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Sue Williams

Contact Information

Phone

405-744-5263

E-Mail

emeriti@okstate.edu

Web Site

emeriti.okstate.edu

Mailing Address

Emeriti Association

ConocoPhillips

Alumni Center

Room 201

Stillwater, OK 74078

President's Message

Dear Fellow Members of the OSU Emeriti Association,

As we begin the new year of **2026**, it's a pleasure to share this message with you and to thank each of you for your continued connection to OSU and to one another. Our Emeriti Association reflects a remarkable breadth of experience, service, and commitment, and it is an honor to serve as your president.

Special thanks to our outgoing president, **Carolyn Gang**, for her outstanding leadership and dedication to the Association. Through her thoughtful guidance and tireless service, Carolyn strengthened our programs, expanded opportunities for engagement, and helped ensure a smooth and vibrant transition. We are deeply grateful for her many contributions and continued support.

Though our formal roles at the university may have changed, our collective impact has not diminished. Through participation in Association activities, support of students and colleagues, and engagement with university events, emeriti faculty and staff continue to contribute meaningfully to the life and mission of OSU. Your involvement helps preserve the long-term traditions of excellence that have defined this institution.

I am grateful for the dedication of our officers, committee members, and volunteers who work throughout the year to keep the Association active and connected. I also thank each of you for staying engaged—whether by attending events, reading this newsletter, or maintaining ties with former colleagues.

I encourage you to join us for our **next Emeriti Dinner Meeting on February 2 at 6:00 pm at the Alumni Center**. The program will be presented by **Bob Burke**, noted Oklahoma attorney and author, who will speak on *One Lucky Cowboy—Behind the Scenes*. The evening will conclude with a **book signing by Burns Hargis**.

Patricia Acurio, our wonderful administrative assistant, has accepted another position. She has been a valued part of the Association, and we will miss her greatly—both professionally and personally. We are deeply grateful for all she has done and wish her much happiness and success in this next chapter. We appreciate your patience and understanding as the Association moves through this transition until her replacement is named.

With warm regards and best wishes for the year ahead,

Joyce Sherrer

President

Oklahoma State University Emeriti Association

Committees and Groups

Ambassadors	Bob Graalman
Archives/Historian	Barbara Miller
Benefits	Jim Houston
Catering and Reservations	Cara Beer
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

Emeriti Association's Upcoming Programs

Gary Clark, President-Elect, has confirmed several programs for 2026, including the following:

February 2	Bob Burke (noted Oklahoma Attorney and Author— <i>One Lucky Cowboy—Behind the Scenes</i> , followed by <i>book signing by Burns Hargis</i>
March 2	Dr. Jim Hess, President, Oklahoma State University— <i>OSU Update</i>
April 6	Denise Webber, Stillwater Medical Center— <i>Stillwater Medical Center</i>
May 4	Robin Fuxa, OLLI Director and Dr. John Loffi— <i>Aviation Program/Flight Center at OSU</i>
June 1	Rachel Condley—Our Daily Bread Director— <i>Our Daily Bread's Impact on Students</i>

Kudos to Gary Sherrer on Being Named an Oklahoma Water Pioneer

Kudos to Gary Sherrer, who was recently named an Oklahoma Water Pioneer by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board during its annual Oklahoma Governor's Water Conference.

The award is presented to individuals who have dedicated their careers to “the planning, development, management, protection, and conservation of Oklahoma’s water resources.”

Gary served in the Oklahoma legislature from 1981-1988, after which he was named as the First Secretary of Agriculture under Governor David Walters. He also served as the Secretary of the Environment for Governors Keating and Fallin.

From 2005 to 2017, Gary was employed as the Assistant Vice President for External Affairs in OSU’s Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. During the Vietnam War, he worked as a combat medic for which he earned the Bronze Star for meritorious service.

Content Added to the Emeriti Association Website Since the Last Newsletter

Russell Wright [Obituary](#)

New Members of the Emeriti Association

Martha McMillian Roger McMillian

One Last Reminder!

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.

Three 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 yearly 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 2016- 2025, (10 consecutive years), you will automatically become a life member at the beginning of 2026. Annual members who last paid their yearly dues in 2024 will be delisted in the roster in the 2026 directory unless back dues as well as 2026 dues are paid by March 1, 2026. If you need to check on the status of your dues, please contact the Emeriti Office by phone (405-743-1080) or by email (emeriti@okstate.edu).

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