



A newsletter from the Ohio University Emeriti Association

**December 15, 2011**

**MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS AND BEYOND**

*Yvonne Crist, Soprano & Harolyn Brient, Piano*

*(Presented by Richard Syracuse)*



*Harolyn Brient and Yvonne Crist*

*Photo by Bonnie Prince*

Yvonne Crist, soprano, will sing for our December program, and she will be accompanied by Harolyn Brient. The two are good friends who will be introduced by a third friend, Richard Syracuse.

Yvonne studied at Dublin's College of Music and later continued her studies in London on a grant from Guinness Mahon Bank. For six seasons she was the lead soprano for Jury's Irish Cabaret and took part in three major coast-to-coast tours of the USA and Canada with Columbia Artists. Other performances include Mozart's *Requiem* and Schubert's *Mass in G* in Marietta with the Rivercity Orchestra, Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Mozart's *Missa Brevis in F* with the Parkersburg Choral Society. She has appeared at Dublin's Gaiety and Olympia Theaters and has had many appearances with the Irish Radio Orchestra and Concert Orchestra. She has also made appearances on BBC, NPR, as well as with several Irish opera companies. Her childhood dream was to play Eliza in *My Fair Lady*, and she not only achieved that dream but repeated the role in Munich, Vienna, Berlin, Hamburg, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, den Haag (the Hague), and Antwerp. She is married to Richard Crist, and they have two sons.

Harolyn has been seen for many years in Athens, both accompanying persons performing their recitals and as a key figure of the Ohio Valley Summer Theater, for which she has served on the Board for 45 years. She has been music director of many performances for OVST, as well as for the School of Theater's Monomoy Theater on Cape Cod. Some of her roles in OVST musicals have included Golda in *Fiddler on the Roof*, the meat pie restaurant owner in *Sweeney Todd*, the lead character in *Something's Afoot*, and many others. She has served both in music directorships and costume selection for OVST and Monomoy. She also has accompanied the Men of Ohio chorus in many appearances, both in Athens and elsewhere. She is married to Chuck Brient and has five children, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren

**EMERITI LUNCHEON**

**Thursday,  
December 15, 2011  
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

**RESERVATIONS** must be made to attend the luncheon. You **MUST** call Ruth Nostrant at 593-5194 by Friday, **December 9**. 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.

**\$14.00**



**BALLROOM**

**Menu**

*Winter Salad with Cranberry & Almond  
Fresh Garden Salad  
Sliced Roast Beef & Gravy with  
Assorted Bread for Sandwiches  
Roasted Potato  
Herb Roasted Chicken Breast  
Wild Rice Blend  
New York Style Cheesecake & Fresh Fruit  
Beverages*

**EMERITI BOARD 2011-2012**

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## A Message From The President - GEORGE WECKMAN

'Tis the season again, the gifting season! Of course Christians celebrate the incarnation, pagans observe a festival of lights at the solstice, partiers toast the changing of calendars, and families get together for food and fun. But we all know that these events are merely decoration on the important business of this time of year. The economy of the whole world apparently hangs on the degree to which Americans buy things for each other this month. So go to it, to the extent that you can or must! But it might not be easy.

Despite the apparent delight of giving and receiving, this can be a season of worry and confusion. What do you give the relatives and friends you have been giving gifts to for decades? What else could they possibly want or need? What will express the appropriate message (I still love you, I cherish our friendship, etc.) without being too extravagant or too chintzy.

Do you give something practical or fancy? Try to find something they have requested or a surprise (you hope)? Do you give up on the real gift and just give money or a gift card? Perhaps you give a notice of a charitable gift in their honor in lieu of a normal gift. (That's nice but a little disappointing for the child in me.) My sisters and I have given up giving gifts to each other entirely – now that's a complete capitulation to the dilemma, and not good for the economy.

*George*

### Notes from Brian Clark's Presentation at the November Luncheon

Brian Clark, executive director of the Ohio Musculoskeletal and Neurological Institute, teased us with his title, Sarcopenia is not Dynapeia and then let us know that sarcopenia is loss of muscle mass and dynapeia is loss of muscle strength.

The institute is currently focusing on five research areas:

- Low and chronic back pain
- Sarcopenia and dynapeia related to aging
- Exercise physiology and rehabilitation medicine
- Biology of manual therapies
- Bone, connective tissue, and connective biology.

The Institute was started 30 years ago (with a different name) by John Howell and does basic and clinical research involving 25 scientists in four colleges and eight departments. Their goal is to work together in a central research facility.

One study currently being conducted is to examine loss of muscle strength (dynapeia) due to aging. Already several emeriti have participated in the study; they are looking for additional participants. Inquire at 330-806-3251 or [mr124304@ohio.edu](mailto:mr124304@ohio.edu).

*Ed Baum*

**STRS NEWS**

Weckman, Baum, Woolley and Carlson represented Ohio University at the November 15 meeting of the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER). Concerns in OCHER continue about the legislative response to revisions proposed by STRS to maintain solvency of the pension system for the future. The legislature has now hired trustee pension advisers (with KMS) to advise it. Waiting for their report, due next summer, and the distractions of the 2012 elections simply delay legislating the necessary adjustments in active members' contributions and eligibility requirements and thus creates a worse crisis than currently exists. The most likely future retirement system will include a combination of defined benefits and defined contributions. (STRS already offers current teachers a defined contribution program.)

The investment department at STRS continues to produce good results. In fact, in 2010-11 they earned a 22% increase for the market value of assets used to pay pensions, up from an increase of 13.8% the year before. That market value was as high as \$76B back in 2007; in August 2011 it was \$63B.

The director of the health programs for STRS, Greg Nikell, discussed his hopes for bringing stabilization to that program, which currently lives on 1% of the STRS income and is not legally guaranteed at all. Current funding will take the program through about 2025. He believes stabilization looking 30 years out will take a major change in budgeting priorities. Right now his plans are to de-emphasize covering costs for future pre-Medicare retirees (those younger than 65). STRS members should not change their Medicare Part D drug coverage for 2012 since that will cancel their STRS medical coverage.

*Art Woolley, Benefits Chair*

**EMERITI PARK GREETING CARDS**

Don Fuci and Chuck Carlson, as an experiment, created two **Emeriti Park Happy Holiday Greeting Cards**. Two of the photos that Don took were used; one was a fall photo and the other a winter photo. The greeting inside was extracted from Chuck's Park Dedication Speech, November 20, 2000. The words used were: **A place for the natural environment, A place for the human environment, A place for blending both environments, A place for Associations**. Fifty cards of each were prepared locally by MinuteMan Press. Each card costs \$1.00. Almost all have been paid for. It was not offered as a money-making project. Chuck paid for the reproductions which cost a little over one dollar apiece. Emerita Judy Daso, co-chair Emeriti Volunteer Program, bought a number of cards and sent them to Emeriti who participated in the Kennedy Museum/Dairy Barn volunteer program. Emeritus Skip Vosler also bought cards to send to friends of Ohio University, and Pete Lalich, an OU alumnus, also bought cards. Reactions to the cards have been very positive.

*Chuck Carlson*

**BENEFITS OF BEING EMERITI**

With all the changes going on in the world, our state and our community, it is nice to know that being part of Ohio University's Emeriti is a well-deserved honor with many benefits. Only *Emeriti Association* members receive the Newsletters all year long, but everyone should be aware of the Home Page at <http://www.ohio.edu/emeriti>:

[Home | News | About Us | Executive Committee: | Directory | The University]

We have a calendar to remind everyone of the *Emeriti Association* luncheon dates and special interest items such as "News" that includes all the monthly Newsletters, and "Directory" with names and current information for all Emeriti. (Revision of the directory began in November.) Please review your information and let us know if corrections are to be made. We will print another Emeriti Directory in the spring. Encourage your friends to read the Emeriti Home Page and to join the Emeriti Association!

*Margaret Thomas*

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Emeriti Faculty and Staff can receive tags for parking without charge beginning in December. These tags will be good for two years and can be renewed in the month of December when they expire. With these tags parking is permitted in Dark Green and Purple lots at any time. After 5:00 p.m. and on weekends parking is permitted in other university lots when the tag is exhibited.

The Parking Services Office at the University Garage on Factory Street is open from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday - Friday. During the month of December anytime is good except for first thing in the morning when contractors and vendors are purchasing permits to get to their job sites. The office will be closed for the University holiday dates of December 23 and 26.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sunday
4 <b>DECEMBER</b>	5	6 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i> OUWC Lunch	7 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	8 AFAN Lunch	9	10
11	12	13 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	14 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i> The Athens Village <i>Brown Bag Lunch</i>	15 Emeriti Board Meeting <b>EMERITI LUNCH</b> <i>OU Inn</i>	16	17
18	19	20 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	21 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	22	23	24
25 	26	27 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	28 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	29	30	31
	2	3 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	4 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	5	6	7

## UPCOMING EMERITI LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

### January 19: Exoplanet Science: A Search for a New Earth

*Keith Hawkins,  
Honors Tutorial College Junior*

### February 16: What is the University's Best Path

*Dr. Roderick J. McDavis,  
President*

## NOMINATE A BOBCAT

The Ohio University Alumni Association 2012 Alumni Awards nomination deadline has been extended to Dec. 15.

Please visit [www.ohioalumni.org/nominations!](http://www.ohioalumni.org/nominations!)

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