



**ST. CLAIR
COLLEGE
RETIREES'
ASSOCIATION**

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2015

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www.stclaircollege.ca/retirees

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Three years has gone by very quickly and as I write my last report as President, I want to thank all who have served on the Executive over the last three years. Thank you to each of the Retirees who have taken part in many events planned. With your support, the Retirees Association has been able to continue on with our traditions and try some new things. I trust that you have enjoyed the activities and will continue to support the new executive as they begin their term in May after

the AGM. I am thankful for the opportunity to get to know more of the retirees and be a small part in planning the events for you. We are fortunate to have worked at St. Clair and to be able to continue the relationships we established over the years. The changes have been many over the years but you can be proud to know that each of you made a contribution to the success of the college in your own special way.

I also want to thank Dr. Strasser and his team for their support of our activities. We wish Dr. Strasser well as he begins his retirement in September. The Retiree Association appreciates all you have done for us over the last 15 years.

We wish to welcome Patti France, as she begins her new role as President of St. Clair College. You have been a friend to us in your many previous roles and we look forward to working with you in the future. Congratulations and much success in this new role for you

The AGM will be held on May 6th in the Sports Plex and will give you the opportunity to have a tour of this new facility. After the AGM, lunch will follow so that you will have lots of time to socialize. More details will be outlined later in the Newsletter.

This spring we will be again attending a performance at the Victoria Playhouse in Petrolia to see of A Second Helping (The Church Basement Ladies Sequel) on May 28th, 2015.

After the show, we will be having dinner at the Actor Restaurant. As in the past, we will be carpooling. More details later in the newsletter.

How did you enjoy your copy of the newsletter that was sent to all who have e-mail? Please let us know if you would like to receive you newsletter this way in the future.

If you have not renewed your membership, for this year we have included a form for you to do so. With the money we obtain from the member ship fee we are able to continue to offer the varied programs for you. We would like to get over the 300 membership level this year.

Thank once again for your support over the last three years. Enjoy the summer and look forward to a new set of activities for the Fall.

JoAn Dale, President

PATTI FRANCE NAMED 6th PRESIDENT OF ST. CLAIR COLLEGE



Ms. Patti France has over 25 years' experience in the post-secondary education sector. Over the past decade, she has experienced direct responsibility, at some point, for key College components (Registrar's Office, Human Resources, Student Services, Information Technology Services, Health and Safety, Facilities Management, the formal College

interaction with both Faculty and Support Staff Unions, primary College interaction with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and all academic issues). As Senior Vice President, College Operations, Patti France had direct responsibility for Academic Operations and has chaired numerous College Committees, including the Senior Operations Committee, which includes members of the Senior Management Team.

Patti France presently serves on the Board of Directors of Windsor Regional Hospital and is Chair-Elect of the Connecting Windsor-Essex (Smart Community initiative). Beginning in the fall of 2014, with the help of a 3rd party

recruitment firm, the College began a comprehensive national search that attracted an impressive and diverse roster of candidates.

The search was informed by a broad consultation process where the entire St. Clair community and local community members each contributed their ideas, insights and hopes for St. Clair College. This stakeholder input was very helpful in informing the criteria which the search committee used in its selection process.

The Presidential Search Committee was made up of 13 Board members who were given the task of presenting a preferred candidate to the Board of Governors.

Ms. France was the unanimous choice of the Board of Governors. Ms. France will succeed current College President Dr. John Strasser, who will retire at the end of August 2015.

St. Clair College educates over 8,300 full time students who participate in over 100 advanced diplomas, diplomas, degrees and graduate certificates focused in Health, Technology, Business, Media Arts and Social Services. There are over 85,000 alumni of St. Clair College.

HEALTHPLEX & SPORTSPLEX FUNDRAISING

St. Clair College retirees have raised \$37,029 to date, 123% of our \$30,000 goal.

We were pleased to advise Dr. Strasser that we retirees have surpassed our Fundraising Target.

The official opening of the SportsPlex took place early this fall. As of January '15 retiree memberships are available for us. **We are pleased to see the Bricks in place from our fundraising at both the HealthPlex and the SportsPlex. The Landscape Architect has done a nice job at the entrances of both complexes.**

We are now in year 6 of this 10 year fundraising campaign. We advised Dr. Strasser that the SCCRA will continue to support and contribute to the College fundraising initiatives.

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 \$10,000. **The HealthPlex Brick Campaign forms were included with the last Newsletter.** 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

Wisdom from Grandpa.....Whether a man winds up with a nest egg, or goose egg, depends a lot on the kind of chick he marries.

AGM

The Annual General Meeting!

This year the AGM is taking place on
May 6, 2015 at the **SPORTS PLEX CENTRE**.

There will be a tour of the Centre at 2:00 pm
followed by
the Meeting at 3:00 pm and refreshments to follow.

Cost \$5:00

Report of Nominating Committee

The Slate of Officers for 2015 – 2016 is presented for your review. Elections will take place at the Annual General Meeting on May 6th, 2015.

Elected Officers

President	-	Cynthia Bissonette
Vice-President	-	Kathy Dupuis
Secretary	-	Marilyn Portt
Treasurer	-	Sue Bezaire
Past President	-	JoAn Dale
President Emeritus	-	Bill Totten

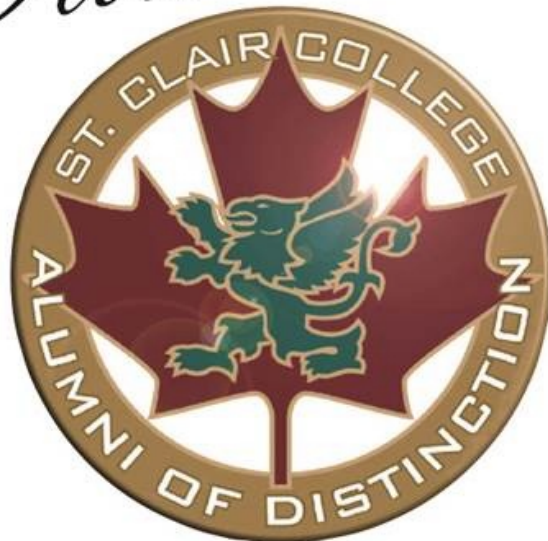
Appointed Members

Membership	-	Anita Blair
Thames Representative	-	Elizabeth Barr
Communications	-	Pat Hallahan
Newsletter	-	Del and John Zangari
Goodwill	-	Lori Caba
Social	-	Margaret Goodman
Fundraising	-	Jay Ertel
OCRA Representative	-	Jim Martin
Folk Lore Project Co-ordinator	-	Owen Klein

Submitted by Cynthia Bissonette
Nominating Committee

23rd Annual

Alumni of Distinction Awards



Friday, May 8, 2015

Alumni Skyline Room

St. Clair College Centre for the Arts

201 Riverside Drive West, Windsor, Ontario

Reception: 6:15 p.m. Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Cash Bar • Vegetarian meals available on request

Tickets \$60.00 • Tables of 8 or 10 available

For Tickets Call (519) 972-2747

Visit www.stclairalumni.com

Taped for Airing on... **TVCOGECO**
Truly local television

2015 Recipients

Margaret Anderson

Computer Literacy - Bus. & Industry
Executive Director
Ronald McDonald House of
Southwestern Ontario
London, Ontario

Tracey Bailey

Early Childhood Education
Chief Executive Officer
& Executive Director
Community Support Centre
of Essex County
Lakeshore, Ontario

Shelley Johnson Corp

Nursing
Director Oncology Network
St. John Providence Health Systems
Grosse Pointe, Michigan

David Garant

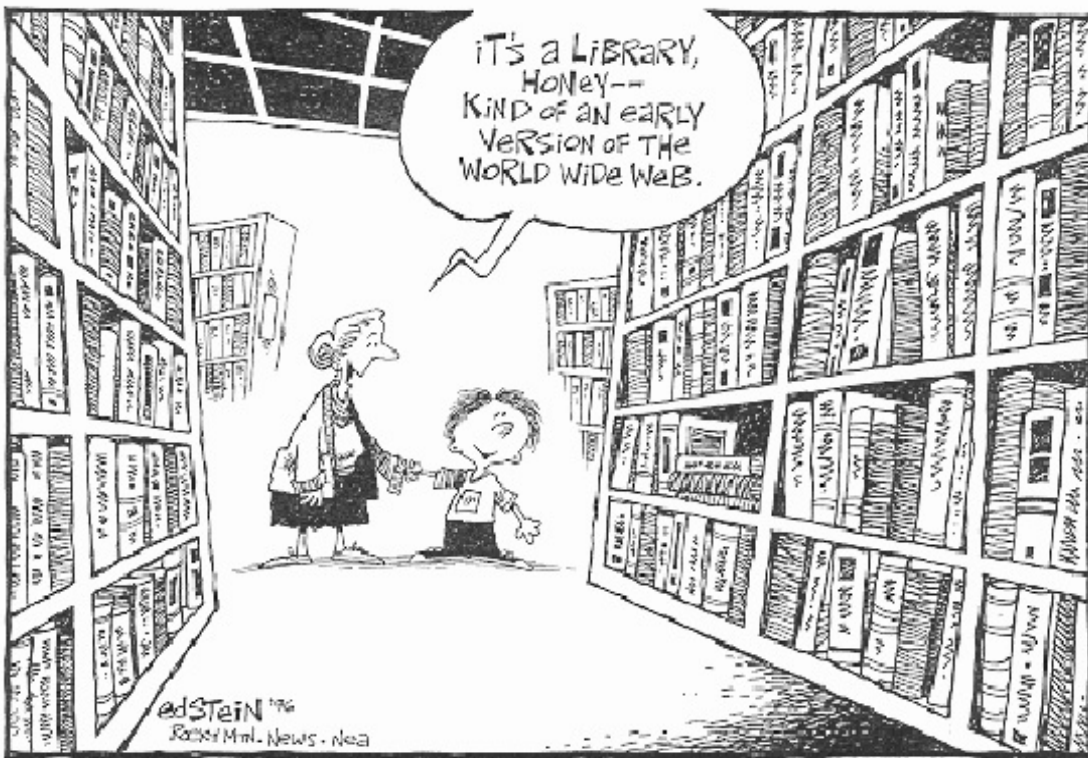
Associate of Arts, Graphic Design
Vice President
Sr. Creative Director
Quicken Loans
Detroit, Michigan

John Omstead

Industrial Engineering Technology
Founder and President
John O Foods
Wheatley, Ontario

ARCHIVES PROJECT

One of the on-going projects of the St. Clair College Retirees' Association is the Archive Project. In room 45J the Archive Project Group has accumulated a vast store of photos, documents and items that tell the story of the early history of the college. The college has an extensive art collection which is on show throughout the college or is stored in 45J when not on show. The collection is documented and recorded by the Archive Project and is also stored in 45J. Some of the other material which has been collected, categorized and filed includes: all past yearbooks; a complete file of The Saint and recorded by the Archive Project and is also stored in 45J. Some of the other material which has been collected, categorized and filed includes: all past year books: a complete file of the Saint and the Journal; and, all past Convocation Programs, and thousands of historic photographs which have been sorted, identified and filed, with MANY more to be reviewed. Pictures of many former and present staff which have been placed in a hard copy file of staff. These pictures are in the process of being digitized for ease of access.



A display cabinet was purchased and located in the Main Lobby where rotating displays of historical interest are displayed.. These displays are designed and created by the project group.

Active project participants have been Lea Garber, Hanno Barten, Keith Brown, Art Rae, Anita Blair, Pat Hallahan, Owen Klein and Bill Totten.

The group has recently initiated a 'Folklore Project' with the goal being to record digitally anecdotes which recall the

early days of the college. This is being coordinated by Owen Klein and Pat Hallahan.

New and fresh ideas, interests and skills would be welcome. If you might have an interest in participating, or have material that would be of historical interest please contact Lea Garber lgarber@ogeco.ca or Bill Totten - wtotten@sympatico.ca. Or, you may leave a message on our voice mail at 519-972-2727 et. 4439.

The Archive Project welcomes anyone who would be interested in participating.

Old age is when former classmates are so gray and wrinkled and bald, they don't recognize you.

COLLEGE ANNOUNCES ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTRE

Having overseen the transformation and expansion of St. Clair College during his 15 years as president, John Strasser sees the creation of the Genesis Entrepreneurship Centre as the final piece of the puzzle the college requires to fully serve students. The college announced Friday the hiring of Chris Ryan, a well-known local businessman and former CEO of Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island, as the centre's director.

What is the Genesis Entrepreneurship Centre?

The centre, which could be open before the end of the current school year but no later than next September, will be located on the ground floor of the main building at the college's South Windsor campus. It will be open to any student in any program who expresses an interest in starting their own business. The college plans to use its extensive resources to provide mentors, contacts, lecturers and other help. Dr. Strasser feels the college can take the concept of

incubators and create a multiplier effect to create something beyond anything that exists currently. "From my point of view, all of that (incubators) should be done within a post-secondary institution," Strasser said. There won't be any certificates or diplomas awarded for participating in the program to start. "Not initially, because that would only complicate things," Strasser said. "Eventually yes, we'd like that to happen."

The college will measure success by the traffic generated at the office, the buy-in from the way programs access it and ultimately by how many people go on to start successful businesses.

"We want this to be used by a wide array of programs, not driven just by one," Strasser said. "That's why it's not focused on particular areas."

(Excerpted from the Windsor Star)

RETIREE'S SPRING TRIP – PETROLIA

Once again this year there will be a Spring Trip. The Victoria Playhouse seems to be one of the more popular events the Retirees' enjoy.

This year we have picked "A Second Helping" is a sequel of last year's The Church Basement Ladies. This show was very popular, we will be in for an afternoon of fun and laughter.

Date for this event is Thursday, May 28th matinee at 2:00 p.m. As in previous years we arrange for dinner at the Artist's Café – which is across the street from

the Playhouse and is an optional for those who are not ready to return to Windsor immediately.

For ticket information call – Marilyn Portt, 519-969-0693 or email mpportt@gmail.com Price for ticket will be \$39.00 per person. On this trip you will have to supply your own transportation. Hope to hear from you soon.

Submitted by Marilyn Portt

RETIREE BRIDGE CLUB

Every second Tuesday afternoon, from September to May, Roseland Golf Club is the site of the St. Clair College Retiree Bridge Club. While the level of bridge competency is often questioned, we do have a good time and most of the group remain after Bridge for dinner in the Roseland dining room.

If you are a Bridge player at any level you will find that you will be accepted by this group. We have even held 'educational sessions' to help those of us who need help.

We welcome any new players, either as 'regulars' or

those who are willing to put their names on the 'spare' list. As you know, it is necessary to have attendance in multiples of four so a 'spare' list is critical to fill out the numbers. This is handled by our very capable Bridge Coordinator, Dean Campagna. If you are interested in playing Bridge as a regular or as a spare, or you just want to come out as an interested observer, call Dean at 519 966-3884 or by e mail at ryan0579@mnsi.net.



*Pictured lt. to rt. – Keith Brown, Audrey Payne, Ida Totten, Mansell Blair, Anita Blair, Bob McKenzie, Denise Brown, Pat Hallahan, John Payne, Bill Totten, Elsi Hallahan, Helen Campagna.
Seated: Dan Loncke, Dean Campagna, Mary Loncke
Not pictured: Frank & Loretta Dick, Pat & Tom McMahon, Jim Chambers*

RETIREE PROFILE - LESLIE TAFFINDER

Although his mom was from Timmins and his dad from Hamilton, Leslie Taffinder was born in Windsor. In a family of eight kids, mom worked full time at home while dad was a clothing salesman.

“Les” grew up speaking only French (his mom was a Robichaud) and initially attended a French language school. It was decided, eventually, he should attend an English language school and, after a stop at one other school, Les graduated from St. Gabriel School in South Windsor.

It was then off to Assumption, but only for half a year after which it was on to Timmins in order to accommodate his dad's career. This move to northern Ontario, while it meant much longer winters, also opened up a new opportunity for Les: hockey!

Back then, before the proliferation of indoor hockey rinks, Timmins was a hot bed of budding hockey stars. While there, Les played a lot of club hockey, including for a Triple AAA travel team sponsored by the Detroit Red Wings. Although he never did shake hands with Gordie Howe, Les did play in a common tournament with Bobby Orr.

Following dad yet again, this time to Hamilton, and then back to Windsor, Les finally graduated from Massey High School where, too beat up from hockey, he started playing basketball and developed an interest in refereeing basketball games.

After graduation, Les was accepted into the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) in 1965. In 1969 he received his journeyman's papers and began working on various construction jobs across the province, including a big job in 1972 in Timmins building the Kidd Creek Mine which was eventually renamed Texas Gulf Sulphur.

In 1973 Les applied to St. Clair College where he

worked teaching electrician apprentices until his retirement in 2004.

During this time Les was also very much involved in community service activities. At different times, Les served as President of Riverside Minor Baseball and President of the Cystic Fibrosis Association, while also being active with baseball's Windsor Selects and both Cubs and Scouts.

In addition, Les was also very involved with basketball refereeing at all levels: high school, college, university and senior men's and women's basketball, as well as both championship and international tournaments.

Les loved his career at St. Clair College (institutional politics aside!) and especially enjoyed interacting with his pals in the electrical, plumbing and carpentry trades. He continues to be very active with electrical apprentices nationally as a training director.

Sadly, in 1991, Les lost his son Stephen to cystic fibrosis. He also has another son, Shawn, who lives in Michigan, has two children and enjoys coaching his son. He also manages the bar and restaurant at the Detroit Opera House. Les is married to the “telephone voice” of St. Clair College: Maxine Wilder.

One of Les' most memorable times occurred during the College's celebration of its 25th Anniversary when he, Dennis Lortie, Kelly Robinson and Mike Krakana performed on stage as the “Whistling Wazzoos!” Picture, if you will, lips drawn around their belly buttons!

Fun times! Great guy!

Submitted by: P. Hallahan



Whistling Wazoos



Maxine Wilder & Les Taffinder



TRIVIA – FEBRUARY 24

The retirees held a game of Trivia on Tuesday, February 24 at Roseland. Julie and Terry Lawrence hosted the game with Terry as Quiz Master and Julie as his assistant and accountant.

There were 13 participants. Unfortunately, some eager participants had to cancel due to illness or poor driving conditions. Therefore, there were 4 teams with 3 people on 3 teams and 4 people on one team. However, everyone had fun and Terry challenged all of us. The questions were challenging and made us try to remember.

The team members of the first place team were Kerry Brode, Marilyn Portt, Sheila McCabe, and Greg Rousseau.

The team members of the second place team were Kathy Rousseau, Ruth Hicks, and Margaret Goodman.

After Trivia, 13 went upstairs and enjoyed a nice meal in Roseland's dining area.

Submitted by Margaret Goodman

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. To contact the **CAAT Pension Plan**, call **Member Services** at 416-673-9000, or Toll Free at 1-866-350-2228, and press 1 for Member Services, or FAX: 416-673-7028. For general inquiries email, member@caatpension.on.ca

In Memoriam

The following family members of retirees and staff passed away during the period from February 7, 2015 to April 5, 2015.

Cynthia Bisonnette's father, Fredrick Little

Angela Passador's mother, Rosina Tiberia

**James Quinn, former member of the
Board of Governors of St. Clair College**

May They Rest In Peace!

“MAILING OR E-MAIL NEWSLETTERS”

This is the second issue of the Retiree newsletter which is being distributed by both **snail mail & e-mail** to obtain feedback from the membership regarding your preferences.

Please let us know if you feel strongly about how you receive the newsletter. If you have been receiving **e-mail** but prefer to receive the newsletter by **snail mail**, we would like to know.

If you prefer to continue receiving the newsletter by snail mail, and HAVE NOT already let us know, please e-mail Anita Blair ablair4@gmail.com or Bill Totten wtotten@sympatico.ca to let us know.

OXYGEN SCARCITY BIG RISK TO FLYERS

Headaches, Angina Among Side Effects of Falling O₂ Levels

by Nic Fleming - Star Services

More than half of all air travellers suffer so much oxygen deprivation that they are at risk of deep vein thrombosis, according to certain studies.

The proportion of oxygen in the air breathed in onboard the aircraft in flight falls from 21% to as little as 15%.

Researchers in Belfast found that in 54% of those they examined during flights, many hospital doctors would have prescribed extra oxygen because their blood was unable to carry oxygen to the body's organs easily.

As well as contributing to a dangerous thickening of the blood that can cause DVT, a drop in blood oxygen can impair mental performances, give passengers headaches and make them tired.

People with heart disease are more likely to suffer angina and those with unhealthy lungs have a greater risk of becoming ill.

Dr. Susan Humphreys, an anaesthetic specialist at Belfast City Hospital and one of those involved in the research, to be published in *Anaesthesia* magazine said, "We believe that these falling oxygen levels, together with factors such as dehydration, immobility and low humidity, could contribute to illnesses during and after flights.

This has become a greater problem in recent years as modern air planes are able to cruise at much higher altitudes."

Oxygen saturation is the proportion of haemoglobin in the blood able to bond with oxygen and carry it to the body's organs and tissues.

This was measured by Humphreys and colleagues to 84 passengers. The passengers were aged from one year to seventy-eight, both at ground level and during flight. At ground level saturation was 97% while at cruising altitude it was 93%.

In 54% of passengers at cruising altitude it was 94% or less- the proportion below which many respiratory specialists said they would prescribe extra oxygen. In one passenger, oxygen saturation dropped to 85% during flight. The results were similar for short and long flights.

Previous fears over the risk of DVT associated with air travel have focussed on immobility and dehydration. Those behind the new research believe reduction of oxygen saturation could also be a significant factor.

Dr. Rachel Devermond, consultant anaesthetist at Ulster Hospital in Belfast, said, "It has been shown that in low oxygen situations at altitude, the risk of blood clotting is greater." The blood becomes thicker due to ankle swelling and people are often dehydrated because they don't drink enough and because of the dry air. "The degree to which oxygen levels in the blood drop in the ground population during flying has never been measured before."

"We should be giving people with ill health more advice about things they can do, such as drink more water when they fly, to avoid problems."

Article submitted by Dan Robson

If a man has enough horse sense to treat his wife like a thoroughbred, she will never turn into an old nag.

ADVICE, JUST IN CASE YOU LOSE YOUR WALLET

Read this and make a copy for your files in case you need to refer to it someday.

1. The next time you order cheques, have only your initials (instead of first name) and last name put on them. If someone takes your cheque book, they will not know if you sign your cheques with just your initials or your first name, but your bank will know how you sign them.
 2. Do not sign the back of your credit cards. Instead, put "PHOTO ID REQUIRED".
 3. When you are writing cheques to pay your credit card accounts, DO NOT put the complete account number on the, "For" line. Instead, just put the last four numbers. The credit card company knows the rest of the number.
 4. Put your work phone # on your cheques instead of your home phone. If you have a P.O. box use that instead of your home address. If you do not have a P.O. box, use your work address. Never have your SIN # printed on your cheques.
 5. Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine. Do both sides of each license, credit card, etc. You will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. Also have a copy of your passport
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UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Tuesday , Apr. 28 - Bridge Club - Roseland
2. Wednesday, Apr. 29 - Thames Luncheon, 11:30 AM, Casa Bella Restaurant
3. Wednesday, May 06 - Annual General Meeting, 3:00 PM Meeting & 4:00 PM

Refreshments, SportsPlex

Tour of the new SportsPlex (preceding AGM), 2:00 PM - SportsPlex

4. Wednesday, May 27 - Thames Luncheon, 11:30 AM, Tru's Grillhouse Restaurant
5. Thursday, May 28 - Victoria Playhouse Theatre Petrolia

A Second Helping (The Church Basement Ladies Sequel)

6. TBA - President's Appreciation Brunch