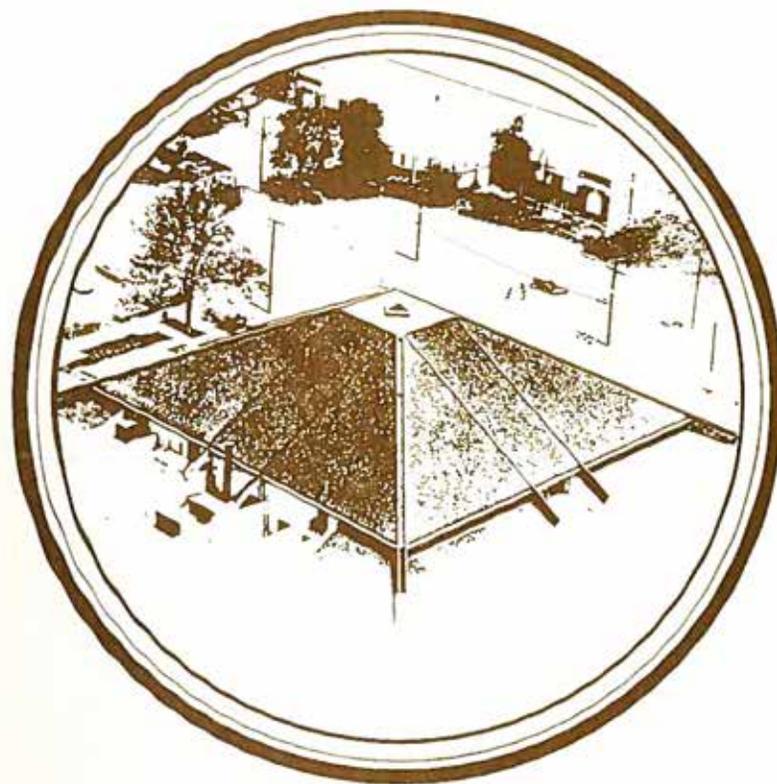

The Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame symbol, constructed by sculptor John Swanson, faculty member of the Columbus College of Art and Design, hangs in the Hall of Fame Foyer on the upper level of the Martin Janis Senior Center.

The pyramid represents the pinnacle of personal accomplishment achieved by the members of the Hall of Fame. Combined with the circle, symbolic of the rising sun, the design signifies that although one grows older, one must always continue striving to reach new levels of excellence. It is a journey without end, for as each new plateau is reached, a higher goal is set. The older Ohioans selected for the Hall of Fame are those who have devoted their journeys through life to that ideal.



Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame

October 17, 1979
2:30 p.m.

Ohio Commission on Aging

James A. Rhodes
Governor

Martin A. Janis
Director

An Equal Opportunity Employer

A Message from the Governor

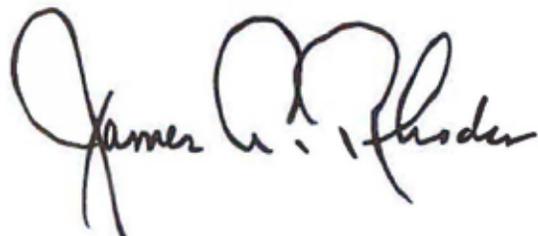
Today we join together to honor ten more individuals whose outstanding achievements and unselfish service have earned them a permanent place of honor among Ohio's greatest citizens.

This day belongs to them, but it should also be a time for all of us to take another look at our own lives. Though few may achieve fame or wide recognition, we must look to these Hall of Fame members as our inspiration to continue striving toward our goals and seeking ever higher ones.

Each of those inducted here today knew he or she had a special ability to share or task to perform, and all have dedicated their lives to reaching those goals to the best of their abilities. They did not enter their various fields seeking glory, but because of their desire to do the best job they could, they are living proof to the world of that truth we all know — that our abilities, interests and enthusiasm for our tasks do not end with age, but are tempered by passing years to an even greater strength.

And just as our 1979 inductees are continuing their work, each of us also has a responsibility to achieve all we are capable of doing and be ready to rise to the new challenges in our lives. We owe to those who follow us the gift of our experiences and the wisdom of our years.

Though we may not receive a plaque or award for our efforts, the gratitude and respect of our families, friends and communities will be our thanks and our reward. And so, at this third induction ceremony, let us proudly join together in honoring these ten outstanding Ohioans and in renewing our commitments to continuing our own unique service.



James A. Rhodes

Program

Welcome	Martin A. Janis, Director Ohio Commission on Aging
Invocation	The Rev. Calvin T. Risch St. Luke Lutheran Church, Columbus
The National Anthem	
Remarks	Governor James A. Rhodes
Biographies	Jim Alexander, Assistant Director Ohio Commission on Aging
Inductions	Governor Rhodes
Closing Remarks	Director Janis
Benediction	Pastor Risch

Following the program, refreshments will be served in the lobby outside the auditorium. At that time, you'll have a chance to congratulate this year's honored guests. You are also welcome to visit the Hall of Fame Foyer upstairs to view the plaques awarded to this year's new members, as well as the 28 previous inductees.

History of the Hall of Fame

The Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame was established by Governor James A. Rhodes to fulfill a two-fold purpose: to emphasize the vital role played by men and women, 60 years of age and older, in their communities, state and nation; and to promote the productivity and enjoyment that should be a part of every person's retirement years.

Each year ten more individuals join the distinguished ranks of the Senior Citizens Hall of Fame. Their selection is based on contributions they have made for the benefit of mankind after age 60, or for a continuation of efforts begun before that age.

Each of those enshrined receives a plaque with their portrait and a brief biography, and a lapel pin engraved with the Hall of Fame symbol. An identical plaque is on permanent display in the Hall of Fame Foyer in the Martin Janis Senior Center, Ohio State Fairgrounds, Columbus.

Nominees for the Hall of Fame must be native-born Ohioans or residents of Ohio for at least ten years. Any individual or organization may submit a nomination by completing an application and returning it to the Ohio Commission on Aging, Special Events Section, 50 West Broad Street/9th Floor, Columbus, 43215, by July 1 of each year. Induction ceremonies are held annually in October.

Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame Members

Charter

Muriel M. Allen Bertsch
Ernest J. Bohn*
Anna V. Brown
Milton Caniff
W. Fred Cottrell
Nelson H. Cruikshank
Arthur S. Flemming
Zelma Watson George
Richard Gosser*

Leslie Townes (Bob) Hope
Martin A. Janis
James C. (Jesse) Owens
Sidney L. Pressey
Albert B. Sabin, M.D.
Louis B. Seltzer
Dr. Julius & Mrs. Helen Weil
Aaron M. Wiesen

*Posthumous

1978

I. W. Abel
John W. Bricker
B. Bernard Caplan, M.D.
John W. Galbreath
Wayne W. (Woody) Hayes

Frank J. Lausche
Rose L. Papier
Theodosia Sochasky
Ella P. Stewart
Lowell Thomas

1979

Paul E. Brown
Phyllis Diller
Gertrude W. Donahey
Joseph W. Fichter
Lillian Gish

Edwin C. Heinke
Sister M. Henrietta, C.S.A.
William O. Walker
Stella Walsh
Floyd E. Wenger

Paul E. Brown

July 9, 1908



In his 41 years of coaching, Paul Brown built a winning record unequalled by any other football coach and changed the American football game forever.

With 351 victories to his credit against only 134 defeats and 16 ties, Brown was assured a place in football history; yet his contributions to the game go far beyond his amazing record. Brown

built football into a science and a full-time, year-round business. Many of the innovative features he initiated are now considered standard by every football coach and player.

Paul Brown's legendary coaching career began at Maryland's Severn Prep Naval Academy, after which he returned to his high school alma mater in Massillon, Ohio, and led his teams to one state championship after another. His performance soon earned him the head coaching job at Ohio State University, where he guided the Buckeyes through two winning seasons and a national championship. His football success continued while stationed at Great Lakes Naval Training Center during WW II, and in 1946, he took over the Cleveland Browns and led them to one of the greatest records in pro football history.

In 1967, Brown came out of retirement at the age of 59 to become coach and general manager of the new Cincinnati Bengals. By the end of their sixth season, Brown's Bengals were not only competitors, but winners as well. In 1976, he resigned from active coaching to serve as the Bengal's full-time general manager.

A member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame, Brown is also the second person ever to have received the "Mr. Ohio Award," from the Ernie Godfrey Chapter of the National Football Hall of Fame.

Phyllis Diller

July 17, 1917



Certainly one of the greatest gifts a person can give to others is that of laughter. Since she first walked out on stage at the age of 37, an unknown comedienne and a mother of five, Phyllis Diller has given that gift to millions of people from coast to coast.

From that first engagement in 1955, which lasted an amazing 89 weeks, this multi-talented performer

from Lima has appeared at virtually every prominent nightclub in the nation, recorded several albums, made countless television appearances, including two TV series of her own, and acted in movies and on Broadway.

In addition to her stage and screen performances, the former newspaper columnist and publicist has written three best-selling books, outlining her hilarious hints for housekeeping, marriage and motherhood, which have won her a special place in the hearts of millions of American women.

Since 1971, Phyllis Diller's fans have seen another dimension of her talent emerge. A serious musician, she has appeared as guest concert pianist with symphony orchestras across the United States.

Honored many times for her talents as a comedienne, Phyllis Diller has also been recognized for her less publicized, but numerous philanthropic and patriotic activities, including a trip to Vietnam with Bob Hope's show to entertain American troops. Among those honors are the USO Liberty Bell Award, the Distinguished Service Citation from the Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW, an honorary doctor of humane letters, and the Ohio Governor's Award.

Gertrude W. Donahey

August 4, 1908



When Gertrude Donahey stepped into the office of state treasurer in 1970, she was the first woman in Ohio's history to be elected to a statewide administrative office. In the years which have followed, her outstanding and innovative performance of her duties as treasurer of this great state have won her not only the respect of her fellow Ohioans,

but re-election to that office in 1974 and again in 1978.

A Tuscarawas County native, Mrs. Donahey has had extensive experience in both the public and private sectors, beginning in 1928 as an accountant in the Ohio Adjutant General's office. She served as secretary-treasurer of the Poco Corporation from 1956-66, and has been an active participant and leader in state and national politics throughout her career. In addition to her work, she has always found time to actively participate in many church, civic and charitable organizations.

As with all pioneers, Gertrude Donahey's leadership as state treasurer goes beyond just the efficient performance of her duties. Her success in public office is a symbol to all Ohioans that people must be judged by their ability to do the job, not by age or sex.

Ohioans have shown their appreciation of Mrs. Donahey's accomplishments by honoring her as one of five Outstanding Women of Ohio in 1976 and as a charter member of the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame in 1978. Her name can also be found in several volumes of *Who's Who* among America's leading politicians and women.

Joseph W. Fichter

July 12, 1894



For more than six decades, Joseph Fichter has devoted his life to the service and education of others.

Always a proponent of good education for everyone, but particularly for rural youth, Joseph Fichter has served on every educational level — as teacher, principal, superintendent, assistant state director of education, professor,

administrator, assistant to the vice-president and trustee of Miami University, and lecturer at Ohio State University.

An active member of the Grange for years, the Brown County native held the position of state lecturer for 16 years, state master for eight years, and chaplain of the National Grange. Presently he is in his fifth decade as a member of the State Grange Executive Committee. In addition to his work with the Grange, Fichter headed the Ohio Farmers Union for 19 years, after which he served as special assistant to the president of the National Farmers Union.

An active member of the Methodist Church, Joseph Fichter has been a lay delegate to numerous national and world conferences and has served on commissions of the National and World Council of Churches.

Throughout his career, Fichter has been involved in many state and national commissions and advisory boards, and in 1973, was appointed to the newly-formed Ohio Commission on Aging, where he continues to serve Ohio's older citizens.

He has been honored countless times for his distinguished service, and his name can be found in many volumes of *Who's Who* and other directories of leading Americans. He was one of four Ohioans inducted in the 1979 Agricultural Hall of Fame.

Lillian Gish

October 14, 1896



The story of Lillian Gish is inseparably entwined with that of the American motion picture industry. A great artist and a great lady, Miss Gish's acting career has already spanned eight decades and the entire history of American film.

Acting came naturally to Lillian and her sister Dorothy Gish, and soon after the turn of the century,

they left their home in Massillon and went on the road with their mother as members of a repertory company. By 1912, the sisters had already made their joint film debut in the silent picture, "An Unseen Enemy."

Some of Miss Gish's most famous early films include "The Birth of a Nation," "Orphans of the Storm," "Hearts of the World," and her first talking picture in 1930, "One Romantic Night." She was known across the nation as the "first lady of the screen," with a permanent place in the hearts of American movie fans.

Few stars could survive the transition from the stage through silent and sound films to television and back to the stage again. yet Lillian Gish has taken every new challenge in stride and excelled at each. In recognition of her tremendous talent and versatility, she received an Academy Award in 1971 for "superlative artistry and distinguished contributions to the progress of motion pictures." At that time, she was aptly described as "the youngest person in the theater in terms of zest, enthusiasm and sheer physical strength — an enduring artist since the birth of movies."

Though she has played to perfection the roles of many beautiful and admired women, perhaps one biographer summed it up best when he wrote that Lillian Gish has "never played a part as lovely as herself."

Edwin C. Heinke

June 2, 1902



With more than half a century of reporting already behind him, Ed Heinke's only worry is that time is too short to do all that needs to be done.

A journalist from "The Front Page" era of reporting, Heinke loved the excitement of the newspaper world even as a boy in Coshocton, and his reporting career began in college with the

Ohio State University *Lantern*. From his first full-time job at the *Cleveland Press*, Heinke moved on to reporting and editorial positions at the *Akron Times-Press* and the *Indianapolis Times*. His talents as a writer and editor soon earned him a position as head of *Time-Life's* Chicago Bureau and ultimately as chief of the Ohio Scripps Howard Bureau, covering Ohio's political scene through the administrations of five governors before he retired.

A close brush with death in 1971 — so close that his obituary was already set in type — gave Heinke a new reverence for life. As a special writer for the *Columbus Citizen-Journal* and other Scripps-Howard newspapers, he now delights in writing about the "little people" of the world, rather than the newsmakers. A firm believer that there's a story in every person, Heinke's articles are his thanks for what he thinks of as a chance to live a second time around.

Heinke's efforts have been rewarded with such fitting tributes as a bridge named after him in gratitude for his help and a lake which bears his name. But among the honors he treasures most are the appreciative words and the letters of thanks — the gratitude of the "little people" for a job well done.

Sister M. Henrietta, C.S.A.

July 19, 1903



While the nation talks about unemployment and urban renewal, Sister Henrietta Gorris has quietly carried out one of the most ambitious revitalization projects in the United States.

A member of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, Sister Henrietta joined Our Lady of Fatima Mission Center in 1955, at a time when Cleveland's Hough

area was considered one of the worst ghettos in the nation.

Under her guidance, many residents of that area, for the first time in their lives, have been offered a chance to own a decent home, receive job training and employment, and live their lives with dignity. In an area where suspicion and fear were facts of life, Sister Henrietta has taught pride, cooperation and hope.

A Cleveland native herself, Sister Henrietta has brought together area residents with suburban volunteers and members of Cleveland's business and professional communities to help rebuild a decent community.

Before becoming director of the Mission Center, Sister Henrietta served as administrator of Canton's Mercy and Timken Mercy Hospitals and as nursing administrator of St. Vincent Charity Hospital in Cleveland.

She has been honored countless times for her humanitarian services, including such awards as the National Urban Coalition's Distinguished Community Service Award, the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland Award, and many others. She was the first white woman ever to receive an award from the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs for her work in Cleveland.

William O. Walker

September 19, 1896



A leading figure among the nation's newspaper editors and publishers, William O. Walker has used his trade and his talents as tools to better serve his fellow Ohioans.

Walker's journalistic career began in 1919 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and took him to Virginia, Washington, D.C. and Maryland before his return to

Ohio in 1932 to take over the *Cleveland Call & Post* weekly paper.

Under Walker's leadership as editor and publisher, the *Call & Post* became the largest black-owned newspaper publishing company in the nation, printing three editions weekly in Cleveland, Cincinnati and Columbus.

A public servant as well as a journalist and businessman, Walker served on Governor James A. Rhodes' Cabinet from 1963-71 as director of the Department of Industrial Relations. Nearly every civic, business, professional and political organization in Cleveland can also claim the former city councilman as one of their most active and distinguished members, and his contributions have been recognized with countless awards and honors from many of those groups.

His efforts have brought him frequent national attention throughout his career, and he has represented this country as a special ambassador and a member of United States delegations on many trips to other nations.

Among the many lasting contributions he has made to American journalism, Walker led the movement to establish a permanent home for the Archives of the Black Press and the Gallery of Distinguished Newspaper Publishers at Howard University.

Stella Walsh

April 3, 1911



Spectators at the 1927 *Cleveland Press* Junior Olympics were the first to witness what would be a long career of victories for a young Polish-American girl. From that winning race on, Stella Walsh was on her way to a prominent place in sports history.

Long considered one of the finest all-around female athletes in the world, Stella Walsh's com-

petitive career spanned more than 40 years and earned her five gold and four silver Olympic medals. She participated in the 1932 and 1936 Olympic games, in two Women's World Olympiads in 1930-34 and won five U.S.A. AAU Pentathlon championships.

Over the course of her career, she held a record 41 official U.S.A. National AAU championships, and at one time, held 65 world and national records for track and field events.

Though born in Poland, Stella Walasiewiczówna, as she is known to the Polish people, came to Cleveland as a child and became a naturalized American citizen. Today she is still actively involved in sports as a coach for youth in the Cleveland Polish Falcon Club, Nest 141, where years ago she received her first athletic training as a recent immigrant to the United States. She also works as a supervisor for Cleveland's Recreation Department, in charge of the city's Junior Olympics, physical fitness and gymnastics programs for 60 playgrounds.

Throughout her illustrious career, Stella Walsh has received more than 5,000 awards, trophies and honors, many of which have been distributed to seven national and international museums for display. With this induction, she is a member of seven Halls of Fame.

Floyd E. Wenger

May 13, 1898



A man of science with the vision to plan for today's technology yesterday, Floyd Wenger is and has always been a dedicated public servant as well.

A leader in early radio technology, particularly in the development of micro-miniaturization, Wenger also made many contributions to the more efficient use of power and the greater

reliability of military and space equipment. The co-founder, corporate officer and chief engineer of the Tripplett Corporation, a manufacturer of electrical indicating instruments, Wenger has also developed a number of patents for electrical measurement devices and has been active in research and advisory positions for the United States Air Force.

Despite his many professional activities; the Bluffton resident has never been too busy to serve his fellow citizens, and he is responsible for developing many programs to serve the people of his community.

Wenger has been an active supporter of the Ohio Commission on Aging's programs since its creation, serving on many of the commission's statewide policy-making and planning committees. An enthusiastic leader of senior citizen activities in his own area, he is also a co-founder and president of the Bluffton Senior Citizens.

A fellow in the Institute of Electrical-Electronic Engineers, Floyd Wenger has received many of that organization's highest awards. His name can be found among the distinguished members of *Who's Who in the Men of Science* and *Who's Who in Engineering*, as well as in *Electronics Magazine's* "Engineers of Distinction."

The Ohio Commission on Aging

Ohio's first programs for senior citizens began in 1965 with the creation of the Administration on Aging by Martin A. Janis as a division of the then Department of Mental Hygiene and Correction. From these initial programs, the 110th General Assembly saw the need to establish a separate government unit to serve Ohio's older citizens, and the Ohio Commission on Aging was officially established in November, 1973. As the state's agency for the 1.5 million Ohioans aged 60 and over, the OCoA is charged with:

- allocating grants under the federal Older Americans Act and state subsidies;
- providing technical assistance;
- serving as a clearinghouse for information on Ohio's older people;
- developing and coordinating statewide services and activities such as the Golden Buckeye Card discount program, Governor's Conference on Aging, Senior Citizens Day, Hall of Fame and State Fair programs;
- representing Ohio's older population as an advocate;
- coordinating with other federal and state agencies operating aging programs;
- providing services at Ohio's two Golden Age Villages.

Martin Janis was appointed director of the Ohio Commission on Aging on July 1, 1975, by Governor James A. Rhodes. James F. Alexander and Kenneth M. Mahan serve as assistant directors with supervision over the commission's nine divisions.

The members of the Ohio Commission on Aging are appointed by the governor. They are:

A. Donald Campbell, Chairman, Guysville	Jack Gregorac, Euclid
Muriel M. Bertsch, Hamilton	Carl Griffith, Columbus
Clarence H. Borgelt, Toledo	The Rev. Lyman W. Liggins, Toledo
James E. Carnes, Barnesville	Fred Robbins, Dayton
Howard Chesler, University Heights	Guy R. Taylor, Canton
Joseph W. Fichter, Oxford	Mary Tecca, Warren

Area Agency on Aging Directors

PSA 1	William Bogart
PSA 2	John Allen
PSA 3	Roger J. Stauffer
PSA 4	Billie Sewell
PSA 5	Carolyn Ford
PSA 6	Ardath Lynch
PSA 7	Robert Horrocks
PSA 8	Molly Varner
PSA 9	Boyer Simcox
PSA 10A	Paul Alandt
PSA 10B	Barbara Love
PSA 11	Martha Murphy

OCoA Division Chiefs

Jim Alexander	Golden Buckeye Senior Employment
Ken Mahan	Senior Facilities Employee Services
Rick Miller	Planning, Evaluation, Research & Training (PERT)
Dennis Lyons (<i>acting chief</i>)	Senior Citizen Health, Rights & Benefits
Joe Gall	Communications
Patricia Payton-Burns	Fiscal Management
M.L. Johnson	Area Agency Program Coordination

Hall of Fame Coordinating Staff

James F. Alexander, OCoA Assistant Director

Kenneth M. Mahan, OCoA Assistant Director

Nancy Kortemeyer, Hall of Fame Coordinator

Donna Barbee, Administrative Assistant

Biographies and program text — Nancy Kortemeyer

Program design — Rick Whipple, Graphic Artist

Inductee portraits — Linda Diez
