

# OSURA

## News



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

April 2024

P.O. Box 14533, Columbus, OH 43214  
614-292-2281 • 1-800-762-5646 • osura@osu.edu • osura.osu.edu

## *Cooperative Extension Service – Ohio State Extension*

# **Building Better Lives, Better Businesses and Better Community since 1914**

By Nancy Wardwell

In the earliest years of higher education, in what became the United States, schools were exclusive, private institutions with classical European curricula. Greek and Latin were required – for admission!

Opportunity for higher education opened to all citizens when, in 1862, Congress passed the Morrill Act. American higher education broadened the scope dramatically by providing for a university in each state, and each was charged to provide education to citizens in agricultural and mechanical fields.

The Ohio State University is Ohio's 1862 Land Grant university. (In 1890 a number of Historically Black Colleges and Universities were added, and Central State University is Ohio's 1890 Land Grant institution.)

In 1887 the Hatch Act established Research Farms to conduct research in agriculture, mechanical and related issues facing rural citizens. Presently there are at least 12 Research Stations in Ohio, the best known is the OARDC in Wooster.

“Cooperative Extension” was established in 1914 by the Smith-Lever Act and state by state a network of educators

began to “extend” the knowledge to the people of the United States.

Cooperative Extension is an educational partnership between the United States Department of Agriculture and Land Grant Universities – and what a huge body of knowledge it is!

There are four program areas of the OSU Extension, each providing programs and vast electronic and print materials available to all who seek it – and information is no longer limited to rural populations! The areas are:

- Agriculture and Natural Sciences
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Community Development
- 4-H Youth Development

As a statewide campus, OSU Extension has presence in all 88 counties. It is considered “the world’s largest non-formal educational system, fulfilling Ohio’s land-

grant mission every day”!

Explore the many on-line sites of the Ohio State Extension Service. You will be amazed – and enlightened!



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- Communications**  
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- Raimund E. Goerler

**Emeritus Academy**

- Mary Jo Fresch

**Newsletter Editor**

- Nancy S. Wardwell

# FROM: The President



April and taxes....no, I'm not going there. It is so much better if we go high. And what could be higher than positioning yourself for the best view of the total solar eclipse which will occur on April 8 at approximately 3:10 p.m. in the various cities in our great state of Ohio! Get those solar glasses ready, then perhaps find yourself a nice patch of grass, spread out a beach towel or blanket; or if you have a recliner, open it up and lay yourself down and look up---BUT ONLY if you have the proper eyewear. The path of the eclipse will be from the southwest to the northeast...with some of the cities along its path being Greenville to Avon Lake, Wapakoneta, Marion, Celina, Sidney, Lima, Sandusky, Tiffin, Norwalk, Bellefontaine, to the south side of Cleveland. The length of cover will span close to 4 minutes. Oh, and Sadie the Schnauzer wants you to know that she and her friends won't be bothered by the eclipse. She says they don't need glasses because they don't ordinarily look at the sun anyway. They have better things to do....like play ball and chase those pesky squirrels. She does want you to know that she and others of the "nation within" may ask for their dinner earlier than usual but I want you to know that Sadie can easily start asking for her dinner beginning at 3:00 on ordinary days. Sadie doesn't want you to miss this once in a lifetime experience... but do it safely! So, grab a few of your OSURA friends and share in this event.



**Sally Dellinger**  
President of OSURA

## Elections are Coming in May

**CHECK YOUR MAY NEWSLETTER** for the election ballot and information about the 2024 candidates or watch for an email from OSURA with a link to online voting. Your vote will help direct the future of OSURA. This year's positions include:

- ✓ Vice President/President-elect
- ✓ Secretary
- ✓ Three Members-at-large

The vice president/president-elect is an ex-officio member of all committees and as president-elect succeeds the president.

The Secretary sends out notices of the Board and general membership meetings and keeps minutes of these meetings.

Members-at-large handle various activities according to the needs of the organization.

## Welcome New Retirees

**Thomas Scott Applegate**  
OSU Health Plan

**Karen Ann Blessing**  
Arts and Sciences – Mathematics

**Cynthia Louise Brigle**  
University Hospital

**Sharon I. Chance**  
East – Emergency Room

**Rhonda J. Clayton**  
University Hospital

**William Thomas Colditz**  
Office of the Bursar

**Kathleine Kelley Cole**  
FOD Design and Construction

**Debra Diane Cottrill**  
OHTECH – Business Services

**Laurel Jean Courtney**  
The James

**Martha Kay Crist**  
The James

**Donald Boyd Gibson**  
Human Resources

**Iveta Sautins Grants**  
Medicine – Anesthesiology

**Nancey L. Harlow**  
Ambulatory Services

**Billy J. Hays**  
University Hospital

**Charles Stan Highley**  
Veterinary Medical Center

**Bell Hoy**  
The James

**Kathryn Lynn Jelinek**  
CCC – Clinical Trials

**Roy Alan Jewett**  
Graduate and Professional Admissions

**Craig Alan Jones**  
FAES

**William Dean Keller**  
Financial Aid

**Carl Allen Kuno**  
Administration and Planning –  
Vehicle Maintenance

**Bryon Frank Laskowski**  
Institute for Behavioral Medicine Research

**Laura Ann McDonald-Wesney**  
University Hospital

**Bruce Anthony Noskowiak**  
Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

**Gregory A. Otterson**  
Medical Oncology

**Jodi Ann Pinney**  
Prospect Management and Research

**Rox Anne Rowlen**  
Ambulatory Services

**Kathleen Marie Schuler**  
FAES

**Joy Ellen Scott**  
Pharmacy

**Jack Everly Sidle**  
FAES – Wooster

**Teresa Ann Sikora**  
Health System Shared Services

**Steve Joseph Sipe**  
Student Life – Dining Services

**Charles Frederick Stroupe**  
University Hospital

**Cynthia Kay Sweet**  
Ross – Pacemaker Device Clinic

**Patricia P. Tanner**  
Health System Shared Services

**Luckisha Joyce Townsend**  
Dentistry – Radiology

**David Porter Way**  
Emergency Medicine

**Robert Joseph Weber**  
Pharmacy

**Michael Allan Whitten**  
East – Supply and Distribution

**Xueping Xu**  
Student Life – Dining Services



## Fall Conference Key Note

The Conference Planning Committee is pleased to announce the return of Dr. Melissa Shivers, Senior Vice President for Student Life, as the 2024 Keynote Speaker. She spoke at our 2023 conference and we felt she and her students had a lot more to share. We are sure you agree and will want to be there to hear more.



## April 8... More about the Eclipse

## Look Down!

Put a piece of white paper on the ground. The leaves above make pin hole cameras for other images of the eclipse.

# Calendar of Events

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### April 2 (Tuesday) Benefits Committee

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

### April 9 (Tuesday) Board Meeting

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

### April 24 (Wednesday) Membership Committee

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

## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

### April 6 (Saturday) Walking/Hiking Group – Blendon Woods Metro Park

Challenge Level 2-4

Join us for a 2-4 mile hike. We will meet at the Nature Center. There will be time for some extra socializing and refueling afterwards at a nearby restaurant. Questions? Contact Sandy Bell...info below

Time/Place: 11 a.m., 4265 E Dublin Granville Rd, Columbus  
Arranger: Sandy Bell (sib9716@outlook.com /cell 740-833-6374 – Walking/Hiking SIG)

### April 9 (Tuesday) Photo Society

Topic: Travels in Vietnam – presenter Nancy Verber

Members' Theme: Far-Away Travels  
Time/Place: 11:30 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. program; OSU Faculty Club. **\*\*Note time\*\***  
Cost: on your own  
Arranger: Nancy Verber (nwverber@gmail.com – Photographic Society SIG)

### April 17 (Wednesday) Lunch Bunch – Garden Magic

Join Brandon Parks, Franklin Park Conservatory, to learn about preparing your garden for a beautiful summer display,

including how to add native plants to attract bees and butterflies!

Time/Place: 11:15 a.m., MCL Cafeteria, Kingsdale

Cost: On your own, order through cafeteria line starting at 11:15 a.m., activity begins at noon.

Arranger: Elenore Zeller and Steven D'Ambrosio (Steven.dambros@gmail.com – Social Committee)

### April 25 (Thursday) Dinner Series

Professor Rick Herrman will be speaking to us on the Middle East Crisis.

Time/Place: 5:15 p.m. reception, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. lecture; OSU Faculty Club

Cost: \$43 (service charge included)  
Registration Deadline: Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by April 22.  
Arranger: Carol Newcomb (clhotak@gmail.com – Dinner Series SIG)

## Book Club

April's play is *The Spy and the Traitor: The Greatest Espionage Story of the Cold War* by Ben MacIntyre. The thrilling account of Oleg Gordievsky, the KGB-MI6 double agent, whose revelations of Kremlin paranoia allowed for accurate assessments of Russian action. Exposed by traitorous CIA analyst Aldrich Ames (a Russian mole), he was rescued in a daring mission and his whereabouts remain a mystery. Le Carré pales in comparison.

Got Gmail? Been missing us? Well, we've been missing you—your emails are bouncing back as “Undeliverable.” Please stop forwarding your @osu.edu email to your Gmail account—it has glitches! Please send your direct Gmail address to Lee (SIG Leader) at rmhlmh@att.net, if you wish to remain on the Book Club's email address list.

Contact: Lee Hill (rmhlmh@att.net – Book Club SIG)

## Craft Group

Our group has a varied schedule. If you're interested in obtaining more information contact Mary Cull at marycull.4@gmail.com.

Contact: Mary Cull (marycull.4@gmail.com (Craft Group SIG)

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### April 3 (Wednesday) Emeritus Faculty Lecture Series

Joseph Donnermeyer, Environmental and Natural Sciences, “Who are the Amish and Why are They Growing so Fast?”

Time: 4 – 5 p.m.

Cost: Free and open to the public  
Registration: Register at <https://oaa.osu.edu/emeritus-academy-lecture-series-registration>

Contact: Mary Jo Fresch (fresch.1@osu.edu)

### April 13 (Saturday) Franklin Park Conservatory & Columbus Cherry Blossom Festival

Challenge Level 3

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Celebrate Nature Clothe in Kaleidoscope Spring Splendor inside & outside FPC. Experience colorful Chihuly Glass Art Exhibit and demo. Cherry trees are in full bloom! Spectacular Greater Columbus Cherry Blossom Festival – enjoy the music, exhibits, and more.

Meet by: 8:30 a.m., at Franklin Park Conservatory front entrance

Return: 6 p.m.

Cost: \$40 Non-Members of FPC, \$24 FPC Members; cost includes admission fee, lunch, and decent fee.

Registration: Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by March 22....

and choose your lunch: (1-Signature Club Sandwich, 2-Smoked Turkey Sandwich, 3-Greek Hummus Wrap (Vegetarian), or 4-Seasonal Salad with Grilled Chicken)

Refund Deadline: March 22

Arrangers: Nancy Hughey, Darian Torrance, Marlinda Iyer (Marlindaiyer@yahoo.com – Travel/Cultural Arts Committee)

### April 18 (Thursday) Coffee Hour for New Retirees

Time/Place: 9-10 a.m. @ Longaberger and via Zoom

Arranger: Sandy Bell (sib9716@outlook.com- Membership Committee)

NEW



Here is a link to our events: <https://osura.alumni.osu.edu/events/>



It was a rainy day for the hikers at Highbanks – So they came indoors for the photo!

## April 26 (Friday) BalletMet – *Romeo and Juliet*

Challenge Level 2

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Dashing sword finds, ballroom grandeur, and a romantic balcony scene evoke the essence of Shakespeare's iconic play. The ballrooms of Verona are filled with refined elegance and pure emotion as the star-crossed lovers tell their story.

**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 Theater, 39 E. State St.

**Cost:** \$25 (admission ticket)

**Registration/Refund Deadline:** Register at [osura.alumni.osu.edu](https://osura.alumni.osu.edu) or call 614-292-2281 by April 19. Credit card preferred. Tickets will be held at Will Call.

**Arranger:** Brenda Hosey (Bhosey1@columbus.rr.com – Cultural Arts Committee)

## May 1 (Wednesday) Emeritus Faculty Lecture Series

Thomas Wickizer, Health Services Management and Policy, "The American Fentanyl Epidemic: Years of Life Lost, Economic Costs, and Future Prevention."

**Time:** 4 – 5 p.m.

**Cost:** Free and open to the public

**Registration:** Register at <https://oaa.osu.edu/emeritus-academy-lecture-series-registration>

**Contact:** Mary Jo Fresch (fresch.1@osu.edu)

NEW

## May 16 – 17 (Thursday, Friday) Weston, West Virginia Trip

Challenge Level 3

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Visit Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum (TALA), an example of Gothic Tudor Architecture and of the masonry skills of European craftsmen. TALA has something for everyone: history, architecture, and the evolution of mental healthcare. We'll visit the Museum of American Glass, have a guided tour of the Blenko Glass Factory, and observe glass blowing at the Appalachian Glass Factory.

**Meet by:** 6:30 a.m. May 16, Tremont Center (Tremont Road, opposite Upper Arlington Library)

**Return:** approx 7 p.m. Friday, May 17

**Cost:** \$219 double, \$278 single; includes; transportation, lodging, admissions, snacks and tips

**Registration:** Register at [osura.osu.edu](https://osura.osu.edu) or call 614-292-2281 by May 9.

**Arranger:** Alabelle Zghoul (alabelle.zghoul@gmail.com -Travel Committee)

## July 19 (Friday) Wright Patterson Air Force Museum and Hawthorne Hill

Challenge Level 3

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Enjoy a self-guided tour of the National Air Force Museum in Dayton, with the option of a guided tour at 10 a.m. Continue on to lunch at nearby Packy's Restaurant. Then travel to Hawthorn Hill (home of the Wright Brothers) for a guided tour of the house.

**Meet by:** 7:30 a.m., Tremont Center (Tremont Road, opposite Upper Arlington Library)

**Return:** 6 p.m.

**Cost:** \$103; cost includes transportation, admissions, lunch, tips, and snacks

**Registration:** Register at [osura.osu.edu](https://osura.osu.edu) or call 614-292-2281 by June 19.

**Refund Deadline:** June 19

**Arrangers:** Jessica Pritchard and Esther Ober (jjpritch6@gmail.com - Travel/Cultural Arts)

NEW

## Registration Instructions

- 1. Registrations requiring payment:** Registrations can be made by going online to [osura.osu.edu](https://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.



## FROM BENEFITS COMMITTEE | ELDER CARE 2024

## Nursing Homes

By Meg Teaford

A recent article in the *Columbus Dispatch* had a story about the results of the 2023 Ohio nursing home satisfaction survey. The survey is done in odd-numbered years. The story highlighted several nursing homes in Franklin County that had high scores and several that had low scores. I went on-line to check out one of the well-known facilities that had lower scores than I would expect. So first, a few caveats about the survey. In this case 35 residents were eligible for the survey, but only 20 completed it. Of those, 14 were long-time residents and 6 were short termers. The survey has about six domains that include activities, environment, staffing, and food. It is not too lengthy, but it is long enough to keep some people from completing it. There is also a family survey with many similar questions that is done every other year.

Both of these surveys can be helpful in selecting a nursing home,

but I hasten to add that they are not the complete picture. Here are some first steps that can help one in the selection process:

- You can find the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) booklet “Your guide to choosing a nursing home or other long-term services and supports” at [www.ltc.age.ohio.gov](http://www.ltc.age.ohio.gov). Pages 31-36 have a very helpful checklist.
- Request a Long Term Care Consultation at the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging. (614-645-0684)

When you have some ideas of possible facilities, then do a deeper dive.

- Find out about staffing levels and quality issues from data that is gathered by Medicare. This can be found for individual facilities at [www.ltc.age.ohio.gov](http://www.ltc.age.ohio.gov). They collect data every 3 months.
- You can also look at the latest Ohio Department of Health surveys which are supposed to

be done every 18 months or more frequently if there is an issue.

I was able to look at the latest survey (2022!) for one facility I checked and I could see exactly what issues that had been found and how they were resolved.

- If you or a family member are currently in a hospital, the discharge planner should be working with you and will know the facilities nearby.
- You can also check with the Ohio Ombudsman at the Department of Aging to find out if there have been problems with the facility. It is his/her job to advocate for residents and to help resolve issues. The ombudsman can be reached at 1-800-282-1206 or at [ohioombudsman@age.ohio.gov](mailto:ohioombudsman@age.ohio.gov).

And finally, there is no substitute for a visit. Don't wear yourself out visiting facilities that you really are not interested in, but do go to the ones you are seriously considering.

## Outstanding Service Award

It's time to submit your nominations for the OSURA Outstanding Service Award. The form can be found on our website under the Outstanding Service Award section.

Nominations must include a completed OSURA nomination form. Nominations may be sent to OSURA in print or electronic form. Please mail printed forms to:

The Ohio State University Retirees Association  
P.O. Box 14533  
4364 N High St.  
Columbus, OH 43214-9998

Or electronically to: [osura@osu.edu](mailto:osura@osu.edu)

**Submission Deadline: Written or electronic nominations must be received by April 10.**



**You know people who should be considered, so please share their names with us!**

## FROM: The Benefits Committee

### STRS Report

By Jerry Newsom

As noted in the January Newsletter, STRS Executive Director Bill Neville was suspended with pay pending the results of an investigation into accusations of serious misconduct alleged in an anonymous letter. As many of us expected, the investigation found all the charges to be fabrications. The only criticisms revealed in the investigation were pretty minor (e.g., Neville sometimes raised his voice when angry), but this apparently was enough for the STRS Board to continue the suspension until May.

Last spring, when the governor dismissed Wade Steen, his appointee on the STRS Board, Steen sued and the preliminary finding by the court was that the governor had no power to remove him. Shortly thereafter, the person DeWine appointed to replace Steen resigned, and the governor appointed Brian Perera, former Senate Finance Director and head OSU lobbyist, to fill the vacancy. The governor clearly has the power to fill a vacancy; will the court now hold that Perera is therefore entitled to keep the seat? Or will they argue that Steen was the rightful occupant of the seat and since he did not resign, Perera

cannot replace him? The appointment runs out in September and at the rate the courts are moving on this, that deadline will arrive before the courts make a final decision. If Board critic Michelle Flanigan wins the election for an active teacher to be on the STRS Board, the critics would have a majority of the Board come September. Should that happen, as seems likely, they may not always vote as a block and I hope at least some of them will think critically before making major changes in how STRS operates.

The STRS Board completed a self-assessment of how well the Board works. A few years ago, the results were strongly positive, but now STRS ranks very low compared to other pension funds. For example, when each Board member was asked if they thought members of the Board “trust each other, staff, and the existing processes,” not one agreed. It’s a very different Board than it used to be.

### STRS Fact

**OSU has the most active teachers participating in STRS (6069), followed by Columbus City Schools (5491) and Cleveland Metropolitan Schools (4017).**

### OPERS Report

By Darian Torrance

The OPERS Board met off-site in the Hocking Hills in February. No information from that meeting is available, so I have no report this month. The OPERS Board's next scheduled meeting was on March 19 and 20, 2024.

### *In Memoriam*

**Robert Daniel Baker**

February 24 | OSU South Center, 78

**Ruth E. Deacon**

February 13 | Home Economics and OSURA, 100

**Linda Diane Dover**

February 6 | 76

**Barbara "Bobbie" Ruth Hall**

February 23 | OSUMC, 65

**Arthur Chiu Lee**

November 5, 2023 | Medicine, Biochemistry and OSURA, 91

**Silas Edward "Ed" Marcum**

February 14 | 88

**Roger Meyer**

February 20 | Office of Treasurer, 88

**Harold George Morgenstern**

February 23 | OSU Mansfield, 87

**Melanie Murphy**

February 21 | Data Processing, 83

**Gary Robinson**

February 4 | OSUMC, 72

**Jacqueline Rutherford**

February 27 | OSU Vet Hospital, 81

**James Seay**

February 12 | Supervisor – Endocrinology Lab, 95

**Surinder Sehgal**

February 26 | Mathematics, 85

**Nils E. Theller**

March 1 | OSURA, 87

**Robert Touse**

February 15 | School of Natural Resources, 97

The Ohio State University Retirees Assn.  
P.O. Box 14533  
Columbus, OH 43214

## Fall Conference Tours Announced

The amazing tours that are part of the OSURA Fall Conference have been announced:

1. Tour the new **Energy Advancement and Innovation Center** co-located at the Carmenton district. It provides space for Ohio State faculty, students, alumni, and other researchers to work together. This tour will include the Pelotonia Research Center which allows researchers across disciplines to accelerate new discoveries.
2. **Driving Simulator Laboratory:** Visit and learn about the laboratory co-developed in October of 2012 by Honda and OSU to conduct research in driver distraction and other factors that impact driver behavior and road safety.
3. Tour the beautiful new **Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts Building**. The department provides education and training of filmmakers, theatre artists, and film and theatre scholars.



Above: The Innovation District "Carmenton"  
Below: The new Theater Arts Building

