Our Founding Chair
Dr. Robert Lee Henrickson

Thirty years ago there was no Emeriti Association. There was no formal opportunity for professional or social interaction among retirees, no communications among retirees and OSU, no advocate to promote the general welfare of retirees, and no means for retirees to give back to OSU.

Bob Henrickson recognized the need and possibilities for an association of OSU retirees. He probably wasn’t the first person to think about retirees, but he took the initiative to do something about it. He wrote President Lawrence Boger. Provost Jay Boggs immediately appointed a committee with Bob as chair. The OSU Emeriti Association was launched with four founders: Bob Henrickson, Kenneth McCollom, Dick Jungers, and Jean Agnew.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to Bob every time we enjoy the richness of benefits we receive from our membership. Bob became our first President in 1988 with 199 dues paying members. Throughout the years he has continued to be a vibrant contributor.

Time has come for Bob’s next adventure and he will be leaving us shortly to be closer to family. He will be missed more than words can describe. Our best wishes go with him along with a big THANK YOU!

Thank You

……to those who have made contributions to the OSU Foundation for the OSU Emeriti Association Scholarship. Contributions are always appreciated and continue to increase our possibilities for additional scholarships. The initial scholarship to a full-time student (sophomore or upper classman in good academic standing with a current grade point average of at least 2.5) will be made in the fall.

Contributions can be made to the OSU Foundation and are tax deductible. Donation checks may be made payable to the OSU Foundation for account # 20-91150 and mailed to the OSU Foundation, P.O. Box 258818, Oklahoma City, OK 73125-8818. To make a gift over the phone or online line, please call 800-622-4678 or visit OSUgiving.com/give. A donation is also an excellent way to honor and memorialize friends and relatives.
Kevin Fite, Sr., Associte Athletics Director for Compliance spoke on “Overview of the programs provided by the OSU Compliance Office” at the February Monday Night Dinner.

Dr. Blayne Mayfield of the OSU Computer Science Department provides helpful, interesting and fun classes. For further information contact Glade Presnal at (377-6388) or glade.presnal@okstate.edu.

April 20: “Oklahoma’s Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program”, Cynthia Lincoln

May 18: “The Hidden Treasures of the Silk Road” and “The Adriatic Sea”, Stan & Barbara Grogg, (Armchair Traveler Series)

June 15: “Housing Designed for Aging in Place” Louise Schroeder

July 20: Arletta and Jim Webster: “Iceland, Land of Ice and Fire, and Much, Much More” (Armchair Traveler Series)

*August 17: Summer Break—No Program

*Although we normally do not have programs in August, we could schedule an armchair traveler series program during August if anyone is interested in volunteering to do a program. If you are interested or have questions about the armchair travel series, please contact Zane Quible at zquible@okstate.edu.

The Emeriti Investment Club can accommodate a few new partners and is eager to welcome visitors. Official business meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 1:15 pm in the Emeriti Suite. On the second Monday of each month, also at 1:15 pm, there is an informal, “ideas” meeting to share information and discuss particular stocks. The club’s focus is on education and partners can invest as little as $25 per month. Contact Brendon Bond (405-880-6212) or Dennis Bertholf (405-372-9420) for more information.

The Technology Interest Group of the OSU Emeriti Association meets the second Wednesday of each month. Dr. Blayne Mayfield of the OSU Computer Science Department provides helpful, interesting and fun classes. For further information contact Glade Presnal at (377-6388) or glade.presnal@okstate.edu.

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Ken and Karen Bell loading the bus for a recent Emeriti trip.

May 12-14: Branson: Lots of Shows and Shopping

June 4-5: Stories of Southwest Oklahoma: Trip to Frederick, Clinton, Hinton, Oklahoma, Visit Pioneer Heritage Townsite Museum, Abernathy Boys Exhibit Crawford Exhibit, Wright Airborne Demonstration Team Hangar Enjoy Clinton's Little Theater's production of Steel Magnolias Next day visit Freightliner Specialty Vehicles in Clinton and Sandy Springs Buffalo Ranch in Hinton

June 6-8: Eureka Springs: Visit Thorncrown Chapel, enjoy music shows, tour the town and shopping, and finish with an evening at the Great Passion Play grounds for dinner and Parables of the Potter and the Great Passion Play

July 16: River City Players: Trip to Gore to the Fin and Feather Resort and then to Tahlequah for the matinee performance at the Shawnee Street Theater home to the River City Players. Enjoy a bit of COUNTRY, a little bit of ROCK N ROLL, a whole lotta FUN, and an abundance of TALENT

September 27: Crusin’ The Mighty Mississippi: Trip includes transportation, five nights lodging, thirteen meals, two day Mississippi cruise, plenty of attractions to see.

December 10: The Gift of Christmas: Christmas outing to Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano, Texas, for a performance of The Gift of Christmas, a stunning multimedia event complete with special effects, a thousand voices and instruments, and flying angels.

Contact Jack & Jody Stout at 372-6966 for more information.

Financial Highlights

The Emeriti Association continues to be in strong shape fiscally. We maintain a checking account for operating receipts and expenses with savings available for special purchases and an operating reserve. The Association also has two endowment funds with the OSU Foundation.

At year’s end we had about $10,500 in checking and $21,200 in savings. Through the year we took in about $2,600 in annual dues. Life dues of $2,850 were added to savings. The meal receipts for our Monday night dinners totaled nearly $10,800, which was a little less than the $11,400 we spent on catering and room expenses. The meet-and-greet receptions preceding the dinners continued to pay their own way. Our other operating expenses are minimal since we benefit from administrative support provided by the Provost Office.

The total endowment value (i.e., the “principal”) of our two Foundation funds accounts is approximately $60,000. The newer fund is dedicated to providing scholarship support to OSU students and the other is directed to furthering the general mission of the Association.

The Treasurer prepares monthly financial reports that are reviewed and approved by the Council. In accordance with our By-Laws, a financial review is conducted each year by a committee appointed by the President.
“OLLI is a perfect example of OSU’s historic land-grant mission of teaching, research and outreach,” said OSU President Burns Hargis. “The program is an incredible resource and we are delighted the Osher Foundation has once again made a generous gift to support our efforts. “The success of the program is due to the many volunteers who organize and teach the courses, as well as those who continue to have a passion for learning,” Hargis said.

Since the program began in 2005, more than 14,000 enrollees have taken more than 600 courses through OLLI@OSU. “It is so exciting to see the growth of this program and how many people it reaches,” said OLLI@OSU director RuthAnn McCarthy Sirbaugh. “This program remains committed to continuing education for seniors by providing enriching experiences that improve their quality of life through classes, travel and other activities.”

During an OLLI@OSU reception after a Summer Cool Classics Concert at the Sheerar Museum -- Pat Jaynes, RuthAnn McCarthy Sirbaugh and Kent Olson preview OLLI@OSU classes for this Fall.

Pictured L-R: College of Education Dean, Sissy Carroll; Denise Unruh, Senior Director of Development, OSU Foundation; Kent Olson, Chair, OLLI @ OSU Sustainability Committee Chair; Ed Arquitt, Chair, OLLI @ OSU Board of Directors; RuthAnn McCarthy Sirbaugh, Director, OLLI @ OSU

At the Spring Celebration Banquet last May RuthAnn McCarthy Sirbaugh announces the 2nd Million Dollar Endowment from the Bernard Osher Foundation.