



We had a terrific turnout of retirees at the recent Homecoming Brunch! Thank you for coming and for your positive feedback. Look for a detailed article on the brunch in the print edition of the Pioneer Club News, which will be mailed out in the coming weeks.

Check out the latest [campus news](#) and [calendar of events](#)!

### Retiree Group Lunches

The group meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 1:00 p.m. at Nick's Country Oven in Rochester (Adams and Silverbell). These lunches are very casual, so please stop by when your schedule permits.

### Golden Opportunity

Do you have a great idea for a future Pioneer Club retiree group event? The planning committee needs your help! The committee meets on a monthly basis to plan the calendar of activities for Pioneer Club retirees to enjoy. If you are interested in joining the planning committee or would like more information, email [oupioneerclub@oakland.edu](mailto:oupioneerclub@oakland.edu) or call (248) 370-4325.

### Newsworthy

#### Benefits & Wellness Fair

There will be a Benefits and Wellness Fair from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. on November 1st at the OU Recreation Center. In addition to bringing together all benefits providers in one place on the first day of open enrollment, numerous resources will also be available to support your personal health and well-being. The event is free and open to the entire campus community. Free flu shots will be offered too. [Click here](#) for more information.

#### Richard J. Burke Lecture Series

Many of you may remember Richard J. Burke as he was the first faculty member hired by Oakland University. He taught in the Department of Philosophy for 46 years (1959-2005). Professor Burke shared his love of philosophy with thousands of students and he left an indelible mark upon the entire university. Burke died in 2012, at age 79. Among his many gifts to Oakland University was an endowment for the Richard J. Burke Lecture Series in Philosophy, Religion, and Society. As part of this popular annual lecture series, Oakland University will host a discussion on "Christianity and Racism" with Dr. Charles W. Mills from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 2 in Banquet Rooms A and B in the Oakland Center. [Click here](#) for the full story.

#### Help OU Students Earn 50k

Get a daily dose of inspiration and help Oakland University's School of Business Administration students raise \$50,000 to support student organizations and programs. The Oakland b-school is competing with other Michigan universities to sign up subscribers to a free eNewsletter (by the end of the year. You must sign up at [dailyfuel.com/Oakland](http://dailyfuel.com/Oakland) for it to benefit OU students. Schools that sign up 100,000 new subscribers will earn

\$50,000. The school that secures the most subscribers earns an additional \$50,000. For more information, [click here](#).

## Pioneer Profile



### [Toni S. Walters](#)

By: Gerry Coon

Professor Emerita Toni S. Walters was honored at the Oakland University Leadership Conference this month for her outstanding contributions to the field of teacher education. When asked about other awards, Toni admitted to receiving National Black Child Development Institutes Guardian Award (2008), the Distinguished Faculty Award from the Michigan Association of Governing Boards of Colleges in 1998 and the Presidential Diversity Award in 2005. “But,” she added, “The award that I cherish most is the Oakland University Award for Teaching Excellence, because working with students was my love. That’s what I really enjoyed most during my career.” [Click here to read the full profile.](#)

*Gerry Palmer Coon served as administrative assistant and adjunct faculty member in the School of Education and Human Services from 1971 to 1991. She retired after eleven years as co-editor of Rochester OPC's (Older Persons' Commission) quarterly publication, Vintage Views, and is a member of the Pioneer Club.*

Pioneer Profile is a feature that appears monthly in the Pioneer Club eNewsletter. If you are interested in being profiled or sharing suggestions on fellow retirees to showcase, please provide your contact information and details to us at [oupioneerclub@oakland.edu](mailto:oupioneerclub@oakland.edu).

## Upcoming Events

### **School of Music, Theatre & Dance**

[Click here for performance schedule!](#)

### **Ethics of Depiction: Landscape, Still Life, Human**

September 9th - November 19th, Tuesday - Sunday: Noon to 5:00 p.m.

Opening Reception, September 9th, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

OU Art Gallery

Free Admission

[Click here for more info!](#)

### **“Civil War and Civil Rights: Public Memorials in Richmond, Virginia, 1890-1996”**

by Dr. Matthew Mace Barbee, Siena Heights University

Monday, October 30th, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

OU Art Gallery

Free admission

[Click here for more info!](#)

### **Benefits & Wellness Fair**

Wednesday, November 1st, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

OU Recreation Center

Free admission

[Click here for more info!](#)

### **Richard J. Burke Lecture in Philosophy, Religion and Society**

**“Christianity & Racism” by Dr. Charles Mills, City University of New York**

Thursday, November 2nd, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Banquet Rooms A & B, Oakland Center

Admission is free, but reservations are required

To reserve your space, call (248) 370-3390 or email [zimmerm2@oakland.edu](mailto:zimmerm2@oakland.edu)

[Click here for more info!](#)

### **Art & Art History Lecture Series: Photographer Bill Gaskins**

Thursday, November 9th, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

OU Art Gallery

Free admission

[Click here for more info!](#)

### **A Christmas Carol**

Select dates & times, November 10th - December 24th

Meadow Brook Theatre

Ticket prices vary

[Click here for more info!](#)

### **History Comes Alive Lecture Series**

**“Poisoned Hearts: Poison, Slavery and Intimacy in the Atlantic World, 1670-1861”**

By Erin Dwyer, Ph.D.

Tuesday, November 14th, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Gold Rooms B & C, Oakland Center

Admission is free, but reservations are requested.

To reserve a space, call (248) 370-3511 or email [jkessler@oakland.edu](mailto:jkessler@oakland.edu).

[Click here for more info!](#)

### **Free Fridays, Meadow Brook Hall Tour**

**Q&A Behind-the-Scenes of Holiday Walk**

Friday, November 17th, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Meadow Brook Hall

Reservations are required. Limit 4 spots per reservation.

To reserve your spot, please contact (248) 364-6252.

[Click here for more info!](#)

### **Traditional Japanese Story Telling in English/Japanese Super One-Man Show by Kimochi**

Friday, November 17th, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Gold Rooms B & C, Oakland Center

Free admission

[Click here for more info!](#)

### **University Chorus and Oakland Chorale**

Friday, November 17th, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 18th, 8:00 p.m.

St. Irenaeus Catholic Church (771 Old Perch Road, Rochester Hills)

All seats \$8

[Click here for more info!](#)

### **Holiday Walk**

Select dates & times, November 24th - December 23rd

Meadow Brook Hall

Ticket prices vary

[Click here for more info!](#)

### **About the Pioneer Club**

The purpose of the Oakland University Pioneer Club is to provide social and educational opportunities to: OU retirees and their spouses or partners; former long time employees who are now retired; and part-time faculty and staff who devoted a significant portion of their work life to OU and are now retired. It is our hope that this group will serve as a way for you to reconnect with former colleagues as well as maintain a relationship with OU. As a retiree, you remain a valued member of the University community.

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If you wish to be removed from this group's mailing list, [click here](#)