



A newsletter from the Ohio University Emeriti Association

September 20, 2012

AFRICAN STUDIES - PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Steve Howard

Director of African Studies

(Presented by Alan Boyd)



Dr. Steve Howard has been Director of the Ohio University African Studies Program for 21 years. In addition to holding professorships in the School of Media Arts and the Department of Educational Studies with their customary teaching loads, Steve has been responsible for Africa programming across the university, being the head of MA- and BA-granting programs in African Studies, directing a National Resource Center for African Studies, and supervising university linkages in South Africa, Swaziland, Nigeria and Ghana.

A very significant contribution Steve has made to Ohio University is the foundation of the Institute for the African Child in 1998. This institute conducts interdisciplinary research and training programs to promote the progressive development of children and their families across the African world. It involves faculty and staff coordination and summer workshop development among five colleges at Ohio University. Steve's career has included many visiting professorships around the world, consultations, publications and presentations. Steve has been the prime mover in the receipt of three U.S. Department of Education, National Resource Center for African Language and Area Studies and Foreign Language Fellowship grants for millions of dollars, enabling Ohio University to offer assistantships to many graduate students and to support our programs.

Dr. Howard's presentation will include not only a summary of the African Studies program, but also projections for the future.

EMERITI BOARD 2012-2013

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EMERITI LUNCHEON

**Thursday,
September 20, 2012
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

\$14.00

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, **September 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.



BALLROOM

**M
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*Fresh Garden Salad with Assorted Dressings
Ham & Pea Salad with Macaroni Pasta
Roasted Broccoli with Cheddar Vinaigrette
Chicken Salad Wrap
Roast Beef & Pepper Wrap
Assorted Cookies & Brownies & Fresh Fruit
Beverages*



A Message From The President - GEORGE WECKMAN

Quarters were just fine with me; I'm happy my 43 years of teaching at OU neatly fit in the 45 years of that calendar. Whether you liked quarters or not, changing to another class schedule isn't easy. And, of course our Association is changing, technology is changing, the whole world is changing. Some of us are getting tired of running just to keep up.

What remains the same? What persists unchanged in our lives to which we can return with comfort and familiarity? Answer: "Nothing!" However, some things change slowly enough that we can entertain the fantasy that they are eternal. A little fantasy in this regard is not bad.

First, a little Association promotion: Keeping in touch with colleagues and friends is one way of resisting the pace of change. Our luncheons and other events, along with conversations while shopping or strolling around town, maintain social continuity. There are few blessings to match the joy of long-term friendships.

In retirement we can keep in touch with family more easily. Reunions and other visits recall the events and connections of a lifetime and beyond as family lore is cherished. I do regret it, however, when friends move away from Athens to be near family. Certainly there are tradeoffs among these long-term associations.

Despite global shifts and variations, the cycles of nature seem eternal. Every season feels like the return of an old friend. Fall colors and brisk winds will soon welcome us, after the lazy warmth of summer, before the chill and challenge of another winter, and the delight of tulips and daffodils next spring. This recent summer, however, taught us that weather and seasons also change, and not always for the better.

We also enjoy the arts that have endured for centuries. Bach and Michelangelo seem to transcend time. We still enjoy Sophocles, Shakespeare, and Shaw. There are cultural and personal options here; there are no absolutely universal classics. The university promotes a variety of explorations into the ancient, perennial monuments of humanity. Museums, concert halls, and theaters celebrate the tried and true and connect us with our past. I feel sorry for people who focus only on the contemporary and disdain these old glories.

Things really do change, but some things change slower than others. Here's to the old verities and delights that seem to persist!

George

Notes on the June 21st Emeriti Luncheon Presentation about the Emeriti Park by Chuck Carlson, Joe Tucker and Dick Dean

It began as an idea in the mid-1980s, as a memorial to 176 deceased emeriti faculty and administrators. The "park" along Richland Avenue was dedicated on May 21, 1987, and was to consist of a boulder with a plaque and a couple of benches. This was completed in 1990.

The question was then raised, why a "memorial" park, why not an "Emeriti Park" recognizing all who had made significant contributions leading to their emeritus/a status. In late 1991 a special emeriti committee was formed and charged with finding a suitable site for an enlarged park. The committee worked on this for 6 years, identifying a 4-acre plot in the old Hocking River bed and raising \$100,000 for landscaping, benches, flowers and trees. Instrumental in this effort was Margaret Deppen. The new park was dedicated in 2000.

The park now consists of 18 memorial benches, 26 memorial trees, 10 gardens, 2 fountains, 2 watercourse falls and 1 gazebo. Maintenance is shared by emeriti members who work in the park each Wednesday morning (8:30-9:30) and Ohio University. Emeriti provide about 26% of the labor. The park is used for weddings, study, reading, talking, relaxing, napping and photography. More helpers can always be used on Wednesday mornings.

The university has agreed to a capital expenditure of \$160,000 for a park upgrade which will include lighting along the paths, a goal of the Emeriti Association for the past 5 years.

Ed Baum

SERVING EMERITI THROUGH OUR WEB PAGE

Whether you are an avid user of the internet or new not happy to be forced to the web, we will do our best to make information available to our Emeriti members.

Our web page at <http://www.ohio.emeriti> is available to you anytime. (Note that the latest addition is a new layer of topics at the top for Ohio University.)

EMERITI information begins with a wonderful picture of the Emeriti Park, a Calendar of the Luncheon Meetings and an option line:

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

Pay special attention to the **News**, which will contain the latest Newsletters. *(Remember, you won't receive a printed copy after September unless you requested it on this year's Emeriti Information Form.)*

*Review your information in the **Directory** which will be updated this fall from the information you sent in on this year's Emeriti Information Form.*

For questions or concerns, please contact George Weckman, 592-4382. or Margaret Thomas, 593-8765.

OUCU/EMERITI TRIP

December 16: Oglebay Festival of Lights

Enjoy 75 larger-than-life displays. The amazing "Cinderella" display took 2 years to complete. The breathtaking "Polyhedron Star" with over 2000 lights stands on the highest hill in the park. The "Poinsettia Wreath and Candles" stands nearly 60 feet tall and 50 feet wide. It's a beautiful part of the Christmas season. We'll have time for shopping at the Carriage House Glass Shop, the Gourmet in the Garden Shop, and the Resort Shop before our dinner at Wilson Lodge.

Leave E. State St. Credit Union at 1 PM. Rest break on the way (not included). Arrive at park at 4 PM. Dinner at 6 PM. Return home about 11:30 PM. Cost is \$75 (includes transportation, dinner, park tour and guide).

Call Bill Coffey at 597-2845

IN MEMORIAM



SONDRA REBOTTINI passed away June 9th at her home in Athens. She was 63.

A graduate of West Virginia University, Sondra was an associate professor of teacher education at Ohio University and had only recently fully retired.



ANDREW CHONKO, 78, of Athens, died July 4. He earned BS and MS degrees in journalism at Ohio University. Prior to his career at OU he worked as news editor of the Ada Herald, as sports editor of The Athens Messenger. and for 10 years was employed by the Ohio Army National Guard. At OU for 25 years, he was the former director of the Office of Continuing Education.

He is survived by his wife, Anne Marie, 3 sons and their spouses, and 10 grandchildren.



RAY SKINNER, 86, of Athens, passed away July 15. He earned his BS and MA degrees at Ohio State University. He taught at the high school level in northern Ohio, as well as coaching basketball, for 15 years, then earned his PhD from Kent State University. He taught at Ohio University in the College of Education for over 30 years.

Surviving are his wife, Marilyn, 2 daughters and a stepson.



KENNETH HALLIDAY, 65, died July 16 after a long illness. He earned his BS degree at Western New England College and his PhD at the University of Massachusetts. He taught at Rhode Island University and the University of Texas before coming to Ohio University to the Department of Mechanical Engineering. He retired in July 2011.

He is survived by his wife, Paulette, 1 son, 1 daughter & spouse, and 1 grandchild.

CATHERINE BROWN, 80, died August 6. At Ohio University she was assistant professor of recreational and sport sciences. She was a member of the 2012 class of the Field Hockey Coaches Hall of Fame, a reluctant member of the Ohio University Athletic Hall of Fame, and a tireless crusader for women's rights.

JUDITH BERGDAHL, 69, passed away August 24 because of cancer. Her husband, David, taught in the Department of English at Ohio University.

She is survived by her husband, 3 daughters and 1 son.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9	10	11 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	12 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i> <i>Emeriti Park (8:30-9:30 AM)</i>	13 AFAN Meeting	14	15
16	17	18 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	19 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i> <i>Emeriti Park (8:30-9:30 AM)</i> OUWC Meeting	20 Emeriti Board Meeting EMERITI LUNCH <i>OU Inn</i>	21	22
23	24	25 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	26 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i> <i>Emeriti Park (8:30-9:30 AM)</i>	27	28	29
30	1	2 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	3 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i> <i>Emeriti Park (8:30-9:30 AM)</i>	4	5	6

UPCOMING EMERITI LUNCHEON PROGRAM

October 18: Exciting Adjustments for the University
Dr. Pam Benoit, Executive Vice President and Provost

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Permit 100
Athens, OH 45701

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

