



**ST. CLAIR  
COLLEGE  
RETIREES'  
ASSOCIATION**

# NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2013

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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**



As the April Showers continue we are looking forward to seeing the May Flowers and the Retirees Executive are making plans for the next year. May 1<sup>st</sup> is the annual meeting for our group. See details of the event later in the newsletter. I hope to see you at the AGM so you can review the events of the last year and enjoy food and fellowship with our colleagues.

It's hard to believe a year has passed already and I want to thank all the members of the Executive for making this year a success. Your support is appreciated as you assist in planning the events for our membership. This year we were pleased to have 270 paid members in the association and many of you have taken part in one of the many events planned. If you haven't renewed your membership for this year, it's not too late to do so. Renewal notices are included in this newsletter for those of you who haven't renewed from last year. Please send us any change of mailing and email addresses so we can keep in contact with you.

The Winter Trip to Cuba was enjoyed by 31 retirees and friends. Two new events were offered this year –Pickle ball and Euchre and these were well received.

We are planning two theatre trips this spring to Victoria Playhouse in Petrolia to see "Fiddler on the Loose" on May 30<sup>th</sup> and to the Grand Theatre in London to see "Legends of Dance" on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Details are included in the newsletter.

The Executive met with Dr. Stasser and John Fairley to be updated on the progress at the College. Enrolments at both campus sites have been strong and new programs are being offered this September – Fashion Design and Pre Service Fire Fighter. A program related to the theatre is being planned for Chatham in the next years. The building of the Sports (formerly the Health) Plex in Windsor is expected to be finished in early 2014. All in all the College is in good standing and continues to meet the needs of the Windsor/Essex and Chatham-Kent areas. Construction on the Parkway and the Long Term Care Facility continues.

The Executive are looking into plans for the Fall. We are investigating the details to offer a trip to Las Vegas. This is just in the beginning stages of planning. If you have any suggestions for events or trips don't hesitate to contact one of the Executive.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the AGM or one of the events planned for this spring and summer. I trust you will have a pleasant summer with your families and friends taking part in the activities that give you pleasure.

*JoAn Dale, President*

# ALUMNI OF DISTINCTION AWARDS

March 2, 2013

## 2013 Honourees



*Jill Foster, Edward Mady, Dr. Andrea Steen, Meighen Nehme, Robert DiMaio*

Three hundred and seventy-five College Alumni (with family and friends), honoured guests, staff, retirees and students filled the Starlight Room at the St. Clair Centre for the Arts on Saturday, March 17, 2013 to honour five alumni who have had and continue to have a distinguished careers.

The event was an outstanding success due to the wonderful food and service provided by the Centre for the Arts Staff, the excellent videos highlighting the achievements of the Award winners. This all took place in a spectacular setting and in a warmth of fellowship.

The Alumni Association was kind enough to offer the Retirees Association a complimentary table, and nine of us were fortunate to be able to attend this memorable event.

The 2013 Honourees were:

Robert DiMaio - Architectural Technology graduate, 1978

Jill Foster - Early Childhood Education graduate, 1978

Edward Mady - Hotel Management graduate, 1974

Meighen Nehme - Business Marketing graduate, 1999

Dr. Andrea Steen - Nursing graduate, 1975

To read a biography of each Award Winner, and to view the video each presented, please go to:

[www.stclaircollege.ca/alumni/aod.html](http://www.stclaircollege.ca/alumni/aod.html)

Our congratulations to these distinguished representatives of our Alumni, and our compliments to John Fairley, the Alumni Association and the College staff for organizing and presenting this very successful event.

*Submitted by Jim Martin & Bill Totten*

# ST. CLAIR COLLEGE RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

## EXECUTOR RESPONSIBILITIES WORKSHOP, MARCH 14, 2013

This workshop was a big success with 31 attending. The Retirees' Association will be holding a 2nd workshop in the fall for those who were not able to attend, or for those who would be interested in re-attending.

The session on Wills and being an Executor was presented by Darren W. Hebert, Barrister and Solicitor.

Since January 2013, the main issues re: being an executor are:

- someone could refuse to be your executor at the time of your death, if you have not asked permission and they have not agreed to be the executor. This would then put the estate into probate, which is a very expensive and long term process.
- an executor can be audited up to 4 years after death for probate taxes.
- the executor would be personally liable if no funds

are available in the estate to cover the cost of taxes.  
- the executor could be prosecuted resulting in a fine or jail if problems are severe.

It became very clear that finding someone to be an executor could become very difficult, and very important.

Jenn Wells, of Families First, presented the services that a professional Funeral Home should provide at the time of someone's passing. This was quite enlightening.

These sessions, although dealing with difficult issues, were very informative. There is no doubt that all present benefited from being present.

If you wish more detailed information on executorship, one location where it can be found is: [www.cga-ontario.org/publications/informationbooklets](http://www.cga-ontario.org/publications/informationbooklets)

Thank you to Sue Bezaire who planned and organized this extremely worthwhile event.

### EUCHRE TOURNAMENT – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>

The first St. Clair Retirees' Euchre Tournament was held on Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. There were 18 participants. Each participant paid \$5 to enter the tournament. Then, the money was divided up among the winners. The winners were first place, Helen Campagna - \$40, second place, Bill Totten - \$30, and third place was shared by Frank Harnadek, Jayne Dillon, and Helga Mousseau who each received \$5. Frank Dick received \$5 for achieving the lowest score.

After the tournament, most players went upstairs to enjoy dinner and reminisce about the Good Old Days, and meet some new people who participated in the tournament.

Lots of laughs were shared by all and many requested more euchre tournaments. So, if you missed this tournament, stay tuned for the next date!

*Submitted by Margaret Goodman*

## HEALTHPLEX FUNDRAISING

**St. Clair College retirees have raised \$23,754 to date, 79% 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 a recent Newsletter.** If 63 further retirees participate by pledging \$100 for 1 brick

we would meet our committed goal. The SCCRA has purchased two bricks for \$150, one for both Thames and Windsor.

**Please consider supporting the HealthPlex Brick Campaign.**

*Submitted by Jay Ertel*

## RETIREE PLANT DISCOUNTS AT SEARS

St. Clair College Horticulture Department has once again (for the 3rd year) teamed up with Sears Canada - Devonshire Mall, to retail all flowers, perennials, vegetables, hanging baskets and planters to the general public.

As a perk and a thank you to the retirees of St. Clair College, we will be offering a 15% discount on all goods purchased directly from us.

We merely need you to indicate that you are a retiree of the college to receive the discount. No secret handshake or password is required!

We do thank you for your continued support, as

most of you know we are on a cost recovery basis and any profits made will go towards student bursaries.

John Lein  
Program Coordinator - Landscape Horticulture  
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*Submitted by Jay Ertel*

## COLLEGE CONTACTS FOR HEALTH BENEFITS AND PENSIONS

The *College contact* person for retirees seeking information on **pensions and benefits** is Kim Bode, 519 972-2727, 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](mailto:alam@caatpension.on.ca)

# ST.CLAIR COLLEGE RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday May 1, 2013  
3:00pm Chez Talbot

There will be a short business meeting with reports from the officers and coordinators.

Dr. Strasser is invited to give an update on College events and to answer questions you may have about College Activities.

### **3:45pm BBQ and Social**

Hamburgers, sausages, salads, desserts, coffee and pop.

**Look forward to seeing you there.**

## ***ENGLISH IS A CRAZY LANGUAGE!***

*English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger, neither apple no pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or french fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads are meat. We take English for granted. But, if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it pig.*

*And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?*

*If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eat vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?*

*How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on?*

*English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.*

**AMEN!**

# IN MEMORIAM

*The following retiree passed away during the period from  
February 8, 2013 to April 9, 2013.*

***Bonnie Andkilde (nee: Cowan)***

*Bonnie Andkilde passed away at the age of 59 on March 13, 2013 after a battle with cancer, Bonnie worked in the Infant and Toddler room of the Daycare Lab School from 1982 until 2003. She is survived by two brothers, one sister and their children.*

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*The following family members of the retirees have passed away during the period  
February 8, 2013 to April 9, 2013.*

***Katherine Kaza's mother-in-law Nora Dunlop***

***Marge Preston, Shirley Freeman and Lillian French's father Cyril Gillingham***

***Lynn Sibley's father J. Clare LePage***

***Les Taffinder's brother Brian Joseph Taffinder***

***Marilyn Sinclair's son***

*May they rest in peace!*

## ***YOU KNOW YOU ARE CANADIAN WHEN.....***

1. *You understand the phrase, "Could you pass me a serviette, I just dropped my poutine on the chesterfield."*
2. *You eat chocolate bars, not candy bars.*
3. *You drink Pop, not soda.*
4. *You know that a Mickey and 24's mean, party at the camp, eh!!*
5. *You know that a pike is a type of fish, not part of a highway.*
6. *You drive on a highway, not a freeway.*
7. *You have Canadian Tire money in your kitchen drawers.*
8. *You brag to Americans that; Shania Twain, Jim Carrey, Celine Dion and Mike Myers are Canadian.*
9. *You know what a toque is.*
10. *You know that when it is 25 degrees outside, it's a warm day.*
11. *You are in grade 12 not the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.*
12. *"Eh?" is a very important part of your vocabulary, and is more polite than "Huh?"*
13. *You design your Halloween costume to fit over a snow suit.*
14. *You are not offended by the term "Homo Milk".*
15. *You know how to pronounce and spell "Saskatchewan".*
16. *Your local newspaper covers national news on 2 pages, but requires 6 pages for hockey.*
17. *You know that the last letter of the English alphabet is always pronounced "Zed".*
18. *You get excited whenever an American Television show mentions Canada.*
19. *You perk up when you hear the theme from Hockey Night in Canada.*
20. *You actually understand these jokes.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Wednesday, Apr. 24 - Grand Theatre - London - "Dance Legends"
2. Wednesday, Apr. 24 - Thames Luncheon, 11:30am, Casa Bella Restaurant
3. Wednesday, May 1 - Annual General Meeting, 3:00pm & 3:45pm BBQ, Chez Talbot
4. Wednesday, May 29 - Thames Luncheon, 11:30am, Tru's Grillhouse Restaurant
5. Thursday, May 30 - Victoria Playhouse - Petrolia - "Fiddler on the Loose"
6. To Be Announced - President's Appreciation Brunch
7. To be Announced - Birds and Breakfast with Dan Loncke  
(If not previously registered, call Anita Blair (519) 776-6747)

### **"LETTERS TO THE EDITORS"**

The St. Clair College Retirees' Association does welcome letters to the Editors which are of an information nature to the retirees' membership.

The letters are to be no more than a third of a page in length and are **not** to be of a commercial interest.

The Editors reserve the right to refuse a letter for insertion in the newsletter if it is felt to be in poor taste.

### ***GETTING OLDER - A TRUE STORY***

*...I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape, so I got my doctor's permission to join a fitness club and started exercising. I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors.  
I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour.  
But, by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over.*