Scam Alert

Scams targeting seniors are now regarded as “the crime of the 21st Century” according to the National Council on Aging.

Warmer weather brings out the door-to-door “home improvement” scam artists, but there is an increase in year-round attempts for our money via our phones and computers.

The Columbus Dispatch and the Ohio Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Division have been alerted of calls to many Ohioans from someone saying they are from the IRS and demanding you pay them money you supposedly owe. Caller ID may even be altered to look like it is from the IRS.

Another insidious scheme is “The Grandparent Scam”. A call is received and starts “Guess who this is?”. After guessing a name or two, the caller will claim to be one of the guessed names and describe some sort of financial trouble (car trouble, stranded travel or even needed bail). They will then suggest money orders or gift cards be sent. A variation of this is a call from a child – or friend – claiming to be stuck traveling – with pleads to send money.

The creativity of scammers seems endless. We all have gotten the email “Nigerian Letters,” and there are lottery and sweepstakes scams, insurance, funeral and cemetery, drugs and anti-aging products, internet and calls to “verify personal information” and a “Microsoft” on-line computer repair scam.

There are offers of “free vacations” that require up-front fees. Maybe the most cynical are the charitable solicitation scams of invented phony charities – or, claiming to represent a legitimate charity but pocketing the ill-gotten funds themselves.

The Ohio Attorney General lists the signs of a potential scam which include:

- Requests to send money via wire transfer or prepaid card.
- Pressure to act immediately.
- Having to pay a fee to receive a prize.
- Requests for large down payments.
- Refusals to provide written information.

There is now some help from financial institutions. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in Washington, D.C. is recommending that banks and others train employees to look for financial abuse, to develop fraud detection software, and to report suspicious activity to local, state and federal authorities.

Local banks are already calling customers to verify unusual activity, and The Columbus Dispatch carried a story about a Kroger checker who prevented an 86-year-old man from becoming the latest “grandparent scam” victim. He had been sent to Kroger to buy $2000 in iTunes gift cards to be used as fabricated bail money for a “grandson”.

The Ohio Attorney General’s office has introduced a new website, OhioProtects.org, and will sponsor three informative TV ads to educate consumers about being alert for scams. And one very practical way to avoid becoming the victim of a scam is to first, verify the reputation of all contractors – and if YOU didn’t initiate the transaction – don’t pay for it!!!
FROM: The President

Dear Colleagues and Friends in OSURA,

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have sort of moved our affiliation with OSU from Human Resources to the Alumni Association, but the transfer is an ongoing process rather than an event. Until October 1, Diana Lantz in HR will continue to serve our members as she has done in the past, so registration for events happening before that date, payment of dues, etc. will still go through her for another three months.

The Executive Board, our many committees, and especially our task force on the transition have been intimately involved in the process since last autumn. The OSURA membership will have a meeting on August 17th (at Longaberger Alumni House, 2200 Olentangy River Road) from 9 to 11:30 a.m. to discuss and vote on the proposed new Constitution and revised Bylaws needed to implement the transition. All members are invited. Many members have had questions about this, so I’d like to summarize what’s been going on.

WHAT? For many years, OSURA was part of OSU’s Human Resources. We had a small office there, and a half-time support person, Diana Lantz, was the contact for almost every question people had about OSURA. The Alumni Association is part of the Office of Advancement, which also includes the Ohio State University Foundation and University Communications.

WHO? Instead of the single contact person we had at HR, OSURA members will mostly deal with the Alumni Association’s Customer Service. This is a team of six full-time people plus two students, all of whom should be up to speed on OSURA events and be able to handle questions and accept payments for our events and dues come October 1.

WHY? Apparently for the last several years people at or close to the vice presidential level at OSU have felt that HR (which exists mainly to service current employees) is not the best place for us. The Alumni Association sponsors many events and trips, similar to what OSURA does, so this seemed like a more natural fit. Also, continued belt-tightening at OSU has forced HR to “do more with less,” while the Alumni Association is an expanding organization. Offices that bring in money receive better treatment when finances are tight.

HOW AND WHEN? We have signed a formal letter ending our HR connection. Once the OSURA membership has approved the Constitution and the Bylaws, OSURA’s President has signed the Charter, and the Alumni Association’s Board of Directors has approved the Charter and the Constitution (scheduled for mid-October), the transition will be complete. An interim agreement allows us to continue to operate until then.

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT ME? Members will no longer have the single contact person in the OSURA office, but we will gain many advantages. Payment of dues or registration fees for OSURA events will be possible on-line or over the phone, with the charge going on a credit or debit card, and of course checks can still be mailed in. The dues will technically be a donation, making them tax-deductible. The Alumni Association should provide OSURA with expertise on increasing sponsorships for the fall conference, advertising revenue, and fund-raising, helping us keep dues and registration costs for our events as low as possible for our members.

Finally, this is my last letter as President, with leadership passing to the capable hands of Shirley McCoy. It’s been a grand experience for me over the last 12 months, and I dearly appreciate all the support that so many members have given to keep our organization vibrant and to continue to provide so many benefits to so many members.

Gerald H. Newsom
President, OSURA Executive Board
Welcome New Retirees

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<td>Virginia L. Gilani</td>
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<td>Melinda Nelson</td>
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<td>Philip R. Shriver</td>
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<td>Kristi L. Squires</td>
<td>University Hospital East</td>
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<td>Joan C. Weber</td>
<td>Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics</td>
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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Elizabeth Menaghan

Elizabeth Menaghan is enjoying her retirement after a more than 30-year career at Ohio State as a professor in the Department of Sociology and adjunct professor in the Center for Human Resource Research. After completing her Master’s and doctoral work at the University of Chicago’s interdisciplinary Committee on Human Development, Elizabeth spent a year as a visiting scientist at the National Institutes of Health, then began her work here at Ohio State. She served as Director of Graduate Studies and Department Chair during her years here, and collaborated with colleagues including Toby Parcel, Frank Mott, and Elizabeth Cooksey in explorations of how parents’ occupational experiences and family patterns affected their own mental health, the home environments they provided for their children, and their children’s cognitive and social development.

Since her retirement, Elizabeth and her husband Jim Phelan (a Professor of English) have been blessed with the birth of four grandchildren: a four-year old granddaughter and ten-month old grandson to their daughter in Tucson and just this April twins—a girl and a boy— to her son in Washington, D.C. Her own twin brother also has twin grandchildren, now two years old, living in Arizona, so it is wonderful to have the freedom to travel to see them all. When she is in Ohio, Elizabeth has attended several OSURA events and appreciated the welcoming spirit that makes a first-timer feel comfortable and at ease. She has also been delighted to have time for reading for pleasure once again, taking yoga classes, and building more physical exercise and gardening into her days.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Bob Kennedy

I was born and raised in Columbus, OH and attended Columbus public schools, graduating from East High School where I played on the City League Championship football team. I graduated from Capital University where I played four years of varsity football. I served two years in the Combat Infantry Division of the Armed Forces during the Korean War and also played football for the 503rd MP Battalion. After the service I worked as a merchandise buyer for Lazarus for 18 years.

Then I joined my Alma Mater, Capital University, as Alumni Director and Development Officer for 10 years. I next worked for Ohio State as Assistant Director of Planned Giving and Director of the Annual Fund before moving on to the College of Business as a Development Director. I then was named Ohio State’s Director of the Presidents’ Club where I developed a business model that resulted in over 5,000 members at that time, before retiring in 1994. After leaving Ohio State, I went back to Capital as a consultant for several years and helped raise funds for a football and athletic complex until 2001.

During retirement I’ve enjoyed playing tennis and golf, reading and bridge. My wife, Susan Shoman Kennedy, and I still live in the Columbus area where we are involved in church activities. I’m a Life Member of OSURA.
For events marked “REGISTRATION REQUIRED,” send email to osura@osu.edu (preferred method), or call 614-292-2916. See pages 12 and 13 in the OSURA Directory or the OSURA website for “Travel and Event Policies and Procedures” for additional information.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**July**

**Benefits Committee**
No meeting this month – will meet again August 2

**July**

**Board Meeting**
No meeting this month – will meet again August 9

**MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

**July 26 (Tuesday)**

**Tertulia Breakfast**
Join fellow OSURA members and friends for breakfast and conversation.

*Time/Place:* 8 a.m., OSU Faculty Club  
*Cost:* On your own  
*Arranger:* Jerry Dare (Tertulia Breakfast SIG)

**July 27 (Wednesday)**

**Bridge Group**
Join us. There is no membership fee and it costs only 25 cents for prizes the day you play. Come enjoy the fellowship, and have fun playing a good game of bridge in air-conditioned comfort.

*Time/Place:* 1 p.m., Friendship Village of Dublin, North CR  
*Arranger:* Steve Miller (Bridge Group SIG)

**July, August**

**Dinner Series**
No event until we reconvene on September 22 for another year of great programs.

*Arranger:* Howard Gauthier (Dinner Series SIG)

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**July 8 – 21**

**Spectacular Scandinavia**  
(Norway, Denmark, Sweden)  
REGISTRATION CLOSED

*Depart:* TBA July 8, 2016 from CMH  
*Return:* TBA July 21, 2016  
*Arranger:* Kay Adelsberger (Travel Committee)

**July 21 (Thursday)**

**Hidden Treasures of Mansfield, OH**  
REGISTRATION CLOSED

*Meet by:* 7:15 a.m. back parking lot at Kohl’s, 3360 Olentangy River Road  
*Return:* approx. 6 p.m.  
*Arrangers:* Alabelle Zghoul and Betty Hriesik (Travel Committee)

**August 17 (Wednesday)**

**OSURA Annual Meeting**
Please join us for the OSURA Annual Business Meeting. We will review last year’s accomplishments and introduce our new officers. Our main purpose will be to vote on both the new OSURA Constitution that acknowledges our new relationship with the Alumni Association and the updated OSURA Bylaws.

*Schedule:* 8:30 a.m. – Continental Breakfast  
9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Business Meeting  
11:30 a.m. – Tour of the Longaberger Alumni House  
*Location:* OSU Longaberger Alumni House, 2200 Olentangy River Road  
*Parking:* Free  
*Arranger:* OSURA Executive Board

**CHALLENGE LEVELS**

1. **Light** – may include a few stairs.  
2. **Moderate** – may include a few sets of stairs.  
3. **Moderate +** – may include climbing many stairs and/or uneven terrain.  
4. **High** – may include lots of walking, climbing stairs, hilly walkways and/or extended weather exposure.

Gene Gilliom made a wonderful presentation on traveling in Russia at the May 26 meeting of the Dinner Series.
**August 18 (Thursday)**

**Exploring Springfield**
(Springfield, OH)

**Challenge Level 2**
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

We will be touring the Frank Lloyd Wright’s Westcott House which is the only prairie-style home in Ohio; the Pennsylvania House, built in 1839, known as the end of the Historic National Road; and the Heritage Center, built in 1890 which recounts history of America’s heartland.

**Meet by:** 8 a.m. back parking lot at Kohl’s, 3360 Olentangy River Road

**Return:** 5:30 p.m.

**Cost:** $67; includes admissions, tours, lunch, motor coach transportation, snacks and tips

**Registration Deadline:** August 12

**Arrangers:** Jessica Pritchard, Pat James, and Shirley Flowers (Travel Committee)

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**August 26 (Friday)**

**Da Vinci – The Genius and 30 Americans**
(Cincinnati Museum Center and Museum of Art)

**Challenge Level 1**
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Many Italian artisans have reproduced Da Vinci’s legacy of inventions. Included are the helicopter, airplane, parachute, bicycle, and others. **30 Americans** showcases art by many of the most important African-American artists of the last three decades. For more information – cincymuseum.org

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**October 20 (Thursday)**

**Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Christmas Story House/Museum**
(Cleveland)

**Challenge Level 2**
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Learn the history of the best-known and influential artists, engineers, producers and other notable figures who have major influence on the development of rock and roll. (rockhall.com.) See the original props, costumes and memorabilia from the film Christmas Story as well as hundreds of rare behind-the-scenes photos.

**Meet by:** 7:30 a.m. back parking lot at Kohl’s, 3360 Olentangy River Road

**Return:** approx. 7 p.m.

**Cost:** $92; includes admission tickets, lunch, motor coach transportation, snacks and tips

**Registration Deadline:** September 20

**Arrangers:** Bruce Wylie and Alabelle Zghoul (Travel Committee)
Safe Travels

Before you board a plane, train, cruise, or get in your car for a vacation, be sure to check out these expert tips and recommendations from the American Geriatrics Society’s Health in Aging Foundation. Whether you are traveling overseas or just a short distance from home,

✓ Talk to your healthcare provider
✓ Find out if you need to update your vaccinations
   If you’re traveling overseas, you may need certain vaccinations before departing.
✓ Guard against deep-vein thrombosis (DVT)
   DVT happens when blood clots form in your veins, usually in your legs, and block blood flow. Sitting still for a long time on an airplane or train can contribute to DVT. So get up and move.
✓ Get in writing
   Make a list of all prescription and over-the-counter medications you take.
   Having this on paper will make it easier for you to get through customs, and easier to get replacement medications if you lose any while traveling. Make a copy of these lists. Carry one with you, and keep the other in a suitcase.
✓ Keep your pills in their original containers
✓ Carry necessary medications with you
✓ Protect yourself from infection and dehydration
   Wash your hands frequently or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
   Use common sense when choosing what to eat and drink. Country-by-country illness info can be found at [wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/].
   Drink plenty of water when traveling by plane.

In Memoriam

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<td>Charlie Mae Tucker</td>
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Breakout Session I  10:30-11:15 a.m.  (Select one)

1. **An Education Both “Liberal and Practical”: Is That Possible Today?** – Peter Hahn, Arts and Sciences, will consider Ohio State’s historic mission in light of today’s educational priorities, and he will highlight recent curricular and program changes.

2. **Effective Methods to Improve Balance and Maintain Independence** – Spencer Fee, Wellness Coordinator at Wesley Glen Retirement Community, will help us experience the important components of a balance training program.

3. **Our Lives as Brutus** – Emily Moor Williams, with a panel of former “Bruti”, will share their stories about “being Brutus” as undergraduates at OSU.

4. **What’s New at the OSU Airport?** – David Williams, Dean of the College of Engineering, will describe their new grant and how it will benefit the OSU Airport.

Breakout Session II  11:30-12:15 p.m.  (Select one)

5. **Save the Great Lakes!** – Christopher Winslow, Ohio Sea Grant, will explain how Stone Lab at Lake Erie is gathering research data and teaching courses to improve the quality of our Great Lakes.

6. **Explore the Wexner Center for the Arts** – Shelly Casto, Director of Education, will take us on a virtual tour of this premier center and invite us to the next exhibit which opens September 16.

7. **Beware of Senior Scams** – Danielle Murphy, Ohio Attorney General’s Office, will list the latest scams targeting our senior population and teach us how to protect ourselves.

8. **Chair Yoga: A Mind-Body Therapy** – Beth Steinberg, M.S., RN, Director of OSU Critical Care Nursing, will lead the audience in a participatory demonstration of Chair Yoga and explain the benefits.

Breakout Session III  1:30-2:15 p.m.  (Select one)

9. **OSU Dance: Artistic Excellence at Home and Abroad** – Susan Hadley, Dance, will provide an engaging presentation that will include performance excerpts from the Brazil Tour Group repertory and the upcoming collaboration with the Wexner Center.

10. **What’s New at the James Cancer Center?** – Dr. Sameek Roychowdhury, Physician Scientist, will focus on research related to translational cancer genomics and precision cancer medicine.

11. **Paying Forward-Volunteering at The Ohio State University** – Representatives from OSU, The James Cancer Hospital, and The Wexner Medical Center will share how being a volunteer can change your life while helping others.

12. **Where Have All the Radicals Gone?** – Bill Shkurti, retired OSU VP and author of *The Ohio State University in the Sixties*, takes a revealing look at what the notorious student activists of the sixties did after they left OSU.

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**Tours**

**MEDICAL HERITAGE CENTER:**
The MHC has one of the most comprehensive collections of historic artifacts from the medical professions. Among them see archaic surgical instruments, a bedpan collection (said to be unparalleled compared to other museums), foot-pumped dental drills, experimental contact lenses, and nursing uniforms from over the decades.

**THE OSU PLANETARIUM:**
Back by popular demand. Renovated and opened to the public in 2013, The Department of Astronomy’s state of the art, Slettebak Planetarium, has a new show in 2016. Explore what the sky would like from other planets and moons in the solar system.

**WOSU TV AND RADIO STUDIOS AT THE FAWCETT:**
Tour will include an overview of WOSU Public Media and a behind-the-scenes look at the radio and TV studios, master control, newsroom, and classical music library.

Make your selections on the enclosed Registration Form, include your check, and mail to:

Retirees Association (OSURA)
1590 N. High Street, Suite 300
Columbus, OH 43201-2190

*Must be received by September 1, 2016*
Retirees Association (OSURA)
1590 N. High Street, Suite 300
Columbus, OH 43201-2190

osura.osu.edu

Address Service Requested

2016 OSURA Election Results

We are very pleased to announce the new officers.

**President Elect**
Carl Leier

**Secretary**
Shirley Flowers

**Board Members at Large**
David Crawford
Phyllis Carroll
Chuck Miller

*Congratulations!*