

OSURA

News



October 2022

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OSU Stadium Turns 100

By Nancy Wardwell

October is the perfect month to celebrate our “Shoe.” It was in October 1920 that the University’s first major fund-raising campaign was held - for a proposed new stadium! The campaign opened with a big parade down High Street and within 3 months had exceeded its million-dollar goal! The mighty Horseshoe Stadium was completed in October 1922 - in time to play Michigan!

Starting in 1889 Ohio State football had been played at Ohio Field - up at the corner of High Street and Woodruff Avenue. When it had opened, President William Oxley Thomson christened the field with a flask of spring water and dedicated the field to “clean athletics.”

In 1916 the wooden bleachers of Ohio Field could seat 14,000 - then Chic Harley came from Columbus East High School to play for Ohio State. He had made quite a name for himself in high school and brought new fans with him. It is said that it was Harley that boosted Ohio’s football to football prominence. In 1916 the request for tickets was double the number that could be seated. Buckeye football had outgrown Ohio Field.

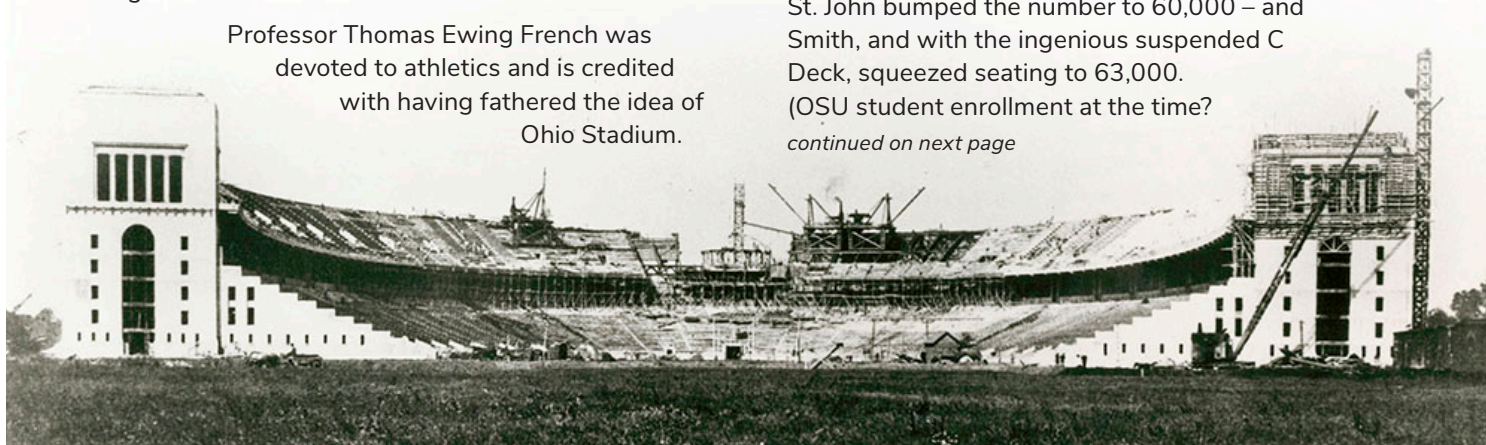
Professor Thomas Ewing French was devoted to athletics and is credited with having fathered the idea of Ohio Stadium.



His first recommendations were to improve old Ohio Field with new bleachers and a concrete wall to enclose the field - then, the dream grew into the huge concrete horseshoe, down on the Olentangy floodplain - and there were the questions about whether the 63,000 new seats would ever be filled!

French had asked Howard Dwight Smith, a professor of architecture, to draw up plans for a horseshoe-shaped stadium - and when 17,000 showed up for the 14,000 seats at Ohio Field for the OSU/Illinois game, French pulled out those drawings and showed them to Athletic Director Lynn St. John. The initial drawings would seat 50,000 - but St. John bumped the number to 60,000 - and Smith, and with the ingenious suspended C Deck, squeezed seating to 63,000. (OSU student enrollment at the time?

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Nancy S. Wardwell

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Cultural Arts – TBA

Social – Elenore R. Zeller

Travel – Alabelle Zghoul

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Sandra I. Bell

Social

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Ohio Public Employees

Retirement System

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State Teachers

Retirement System

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Historian

Raimund E. Goerler

Emeritus Academy

William I. Ausich

Newsletter Editor

Nancy S. Wardwell

OSU Foundation

OSURA Endowment Fund

Number – 605419

OSURA Fund to Combat Student

Food Insecurity – 316596

osura.osu.edu

FROM: The President

Greetings to my OSURA colleagues. STRS members should have received the August 2022 STRS Ohio Newsletter. It presents much useful and positive information about our health care program, dental and vision plan premiums, investment and financial news update, and the actuarial audit report. All looks good.

It is welcome that our Ohio Valley autumn weather has cooled down a bit. Thankfully, we have not (yet) experienced record-breaking rainstorms and sewers flooding, as have other regions to the east, south, west, and northwest. There was much property damage, and many residents drowned. Yet in one of the southwest locations, Dinosaur Valley State Park, 40 miles southwest of Fort Worth, Texas, the flood waters of the Paluxy River exposed footprints of *Acrocanthosaurus*, a 15-foot-tall, 7-ton bipedal dinosaur 113 million years old. A carnivore, it resembled *Tyrannosaurus rex*.

Enough. Keep healthy and relax about our retirement pensions. If you want to invest at this time, consider CDs. They are paying about 3%.

Hallan C. Noltimier

President of OSURA

Ohio Stadium Turns 100 | continued from page 1

Fewer than 9,000!) Fears were allayed when 72,500 showed up for the dedication game with Michigan, October 21, 1922.

Ohio Stadium has seen interesting changes and evolution over the years.

1933: The stadium housed students, starting in the Great Depression, and evolving into a Scholarship dorm – ending in 2000.

1954: The Victory Bell was installed.

1970: Artificial turf was installed.

1990: Grass was reinstalled.

2000: The major overhaul during which permanent seats replaced the South Stands bleachers, and the track was removed and the field dropped 14 feet – bringing the stadium capacity to 102,780.

There are many sources to learn more about our iconic stadium. The Ohio State website, the *Ohio State Alumni Magazine*, and the Ohio History Connection *Echoes* all have special articles this October.



Congratulations OSURA!

The Ohio State University Alumni Association has just announced that the OSURA society has just earned Scarlet status and has been named as an Outstanding Alumni Society for 2022.



Treasured memorabilia from the stadium fund raising

Welcome New Retirees

Sharon Lee Black
Student Life

Carol Jean Colussi
James Cancer Hospital

Danny Lee Dettra
University Hospital

Charles Fiske Emery
Social and Behavioral Sciences

Zbigniew Fiedorowicz
Natural and Mathematical
Sciences

Melinda L. Jones
Health System –
Shared Services

Brian G. McHale
Arts and Humanities

Jeffery D. McNeal
Natural and Mathematical
Sciences

Sam Arthur Meier
Arts and Humanities

Michael C. Ostrowski
Medicine

Judith Ann Schwartzbaum
Public Health

Kathy Ann Stedke
Lima

Yongmin Sun
Mansfield

Gwenevere Jane Thornton
University Hospital

Julia R. White
Medicine

Ann C. Zimmerman
OHTECH

REPORT FROM THE Finance Committee

The last two and a half years have been a challenge for everybody, but OSURA has been able to remain financially stable. COVID and its aftermath forced OSURA to scale back activities, with fewer cultural arts and travel events in the last two fiscal years. Without the registrations, both income and expenses dropped considerably, but we've still managed to about break even both years. We are relying more each year on earnings from our endowments, which is now the largest source of our income, so we haven't had to consider raising dues. Over these two years, we urged OSURA members to donate to the new endowment fund to combat student food insecurity at Ohio State, which impressively reached the required \$100,000 last spring. To address inflationary pressures on our budget, we hope that some of the generosity that made the food-insecurity endowment a success will now be directed toward OSURA's endowment, which can be done on the OSURA web page. Here is a summary of our income and expenses for the fiscal year that ended last June.

INCOME

Endowment earnings	\$20,800
Membership donations	15,975
Sponsors and advertising	13,750
Registrations	6,259
Alumni Association	1,046
Total	\$57,830

EXPENSES

Newsletter	\$23,270
Fall conference	17,802
Committees	10,696
Administration*	6,465
Total	\$58,233

* Administration includes accounting fees, liability insurance and Faculty Club dues.

Expenses did slightly exceed income for this fiscal year, but OSURA maintains carryover balances to address conditions like this. Funds set aside for this purpose will allow us to continue services to our members while our endowment income should increase in coming years.

Any questions can be directed to Jerry Newsom at newsom.1@osu.edu.

Welcome New Members

January – June 2022

James J. Buckley
Rebecca J. McCauley
Gail C. Stephenoff
Marion E. Millan
Roger A. Page
Vanessa Jamison
Mary Joseph
Elizabeth Miller
Peter Thomison
Helen O'Meara
Christine Saas
William Woods
James P. Conroy
Daniel E. Galvin
Timothy B. Phillips
Tracey A. Sheppart
Jo L. McCulty
Laura Richter

Calendar of Events

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

October 4 (Tuesday) Benefits Committee

Time/Place: 9:30 a.m.,
Longaberger Alumni House

October 11 (Tuesday) Board Meeting

Time/Place: 9:30 a.m.,
Longaberger Alumni House

October 19 (Wednesday) Membership Committee

Time/Place: 10 a.m.,
Longaberger Alumni House

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

October 13 (Thursday) Photo Society

Program: Waterways of the Tsars: Travels in Russia, presented by Gene Gilliom
Member Theme: Water Travel

Limit images to three. Send digital files in a PowerPoint file (alternately in .jpg 96 or 72 dot/inch format) to jhuston1@columbus.rr.com

Time/Place: 5:15 p.m., cocktails; 6 p.m. dinner; 7 p.m. program; OSU Faculty Club. You MUST make reservations for dinner by calling 614-292-2262 by October 10.
Cost: on your own; ranges from \$10-\$15. All OSURA members are welcome to join us for dinner and/or the program.

Arranger: Nancy Verber (nwverber@gmail.com) – Photographic Society SIG

October 20 (Thursday) Lunch Bunch

Join us for a presentation from Dr. Paul Droste, former Ohio State Band Director, who will present *HEARD ANY GOOD MARCHES LATELY? – PART ONE*. John Philip Sousa was not the only famous composer to write marches. Many marches came from unusual sources and are still played today.

Time/Place: 11:15 a.m., MCL Cafeteria, Kingsdale

Cost: On your own, order through cafeteria line starting at 11:15 a.m., program at approximately 12 noon.

Contact Person: Steven D'Ambrosia (steven.dambros@gmail.com) & Elenore R. Zeller (zellerej@prodigy.net) – Social Committee

October 25 (Tuesday) Walking/Hiking Group

Challenge Level 2-4

Everyone welcome. Join us for a brisk walk at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park – Indian Ridge Picnic Area – 2705 Darby Creek Dr.

Time/Place: 10:30 a.m. – Meet at the last parking lot near the playground
Arranger: Sandy Bell (sib9716@outlook.com) – cell 740-833-6374 – Walking/Hiking SIG

October 27 (Thursday) Dinner Series

At the end of its life a massive star's core becomes unstable and its life terminates in a fraction of a second. We owe our existence to the explosions, which enrich the universe with elements. The discussion will focus on new searches for supernovae and black holes that shape our galaxy and universe.

Time/Place: 5:15 p.m. reception, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. lecture; OSU Faculty Club
Cost: \$35 (service charge included)
Registration Deadline: Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by Oct. 24.
Arranger: Carol Newcomb (newcomb.28@osu.edu) – Dinner Series SIG

Book Club

October's book, *The Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penner, is a mystery. Two worlds collide when modern-day mudlarking along the Thames leads to the discovery of an 18th-century blue vial. Its contents revealed the existence of a lost apothecary that catered to an unusual clientele seeking revenge against.... The who, why, and how are revealed.

Contact: Lee Hill (hill.30@osu.edu) – Book Club SIG

SPECIAL EVENTS

October 6 (Thursday) OSU Veterinary Medical Center Tour

1900 Coffey Road
Challenge Level 1-2
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Join us in a behind-the-scenes tour of the OSU Veterinary Medical Center (VMC) and the new Veterinary Clinical and Professional Skills Center at the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM), led by the dean, Dr. Rustin Moore. The VMC's three hospitals, collectively, had over 40,000 patient visits last year!

Meet by: 1 p.m., at 1900 Coffey Road, on the OSU Campus.

Return: approximately 3 p.m.

Cost: No cost, unless you use an OSU parking garage.

Registration/Refund Deadline: Register at OSURA.CulturalArts.Travel@gmail.com by September 23.

Arrangers: Ron Currin (Rcurrin6209@gmail.com) – Cultural Arts Committee

Registration Instructions

- 1. Registrations requiring payment:** Registrations can be made by going on-line to osura.osu.edu or by calling 614-292-2281 or 1-800-762-5646. Your registration is not complete until payment is made, so have your credit card ready. Checks are no longer being accepted.
- 2. Registrations NOT requiring payment:** Registrations will be made through the Arranger's email provided in the description of the event.

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.

October 13 (Thursday)
VIRTUAL**NEW****Coffee Hour for New Retirees****Time/Place:** 9 – 10 a.m.**Arranger:** Sandy Bell (sib9716@outlook.com- Membership Committee)**October 28 (Friday)****BalletMet – Dracula****Challenge Level 2**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Inspired by Bram Stoker's 1897 novel and Francis Ford Coppola's 1992 movie. Sink your teeth into David Nixon's rendition of Dracula. Dracula has been a fan favorite for more than a decade.

Time/Place: Box office opens at 9:30 a.m. Seating is general, so plan to arrive early for best seats. Performance begins at 11 a.m., Davidson Theater, 77 S. High St.

Cost: \$23.10 (admission ticket)

Registration/Refund Deadline: Register at osura.alumni.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by October 20. Credit card preferred. Tickets will be held at Will Call.

Arranger: Marilyn Blackwell (blackwell.4@osu.edu – Cultural Arts Committee)

November 7 (Monday)
Jameson Crane Sports Medicine Institute Tour

2835 Fred Taylor Dr. #2000

Challenge Level 1-2

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

The Jameson Crane Sports Medicine Institute is the Midwest's largest and most advanced sports medicine facility.

It's the home of innovation and discovery in helping people improve their athletic performance, recover from injury and prevent future injuries. Come see for yourself.

Meet by: 11 a.m., at the Institute – 2835 Fred Taylor Dr. on the OSU Campus
Return: 12 p.m.

Cost: No cost

Registration/Refund Deadline: Register at OSURA.CulturalArts.Travel@gmail.com or Rcurrin6209@gmail.com by October 28.

Arrangers: Ron Currin (Rcurrin6209@gmail.com)– Cultural Arts Committee)

December 1-2 (Thursday)
Oglebay Overnight Trip

Wheeling, WV

Challenge Level 2

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

We'll stay overnight at the lodge; have a self guided tour of Good Zoo, Mansion Museum, Glass Museum, and the Schrader Environmental Center. Then we'll enjoy a dinner buffet, dinner show, breakfast buffet, and a guided-tour of the Festival of Lights.

Meet by: December 1 at 8:45 a.m., Tremont Center (Tremont Road, opposite Upper Arlington Library)

Return: December 2 at 4:30 p.m.

Cost: Single-\$304, Double-\$257, Triple-\$241, Quad-\$233; cost includes transportation, lodging, baggage handling, dinner buffet, dinner show, breakfast buffet, tours, snacks, lunch, and tips.

Registration/Refund Deadline: Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by Oct. 28.

Arrangers: Alabelle Zghoul and Judith Brandt (alabelle.zghoul@gmail.com – Travel Committee)

December 17 (Saturday)
BalletMet – The Nutcracker**Challenge Level 2**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

NEW

Treat your family to this enchanting story.....perfect for ballet and theatre lovers of all ages. This wonderful performance is bursting with moments of laughter, delight, and magic.

Time/Place: Box office opens at 12 noon. Seating is general, so plan to arrive early for best seats. Performance begins at 2 p.m., Ohio Theater, 39 E. State St.

Cost: \$25.20 (admission ticket)

Registration/Refund Deadline: Register at osura.alumni.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by December 8. Credit card preferred. Tickets will be held at Will Call.

Arranger: Marilyn Blackwell (blackwell.4@osu.edu – Cultural Arts Committee)



Expect your Bucks for Charity material in the mail very soon!

It is another way to share with the community agencies that make Central Ohio great!

Again last year Retirees were very generous. Of all the units and organizations who gave through Bucks for Charity, retirees were among the three most generous.

Thank you, in advance!

✿ In Memoriam ✿

Mary F. Clark

August 8 | Administration, 95

Judith Cooper

August 28 | 79

Ella Grace Copeland

August 12 | ATI Librarian, 84

Donald G. Davis

August 15 | WOSU & OSURA, 89

Peggy K. Hull

September 1 | OSUMC & OSURA, 92

William Ward Hunter Jr.

July 8 | Medicine, 83

James G. Iles

September 5 | Data Base Management, 79

Linda E. Young Jones

August 27 | Senior Accountant, 70

Marion E. Kroetz

August 16 | OSU Extension & OSURA, 90

Perry Franklin Leasure

August 30 | 84

Edna M. Menke

July 30 | Nursing & OSURA, 81

Thomas A. Puchalski

August 13 | Medical Technologist & OSURA, 75

David J. Reiss

August 6 | Athletics, 63

David A. Rismiller

August 22 | OSU Foundation, 86

Robert F. Rodgers

August 12 | Higher Education and Student Affairs, 84

Steve Simmons

August 8 | System Developer Engineer, 60

Charles Triplehorn

August 25 | Entomology, 94



FROM: The Benefits Committee

OPERS Report

By Darian Torrance

The OPERS Board of Trustees met on August 16, 2022. Highlights from the meeting include:

- The Board voted to certify candidates for the 2022 OPERS Board election. Three candidates are unopposed and will begin new board terms in January 2023. They are: Chris Mabe (State), Ken Thomas (Municipal) and Randy Desposito (College/University.) Two candidates running to represent the Retiree seat are Steve Toth and Ron Wilinski. OPERS has mailed ballots to qualified voters, who can vote for one of these candidates by mail, internet or telephone. The last day for votes to be received is September 30, 2022. Election results will be finalized on October 3, 2022.
 - Lai Ye Woo, OPERS Senior Financial Analyst, presented information about the state division employer and member contribution rates for the period 7/1/23-7/30/25. Per the Ohio Revised Code, the Board certifies these rates by November 1 in each even-numbered year. The rates shown below (percentages of payroll) were approved as recommended in the annual actuarial valuation report for the year ended December 31, 2021.
- | | Employer Rates | Member Rates | Total Rates |
|---|----------------|--------------|-------------|
| State (Non Law/Non Public Service) | 14.00% | 10.00% | 24.00% |
| Law Enforcement | 18.10% | 13.00% | 31.10% |
| Public Safety | 18.10% | 12.00% | 30.10% |
- After a presentation of recommended Board Governance Policy Manual changes by OPERS General Counsel, Eric Harrell, the Board decided not to vote on the changes until the next Board meeting.
 - Every five years, the Board must review the administrative rules regarding the OPERS Board of Trustees. The Board voted to approve no changes to the rules which include: Organization; Election of Board Members; and the Board Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy.
 - NEPC, the OPERS Board Investment advisor, presented the investment performance review for the second quarter of 2022. The Defined Benefit Fund, with a market value of \$93.77 billion, was down 9.0% (net of fees) for the quarter, and down 7.4% over the past year. The Health Care 115 Fund, with a market value of \$11.9 billion, was down 12.0% (net of fees) for the quarter and over the past year. Defined Contribution Fund assets fell from \$2.50 billion at the beginning of the year to \$2.08 billion at the end of the second quarter.
 - NEPC provided the Board with education about private debt investments. "Private debt is a source of investment capital provided by institutions and high net worth individuals for the purposes of acquiring interests in companies and/or products." The Board is considering whether to include private debt in the investment portfolio in future years.
 - Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS), OPERS Actuarial consultant, provided Retiree Health Actuarial Valuation and Projection results as of December 31, 2021 to the Board. Assuming an annual investment return of 4%, the Health Care Fund will be solvent until 2051 unless another source of funding is found. Based on actuarial assumptions, "It will take 2% of payroll to fund the present retiree health plan beyond 2051."
 - OPERS' staff provided a report of accomplishments and an update on initiatives from the Board strategic planning sessions.

STRS Report

By Jerry Newsom

Here's an interesting question. Suppose you hire a group to invest a slug of money in the stock market, and after a year or two this group achieved an average return of +13%, while other managers at the same time averaged +14%. You then hire a different group to manage the money and their return is a low -3%, but the average of other managers is even worse, -4%. You have to pick one group to receive a bonus for good management. Do you pick the first group because

of their higher return, even though it was below average? Or the second group, for beating most other managers in a down market? (My personal feeling is you reward those who do better than the competition, not necessarily those who got a good return because they were lucky enough to be in a bull market for which they could claim no responsibility.) This was the essence of the very public dispute at the August STRS Board meeting, as reported in newspapers and radio and TV news broadcasts. STRS has had a policy



OSURA Spotlight



Walt and Faith Bauer

Meet **Walt Bauer!**

I grew up in Urbana, Ohio and graduated from HS in 1957 and from Capital University in 1961. The Army wanted me, but I joined the Air Force instead, as a second lieutenant. I studied meteorology at Texas A&M – 40 semester hours of meteorology in 12 months – and in 1963, became a weather officer at Wright Patterson AFB. In 1964, I was on temporary duty from the Air Force to the U. S. Navy, on Operation Deep Freeze and spent three months as a weather forecaster in New Zealand and Antarctica. One day I flew on a U. S. Navy C-130 to the South Pole and back. The temperature was only minus 36° F, warm day for the pole!

From 1965 to 1968, I served a year each in Korea, Illinois, and Vietnam. After leaving the Air Force in 1968, I joined the Ohio Air National Guard as a part-timer in the 164th Weather Flight, Mansfield Lahm Airport. In 1976, I became commander of the unit, a position I held until retirement in 1988.

At the end of 1968, I enrolled at OSU, earning an MBA in finance in 1970. I worked first for DuPont and then Bank One (now Chase) before starting my career at OSU in December 1974. My first position was business manager for human resources, purchasing and budgeting in the Office of Registration Services in Bricker Hall. In 1976, the department moved to Lincoln Tower and I had an office that overlooked the Horseshoe. On warm, sunny days, I loved hearing the marching band practice.

In 1984, I transferred to the Office of Academic Affairs as fiscal officer and coordinated fiscal matters with colleges, schools, and departments that reported directly to OAA. I loved working on budgets each year and trying to match

available funds with current needs.

On July 1st, the first day of the fiscal year, I liked to greet people with “Happy New Fiscal Year!” and I received many funny looks.

My final position at Ohio State was director of fiscal affairs for University Technology Services in 1996. Reorganizing of services and budgets as part of the management team took four or five years

to complete but resulted in the formation of the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO). In 2005, after 30 years of service, I retired.

In retirement, I have been busy with activities I have always enjoyed. Music has always been important in my life. I have played clarinet, piano, bass drum and even the glockenspiel. I have sung in church choirs for more than fifty years. My wife (Faith) and I were original members of the Ohio Village Singers at Ohio Village, Columbus, and sang with them for over 40 years. (A highlight was joining with the Columbus Children’s Choir in 1998 for a two-week river cruise on the Volga River in Russia, singing at a different town almost every night.)

Additionally, I delivered Meals on Wheels and was a tax preparer for an AARP program for low-income people for many years. Stamp collecting has been a hobby for over 70 years, and I am the current treasurer for the Columbus Philatelic Club.

Genealogy is another interest that I have pursued for the past 15 years. My ancestry is almost all Mennonite or Amish. All 32 of my 3rd great-grandparents were born in Pennsylvania!

OSURA has been very important to me in keeping in touch with former colleagues. Ohio State was a great place to work, and I’ve made many friends over the years. The annual OSURA conference each September has been a great event!

All in all, I feel that I have been a most fortunate person. Besides great places to work, I have had wonderful parents, a loving wife and the best children and grandchildren one could ever be blessed to have. Thanks be to God!

STRS Report | continued from page 6

of awarding bonuses to investment managers when they beat the benchmarks; it’s a complicated formula, depending more on the five-year average than the single previous year. (External consultants tell the STRS Board that such bonuses are important to attract and retain successful investment managers; sounds plausible but I have no way of verifying that.) After deducting expenses and fees, STRS investments lost 3.61% in FY 2022, while the benchmark lost 5.62%. Over the last five years, STRS beat the benchmark by an average

of 0.65%. Outraged retired teachers at the Board meeting expressed their displeasure that bonuses would be awarded after a year when investments lost money. The vote was 9-2 to follow past policy and award bonuses, but three of the positive votes were by Board members defeated in last spring’s election. The newly-elected members took office in September and would very likely have voted “No” had they been in office. I expect some close votes at Board meetings in the coming year.



**The Ohio State University Retirees Assn.
Customer Service**
Longaberger Alumni House
2200 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, Ohio 43210



OSURA Survey Coming in October

Be on the lookout for an email invite to the OSURA Survey coming to your inbox in October. We would like to know how you feel about the communication methods OSURA uses to keep you informed about upcoming events and activities, changes and concerns with your pension plan, and changes, concerns and needs of the organization in general. The survey will run for 2 weeks beginning around October 17th. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey and help us as we plan for our future.

If you do not receive an email with an invite to the survey, it will also be accessible on the website at osura.osu.edu.

If you have any questions, please contact osura.membership@gmail.com.

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The November issue of the OSURA Newsletter will contain reports from the 2022 Fall Conference, held September 21 at the Fawcett Event Center.