

APRIL 2025



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President's Message

What an entertaining evening we had at the last Monday night dinner as we had 100 in attendance. Of course, any time you have Ann and Burns Hargis as speakers, it is going to be a special event. Our Vice President for Activities, Gary Clark, served as the moderator and coordinated a question-answer format. Ann and Burns shared what were some of the challenges and the many joys while leading the University. Additionally, Emeriti members also posed questions. It was indeed an excellent program.

Good News! The updated Emeriti Association *Directory* is in its final proofing from the printers and should be in your mailbox very soon. A special round of applause goes to Zane Quible, Gary Clark, and Patricia Acurio who worked as a team to produce the directory. You will see a new and improved -- and much easier to read -- membership information section. I can read it without my glasses!

Ever wonder about our water situation in Oklahoma? It is probably now the most important commodity on the planet. At the May meeting, Dr. Kevin Wagner will speak on the future of Oklahoma water. Additionally, we will be celebrating our continued successful relationship with Osher Lifelong Learning, OLLI, and Dr. Gina Peek will give us an update. Please note that the deadline for reservations is a little earlier than usual. Celebrations will be the caterer with an Asian flair cuisine.

We had a question concerning whether Emeriti members were needed to help with OSU Graduation. In the long past, we have distributed programs, etc. Currently, no volunteers are needed. So no need to dust off your academic caps and gowns!

I am continuing to have some small surprises at each meeting. Last month, there were four rabbit themed items—chocolate rabbits and rabbit towels. April showers bring May flowers -- hint? Just a little something because I so appreciate your making the effort to attend the dinners. And with such excellent speakers and great food (thank you Bob LeValley again for coordinating all our catering), who would want to miss?

Best and Go Pokes,

Carolyn

Committees and Groups

Ambassadors

Joyce Sherrer

Archives/Historian

Barbara Miller

Benefits

Jim Houston

Catering and

Reservations

Bob LeValley

Communications

Zane Quible

Directory

Zane Quible

Faculty Council

Tom Royer

Finance

Liz Tarbutton and

Carolyn Gang

Investment Club

Ron Elliott and

Ray Huhnke

Meet and Greet

Joe Williams

Sue Williams

Membership

Mike Lorenz

Name Tags

Mike Lorenz

Newsletter

Zane Quible

Nominations

Mike Woods and

Carolyn Gang

Tours and Travel

Cathy Shuffield

Web Site

Zane Quible

The Emeriti Association was founded in 1988 by the following individuals:

Robert Hendrickson
Jean Agnew
Dick Jungers
Kenneth McCollom

Welcome to Our Newest Member

We welcome our newest member, who recently joined the Emeriti Association.

Laurie Lucas

Emeriti Association's Upcoming Programs

Gary Clark, Vice President--Activities, has confirmed several programs for the remainder of 2025, with the next three included below:

May 5 Prof. Kevin Wagner Topic: *Oklahoma's Water Future*; OLLI Leader—*Update on OLLI*

June 2 Senior Vice Provost Chris Francisco —Topic: *New Directions for General Education at Oklahoma State University*

September 8 Prof. Jamey Jacob—*From Sand to Stars, the Present and Future of Drones in Warfare, Commerce, and Exploration*

Content Added to Web Site Since the Last Newsletter

The following items have been added to the Emeriti Web site since the last newsletter:

Wes Watkins [Obituary](#)

Hermann Burchard [Obituary](#)

February [Minutes](#)

Pauline Kopecky [Obituary](#)

Bernard Eissenstat [Obituary](#)

2025 [Directory](#)

The Emeriti Investment Club Has Openings For a Few More Partners

Would you like to join fellow emeriti and learn a little about stock investing in a friendly, low-stress environment? The Emeriti Investment Club provides that opportunity! Celebrating its 30th anniversary, the EIC is seeking additional partners and extends an invitation for interested folks to visit a club meeting (no obligation).

Each month, the Club meets on the 2nd Monday for an informal discussion meeting and on the 3rd Monday for its regular business meeting. Both meetings begin at 1:15 pm in the Emeriti Suite in the ConocoPhillips Alumni Center. Visitors are always welcome!

For more information, contact any of the current officers (Bill Weeks, Ray Huhnke, Gerald Horn, Dennis Bertholf, Ron Elliott).

Meet the Emeriti Association President: Carolyn Gang

Carolyn Gang is an only child, which was both a blessing and a curse. She grew up in Perry, OK, where her father was an accountant with ODOT and her mother was a “June Cleaver” homemaker. As a result, she loved numbers and never learned to cook. Her parents were much older when she was born, and her father would tell people that they found her under a rock. When asked by her first-grade teacher where she was born, she said “under a rock” and ended up in the Principal’s Office. Fortunately, her father was on the school board and admitted that is what the child had heard. From that point on, Enid, OK, was ingrained into her brain as place of birth.

Another result of being an only child was that she had to entertain herself. Carolyn loved the public library and would go there almost every day. She loved to read, loved to draw, and took piano lessons. Those activities developed into life-long adventures.

When Carolyn was a teenager, the family moved to Duncan, OK. During that time, she developed a new skill – writing! She was placed in an accelerated English class and loved it. She graduated from Duncan High School and was chosen as 1 of 5 students to write the Senior Skit for graduation. Her parents also took her to Broadway productions in nearby Lawton, OK. She couldn’t get enough of the theatre.

Two weeks after high school graduation in 1970, she was at OSU. She pledged a sorority and was very active on campus. She started out as a music major and switched to education her freshman year. She and her piano professor had very different ideas about how Bach should be played. Switching to education was a game changer – she was fortunate to have some fabulous mentors who really encouraged her. As a result, she was named a Redskin Congratulate Top Twelve Senior at OSU in May 1974. These same mentors convinced her not to go to the University of Texas but to stay at OSU for her masters. Again, she had Dr. Norman Durhan as a mentor during graduate school and Dr. Jim Seals as her major advisor. The truth is, Carolyn loved school. She received her M.S in Student Personnel & Guidance in December 1975.

Carolyn started an Ed.D. but didn’t finish--life got in the way. While waiting for her dream job, she worked as a secretary in Ag Econ, and Dr. Joe Williams was one of her bosses. She stayed with Ag Econ for about 5 months and then accepted the position as the first Coordinator of Student Employment. From there she went into academic advising in the College of Arts & Sciences and later with the Psychology Department. The 5 years she was with Psychology, she was named the Outstanding Advisor for Arts & Sciences twice.

In 1990, she married fellow OSU graduate Ed Noltensmeyer. She basically left OSU as a paid employee but started getting involved with OSU boards and departments and various community boards. She also briefly worked for the Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Trust and did long-term substitute teaching. Her passions are the arts, children’s issues, and genealogy. She enjoys fundraising and putting together events. She currently serves as an officer or on the board of 10 organizations and strongly believes in giving back to OSU and the community.

Carolyn still can’t cook, but she can organize a gala in a second--and enjoys being of the age where she doesn’t have to filter.

