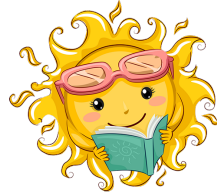




ST. CLAIR COLLEGE

RETIREES' ASSOCIATION



Newsletter

Summer 2021

From the President

Susan MacLelland



Greetings to everyone! As your new Association President and past Social Committee Co-ordinator, I am hopeful that as the summer unfolds and Covid-19 Vaccinations continue, we will be able to get back to normal soon as an association that pro-

vides our members with enjoyable opportunities to get together on a regular basis to have some fun! It has been a long year and a half of hibernation and, quite honestly, I think everyone is very ready to come out of hiding! (As soon as it is safe to do so!) Our association is committed to being the hub for our St. Clair College Retirees to get together, to reminisce about our previous times while we worked together as well as enjoy our freedom as retirees to make new memories- and fun, fun, fun!! Sure do miss that! Rest assured our Social Committee folks (Mimi McPhedran and Patricia (Pat) Taylor) are coming up with lots of new ideas every day to make this next year ahead very memorable for all of us. During the past year they have been instrumental in keeping us in touch through email contests that are fun, creative and imaginative. Many thanks to them for all their efforts!

I am looking forward to working with some new faces on our executive, Dolph Barsanti – our new Treasurer, and Kelly Bevan as our new Vice President. Jim Chambers has stepped down as Treasurer but will continue on our Executive overseeing Fundraising & Donations. Another recent retiree that I have had the pleasure to work with up in Chatham back when I first started my career at the College is Ginny Russell. She is working with Elizabeth Barr to represent our Chatham members. Welcome to you all! It is my hope that the year ahead will bring us fewer challenges and more exciting adventures as retirees.

In this edition of our newsletter, you will find many interesting articles to keep you up to date on what we have been doing over the past few months. They include a summary report of our last Annual General Meeting (thanks to all those that attended virtually!), as well as a feature profile of our new Treasurer Dolph Barsanti – contributed by Pat Hallahan, a very valued member of our association. Pat just recently stepped down from the Executive after over 20 years. We will miss him, but we know he's not far! You will also see a summary piece about our Annual Alumni of Distinction Awards, provided by our own Mr. Bill Totten as well as highlights of the St. Clair Day held on June 25, provided by myself. There is much, much more in this issue to keep you connected during this crazy pandemic. We hope you are all keeping well and are optimistic that we will see you all soon! ✨

Sue



Outgoing SCCRA President Kathy Dupuis, sheltered gallantly from the scorching sun by the umbrella-wielding Mike Sorrell, during the recording of the Memorials segment for the virtual celebration of the St. Clair Day event. Photo: Courtesy of John Fairley

Charles Jackson - A Tribute



Charles (Charlie) Jackson, who was the Principal of the Western Ontario Institute of Technology (which was the predecessor to St. Clair College), died at his retirement home in London on May 7. He was 100.

Mr. Jackson became the principal of the Western Ontario Institute of Technology (W.O.I.T.) in 1960 and served until 1966. He served as St. Clair College's Vice President – Academic from 1967 to 1978, and oversaw the transition of WOIT (which was located on Mercer Street in Windsor) to St. Clair College, under the provincial legislation creating a network of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology back in the late 1960s.

He once told a reporter that the success of the community college initiative was a source of pride for him. He noted that the year before the South Windsor land acquisition where St. Clair now sits, W.O.I.T. graduated 80 students but there were 120 jobs waiting for them.

“Our students were already able to talk on their bosses’ level,” he said at the time. “We were proving that we



offered a concentrated and job-oriented education for people who wouldn't or couldn't go to university. Our students were adults and we treated them as adults and it paid off.”

Mr. Jackson moved to London after his retirement. He leaves behind his wife Jean, 4 children, 10 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

St. Clair President Patti France honoured Mr. Jackson as a trailblazer and someone who cared deeply about the College. “W.O.I.T. built the foundation for St. Clair College to continue the work of providing a place for students to advance their education, find jobs in their fields, and contribute to their communities.”

In September of 2014, the College named the road in front of the Ford Centre of Excellence in Manufacturing (FCEM) at our main campus, Chas Jackson Way in his honour. His portrait is displayed on the wall of Griffin Hall (across from our College bookstore) shown in the photo above alongside the portraits of the past College Presidents. **

Contributed by **Bill Totten**

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The 2021 Annual General Meeting

For the second time in fifteen months, the restrictions necessitated by the Covid pandemic made it necessary for our association to hold our AGM in virtual mode using Zoom. The first time around, the restrictions resulted in a rather lengthy postponement as we struggled to find some means to hold meetings in virtual mode. We soon learned how to use Zoom; and so, this year we held our AGM at the time prescribed in our by-laws.

The 2021 AGM took place on Wednesday May 5 with social time beginning at 2:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 3:00 pm. We were pleased that thirty-one members attended despite the difficulties of having a virtual meeting.

We were delighted with the presence of College President Patti France and College Vice-president John Fairley. Assisted by a PowerPoint presentation, President Patti gave us an extensive report about developments at the College that included information about student enrolment, the impact of the pandemic on the College and how the College has been handling it, construction projects at the College, and participation by the College in community engagement.

Susan McLelland then read the names of thirty-seven of our former colleagues, fellow retirees, and College full-time employees who passed away during the preceding eighteen months. We honoured their memories with a minute of silence.

Bob Braidford gave his Financial Review Report stating that he had examined the financial books of our association and that he found them to be in good order. Out-going Treasurer Jim Chambers then followed with the Treasurer's Report that was approved unanimously.

Bill Totten brought us up to date about the revisions to the association's by-laws that he had undertaken. Bill explained how the by-laws have now been reorganized into a more logical order, adding that there is a change to the article on holding meetings authorising the Executive Board to hold virtual meetings instead of in-person meetings when necessary. This formalizes the manner in which we have been holding meetings due to the restrictions required by the pandemic.

Election of officers then took place. Stepping down from their positions, were Kathy Dupuis who now assumes the position of Past President, Past President Cindy Bissonnette, Treasurer Jim Chambers, and Communications Director Pat Hallahan. Elected by acclamation were President Susan McLelland who vacated her post as Vice-president, with newcomers Kelly Bevan as Vice-President, and Dolph Barsanti as Treasurer. Secretary Lyn Medler and Membership Director Marilyn Portt retained their respective positions. The duties of the Communications Coordinator are being taken over by the President. The Executive Board will be appointing Committee Chairs and Directors at the next Executive Board Meeting.

Bill Totten gave a short speech thanking Pat Hallahan, who is retiring from the Executive Board, for his contributions to our association over the past 20 years highlighting several of Pat's initiatives and accomplishments.

Social time followed the adjournment. We all felt the absence of face-to-face personal interaction denied to us by the pandemic, but we were very happy to see each other even if it was in virtual mode. ✨

Contributed by *Tony Ellul*

Attention All Retirees

If you believe that you are not receiving e-mails from the Retirees' Association, please send an e-mail with your name and phone number to sretiree@stclaircollege.ca

Notice

The St. Clair College web site has recently been updated at <https://stclaircollege.ca/>

The Retiree Web site is accessed by clicking on "About Us" and then clicking on "Retirees' Association". This will provide access to Folklore, Picture Gallery, Minutes, Schedule of Events, etc. ENJOY!

St. Clair College Annual Alumni of Distinction Awards

St. Clair College Alumni Association annually recognizes the accomplishments of graduates with the St. Clair College Alumni Award of Distinction. The College honours one alumnus or alumna from each of the following disciplines: Creative Arts; Technology; Business; Health Sciences; Community Studies, and a Recent Graduate (within 5 Years). This is the Alumni Association's highest honour. In this year of COVID, the celebration was held virtually. Below are the profiles of these outstanding graduates and their accomplishments.

To view the Gala on You Tube go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q8dHBjQDU4E>



Will Bigelow is a graduate of the Tradigital Animation program where he focused on traditional animation. Later, he found his niche when 3D platforms were incorporated into the curriculum.

Employed at Baron Championship Rings as a Concept Artist, and later as Technical Art Director, Will has led his team in the creation of rings for Hockey Canada, Winnipeg Blue Bombers, Cleveland Cavaliers, Hockey Hall of Fame, Toronto FC, Los Angeles Sparks, Seattle Storm and the Toronto Raptors.

Flora Di Menna, a graduate of the St. Clair College Interior Design program, is the founder, President, and Principal Designer of FDM Designs in Vaughn, Ontario. Flora and her team are known for their

flawless execution of lavish interior designs that are usually custom-designed by Flora. Competing against the best property professionals in the world, FDM has been awarded "Best International Design" in 2017 in London England at the International Interior Design Awards; and in 2016, FDM Designs was the winner at the "International Property Awards" for the "World's Best Interior Designer" Residential title.



Lori Kempe graduated with a Sign Language Communicator diploma and Interpreter diploma from St. Clair College in 1991. She

worked with the Deaf Education Centre at George Brown College, returning to Windsor to study Social Work at the University of Windsor. She eventually became Executive Director for Children First in Essex County.

She has held positions at the children's residence for Community Living Essex County; Windsor Essex Children's Aid Society; Ministry of Children Youth Services; and as a supervisor with Chatham-Kent Children's Services; all while obtaining a Bachelor of Social Work, and Master of Social Work.

She was appointed to St Clair's Board of Governors in 2011 where she continues to work closely with St Clair students by accepting placements for Early Childhood Education and Child and Youth Care workers.

Dave Merheje, a graduate of Business Marketing in 2003, is an actor and stand-up comedian who wasted no time transferring his newly established marketing skills to show business. He can be seen co-starring as Ahmed on the comedy series Ramy on the Hulu Network, an American comedy-drama web television series. He also had a recurring role in the CBC television sitcom Mr. D. Merheje won a Juno Award in 2019 for Comedy Album of the year, Good Friend Bad Grammar, and has been recognized with several comedy awards. Dave has appeared on Comedy Network's Match Game, MTV Live and The Comedy Network and was featured in an episode of the Netflix stand-up comedy series Comedians of the World.

This year, Dave has been part of virtual concerts fundraising for "Rebuild Beirut".





Elizabeth Moses is a graduate of CNC Precision Metal Cutting program (2017) and General Machinist program (2019) and is employed at Harbour Technologies. She began a pre-apprenticeship in precision metal cutting at St. Clair College in 2016 after developing a love for robotics at Assumption College High School, later graduating from the general machinist program and becoming a 2020 Skilled Trades Alumna of Distinction.

She is a strong advocate for women in the trades industry as a spokesperson, promoting the Windsor-Essex region all across Ontario. She has been recognized as the WEtech Alliance 2019 Tech Mentor of the Year; was named one of Canada’s top 100 most powerful women for her work in the CP skilled trades industry; all at the age of 22.

Currently, Elizabeth is working with WEST of Windsor and WEtech Alliance to develop a project for the Women in Skilled Trades program at St. Clair College and plans, while continuing to dedicate her time to helping lift women out of poverty and supporting their futures through skilled trades.

Anita Ricco-Spagnuolo entered St. Clair College in 1997 in the Personal Support Worker Program, graduating in 1999. She was employed at Met Hospital/Malden Park for 14 years and went on to teach the Personal Support Worker program for 13 years at several nursing homes and the hospital. Anita also has a Mental Health and Addictions diploma and the nursing bridging program.

Anita, a childhood cancer survivor, is able to walk despite having been told she would not, and is able to have children despite having been told she could not, always with a positive attitude and incredible family support.

She is currently the Coordinator and Mental Health Promotion Director at Canadian Mental Health Association and, being very community-minded, is the fundraiser director for Harmony In Action; is serving her first term as a Councillor for the Town of LaSalle; is also a proud committee member, for the last 15 years, with *Transition to Betterness*. **



Contributed by **Bill Totten**

Contacts for Health Benefits and Pension

The College contact person for retirees seeking information on pensions and benefits is Laura Carcelen, 519-972-2727, Ext. 4687 located in Human Resources, room 274C. The CAAT Pension can be reached at 1-866-350-2228 or 416-673-9000, or Fax: 416-673-9028.

For general inquiries: contact@caatpension.on.ca

Coming Events

Pat Taylor and Mimi McPhedran have outlined exciting plans for the Fall depending upon COVID restrictions. Watch your e-mail for updates.

We are still uncertain about our regular events – Monday Archive Group, Bridge Club and the Chatham monthly luncheons. As soon as COVID restrictions are more clearly defined in relation to these and other, activities, we will be clarifying plans via e-mail.

Thought for Today

Sports fans will know that the term “commitment” is used often, especially in the world of university and college sports. Student athletes are always touted as “*making a commitment*” to a specific school.

I am obviously missing something in what that means. I’ve been told I should be committed my whole life, and no one ever gave me a uniform or a scholarship.

Contributed by **Ross Langill**

Weather or Whether?

I heard someone say the other day, “*No wonder they call him the weather man. You never know whether he is going to be right or whether he is going to be wrong.*”

Contributed by **Bill Jones**

It's Game Time!

Hello, SCCRA fans and welcome to what promises to be a sizzling summer. Your Social Committee team have been huddled up planning what we hope will be a fun last half to the COVID 19 challenge of 2021. Provided that Government rules won't push us back to the starting grid, we hope to kick off our fall season with a "Hibernation Cancellation" and "Welcome New Retirees" tailgate party at Paul and Bev Chortos' field of dreams in Kingsville. Once again, they have stepped up to the plate and generously offered their beautiful property for our enjoyment.

The Government coaches hold the rules on this event so we are scheduling it for August 31st with a rain date of Sept. 1st commencing at 12:00 noon. More details will follow via e-mail once we get closer to game time, and here ends the sports analogies.

For all of you who have a thirst for local history, we have tentatively arranged for Mary Anne Adam to do a presentation on local indigenous people and the history/restoration of Belle Vue House. Mary Anne is the author of "The Medicine Bag", a Saint Clair Retiree, and a member of the Board of Belle Vue House Conservancy in Amherstburg. This event is scheduled for October, the date is pending and we will be sending out further information when it becomes available; watch your e-mails.

We have scheduled our annual Christmas luncheon for December 11th at the Saint Clair College Centre for the Arts. Please mark your calendars, save the date and again, watch your e-mails and newsletter for details.

Saving the best for last, we congratulate our four winners of the on-line dessert event - Jay Terryberry, Anita Blair, Rose Marie Bortolin and Alex MacLellan. I know I put on 10 lbs. just reading them. Their delicious offerings will definitely help with the dilemma of "What shall I make for Thanksgiving dessert?" Well done everyone and thank you for participating. See recipes at right.

We all want more than anything to be out and about and putting the last 16 months behind us. Being with family and friends again in a social atmosphere is foremost in our minds. All three of our proposed events represent a return to normalcy but the caveat remains; Government regulations have the last word. Mimi and I will do our utmost to keep you posted on our progress, and meanwhile stay safe and stay well.

Patricia and Mimi
Social Committee

Kifle (Croatian Cookies) Passed down from a family friend

These are a Christmas tradition in our house - my daughter has taken over the task the last few years, but I'm still in charge of logistics! The recipe is fairly time consuming but so worth it and makes about 10 dozen small cookies (I give some away each year)

Cookie Dough Ingredients

- 3½ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 package cream cheese (Philly?)
- 1 pound butter (or ½ lb. butter, ½ lb. margarine)
- 4 egg yolks

Filling/Coating Ingredients

- Favourite jam/jelly (plum is traditional)
- Favourite brandy/amaretto etc. (if desired)
- 1 cup icing sugar (may need more)
- 1 package vanilla sugar

Directions

1. Mix flour and baking powder in large bowl.
2. Put soft butter, soft cream cheese and egg yolks in a bowl and mix together.
3. Add to 3 cups of flour/baking powder mix (save a 1/2 cup of flour mix) and mix together
4. Use the remaining flour mix as a dusting on the kitchen counter and knead the dough into 3 equal size balls.
5. Store in large bowl dusted with flour and covered with a damp cloth for minimum 4 hours at room temperature (I generally make dough at night and let it rest overnight).
6. After rest period (for dough and you!), the balls of dough should be quite firm.
7. Lightly dust kitchen counter, take one ball of kifle dough and begin to roll out dough quite thin (keep dusting with flour each time you flip the dough – I roll it out thin enough that I can see the pattern of the kitchen counter through the dough).
8. Keep extra cut-out dough and form another ball to use it all to cut cookies, use a butter knife and cut into parallelograms (approx. 5 cm. long x 3 cm. wide).
9. Mix jam and brandy in a small bowl (don't make filling too runny) and add a small amount to a corner of each cookie cut out.
10. Roll up each cut out starting at the filling corner (should resemble a mini croissant) and place on ungreased cookie sheet - space approx. 1 cm. apart (I use 3 cookie sheets for this process).
11. Bake at 350 F for 14 minutes until just golden (don't let them begin to brown).
12. Once cool, mix icing sugar and vanilla sugar (add what you like) in small bowl and coat each kifle top and bottom.
13. Store in cookie tin in a cool spot or freezer (will keep for long time) - serve at room temperature.

Contributed by *Jay Terryberry*

Pouding du Chômeur

Batter Ingredients

1½ cups flour
1 tsp. baking powder
¼ cup butter
1 cup white sugar
1 cup milk

Sauce Ingredients

The original recipe calls for maple syrup because at the time people had lots of it. Brown sugar is an option introduced in later versions due to the cost of maple syrup. It tastes good both ways. I prefer maple syrup.

Maple Syrup Option or Brown Sugar Option

1 cup maple syrup	1½ cups brown sugar
½ cup brown sugar	2 cups boiling water
1 cup boiling water	¼ cup butter
¼ cup butter	¼ tsp. vanilla
¼ tsp. vanilla	

Directions

Mix batter ingredients and pour into 13" x 9" pan
Mix sauce ingredients and place over top of batter using a ladle to spread it out evenly and make sure you do not make a hole in the batter. Bake in oven for 45 min. at 325 degrees F.

If you find this too sweet just cut back on the sugar.

Enjoy

Contributed by *Alex MacLellan*

Six in a Pan

1st layer - Make a Graham Cracker crust by mixing 1½ cups of Graham Cracker crumbs and ¼ cup sugar together. Add 6 tbsp. softened butter and mix well. Press into the bottom of a 9"x9" pan. You can use a 9"x13" pan but increase graham crackers to 2 cups and butter to 8 tbsp.

2nd layer - Mix 8 oz softened cream cheese with 1 cup icing sugar. Spread over crust.

3rd layer - Spread ½ tub of Cool Whip over cream cheese mixture.

4th layer - Mix 3 oz package of instant chocolate pudding mix and 3 oz instant vanilla pudding mix with 3 cups of milk and beat with a whisk for 2 minutes. Let thicken and carefully spread over Cool Whip.

5th layer - Spread ½ tub of Cool Whip over the pudding.

6th layer - Shave Jersey chocolate over top of Cool Whip

Contributed by *Anita Blair*

Delicious Lemon Dessert

Crust Ingredients

- 2 cups Graham Cracker crumbs
- ½ cup melted margarine or butter
- 2 tablespoons of sugar

Crust Directions

Combine crumbs and margarine or butter and sugar and press on bottom and sides of 9" x 13" pan and bake at 375 degrees for 8 minutes. Cool crust before filling.

Filling Ingredients

- 1 8 oz. cream cheese (room temp)
- 1 large tub of Cool Whip (use ½ for cream cheese layer and other ½ to frost)
- 1 cup confectioner's sugar

Directions

1. Mix together cream cheese, sugar, and half tub of Cool Whip with a mixer and spread on cooled crust.
2. Make 2 packages of lemon pie filling according to filling directions on the box (the kind you cook - I use Shirriff brand).
3. Cool lemon filling and spread over cream cheese layer.
4. Frost with remaining Cool Whip.
5. Decorate with fresh lemon zest if you wish.

Contributed by *Rose Marie Bortolin*

Are You Among The Unfortunate 200?

The St. Clair College Retirees' Association has a mailing list of approximately 560 addresses, which is used to mail the quarterly newsletter via snail mail.

On the other hand, we have a list of approximately 360 e-mail addresses, which is used to send periodic messages to our members. This includes our "Take A Gamble" drawing; the "Favorite Recipe" draw; information regarding the Annual General Meeting; and COVID bulletins from President Patti; to name but a few.

This means that there are around 200 of our members who do not receive useful, interesting information from your association via e-mail.

If you have an e-mail address and would like to stay informed, please forward your e-mail address to Bill Totten at wtotten@playground.net

St. Clair Day - June 25, 2021

A virtual St. Clair Day was celebrated on June 25, 2021 through the St. Clair College website. Despite the constraints of the pandemic, this very important staff event was well organized and given the devotion and thoughtfulness that staff deserves. Joe Sirianni, V.P. Human Resources, Safety & Facilities Management, emceed the event. College President Patti France offered heartwarming thanks to everyone for their contributions over the past year and pointed out the fact that due to their efforts, St. Clair College has rocketed to be one of the top and most sought after colleges in the province because of our excellent Customer Service and Program Quality.

During her address, President Patti mentioned that the presidents of both the Support Staff & the Faculty Union locals were moving on from their respective positions; Bernie Nawrocki to retirement, and Connie Collins to a faculty Position. She looks forward to working with the newly elected presidents, Mark Colangelo – Faculty, and Naz Binck – Support Staff.

The following awards were presented:

25-year Service Pin – Rob Barsotta

Retirees 2021

Kim Bode, Deborah Boersma, Mark Bonkoski, Rose Marie Bortolin, Wayne Campbell, Don Crowder, Stephen Decator, Norman Dobson, Faris Elias, Susan Favaro, Nelly Foley, Thomas Groulx, Xue Guo, Dale Jarrell, Kim Jones, Mike Lefebvre, Catherine Mulawka, Bernard Nawrocki, George Peters, Marlon Podhraski, Daniel Rorai, Virginia Russell, John Sanderson, Nino Sirianni, Connie Sivyver, and Elizabeth Szabo Verzoc.

Each of the 26 new retirees will receive a gift from the President's Office at their homes.

Employee Excellence Awards

Support Staff – Lesli Fitzgerald

Faculty – Elizabeth Strutt MacLeod

Administration – Rebecca Demchuk

Team – IT Client & IT Enterprise Service Staff & Manager Lynn Fujimoto

Community – Chief Bruce Krauter – Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Services

Memorials

Katherine Dupuis, Past President of the St. Clair College Retirees Association represented us well as she read the names of all those full time College employees and former employees, now retired, who have passed

away. Katherine also explained the importance of the Memorial Plaques at both the Chatham and the Windsor Campus. Each year since 1999, we unfortunately have had to add more names of deceased full-time College staff to the plaques at the annual St. Clair Day (formerly Staff Appreciation Brunch).

Due to the pandemic St. Clair Day was not observed in 2020. Therefore, Kathy read the names of all our departed colleagues who passed away during the past two years:

June 2019 – June 2020 (18 in total)

Ivan Bastien, Keith Brown, JoAn Dale, Roy Giroux, George Hawley, Virginia Janisse, Justin Kazakevicius, Anna Marie Lennie, Rita Loewen, Rick Lumb, Bernice Luqui, Eris MacIntosh, Mary McEachran, Frances Murphy, Jeanne Ransome, Donald Roberts, Carol Ann Smith, and Douglas Warford.

June 2020 – June 2021 (19 in total)

James Allen, Irving Barat, Joyce Bremner, Suzanne Bruce, Patrick (PJ) Casella, Ted Collins, Margaret Dore, Rainer Kunau, Patricia Michie, Frank Mocerri, Rick Muldoon, Sydney Nishizaki, David Robinson, Elena Saffran, Joseph Timko, George Troniano, Helen Trotter, Parma Varma, and Arthur Wass.

For everyone's information, if you wish to view the 2021 St. Clair Day event, you may do so at the following link - <https://www.stclaircollege.ca/st-clair-day> **

Contributed by *Susan McLelland*



Retiree Parking

Retirees have been fortunate to receive complimentary parking privileges in Lot T at South Campus. Currently, COVID-19 has prevented retirees from entering the buildings, and this continues. Parking permits are not required to be renewed at this time. However, when the parking operation resumes in the future, permits will need to be renewed.

Updates will be distributed by e-mail to retirees in the Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent regions as soon as any changes occur.

Document Disposal At The College Prior To Paper Shredding

In a previous article, I wrote about the Crawl Spaces in the College that were used as storage areas and the extremely high numbers of boxes that held the College records for at least 7 years at a time. I don't know what the current situation is regarding storage spaces, but I do know what happened to most, if not all, of the boxes and the papers that were in them way back then.

You might be thinking that they just brought in a company to shred all the confidential info and haul it away. Well, my eco-friendly people, you would be mistaken.

Once or twice a year, a huge fire was lit inside the College and that fire consumed all the boxes and paper. I kid you not! However, it wasn't the type of fire that you would sit around in your lawn chairs to roast marshmallows or hot dogs. There was a large incinerator located below the Receiving Area. On my first day working in Receiving (1976 on an OCAP Grant), I discovered a steel door which was laid into the floor in a back room. I later affectionately called this "The Door in the Floor". I was informed that the door would be opened once or twice a year and that I would be able to see the destructive nature of fire. I tended to doubt that was what the door was for... that is until we went to the basement and into a room where there was a large oven-looking steel monstrosity, with 2 stacks that led from its top right up through the Receiving floor. I was told that the material to be burned would be dropped down through "The Door in the Floor" and that the other stack would carry all the smoke up through the ceiling and then outside. While it was interesting, I still had the feeling that I was somehow being fooled into believing this fire story.

However, my doubt was erased in my 3rd month of work. I was told that I had to ensure the area around the steel door was cleared of anything that might be in the way of the janitorial staff members who were going to use the incinerator. It was just a short time later, that I heard a huge "WHOOSH" sound from below the door, which caused me to take a few steps back. I ran down the stairs where a few of the janitors were in the Incinerator Room. They told me that they had just started the unit up and that they would be back in an hour when the unit was hot enough.

Sure enough, an hour later, they came up the Receiving elevator with a couple of cartloads of boxes and proceeded to "The Door in the Floor". Now, there was a railing around the steel door but I was told to step back when they first opened it. Apparently there had never been a problem previously but they told me this with such seriousness that I decided to make an excuse to leave the room for a minute. Once I knew the door had been opened, I walked

back into the room and got a face-full of heat. It was at that point that I peered over the railing and into the eyes of the fire.

The janitors started to push the boxes down the chute and it was amazing how fast the boxes were consumed. It was as if they began to melt halfway down the chute. The first cartload was almost empty when the phone rang in the Receiving office. Jake, the janitor's supervisor, needed them for a few minutes and I delivered the message. They said they would return in a few, and if I wanted to push some of the boxes down the chute that would be fine.

The fire fascinated me; so instead of pushing a whole box down at a time, I would take a handful of papers and drop them down the chute trying to guess which one would be the last to face its demise. When the guys returned, they realized that there were only a few boxes that were done and said, "Oh, did you have a truck come in", and of course I said, "Ya, he only had a box to deliver but needed some help with directions to his next stop". Yes, I actually kept a straight face while saying this.

We all proceeded back to "The Door" and I grabbed a handful of papers again and dropped them down the chute. The guys asked what I was doing and I said, "Making the job last a bit longer" and that's when they started grabbing handfuls themselves. So there we were, three adults, laughing and talking about different ways to describe how the paper was burning. They went back for a total of five or six cartloads that day so with my new "process" of dropping material down the chute, you can imagine that we killed a good couple of hours.

So, that's how the College got rid of their paper records and boxes back in the day. I don't recall what year the incinerator was shut down for good but there was no doubt it was because an eco-friendlier method of disposal came into being. I didn't think about this until well after the fact, but I began to wonder if the decision to fire up the incinerator was a last-minute decision based on the direction of the wind. Apparently, the College was making sure that the wind was blowing away from the houses along the east side of the College property because the smoke that came out the roof was black and thick.

Perhaps my next article will be about how a College student and a Grade 12 graduate came to spend a number of weekends at Devonshire Mall promoting the College and its programs with the main props being a robot and a car. ✨

Contributed by *Ross Langill*

Introducing Kelly Bevan Our New Vice-president



Kelly was a long-term employee of St. Clair College having started her journey in 1987 as a part-time clerk at the Industrial Resource Centre (IRC). In 1992, she was hired full time for the Gaming Training Institute under the auspice of the Department of Continuing Education. During her time at St. Clair,

Kelly worked in a variety of support staff positions within Research and Development, Marketing and Advertising, Program Development, and Quality Assurance. Prior to retirement, Kelly moved from support staff to administration in the position of Associate Registrar South Campus.

During her employment at St. Clair, Kelly received Ontario SuperHost Customer Service certification and traveled both nationally and internationally to deliver customer service training workshops. She also received certification in program research and development through the University of Las Vegas Nevada as well as DACUM facilitation certification through Ohio State University. Kelly was recognized with an “Innovation and Leadership” award from the University of Austin Texas for her role in the design and development of several training programs for gaming. She was a volunteer for a number of College related committees and boards including a six-year tenure on the Board of Governors as the Support Staff Representative.

Outside of work, Kelly spent much of her personal time volunteering in community theatre. As a member of Theatre Alive and The Windsor Light Music Theatre companies, she appeared on stage in more than a dozen theatrical productions, built props, wardrobe, and set pieces; worked with lighting and cues, was a stage manager, and assisted in directing. Theatre was one of Kelly’s most loved joys aside from travel. When not planning and rehearsing, she spent time researching (and daydreaming) travel opportunities.

Kelly has been married 40 years to her husband Chuck. Together they have a daughter Tanya, who is an actress presently living in Los Angeles with her partner who is also an actor, a son Tyler who is a Mechanical Engineer

(and alumnus of St. Clair’s Automotive Product Design program), a daughter-in-law who works as a mid-wife, and an extremely smart and gorgeous 2-year-old granddaughter. Aside from following the careers and aspirations of her children and admiring pictures and videos of her granddaughter, Kelly basks in her husband’s creative and very ingenious indoor and outdoor renovations, enjoys visits for ‘lupper’ (mid-afternoon lunch/supper gatherings) with her retired friends and since retiring, has found a renewed joy for sewing, crafting, and water-colour painting.

As a member of the SCCRA, Kelly hopes to carry forward the wonderful work that the association has been doing and looks forward to seeing her fellow retirees (in person) someday very soon. ✨



Reminiscing About Past Events At The College Load Testing “A” Block’s Roof

When I first came to teach at the College, there was only a trailer and an H hut. We taught classes in the H-hut. Meanwhile, “A” block, the first brick building, was under construction.

There came a time when we were told the building was complete and we could now start holding classes in it. Not too long after we started using the new building, we were told we would have to clear the building while they ran a test on the building.

I was sitting out on the grass with some of my students when the fire department arrived. We all wondered what was happening, because there had been no fire alarm. All of a sudden, the fire department began pouring water onto the roof of the new building. When I inquired later what was going on at the time, I was told they were testing the strength of the roof to see if it would hold in a heavy rainfall. Imagine how we felt. We were teaching in the building and they did not know if the roof was safe. Fortunately, the building passed the test, went on to be the basis for the remainder of the College structures, and is still standing today. This was just another adventure in the creation of St. Clair College. ✨

Contributed by *Bill Jones*

Help Needed To Locate Retirees

COVID disrupted many events and procedures. One in particular is having a major impact on the Retirees' Association and its membership. At the St. Clair Day, held virtually on June 25, 2021, people were welcomed into the wonderful life of retirement in 2020 and in 2021.

Unfortunately, only a few of these people have applied for membership in the Retirees' Association. There could be many reasons for this unusual circumstance. **WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

Attached is a list of those who are "lost". If you are in touch with any of these folks please let them know that we are welcoming them into the Retirees' Association, but we must be contacted by each person, individually, to do so officially and to complete our contact information..

"Lost" Retirees

Deborah Boersma
Wayne Campbell
Don Crowder
John DeCaro
Stephen Decator
Norman Dobson
Susan Favaro
Nelly Foley

Barbara Graham
Thomas Groulx
Titus Howard
Dale Jarrell
Beverly Jones
Kim Jones
Jim Kales
Michael Lefebvre

Patricia Meloche
Catherine Mulawka
Marion Podhraski
Kenneth Reynolds
John Sanderson
Barb Sedlacek
Nino Siriani
Connie Sivyver
Elizabeth Szabo Verzoc

Please ask your contact to:

Call: 519-972-2727 Ext. 4439 and leave a message or,
E-mail to: sretiree@stclaircollege.ca or,
Snail mail to: St. Clair College Retirees' Association,
2000 Talbot Road, Box 41,
Windsor, ON., N9A 6S4.

Someone will contact you with the appropriate membership application.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

The Homespun Wisdom Of Will Rogers

"Always drink upstream from the herd."
"I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts."
"There are three kinds of men: The ones that learn by reading; the few who learn by observation; and the rest of them have to pee on the electric fence for themselves."
"When I first started out to write and misspelled a few words, people said I was plain ignorant; but when I got all the words wrong, they declared I was a humorist."
"Best doctor in the world is a veterinarian. He can't ask his patients what's the matter. He's just got to know."
"Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there."

The Zaniness Of Yogi Berra

"The future ain't what it used to be."
"Cut my pie into four pieces, I don't think I could eat eight."
"90% of the game is physical, the other half is mental."
"Okay you guys, pair up in threes!"
"I'd give my right arm to be ambidextrous."
"It ain't the heat, it's the humility."
"You have to give 100 percent in the first half of the game. If that isn't enough, in the second half, you have to give what's left."
"A nickel ain't worth a dime anymore."
"Half the lies they tell about me aren't true."

Introducing Dolph Barsanti Our New Treasurer



You may know him simply as “Dolph,” but he was born Adolph Stephen Barsanti in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

Dolph’s grandfather was in the restaurant business and, eventually, was assisted by Dolph’s father and his three

brothers. Dolph’s father also bought a retail business known as the Trading Post. The boys got out of the family restaurant business, and the Trading Post was sold.

Dolph always knew he was going to get some formal education so, at an appropriate time he obtained a business degree from Wilfrid Laurier. It was not uncommon for “Northerners” to go to university out of town. Dolph also attended Lake Superior State University, and eventually acquired both an MBA and a CMA accounting designation.

Upon completion of his business studies, Dolph found employment with the Ministry of Community and Social Services as a senior finance officer in “The Soo.” Unfortunately, not too long after, the Bob Rae government of the time declared these jobs redundant. And so, Dolph was transferred to Windsor for similar work. As it turned out, the Mike Harris government of the time then also declared his Windsor job redundant! Subsequently, Dolph found work as a comptroller for a number of different employers, including Boblo, a US-CDN manufacturer, and Peter Anthony Designs Ltd.

In January 2006, Dolph was hired as the Manager of Accounting & Administration. Later, in October 2006, St. Clair College advertised for a Chief Financial Officer and Dolph was hired as the CFO by then President John Strasser. This job eventually grew to include responsibility for Facilities Management, the Registrar’s Office, and Student Services before Dolph retired in 2018. Dolph’s spouse, Suzanne worked in the credit union

business as a loans officer. His son is a software engineer for Amazon in Detroit, and his daughter is Manager, Career Development & Experiential Learning at our local University.

Retired three years now, Dolph keeps busy as a self-described “hacker” on the golf course while also volunteering as the Treasurer for the Downtown Mission, as a member of the Public School Board Audit Committee, as treasurer for his townhome association, in between playing online poker, doing numerous jigsaw puzzles, and babysitting the four grandchildren.

Oh, let’s not forget that Dolph is now also the treasurer for your Retirees’ Association. Welcome, Dolph...we’re glad and privileged to have you! **

Contributed by *Pat Hallahan*

SCCRA Golf

Where - Woodland Hills - Belle River Road & Hwy 401

When – Any time from April to October 31

Telephone - 519-975-4653

Cost - No charge

Thanks to St. Clair College V. P. Mr. Ron Seguin, your SCCRA Executive Board is pleased to announce that all ‘paid-up’ SCCRA members will receive ‘Free’ golf privileges at Woodland Hills Golf Course.

All SCCRA Members holding a ‘paid-up’ **2021 membership card*** are eligible to play golf at no cost or to hit golf balls on the Driving Range (a small bucket of driving range balls will be provided at no cost). You simply need to call Woodland Hills at the telephone number shown above to book a tee-time (no tee time required for the Driving Range). **Note:** You must sign in at the pro shop and show your **2021 membership card**.

A special note for non-golfing SCCRA members. This is a great opportunity to “give it a try”. You can either hit a few golf balls on the Driving Range (a small bucket of driving range balls will be provided at the course) or you can bring your own golf balls to play a round of golf on the course (a tee time is required). In either case, you must use your own golf clubs.

Contributed by *Jim Chambers*

* **Note:** If you do not yet have your 2021 Membership Card, please contact Marilyn Portt atramembership@gmail.com

"Hibernation Cancellation" Party

Let's celebrate the end of Covid19 lockdown and solitude!

We are kicking isolation to the curb to revel in the joy of being together with colleagues, friends, and new retirees.

Please join us for an afternoon of relaxation, lunch, games, and conversation, all amidst the beautiful county grounds of our hosts Bev and Paul Chortos.



Save the date



Date: Tuesday August 31st, 2021 - noon (rain date: September 1st, 2021 - noon)

Place: 1321 County Rd. 20 West, Kingsville, On. (see directions below)

Fee: \$15.00 (to be paid upon arrival)

Lunch: Served at 12:30
Boxed lunch from Green Heart Kitchen includes your choice of one of the following wraps:
1. Basil Pesto Chicken
2. Avocado Turkey
3. Maple Mustard Ham and Cheddar
4. Veggie Hummus (Vegan)

All above include spring mix and cheese. Also includes, apple, salad, apple/maple vinaigrette and 2 cookies.

RSVP: By Aug 16 to scraevents@yahoo.com. Please include name, phone number, and **your choice of wrap!**

Please note there is limited seating for this event

Directions to Paul & Bev Chortos: From Windsor: Take Hwy 3 to the Arner Town Line, to County Rd 20, turn left for approx. 1.5km, look for several road side solar panels and balloons, turn at solar panels, follow road to their home. From Chatham - use GPS.....

Watch your e-mail - more details to follow!

A documentary that I recently watched on TV showed General Douglas MacArthur giving his farewell speech to the U.S. Congress which he closed with the words from an old military barracks song, "Old soldiers never die; they simply fade away."

Some time later, it occurred to me that there are professions and trades for which similar remarks might be applicable. In that same sentiment, I offer the following ...

- Old doctors never die; they simply lose their patience (patients?)
- Old accountants (also tightrope walkers, gymnasts, and acrobats) never die; they simply lose their balance (or their figures).
- Old lawyers never die; they simply lose their appeal.
- Old bankers never die; they simply lose interest.
- Old mechanics (or navigators) never die; they simply lose their bearings.
- Old psychiatrists never die; they simply lose their marbles (or minds).
- Old air conditioning techs never die; they simply lose their cool.
- Old railway engineers never die; they simply lose track (of their thoughts).
- Old railway conductors never die; they simply lose their train (of thought?)
- Old playwrights/screen writers never die; they simply lose the plot.
- Old neurologists never die; they simply lose their nerve.
- Old watch and clock repairmen never die; they simply lose track of time.
- Old cardiologists never die; they simply lose heart.
- Old figure skaters (or hockey players) never die; they simply lose their edge.
- Old chefs never die; they simply lose their lunch.
- Old ballet dancers (or mountain climbers) never die; they simply lose their footing.

One imagines that there are more. Feel free to add to the list. **

Tony Ellul



While I was reading the other day, I came across this quote, and it struck me as very encouraging. It is by Edward Everett Hale, as follows: "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something; and I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."

Contributed by **Bill Jones**

In Memoriam

*We remember the following Retirees/Full-time Staff who passed away during the period
March 26, 2021 - August 11, 2021*



James Allen, St Clair College retiree and a well-known and respected member of Windsor's Black community, passed away on Friday, March 26, 2021 at age 75. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and three children. A Windsor Police officer, he left the force to become an electrician. What he really loved was teaching his

trade. He taught at St. Clair College for 26 years.



Irving Barat passed away at 89 years of age on Monday March 29, 2021. Father of three, he was predeceased by his wife Rhia (2007). Irv was a Professor at St. Clair College in the psychology department. He enjoyed writing poetry, was a jazz aficionado.



Roger Alexander Dubé, CD, RCN submariner, passed away on April 26, 2021 at age 83 at the Perley Rideau Veterans' Health Centre in Ottawa, Ontario. He is survived by five children. Roger was predeceased by his wife, St. Clair retiree **Heather (Milne)**.



Agnes Bomben passed away on April 27, 2021 at age 88. Loving wife of 66 years to Aldo, and mother to Randy (Lisa) and Carla Wilson (Steve). Agnes was at her happiest cooking for her family and friends. She was retired after many years with Versa Foods at St. Clair College.



Robert L. MacKenzie passed away on Friday, April 30, 2021 in the palliative unit at Hotel Dieu Grace Health Care, Windsor. Bob retired from St Clair College where he taught journalism from 1980 to 1997 after a varied career as a journalist. He is survived by his wife, St. Clair College retiree **Susan**.



David Cooper passed away in Blenheim on May 6 2021 at age 71. He was the husband of 40 years to Karen Cooper and father of two children. He spent over 40+ years teaching at St. Clair College in the Developmental Service Worker program.



Charles (Charlie) Murfin Jackson passed away in London, Ontario on May 7, 2021, in his 101st year. Charles was the beloved husband of Jean Jackson, to whom he was happily married since May 21, 1949, and the father of Brian, Carolyn, Nancy and Louise. Charlie was a WWII radar instructor, an electronics teacher, Principal of the Western Ontario Institute of Technology, and Vice President of St. Clair College.



William James Gibb passed away on May 15, 2021, at the age of 82. Bill was predeceased by his wife Christine and leaves four children. Bill served the town of Amherstburg as Councillor, Deputy Reeve, and Mayor, and served on the St. Clair College Board of Governors.



Catherine Ann "Cathy" (Douglas) Davies passed away on June 8, 2021 at South Huron Hospital at age 66. Cathy was an award-winning pastry chef, who taught culinary arts at St. Clair College.



Frank Donald "Bing" Lynch passed away in Blenheim on Saturday June 26, 2021. Bing will be remembered by his children Deb Baskett, John Lynch and Tom & Glenda Lynch. After a career in plumbing and heating, Bing retired from St. Clair College.

*We remember also the family members of Retirees/Full-time Staff who passed away during the period
March 26, 2021 - August 11, 2021*

Helen Maria Welch passed away on Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at the age of 83. Helen was the mother of St Clair staff member **Wendy Trahan**.

Elaine Gouin passed away on June 6, 2021. Elaine was the sister of St. Clair retiree **Patrick (Darlene) Gadoury**.

Dominic Dimenna passed away on June 8, 2021 at age 83. Dominic was the brother of St. Clair retiree **Ron Dimenna (Yvonne)**.



Margaret “Bette” Sauve passed away at 100 years, on July 6, 2021. Bette was the sister of St. Clair retiree **Maurice Pougnet**.

Edward Tetrault Jr. passed away on Thursday, July 8, 2021 in Chatham at the age of 89. He was the father of St. Clair retiree **Lynne Compton** of Chatham.

*Walk on, walk on
With hope in your heart,
And you'll never walk alone.*

*- Oscar Hammerstein and Richard Rogers
(Carousel)*

College Update

COVID has certainly prevented any resemblance of ‘normalcy’ on all of the College’s campuses and activities. In spite of that, there has been considerable activity to report.

The College response to COVID was strictly in line with the dictates of the regional, provincial and national guidelines – classes continued, albeit in a variety of formats; and, staff worked from home where necessary and feasible. Except for very few cases identified amongst staff and students, the College operated smoothly. The College provided critical equipment from the Health Sciences building in the early stages when it was badly needed, and in the early Spring, 2020 the entire SportSPlex was turned over to Windsor Regional Hospital for conversion to a field hospital, later to become a mass inoculation site. This facility is now being returned to the College.

Everyone involved deserves credit for the outstanding example of community service/responsibility and has cast the College in a very good light. WELL DONE! In spite of the restrictions and limitations during the past 18 months, there has been considerable activity and progress.

If you were able to visit the campuses, you probably would not recognize the changes:

- The houses at the Cabana Road entrance have been demolished to make way for work on a grander entrance to begin soon
- The GEM student residence – built like Lego – is nearing completion

- The SportsPark with Tennis Centre, professional Stadium, is now complete and in use
- The St Clair Fratmen football program will get under way this Fall
- Stadium seats on sale for a donation of \$250 (contact: Noreena Johnson at njohnson@stclaircollege.ca or phone at 519-972-2727 Ext. 4258)
- Zekleman Business addition with eSports facilities is mushrooming
- New facility -333 Riverside Dr. – the pedestrian bridge crossing 333 Riverside Drive will soon have the College name and logo on it as the College will be using one of the buildings for 300 – 400 students.

In addition to the physical changes and developments, there have been a number of activities:

- Quality Audit – one of four colleges this year
- 54th Annual Convocations – 8 virtual sessions with 5000 grads
- Scholarships - 2252 applicants - \$533,466 awarded, (avg. \$500-\$700)
- \$11M invested in Foundation portfolio
- Fashion Show- recorded and distributed virtually with no live models as in past, but designs displayed using a ‘robotic walk’
- On July 21, 2021, Windsor Regional Hospital returned the keys to the College SportsPlex, along with the promised \$1.00 rental fee, to President Patti France after occupying the facility for COVID activity for the past 15 months. ✱

Contributed by **Bill Totten**

Executive Board 2021-2022

Past-President	- Kathy Dupuis
President	- Susan McLelland
Vice-President	- Kelly Bevan
President Emeritus	- Bill Totten
Secretary	- Lyn Medler
Treasurer	- Dolph Barsanti
Membership	- Marilyn Portt
Chatham Rep.	- Elizabeth Barr & Ginny Russell
Social	- Mimi McPhedran & Patricia Taylor
Fundraising	- Jim Chambers
Newsletter	- Tony Ellul
Goodwill	- Lori Caba
Board Observer	- Bill Jones
OCRA Rep.	- Jim Martin

SCCRA Telephone Number/Voice Mail -
519-972-2727 Ext. 4439

SCCRA e-mail address
sretiree@stclaircollege.ca

SCCRA Website -
<https://stclaircollege.ca/retirees>

Upcoming Events

The Corona Virus pandemic and the directives for restrictions issued by the Ontario Health authorities have hindered most of our social activities since March 2020.

We are pleased that, with the easing of restrictions, we shall be having our first in-person social event on August 31st as can be seen on page 13 of this newsletter. However, we are mindful that changes to Government COVID rules can take place at any time. We will do our best to keep everyone up to date should that eventuality occur.

We hope to see many of you there!

Stay safe and stay well.

For the Retirees' Association
Quarterly Calendar of Events
and listing of activities
visit our calendar webpage at

<https://stclaircollege.ca/retirees/calendar>

Have you changed your address?

Please update your address to continue receiving the Retirees' Association information.
We **do not share** your contact information with anyone.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street/Apt. City Postal Code

E-mail address: _____

Mail to: St. Clair College Retirees' Association, Box 41, 2000 Talbot Road, Windsor, ON N9A 6S4 or
E-mail to: sretiree@stclaircollege.ca