

OVEB NEWS



The Newsletter of the Ohio Valley Early Birds

January - March 2013



This collage illustrates just some of the many adventures shared by Ohio Valley Early Bird members in 2012

President's Message – 2012 in Review

The arrival of a new year for the Ohio Valley Early Birds signals a time to look back with fondness on the fun times of 2012. Before we embark on new adventures, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the many contributions of all who helped make the previous year a successful one for OVEB.

First, I would like to thank all of our club officers who served us so well last year and have agreed to perform their tasks for another year:

- Pam Strader, Vice-President
- Bill Curtis, Treasurer and Webmaster
- Walt Bernhardt, Authenticity Chairman
- Lisa Nogar, Secretary

I would like to offer special recognition to Bill Curtis for all the time and creative effort he put into designing a terrific user-friendly website for our club, oveb.org. Please do not forget to visit this wonderful resource for the latest information about upcoming events as well as photographs of past outings and archived meeting minutes and newsletters.

A sincere thank you also goes to all who organized meetings and outings last year:

- Linda and John Fleeger for planning our fun and memorable excursion to Coshocton in May
- Pam and Bill Strader for setting up our entertaining evening at La Comedia Dinner Theater in Springboro in June
- Bill and Gail Curtis for spearheading our adventurous caravan to Memphis, TN for the CTCL International Convention in August
- Jan and Gary Rieder for organizing our many on-site activities in Memphis
- Gail and Bill Curtis for hosting the wonderful Christmas party at their home in December

Finally, thanks to all of you who attended the meetings and outings and helped to create these wonderful memories in 2012. I look forward to making new OVEB memories with everyone in 2013.

Brad

Moerlein Lager House



Festive lunch at the Moerlein Lager House at The Banks in November



"Hail, hail, the gang's all here"



Greg Bratfish with Tom and Kris Abercrombie



Brad Nogar with Betty and Don Overman



Which one do you prefer? Let's have another flight



Now WHERE did you say the beer can go in this chicken?

Moerlein Lager House



Wow! Pam's having the special!



Huh? Wine in a LAGER house?



No GPS, Todd? No problem. Just follow Brad to the sign museum...



[Insert your own caption here]



Darn those Bearcats anyway...



Abercrombies win the prize for driving their Bird

American Sign Museum



Cincinnati is home to America's only sign museum



A 20' tall carpet genie from California welcomes OVEBers



Museum founder Tod Swormstedt explains the evolution of sign making



Signs from the late 19th century through the 1970s are displayed



An old, beloved fiberglass Frisch's Big Boy mascot



Big Boy's slingshot was omitted from later models of the hamburger icon

American Sign Museum



The collection includes over 500 signs and other artifacts



OVEB members basking in the dazzling neon glow



The collection includes signs from all over the country and from all types of businesses



An Earl Scheib sign from California - complete with a bullet hole



Where did I leave my sunglasses?

American Sign Museum



Faux streetscape in a town called "Signville"



The extensive collection is displayed in a realistic setting



Tod describes the rare 1963 McDonald's single arch sign



Say "cheese"



That's a mighty funny looking T-Bird, Ed



Ya all come back now! Ya hear?

OVEB Christmas Party



Queen for the day Gail



Lisa and Pam scope out the buffet



Sweater twins



Jan Rieder and Tom Abercrombie



Hostess Gail prepares tasty treats



"Click & Clack" - Bill Strader and Todd Jackson talk cars



Kris Abercrombie and Pat Bernhardt catch up

OVEB Christmas Party



Watching 2012 OVEB photo highlights on the big screen



Gail grabs a front row seat



Pam Strader buys a chance to win the money tree from Pat



Have you heard the one about...



Bill Curtis holds the money tree that Pat Bernhardt created



Earl Angel selects the winning money tree ticket

OVEB Christmas Party



Say "cheese" and smile



This party is just getting started



Norma & Earl Angel secure a prime spot in the kitchen



Sit up straight, you two



Of course money grows on trees



Lucky Betty Overman wins a door prize



Gary enjoys dessert

In Memoriam - Frank Plazzotta

We were very saddened to learn that a charter member of the Ohio Valley Early Birds, Frank Plazzotta, passed away on December 21, 2012. A long-time employee of the Ford Motor Company, Frank and Genevieve had relocated to the Cleveland area, but still maintained strong ties to the greater Cincinnati area.

It was a nice surprise when Frank and Genevieve attended the OVEB Christmas Party in 2010. Frank seemed to enjoy renewing old acquaintances as well as meeting some of our newer members. Everyone present that day can recall Frank's passion for the "Blue Oval" and the spirited discussion he led concerning some rather arcane aspects of Ford Y-Block production.



Genevieve and Frank Plazzotta, December, 2010

In addition to his wife, Genevieve, Frank is survived by his daughters Cheryl Barnett, of West Chester, and Carol Puthoff, of Goshen. Frank was 70 years old. Our deepest condolences to his family.



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