

# EMERITI NEWS



A newsletter from the Ohio University Emeriti Association

**March 20, 2014**

## PERCUSSION AROUND THE WORLD

**Roger Braun**

*Professor of Percussion*

*(Introduced by Allyn D. Reilly)*



Roger Braun is professor of percussion at Ohio University. He earned his Bachelor of Music degree in performance with highest honors from the University of Michigan and his Master of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music. His prior teaching appointments include the University of Michigan-Flint, Albion College, Interlochen Arts Camp, and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He has taught all areas of percussion, jazz performance, music technology, music theory, American popular music, and collaborative arts. His compositions and arrangements have been performed around the world and draw upon contemporary jazz, and world music influences. His pieces are published by Ohio Percussion.

Professor Braun has performed extensively throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia, particularly in South Korea, Japan, and Poland, and he adjudicated the 2004 symphonic percussion composition in Havana, Cuba. In collaboration with many leading musicians, he has recorded a dozen CD's and is involved in commissioning, composing, and creating new works. He has performed with the Biakuye Percussion Group and Los Viejos Blanquitos, in clubs and festivals and at universities. One of his most outstanding accomplishments is to be the producer, director, and performer of *Sticks and Stones: Music for Percussion and Strings*, a CD of contemporary music for Equilibrium Records.

### EMERITI BOARD 2013-2014

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Past President	George Weckman



**BALLROOM**

**EMERITI  
LUNCHEON**  
\$15.00

**Thursday**  
**March 20, 2014**  
**11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

**RESERVATIONS** must be made to attend the luncheon. If you are not on the list of regular attendees, you **MUST** call Ruth Nostrant at 593-5194 by Friday, **March 14**. 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.

#### **MENU**

*Garden Salad*  
*Marinated Vegetable Salad*  
*Pasta Salad*  
*Colcannon Mashed Potato*  
*Braised Cabbage*  
*Corned Beef with Assorted Bread for Sandwiches*  
*Assorted Cakes & Fresh Fruit*  
*Beverages*

## A Message From The President - DRU RILEY EVARTS



Mark your calendars! We have exciting dates coming up, and you will enjoy and benefit greatly from both. Here they are:

**Thursday, April 3, 10-11:30 a.m.: “What Will the Campus Look Like in 5 or 10 Years?”** This is our midyear program, also open to others in the university and community, as well those who can make it here from farther away. President Roderick McDavis will speak about building and renovation plans that will change the campus’s appearance considerably. He will be accompanied by three campus planning/capital plan officials who will add commentary and help answer questions. They are Harry Wyatt, associate vice president – architecture, design, and construction; Joseph Lalley, senior associate vice president for information technology and administrative services; and Shawna Bolin, director of university planning and space management. This program will be in the lobby of the Schoonover Center, one of the subjects of the talk. Feel free to mention it to other people and invite them to attend. Light morning refreshments will be on hand.

**Saturday, May 31, 10 a.m.-onward: “ On the Green Weekend.”** This actually does last the entire weekend (May 30-June1), but Saturday is most important to us as an organization. We hope to attract not only returning former students, but returning colleagues, who would like to come back to see us emeriti who have chosen to stay in Athens. Our main event will be an Emeriti coffee hour in the Latitude 39 space of Baker Center, from which anyone wishing to do so could also stroll over to the Emeriti Park to check it out. This coffee hour/brunch will even feature morning libations not usually seen at our gatherings as well as goodies as only Baker Center Catering can do them.

After this reception is over, those who wish to do so may resituate themselves on the campus green, where we will have a special Emeriti Tent to which former students and faculty can come to see the retired professors and administrators they remember so fondly. A barbecue will be going on to feed all comers a hearty free lunch, a band will be playing, and a lot of other things will be going on. This entire weekend is being run by the Alumni Association, which invited us to participate. The Emeriti Association mailing list is being used, so you will be getting the same flyers that alumni will get. The weekend is free, but reservations are requested so preparations can be made for the approximate number planning to attend.

It’s very fulfilling to have such wonderful events to plan and enjoy. Let’s make the most of them.

***Dru***

### Notes on February’s Luncheon Presentation DIONYSUS MEETS HADES IN TOLEDO (OHIO), by Thomas Carpenter

Apulia is one of the richest archaeological regions in Italy. It was first colonized by Mycenaean Greeks and expanded into an area known as Magna Graecia. An examination of Apulian funerary urns provides an interesting glimpse of the god Dionysus as viewed in the fourth century B.C.

Of particular interest is a funerary pot now in the Toledo Museum of Art. While the provenance of this urn is unclear, it is definitely from ancient Apulia and attributed to Darius The Painter. It provides a glimpse of death and the afterlife.

Dionysus is shown in a palace in the underworld, a rather happy, humorous place (as opposed to Dante’s depiction). He is shown bearded (most other depictions of him are younger and beardless). He is shown shaking hands with Hades, the god of the underworld, and is the only known depiction of him there.

*Ed Baum*

**PROMISE**

The university’s solicitation of funds from us these days goes under the title “The Promise Within.” It highlights the financial support of the university by faculty and staff. It is impressive indeed that so many of us have given money to advance the work of our school. We were not just employed but also dedicated to teaching and research as commitments to the improvement of the world through education.

You will receive soon a mailing with a letter from me asking for your gifts once again. I promise I will not hound you for donations, but I will expect a response from most of you. The gift does not have to be large (although that would be wonderful) in order for it to say to all that we respect Ohio University and its mission, that we gave of our time and talents and continue to give of our resources.

*George Weckman*

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

Each year members of the Emeriti Association who have distinguished themselves in service to the association or in pursuit of activities that further the goals of the association are recognized by the Distinguished Service Award.

If you wish to nominate someone, please submit your nomination in writing to Ed Baum (baum@ohio.edu), chair of the Distinguished Service Award Committee, no later than April 5. It should contain a description of reasons for submission and be co-signed by two additional emeriti.

*Ed Baum*

**WANT TO EDIT THIS NEWSLETTER?**

Edie Russ, who has edited this newsletter for six years, would like to retire. She is glad to help whoever takes it over, but she would like to retire from the actual processing of it. It takes a couple of days toward the end of the month to get the next month’s newsletter put together from information other Executive Board members send to you. You would have to have the Publisher program on your computer in order to do this..

This could start a whole exciting new life for you. The only really solid qualification is that you should be able to read and write. If this intrigues you, contact Nominations Chair Luther Haseley at 592-3580 or haseley@ohio.edu.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**ELIZABETH FISHER KORTLANDER**, 90, passed away at home on January 31. Majoring in English, she graduated from Vanderbilt University, then held a fellowship at the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference. She went on to study art at the Richmond Professional Institute of the College of William and Mary. She received an MFA in painting and art history from the University of Iowa where she subsequently served as curator of Fine Arts Prints and Slide Collection.

She taught painting in the Austin City Recreation Program and taught English at the University of Wisconsin, the University of Texas and Ohio University. She also was curator of learning services in the School of Architecture at Ohio University and eventually she served as the fine arts slide librarian, from which she retired in 1989.

Betty is survived by her husband, William Kortlander, 1 son, 1 daughter and 4 grandsons.

**BENEFITS REPORT**

**Funding Period Miscalculation.** The miscalculation by the STRS actuarial firm Segal Consulting has no cash effect so far on STRS pension or health benefits are concerned. The STRS board was required to submit a plan to the Ohio Legislature by Feb. 21 to deal with the shortfall of 10 years in meeting the statutory requirement of a 30-year maximum funding period. In fact, the STRS board submitted to the ORSC (Ohio Retirement Study Council, an agency formed by the Legislature in 1968 to advise it on retirement system matters) a letter listing the methods it was considering to cover the shortfall (see next paragraph). No action has been formally taken yet by board or Legislature.

**Options being considered by STRS for meeting the funding period shortfall:** 1) Redirect to the pension fund one year’s contribution by employers of the 1% of payroll normally deposited to the Health Care Fund; 2) Increase the mitigating rate\*; 3) Cancel one year of COLA for current retirees starting July 2014. Option 3 is the only one that would have an immediate effect on current retirees.

*\*The mitigating rate refers to the retirement accounts of active teachers who have opted to use an alternative retirement plan instead of the standard STRS program. Since such an account reduces income to the STRS program, some of the teacher’s pension salary deduction is paid to STRS to compensate for its lost income.*

**Wachtmann’s objection:** The chair of the OHIO Retirement Study Council, Rep. Lynn Wachtmann, has publicly characterized the STRS letter as not a “plan” and therefore an illegal response to the statutory requirements.

*Art Woolley, Benefits Chair*

**MEMBERSHIP ACCEPTS CONSTITUTION**

A unanimous vote of Emeriti members attending the February 20 luncheon meeting accepted the updated Constitution as revised by the Executive Board last fall and circulated among the entire membership a month before the vote, as required by the Constitution. The document can be reviewed by any member at any time by contacting Archivist/Historian Joanne Priskey.

**UPCOMING EMERITI LUNCHEON PROGRAMS**

**April 17: Jennifer Simon**  
*Director of OU Innovation Center*

**May 15: Roderick McDavis, President, Ohio University**  
**& New Emeriti Induction**

**June 19: To Be Announced**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9 <b>MARCH</b>	10	11 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn Kennedy Museum</i>	12	13 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	14	15
16	17 	18 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn Kennedy Museum</i>	19	20 Emeriti Board Meeting <b>EMERITI LUNCH</b> <i>OU Inn</i>	21 TAO PHOENIX RISING <i>Performing Arts</i>	22
23	24	25 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn Kennedy Museum</i>	26	23 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	28	29
30	31	1 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn Kennedy Museum</i> <b>A P R I L</b> SYBARITES <i>Performing Arts Add-On</i>	2	3 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i> <b>FUTURE LOOK OF CAMPUS</b> <b>President R. McDavis</b> <i>10-11:30 AM Schoonover</i>	4	5

*Edie Russ, Editor  
P.O. Box 159  
Athens, OH 45701*

