

NEWSLETTER

December
2024



Officers

President:
Mike Woods

President-Elect:
Carolyn Gang

*Vice-President
for Activities:*
Priscilla Gerfen

Secretary:
Becky Schlais

Treasurer:
Ron Miller

Past President:
Gary Sherrer

Councilors

Gary Clark
Judy Hoberock
Ray Huhnke
Bob LeValley
Mike Lorenz
Kent Sampson
Carol Schmitz
Gerald Stangl
Sue Williams

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President's Message

December is the month we observe the end of the semester, final exams, and graduation. The holiday season is in full swing as the year comes to an end.

We have a new slate of Emeriti Council officers who will take the reins in January 2025. Carolyn Gang will serve as president, and Joyce Sherrer will be the president-elect. Gary Clark will serve as the vice-president for activities. We also welcome Liz Tarbutton as our new treasurer. New councilor members for 2025 include Gladeen Allred and Bob Graalman. We are in good hands as we move forward.

Thanks to all Emeriti who served as officers and councilors in 2024! You are rock stars. We also appreciate all Emeriti members who serve ably on Faculty Council, University, and Emeriti committees.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as president for this past year. My family and I bleed orange. This organization is comprised of individuals who also love OSU! What a wonderful opportunity to stay informed about campus events and to serve and support our Land-Grant mission. Mary and I especially enjoy our Monday Night Dinners and the fellowship offered as well as great meals and entertainment/information.

I want to give a "shout out" to a couple of colleagues. Council member Gary Clark really stepped up this year when we lost our staff assistant. Gary developed a database so we could continue to communicate with our members in a timely manner. This action will strengthen our organization moving forward. I also want to recognize Zane Quible, who faithfully edits and produces our monthly newsletter. Zane also keeps our Web site updated and is currently working on our annual directory, which will come out in early 2025. Zane is a real professional.

Our December Monday Night Dinner had record attendance! Our new officers and council members were introduced. We enjoyed a delicious Hawaiian Luau Buffet. We were entertained by the Stillwater High School Choral group. What a talented group of young people! (See photos, page 6)

Thank you for the honor of serving as president of the Emeriti Association for 2024. It has been a joy. I wish each of you very Happy Holidays and a Merry Christmas!

Respectfully,

Mike Woods
President

Emeriti Committees and Groups

Ambassadors

Joyce Sherrer

Archive /Historian

Barbara Miller

Benefits

Mike Woods

Catering and Reservations

Bob LeValley

Communications

Zane Quible

Directory

Zane Quible

Faculty Council

Barbara Miller

Finance

Ron Miller (chair);

Mike Woods

Investment Club

Ron Elliott,

Ray Huhnke

Meet and Greet

Joe Williams

Membership

Michael Lorenz

Name Tags

Michael Lorenz

Newsletter

Zane Quible

Nominations

Gary Sherrer;

Mike Woods

Technology Group

Glade Presnal

Tours and Travel

Cathy Shuffield

Web Site

Zane Quible

Recent Content Added To Emeriti Web Site

Content recently added to the Emeriti Web site includes the following:

[October](#) Minutes

Helen Jordan [Obituary](#)

Ann and Jim Halligan and Robert Spurrier Inducted Into the OHEHS Hall of Fame

(Contributed by Sue Williams)

For the past 30 years, the Oklahoma Higher Education Heritage Society (OHEHS) has honored individuals, living and deceased, for outstanding achievements and leadership in teaching, research, outreach/extension, administration, staff support and public service.

Following a rigorous selection process, individuals bringing distinction to Oklahoma Higher Education are inducted into the OHEHS Hall of Fame. Nine individuals were honored during the annual induction ceremony and banquet on November 4. Click [here](#) for information on this year's inductees.

Three outstanding individuals representing OSU were inducted. Robert (Bob) Spurrier along with James and Ann Halligan. Inductees were joined by family, friends, and colleagues to celebrate their many achievements. The OSU family did a great job helping the honorees celebrate.



Bob and Kelly Spurrier

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James and Ann Halligan served Oklahoma State University together for 13+ years. James Halligan served as the 16th President of OSU from 1994 to 2003 and later as an administrative consultant and faculty member. He went on to serve as an advocate for higher education in the Oklahoma State Senate. When the Halligans arrived in Stillwater, it was quickly apparent what a powerful team Jim and Ann Halligan were. Jim Halligan was professional, pleasant, extremely intelligent, genuine, and accessible. Ann was his perfect complement: Energetic, engaging, hospitable, and gracious. OSU's tradition of excellence has continued largely based on the leadership of the Halligans.

Dr. Robert (Bob) Spurrier is professor emeritus of political science and director emeritus of the Honors College at Oklahoma State University. For the last 26 of his 42 years at OSU, he served as Honors Director. With President James Halligan's encouragement, OSU's honors program developed into the OSU Honors College. Later, with the support of Provost Marlene Strathe and President Burns Hargis in cooperation with the Oklahoma Historical Society, the College was housed in the newly renovated Old Central. Bob excelled in every role he held with numerous recognitions for teaching, advising, and extension at university, state, and national levels. Bob came to campus every day with energy, optimism and a genuine concern for student development and success.

Each year, OHEHS considers nominees for the Hall of Fame. The application will be posted on the OHEHS Web site (<https://www.ohehs.org/about.html>) shortly after January 2025. Please take time to review the application and consider nominating an individual who has made outstanding contributions to OSU and Oklahoma Higher Education.



2024 Hall of Fame Inductees: (L-R) James F. Barthell, Clyde Montgomery, Jr., Joseph Harris, Jr., Larry D. Rice, Ann Halligan, Marion Paden, John M. McArthur, Robert L. Spurrier, Jr., Laurie Majors for her father, Russell D. Vaught.

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Above: The Halligan Family; Ann Halligan in the center.



Above: Spurrier Family and Friends

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Above: (L-R) Phil Moss, President, OHEHS; Ann Halligan; Allison Garrett, Chancellor, Ok Regents for Higher Education; Dennis Casey, Chairman, Ok Regents for Higher Education.



Above: (L-R) Phil Moss, President, OHEHS; Bob Spurrier; Allison Garrett, Chancellor, Ok Regents for Higher Education; Dennis Casey, Chairman, Ok Regents for Higher Education.

Its That Time of Year. . .

It is that time of year for annual members of the Emeriti Association to pay their yearly dues. A single membership is \$25 for the year and \$35 for a husband/wife membership. Please send payment to the address shown at the bottom of the first page of this newsletter.

Two years ago, the Emeriti Association Council approved a change in the dues structure of the Association, which grants life membership to annual members who pay their annual dues for 10 years. Life members no longer pay annual dues once their status changes.

If you are an annual member and have paid your dues from 2015-2024, (10 consecutive years), you will automatically become a life member at the beginning of 2025. If you need to check your status, you can do so by looking at your ECODE number in the roster of the 2024 *Emeriti Association Directory*. If your code is FA1524 or ST1524, you will become a life member on January 1, 2025, and thus no longer pay dues. If you have a spouse who also joined when you did, he/she will also be eligible for life membership.

Annual members who last paid their yearly dues in 2023 will be delisted in the roster in the 2025 directory unless back dues as well as 2025 dues are paid by March 1.

Photos From December 2 Monday Night Dinner

