

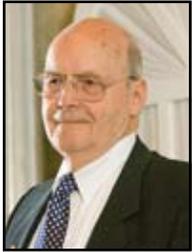
THE PERI NEWSLETTER

Issued by PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREES, INC.

Third Quarter 2008

INSIGHT FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

by William I. Winegarner



PERI is a member of an association called the National Conference of Public Employee Retirement Systems. In 2001, NCPERS produced a booklet on the evolution of Public Pension Plans. We recently received an updated version of the booklet entitled "The Evolution of Public Pension Plans Past, Present and Future.

PERI believes that one of our strong suits in protecting our pensions and benefits is knowledge. Not only knowledge of current issues, but also knowledge of the history and evolution of each and every issue, and how the outcome of issues may impact our future.

In the remainder of this article I will be sharing direct quote excerpts from the latest NCPERS Evolution Booklet.

This document presents an overview of how pension plans in the public sector have evolved. For most of the last century public plans were defined benefit (DB) plans, considered by the majority of public sector employees to be the most valuable benefit received during a long career in public service.

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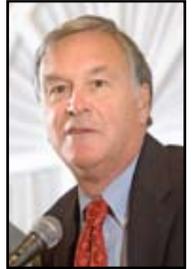
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Annual Meeting information includes registration form & map to location

Legislative Report

The Ohio General Assembly has adjourned for the summer, but before adjourning it enacted some legislation of interest to PERI and left some others pending. Among the bills that passed was the voluminous capital and budget corrections bill (H. B. No. 562). It contains a provision dealing with Iran/Sudan divestiture. If you may remember, OP&F had refused to develop a policy. With the threat of H. B. No. 151 hanging over their heads, the other retirement systems have agreed to voluntarily develop an investment policy, consistent with the boards' fiduciary duties, to divest holdings in certain non-US publicly traded companies doing business in Iran and Sudan. The four systems have been regularly reporting to the Ohio Retirement Study Council on their progress. OP&F continued to hold that its current investment practices were proper and that no divestiture policy had been adopted. This act requires OP&F to develop a policy for the divestment of holdings in certain companies with business ties to Iran or Sudan.



John Gilchrist

Another bill that passed is S. B. No. 3 which provides that individuals holding an office of honor, trust, or profit who are sentenced for certain felony offenses committed while serving in that position will forfeit the portion of any state retirement benefit that is based on employer contribution. More specifically, at the time of sentencing, the court in addition to any other penalty it may impose, generally must order the forfeiture of the retirement or disability benefit other than payment of the person's accumulated contributions. Position of honor, trust, or profit means any of the following: elected officials; those serving on boards or commissions, who were appointed by the Governor or Attorney General; key state and local policy-making officials and employees, who are required to file a disclosure statement under R.C. 102.02; prosecutors; peace officers; and highway patrol officers.

Pending legislation of interest: H. B. No. 558 that deals with members of boards of election and would allow them to purchase addi-

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Public Employee Retirees, Inc.

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Partners in Retirement

Acronyms:

Am HB:
Amended House Bill

Am SB:
Amended Senate Bill

COLA:
Cost of Living Allowance

HB:
House Bill

HCR:
House Concurrent Resolution

HJR:
House Joint Resolution

HPRS:
Highway Patrol Retirement System

JCARR:
Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review

NCPERS:
National Conference on PERS

OP&F:
Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund

OPERS:
Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

OPERS-LE:
OPERS-Law Enforcement

ORSC:
Ohio Retirement Study Council

PERI:
Public Employee Retirees, Inc.

SB:
Senate Bill

SCR:
Senate Concurrent Resolution

SERS:
School Employees Retirement System of Ohio

SJR:
Senate Joint Resolution

STRS:
State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio

Sub HB:
Substitute House Bill

Sub SB:
Substitute Senate Bill



Jack Wymer

[Editor's Note: This quarter's letter from the Chairman is primarily addressed to those PERI members who attend chapter meetings.]

It has been my joy in the last three months to be able to go out and speak at several chapter and district meetings. There are so many of you who have various talents and skills to help our organization and your local chapters. I want to thank all of you who volunteer and are elected as officers. I have been told from time to time that it is just impossible to get officers, but when push comes to shove, someone always steps up to help and take on the responsibility for each job that needs to be done. When forming a chapter nominating committee, make sure the nominating committee members have the job description for the officer positions up for election. In the new chapter by-laws, we are considering two-year officer terms electing half of the officers one year, and the other half the next year. By doing this, there would never be a time when all the officers would be new.

I want to also thank all those chapters and individuals who have made suggestions for the chapter bylaws. We have had many excellent suggestions and will include most in the next revision, which will again be sent out for your further review. Please take the time to study this final revision and submit any further suggestions by the deadline requested at the time. We are carefully reviewing each and every suggestion. Remember if you remain silent, or neutral, you are confirming your support.

The last thing I want to talk about this quarter is the frequency of chapter meetings. I know there are some chapters who meet every month weath-

er permitting. This is the ideal way to operate. It keeps members up-to-date on all legislative information. Members are more apt to respond when asked to take action when they know what the problem is all about. Meeting monthly also gives a chapter more purpose and stability in continuing as a group. I know from past experience in scouting, and other groups I have belonged to, when meetings start to be postponed, skipped, or canceled it is usually the beginning of the end for that organization. Members start to forget when meetings are, or another activity fills the void. Even if your group has met every other month for the past few years, look back at your membership and see how many members have dropped out who were a true benefit to your chapter when you met monthly.

Chapters need to be informative, stimulating, and worthwhile in order to keep their members active and participating. Find a job for everyone, even if the activity only happens once a year. When members participate they become part of the group, and begin to realize how valuable their input is. Plan activities outside the regular chapter meeting. Something like a money earning project, so the chapter will have money to spend on recruiting, etc. Your imagination sets the limits for your chapter and how active and productive it can be. I hope that some of the chapters who only meet three times a year take a hard look at their chapter and make some commitments to improve its operation.

Members will come back and participate in an active and informative chapter. One last thought, the Annual Meeting is growing near with only three months until Sept 29th. Are you planning to attend? With the price of gas, etc., look ahead and plan to car-pool as much as possible to the Annual Meeting. I will be looking for you there. Have a great summer.

Over the last decade, however, public sector DB plans have increasingly come under attack. In an effort to cut costs, due in part to global competition, many corporations have frozen or terminated their DB plans and replaced them with defined contribution (DC) plans. Some public officials have applied similar logic to state and local governments, and have sought to replace public sector DB plans with DC plans. Although the results of this change would likely have significantly negative consequences for taxpayers and public employees, as pointed out in the NCPERS research report “The Top Ten Advantages of Maintaining Defined Benefit Pensions:” these efforts have been successful in a few states and municipalities.

However, demographic and economic pressures have led some public DB plans to reexamine their plan designs, and consider blending DB and DC plan features. For example, the median age of the public sector workforce is about 45, meaning half of current public employees will likely retire in the next 15 to 20 years. To replace them, state and local governments will need to provide benefits that are attractive to younger, more mobile workers. DB plans, designed more for long-term employees, have lacked the portability that younger workers desire.

In addition, the stock market volatility over the past decade has increased the awareness of public employers and employees regarding the potential risks and rewards of the financial markets. While the markets are up, as during the late 1990s, there was growing pressure on the part of employees to participate in DC plans. However, when the stock market declined from 2000 through 2002, many workers saw the value of their DC accounts decline by 50% or more, causing many to reevaluate the attractiveness of DC plans. The stock market decline also increased DB plan costs, causing the governmental plan sponsors to look for ways of more equitably sharing market risks.

Public sector retirement plans for state and local government employees date back over a century to the late 1800s. These plans were developed by government employers to provide retirement benefits for employees who were in public service. In many cases the plans were offered to make public employment competitive with employment in the private sector, which often paid higher wages. The reasoning was that although an employee earned less money working for a government, their retirement benefits were guaranteed. This guarantee protected employees and family members throughout their retirement years.

Defined Benefit Plans: DB plans provide employees with retirement benefits using a predetermined formula, typically based on the participant’s salary and years of service at retirement. Although formulas vary widely, a fairly typical retirement benefit is 2% of final average salary times years of service, with salary averaged over the last three to five years of service. Under this formula, the annual benefit for an employee who retired after 20 years of service with a final average salary of \$50,000 would be \$20,000 (i.e., 2% x \$50,000 x 20 years). Employees can, therefore, predict their retirement benefit by approximating how long they intend to work and what they estimate their salary will be at retirement.

Defined Contribution Plans: DC plans provide benefits through individual accounts established for each employee. In DC plans, the employer contribution made on behalf of each participant is defined, or stipulated, in the plan. Often employees contribute as well, either on a mandatory or voluntary basis (or both). Typically, the accounts are managed by an independent, third-party administrator; and employees direct how their accounts are invested among a variety of funds. Federal income taxes on contributions and investment earnings are deferred until the funds are distributed to the employee.

Ultimately, the individual’s retirement benefit is determined by accumulated con-

tributions and investment income, less investment management fees and operating expenses. At retirement, the benefit may be paid in a lump sum (the most common form of distribution) or as an annuity or as a combination of the two, as permitted by plan design or current tax law. Once the employee retires or otherwise leaves employment, the employer is no longer responsible for contributing to or otherwise providing the benefit.

Hybrid Plans: Hybrid plans combine DB and DC plan features. While a change from a pure DB plan shifts a portion of the risks (and potential rewards) to employees, the hybrid approach typically provides a tax-advantaged means for employees to contribute towards their retirement and to invest in diversified funds. In addition, when used in the public sector, the hybrid approach typically allows employees to convert their DC accounts to an annuity, which adds to the employees’ lifetime benefits.

Innovative Plan Designs: As noted in Chapter 1, many state and local retirement plans were originally established to provide retirement benefits in two parts: (1) a lifetime benefit provided by the employer based on the participant’s salary and length of service; and (2) an annuity benefit based on accumulated employee contributions and investment returns.

Over time, the complexities involved in administering the separate plans and, in many cases, managing employee contribution rates based on age and gender, prompted plans to simplify their designs and led to broad application of the DB plan approach. By the late 1970s, most public plans were DB plans. Although employee contributions were still required for the majority of public plans, the benefit promised did not depend on accumulated employee contributions.

More recently, however, the demographic, economic, and political pressures discussed in Chapter 3 have led some state and local governments to consider alternatives to the DB approach. While a few governments have switched to DC plans,

(continued on page 4)



more governments have been reluctant to shift completely away from DB plans, and have combined DB and DC plan features. To illustrate the various hybrid plans provided by governments, the remainder of this chapter presents five short case studies, each describing a hybrid approach:

[Editor's note: the five plans included the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan, The Texas Municipal Retirement System, The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, The Washington State Teachers' Retirement System, and the Colorado Public Employees' Retirement Association]

It is always rewarding to see that our Ohio PERS, is named among the innovators, and I believe all of the PERI members, past and present, should be proud that they have been an integral part in working with our plan administrators and members of the Ohio General Assembly to recognize our retirement system as one of the major innovators of staying current with the times.

***Please remember
to inform us if you move***

You can call us.....

(614) 891-6868

or

(800) 247-7374

You can email us.....

office@operi.org

Or you can write us.....

PERI

659-F Park Meadow Rd

Westerville, OH 43081

The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System is pleased to partner with PERI and provide news and updates concerning the OPERS health care plan within your PERI Newsletter. The OPERS communications and health care staffs prepare and submit these updates. If you have questions or need further information, please contact an OPERS member service representative at 1-800-222-7377.

**Aetna expands fitness center
offerings with the
Aetna Fitness Network**

Effective Oct 1, 2008, OPERS retirees participating in the Aetna Medicare Open Plan will have access to a FREE membership at all fitness facilities within the newly enhanced Aetna Fitness Network. Aetna has added a number of fitness centers in Ohio to the Network. The additions include select YMCA locations and other facilities that have been added by request.

To take advantage of this free fitness center membership, simply present your Aetna Medicare Open Plan ID card at a participating facility after Oct. 1, 2008 and the staff will assist you with establishing a membership. OPERS retirees outside of Ohio will continue to access the current Forever Fit network.

Aetna will continue to pursue adding fitness facilities to the Aetna Fitness Network by request. Please keep in mind that once Aetna receives a request to add a fitness center to the Forever Fit network, it could take several months to secure a contract with the facility and there is no guarantee that a club will agree to become a member of the network.

If you have any questions about participating fitness centers in your area or would like to nominate a facility, please contact Aetna Member Services at 1-866-282-0631 or Forever Fit at 1-877-592-1558.

**2009 health care
open enrollment
scheduled for October**

The annual open enrollment period for the OPERS health care plan will run from Oct. 1 through Oct. 31, 2008. You will receive open enrollment materials (Personalized Health Care Open Enrollment Statement and 2009 Open Enrollment Guide) by mail in late September. Any changes you make to your coverage during the open enrollment period will take effect on Jan. 1, 2009.

OPERS representatives will be conducting educational open enrollment seminars throughout the state during October. Dates and locations will be finalized in September and listed within the 2009 Open Enrollment Guide. If you are unable to attend, you will have an opportunity to view a video of the open enrollment seminar on our Web site, www.opers.org.

Legislative Report

(continued from page 1)

tional service credit in OPERS. To purchase the additional credit the individual must pay the retirement system an amount equal to the additional liability resulting from the purchase as determined by an actuary employed by OPERS. PERI opposes this bill because it gives a selected class of individuals the right to purchase additional credit and this is a right not given to all other members. In addition, even if the individual is required to pay 100% of the liability, there is concern that this may not cover the additional health care liability created by virtue of the fact that the individual can retire earlier.

It should be noted that a relatively recent report from the Ohio Retirement Study Council dealing with the subject of the pur-

chase of service credit recommended to the General Assembly that the purchase price for all types of service should be the full actuarial liability resulting from the purchase of service credit and members should be required to retire within 90 days of purchasing the service. It also recommended that purchased credit should be prohibited from being counted for purposes of health care eligibility or subsidy.

Another bill that PERI has been following is S. B. No. 267. It would authorize OPERS to adopt rules to establish a program under which a OPERS-LE member with non-law enforcement service covered by OPERS may convert up to five years of non-law enforcement service credit to law enforcement credit if the member pays not less than 100% of the additional liability resulting from the purchase of each year, or portion of a year, of credit. Another provision of the bill calls for an increase in the employee contribution rate for OPERS-LE. A third provision creates the OPERS Public Safety Officers division consisting of (1) Hamilton County Municipal Court bailiffs, and (2) officers whose primary duties are other than to preserve the peace, protect life and property, and enforce Ohio laws.

More specifically, the bill formalizes the distinction between the two sub-groups in OPERS-LE by creating a public safety officer division. Under the bill, officers will be determined to be in the law enforcement or public safety officer division. These two groups within OPERS-LE are composed of the same state, county, and township officers, but they are divided by the primary duties of the officer. Officers whose primary duties are the preservation of the peace, protection of life and property, and the enforcement of Ohio laws are eligible for a normal retirement benefit starting at age 48 with 25 years of service-these officers are in the law enforcement division. Those officers whose primary duties are other than to preserve the peace, protect life or property, and enforce the laws of Ohio are eligible for a normal retirement benefit starting at age 52 with 25 years of service-these officers will be in the public safety officer division.

As for the increase in contribution rates: Current law provides that law enforcement

members contribute 10.1 % of their salary. In addition, OPERS is authorized to calculate employee contribution rates separately for officers whose primary duties are other than to preserve the peace. The bill provides that the contribution rate of OPERS law enforcement officers is to be the rate established by the OPERS board for public safety officers plus an additional percentage that is to be initially 1% and may be increased to no more than 2% of the officers' salaries.

The bill has passed the Senate and is in the House Financial Institutions, Real Estate, & Securities Committee.

Lastly, there is H. B. No. 270 that deals with individuals who retire and return to work for the same employer at the same position. Under a substitute bill currently under consideration, if the employee returns to the same position with the same employer (retires on Friday and returns on Monday) he will forfeit two months of benefits (this is current law), then his benefits will be paid into an annuity account and will be paid to him when he stops working. Thus, if the individual retires and returns to the same job, he will not be able to collect his paycheck and a retirement check at the same time. This is similar to the DROP program in OP&F. However, unlike DROP which is voluntary (you sign up for DROP and agree that your benefits will be paid into an annuity account), this is not a voluntary plan-i.e. if you retire and return to work your benefits are automatically paid into an annuity account which is not available until ones stops working. This is more of a deferred annuity plan than a DROP plan. The DROP plan must follow IRS requirements, be IRS qualified, and be filed with IRS. There have been concerns raised with this provision. For example, a superintendent of schools retires and then returns to work and is willing to work for much less than he was paid earlier. This would serve as a disincentive.

The substitute bill also contains a provision that would prohibit an employer from paying any portion of an employee's required contribution. (Employee contribution pickup) The bill is in the House Financial Institutions, Real Estate, & Securities Committee. The bill will not affect current retirees.



IN MEMORY



Robert C. Polland

Former PERI Board member and District 8 Representative, Robert Polland died April 29, 2008.

A life long native of Zanesville, Robert, worked at Mosaic Tile for 21 years before becoming the assistant director at the Department of Workers Compensation, where he worked for 28 years.

Robert reactivated the Muskingum chapter in 1993 and served as its President for the next 5 years. Before being elected District 8 Representative in 2000, Robert was the Legislative officer for his chapter and the district at large.

Don't forget to Vote

Even though only one of the four positions open for election is being contested, and there are no amendments to be decided this year, it is still healthy for our association to receive your ballot.

In the past, some members have inquired why there are not more contested positions. Here is the answer. It takes years of experience to understand the history of the association, what has made it successful in informing its members and explaining to legislators why we are for or against any piece of legislation. Every one of our Executive Committee members has had years of experience being members and officers of Chapters, before

becoming District Representatives and Board members. Once they are on the Board, they gain additional experience being on the various committees that guide our association. Even so, the Board recommended, and the membership voted to approve, that the 1st and 2nd Vice Chair positions be open to any officer in any one of our 94 chapters, approximately 470 people.

As you can see, our Chapter officers, who work with the Board on a regular basis, are satisfied with the job they are doing, and do not see the need to challenge candidates with so many years of experience.

PERI Board of Trustees Candidates

FOR THE OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN



Jack Wymer

Jack Wymer joined PERI in 1994 and was President of his local Chapter. He was appointed District Legislative Chairman, and was twice-elected District 1 Representative.

After retiring from the USAF, Jack was employed by the Toledo Mental Health Center as a Training Officer, then Program Administrator, and eventually Director of Admissions. He earned his BA in Public Administration at the University of Toledo.

As a Board member, Jack has served on the Legislative, Chapter Education, and Program Committees. He has chaired the Nominating, Audit, Constitution, Chapter Growth & Education, and Director Education / Current Worker Membership Committees. Jack was elected 3rd VP in 02 & 03, and succeeded to the office of 2nd VP with the passing of President Kuhner. Jack was elected 1st VP for 2005, 2006; and Chairman of the Board in 2007.

Jack Wymer and his wife Marilyn, have three grown sons, and eight grandchildren.

FOR THE OFFICE OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON



Beverly was elected 3rd VP in 2004, and 2nd VP in 2005 and 2006, and Vice Chairman in 2007.

Beverly is a graduate of the Coshocton Business College. She retired after 30 years as the Administrative Secretary of the Veterans Service Commission. She is a past member of the Professional Women's Club, the YWCA Board, President of the CHI-TAU Club, President of American Baptist Women, Treasurer of Church Women United, and member of the Volunteer Blood Mobile team.

Beverly has been a member of the Constitution, Chapter, Program, Finance, and has also chaired the Legislative, Chapter Growth and Education, and Audit Committees. Committees under her leadership developed the Benefits of Chapter Membership pamphlet, a Power Point Legislative seminar, and a Chapter Officer self-help binder.



**Gerald J.
"Gerry"
Thurber**

Gerry began his career in radio and moved into television. He began as an on-air newsman and ended in management. In 1984, he began working for Lucas County as a caseworker, moved into collections, and completed his government service in 2003.

When Gerry retired he joined PERI as a Lifetime member, and was appointed, and twice elected, to the position of District 1 Representative. Gerry has been a member of the Legislative, Trustee Education, Chapter Education, and Constitution & By-Laws committees. He has also been Vice Chairman of the Audit Committee, and Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Gerry was required to resign his District Representative position when he moved from Toledo to Berea, so he and his wife Shirley, who just celebrated their 40th Anniversary, could be closer to their daughter, son-in-law, and soon to be granddaughter. Their oldest daughter, Diane and her husband, are teachers at the University of Guam.

PERI Board of Trustees Candidates

FOR THE OFFICE OF 1st VICE-CHAIRPERSON



Bev Calvert

Beverly (Bev) Calvert is a Lifetime member of PERI, and a member of the Washington County chapter. In 2002, she was elected District 8 Representative. She served in that position for four years, and under her guidance the District

excelled in time spent in Chapter officer trainings, improved meetings, and membership participation. Bev was elected 3rd Vice-President in 2005, and 1st Vice Chair in 2006 and 2007.

Bev began her public employment, as a secretary to the ODOT Design Engineer, moved up to Administrative Assistant, and because of her degree in Human Resources, became the Equal Employment Coordinator for the Department of Transportation.

In her Chapter, Bev was a Chapter Vice-President, Membership Committee chairperson, and assisted in the Chapter's financial audits.

As a PERI Board member, she has served on the Legislative, Chapter-Growth and Education, Audit, and Constitution Review Committees. She has also chaired the Legislative, Audit, and Trustee Education Committees.

FOR THE OFFICE OF 2nd VICE-CHAIRPERSON



**Elizabeth
"Becky"
Somerville**

Becky was appointed to the position of District 11 Representative in May of 2001, and was elected that same year for the first of her three, 2-year terms, as District 11 Representative. In 2007, she was elected to serve as the PERI 2nd Vice-

Chair.

Becky worked 19 years as program coordinator for the Trumbull County Soil and Water Conservation District before her retirement in 1999. A former military wife, she has lived all over the world. To serve her community, Becky works as a part-time home healthcare worker. She is the mother of four children, and has five grandchildren.

As a District Representative, Becky was vital in helping bring new life and vigor to her District. As a Board member, she has served on the following committees: Audit, Legislative, Chapter Education & Growth, Finance, Nominating and, is currently the Chairperson of the Constitution & By-Laws, and Chapter Growth & Education Committees.

**Ballots must be
received at the PERI
office by
5 p.m. Monday
September 15, 2008.**

Enclosed with this newsletter, you will find a ballot and a return envelope.

Please make your selections, place the ballots in the supplied ballot envelope, affix postage, and mail.

***Please...
Use the Ballot envelope
to send ballots only...
DO NOT include
your Annual Meeting
reservation, or any
other information in
the ballot envelope.***

*Visit our web site
www.operi.org*

PERI Legislative Action History • Current Legislative Information
District & Chapter Contact Information • Newsletter Archives

PERI District Roundup

District 1

It is becoming a tradition of promoting PERI Chapter 93 in Lucas County. The Kesling pick-up, decorated with pretty colors and Chapter sign, cruse the Oregon Day Fest Parade.



District 2



Jason Davis and Devon Hooper, OPERS Health Care Benefits Counselors and Betsy Mason, Senior Account Director for Express Scripts

Dorothy Silver and Estella Nusbaum

During the District 2 annual meeting, Dorothy Silver, Auglaize County Chapter President, was elected to replace Estella Nusbaum as the District 2 Representative on the PERI Board of Trustees. Mrs. Nusbaum, who has completed her maximum number of allowable terms, will be missed, and we thank her for her wonderful service to all of us in District 2.

PERI Chapter 13 Mercer County had State Senator Keith Faber, and State Representative Jim Zehringer as guest speakers at their July meeting.



District 7

Gallia County hosted the District 7 annual meeting at the Gallipolis Senior Center. The Guest speakers were PERI Chairman, Jack Wymer, and Jason Davis and Greg McLaughlin from OPERS Health Care.



PERI Chairman Jack Wymer; Gallia Chapter 58 Officers: President Jane Colley, Secretary Lois Snyder, Treasurer Pearl Leifheit, Legislative Officer Steve Smith (Vice President Nancy Davis absent); PERI District 7 Representative Phil Roberts; OPERS Health Care Counselor Jason Davis and OPERS Health Care Education Supervisor Greg McLaughlin

District 8



When District 8 Representative, Tom Watkins began planning the 2008 district annual meeting he coordinated the timing of the meeting with the displaying of the Delta Queen in Marietta, Ohio. The Delta Queen is the last of the wooden steam powered river paddle wheelers. Instead of flowers or decorations for door prizes, Tom decided to design and make a replica of the Delta Queen, and utilize it as the District 8 Annual Meeting door prize. Pictured are Mr. & Mrs. Alan J. Dillon the winners, and craftsman Watkins, and Alan.

PERI District Roundup

District 11

The District 11 Annual meeting was held at the Lamalfa Conference Center in Mentor, Ohio. Guest Speakers were PERI Chairman, Jack Wymer and Mike Mussell from OPERS Health Care.



District 11 speakers included Lake County Chapter 28 President Rose Wolf, PERI Chair Jack Wymer and PERI 2nd Vice Chair Becky Somerville.



Ron Leskovec, Art Lowe and Bob Jones



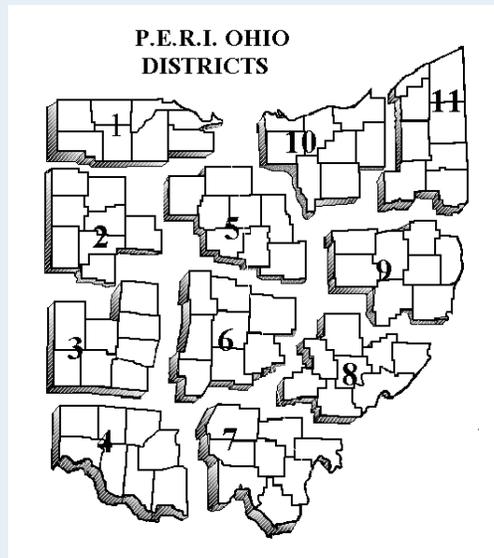
OPERS Health Care Counselor Mike Mussell, Doris Jones, Lake County Chapter Vice President Evelyn Kiffmeyer, Joanne Lowe and Lake County Chapter Treasurer Anne Barringer



Lake County Chapter Secretary John Haight, Vice President Evelyn Kiffmeyer, Vince Galyas, Carol Morrow and Doris Jones pass out door prizes at the District 11 annual meeting.

Listed below are the counties followed by the county's district number.

Adams.....4	Delaware.....6
Allen.....2	Erie.....10
Ashland.....10	Fairfield.....6
Ashtabula.....11	Fayette.....6
Athens.....8	Franklin.....6
Auglaize.....2	Fulton.....1
Belmont.....9	Gallia.....7
Brown.....4	Geauga.....11
Butler.....4	Greene.....3
Carroll.....9	Guernsey.....9
Champaign.....3	Hamilton.....4
Clark.....3	Hancock.....5
Clermont.....4	Hardin.....2
Clinton.....4	Harrison.....9
Columbiana.....11	Henry.....1
Coshocton.....9	Highland.....4
Crawford.....5	Hocking.....8
Cuyahoga.....10	Holmes.....9
Darke.....3	Huron.....10
Defiance.....1	Jackson.....7



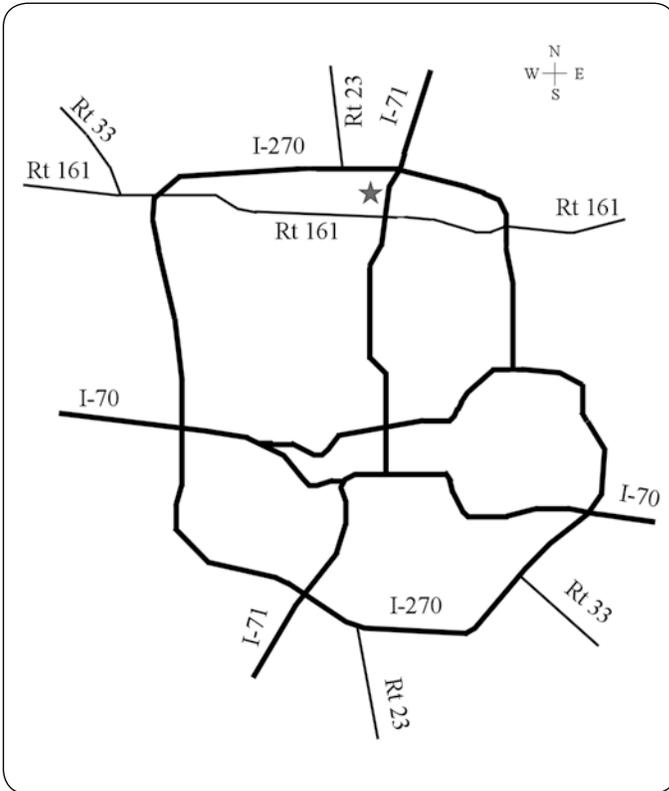
Jefferson.....9	Logan.....3
Knox.....5	Lorain.....10
Lake.....11	Lucas.....1
Lawrence.....7	Madison.....6
Licking.....6	Mahoning.....11

Marion.....5	Ross.....7
Medina.....10	Sandusky.....1
Meigs.....7	Scioto.....7
Mercer.....2	Seneca.....5
Miami.....3	Shelby.....2
Monroe.....8	Stark.....11
Montgomery.....3	Summit.....10
Morgan.....8	Trumbull.....11
Morrow.....5	Tuscarawas.....9
Muskingum.....8	Union.....6
Noble.....8	Van Wert.....2
Ottawa.....1	Vinton.....7
Paulding.....2	Warren.....4
Perry.....8	Washington.....8
Pickaway.....6	Wayne.....10
Pike.....7	Williams.....1
Portage.....11	Wood.....1
Preble.....3	Wyandot.....5
Putnam.....2	
Richland.....5	

**MONDAY
SEPT. 29**

PERI ANNUAL 2008 MEETING MAP

Crowne Plaza Hotel
6500 Doubletree Avenue • Columbus, Ohio 43229
(614) 885-1885



From I-270:

Exit onto Cleveland Ave North.

Go to the first intersection and turn left (west) onto Schrock Rd.

Follow Schrock Road for 2-1/4 miles to Busch Blvd.

Turn left onto Busch Blvd.

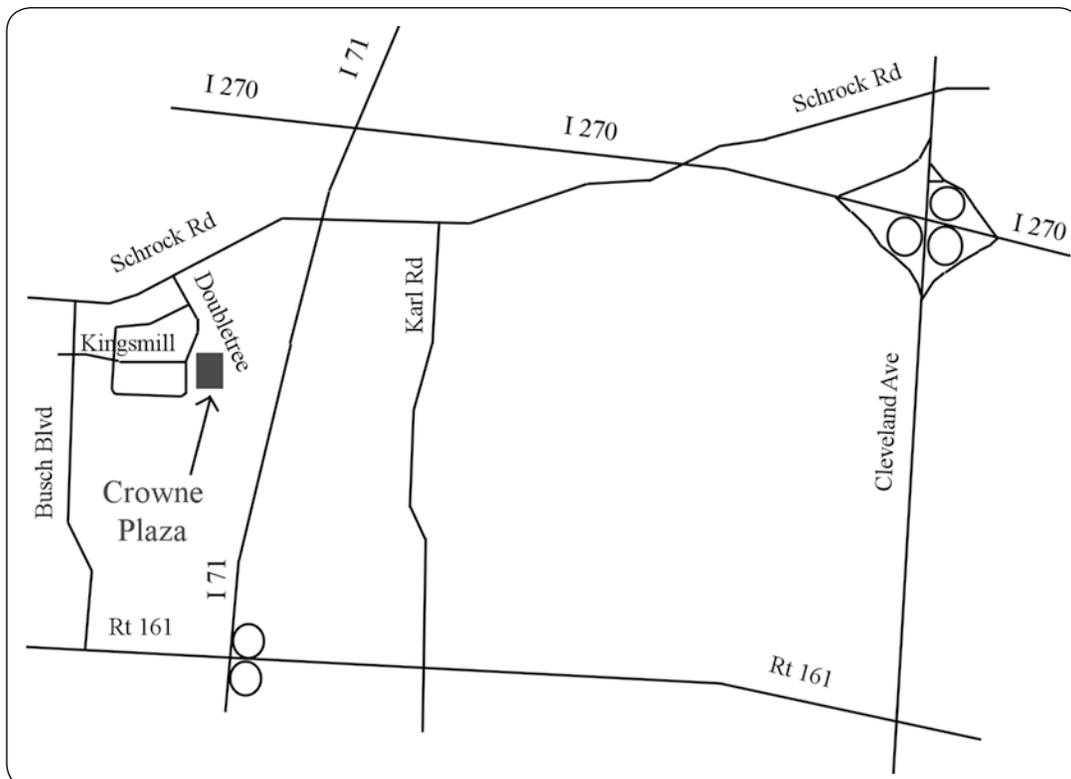
Turn left at first traffic light onto Kingsmill Pkwy which will deadend at Crowne Plaza Hotel.

From I-71:

Exit onto Route 161 and head west.

Turn right onto Busch Blvd.

Turn right at third traffic light onto Kingsmill Pkwy which will deadend at Crowne Plaza Hotel.



PERI 2008 Annual Meeting

Monday, September 29

Crowne Plaza Hotel

Columbus, Ohio

The PERI Annual Meeting will again be at the Crowne Plaza in North East Columbus. The Crowne Plaza offers nearness to a freeway exit, ease of parking without fees, covered drop off and entry, spaciousness, cleanliness, sufficient number of bathrooms, and quality food service.

We are limited to 550 attendees so early registration would be wise.

Registration will be from 9 to 9:45 a.m. Coffee, tea, and a pastry will be available during that time.

The business meeting will start at 10 a.m. and will feature reports from the PERI Administrator, Secretary/Treasurer, Legislative Counsel, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The Administrator will announce the successful officer candidates and install the new board members for the remainder of 2008 through the Annual Meeting in 2009.

The keynote speaker for this year's meeting will be Mr. Chris De Rose, Executive Director, of Ohio PERS. One

of the rewarding experiences derived from attending a PERI Annual Meeting is the opportunity to meet and hear from various members of the senior administrative staff of OPERS.

Mr. John Gilchrist, PERI's Legislative Counsel and, Mr. Tom Sherman, OPERS Government Relations Officer, will cover our legislative concerns.

Before and after the business meeting, we will have representatives from OPERS, Medicare, Medical Mutual, Aetna, Express Scripts, Social Security, Ohio Department of Aging, Deferred Comp and the Ohio Department of Insurance located at service tables to answer your questions. Lunch will be served after the business meeting. The meal choices this year are Chicken Napa Valley or Baked Tilapia each served with a fresh garden salad, appropriate side dish and dessert.

Come with great expectations for a rewarding time of learning, sharing ideas, and fellowshiping with your fellow retirees.

Registration: \$20 per person

Registration deadline:

Friday, Sept 12, 2008.

Please do NOT send your registration in the ballot envelope.

The ballots are not opened until shortly before the meeting, and there will be no time to process your registration.

*NOTE: Registration at the door:
\$50 per person - if space is available*

If you are making reservations for more than one person, please list each person's name separately, along with their meal choice. You may copy this form as needed.

Make check payable to PERI
and mail with registration form to:

PERI
Attn: Annual Meeting
659-F Park Meadow Road
Westerville, OH 43081

Registration Form for the PERI 2008 Annual Meeting

LAST Name FIRST Name M.I. Chicken - Fish
(Circle meal choice)

LAST Name FIRST Name M.I. Chicken - Fish
(Circle meal choice)

Phone Number Your County Name

of Registrations: _____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____ Check #: _____

You may copy this form as needed.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREES, INC.

659-F Park Meadow Road • Westerville, Ohio 43081-2879

(614) 891-6868 • (800) 247-7374 • Fax (614) 891-8887

Email: office @operi.org • Web site: www.operi.org

PERI Officers

Jack Wymer	(419) 893-6142	Chairman
Beverly Sycks	(740) 622-2076	Vice-Chair
Bev Calvert	(740) 373-4917	1st Vice-Chair
Becky Somerville	(330) 876-8634	2nd Vice-Chair
Joseph D. Stockstill	(440) 333-7686	Secretary/Treasurer

PERI Staff / Advisors

William Winegarner	Administrator
Laurie Frithiof	Administrative Secretary
Nancy Heath	Bookkeeper / Newsletter Layout
John Gilchrist	Legislative Counsel

District Representatives

District # and Counties Represented

John Sanderson	(419) 335-7738	#1: Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, Williams, Wood
Estella Nusbaum	(419) 586-3093	#2: Allen, Auglaize, Hardin, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Shelby, Van Wert
Donna Harter	(937) 996-5471	#3: Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Preble
Franklin Thomas	(513) 858-3573	#4: Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland, Warren
Marty Deppner	(740) 599-6306	#5: Crawford, Hancock, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca, Wyandot
		#6: Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway, Union
Philip Roberts	(740) 379-2200	#7: Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton
Tom Watkins	(740) 473-1140	#8: Athens, Hocking, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Washington
Marlene Bond	(740) 658-3673	#9: Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Tuscarawas
Shirley Thurber	(440) 243-7494	#10: Ashland, Cuyahoga, Erie, Huron, Lorain, Medina, Summit, Wayne
Jack Murphy	(330) 654-2663	#11: Ashtabula, Columbiana, Geauga, Lake, Mahoning, Portage, Stark, Trumbull



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 659-F Park Meadow Rd.
 Westerville, Ohio 43081-2879