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### Young chamber music quartet will perform for club's holiday celebration

By Rich Davis, Club President

We have a great opportunity at our club's holiday celebration and dinner on Thursday, December 7. We will hear a fine performance from talented young people and help to support their budding careers, as well as the organization that supports them and many others – the Chamber Music Connection (CMC).

CMC is a not-for-profit organization with a 25-year history in Worthington. It has more than 40 faculty members and 100 students and provides “an enriching chamber music experience for players of all ages and skill levels.” Part of its performance fee goes directly to the performers and the remainder to CMC's Fellowship and Scholarship Fund.

The leadership at CMC has been wonderful to deal with, and they have selected the members of the quartet for the performance for our club. Anna Wallace and Aditya Airi will play the violins, Maxim Estevez-Curtis will play the viola, and Jackson Tomsic will be on the cello. I trust you will welcome them warmly and show your appreciation for their talent and hard work.

The holiday celebration is our most special meeting of the year. We get a chance to dress a bit fancier, enjoy the entertainment, and have a special meal from the Faculty Club chefs. It is often our best attended event. I look forward to seeing you all there.

(You may invite guests to the holiday celebration. The cost will be \$40 each.)



**These young people with the Chamber Music Connection are representative the quartet that will perform on December 7.**

## **Member's Moment – Raimund E. Goerler**

*Presented by Joan Leitzel on November 2, 2017*

It is my pleasure to focus our Member's Moment this evening on our colleague and friend, Raimund Goerler. Perhaps, some of you have wondered why Rai spells his first name RAIMUND. Others of you know the reason is that Rai was born in Germany, and the Germans have their own special way of spelling words. He was his parents' third child and has two older sisters. Rai's parents brought the family to the United States in 1951 when Rai was 3 years old; this was a time when conditions were quite difficult in Germany. Rai became a U.S. citizen at age 9. His father was an electrician, who in time worked for GE.

The family lived first in New York City and later in Syracuse, N.Y. Rai was educated in American schools, except when GE transferred his father to Germany to work on a radar installation for the U.S. Army. As a consequence, Rai had two years of his high school education there. He earned his baccalaureate degree in history at SUNY Buffalo and then went to Case Western Reserve for his master's and Ph.D. degrees, also in history. He took a position with the Western Reserve Historical Society where he came to especially appreciate the importance and challenges of archiving. He met his future wife, Sharon, there. She had arrived a month before Rai to be secretary to the director of the library at the historical society. They married and raised two children, one son and one daughter, each of whom is an Ohio State graduate and each of whom is now working in their area of study.

After a couple years at the historical society, Rai had an opportunity to fill a position at Ohio State to lead the consolidation and cataloging of its archives and to design ways to integrate the archives into the academic, as well as the administrative, life of OSU. You'll remember at last month's Torch presentation, Robert Newcomb mentioned how important Rai was in locating the original documents for his work in reconstructing the history of Ohio State's College of Optometry. Rai has also been quite central in reconstructing the story of Richard Byrd and of Ohio State's Polar Research Center. Many, many scholars are very grateful to Rai for his contributions to their work.



**Joan Leitzel presented the Member's Moment for Rai Goerler on November 2.**

Sharon also worked at Ohio State; she was a secretary in the Office of Minority Affairs. Rai actually held several positions at Ohio State, in some years more than one at a time. They included university archivist, chief archivist at the Byrd Polar Research Center, assistant director of University Libraries, and then interim director of University Libraries in 2009 when the renovation of Thompson Library was completed. He taught a class for Ohio State students about the university's history and also was an adjunct faculty member at Kent State for a time. In addition to being an exceptional designer and manager of libraries, as well as a teacher, Rai is a widely recognized scholar in his own right with many publications that include books (*The Ohio State University: An Illustrated History*), papers, journal articles, and reviews; creative exhibits and presentations; and television appearances on the Arts and Entertainment Channel,

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## **Member's Moment – Raimund E. Goerler**

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the History Channel, and WOSU-TV. He has served important roles in professional societies and now in his retirement he has served as vice president and president of The Ohio State University Retirees Association and currently is chair of its Cultural Arts Committee. He continues to be a member of the university's Faculty Committee on Benefits and Compensation. He also continues to give oral history interviews for the OSU Archives. He has received The Ohio Library Foundation's Research Award Citation and Ohio State's Distinguished Service Award.

You won't be surprised that Rai and Sharon like to travel internationally from time to time to catch up with their German family and to other places they choose to visit. This past year they had a week in Tuscany in April, a week in Vancouver and Victoria in August, and three weeks in China in September. They have plans to visit Costa Rica next February.

As you can see, there is a lot to talk with Rai about – and you can choose either English or German. I'm sure you have questions, and I hope you'll soon be able to catch him for conversation. Please join me in recognizing Ohio State's Emeritus Professor Raimund Goerler.

## **Columbus Torch Club inducts new member at October meeting**

### **Sheila A. Castellarin**

A businesswoman, civic leader and lifelong supporter of The Ohio State University, Sheila Castellarin earned her bachelor of science degree from Ohio State. She then began a long career with Columbia Gas of Ohio and Columbia Gas Distribution Companies. Starting as a home service advisor in 1958, she rose through the supervisory ranks to become vice president for communications, consumer affairs and community relations for the distribution companies from 1981 to 1997. She received the Prism Award

from the Public Relations Society of Columbus in 1997 for outstanding contributions to the business and public relations communities.

Sheila was on the Board of Directors of the Ohio State University Alumni Association from 1987 to 1992 and was co-chairman of the Campaign for Alumni House from 1991 to 1997. She received Ohio State's Centennial Alumni Award in 1970 and Distinguished Service Award in 1995. She served on the Ohio State Faculty Club's Board of Control from 2002 to 2008. She was president of Mortar Board Alumnae in 1964-65 and received the Mortar Board National Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award in 2009.

Among her many board memberships over the years are the Columbus Metropolitan Library, Catholic Social Services, St. Stephen's Community Center, Central Ohio Center for Economic Education, Ballet Metropolitan, WOSU Public Broadcasting, and Greater Columbus Arts Council.



**Diane Selby (left) sponsored Sheila Castellarin for Torch membership. The club inducted Sheila on November 2.**

## Responding to the Evite from Secretary Seelbach

Club secretary Thom Seelbach will send you via electronic mail an Evite to attend the Torch Club meeting on December 7. Respond promptly to the Evite so he will have an accurate count of meals needed. You also may respond to him at tseelbach@gmail.com or (614) 457-5103.

The directions for responding to the Evite are:

1. After you click on the email from Evite, it will bring up a new window on the Evite website. You must click your response in this new window for Evite to register your response.
2. The guest count is the actual number of attendees. If only you are attending, the count will be 1. The cost for a guest to attend the annual holiday meeting and dinner is \$40.

## Schedule of Torch Club speakers and their papers for 2017-18

Thursday, October 5, 2017

**"History of the OSU College of Optometry"** by Robert Newcomb

Thursday, November 2, 2017

**"Cuba Then and Now: A Contemporary Perspective"** by Tricia Herban

Thursday, December 7, 2017

**Chamber Music Connection String Quartet**

Thursday, January 4, 2018

**"Sicily: So Much More"** by Christina Atzberger

Thursday, February 1, 2018

**"The History and Current State of Antarctica"** by Thomas Baughman

Thursday, March 1, 2018

**"Identifying Bottlenecks in Manufacturing Systems and Emergency Departments to Reduce Waiting Times"** by Gordon Clark

Thursday, April 5, 2018

**"The Evolution of Italian and English Gardens"** by Nancy Verber

Thursday, May 3, 2018

**"A Few of My Favorite Things: A Piano Recital"** by Thomas Seelbach and the Faculty Club's Steinway

### **Torch Club's monthly meeting agenda**

No board meeting in December  
5:30-6:15 p.m. Cocktails and conversation  
6:15-7 p.m. Entertainment  
7-8:15 p.m. Dinner and table discussion

Meetings are conducted in The Ohio State University Faculty Club, 181 S. Oval Drive; (614) 292-2262.

## Board of Directors of Torch Club of Columbus, Ohio, for 2017-18

President – Rich Davis

President-elect – Tom Costantiello

Immediate Past President – Jeff Caswell

Secretary – Thom Seelbach

Assistant Secretary – Susan W. Smith

Treasurer – Howard Gauthier

Assistant Treasurer – Susan Tilgner

Fellowship Chair – Violet Meek

Membership Chair – Dorothy Driskell

Nominating Chair – Jeff Caswell

Newsletter Editor – Steve Sterrett

Director-at-Large Violet Meek (2018)

Director-at-Large Deborah Stevens (2018)

Director-at-Large Dorothy Driskell (2019)

Director-at-Large Richard Meyer (2019)