

DCRA Newsletter

Durham College Retiree Association

Mission Statement

The Durham College Retirees' Association is an organization whose function is to provide members with companionship, pertinent information, opportunities for service, and response to their concerns.

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President's and Executive Message

On behalf of Dianne Aru and the rest of the Durham College Retiree Association Executive, I'd like to wish all of you a wonderful holiday season. Here's hoping that you have memorable and enjoyable times with family and friends over the holidays and that 2009 brings you much joy and happiness.

Dianne is recuperating from surgery and hopes to return to her very active role as President in two or three months. I'm sure you'll join me in wishing her a speedy and complete recovery.

Your Executive will be meeting on January 20 to discuss new and continuing activities that members of our retirees group may choose to enjoy over the next year. Look for a survey in the New Year that will be sent to determine which activities you find most interesting and what new activities you'd like to pursue through the DCRA.

The College has continued to assist our organization over the past year

through financial support as well as the guidance provided by Kelly Bailey and Ken Robb. DCRA has been used as a model by other college retiree groups who have not yet organized as we have. We are fortunate to have such a well-established and active organization.

Merry Christmas to all of you.

Judy Moretton
Dianne Aru
dianne.aru@sympatico.ca



KEEP US UP-TO-DATE

We want to maintain accurate records on your e-mail address and location.

Please let us know if you have a new e-mail or if you have moved.

You can contact Kelly Bailey with any information. Thank you.

Condolences to Families & Friends of

Information was not available at the time of publication

2008 Summary New Members

Imants Abolins
Doreen Gainforth
Joy McKay
George Saoulli
Terry Crawshaw
Liesje de Burger
Rudy Chernecki

Upcoming Events

New Plans are In Progress – News Will Be Sent in 2009

RETIREE GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Durham Retirees' Golf and Barbeque Day was held on September 9 at Deer Creek Academy with a BBQ after the tournament.

Many thanks to Jim Anderson for organizing the event again this year. Another success!!!!

Fun was had by all the retirees who attended the Golf Tournament at Deer Creek Academy. The weather was perfect, the BBQ delightful and the companionship superb.

As the golfers approached the clubhouse, they could hear the frivolity and laughter echoing over the fairways. Brenda, Annabelle and Donna (there for the BBQ only) had started the party without them.

As you can see from the pictures, everyone soon joined the fun. Plans were made for future golf games and future visits between friends.

Don't let not being a golfer stop you from attending all had a marvellous time.

ABOUT OUR PENSIONS

Information on pensions is available on the OCRA ([Ontario Colleges Retiree Association](http://www.ocraretirees.ca/)) web site (<http://www.ocraretirees.ca/>).

On their web site, scroll down the list of topics, and click on: **Brief Overview of OCRA General Meeting including E-mail from Paul Owens re Pension Status and Presentation by Dr. C. Baines.** (Click on Title)

For those without email, a printed copy of the page and email is attached.

Also, please consider joining OCRA (\$10.00 per year).

PLEASE NOTE: This information is provided courtesy of the Ontario Colleges Retiree Association (OCRA). Permission has been granted by Joan Cunnington, OCRA Liaison and Public Relations Co-ordinator.

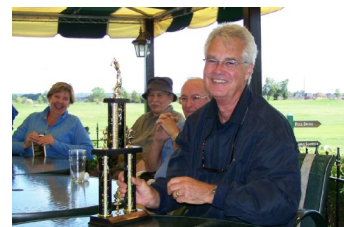
BERT DEJEET MEMORIAL TROPHY

At our annual golf tournament on September 9, 2008, Jim Anderson announced the inaugural award of the Bert Dejeet Memorial Trophy. Bert left us far too soon, and we miss him. He was a tremendous contributor to the development and growth of Durham College. This year there are 6100 College students and 5000 University students at the North Campus. Bert played a large part in this growth. He also supported the athletic programs at the College. A trophy in his memory is presented each year to the athlete with outstanding academic achievement.

Bert loved this retirees' golf day. Sylvia and Ernie Pelham donated the trophy in memory and honour of Bert Dejeet.

The trophy was presented to the first winner, Doug Tripp, by Bert's wife, Liesje deBurger, who has recently retired.

Each year, the trophy will be presented to the tournament winner using a simple handicap formula to determine the lowest net score.



ALICE MICHAUD (BARTLETT)

The Poetry Institute of Canada has received a poem written by our very own Alice. Alice's poem has been advanced to the top group in the competition and has been copy written. The poem will be published in a hard cover anthology titled Island Treasures.

DENNIS AND SHIRLEY CAMPBELL

This has been a bumper year for us, as we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary, Shirley's 70th birthday and my 75th birthday. There have been lots of parties and celebrations, thanks to our wonderful children and friends.

We started the year off with a Caribbean cruise. In June we took a great coach trip to Cape Cod, Boston and Salem. Then in July we went to Myrtle Beach with our daughter, Julie and family to a beautiful condo right on the beach. Since our Canadian summer had been so poor we were very glad to see the lovely sunshine. Then in September Shirley and I travelled to Chicago for a wood carving get together, where we spent a week in classes, me carving and Shirley wood burning. We are home for a while now, but have a South American cruise booked for next March from Buenos Aires to Santiago, Chile.

CLIVE LILWALL

November 20, 2008. The stock markets are down again. It seems that all the major news lately has been financial news, about how the economy is doing so badly. I recently had a talk with two GM retirees who are worried about their pensions. It's natural to worry about money, and I'm sure Durham College retirees are no exception. So I've excerpted some material from my book ***How To Stop Your 67 Worst Worries***, which may allay some fears. Or not!

"Would you really be happier if you had more money? It seems like a senseless question -- *of course* you'd be happier! As mentioned previously, surveys show that people with more money are generally happier than those with less money, but only slightly happier after a certain financial level has been reached. If your salary increases from \$75,000 to \$150,000 a year you aren't suddenly going to be twice as happy as you were. We tend to compare ourselves with others. This was shown in a survey that found that American high school graduates who made more money than they thought they would are happier than university graduates who make less money than they thought they would, even though they made more money than the high school graduates.⁴³

Even happiness in marriage may have less to do with money than many couples imagine. It may be hard to believe, but in a study of 1,500 men and women over 28 years, University of Southern California economists reported recently that the couples interviewed were not any happier as they acquired wealth. Good health and time spent with family were rated as more important to levels of happiness."⁴⁴

⁴³ Seligman, Martin, *Authentic Happiness*, New York: Free Press, 2002.

⁴⁴ Carey, Benedict, "Money lurks behind feuding couples," *Toronto Star*, October 3, 2003.

GORD AND MARYROSE ENGLAND

We are really enjoying living in front of the harbour at Cobourg. Harbour life is eventful, and it was interesting watching all the boats removed from the lake in anticipation of winter weather. The wildlife is amazing, and Gord is watching the harbour to see what birds are visiting the area each day.

We have joined the congregation of St. Peter's Anglican Church, and have met some really nice people there. We hope to become more involved in the months ahead.

Remembrance Day Service was an outstanding tribute to our past and present veterans, and it was an honour, as always, to pay our respects to those who gave so much for us.

We hope to see fellow retirees at the Christmas Luncheon, and this year we will be spending our holiday season with family in Whitby and Newcastle. With the volatile market, we have no immediate plans for trips, but hope to do some travelling next year. We wish all Durham retirees a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

ANNE PLANT

I have a story to share with everyone. During the Second World War my father wrote over 300 letters home to our mother. My mother kept them all at my father's request and numbered them. I inherited these letters after Mom died and tried to read them all, but there were just too many. Through a number of circumstances, I was in touch with Barney Danson, who knew our father, as they were both in the Queen's Own Rifles. Starting as sergeants, both were sent for officer training and graduated as lieutenants. Barney suggested that I send the letters to the Globe and Mail, as he felt that there was a story to be told from them. The features editor came out to our home to look the letters over, and then things began to happen. He sent his best feature writer, Erin Anderssen, to visit us, and she took all of the letters back to the Globe. They were excited about doing a story about our parents.

My sister and I were going to be in France early in September, and both Erin and the photographer, Charla Jones, spent a couple of days there with us, mining us for information. Once we were home, Charla came to the house and took every picture that we could find back to the newspaper.

Presently, the Globe is doing a series about the letters that began on October 18 and will end on December 10. The series is called "Dear Sweetheart," which is how every letter begins. There are also videos on the Internet. We read the stories every day and know that the newspaper is doing a very good job of sharing the drama with its readers. As the story unwinds, the Globe has asked us not reveal the ending. Our parents are both deceased, but I know they would be happy with this endeavour to capture their ongoing love story.

I hope that many of the folks at Durham and the retirees have had a chance to read some on the articles in the Globe. They give new life to the stories of the Second World War and help us recall those times.

IAN AND BETTY-ANNE BLYTH

We experienced our first winter in the country! WOW! We broke records for snowfall. In the midst of that we moved from Oshawa to Clarendon Station permanently on February 26th. We enjoyed snow shoeing each afternoon until April.

Settling in the community quite well, we enjoyed the Friday night dinners at the legion, local theatre, concerts, dances, yoga, aerobic, and GI group classes.

We have severed the property and are waiting for our survey to be completed, so we can begin selling our lots. We have someone who wants to buy our log home, which is great, so that we can proceed with building our bungalow on one of the pieces of the property that we are retaining.

The reason I am writing this note so early is because Joan, Ian's mom, had surgery on Nov 4th and had her follow up appointment yesterday and got the OK to leave for her annual stay in Florida. We will be going down to join her on Monday November 24th and staying until the beginning of April to look after her. I think we need the rest after this busy year and even busier next year selling and building the house. I laugh when people ask, what do you find to do now that you are retired?

We hope that you and your family enjoy the Christmas season and have a happy and healthy New Year.

Ian and Betty-Anne

Email us your greetings at:
tausk49@sympatico.ca until November 22nd
 After that date: ba-blyth@hotmail.com or
tausk49@hotmail.com

Please drop by if you are in the area.
 613-279-2329

See you in the spring of 2009.

DURHAM RETIREES' CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

On December 9, 2008, the LVIV Banquet Hall served a delicious turkey/cabbage rolls/pierogi Christmas dinner to our retirees who attended the lunch on a snowy wintry day. Everyone visited, laughed and shared stories of what they have been doing, plan to do and how they'll spend the winter.

Thanks to the generosity of our retirees we collected six boxes of food for the Retirees' Christmas Luncheon Food Drive and \$75.00 in donations. These were delivered to Kevin Dougherty at the College to join with the student and staff collection. Many thanks to all for your participation!

This year the door prizes were won by Bernice Burke and Dick Snowden. The turkey draw was won by Micki Walters.

Our guest speaker, Don Lovisa, Interim President, spoke to the group and thanked us for our part in making the College a success. He also reiterated the move of Human Resources to Campus Corners (located on the south-east corner of Simcoe Street North and Conlin Road).

Attention all retirees:

The Executive Committee would like your ideas on future activities/excursions/seminars. Watch for a survey in the New Year or send us your ideas now.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR !

