Cancer Hosp & Research Inst

Larry Lyn Hall  
OSUE County Operations

Jane Ann Hamblin  
OSAS VP Dean

Jean A. Haught  
FAES Finance

Helen E. Higgins  
EHE Educational Studies

Peggy S. Jaggers  
Marion Campus

Denise Ann Kelso  
Ambulatory Services

Timothy John Malinich  
OSUE County Operations

April A. Martin  
FAES Communications

Kimberly Ann Marvin  
University Hospitals

Cheryl Janice Mason-Middleton  
University Libraries

Kimberly Ann McKeel  
Empl Rel Strategy & Risk Mgmt

Albert Raymond Miller  
OARDC Hort & Crop Sciences

Mary Jo Pfeiffer  
University Hospitals East

Carol Patricia Poe  
Food, Agric & Env Sci Admin

Lydia Aida Pourzanjani  
University Hospitals

Steven W. Rissing  
EEOB

Mary K. Roesch  
University Hospitals

Cathy Faye Russell  
Ross Heart Hospital

David Kersten Sharp  
University Libraries

Mary Ann Smith  
OSURF - Administration

Debra S. Stewart  
University Hospitals East

Marjory T. Trishman  
Design Construction

Kenneth Allen Ulrich  
CFAES Ag Ops Outlying ARS Admin

Jeffrey Earl Welland  
FGP-Internal Medicine

Gloria Jean Wirt  
ATI-Administrative Support

Leena R. Yajnik  
University Hospitals East

FROM: The Benefits Committee

STRS Report

By Jerry Newsom

The STRS Board did not meet in January, so there’s not much to say on that front. But elsewhere:

• Across the country, public pension systems have been gearing up for more challenging times over the next decade, partly due to aging of the Boomers, although studies have also claimed increased globalization and structural inequality will also contribute. Conditions are expected to improve in the 2030s. Although the crystal ball is cloudy, this is the best advice they have. Another concern is how the government will react when the next recession hits. Traditional tools used to help the economy recover are lower interest rates and higher federal deficits, but both of these levers are already being pulled.

• At STRS, as around the country, there are calls to stop investing pension funds (or endowment funds for universities) in companies perceived as harming society in some way (e.g., accusations of unfair labor practices or contributions to greenhouse gas emissions). It’s an attractive idea to promote worthwhile social causes by means of investments, although there may not always be general agreement on which causes are the “good” ones. However, fund managers also are obligated to try to maximize return on investment, which may be inconsistent with advancing social causes. Tension between these viewpoints continues.
March 18 (Wednesday)
Book Club
Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens. Kya, abandoned and alone, raises herself in the marsh where she becomes an expert in its nature. Nicknamed “Marsh Girl” by the suspicious townsfolk, she immediately comes under suspicion when a murder occurs there. Against overwhelming prejudice and ignorance, Kya must prove her innocence. But how?
Time/Place: 1:30 p.m., Carriage Hill of Arlington Party House, Lafayette Drive. Call Lee Hill (614-459-4743) for directions.
Arranger: Lee Hill (Book Club SIG)

March 19 (Thursday)
Lunch Bunch: African Adventure
Steven D’Ambrosio will share his up close and personal experiences with the Silverback Gorilla in Rwanda.
Time/Place: 11:15 a.m., MCL Cafeteria, Kingsdale
Cost: On your own, order through cafeteria line starting at 11:15 a.m., program at approximately noon.
Contact Person: Elenore R. Zeller (Social Committee)

March 21 (Saturday)
Walking/Hiking Group
Challenge Level 2-4
Everyone welcome. Join us on the trails at Highbanks Metro Park, 9466 Columbus Pike, Lewis Center
Time/Place: 10:30 a.m., we’ll meet at the Nature Center.
Arranger: Hallan Noltimier (Walking/Hiking SIG)

March 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)

Alumni Association News & Information
http://www.osu.edu/alumni/activities-and-events/events/

BuckeyeFit: POUND – March 9
COSI After Dark, The mythology and science of Superheroes – March 12
Ohio State Day with the Columbus Blue Jackets – March 19
Ohio State Day of Giving – March 22
Buckeyes Give: Day of Service – April 4
Ohio State Day at Cedar Point – May 8
Ohio State Day at Cleveland Indians – June 19
March 4 (Wednesday)
James Thurber Exhibition
Columbus Museum of Art
REGISTRATION CLOSED
Meet by: 10:45 a.m., in the museum lobby
Return: approximately 12 p.m.
Arranger: Odette Blum
(Cultural Arts Committee)

March 8 (Sunday)
“A Doll’s House, Part 2”
Civic Theater
Challenge Level 1
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Set in 1894, the play concerns Nora, who has left her family and then returns after 15 years. It examines the norms of society and gender. This play and its actors received eight Tony nominations and a win for Best Actress. Register at OSURA.CulturalArts.Travel@gmail.com by March 1.
Arranger: Ron Currin (Cultural Arts Committee)

March 13 (Friday)
Tour of the OSU Veterinary Medical Center
Challenge Level 1
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Behind-the-scenes tour of the OSU Veterinary Medical Center (VMC) and the new Veterinary Clinical and Professional Skills Center at the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM), lead by Dean, Dr. Rustin Moore. The VMC’s three hospitals collectively had over 40,000 patient visits last year!
Meet by: 9:45 a.m., VMC, 1900 Coffey Road
Return: approximately 12 p.m.
Cost: no cost, unless using OSU parking garage

April 25 (Saturday)
Health & Wellness: A Complete Guide to Senior Back Problems
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Dr. Safdar Khan, the Chief of Orthopaedic Spine Surgery, will discuss multiple causes of back and leg pain along with the appropriate methods of treatment for each. Dr. Khan has been able to help patients with failed back surgeries when others could not.
Time/Place: check-in and coffee/snack at 8:30 a.m.; lecture 9 – 11 a.m., (Q&A will follow); Martha Morehouse Auditorium, 2050 Kenny Road
Cost: Free
Registration Deadline: Register at tomczak.1@osu.edu by April 17
Arrangers: Rod Tomczak and Sandy Cornett (Health & Wellness SIG)

Upcoming Event
Look for details in future issues.

• September 23
Annual OSURA Fall Conference
Fawcett Center
In Memoriam

Wendell W. Ellenwood
January 28 | Director of Unions, 98

Mary Catherine Foley
February 2 | Financial Aid, 65

Leonard H. Frueh
January 30 | 73

Thomas R. Fultz
January 13 | 81

Virginia Giggi
January 18 | College of Nursing, 104

John Gordon
January 24 | Printer, 77

Donald Herr
February 1 | Agronomy and OSURA, 93

Helen E. Holter
January 15 | Board of Trustees Office, 86

Eloise Jenkins
January 17 | Medical Center, 94

David Long
January 17 | OARDC, 85

Myrleann Newton
January 16 | School of Music, 92

Shirley Ramsay
January 20 | College of Medicine, 88

Marlin B. Solomon
February 1 | Computer Science, 86

Richard D. Weidner
January 18 | Veterinary School, 90

Mohamed Zehery
January 28 | Library OSU Lima, 85

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Diane Driessen and Ron Currin

By Shari Lorbach

Did you know that OSURA has nearly 40 associate members, friends who did not retire from Ohio State but who are interested and active in our organization? Diane Driessen and Ron Currin are two of those people.

Members Marianne and Ivan Mueller invited Diane and Ron to go on an OSURA bus trip to the Cincinnati Museum of Art. It was the people they already knew and the opportunity to make new friends that prompted this couple to join. Members since 2015, they both have served or are currently serving on the Cultural Arts Committee, helping to plan activities that we all enjoy.

The couple also knew that they had skills to offer that would enhance their participation in OSURA. Diane, for example, earned a Ph.D. in education from Ohio State; children’s literature was her specialty. Having taught kindergarten through graduate students in Michigan, Virginia, and Ohio (she retired from Upper Arlington Schools), she brought her creativity and organization skills to OSURA.

Ron majored in math at Lees McRae College and the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill) and later spent 5 years in the U.S. Air Force as an electronic counter-measures technician. He worked at Chemical Abstracts as a programmer, project leader, and manager, experience that now benefits OSURA.

Meeting new people, learning about new places near and far, and taking OSURA-sponsored trips have enriched their lives immeasurably. Diane recalls traveling with the group to Spain and Portugal: “That was the longest and farthest trip I had ever taken, and it was very special!” OSURA member and friend Gene Gilliom invited them to join his trip to China; Ron said, “Our fellow travelers and the places we saw gave us many fond memories.”

Among their favorite activities and experiences are the Lunch Bunch, the speakers in the dinner series, and short trips to new places in and around Columbus, for example, the tour of the Honda of America Mfg. Inc. in Marysville.

Diane is a docent at the Wexner Center for the Arts, sits on the boards of the Crichton Club and Short North Stage, and serves on a Thuber House committee. She was also on the OSU committee that chose faculty who received the 2019 Distinguished Teaching Award.

An avid photographer, Ron enjoys photographing friends, family, and their travels. Reading and collecting books are favorite pastimes as well as, he admits, “eating in nice restaurants.”

For twenty years Diane and Ron took ballroom dancing classes at Dance Plus Ballroom in Grandview where they met many new friends. And, for the 25th year in a row they will attend the Stratford Shakespeare Festival in Ontario. The couple enjoys the Columbus Jazz Orchestra, Columbus Symphony, Short North Stage, CATCO, Jefferson Series in New Albany, and Crichton Club, and the Alumni Association’s Buckeye Smart and Buckeye Spotlight series. Diane said they take advantage of the OSURA discount to attend Ballet Met performances too!

This couple’s active participation in OSURA helps to make it better for all of us!
Crafts Group to Host a Special Project

My Very Own Blanket is a non-profit charity dedicated to providing handmade blankets to children in foster care. The project began right here in Columbus and has grown nationwide.

The OSURA Craft Group will host a session to assemble blankets.

**April 21, 2020 | 1 – 3 p.m.**
**Whetstone Branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library**

The blanket kits are $10 each, and it takes about 45 minutes to assemble one blanket.

*If you can join in this project please email marycull@gmail.com by April 13.*

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**DEFINITION**

“Tertulia: a noun; a bull session, or a social gathering - with literary or artistic overtones.”

It may not always be that literary or artistic, but it is always great conversation and great folks who get together for breakfast at the Faculty Club every fourth Tuesday. Join us!
The Ohio State University Retirees Assn.
Customer Service
Longaberger Alumni House
2200 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, Ohio 43210

OSURA is such a dynamic organization because of its wonderful volunteers. If you know of someone who has, or is making OSURA the great organization, please send their name and contributions to Rai Goerler (goerler.1@osu.edu)

The award will be given at our Annual Meeting June 10, 2020.

Call 614-734-2167 for information.