

**MAY 2025**



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President-Elect

Joyce Sherrer

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Kent Sampson

Gerald Stangl

Sue Williams

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ConocoPhillips

Alumni Center

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Stillwater, OK 74078

## ***President's Message***

Once again, we had an exceptional crowd at our Monday Night Dinner with around 100 attendees. We welcomed several individuals from OLLI; and, hopefully, if they have retired from OSU, they will consider joining the Emeriti Association. Dr. Gina Peek gave us an OLLI update and noted that Dr. Robin Fuxa has been named the new Director for OLLI.

Our Monday Night Dinner keynote speaker, Dr. Kevin Wagner, provided a most interesting program about Oklahoma water. We have a considerable number of "natural" pollutants from animal sources, along with environmental sources. We also learned that no regulation testing is in force for those who use well water, but there are resources available at no cost that can be used to make sure well water is safe. I had never heard of "virtual fencing" before but was fascinated with how it can contain livestock to force them to either use or avoid certain water sources.

Our next dinner will be June 2 with Duncan Catering providing our meal. We are having a slight problem with deadlines for the RSVPs for the Monday Night Dinners. Please pay close attention when you receive your email notice requesting your RSVP. Different caterers have different deadlines. Some caterers require an earlier deadline, which was the case with our May dinner. Also, with some caterers, we cannot change our number of meals once we have provided them with a confirmed number. I apologize for the inconvenience, but it is what it is.

At our June dinner, we will feature Dr. Chris Francisco, Senior Vice Provost and Professor, speaking on "New Directions for General Education at OSU." It will be exciting to see how degree requirements might be a little different. This will be our last dinner at the Alumni Center until September. During July and August, we will meet "socially" at Hideaway--no program, just enjoy talking with your fellow members.

Several of us from Emeriti were able to meet in person recently with President Hess. It was a most enjoyable experience with so many great ideas being articulated.

See you June 2 with the hope that the Oklahoma weather is just bright and sunny.

Best,

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

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

Robert Hendrickson

Jean Agnew

Dick Jungers

Kenneth McCollom

## Recent Content Added to the Emeriti Web Site

The following content has been added to the Emeriti Web site since the publication of the last newsletter:

March [Minutes](#)

### ***Emeriti Association's Upcoming Programs***

Gary Clark, Vice President--Activities, has confirmed the following programs for the remainder of 2025, including the following:

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

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

October 6      Tracy Caine—*OSU's Oral History Program*

November 3    Dr. Robert Graalman—*OSU's Role in the  
World War II Japanese Language School;  
ROTC Cadets—Experiences as an ROTC  
Cadet*

December 1    Stillwater High School Choir—*Holiday Program*

### ***Welcome to Our Newest Members***

We welcome the newest members of the OSU Emeriti Association:

Laurie Lucas

Lynn McElroy

Sam Ott

### ***Meet the President-Elect: Joyce Sherrer***

A true country girl, born in Kansas and raised on a beef and wheat ranch near the Kansas-Oklahoma border, Joyce Sherrer embodies the spirit of resilience and service. Growing up in a two-bedroom home without running water, electricity, or a telephone, she developed a strong work ethic and a passion for education early on.

Joyce began her schooling at Cotton Valley, a two-room schoolhouse, where she graduated as valedictorian and discovered her love for teaching by mentoring younger students—including her sister, who

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advanced two grade levels in one year under Joyce's guidance. She continued her academic excellence at Copan High School, again graduating as valedictorian, while participating in cheerleading, student government, sports, and 4-H. Her 4-H leadership and community service earned her a prestigious scholarship from the Pearl M. and Julia J. Harmon Foundation to attend Oklahoma State University.

At OSU, Joyce thrived, participating in Army Blades, being selected Honorary Colonel for ROTC, representing Oklahoma in the National Make It With Wool contest, modeling at the Miss Oklahoma Pageant, and being named a Top Ten finalist for *Miss Teen* magazine. In addition, she was President of Orange and Black Quill, Phi Upsilon Omicron, and Fashion Board. She graduated with a B.S. degree in Home Economics Education and a M.S. degree in Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising. During her professional years she also received her most prestigious award: An M. D. - Mother on Duty of four children.

Joyce's career began as a Home Economics teacher at Pryor High School before she transitioned to the Cooperative Extension Service, dedicating 25 years as a County Extension Educator in Craig County. She was among the first women appointed as a County Extension Director in Oklahoma. Later, she was promoted to the State Cooperative Extension Service, Joyce served as Director of Staff and Program Development, overseeing the training of new educators, creating mentoring and career advancement programs, and coordinating professional development statewide until her retirement, with over 43 years of service to Oklahoma State University.

Following her Extension career, Joyce returned to the classroom as a science teacher at Coyle School. She and her husband, Gary Sherrer (Past Emeriti President), have traveled extensively, visiting many countries around the world. She has only four U.S. states left on her travel bucket list.

Joyce currently is President of Faithful Extension Workers and serves as a Special Olympics coach and volunteer. Her favorite activities are attending Oklahoma State sporting events, attending OKC Broadway productions, and making floral arrangements.

Joyce remains a passionate advocate for education, leadership, and community development. She looks forward to serving as your Emeriti President in 2026.



