



Emeriti Association  
**OHIO**  
UNIVERSITY

April  
2021

The next Emeriti Association meeting is scheduled for **April 15, 2021 at 11:00 AM** via Zoom. An invitation to the Zoom meeting will be sent to all those on the Emeriti Listserv. Emeriti Association Vice President Scott Moody announced that the speaker for the April meeting will be Melissa Wales, the Director of [Stuart's Opera House](#) in Nelsonville Ohio.

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**Notes from the March 18th meeting**

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Emeriti Association Nominations Committee Chair John Howell presented the slate of candidates for board positions for next year, to be voted on at the April meeting. John's report is attached below.

Vice President Scott Moody then introduced the main speaker for the meeting, Philip Cantino, Professor Emeritus of Environmental and Plant Biology, speaking on the history and goals of the [Athens Conservancy](#). The Conservancy is a non-profit land trust dating back to 2002. Total land in the Conservancy now includes over 5 square miles. The land is obtained either through direct purchase or through conservation easements. Cantino described the various land parcels added to the Conservancy over the years as well as current plans. He was joined by Conservancy board member Brian Blair who reviewed the easement process and its advantages for both the district and the owners.

Audio of the Zoom meeting can be made available to Emeriti upon request. Presentation slides and further information can be obtained from Cantino at <[pcantino@gmail.com](mailto:pcantino@gmail.com)>

An informative Youtube video on the Conservancy narrated by Cantino can be viewed [at this link on the Conservancy website](#).

## Screen clips from the March Zoom meeting

Zoom Meeting    You are viewing Phil Cantino's screen    View Options

Rich Post    Rosemary Rossiter    John Howell    Phil Cantino    Leslie Flemmi...    Scott M Moody

# Athens Conservancy

- Land protection methods:
  - Conservation easements
  - Direct purchase
- Funding sources: grants and donations
  - Especially *Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Program*




Unmute   Stop Video   Participants (26)   Chat   Share Screen   Record   Leave

Zoom Meeting

Anne    Richard's ipho...    jjohnwoodrow    Ann Paulins    Margaret Tho...    Scott Malcom

# Saving Hawk Woods

- First big project (2003)
- Conservancy partnered with the city
- Now a state nature preserve




Zoom Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Sue Boyd Lynda Berman Felix Gagliano Sue Boyd Dave K underhilla

## Accomplishments to Date

- 54 projects
- 27 Clean Ohio grants, totaling \$5 million
  - Includes 3 grants to the City and 2 to the County
- 12 Preserves owned, excluding rail-trail
- 13 miles of rail-trail





Zoom Meeting

thomasfranz jeanne haseley Allyn Reilly Brian Blair George Weck... Anne

## Baker Preserve

- 269 acres, mostly forested
- Conservation easement
  - Land owned by daughters of OU President Baker
  - Managed by Conservancy
  - 5 miles of trails
- 10 minutes from Athens
  - Entrance off SR-690, 0.5 mile N of US-50




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Sue Boyd    Dave K    underhilla    Dina L Lopez    Marsha Lewis    KC8ZUF

## The Plains Preserve

Enabled extension of bike path to Athens High School




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thomasfranz    jeanne haseley    Allyn Reilly    Brian Blair    George Weck...    Anne

## Rail-Trails

- Purchased 13 miles of abandoned B&O rail grade
  - Mostly southeast of Athens, beyond Stewart
  - A few sections west of Athens
- The part southeast of Athens is Athens-Belpre Rail-Trail
  - Most transferred to the County
  - Surfaced with gravel
  - Eventual goal—extension to Belpre and Parkersburg



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Rich Post Rosemary Rossiter John Howell Phil Cantino Brian Blair Scott M Moody

## WHAT IS A CONSERVATION EASEMENT?

- A customized agreement between a landowner and an eligible governmental agency or an eligible charitable organization (such as the Athens Conservancy)
- Permanently restricts certain development rights (eg. subdivision, timber harvesting)
- A legal document recorded in the grantor's county courthouse (*goes with deed*)

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DEVARTS thomasfranz jeanne haseley Allyn Reilly George Weck... Anne

## WHAT RIGHTS ARE RETAINED BY THE GRANTOR?

- Ownership of the land
- Use and enjoyment of the property
- Limited future building sites for family, educational facility, etc.
- **SUSTAINABLE** forestry/farming practices


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Rich Post Rosemary Rossiter John Howell Phil Cantino Brian Blair Scott M Moody

## Projects this Past Year

- Completed first part of John Knouse Trail
- Improvements in Mary Beth Preserve
  - Parking area built
  - Footbridge from parking to trailhead
  - Installed benches at Gillette Pond
    - Memorial to Mary Beth Lohse
  - Trail will be extended around pond




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## Athens Conservancy and YOU!

- Visit our preserves
- Help maintain trails
- Join us as a member
- Support land acquisition
- Spread the word!



Phil Cantino

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## OU Emeriti Nominating Committee report 3-18-2021

President – Rosemary Rossiter

Vice President and Program Committee Chair – Scott Moody

Secretary – Allyn Reilly

Treasurer – Leslie Flemming

Membership and Membership Services – Scott Malcolm

Emeriti Park – Richard Dean

Benefits Committee – Ann Paulins

Website – Richard Post

Archivist/historian – Ann Braxton

Nominations – John Howell

Past president – Allen Boyd

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Volunteer Services – these have been suspended because of the Covid-19 pandemic. We will be looking for someone to take this on when these services can be resumed.

Communications (newsletter) – We invite someone to join the Board in this capacity and take on the semi-annual publication of a simple newsletter that would contain a listing of new members in the Association, a memorial section acknowledging the loss of members, and human-interest stories, including contributions from emeriti about how they are using their retirement opportunities. Please contact me ([jhowell45701@gmail.com](mailto:jhowell45701@gmail.com)) or any other member of the Board if this might interest you.

I think I speak for all Association members in thanking the Board for their leadership and their good work through these unusual times.

John Howell, Nominating Committee Chair