President’s Message

The membership proposal (shown below) involving dues paid by annual members passed unanimously by the Council at the October 31 meeting. The proposal reads as follows:

Members who have paid annual dues for 10 years will automatically become lifetime members of the OSU Emeriti Association. No further dues will be assessed these members.

Our November 7 dinner highlighted the programs and services of the Stillwater Public Library and the OSU Libraries. Stacy Delano and Matt Upson represented these two organizations and highlighted the national Dolly Parton “books for children” drive. They intend to reach at least 30% (1200) of our local children this year with hopes of future growth. This program serves children from birth to 5 and mails the kiddos a book every month until they turn 5 years old. The cost winds up being just over a dollar per book with most of the needed dollars already having been raised.

Cathy Shuffield coordinates our travel options. The next trip is to Branson for the New Year’s Jamboree and runs from December 30 - January 1 and includes transportation, lodging, shows, and some meals. A double-occupancy room and trip cost is $569, and payment is due by November 20.

For your calendar and planning, 2023 dinners are now set for the following dates: February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1 (with Olli), June 5, July 10 (pizza at Hideaway), August 14 (pizza at Hideaway), September 11, October 2, November 6, and December 4. And be sure to attend our annual holiday dinner, next month, December 5, at 6 pm with the social beginning at 5:30. The program will again highlight the Stillwater High School Choral.

The Council also passed (unanimously) to contribute $100 to the OSU Foundation in memory of Jim Halligan.

The following slate of 2023 officers was presented to be voted on in November (nominations from the floor will also be accepted): President—Gary Sherrer, President-elect—Mike Woods, Secretary—Kay Keys, Past President—Kent Sampson, in addition to three new councilors: Gary Clark, Michael Lorenz, and Bob Lavalley. After the November Council vote, installation will occur at our December 5 dinner.

Kent Sampson
2022 President
Content Added to Emeriti Web Page Since the Last Newsletter

The following items have been added to the Emeriti Association Web Page since the publication of the last newsletter, including the following:

- September 2022 Minutes
- James Halligan Obituary
- Curtis Richardson Obituary

Upcoming Monday Night Dinner Programs

- December 5: Stillwater High School Choral Singers—"Songs for the Season"
- February 6: Kendra Cost, Director of Pete’s Posse—"Pete’s Posse and Some Furry Employees"
- March 6: Jerome Loughridge, OSU VP of Operations—"OSU’s New Strategic Plan"
- April 3: Mark Blakeman, Director of the McKnight Center—"Update on the McKnight Center"
- May 1: Joint Program with OLLI

News About the 2023 Emeriti Association Directory

Shortly after January 1, work will begin on the preparation of the Association’s 2023 annual directory. In addition to updating the content with current names of officers, chairs, etc., another important part of the work is updating the membership roster. Following is information of interest to members who pay their dues on an annual basis.

In 2021, because the Association was inactive for about a year during the Covid pandemic, a directory was not published. When the 2022 directory was published, the decision was made to leave in the roster the names of the annual members who last paid their dues in 2018 and 2019. Under normal circumstances, the names of the members who last paid their dues in 2018 and 2019 would have been removed in 2020 and 2021, respectively. No annual members paid dues in 2021; but now is the time to bring the roster back into compliance with past practices.

The membership recently approved a proposal that enables annual members who have paid their dues for at least 10 years to now

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automatically become life members after which they will no longer need to pay annual dues. Approximately 40 annual members have paid their dues yearly for at least 10 years, and they are now eligible to become life members. There are also several annual members who have paid their dues for 8 or 9 years, and they can become life members by paying dues for 1 or 2 additional years. The Association will allow annual members who have paid their dues for several years to prepay their remaining dues (for a total of 10 years) so they can become a life member earlier and thus not have to continue to pay annual dues.

Those annual members who have already qualified for life memberships will soon receive an e-mail that indicates they will be identified in the 2023 directory as a life member. Thus, no further dues need to be paid.

Those who are 1-3 years away from attaining life membership status under the new plan will also receive an e-mail that identifies how many more years they need to pay dues to become a life member.

Within the first several weeks of January 2023, those annual members who last paid dues in 2018 or 2019 and who haven’t been a member of the Association for at least 10 years (including by prepaying dues or being current in their dues, i.e., by paying 2022 and 2023 dues) will be removed from the roster. Thus, they will no longer receive the information from the Association that current members receive.

If you have questions about the new membership program, please contact the Emeriti Association office at emeriti@okstate.edu.