

NOVEMBER 2025



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Michael Lorenz

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Sue Williams

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President's Message

The Monday night dinner had a distinctive military flair. We recognized all veterans who were in attendance and thanked them for their service. Following a delicious dinner catered by Steer Inn of Cushing (this was our first time to engage them) Air Force Cadet Nicholas Ramirez provided us with details of his training within the Air Force ROTC program at OSU. Next, Lt. Col Kyle Ferguson, who is the Department Head of the Military Science at OSU, presented a slide show about the OSU Army ROTC Program. The OSU Army ROTC unit ranks #13 out of 289 University ROTC units. **That is impressive!** The leadership skills training and community service emphasis is outstanding with these two programs. We should be very proud of our military units at OSU. They are indeed producing some of our finest officers and have quite a list of distinguished military alumni.

Additionally, we welcomed Savannah Wooten who is one of our Emeriti Scholarship Recipients. She is a Senior majoring in Political Science and is the first in her family to attend college. She updated us on her interest areas and her future plans.

We had some brief business – the presentation of the slate of officers who were elected unanimously. Those serving in leadership positions are the following:

Joyce Sheerar – President; Gary Clark – President Elect; Gladeen Allred – Vice President for Activities; Carolyn Gang – Past President; Becky Schlais – Secretary; and Liz Tarbutton – Treasurer

Mike Lorenz – Membership Chair; Cara Beer – Catering Chair

The Councilors at Large are the following: Robert Graalman, Gerald Stangle, Judy Hoberock, Kent Sampson, Sue Williams, Michael Lorenz, and Ray Hunke; and our newest councilor, Mike Mintmire.

Holidays are upon us – and you don't want to miss the December 1st meeting. A traditional holiday meal will be served, and the Stillwater High School Show Choir will provide the entertainment. May you have a Blessed Thanksgiving!!

Best & Go Pokes!

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

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

Robert Hendrickson

Jean Agnew

Dick Jungers

Emeriti Association's Upcoming Programs

Gary Clark, Vice President--Activities, has confirmed a number of programs, including the following:

December 1 Stillwater High School Choir—*Holiday Program*

February 2 Bob Burke (noted Oklahoma Attorney and Author—*One Lucky Cowboy—Behind the Scenes*, followed by *book signing* by Burns Hargis

March 2 Dr. Jim Hess, President, Oklahoma State University—*OSU Update*

April 6 Denise Webber, Stillwater Medical Center—*Stillwater Medical Center*

May 4 Robin Fuxa, OLLI Director and Dr. John Loffi--*Aviation Program/Flight Center at OSU*

June 1 Rachel Condley—Our Daily Bread Director--*Our Daily Bread's Impact on Students*

It Is 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.

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).

Content Added to Web Page Since Last Newsletter

September [Minutes](#)

Robert Graalman Inducted Into Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame on November 3, 2025

Robert Edward Graalman, Jr., is a member of the OSU Emeriti Association and currently serves on the Association's Council. Following is the information about him that was included in the event's program.

Bob was born in Enid to parents, Bob and Margaret, June 1947. They resided briefly in Okeene before moving to Fairview with his new sister, Nancy, in 1952. He graduated from Fairview schools as co-valedictorian and enrolled at Oklahoma State University as a political science major in 1965. After marrying Diane Staines in 1970, he completed a master's in English in 1972 while teaching introductory courses.

Bob then entered the graduate program in modern literature at the University of Tulsa where he taught, assisted the graduate dean, and earned his PhD in 1978. Two children, Travis and Sarah, joined the family, and they moved to Illinois State University before returning to Stillwater in 1981. Good fortune followed when he was hired to teach humanities and join Dean Smith Holt's staff. This led to a position directing the new Henry Bellmon Office of Scholar Development and Undergraduate Research where he served until his retirement in 2012, aided greatly by long-time assistant, Gail Gillian.

Under his leadership and in collaboration with the Honors College, students earned many awards. OSU was named a Truman Honor School during Jim Halligan's presidency, praised for its focus on undergraduate research, and lauded for a much-imitated new course, "Windows to the World," in which students study current events and hone their debate skills. During President Hargis's tenure, Phi Beta Kappa tapped OSU for membership, a long-sought goal for the university.

The success of the Scholar Development program led Graalman and his peers to establish the National Association of Fellowships Advisors, and he was elected its president for the first convention in 2000. That organization now has more than 750 members, with strong national and international components. Meanwhile, OSU's Scholar Development program continues to coach students on undergraduate research, provide courses in the UK, and prepare students to compete for national and international awards.

The picture below shows Bob holding his framed citation. Attending with him were several members of his family.

