



**November 17, 2016**

**OHIO UNIVERSITY: ITS LEGACY AND ITS FUTURE**

**Roderick McDavis**

*Introduction by Alan Boyd*



Roderick J. McDavis became Ohio University's 20th president on July 1, 2004. A native of Dayton, Ohio, he received a bachelor's degree in social sciences in secondary education from Ohio University in 1970, making him only the second university alumnus to lead the university as president. He received a master's degree in student personnel administration from the University of Dayton in 1971, and a doctorate in counselor education and higher education administration from the University of Toledo in 1974.

Dr. McDavis has served as chair of the Board of Directors of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE). His primary interests and publications include restructuring teacher education programs, improving public schools and districts, counseling ethnic minorities, recruiting and retaining minority students and faculty, and evaluating student personnel programs. He has authored or co-authored chapters in books, monographs and articles in professional journals and other publications.

In 2008, Dr. McDavis founded The Interlink Alliance, a coalition of historically black colleges and universities and Ohio University, for the purpose of developing and preparing African American students to learn, live, and lead in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In 2010, Dr. McDavis was appointed to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I Committee on Academic Performance and was named to the American Council on Education (ACE) Blue Ribbon Panel on Global Engagement. In 2011, Dr. McDavis was asked to serve on the Ohio Board of Regents Technology Transfer and Commercialization Task Force in recognition of Ohio University's leadership in this arena. In 2012, the University of Arkansas awarded Dr. McDavis the Silas Hunt Legacy Award for his commitment to diversity. In early 2016, Dr. McDavis announced his retirement planned for 2017.

**EMERITI BOARD 2016-2017**

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**EMERITI LUNCHEON**  
Thursday  
**November 17, 2016**  
**11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**



**BALLROOM**

**RESERVATIONS** must be made to attend the luncheon. If you are not on the "ALWAYS" list of regular attendees, you **MUST** call or email Tom Franz at (740) 593-5347 or [franz@ohio.edu](mailto:franz@ohio.edu) by **Friday, November 11**. You may pay by cash or by check made payable to OU Emeriti.

You can add your name(s) to the "Always" list and not have to call each month unless you cannot attend. Ask Tom to add your name(s).

**MENU** \$15.00

*Fried Chicken*  
*Sliced Sirloin w/Demi*  
*Macaroni & Cheese*  
*Mixed Green Salad*  
*German Potato Salad*  
*Southern Green Beans*  
*Assorted Desserts*

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - Alan Boyd



I hope you all had a good vacation this summer. Sue and I took a great trip through the parks in the west and enjoyed ourselves immensely. It got me thinking about “vacation.” A good definition of it is “a period of suspension of work, study or other activity, usually used for rest, recreation, or travel; recess or holiday.” The idea of taking a break may have been an outcome of the practice of religiously inspired persons taking spiritual retreats. In our country, vacations were only a luxury of the wealthy. They became associated with working people by the establishment of Labor Day, first celebrated in New York in 1882, recognized by legislation in Oregon in 1897, and by the congress of the United States in 1894. Labor Day was a celebration of the laborer, usually including big parades and picnics.

Many societies have no concept of vacation. Most societies have holidays and celebrations, sometimes religiously oriented, but these events are not conceived of as a break from daily labor. In fact, especially for women, they may include a lot of work preparing food and special costumes. It is in societies like ours that labor has been distinguished from other aspects of life, resulting in a demand for time to be set aside for vacations. We have come a long way, often requiring employers to provide time off from work. And my impression is that, once retired, we take more vacations than ever, no doubt because we have more time to do it. Vacations, especially travel, have become an important part of our lives. *Alan*

### Volunteer Recognized

In the past month, Emeriti members have volunteered at the Emeriti Park and at the Dairy Barn. The Emeriti Association honors one of these volunteers, randomly selected, with a free lunch the following month. Our winner this month is Don Shamblin! *Phyllis Field Baxter*

### Notes on October’s Luncheon Presentation by Bob Eichenberg

*A History of the Bike Trails in Athens County and Bike Trails Nationally*

The 23-mile Hockhocking Adena Bikeway’s name is from the Shawnee name for the river, hockhocking which means “bottleneck” or “twisted.” Much of it is built on what was originally a tow-path along the river and, later, railroad tracks. It is, in part, a result of the “rails to trails” movement in the U.S. Future plans include an eventual connection to Belpre and beyond. Its maintenance is a cooperative program involving Ohio University, the cities of Athens and Nelsonville, and Athens County. *Ed Baum*

\* Roxanne was instrumental in creating the bike path in Athens.



Bob Eichenberg



Roxanne Groff\*



## EMERITI NOTICES

### Membership Information

In late September, each member of the Emeriti Association received a letter from Alan Boyd and Margaret Thomas. Included with the letter was an information card. Please complete the information on the card, including whether you want to receive the newsletter by email or in print form. Even if you do not have any changes to last year's information, please complete and return the card in the envelope provided for that purpose. Contact Margaret Thomas (([thomasm@ohio.edu](mailto:thomasm@ohio.edu)) or (740) 593-8765) with any questions.

### Parking Permits

OU Parking Services said new parking permits would be available beginning in late December or early January.

There was some space this month, so here's a look at some financial comparisons from 1915.

Census Bureau data show that the median household income, measured from 2009 to 2013 (the most recent data available), is \$53,046. Back in 1915, two years after income tax came on the scene, you were doing about average if you were making \$687 a year, according to the Census. That is, if you were a man. If you were a woman, cut that number by about half.

Today, that \$687 would be comparable to earning \$16,063 a year, according to an inflation calculator on the Bureau of Labor Statistics' website. So Americans' buying power has improved considerably in the last century.

There was no minimum wage in 1915, except in a few states experimenting with it, and only for women and children. (The federal minimum wage wouldn't be enacted until 1938.) At a hearing in March 1915, Dorothy Miller told a state minimum wage committee in Albany, New York, that she made \$6 a week, which came to \$312 a year. Out of that \$6, she paid her parents \$2.50 a week for room and board.

Today, the median home value in the U.S. is \$177,600, according to the Zillow Home Value Index. In 1915, purchasing a house would have typically set you back \$3,200, according to Census records.

You were also taking more of a risk in buying a home then than you are today. Homeowners insurance didn't exist – not until 1950 – and there were few zoning laws in the country.

According to Miller, the woman who was paid \$6 a week, she bought her lunch for 15 cents while her struggling co-workers got by on 6 cents. Fifteen cents would buy \$3.51 in

## IN MEMORIAM

Virginia Ann "Ginnie" Isele, 76, passed away at her home in the Carolina Preserve in Cary, NC, on October 15, 2016, after a brief illness. Born in Cleveland, she was an accomplished dancer and toured professionally with a modern jazz dance troupe. Ginnie graduated from Kent State in 1962 with a degree in speech pathology. That same year, she became the first speech therapist hired to serve the Ravenna School District.



Ginnie accompanied her husband, Ron, to his new job at Ohio University. She ultimately earned a master's degree in speech pathology from OU and worked as the speech pathologist for the Trimble school system. She returned to Ohio University and earned a Ph.D. in educational administration, after which she was hired as principal of Carroll Elementary in the Bloom-Carroll School District. She spent a year as superintendent of the Amanda-Clearcreek schools, following which she returned to be principal of Bloom Elementary. She also was director of curriculum for New Lexington schools, and finished her career as a curriculum consultant in the Northern Local School District.

She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Ron; daughters, Kimberly Ann Isele and Amy Lynn Armstrong; three grandchildren, a brother, and, a sister.

food today, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' inflation calculator.

According to statistics from the Census Bureau, typical prices for 1915 food include:

- a loaf of bread: 7 cents
- a dozen eggs: 34 cents
- a quart of milk: 9 cents
- a pound of steak: 26 cents

In March 1915, Louise Johnson, who chaired the economics committee of the National Federation of Women's Club, said the average wealth per family in the U.S. was \$1,500 a year, and that a smart budget would include:

- \$25 allotted for monthly rent
- \$18.50 for operation expenses, which meant electric and heating costs, like coal, and general day-to-day expenses, like toiletries
- \$37.50 a month for food
- \$18.75 a month for clothes
- \$25 a month for the "higher life," which Johnson defined as art, music, recreation and health care. These things are essential to true happiness, Johnson said.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31 Halloween 	01 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i> <div style="border: 1px solid purple; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">NOV</div>	02	03	04	05
05	07 Emeriti Vol. <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	08 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	09 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	10	11	12
13	14 Emeriti Vol. <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	15 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	16 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	17 Emeriti Board Meeting  <b>EMERITI LUNCH</b> <i>OU Inn</i>	18	19
20	21 Emeriti Vol. <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	22 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	23 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	24 	25	26
27	28 Emeriti Vol. <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	29 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	30 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	01 <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">DEC</div>	02	03

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