



**ST. CLAIR
COLLEGE
RETIRES'
ASSOCIATION**

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2011

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Plan to keep Wednesday afternoon May 4 free on your calendar for our Annual General Meeting. The only major item on the agenda is the update to the By Laws. We have made some changes to the Executive, which will be called the Executive Board. We have elected and unelected members of the Executive and the By Laws were unclear as to how the unelected members came to be on the Executive. This has been codified. The intention is to keep the meeting short so we can get to the BBQ and socializing.

At the AGM we will be surveying the members with a questionnaire on the Windsor Christmas lunch. We need some direction from the members so we can plan what our retirees want. It is short one page survey, so please plan on coming to the meeting and filling out the survey.

With this newsletter we have

included a second notice of membership dues for those who have not paid their dues for this year. Please send your dues to Gayle. As you know Dr. Strasser matches any monies we collect. We continue to collect for the provincial retirees organization, OCRA, so your support for OCRA would be appreciated.

We have a new activity suggested by Dan Loncke. It will be called Birds and Breakfast. Dan will arrange a one hour walking tour of one of our natural parks or conservation areas. This will be followed by breakfast in a local restaurant. Due to weather, notification will only be by e-mail a few days in advance. If you don't have e-mail, give me your phone number and I will call you when this event is happening. Much thanks to Dan and Mary who also organize bridge every two weeks and the very popular and fun Trivial Tuesdays.

Two upcoming events arranged through Kathleen Warren at Allison's Travel require commitment in advance. We have the Petrolia trip to see a play at the Victoria Playhouse on May 31/11. The last date for reserving a spot is April 25. The Agawa Canyon trip from Sept 28 to Sept 30 must be confirmed by July 29/11. This three day trip is a first for our retiree organization and should be an interesting trip. The fall colours are spectacular at that time of the year.

Anita Blair, President

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND SOCIAL

The Annual General meeting

will be held on

Wednesday, May 4, 2011 at Chez Talbot

3:00 pm Business Meeting
 Election of Officers
 Presentation of Bylaw Revisions
 Other Business as required

3:45 pm Social
 BBQ Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and the trimmings.

NOTE: A survey to solicit opinions regarding the annual Christmas Luncheon will be distributed.

See you all on May 4th.

BIRDS AND BREAKFAST

Mary and Dan Loncke are starting up a new St. Clair Retirees' Association activity called "Birds and Breakfast". The plan is to explore some of the small natural areas in and nearby Windsor. One, two or more times a year we will send out an email a few days before a planned meeting at one of our

natural parks or conservation spots. It will consist of about a one hour walk and adjournment to a nearby restaurant for breakfast. All you need will be good walking shoes, binoculars (optional) and money to pay for your breakfast. Watch for our email – probably starting in late April or May.

Bit 'n Pieces

Triena Huneault, wife of retiree Bert Huneault is active with the Arthritis Society. She reported that several St. Clair retirees took advantage the society's last workshop on Chronic Pain Management. She wanted to let retirees know that,

starting April 30, 2011, The Arthritis Society is offering a 6-week course for a better life with arthritis.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Treina at [519-945-8395](tel:519-945-8395) or bhuneault@sympatico.ca

HEALTHPLEX FUNDRAISING

St. Clair College retirees have raised \$17,313 to date, 58% of our \$30,000 goal.

Thank you to the retirees who have already made their contribution to the HealthPlex Campaign. The retiree pledges made during the Brick Campaign ranged from \$100 to \$5,000. **The HealthPlex Brick Campaign forms were included with the Spring '10 Newsletter.** If 150 further retirees participate by pledging \$100 for 1 brick we would meet our committed goal. **Please consider supporting the HealthPlex Brick Campaign.** The SCCRA has purchased two bricks for \$150, one for both Thames and Windsor. **It's time to send in those forms that may be sitting on home desks.**

The HealthPlex Campaign is now well underway. The Executive advised Dr. Strasser of our support by unanimously passing two motions at an emergency meeting in the Fall'08:

- That the Executive Support the College's HealthPlex Fundraising Campaign and that the support be recommended to the SCCRA general membership.
- That the SCCRA Executive agrees to support the HealthPlex Fundraising projection/goal of \$30,000 (\$3,000 for 10 years)

Be part of the Retirees' Campaign by pledging your support to the College's HealthPlex Campaign. Members interested in helping with fundraising through their contacts with small business or helping with a fundraising event are asked to contact Jay Ertel, Coordinator for Retiree Fundraising. The SCCRA HealthPlex Fundraising projection/goal of \$30,000 could be met for example through member donations (eg. 300 retirees @ \$10/year for 10 years) or a combination of fundraising and donations.

Many thanks to Jim Chambers, Bill Jones and Brian Labombard for organizing the Retirees' Association Golf Outings as fundraising activities.

We thank JoAn Dale for running the HealthPlex draws at our social events.

Memorial donations of \$25 are being made by the SCCRA in the name of deceased retirees to the HealthPlex Campaign. Last fall SCCRA made an additional donation of \$1,500.

At the request of Bob Woods who is recently deceased memorial donations were made in Bob's memory to the Retiree HealthPlex Fund.

The Executive is discussing ideas for future fundraising activities and we would welcome suggestions from the retirees.

Submitted by Jay Ertel

PENSION UPDATE

The CAAT Pension Plan has updated their web site with information on the Funding Task Force. This is the group that was charged with making recommendations to the Sponsors' Committee on addressing the current deficit situation and increasing the stability of the Plan's funding in the future.

They came up with 10 points. Alas for those of us with many service years pre 1992, restoring indexation after 2014 is point number 9. It is extremely unlikely that indexation or cost of living increases will continue past 2014 for service years prior to

1992.

I want to stress that your pension will not be reduced. These recommendations are to take place after 2014 when the current agreement is up.

For those of you with computers, look at www.caatpension.on.ca under Funding Policy and Members Newsletter. You will find additional information and explanations. The pension plan is to be congratulated for putting all this information on their web site.

Submitted by Anita Blair

Please Note: The following article is the same article as published by OCRA and is available to OCRA members only.

“March 2011

The OCRA Pension Calculator

CAAT Plan Funding Task Force Completes Review. Recent news posted on the CAAT Pension Plan’s website states that “financial projections now show that the Plan will not be in a position to make ad hoc increases on the portion of pensions based on pre-1992 service beyond 2014.”

(<http://www.caatpension.on.ca/en/about-us/news/funding-task-force-completes-review>)

Do you know how lack of indexing for pre-1992 service could affect your pension? OCRA has created a pension calculator using Microsoft Excel to demonstrate the impact of de-indexing on your pension. OCRA offered the pension calculator to the CAAT Plan for publication on the Plan’s website or in their newsletter but the Plan declined our offer.

Are there alternatives to the proposed loss of indexing? OCRA is unaware of the alternatives the pension plan considered before making the decision regarding de-indexing of pre-1992 pensions. The following are suggestions that some OCRA members believe could promote equitable treatment for all pensioners.

- discontinue the funding of "bridging". It encourages current employees to retire early and draw pensions when they have the option to continue working.
- reduce the indexing factor (currently 75%) for all pensioners. With the existing two-tier system, some retirees have indexing guaranteed and some have indexing only if the Plan can afford it.
-

What can we do about it? The pension calculator OCRA has developed will help retirees become knowledgeable regarding their financial status after 2014. You must have Microsoft Excel on your computer to use the calculator. When you receive the calculator from OCRA, simply enter your Date employed, Date retired and your Current 2011 pension. The program will calculate your pension from 2014-2034 using three indexing scenarios. Since this is a pension matter, you could ask the Plan to verify your calculations.

The calculator is available by request only. From March 14 to March 17, and after March 27, please send your request to: communications@ocraretirees.ca. From March 18 to March 27 please send your request to: president@ocraretirees.ca

Disclaimer: The OCRA pension calculator has been developed to provide an approximate estimate of the effect of the proposed removal of the indexing factor from the 2015 Pension calculation. Because of the many variables and assumptions inherent in the calculations, OCRA can take no responsibility for the accuracy of individual retiree results and must stress that these must be considered as rough estimates only.

Joan Cunnington
OCRA Communications
communications@ocraretirees.ca”

Did you know that 42.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot?

RETIREE PROFILES

This is another in a series of articles profiling College retirees.



Dr. Dan Loncke was born in Tillsonburg, Ontario, of Belgian immigrant parents who farmed tobacco in Norfolk County. Unfortunately, Dan's father passed away when Dan was but one year old. Dan and his two older brothers were then

circa 1955 raised by their mother who, after initially working as a cleaning lady in a doctor's office, became the doctor's personal assistant.

Dan grew up in Delhi, Ontario, and was a well-rounded student who played varsity basketball, volleyball and soccer and was active in student government while maintaining top grades. Summers were spent working with the extended family on tobacco farms where Dan was first exposed to country living and farm animals.

Not surprisingly, then, Dan attended the University of Western Ontario, graduating with a degree in Zoology in 1969. Summer employment included conducting lake surveys in the Kapuskasing/Hearst area and research assistant work at the UWO studying Cardinals.

As important as this was to Dan's career, it pales in comparison to a blind date he had during this time with one Mary Lever, a nursing student at Victoria Hospital/UWO in London. Mary was born in Windsor and grew up in Russell Woods. Mary and Dan were married on Thanksgiving Weekend in the Windsor area in 1970.

Buoyed by a supportive spouse, Dan threw himself into his educational pursuits. He was the recipient of a National Research Council Scholarship and conducted graduate research at the University of Toronto from '69-'72. The research field was Avian (Bird) Behavioural Ecology and carried out in Algonquin Provincial Park.

The following year Dan taught and coached at Crescent Private Boy's School in Toronto after which he successfully applied to the four year program at the Veterinary College at the University of Guelph.

As if the rigours of medical school wouldn't be challenging enough, Dan and Mary proved especially resilient by also bearing their two sons, John and Paul, during this time. If that weren't enough, Dan also served a summer externship in Pasadena, California at the first Cat Clinic in North America. Although offered a job there, he declined. After a few years of Veterinary Practice in Toronto, Dan and Mary chose to settle in the Windsor area.

After several years of small animal practice in Windsor-Essex and after five years of part-time teaching at St. Clair College, Dan secured a full-time position in 1986, eventually replacing Dr. Bruce Ramsay as the resident veterinarian. He remained at the College until his retirement in 2003. Mary chose to retire with Dan from her work as a coordinator at the local CCAC.

Dan's list of professional affiliations is too long to list here. Suffice it to say he was the first President of the Ontario Veterinary Technician Educators' Association and the first recipient of the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technician's Appreciation Award. He is also proud of committee work he did at the College as well as introducing, along with his colleagues, the Animal Adoption Program and the Student Externship Program.

Dan has had a lifelong interest in natural history, birding and wilderness canoeing and is an avid student of family history and genealogy. He is also a student of Canadian history and is currently preparing lectures and tours starting September 2011 through Mackenzie Hall on the War of 1812 in addition to co-writing folk songs in preparation for the bicentennial.

If this weren't enough, both Mary and Dan have travelled extensively, work part-time at the Sanson Estate Winery and organize the Retirees' Association Bridge Club and biannual Trivial Tuesdays.

Dan and Mary are fortunate to have both their sons and their daughter-in-law, Meredith, teaching in Essex County. They also enjoy spending lots of time with their one year old grandson, William John.

The Retirees' Association is also fortunate and grateful to have Dan and Mary as part of its team.

Submitted by Pat Hallahan

STAFF APPRECIATION DAY BRUNCH

This year, the Staff Appreciation Day Brunch
will be held
Friday, June 24th.

The Brunch will be served at approximately 11:00 am.

It should be noted: that only retirees are invited and spouses are not included.

AGAWA CANYON TRIP

The Fall Colour Tour in the Agawa Canyon, north of Sault Ste Marie is definitely scheduled for Wednesday, September 28, 2011 to Friday, September 30, 2011.

We travel by highway coach to Sault Ste Marie, leaving early on Wednesday, September 28, staying at the Days Inn. On September 29, we board the train at 8:00 am for the 114 mile trip over towering trestles, alongside pristine northern lakes and rivers, and through the awesome granite rock formations and mixed forests of the Canadian Shield at what should be the height of the Fall colour season. Through the large picture windows of your comfortable coach, you will experience the same vistas and panoramas that inspired the Group of Seven to create some of Canada's most notable landscape art. The train returns to the Sault at 6:00 pm where we once again stay at the Days Inn. The return trip to Windsor on September 30 will include a stop at Frankenmuth,

Michigan for shopping and lunch at Zehnder's which is included.

The cost: - single \$525.00 ; - double \$445.00 per person; - triple \$410.00 per person.

This cost includes: travel by highway coach; 2 nights hotel and taxes including continental breakfast; that Agawa train trip (where lunch is available at a cost on the train); lunch at Zehnder's; taxes and driver tip.

A minimum of 21 persons is required to offer the trip. [Last year 20 persons indicated they were interested].

Full payment is required no later than July 15.

If you are interested call Kathleen Warren at 519 258-5404, as minimum numbers are required and will only run if the numbers warrant.

Best Golf Caddy Remarks

Golfer: I'd move heaven and earth to break a 100 on this course.

Caddy: Try heaven, you've already moved most of the earth.

Golfer: Think I'm going to drown myself in the lake.

Caddy: Think you can keep your head down that long?

SPRING THEATRE TRIP

This year's Spring Theatre trip will be on Tuesday, May 31, to the Victoria Playhouse in Petrolia. It should be noted that Petrolia is a shorter trip than we have encountered in past trips to Stratford or Elmira. Victoria Playhouse is doing a comedy called "Leading Ladies". The play takes place in Amish country with two "down and outs" who pretend to be the nephews to a rich lady, but need to be nieces when they find out the relatives are nieces not nephews. The trip includes dinner at

a restaurant which is also in Petrolia, very close to the theatre.

The cost is \$105.00 per person, which includes highway coach, theatre, dinner and taxes.

If interested, contact Kathleen Warren as soon as possible (519 258-5404), as there is a **deadline** for finalizing numbers of **April 25**.

Submitted by Bill Totten

COLLEGE CONTACTS FOR HEALTH BENEFITS AND PENSIONS

The *College contact* person for retirees seeking information on **pensions and benefits** is Kim Bode, Ext. 4687. Amy Lam, the **CAAT Pension Plan** analyst dedicated to St. Clair College can be reached at 1-866-350-2228 or 416-673-9012 or alam@caatpension.on.ca

NOTE: If you will require a receipt indicating premiums paid for income tax purposes, call Shelley Armstrong at 519 972-2727, ext 4286. If you had made a request in previous years, one will be sent to you automatically and you need not make a request this year.

ON GETTING OLD!

An elderly gentleman had a serious hearing problem for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%.

The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said "Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"

WINTER GOLF TOURNAMENT

Audrey and John Payne, Congratulations –

They are the 2011 “Winners” of the ‘S&W Crozier Trophy’ given each year to the 2 person team with the Low Gross score at the Annual SCC Retirees – Winter Best Ball Golf Tournament, held at “On The Green”.

At this years Tournament, held on March 28, playing the front 9 at Nicklaus North, John and Audrey bested three other teams of ‘avid golfers’ (Pat & Kerry, Bill & Jim M., Gary & Jim C).

After a laugh and groan filled golf outing, everyone met back at a nearby restaurant for lunch and for the official Trophy presentation.

The prizes given to the winners were compliments of Bill Jones – our fellow retiree and golfer; the gift packages given to each golfer were compliments of

Laiman Ng – Recruitment Co-ordinator at the college.

Thanks to the generosity of all golfers, we raised \$170 for the Health-Plex (\$70 in cash and \$100 for the sale of 1 brick).

A “Special” Thank you to Bill Jones, for not only did he donate 4 dozen golf balls; but, he was the “driving” force behind making this 2nd Annual Tournament happen.

Jim Chambers – golf convenor

PS – On June 30th we will hold our 3rd Annual Par 3 Tournament at 10am at Oxley GC



Bill Jones, Pat Hallahan, Jim Martin



Jim Martin & Gary MacLeod



Kerry



Audrey & John Payne (Tournament Winners)

TRIVIAL TUESDAY REPORT

Our eighth biannual Trivial Tuesday was held at Roseland Golf Club on March 29th. Twenty-eight participants on nine teams competed over 12 categories ranging through questions about the Queen Charlotte Islands, Fattoush, Tropical Fish, 4H Clubs and True Grit. The team of Anita Blair, Dave Doman and Terry Lawrence emerged victorious answering 50 out of 60 questions correctly. Two teams finished tied for second place

(49 correct answers) and after five tie-breaker questions were still deadlocked. So the lucky teams of Tom McMahon, Stephanie Nagle and Pat Taylor, and Pat Hallahan, Phil Eyraud and Bill Totten, split the second prize (\$2.50 each team member!).

Submitted by Dan Lonke



Dan & Mary Lonke



Dean Campagna, Phil Eyraud, Ruth Hicks

Sheila McCabe, Anita Blair, Stephanie Nagle

STEPHEN HARPER: THE MUSICAL

The recently refurbished and elegant Capitol Theatre in Chatham was the setting for Second City's Stephen Harper: The Musical on February 19/11. It is just one of a long list of musical program offerings in the Theatre's inaugural and very ambitious program for 2010-2011.

Other shows include Cats, Jesse Cook, Swan Lake, Stomp, Peking Acrobats and Vienna Boys Choir, among others.

The Globe and Mail described the Harper Musical as a "romp" about campaign strategists who create a musical in New York City to boost the Prime Minister's polling numbers. This original

production was augmented by some hilarious improvisation at the end of the evening.

As the Retiree Association continues to search for theatre opportunities for its members, it would do well to consider the Capitol Theatre in Chatham for its proximity, affordability and variety of quality programming. Matinees would be very attractive for the retiree population.

This particular event included an excellent dinner at Casa Bella on the Thames. Many thanks to Jay Ertel for organizing this activity.

Submitted by Pat Hallahan



**ST.CLAIR COLLEGE RETIREES'
ASSOCIATION
GOLF TOURNAMENT**



Join us for our 3rd Annual par 3 Golf Tournament

At the **Oxley Golf Course** - 597 County Road 50, Harrow ON
June 30th, 2011

Tee Off Times begin at 10:00 am

Includes 18 Holes of Golf, Hot Dog and Soft Drink

AND PRIZES

Cost: \$35.⁰⁰

Tax Receipts will be given re: **Donation to HealthPlex**

Register on or before June 23rd

Contact

Jim Chambers: 519-966-6864, email [jcupperwash@msn.com](mailto:jcipperwash@msn.com)

COMING EVENTS

1.	Bird and Breakfast	April or May	page 2
2.	Annual General Meeting and Social	Wednesday May 4	page 2
3.	Spring Theatre Trip	Tuesday, May 31	page 7
4.	Staff Appreciation Day Brunch	Friday, June 24	page 6
5.	St. Clair College Retirees' Assoc. Golf Tournament	Thursday, June 30	page 10
6.	Agawa Canyon Railroad Trip	Wed. To Fri. Sept. 28-30	page 6

EVENTS TO BE ANNOUNCED

1.	Tour of Walls Underground Museum	Fall
2.	Tour of Ojibway Nature Centre	Fall
3	Winery Tour	Fall