

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022**

### **OSU Emeriti Association**

#### **Kent Sampson, 2022 President**

As we entered a post-pandemic time, much effort was expended in working to revitalize the organization and its many functions.

The Monday Night Dinners (MND) continued to be important to the membership. As 2022 President, I am most appreciative of and indebted to Michael Lorenz, who, as past-president, held my hand when needed to assure Association success. Mike and Velda, you are such assets to the Association! Thanks so very much!!

The OSU Emeriti Association is governed by a council consisting of 9 councilors (each on three-year rotating terms) and an executive team of six more members, making 15 members total.

Membership was stable at 445 members with an additional 16 joining as life members and four as annual members. A new membership policy was adopted by the membership and Council. It reads: "Once a member has paid for 10 years of annual dues, he/she will become eligible for a lifetime membership, never again paying dues". Annual members approaching this ten-year mark have been contacted and informed about their status. This change received positive response from the membership and was approved by the Council at its October 31 meeting.

The association's financial position remains excellent. The annual audit confirmed this! The December balances are as follows: Checking: \$2109.29; savings: \$10.20; money market: \$6578.79; and one certificate of deposit: \$5010.16. The December 2022 endowment has a value of \$65,063 while the scholarship fund is worth \$55,553.79. The Council still wishes to maintain MNDs at a participant cost of \$15, with the Association subsidizing each meal served for \$4.30 per person per evening, which includes food, gratuity, venue charges, set-up, audio-visual equipment, etc). NOTE: An anonymous donor wishing to maintain the \$15 fee per person has offered up to \$1000 to help with expenses.

Mike Lorenz, as past-president, continues to invite retirees to join the Association and works with Coral White in OSU HR in identifying prospective members. Our group is also quite appreciative of the continued support of the Provost's Office and Denise Weaver.

On January 9, 2023, Past-President Sampson and President Gary Sherrer met with the new CEO of the ConocoPhillips Alumni Center, Dr. Ann Caine. A copy of the current working agreement was shared, and continued approval is anticipated. She seemed to be most interested in working with our group, including a revamped Ambassador program.

We experienced limited success in our joint effort with Josh Taylor and the Hargis Leadership Initiative in offering emeriti mentors to students studying leadership. This program will continue to be pursued.

Our partnership with OLLI and Director Robyn Davis continues to be solid. Her team is doing excellent work as they, too, emerge from the pandemic impact.

The 2022 year also experienced the passing of 18 Emeriti Association members including former dean of the Graduate College, Norman Durham, as well as former OSU president, Jim Halligan. The list of these individuals is contained in the *Directory*.

Dinner programs take place the first Monday of every month at 6 pm (with a social beginning at 5:30) except during the months of January, July, and August. The September dinner normally takes place on the second Monday of the month, and the May dinner is cohosted with OLLI. Council meetings take place the last Monday of each month at 1:30 except for June and July. Such meetings are held in the Emeriti Suite in the ConocoPhillips Alumni Center.

In addition to thanking Mike and Velda Lorenz, special acknowledgement must go to Clem Ward in handling all catering as well as to Zane Quible who so adeptly manages Emeriti Association communication including the newsletter and web site. I also have so valued my executive team and the many ways in which they serve the Association.

And special thanks are extended to Sofia Gustafson who has done so much, and often behind the scenes, to insure Association success!

Priorities for 2023 include a review of the constitution, by-laws, and policies and procedures. Also new Faculty Council representatives must be in place by 6/1/2023. An enhanced role for Ambassadors and a review of many other committees are also necessary.