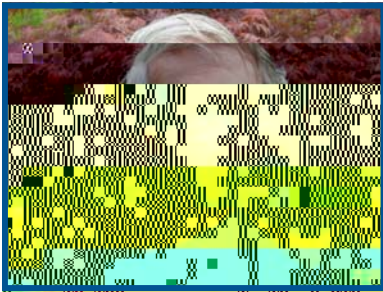




**Chicken Pot Pie
Meatloaf
Green Beans
Mashed Potatoes
Assorted Cheese Cake**

RESERVATIONS must be made to attend the luncheon. If you are not on the "ALWAYS" list of regular attendees, you **MUST** call (740-593-5194) or email Ruth Nostrant (nostrant@ohio.edu) by

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - Alan Boyd



Tom O'Grady, the Executive Director of the Athens Historical Society and Museum and speaker at the February Emeriti luncheon, gave an inspiring presentation on the history of canals in Ohio. I was particularly struck by the wonderful photos he showed of the many towns and villages in Ohio that once had working canals, many of which still have canal remnants. It became clear that there are a lot of historical locations here in Ohio which are available to be visited and seen if we will just get out and visit them. Too often, when we take vacations, we go to far away and exotic places.

Why don't we explore what is right here in our own backyard? It was obvious that Tom O'Grady has taken many interesting trips to towns in Ohio. Some I have never heard of. These places are available to all of us, if we will spend some of our time exploring them. There is a lot to be learned about the history of our state, its industries, old means of transportation, and products that once were very important to the economy of Ohio. It is not necessary to book a flight or arrange an expensive hotel; there is much to be discovered here in Ohio. We don't have to go far to have some great experiences.

The next time you take an excursion in Ohio I recommend that you visit the Athens County Historical Society and Museum and get some background information. It will make your trip a lot more interesting. Besides, you may need to get some directions to the places you want to visit. Bon Voyage!

Alan

Notes on February's Luncheon Presentation by Tom O'Grady "THE STORY OF THE OHIO CANALS"

The completion of the Erie Canal, connecting New York City to Lake Erie in 1825, led Ohio to follow New York's lead. Governor Clinton broke ground for the Ohio canal system in July 1825. The first leg, the Ohio and Erie Canal system, 309 miles long, was completed in 1832. The system strengthened trade to New York on the east and south to New Orleans. It was extended to Nelsonville in 1840 and reached Athens in 1843. The development of an extensive railroad system toward the end of the 19th century doomed the canal system. In 1940, the portion of the canal through Nelsonville was filled in and is now known as Canal St.

Ed Baum

PREVIEW OF THE LUNCH SPEAKERS

The speaker for our luncheon on April 21 is Susan Matters, fourth grade English Language Arts and Science teacher at West Elementary School. Her talk will be "Poetic Devices Seen Through the Eyes of Fourth Grade Students" in honor of April as Poetry Month.

The May luncheon will have Provost Pam Benoit as the speaker.

The June luncheon will have Executive Dean Kenneth John-

IN MEMORIAM

Eugene Jennings, 92, passed away on February 1, at his home in Falls Church, VA. Gene was born in the small Kansas farming town of Arnold and grew up the youngest of three boys during the Depression. Blessed with perfect pitch, Gene showed a talent through childhood for the piano. When he left for Kansas University in 1941 it was to get a degree in music.

World War II interrupted Gene's studies at KU. His 1946 junior piano recital was, coincidentally, attended by John Baker, then the president of Ohio University. On the spot Baker offered him a professorship at OU, once Gene finished his degree.

After graduating Gene moved to Athens in 1949. In 1959 Gene earned a Ph.D. in piano at FSU. There he met a young harpist named Lucile High. They married after a whirlwind courtship that summer. He brought her back to Athens and they settled permanently, raising a family while both teaching at OU's School of Music. Gene retired in 1994.

Gene was preceded in death by Lucille and a son, Eric. He is survived by his sons Chris and Tom and their families.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

01 Emeriti Volunteer

*Antia James, Editor
P.O. Box 157
Athens, OH 45701*

