



# ST. CLAIR COLLEGE

## RETIREES' ASSOCIATION



### From the President *Susan McLelland*



Thankfully Spring has sprung! We sure had our fill of winter and cold weather this year. Very glad to be at the end of all that. We are looking forward to some nice mild breezes and brightly coloured flowers in our gardens.

Our Out-To-Lunch-Bunch Committee, headed by Marilyn Portt and Mimi McPhedran, has been keeping us busy on a monthly basis meeting at locations such as Chuck's on Huron Church Road (during the midst of a nasty snow storm), The Hungry Wolf Restaurant, and Beach Grove Golf Club. I am writing you this on the evening of our gathering at Beach Grove. What a great time we had! The food was amazing (many compliments to the Chef there), the service was very hospitable and the venue and view were spectacular! Not to mention – the company was superb! Many thanks to Deborah Martel and Bruce Rand for sharing their membership there with our Association members. We had nearly 40 people show up! All of our luncheons seem to be well attended so far - even during snowstorms - and it is wonderful seeing everyone catching up with our latest daily life activities.

Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 7th this year, and it will be held right at the South Cam- pus in Griff's restaurant, which is located in the Student Centre - same location as last year. Keep an eye out for further info about the AGM in your e-mail and in this publication for specifics regarding time, etc. The purpose of this meeting is to take nominations for Executive Board positions as and to provide up- dates to all of you as to what we are planning for the next year. We will be sending you out an annual report one month before the meeting date for your review. We also look forward to feedback and ideas for future events from everyone. If you've ever considered joining the Executive Board or want to be on a committee, feel free to drop me a line, call, or e-mail if you would like to join us. We have a great team, and it is fun. Come and socialize for a while, following which pizza and refreshments will be served around 1 pm. Please mark your calendars.



Also keep in mind, now that the weather is getting warmer, and that Retiree Association members can golf at no charge at the College's Woodland Hills Golf course, just off the 401 at the Belle River exit. Just show them your- Association Membership card.

Take good care everyone. Cheers to a terrific spring and summer ahead. \*\*

*Sue McLelland*

*Our home and native land  
We stand on guard for thee*

## Out-To-Lunch-Bunch

It is our pleasure to report that our lunches have been quite interesting. In January, we met at Chuck's Bar and Grill on Huron Church Road; it was a snowy day, but 20 die-hard retirees were there. The conversations were lively as everyone mixed and were re-acquainted.

We had originally scheduled our February outing for the Walkerville Brewery. Unfortunately, upon going to make



Jim Martin relishing his super-sized hamburger. Marilyn Portt in the background.

reservations, we found the parking not very accessible for our needs. Our plans changed, and we gathered instead at Hungry Wolf on Walker Road. Again, a cold and windy day, but we were delightfully surprised to see new faces. The service was excellent and we were given good reviews for the day.

March is a special month thanks to one of our members who has arranged for us to meet at Beach Grove Golf and Country Club. This time it will be a little different, as we needed to have members register for this event. We had a great turnout of 40 retirees participate.

We will take a break in April, as our Social Director, Pat Taylor, has arranged a trip and lunch to Canadian Transportation Museum. Watch for further details.

May, is a busy month with the bus trip to Petrolia, graduations, and Mother's Day. It might be wise to wait until early June when we hope to meet at the Grove in Kingsville. So watch for emails.

Everyone take care, and hope to see you soon. \*\*

Contributed by *Mimi McPhedran & Marilyn Portt*

Photo: *Sue McLelland*



## Around The College

1. Hundreds of **graduates from dozens of programs** received the ultimate recognition of their hard work - their diplomas and certificates - at the Feb. 20, 2025 Winter Convocation at the St. Clair College Centre for the Arts Chrysler Theatre.

2. St. Clair College has been named one of '**Southwestern Ontario's Top Employers**' for 2025 by Mediacorp Canada Inc. This competition highlights the area's diverse industries and dynamic employment landscape in southwestern Ontario, which has long been considered the manufacturing and agriculture engine of Ontario.

3. St. Clair College students from several programs bundled into sleeping bags and tents on Friday, February 8, to **raise awareness and funds for those experiencing homelessness**. The Windsor Residence for Young Men (WRYM) provided participants with a glimpse into the harsh realities faced by young people who do not have a safe place to call home.

4. To commemorate all-star student-athlete performers, St. Clair College unveiled the Saints Wall of Honour during halftime of the Saints men's basketball game on Feb. 8, 2025. In total, 13 Saints were recognized on the new **Saints Wall of Honour**, with their name and jersey numbers proudly displayed on a wall at the SportsPlex.

5. St. Clair College was celebrated for '**incredible quality processes**' by the **Ontario College Quality Assurance Service (OCQAS)** who visited St. Clair College on January 20, 2025.

6. On Jan. 26, 2025, St. Clair College hosted a **special convocation ceremony** for the first 24 graduates of the new **Battery Manufacturing certificate program**. St. Clair College partnered with Unifor, Stellantis, LGES, and Next-Star Energy to play a role in the inception of this exciting new local manufacturing advancement.

7. The St. Clair **Women's Volleyball** team is heading home with **silver medals** after a hard-fought loss in the OCAA Championship game on Saturday, in Etobicoke.

8. The St. Clair College **Men's Basketball** team (19-3) outlasted Georgian College (Barrie) 100-86 to **win bronze** at the OCAA Championship in Etobicoke, Ontario on March 2. \*\*

Contributed by *Bill Totten*

Content from the St. Clair College website, with permission



## My Island In The Sun - Barbados

The first time I visited Barbados was in 1986. My parents had been staying with their “gang” on the island for so many year, that they had received Honorary Citizenship, and they wanted me to experience the island they loved so much. Many years and over 45 trips later, my husband Frank and I have made Barbados our winter getaway and we have been lucky to share it with our children, my sister and her children and our best friends.

Only 24 miles by 14 miles, this little piece of heaven has changed, as everything must, over the many years we have been going there, but one thing has not, the graciousness of its people. Good manners, friendly greetings, and a very high level of literacy/education are hallmarks of these industrious people. The history of Barbados ranges from the Amerindian settlements over a thousand years ago to colonization by the British in 1627 and finally It’s independence, declaring itself a Republic in 2023.

Barbados got its name from the Portuguese explorers who called the island Los Barbados which means “the bearded ones”. The beards they referred to are the hanging roots of the many bearded fig trees that hug the shoreline. The British, always at war with either the French or the Spanish back in the 1600 hundreds built a garrison on the island, a major tourist attraction that still stands today and is still a working military defence operation. One of the big no-no’s that is very strictly enforced on the island, as my son found out, is that no one is allowed to wear camouflage clothing except the military. His shorts had to go back into the drawer until we got home.

Very much aware of the wealth the island could generate through its sugar cane and rum production, many “landowners” built great plantation houses that are now interesting tourist attractions. Many foreigners lived the life of the rich and powerful on the backs of indigenous people, slaves, and the indentured people who were shipped out of England to pay their debts as servants and cane workers during those years. It is not unusual to find inhabitants with red hair, green or blue eyes and skin of various shades adding to the beauty of this island.

Barbados itself is a mix of terrains. Beaches of soft warm sand that are all open to anyone who wants to wander them, a sea of so many shades of blue an artist would be lost to capture them all, tiny yellow birds whose beaks and tongues are almost as long as their bodies and sunsets that defy description by this writer. The Green Monkeys, that can be found all over the Island, do truly have a greenish tinge to their fur and have lent their name to a Championship golf course and one of the finest chocolatiers to ever produce a macaron.

An island of varying scenery - from the soft sands of its West Coast to its crashing waves and jagged rocks of the North where the Atlantic meets the Caribbean, to its South Coast where surfing competitions are held at the Soup Bowl, and to its interior where cane fields still produce some of the finest rum in the world - my island in the sun is heaven on earth.

Next episode, George Washington slept here. \*\*

Contributed by *Patricia Taylor*

## From the SCCRA ‘IT’ Department Chapter 4 - A Summary of Red Flags

1. **Does the FROM address come from the alleged company source rather than a foreign country nor a Gmail account?** A Thunderbird hint: The FROM field can be set to display in a number of ways. Look under Settings; General; Message List. Best to use the option “*Full Name and email address*”.
2. **Do they want a list of your personal information (including bank numbers or SIN or credit card numbers, etc.)**
3. **Does the link in the message actually point you to somewhere ‘legit’?**
4. **Have you actually dealt with the stated company on a current order or transaction?**
5. **Are you the possible recipient of a load of money from some unknown far-off relative?**
6. **Does the word ‘kindly’ or ‘okay’ appear in the message?** Many scams from African nations like to use those words a lot.
7. **Do the messages contain a lot of spelling or grammar mistakes?** My Cogeco account currently has dozens of spam/phish messages in the junk folder. They are invariably very similar in features: Remember, most are supposed to be from ‘Cogeco’.
  - **From:** Gmail, AOL, Hotmail, Germany
  - **To:** Most are to undisclosed recipients or BCC’d addresses. You should expect at least a personalized address.
  - **Salutation:** personalized, not ‘Dear Users’
  - **False Announcements:** a Rogers/Cogeco Collaboration??
  - **False Upgrade:** *You need to upgrade Webmail.* Webmail is the responsibility of the service provider. You only need to use a browser or a direct client like Thunderbird to access your e-mail. But no, you need not update Webmail.
  - **Spelling and Grammar:**
    - **Accidental:** Foreign-sourced messages will typically misspell common words. Be wary.
    - **On Purpose:** Pay attention to the key words shown. Terminology, company names such as COGECO vs the fake COGEC0. See the difference?
    - **Fake Links:** Where does the message point to. It may say Cogeco.ca but actually points to somewhere else in the world. **Hovering** over the link with your mouse will tell you.
    - Thunderbird has an option where if you right-click on a link in that spam message, you can report an email scam to Google assuming the message came from Gmail. Not sure if it helps, but why not?

Examples of fake hosts (The base sites are legit. Their use is not):  
Mystrikingly.com

Linkfly.to

Adobe.com (the PDF people)

Dropbox.com (a file depository)

Amazonaws.com (yes, that Amazon) \*\*

Contributed by *Ken Garber*

## Mark Your Calendars

### St. Clair College Retirees' Association 2025 Annual General Meeting Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 12:00 Griff's Restaurant - South Campus

The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers, approve the 2025 budget, consider bylaw changes, and receive committee reports.

### Mixed (Ladies & Gents) Golf Summer 2025 at Woodland Hills



Jim Chambers and I are planning a 1:10 tee-off on Wednesdays starting when Woodland Hills opens in April.

Interested in joining us?

Send an email to [dolphbarsanti@gmail.com](mailto:dolphbarsanti@gmail.com)

I will add additional tee-times if necessary. ✨

Contributed by **Dolph Barsanti**

### Newsletter by E-mail or Snail Mail?

We are often asked why we send it both ways. The answer is that we have not had the ability to separate those who want only to receive it by e-mail.

Well folks, we can now accommodate your preference – receive the newsletter by both e-mail and hard copy, or, by e-mail only.

If you prefer e-mail only, send a message to [sretiree@stclaircollege.ca](mailto:sretiree@stclaircollege.ca) indicating your preference, or when you renew your annual membership, you are provided with an opportunity to indicate your preference.

### 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 [sccretirees2018@gmail.com](mailto:sccretirees2018@gmail.com).

But first, make sure there's nothing sitting in your Junk/Spam folder(s).

## Did you know that St Clair College now has EXCLUSIVE perks for both Employees and Retirees?

You can sign up for the St. Clair Rewards App on your smart phone. This App provides discounts for 48 companies around town and the province, such as: White Oaks Resort and Spa, Great Wolf Lodge, Quilts, MoCha Bubble Tea, Sketchers, Spitfires, SPECSX, Coral Spa, Volkswagen of Windsor, CAA, The Chrysler Theatre, Macro Foods, Canon and many more.



The APP is available for both **IPHONE** and **ANDROID** devices. Simply go to the appropriate APP store and download it today!

- How to Register:
  - Download the APP to your smartphone device
  - Select “SIGN UP”
    - **Option 1**
      - Enter in your Employee ID and date of birth
      - Your Employee ID can be found on your pay stub
      - Fill out all necessary information to start using your perks!
    - **Option 2 – Retired/No Access to Employee ID?**
      - If you are a retiree and do not have access to your Employee ID, you may request an account by clicking the button: Request an Account

\* Please note, this request may take up to one week to process.

### OCRA Membership

We highly recommend taking a membership in OCRA (Ontario College Retirees' Association) when renewing membership in our association. The cost is \$10.00 annually (or a lifetime fee is available).

The link to the OCRA website is [ocraretirees.ca](http://ocraretirees.ca). There, one can find information about the CAAT Pension Plan, health benefits and health providers, websites of other retiree associations of other Ontario colleges, and a membership application form. Access to other Retiree Association newsletters can also be available.

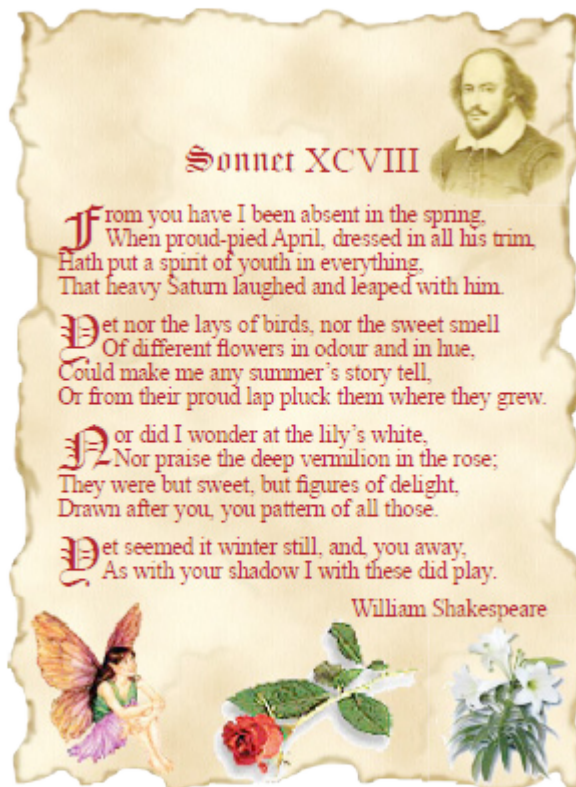
## The Lusty Month of May

Tra la! It's May!  
The lusty month of May!  
That lovely month when ev'ryone goes  
Blissfully astray.  
Tra la! It's here!  
That shocking time of year  
When tons of wicked little thoughts  
Merrily appear!  
It's May! It's May!  
That gorgeous holiday  
When ev'ry maiden prays that her lad will be a cad!  
It's mad! It's gay! A libelous display!  
Those dreary vows that ev'ryone takes,  
Ev'ryone breaks.  
Ev'ryone makes divine mistakes  
The lusty month of May!



Whence this fragrance wafting through the air?  
What sweet feelings does its scent transmute?  
Whence this perfume floating ev'rywhere?  
Don't you know it's that dear forbidden fruit!  
Tra la la la la! That dear forbidden fruit!  
Tra la la la la!  
Tra la la la la

Alan Jay Lerner, *The Lusty Month of May* from *Camelot*  
Follow these links for a few minutes of musical delight -  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vvrE\\_ekDXQc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vvrE_ekDXQc)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=anqaUhjoleg>



## Save the Date - 2025 Fall Social

The Social Committee wishes to let everyone know that Paul and Bev Chortos have once again graciously extended to the SCCRA an invitation to hold our 2025 Fall Social at their beautiful property in Kingsville.

Date - Wednesday, September 3

Rain Date - Thursday, September 4



Watch for further details in future e-mails and in the summer newsletter.

Patricia Taylor, Social Committee

## Please Note ...

You'll find the main College home page at  
<https://stclaircollege.ca/>

The Retiree pages are found by clicking on "About Us" or you can click on the following link  
<https://stclaircollege.ca/retirees>. You can then save it in your bookmark folder.

Down the right side of the Retiree page, you'll find a plethora of menu items from which to choose. Enjoy!

## 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](mailto:contact@caatpension.on.ca)

## Trivia Quiz by Lyn Medler

It's a musical theme ...

1. In the song *The Lion Sleeps Tonight*, the singers continue to sing "wimoweh" in the background. What does wimoweh mean?
2. Though formed in Los Angeles, the members of rock band Buffalo Springfield were all of Canadian or Canadian-American nationality. True or False?
3. The Barenaked Ladies wrote and performed the theme song for which popular TV series?
4. What was Willie Nelson's job before he became a country singer?
5. Which iconic 1960s rock star rests in the same Paris cemetery as the great Chopin?

Answers on page 7

## Ah! Sweet Spring You Have Returned! Welcome Back



On waking up the other day, I heard the sound Ò-coo-Ooo, Ooo-Ooo. Could it be? There it was again. It was the sound of a mourning dove, North America's cousin of the Bible's turtle dove, the harbinger of spring; and look over there ... a robin is perched on a still naked tree branch.

Surely, spring must be close. The signs are all around us. The snow and ice are melting. The ground is softening up and has broken old man winter's frozen grasp. Beneath the surface of the soil, long-dormant bulbs of crocus, iris, tulip, hyacinth, and, daffodils are stirring and bravely, tentatively, sending up their tender shoots through the softening earth to greet the smiling sun. Branches on trees and shrubs are gently swinging in the warming breeze, their tips swelling with buds of new life. Soon, those buds will unfurl into a riot of colour in blossoms and leaves. Soon the air will be fragrant with the perfume of lilac and hyacinth, and the eye will feast on the bright yellow splashes of forsythia and daffodil.

Listen, listen. Can you hear it? The birds are breaking out into a song as they greet the arrival of spring. You can almost feel the quickening pulse of nature as it awakens from its long winter slumber. Spring has arrived. eight or nine months. Goodbye, and welcome. Welcome back dear, won't you the hope of warmer aches from working in price to pay for the

Old man winter has been banished for another good riddance; you have overstayed your wonderful spring bringing back with longer days the garden - a small wonders of your gifts.

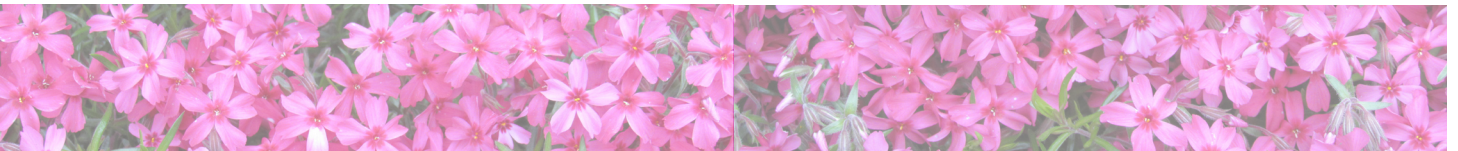


Look around you. Peo-coats, and look ... they are backs and dig their hands deep winter cold, and scowl and grit freezing windy blasts. Isn't it great? and soon they'll be wishing each

ple are shedding their heavy winter smiling. They no longer hunch their into their pockets against the their teeth at those howling People smiling everywhere, other Happy Easter.

Spring, the season of hope and new life, with the world. \*\*

Contributed by **Tony Ellul, Editor**



### Spring

And fairy month of waking mirth  
From whom our joys ensue  
Thou early gladder of the earth  
Thrice welcome here anew  
With thee the bud unfolds to leaves  
The grass greens on the lea  
And flowers their tender boon receives  
To bloom and smile with thee

John Clare

### April's Charms

When April scatters charms of primrose gold  
Among the copper leaves in thickets old,  
And singing skylarks from the meadows rise,  
To twinkle like black stars in sunny skies;  
When I can hear the small woodpecker ring  
Time on a tree for all the birds that sing;  
And hear the pleasant cuckoo, loud and long  
The simple bird that thinks two notes a song;

William Henry Davies

# In Memoriam

*We remember the following Retirees/Full-time Staff who passed away during the period  
January 30, 2025 - March 19, 2025*



**Mike Krakana** passed away at Heron Terrace on Monday February 3, 2024 at the age of 88. He was predeceased by his wife Mary (Fraser), and is survived by son Mike and daughter Mary Anne. Mike was an administrator prior to which he taught in the former Technical Arts and Trades Division.



**Joseph "Joe" Lucas** passed away on February 16, 2025 at the age of 83. After serving in the United States Marine Corps and graduating from the University of Windsor, he was invited to join the faculty as a professor at the newly instituted St Clair College where he taught Psychology and English for many years. He coached long distance running in track and field for the College.



**Alexander (Al) George MacLellan** passed away in Bowmanville, on February 11, 2025 at the age of 89. Al was the husband of Edna, and father to Michelle and Dennis, and stepfather to Mike and Kristen. Alex had a distinguished career in the Plant & Services Division at St Clair College. His passion for sports allowed him to serve as coach for the College curling team leading them to two Ontario Championships.



**Oleg Joseph Telizyn** passed away in Burlington, Ontario on February 22, 2025. Oleg leaves behind his wife of fifty-six years Sylvia (née Kovacs), and his three children Adrian, Paula, and Christina. Oleg joined the faculty at St. Clair College (1972-1977) and served as Music Director, organizing the St. Clair College Concert Band with conductor Hank Gingell.

*We remember also the family members of Retirees/Full-time Staff who passed away during the period  
January 30, 2025 - March 19, 2025*

**Theresa Lassaline** passed away peacefully on February 6, 2025 at the age of 89. Theresa was the mother of **St. Clair staff member John Lassaline**.

**Meliha Miyriye Unlu** passed away on February 20, 2025 at the age of 86. She was the mother of **St. Clair retiree Naz Binck**.

**Darcy Gadoury** passed away on Friday February 21, 2025 at the age of 54. Darcy was the son of **St. Clair retiree Patrick Gadoury**.

**Shirley Ann Meloche** passed away on March 5, 2025 at the age of 87. She was the mother of **St. Clair retiree Lyn Medler**.

The Retirees' Association acknowledges the passing of **Nahrin Gewarges** on January 20, 2025 at age 71. Nahrin worked in catering at the St. Clair College Center for the Arts demonstrating her exceptional attitude and work ethic by transforming many Retiree activities into events to remember.



## Song of Songs

Behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone.  
The flowers appear on the earth,  
the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.  
The fig tree ripens its figs, and the vines are in blossom;  
they give forth fragrance.  
Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come away.

Song of Solomon

## Answers to Trivia Quiz

1. The real word is *Uyimbube* in Zulu and means "You're a lion"
2. True. Neil Young being one of them.
3. The Big Bang Theory
4. Bible salesman
5. Jim Morrison, lead singer of The Doors

## Executive Board 2024-2025

<b>President</b>	- Susan McLelland
<b>Vice-President</b>	- Ross Langill
<b>Past-President</b>	- Kathy Dupuis
<b>President Emeritus</b>	- Bill Totten
<b>Secretary</b>	- Lyn Medler
<b>Treasurer</b>	- Dolph Barsanti
<b>Membership</b>	- Marilyn Portt
<b>Chatham Reps.</b>	- Elizabeth Barr & Dale Jarrell
<b>Social Director</b>	- Patricia Taylor
<b>Newsletter</b>	- Tony Ellul
<b>Goodwill</b>	- Silva Stamboulion
<b>Board Observer</b>	- Vacant
<b>Email/Mailchimp</b>	- Ken Garber
<b>Archives</b>	- Vacant
<b>Member at large</b>	- Brian Hucker

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

SCCRA e-mail address  
[sretiree@stclaircollege.ca](mailto:sretiree@stclaircollege.ca)

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



## Coming Events

May 7	Retirees' Assoc. AGM	Details on page 4, top left
May 11	Mother's Day	
May 13	Victoria Playhouse Trip	Bus leaves College @ 9:15am
May 19	<b>Victoria Day</b>	College Closed
May 21	RA Executive meeting	9 a.m. in A0216
May - TBA	Golf Begins at Woodland Hills	
June 18	RA Executive meeting	9 am – Chatham Campus
June - TBA	President's Staff Appreciation Brunch	
July 1	<b>Canada Day</b>	College Closed
August 1	<b>Civic Holiday</b>	College Closed
August 20	RA Executive Meeting	9 a.m. in A0216
August 25	Staff return	
September 1	<b>Labour Day</b>	College Closed
September 3	Fall Social	Chortos Home

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](mailto:sretiree@stclaircollege.ca)