President’s Message

In the recent September 26 Council meeting, the following proposal passed unanimously:

“Once a member has paid for 10 years of annual dues, they will become eligible for a lifetime membership, never again paying dues.”

The Council requested this new membership plan be shared with the entire membership to obtain feedback. Upon receipt of member feedback, the Council will at the October 31 meeting have a final vote on the proposed membership plan. At the October 3 Monday Night Dinner, I shared the proposal with all 60 folks present, as the Council endeavors to gauge member thoughts prior to the October 31 meeting.

Our guest speaker at the October 3 Monday Night Dinner was Dr. Randy Kluver, Dean of Global Studies. He did a wonderful job presenting the numerous and challenging ways our Afghan guests face. He indicated this community has some 70 such refugees here, and the most important challenge they experience is learning the English language. He also stressed how truly accommodating the Stillwater and OSU communities have been as he has never had a request turned down! The audience had numerous questions to which he sensitively responded.

As called for in the Emeriti Association constitution, officers are to bring to the October meeting a slate of names recommended to be voted on in the November meeting with December installation and beginning to serve on January 2.

In the November meeting, additional names may be nominated from the floor. We will be filling the president-elect, secretary (3-year term), and three councilor positions (3-year terms). If you wish to serve in one of these roles or have a nominee, please contact me so I might visit with your nominee prior to October 31.

Kent Sampson
President

Content Added to Emeriti Web Page Since the Last Newsletter

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

August 2022 Minutes  Joanne Hamilton Obituary
Additional Information From Chard Snyder Regarding Paying Your Monthly Insurance Premiums

For your Medicare RX, Medicare Supplement, Delta Dental, and Vision Insurance Plan (VIP) insurance payments to automatically adjust each time your premiums increase or decrease, you need to have an ACH form on file with the Benefit Continuation Department. If you don't have the ACH form on file, you will need to contact Chard Snyder/Ascensus regarding the new amount—each time it changes—to be deducted from your account. It is possible to verify the existence of an ACH form on file by calling (888) 933-4646. If you need to process an ACH form, the form can be found at [https://hr.okstate.edu/benefits/retiree-benefits.html](https://hr.okstate.edu/benefits/retiree-benefits.html) within the “Retiree Benefit Billing” option. Chard Snyder indicates the signature must be “wet” (ink-pen signed) and cannot be digitally signed. Please submit the form directly to Chard Snyder as indicated at the bottom of the.

New Members of the Emeriti Association

The Association has six new members: They include the following:

- Ronald Delahoussaye
- Angela Delahoussaye
- Ronald Thrasher
- Connie Thrasher
- John Veenstra
- Anne Veenstra

An Opportunity to Help Afghan Refugee Students Living in Stillwater

If you are planning to make a donation to the OSU Foundation before year’s end and you would like to help our new Afghan neighbors who are seeking to enroll at OSU, you might consider earmarking your donation for the School of Global Studies and Partnerships Scholarship Fund. All gifts to the School of Global Studies & Partnerships Scholarship Fund go to support Afghan refugee students seeking to enroll at OSU. These students have little to no flexible funding to cover the cost of higher education. These funds will allow these students to pursue their education at OSU. Here is the link: [osugiving.com/refugee-scholarships](https://osugiving.com/refugee-scholarships). You can also send a check written out to the “OSU Foundation” and include the following in the memo line: “Afghan Scholarship.”