October 21, 2010

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES
Ellsworth Holden (The Athens Village)
Peggy Irwin (SeniorBEAT)
Sandy Shirey (RSVP)
(Introduced by Richard Dean)

“Golden Opportunities,” our October program, will include vital information on what we, as responsible retired and active citizens of our local and wider communities, can do for others and what other organizations directed mainly at senior citizens can do for us, both individually and collectively.

The three presenters will be Sandra Shirey, senior program assistant of the RSVP Volunteer Program; Ellsworth Holden, president of The Athens Village; and Peggy Irwin, co-founder and key figure in SeniorBEAT (the last four letters of which stand of “Being Educated and Active Together”). With their wide range of contacts with these and other groups, they will be able to both entertain and inform about what our members might experience when they either engage in or give to or receive services from these and other community resources aimed at retirees.

Irwin was co-founder of SeniorBEAT 14 years ago, when she was director of medical social services at O’Bleness Memorial Hospital. She also has been director of the Athens Daily Living Center (now United Seniors). SeniorBEAT now has a mailing list of 800 and includes six interest groups, with Irwin being well acquainted with the functioning of all of them.

Holden retired 15 years ago from the management information systems faculty but still goes to the office almost daily. He was Republican Party county chair for 17 years, an 8-year member of City Council, one of the founders of the Athens Marathon and director for its first 15 years, and is now co-president (with Carol Patterson) of the League of Women Voters.

Shirey, who retired in 2008 after a long career as Red Cross executive director, is now involved in RSVP and the COAD senior programs placing volunteers as foster grandparents and with organizations such as VNA, the Historical Society and senior centers around the county. She still serves the Red Cross as a disaster volunteer in situations such as Athens County’s recent tornado/straight-line wind.

The panel will be introduced by Richard Dean, who is a member of all three major organizations of these speakers. An Emeriti member for seven years, Dean has this fall taken over the chairmanship of the Emeriti Park.

Each speaker on this program will have five minutes to describe Golden Opportunities with which he or she deals. The remainder of the program will enable the trio to answer questions of members attending the luncheon.

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Menu
Fresh Garden Salad with Assorted Dressings
Caesar Salad
Spinach Salad
Pineapple Glazed Ham
Fiesta Chicken
Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Sugar Snap Peas
Rolls & Butter
Assorted Desserts, including Fresh-Cut Fruit
Beverages

EMERITI LUNCHEON
Thursday
OCTOBER 21, 2010
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

BALLROOM
RESERVATIONS must be made to attend the luncheon. You MUST call Ruth Nostrant at 593-5194 by Friday, October 15 You may pay by cash or by check made payable to OU Emeriti. You can add your name(s) to the Regular Attendees List and not have to call each month unless you cannot attend.

L-R:
Sandy Shirey
Ellsworth Holden
Peggy Irwin
Good to hear from the provost, Pam Benoit, at our September meeting how the university is planning for the future. Maybe it is not the future we envision, but it is a part of retirement to disengage from work and worry about the coming years. Although I have been involved in courses by correspondence and online, I wish that all students could have the traditional campus experience. Nevertheless, it is reassuring to know that someone of Pam Benoit’s experience, wisdom, and grace is at the helm.

How different the world of today’s students is from that in which we studied! I go to my fiftieth college class reunion this Fall, aware of the radical changes in that half-century. Aware too that, despite all the communication equipment, social arrangements, and finances that dominate young lives today, people still need friends and teachers. Even in retirement, many of us cherish the opportunity to continue that good work we did in the days of our university employment.

Let me underline the role of volunteer work as a continuation of our involvement in the life of our university and community. We still need more people to sign up to be hosts at the Dairy Barn and Kennedy Museum. It really is a pleasant and worthwhile job to be the welcoming smile and helpful voice as strangers (and friends) come to these art venues. Of course, many of you help with other very worthy organizations. Please try to include these responsibilities along with the rest of your donations of time and effort benefiting our life together.

The most visible sign of our association is the Emeriti Park. What a fine symbol it is of the university’s thanks and esteem! Let us enjoy it together and celebrate its tenth anniversary on Thursday, October 14, at 4 p.m. We will have Autumn-appropriate refreshments at the Gazebo and appreciate the beauty of that spot – if weather permits. Plan on it in any event because we have reserved the Maggie Davis Room (on the first floor of Baker Center, west of the Food Court) as a rain site.

George

Notes on Listening to Provost Pam Benoit

During the past year there have been a lot of transformations at Ohio University but the real transformation is that of the learning community itself. As endorsed by the O.U. Trustees at its June 2010 meeting, the Vision Statement notes that "Ohio University will be the nation’s best transformative learning community where students realize their promise, faculty advance knowledge, staff achieve excellence, and alumni become global leaders."

The provost led a discussion among the emeriti present identifying 1) challenges and opportunities of our physical location (in Southeastern Ohio) and 2) possible changes in our infrastructure by 2015.

She concluded by noting four goals in creating a transformative learning community: 1) inspired teaching and research, 2) innovative academic programs, 3) excellent support services, and 4) outstanding co-curricular activities.

Ed Baum
IN MEMORIAM

**URSULA LAWSON**

**Ursula Lawson,** 89, died September 12, 2010, in The Plains, of a heart attack. Born in Frankfurt, Germany, she came to the US in 1948.

She received a BA degree from Bowling Green State College, a master’s degree from the University of Kentucky and a PhD from Vanderbilt University. She came to Ohio University in 1967 and retired as a full professor in the Department of Modern Languages in 1991.

After retirement, she took up painting and volunteered at the Kennedy Museum and the Dairy Barn.

She is survived by a daughter and a son and their spouses, 4 grandchildren and a great-grandson.

**TED J. FOSTER**

**Ted Foster,** 74, died September 25, 2010, at O’Bleness Memorial Hospital. He was a graduate of Mt. Vernon Twp. High School in Mt. Vernon, IL and received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Southern Illinois University.

He received his PhD from Ohio University where he was a professor of communication studies for over 30 years. He was a debate coach for many years and taught public speaking and persuasion.

He served on the Athens County Children Services board for 8 years and on the Hocking River Commission since 2001. He also helped prepare the transportation section of the Athens County Plan.

He was a chair of the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER). He had been vice president of the OU Emeriti Association and for the past several years has chaired the benefits committee. He was also a founding member of The Athens Village.

Ted is survived by his wife of 54 years, Sue Foster, a son and daughter in law, and a daughter.

**October 14**

4-5 PM

10th Anniversary

**EMERITI PARK**

We will have a celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Emeriti Park on Thursday, October 14 from 4:00 to 5:00 PM at the gazebo. There will be light refreshment and short speeches (very short). The beautiful park was dedicated in November of 2000, and has become one of the most photographed areas of campus.

In case of rain we will gather in the Maggie Davis Room on the first floor of Baker Center (at the Western end of the Food Court).

**IN MEMORY OF TED**

A gathering of Ted and Sue Foster's family and friends will take place from 1 to 3 PM on Sunday, Oct. 17, in Room C of the Athens Community Center, 701 E. State St. This is a drop-in-and-chat gathering with no formal program. Everyone may come at any time during the two hours and stay as long as he or she likes. Refreshments will be provided by their fellow members of The Athens Village, of which both Ted and Sue were among the founders and board members.

**Look for the Emeriti display at the OU Library during Homecoming Week**

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UPCOMING
EMERITI LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

November 18: Wind Power Research in Southeast Ohio
  Carole Womeldorf, Asst. Professor, Mechanical Engineering

December 16: Music for the Holidays
  Richard Syracuse, Professor of Piano & Music
  Scott Ewing, Tenor

January 20: Five Plays Simultaneously
  Charles Smith, Professor of Theater

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS
The constitution of the Emeriti Association provides that the Board may make awards for distinguished service to Emeriti members who have distinguished themselves in service to the Association or in pursuit of activities that further the goals of the Association. If there are suitable candidates, 1 or 2 awards may be presented at the May meeting.

Max Evans, Bob Dakin and Dru Riley Evarts have agreed to be our Distinguished Service Award Committee. Evans is chair.

ADDITION TO EMERITI BOARD
Felix Gagliano has agreed to be our Elections chair.

EMERITI BOARD 2010-2011
President          George Weckman
VP/Program Chair   Dru Riley Evarts
Secretary          Anne McClanahan
Treasurer          Richard & Ruth Nostrant
Newsletter         Edie Russ
Membership         Margaret Thomas
Benefits           Ted Foster
Volunteer Services Martha Bitters
Emeriti Park       Richard Dean
Elections          Felix Gagliano
Historian          Chuck Carlson
Website            Joe Essman