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Presentation by William Saam on May 2 **“Superflow in Our Universe”**

Will Saam will introduce the bewildering variety of superfluids from pure liquid helium on Earth to the formation of neutron stars in his Torch paper, “Superflow in Our Universe,” to be presented on Thursday, May 2.

Superflow is defined as the flow of a superfluid. In turn, Wikipedia defines superfluidity as “the characteristic property of a fluid with zero viscosity which therefore flows without loss of kinetic energy. When stirred, a superfluid forms cellular vortices that continue to rotate indefinitely.”

Will will discuss superconductivity, first observed in 1911, and its applications to Maglev trains, MRI devices, power transmission and large particle accelerators. He will explain superfluid phenomena in two isotopes of pure liquid helium. Largely similar condensation processes turn both helium isotopes into superfluids, with one being a close analog of a superconductor.

“We venture beyond Earth to present astonishing facts about superfluidity in neutron stars and their formation,” he says. “These stars are sometimes thought of as failed black holes.”

Biography of William F. Saam

Will Saam, professor emeritus of physics, has had a long career at The Ohio State University. Born in Butte, Mont., he earned his bachelor's degree in 1963 from the California Institute of Technology and his master's degree in 1965 and Ph.D. in 1968 from the University of Illinois. He was a research physicist at the Institut Max von Laue-Paul Langevin in Munich, Germany, in 1968-69 and in Grenoble, France, in 1969-70.



Will Saam poses on a beach in Tahiti last February.

Will joined Ohio State's faculty in 1970 as an assistant professor of physics in 1970. He was promoted to associate professor in 1975 and full professor in 1980. He was associate dean of the College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences from 1987 to 1989, vice chair for graduate studies in the Physics Department from 1994 to 1997, and chair of the Physics Department from 1998 until his retirement in 2008.

The author of more than 80 publications in physics journals, Will was elected a fellow of the American Physical Society in 1997 and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2002.

"I was an avid skier and marathon runner," Will says. "Now my sport is table tennis."

President's Message: Thanks for a great year

Summer is finally here and my time serving our club as your president is sadly coming to a close. But first, thank you to Sally Willson for her wonderful presentation. Nothing short of a labor of love to bring such a rich family tapestry to life. I hope many of you are inspired to dig out those precious letters and, like Sally, share a story with the next generations of your family. Or maybe you'll even write a letter – instead of an email message – to be preserved by someone else!

Our final paper this year is "Superflow in Our Universe" presented by Will Saam. This cosmic presentation will reveal secrets of our universe that you may not have ever imagined. As this is our final paper of this season there is sure to be special surprises to match this intergalactic theme.

Looking ahead to the 2019-2020 season, we will be able to continue the very entertaining *Signature Drink*, which started this season. Special thanks to the Faculty Club, which continues to be our great partner and supporter of our new ideas.

Looking forward to seeing you at our May meeting where we will honor all of our past Torch Club presidents!



Tom Costantiello



Tulips outside the Faculty Club in mid-April.

Club will honor past presidents

The Columbus Torch Club will recognize its past presidents at the meeting on May 2.

All living past presidents have been invited to the meeting and dinner, even if they are no longer members of the club.

Founded in 1926, the club's first president was the Rev. McIllyar H. Lichliter, senior minister of First Congregational Church. The club has had 91 presidents, of whom about 20 are still living.

Member's Moment – A.J. Miller

Presented by Gene Gilliom on April 4, 2019

It is my pleasure and honor to present to you the star of this evening's Member's Moment, my long time friend and colleague in the College of Education, and a member of Torch since 2002, A.J. Miller. At first glance, A.J.'s vita and list of accomplishments are certainly impressive. However, a second glance and a bit of digging revealed that what A.J. has achieved in his lifetime and during his long career is nothing less than astounding.

A bit of background. A.J. was born in Kansas City, Mo., but his family moved to Ardmore, Okla., when A.J. was a boy. Thus, he grew up as an Okey. In high school in Ardmore, A.J. met an attractive young lady by the name of Helen Herber, and they married soon after graduation. Thus began a 68-year marriage filled with professional achievement, a love of learning, a commitment to one another and their faith, and a shared fondness for international travel and music. Sadly, Helen passed away three years ago. A.J. and Helen had two sons, Paul, who is a Torch member and who is with us tonight, and David. Paul lives in Columbus and David lives in Carson City, Nev. A.J. is the proud grandfather of two granddaughters and a grandson.



Gene Gilliom (left) presented the Member's Moment for A.J. Miller.

Back to A.J.'s professional journey. Following graduation from high school, he completed an Associate of Science degree from Oklahoma A & M, with a major in electronics technology. He worked as an electronics technician for RCA from 1950 to 1951. Then came the Korean War. Faced with being drafted, A.J. enlisted in the Air Force, and he served as a ground radar officer from 1951 to 1953, primarily at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

Returning to civilian life after his discharge from the Air Force, A.J. and Helen returned to Oklahoma, and in 1957 he completed a Bachelor of Science degree in trade and industrial education at that other O.S.U. – Oklahoma State University. While serving as an assistant professor at Oklahoma State, he completed his master's degree in trade and industrial education in 1960. In 1966, he completed his doctoral degree in higher education, also at Oklahoma State. Along the way, A.J. somehow found time to serve as director of vocational education for the Oklahoma City Public School System from 1964 to 1966. By this time, Helen had completed her undergraduate degree at Oklahoma State. She later earned a master's degree from Ohio State, and she taught math at Northland High School and Otterbein.

Then came Ohio State, where in 1966 A.J. accepted the position as coordinator of training and development at the National Center for Research in Vocational Education, a post he held until 1972. During his tenure at the center, he was project director for one of the first national initiatives in career education. He subsequently progressed through the ranks at Ohio State and was promoted to associate professor in the Department of Vocational and Technical Education. He then served in a variety of capacities, including department chair and acting associate dean for academic affairs in the College of

Education. He was promoted to full professor in 1982 and was awarded professor emeritus status when he retired in 1993.

During his tenure at Ohio State, A.J. was actively involved in a variety of organizations in his field – the National Association of Industrial and Technical Teacher Educators, for example. He authored more than 30 timely publications. He was highly regarded as a consultant in vocational, career and technical education, and he served as a consultant, not only in the United States, but also abroad, including the People’s Republic of China, the Republic of Mauritius, and the United Arab Emirates. Following his retirement from Ohio State, A.J. served as commissioner for the National Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology from 1997 to 2001.

In a way, what I have said thus far, although true, does not really capture the essence of A.J. as a husband, father, grandfather, and treasured colleague of all of those who shared time and space with him at Ohio State, especially in the College of Education. I think it fair to say that A.J. won the admiration and trust of everyone with whom he associated in the college and, I am sure, beyond. His leadership style was quiet but effective, and he was viewed by his colleagues as being fair and compassionate. A.J. is not one to toot his own horn and he does not parade pretense. What you get from A.J. is what you see – a man of integrity, wit, quiet wisdom, and a zest for life. One should not overlook A.J.’s passions. He has had a longtime love affair with music, for example, having sung in a variety of choirs and quartets through the years, even having directed a church choir at one time. He and Helen enjoyed going to New York to take in Broadway shows, and I know that Helen would be pleased that A.J. has continued that tradition with Paul and his family.

Another of A.J.’s passions through the years is an interest in gemology. Although limited eyesight now inhibits what A.J. can do with this hobby, in his prime he ground, polished and embellished beautiful stones that remain things of beauty. And we must not overlook A.J. and Helen’s love of international travel. They explored a good chunk of the world through the years, and I am more than pleased that some of their international experiences were with groups I had the privilege of leading. Morocco and Kenya come to mind. I am reminded of an act of generosity shown by A.J. in Kenya. We had visited a local public school on the slopes of Mount Kenya, attended by the children of our Kenyan driver and guide. During the visit, A.J. quietly gave a much-appreciated financial donation to the school. Typical of A.J., he said nothing about it to the group. In fact, it was during a subsequent trip to Kenya when we again visited the school, the principal excitedly asked me, “Would you like to see the Dr. A.J. Miller table and chairs?” I did see them, and there they were labeled with A.J.’s name. A deeply appreciated act of generosity that continues to live on even now. So typical of A.J.

A.J. now lives at the Forum at Knightsbridge, where he remains actively involved in many of the activities sponsored by the Forum, including his leading a weekly seminar to discuss current issues. He also meets for lunch every Friday with a group of eight or so former colleagues from the College of Education called the ROMEO Group – Retired Old Men Eating Out. The group prizes A.J.’s sense of humor and his wry observations about life, often delivered in his pure, unique Oklahoma style. For example, in a recent conversation about former colleagues, A.J. made the astute observation that one of our aging faculty members “clearly has a few rings around her trunk.” My favorite A.J.-ism occurred when we were discussing the character of one of our acquaintances. A.J.’s observation was that the chap “was about as slippery as snot on a brass doorknob.” No one but A.J. would come up with that. You can see why we love the guy.

Club inducts criminal justice expert as new member at April meeting

Christopher Yanai

Currently a program manager with The Ohio State University's Criminal Justice Research Institute, Christopher is retired from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. He was warden at a maximum security prison psychiatric hospital and was a supervisor with the Adult Parole Authority.

Christopher earned an associate degree, bachelor's degree, master's degree in education and Ph.D., all from Ohio University. He also completed a public management certificate degree from Ohio State.

He has held faculty appointments at Bluffton College, University of Findlay, Bowling Green State University and Ohio Northern University.



Christopher Yanai and Dorothy Driskell.

Nominating Committee offers slate of officers for 2019-20

The Nominating Committee reported to the club's Board of Directors on April 4 that it will propose the following slate of nominees for 2019-20: Susan Warrener Smith as president-elect, Nancy Wardwell as director-at-large with her term ending in 2020, and Dorothy Driskell and Elizabeth (Liz) Short as directors-at-large with terms ending in 2021.

The report will be formally presented to the club's membership on May 2. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. Election of officers will be held at that time.

The following board members will continue in their current positions: Howard Gauthier as treasurer, Susan Tilgner as assistant treasurer, Thom Seelbach as secretary, and Deborah Stevens as director-at-large with her term ending in 2020. The assistant secretary will be appointed at a later date.

The Nominating Committee is composed of Rich Davis, chair, Violet Meek and Tom Costantiello.

Durham/Chapel Hill club will host 2019 Torch convention

The annual convention of the International Association of Torch Clubs will be June 20-23, 2019, at the Croasdaile Country Club in the North Carolina country setting outside Durham. The Durham/Chapel Hill Torch Club is the convention host. Registration by May 14 is \$350. Complete registration information is in the winter 2019 edition of *The Torch* magazine.

In addition to the presentation of three Torch papers and the annual Paxton Paper, the convention will include tours of the Duke Lemur Center, which houses the world's largest and most diverse population of lemurs outside their native Madagascar; the Sarah P. Duke Gardens created in the Italianate style of terraces; and the North Carolina Museum of Art.

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 May 2. 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 meeting and dinner is \$30. A potential member may attend one meeting without charge.

Schedule of Torch Club speakers and their papers for 2018-19

October 4, 2018: **“Kelton House Shares Sophia’s Secret”** by Diane Selby and Mary Oellermann

November 1, 2018: **“A Century of Chemical Warfare: Trenches, Treaties, Therapy”** by David Lenz

December 6, 2018: **Shiloh Baptist Men’s Chorus**

January 3, 2019: **“Advancements in Ohio Law and How They Affect the Estate Planning Process”** by Eric Gamble

February 7, 2019: **“Time Changes Everything”** by Jeff Baker

March 7, 2019: **“China – Off the Beaten Path”** by Gene Gilliom

April 4, 2019: **“A Journey Back in Time”** by Sally Willson

May 2, 2019: **“Superflow in Our Universe”** by Will Saam



Torch Club’s monthly meeting agenda

- 4:30-5:30 p.m. Board of Directors meeting
- 5:30-6:15 p.m. Cocktails and conversation
- 6:15-6:35 p.m. Business matters
- 6:35-7:30 p.m. Speaker
- 7:30-8:45 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 2018-19

President – Tom Costantiello

President-elect – Violet Meek

Immediate Past President – Rich Davis

Secretary – Thom Seelbach

Assistant Secretary – Susan W. Smith

Treasurer – Howard Gauthier

Assistant Treasurer – Susan Tilgner

Fellowship Chair – Nancy Wardwell

Membership Chair – Dorothy Driskell

Nominating Chair – Rich Davis

Newsletter Editor – Steve Sterrett

Director-at-Large Dorothy Driskell (2019)

Director-at-Large Richard Meyer (2019)

Director-at-Large Jeff Caswell (2020)

Director-at-Large Deborah Stevens (2020)