

## October 2023

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# It's Greek to Me

By Nancy Wardwell

#### Who knew - that the OSURA Book Club format is rooted in Classical Greek Theater?

The OSURA Book Club is one of our longest-running programs, and meetings were announced beginning with the first OSURA Newsletter! The group met in members' homes and the earliest was in the home of Ed and Virginia Allen - they discussed favorite Balzac novels. The group continued to meet in various member homes until October 2005 when finding a permanent meeting place was discussed. The next meeting - and many more to come - was held in the Party House of Carriage Place - where the Hill condo happened to be located.

Lee Hill explains that members suggest as many as 50 different books to be chosen for the year's reading list. The eight chosen books appear in an engaging photograph in our September newsletter and the photo includes a carefully chosen "creature."

Then a change became necessary. In-person meetings became impossible. COVID-19 hit, Dick Hill's health became challenging - and the "Party House" was no longer available.

Calendar of

Events—4

Enter Cindi Hill - who reminded her mother, Lee, that she had always introduced the discussions with her own thoughts about the book being considered - her soliloquy - and voila - the Greek Theater format enabled the Book Club to become THE GENERALYS. THE PRESIDENT one of few programs that was able to engage members during The Pandemic!

Cue the Chorus: After her soliloguy each meeting, Lee would throw the discussion open to everyone to say whatever they wished - a Chorus was formed!

As Lee writes: "The play format has proven to be beneficial in unimagined ways. It means that any member, wherever they are in the world, can still participate to any degree they wish - by email!"

Someone recently suggested that it is time to stop lamenting the effects of the COVID pandemic. Agreed and one of the improvements we all experienced is our enhanced digital communication skills - enabling our longstanding Book Club to move from the traditional living room discussions to a format where

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45)

**Bucks for** 

Charity—6

H.W. BRANDS 🔿

Hillbilly Elegy

J. D.

VANCE

.....

WIL

HAYGOOD

KNOPF

Finance

<u>Committee</u>

NOAH HAWLEY

everyone, everywhere, can participate, with time to develop ideas, in most creative ways! Opa!!

BRILLIANT DEATH NOVEL ROBIN YOCUM

HERO OF THE EMPIRE

CANDICE MILLARD

**OSURA** 

Spotlight—6

HOMEGOING

In

Memoriam—5

New Retirees—3

#### 2023-2024 OSURA Executive Board

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Emeritus Academy

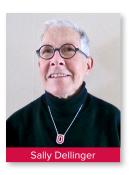
William Ausich

Newsletter Editor

Nancy S. Wardwell

OSU Foundation OSURA Endowment Fund Number – 605419 OSURA Fund to Combat Student Food Insecurity – 316596 osura.osu.edu

# **FROM: The President**

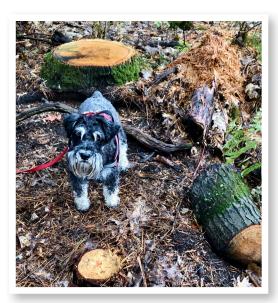


I have struggled about sharing this with you but we have been experiencing some disheartening change to our beloved cabin in Michigan. The cabin, which we have had for 40-plus years is located across from acres of state land. Well, on one of our recent trips north we were crushed to see our woods being decimated. It just doesn't make sense at this time of climate change to rid our earth of the trees that are the key to our environment and life in general. Wait..... Sadie, our miniature schnauzer, just came in and wants to have input on this matter. Here are

her comments and I had nothing to do with her desire to do this.

"OK...here, I go. From the start, my Moms have really been upset. They contacted the DNR for more information and to express their distress at the decision to clear-cut. The spokesperson provided no plan to replant or to remove the debris. Needless to say, that discussion did not go well. The reasoning they provided did not match the mission statement for the organization.

But enough about them. Let me tell you how I feel. The slash that the lumbering has created, which won't be removed, has created problems



Why? ...Why?

for me. Do you know how difficult it is for a short-legged dog like myself to get to the trails? I used to be able to walk across the street right into my woods to the green trails. That's what we call the trails that are covered with moss. Boy, were they a treat! I am also concerned about my friends.....the black squirrels, chipmunks, deer, pileated woodpeckers, barred owls, raccoons, and others. Say, have you ever heard a barred owl? At night if you hear "Who cooks for you?" – that's a barred owl. And those pileated woodpeckers, what magnificent birds. Each of my friends have been displaced. Their homes have been either uprooted, trashed, or removed. They have let me know that they'll be fine, but I will miss them, and I hate to see them struggle. What's happened is kind of like some of the lyrics in Joni Mitchell's song – Big Yellow Taxi. I'm not going to sing this to you, but you'll get the gist. Here are a couple of lines that describe my feelings to what has happened.

They paved paradise ...and put up a parking lot. Don't it always seem to go That you don't know what you've got Till it's gone

We knew what we had...the DNR did not."

## Welcome New Retirees

Martha A. Allison University Registrar

David Kurt Apsley Agriculture and Natural Resources

Malcolm Selman Baroway Office of the President

Dennis Anthony Beaudry FOD Administration

Mary E. Benecke International Affairs

Shelly A. Biggs University Hospital

Stephen James Birchard Veterinary Medicine

Sarah Ann Bourne Obstetrics and Gynecology

Diane J. Brush Harding

Donna J. Brust Health System Shared Services

Marvin Brydie Administration and Planning

David Earl Carpenter Pathology

Mildred Louise Casey Entomology

William O. Cleverley Public Health

William G. Conable Music

Floyd Courts Administration and Planning

Harriet Wood Dana School Biomed Sci

Paul De Boeck Psychology

Helen Ruth De Santis Business and Finance

Anne E. Dorrance FAES Allen James Duff Administration and Planning

Deborah S. Dunn FAES – Muskingum County

Debora L. Dyrenforth University Hospital

Judith Ann Essig Arts and Sciences

Glenda Lizzette Feliciano University Hospital

Stephen Charles Finn Business and Finance

Joyce D. Foster Health System Shared Services

Avner Friedman Mathematics

Joseph Henry Goodman Medicine

Daniel Lee Grafner Fisher College

Christopher Moore Griffin English

Lora Kay Hamparian University Hospital

Edward Paul Hancock UniPrint Administration

John Walker Heimaster Information Technology

Patrice Kendall Hennessy University Hospital

William James Horrigan Wexner Center for Arts

Helena Votava Hudnell EHE

Michelle Adriane Jacobson Fisher College

Barbara Evans Jenne Veterinary Medical Center

Kay Bea Jones Engineering

Diane G. Kaiser EHE – Teaching and Learning Dale Herbert Karweik Arts and Sciences

Douglas Anthony Kniss Obstetrics and Gynecology

Susan Blair Knorr Medicine

Lynn Maxine Kornegay Administration and Planning-FOD

Linda Anthe Krikos Libraries

Patricia Anne Kulich University Hospital

**Yvonne Trent Lane** East – Dialysis

Teresa P. Lanker FAES – ATI

David Eugene Lindsey Medicine

Patricia A. Lorbach Medicine

Karen Marie Mancl FAES

Steven Paul Meiring EHE

Rae Ann Mercier Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center

Nancy Ann Messerly Human Resources

Robin Earl Messner Dentistry

Tatsuya Nakamura Medicine

Lawrence David Needleman Health Sciences

Janet Mary Oberliesen FAES

Anthony Ralph Orsini Ross Heart Hospital

Linda Lou Ott FAES Ronald David Pass Ambulatory Services

Evelyn Marie Roediger FAES

Eileen Marie Sanders University Hospital

Deborah Warren Shade Marion – Administration

Taizoon Saify Shamsher University Hospital

Kamilla King Sigafoos Public Health

Janice Sue Six Administration and Planning

Elizabeth Jeanne Smith University Hospital

Cheryl Ann Sowash ERIK

Susan Mary Stephen University Hospital

Joellen Blauser Stratton The James

Thomas Dean Veregge Arts and Sciences

Charles Fulton Waddell Music

Tamara Ann Warren University Hospital

Nila Jean Whitfield Advancement

Barbara Joan Wiley EHE

Elizabeth Ann Wrobel-Boerner Arts and Sciences

Deborah Jean Wyatt Nisonger Center



# **Calendar of Events**

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### October 3 (Tuesday) Benefits Committee

Time/Place: 9:15 a.m., Longaberger Alumni House

### October 10 (Tuesday) Board Meeting

Time/Place: 9:30 a.m., Longaberger Alumni House

## October 25 (Wednesday) Membership Meeting

Time/Place: 9:30 a.m., Longaberger Alumni House

### MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

### October 12 (Thursday) Photo Society

Topic: How to Improve Your Photography Speaker: TBA Members' Theme: Photos That Could Have Been Better Time/Place: 6 p.m. dinner; 7 p.m. program; OSU Faculty Club. Cost: on your own Arranger: Nancy Verber (nwverber@ gmail.com – Photographic Society SIG)

## October 16 (Monday) Walking/Hiking Group – Walnut Woods

#### Challenge Level 2-4

Join us for an easy/flat, pet friendly walk of 2-6 miles depending on how much everyone wants to do. There will be an opportunity to sit down, relax and take in a local restaurant afterwards. Questions? Contact Sandy Bell via email at sib9716@ outlook.com or via cell/text at 740-833-6374.

Time/Place: 1 p.m. Buckeye Area, 6716 Lithopolis Rd, Groveport Arranger: Sandy Bell (sib9716@outlook. com /cell 740-833-6374 – Walking/Hiking SIG)

## October 18 (Wednesday) Lunch Bunch –

### Green Lawn: A Vast Tapestry

Green Lawn Cemetery's 175 years are a mixture of history, art, sculpture, and nature. More than 6,000 veterans rest in its 300 acres, which also feature an arboretum and Audubon Important Birding area. Coordinator Matthew Wolf will lead us on a tour of Green Lawn's past, present and future!

**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 noon. **Arranger:** Steven D'Ambrosio (Steven. dambros@gmail.com – Social Committee)

## October 26 (Thursday) Dinner Series

Professor Andrei Cuceu will present a discussion on Dark Energy.

Time/Place: 5:15 p.m. reception, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. lecture; OSU Faculty Club Cost: \$35 (service charge included) Registration Deadline: Register at osura.osu. edu or call 614-292-2281 by October 23. Arranger: Carol Newcomb (newcomb.28@ osu.edu – Dinner Series SIG)

## **Book Club**

Our virtual theater features The Messy Lives of Book People by Phaedra Patrick. The house cleaner (Liv) of a famous author (Essie) must carry out her employer's last wish—that she step into Essie's shoes and become the ghost writer of a final, unfinished novel. As Liv undertakes the job, she discovers not only the difficulties of "ghosting," but an unlikely, and until then unknown, connection between the two. Messy indeed!

Contact: Lee Hill (hill.30@osu.edu – Book Club SIG)

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### **October 12 (Thursday)**

Coffee Hour for New Retirees



Time/Place: 9-10 a.m. Longaberger Alumni House & via Zoom Arranger: Sandy Bell (sib9716@ outlook.com- Membership Committee)

## **Registration Instructions**

- 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. Your registration is not complete until payment is made, so have your credit card ready. Checks are no longer being accepted.
- 2. Registrations NOT requiring payment: Registrations will be made through the Arranger's email provided in the description of the event.

#### **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.

## October 13 (Friday) BalletMet – On Stage

#### Challenge Level 2

#### **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

The music of Sinatra, a sneaker ballet, and daring athleticism come together in *On Stage*. Twyla Tharp's *Nine Sinatra Songs*, Justin Peck's *The Times are Racing*, and Ulysses Dove's masterpiece *Vespers* unite for a performance of American choreographic innovation.

Time/Place: Box office opens at 9:30 a.m. Seating is general, so plan to arrive early for best seats. Performance begins at 11 a.m., Ohio Theatre, 39 E. State St. **Cost:** \$25.00 (admission ticket) **Registration/Refund Deadline:** Register by calling 614-292-2281 by October 5. Credit card preferred. Tickets will be held at Will Call.

Arranger: Marilyn Blackwell (blackwell.4@osu.edu – Cultural Arts Committee)

### October 26 (Thursday) Tour of the Museum of Biological Diversity

#### Challenge Level 1

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED** 

Do you want to know what happens to our wild creatures? Come and visit a most interesting, educational and internationally recognized museum right here on The Ohio State University campus. The curators of the Herbarium, Acarology, Entomology, Tetrapods, Mollusks and Fishes will guide us through these extensive and diverse collections. The tour will last somewhat over an hour. Lunch following at a nearby restaurant.

**Meet by:** 10 a.m., at 1315 Kinnear Rd, on the OSU Campus

**Return:** approximately 11:30 a.m. **Cost:** No cost

**Registration Deadline:** Register at constanceoulanoff@gmail.com – (Indicate if you are planning on attending lunch) by October 23.

**Arranger:** Constance Oulanoff (constanceoulanoff@gmail.com –Travel/ Cultural Arts Committee)

### December 8 (Friday) La Comedia Dinner Theater – *Miracle on 34th Street: The Musical*

765 West Central – Springboro, OH Challenge Level **2** 

#### **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

The story of the real Santa Claus, Miracle on 34th Street is one of the most beloved holiday films of all time, and one of the most popular shows ever produced. This touching musical version of the classic holiday film proves that miracles do happen and is sure to fill both the young and the young at heart with the Christmas spirit (www.lacomedia.com)



# Here is a link to our events:

https://osura.alumni. osu.edu/events/



**Meet by:** 8:30 a.m., Tremont Center (Tremont Road, opposite Upper Arlington Library) **Return:** approximately 5 p.m.

**Cost:** \$90.50; cost includes buffet lunch, the show admission, motor coach transportation, snacks, tips.

**Registration/Refund Deadline:** Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by November 6.

**Árrangers:** Jessica Pritchard and Alabelle Zghoul (alabelle.zghoul@gmail. com – Travel Committee)

# Upcoming Events

March 20-23 (Wed. – Sat.)

Washington, D.C. Cherry Blossoms



Challenge Level **3** 

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED** 

Discover the beauty of our nation's capital in early spring when the cherry trees are in full bloom. Stay overnight in Old Town Alexandria and explore the iconic sites in and around Washington D.C. Take a trip to Mount Vernon.

**Meet by:** 6:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 20, Prime Tours 565 Metro Place South, Dublin, OH

Return: approx 8 p.m. Saturday, March 23 Cost: \$1398 double, \$1870 single, (\$1238 Triple/quad); includes motor coach transportation, 3-night lodging, 3 breakfasts, 1 dinner, Cherry Blossom walking tour, all the major memorials, Washington's Mount Vernon, all museums, Arlington National Cemetery, United States Capitol Tour or if possible The White House, Ford's Theater and Peterson House

**Registration:** Register online www. goprimetours.com, select OSU Cherry Blossom DC Tour; enter password -Buckeyes—save your spot with \$100 deposit.

Payment Deadline/Refund: Jan. 5, 2024 Arranger: Constance A. Oulanoff (Travel/Cultural Arts Committee)



Robert William Backoff March 10 | John Glenn College of Public Affairs, 84

> **Contance Kay Barsky** August 12 | Physics, 78

James Bova August 11 | Radiology, 76

Ronald Clowson August 12 | Dentistry, 79

Sammy Crawford August 6 | OSU Extension, 82

> **Robert Holub** August 27 | German, 74

> **Stella B. Kontras** August 8 | Medicine, 95

Richard "Dick" Lloyd Miller August 7 | Extension Entomology and OSURA, 92

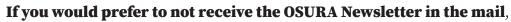
> Anita Puckett August 3 | OSUMC, 64

**Charles J. Quinn** July 11 | East Asian Language and Literature, 75

**Lynda G. Ross** August 27 | PR – Marion, 68

**Lee James White** August 11 | Engineering, 84

Barbara Arlinda Willingham August 23 | OSUMC, 79



call the Alumni Engagement Center and request that OSURA-No Contact-Newsletter-Mail be added to your record. Anyone can find the Newsletter and other interesting information online at the OSURA website **osura.alumni@osu.edu**.



# OSURA Spotlight



#### Meet Mary Anne Herbst!

Columbus has been my home for

most, but not all, of my life. I was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin but came to Columbus when I was about five years old. After graduating from Bishop Watterson High School in Clintonville—where I am still living—I went to Bliss Business College in Columbus and studied court recording. My career at OSU began in 1968 when I began as Clerk Steno in the College of Commerce (now the Fisher College of Business), in the Faculty of Finance department. I stayed in that department as an Administrative Assistant until my retirement in 2000. While working, I took advantage of the Bridge Program which allowed staff to take college courses for free. I took five different courses over five quarters. A highlight before retiring was the move from old Hagerty Hall after 29 years into the new Fisher College. What a difference that was!

I met my husband, Gary while playing volleyball with a singles group and we have been married since 1979. Together, we have traveled with OSURA internationally to Sicily, Switzerland, Wales, Austria, England and Ireland over the years. I have taken many day and overnight trips with OSURA also, the last being to see the lights at Oglebay Park in WV. It was great reconnecting to retirees with whom I had flown internationally and meeting many other OSU retirees.

OSURA is very important to me as it lets me stay in touch with old and new retirees and keeps me busy. Soon after retiring, I attended an Annual Meeting at the Faculty Club. Fern Hunt asked if I would like to be on the Friendship Committee. I agreed and have been on this fun committee ever since, serving as Chair for a few years. In addition, I was asked to be on the Social Committee and became Chair for about 5 years. I am still on this committee helping with getting speakers for the Lunch Bunch and working at the reception desk for Fall Conference and Annual Meeting events. I joined the Craft Group a few years ago when that group got started. We made a variety of crafts (blankets and Christmas trees, wrote letters of encouragement to cancer patients) and gave them to hospitals and assisted living homes. We also purchased houseplants and brought our own planters and took home arrangements we made.

I still meet with high school classmates for lunches throughout Ohio and have stayed in touch with some OSU retirees that I worked with for lunches, celebrating birthdays and holidays. I am fortunate that my health has been so that I am able to do all that I do and look forward to continuing being with my OSU friends in a variety of events here and abroad.

# Expect your Bucks for Charity material in the mail very soon!

It is another way to share with the community agencies that make central Ohio great!

Again, last year, retirees were very generous. Of all the units and organizations who gave through Bucks for Charity, retirees were among the most generous. Thank you, in advance!





On September 8 OSURA offered a very helpful Technology Information Session. A group of Occupational Therapy students skillfully taught useful functions of our iPhones.

# **From the Finance Committee**

By Jerry Newsom

A history of the income and expenditures for OSURA since we joined the Alumni Association is given below. Some explanations are in order. Numbers can fluctuate widely from one year to the next for a couple reasons. Occasionally we've had an expensive travel/cultural arts event, where OSURA pays up front for accommodations in one fiscal year and

Income	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Dues/donations income	\$11,230	\$18,060	\$16,500	\$17,900	\$13,879	\$12,900	\$15,300
Sponsors, advertising	\$20,265	\$13,948	\$26,590	\$11,801	\$16,660	\$11,500	\$11,500
Registrations	\$41,480	\$88,350	\$43,158	\$31,368	\$0	\$22,561	\$28,298
CD, MM, endowment income	\$13,969	\$15,025	\$17,579	\$18,313	\$19,896	\$20,800	\$22,177
Alumni Association support	\$3,158	\$4,662	\$9,742	\$5,000	\$1,500	\$500	\$800
Other income	\$0	\$0	\$2,344	\$1,755	\$0	\$0	\$0
Current use donations	\$0	\$2,492	\$2,006	\$2,577	\$2,549	\$3,075	\$5,551
Total	\$90,103	\$142,536	\$117,919	\$88,714	\$54,484	\$71,336	\$83,626
Expenditures	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Committees (non-event)	\$4,289	\$4,965	\$5,677	\$3,476	\$2,757	\$3,161	\$3,749
Events (incl. SIGs)	\$69,995	\$78,560	\$56,949	\$41,329	\$1,203	\$33,755	\$42,387
Newsletter, Directory	\$33,403	\$19,917	\$29,821	\$38,068	\$22,922	\$23,336	\$23,065
Other expenses	\$9,355	\$11,678	\$11,015	\$9,657	\$10,310	\$13,500	\$11,145
Total	\$117,041	\$115,120	\$103,463	\$92,530	\$37,192	\$73,752	\$80,346

we receive the registration fees the following year. Also, sponsors for the annual conference are usually invoiced in the spring and some years most send their money before June 30 and sometimes it's after July 1, so the total amount received in one fiscal year can vary considerably.

Nationally, organizations such as ours generally have about a 3% drop in membership each year, and that is happening to OSURA too. Income from dues can still bounce around if we get several lifetime memberships in one year (bless them). Note the increasing amounts in Certificate of Deposit, Money Market, and endowment income. The endowment funds are invested by Ohio State and each year 4.5% of the average value over the previous five years is made available to support OSURA programs. Since the investments over time average well above a 4.5% return, the value of the fund should grow to compensate for inflation. That trend should continue, compensating for reduced annual dues. "Other expenses" includes

accounting fees, liability insurance, Faculty Club dues, and the annual meeting.

As inflation increases our costs, increased donations by our members, as shown below, have been

		Donations to OSURA Development funds (excluding dues)							
	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023		
Current use account	\$1,050	\$2,022	\$1,596	\$2,407	\$2,549	\$3,075	\$5,551		
Endowment (605419)	\$2,300	\$1,219	\$1,475	\$375	\$1,225	\$1,575	\$3,775		
Quasi-endowment (605420)	\$2,170	\$3,026	\$7,283	\$1,185	\$300	\$540	\$5,610		
Total	\$5,520	\$6,267	\$10,354	\$3,967	\$4,074	\$5,190	\$14,936		

important in keeping us solvent. The current use account is the same one where dues are deposited. Some annual members donate more than the minimum \$25 and some lifetime members also contribute. (Before FY 2021, we received donations to the current use account six months after the donations were made, so prior to that year the donations and income to OSURA differed.) The quasi-endowment is like a regular endowment except we can borrow some of the investment should we have a cash flow problem, but we've never needed that yet. After the great success OSURA had in raising over \$100,000 for the student food insecurity endowment, it is gratifying to see members' generosity now being applied to OSURA funds, as shown by the nearly \$15,000 donated last year.



Address Service Requested

The Ohio State University Retirees Assn. Customer Service Longaberger Alumni House 2200 Olentangy River Road Columbus, Ohio 43210



To help you remember to renew your Annual Membership, letters will arrive soon. The cost remains at \$25, but this year we're suggesting rounding up to \$40 to honor OSURA's four decades of service to us all. The calendar will be full of presentations, travel and cultural events, as well as monthly special interest meetings. And don't forget, membership includes the OSURA News via US Mail or online.

#### To join early, see the OSURA.osu.edu website.

Contacts: Karen Bruns, kbruns145@gmail.com, or Gemma McLuckie, mcluckiegemma@gmail.com.