

DCRA Newsletter

Durham College Retirees' 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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Condolences to Families & Friends of

Diane Brien

President's Message

Dear DCRA members:

On behalf of the Executive and myself, I hope that your summer was enjoyable and that you were able to travel, garden, golf, walk, hike, camp, etc. It certainly was a summer to remember with lots of sun and warm temperatures.

The DCRA Executive has already offered our annual golf tournament and is meeting to discuss other activities and events to be offered this year. Our Christmas luncheon and Annual General Meeting will be announced shortly. We are currently conducting our membership drive, if you have not responded yet, please do so now. The DCRA is your organization, please send us your ideas for events and activities or volunteer to assist us in some way. We meet at the College and none of the work we undertake is onerous. Most of it is fun and rewarding. E-mail any of us with your ideas or volunteer to assist.

The College is looking for volunteers to assist with Open House on November 13, 2010. Please consider one of the positions and use your knowledge and experience to help prospective students and their families choose Durham College. Contact Sue Hawkins at: sue.hawkins@durhamcollege.ca for more information.

The Ontario Colleges Retirees Association is holding its Annual General Meeting on Thursday October 28, at Mohawk College,

from 10-2:30. Consider joining this advocacy group and attending this event. Derek Dobson, CEO CAAT Pension Plan will be speaking. Diane Aru and I attended the AGM held at Fleming College last year. Derek's address was very informative and he also takes questions from the floor. For more information contact OCRA at: www.ocraretirees.ca.

Finally, consider submitting articles, pictures and updates for inclusion in our newsletters or for posting on our website. I really enjoying hearing about people's travels and retirement activities and it's so good to hear how colleagues are spending their "golden" years. Contact Brenda Jackson at: bjjay@rogers.com and visit our website at: www.durhamcollegeretirees.org.

Have an excellent fall and wonderful Thanksgiving. We will keep you informed of our activities and events.

Judy Moretton

Upcoming Events

**CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON—
DECEMBER 7, 2010**

**BOWLING—
OCTOBER 26, 2010**

Christmas Luncheon

Circle the date—

DECEMBER 7, 2010.

More information and confirmation is coming soon.

Stay tuned for the details as they develop.

DCRA Membership

There are now 195 members including 18 who have joined since September, welcome aboard.

We are in the process of collecting the \$10.00 membership, 80 members have sent theirs in, thank you. Those receipts will be emailed or mailed in October. A second request will be sent in October OR you can pay your membership fee at the Christmas luncheon.

The Christmas luncheon is complimentary to members, Associate members pay the guest fee.

There are two lists of retirees. The College (Erin Mitchell) has the first list of all retirees used to email and mail our Association information and other College information. This is the important one to keep updated with email or address changes. The Association (Jim Anderson) has the second list of all retirees who have applied to be members. This list keeps track of membership fees paid, the College does not.

Emailing is our primary method of communications, but we mail information to those without email access. Please let Erin and Jim know of any email problems you might have, watch that you do not have us blocked in your spam/junk blockers.

Jim Anderson Membership Coordinator

Bowling Afternoon

Come out and join fellow retirees for an afternoon of five-pin bowling on **Tuesday, October 26, from 2-4 p.m.** No experience is necessary - it's just for fun.

We will play two games at NEBS Funworld (formerly North End Bowl).

Each game costs \$3.75 (shoe rental is \$2.25). There is a snack bar on the premises.

Nebs is located just south of Taunton Rd. on Wilson in Oshawa.

RSVP to judy.moreton@gmail.com by October 19, 2010.

Our Retiree Web Site

This is your web site—Durham College Retirees' Association. Our address is:
<http://www.durhamcollegeretirees.org/>

Contact us at DCRA@durhamcollege.ca or through any of your Executive.

Golf Tournament

On September 14th, 22 retirees enjoyed a golf day and BBQ at Deer Creek golf club in Ajax.

For the fifth year in a row, we enjoyed a beautiful September day. The golf course was in great shape and did not suffer too much from our attempts at birdies and mulligans. Seven retirees came for the first time and enjoyed the day. Don Hargest came from Bellville.

The Bert DeJeet Memorial trophy won by Jim Anderson (who makes up the handicap system!!!). Liesje Deburger, Bonny Ferguson and Ross Nisbet won the draw prizes.

The event was hosted by Jim and Annabel Anderson.

The golf day will be the same date next year, why not plan to attend.

Durham Lifelong Learning

ARE YOU AVAILABLE TO PRESENT A SEMINAR IN SEPTEMBER 2011?

Durham Lifelong Learning would like to hear from you if you are interested in presenting a seminar in your area of expertise.

DLL was started in 1997 by a small group of volunteers, in association with Durham College. We have now grown to 450 members. Most of our growth has been by word-of-mouth rather than direct advertizing. We keep charges for lectures and seminars at a minimum to cover expenses only.

The majority of members are retirees, and all members of committees are volunteers. Although many are ex-teachers we have a number of people whose backgrounds range from auto mechanics to dentistry. DLL is open to all who are interested and attendance is limited only by space available. We do accept new members, but the waiting list is now over 90.

There is an umbrella executive who provide overall direction, and there are two separate committees that organize the two aspects of the organization: the Lecture Series and the Seminar Series. A wide range of topics have been offered over the past 12 years, and audience surveys show a high degree of satisfaction with the variety and calibre of speakers.

Lectures are held at Hebron Christian Church every Tuesday for eight consecutive weeks in the fall and spring of each year, with a different speaker and topic each week.

Seminars were developed to provide a more detailed analysis of topics. Seminars are held in May and September on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Whitby Public Library, and up to 90 people can be accommodated. Each speaker does four sessions, for approximately two hours, on Tuesdays or Thursdays. By scheduling the seminars for May and September we do not conflict with the lecture series for attendance.

We offer an honorarium and cover mileage expenses. If you are interested in presenting a seminar please contact eas44@rogers.com or sselliott2@sympatico.ca

For more information check our website: www.durhamlifelearn.org

Goodwill Committee

Gladys Smithson and Pat Whaley want to know of any members who are having difficulties.

If you know of someone who needs these two angels, please call Gladys in Oshawa at (905) 725-1373 or email either.

They also want to hear about any retirees' great news stories...for example, Gary Polonsky's recent appointment as chair of the Board of the Science and Technology Museum.

Goodwill Committee:

Patricia Whaley
pwhaley@sympatico.ca

Gladys Smithson
yorkshiregran@yahoo.ca

New Membership

Susan Barclay-Pereira

Jeanette Barrett

Willona Blanche

Angela Buckham

Linda Campbell

Al Garner

Dallas Gibson

Sandra Kazmirchuk

Susan McLean

Bill Merriott

Owen Moran

Janet Nisbet

Judith Peers

Hans Rempei

Miriam Terry

Doris Twardowski

Tauno Viinikka

Shirley Whillans

OCRA Bulletin June 2010

HOW MANY YEARS OF PRE-1992 COLLEGE SERVICE DO YOU HAVE?

The CAAT Pension Plan is reviewing its funding policy this year. One of the items under review is whether to continue the indexing for pre-1992 years of service. Indexing is the annual cost of living allowance added to the pension base. Currently pre-1992 service will be indexed only until 2014. However, the decision whether or not to continue indexing for pre-1992 service after 2014 **will be made this year** by the CAAT Pension Plan Funding Review Committee.

OCRA has contacted Derek Dobson, CEO of the CAAT Pension Plan regarding this issue. The funding policy originally created in 2006, is under view this year by the trustees and sponsors representatives. Based on today's conditions, Derek has suggested members make their financial plans with the assumption they will not receive inflation adjustments for that the portion of their pension that is based on pre-1992 service.

YOU COULD LOSE INDEXING COVERAGE FOR 25/26 YEARS OF SERVICE

This is not good news for the pre-1992 years of service you have. It appears that older retirees with years of college service are being targeted to save the Pension Plan money. OCRA believes the challenge in the 2010 funding review will be for the Plan to be fair to **all** its pensioners while coping with current economic conditions.

Therefore we urge you to think about how the lack of indexation for pre-1992 service will affect you and **contact the following to express your opinion:**

►Your college local OPSEU union executive and OCASA executive. OPSEU and OCASA appoint the retirees who sit as trustees and sponsors on the CAAT Plan.

►Derek Dobson, CEO, CAAT Pension Plan ddobson@caatpension.on.ca (416-673-9001) He has expressed interest in hearing retirees' concerns. Or write to him: CAAT Pension Plan, 2 Queen Street East, Suite 1400, P.O. Box 22, Toronto ON M5C 3G7

► Linda, president@ocraretirees.ca (905-209-9435) who will relay your comments to the CAAT Pension Plan.

OCRA urges retirees to voice their concerns about this very important issue.

Linda Choptiany,
President, Ontario Colleges Retirees' Association

OCRA is an organization that advocates for its members on issues of concern to community college retirees

About OCRA Membership

Joining OCRA as an individual would ensure you are up-to-date on the CAAT Pension activities. Membership is \$10 annually, and well worth the small fee.

The process: To join OCRA, you can complete the PDF Registration Form available on their web site (<http://www.ocraretirees.ca>). Or, a form can be mailed to you.

Please send the completed form and fee to the Membership Coordinator, 266 Charlotte Street, Suite 244, Peterborough, ON K9K 2V4. Email any questions to membership@ocraretirees.ca. Please make sure that you sign the form.

All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential.

Please see the next page for application and lifetime membership fees.

Your Hobbies and Interests:

Do you have a hobby interest or skill that might be shared with fellow retirees? Do you know someone who would be interested in leading a seminar on a topic of interest to fellow retirees? Some suggested topics include: healthy living, travel tips and emergency preparedness. We are looking for individuals to lead seminars of 2-3 hrs. in the spring. Please send your ideas to Judy Moretton at: judy.moretton@gmail.com.

Research Agreement

Sunny days: Durham College announces research agreement with GreenWorks Solar Power

August 25, 2010

Colleges Ontario Network for Industry Innovation research initiative will focus on solar prototype.

Durham College announced August 25, 2010 a research agreement with GreenWorks Solar Power (GreenWorks), a solar tracking system manufacturer based in Brighton, Ont., as part of the Colleges Ontario Network for Industry Innovation (CONII) initiative.

The research project will be led by Brent Brooks, an award-winning professor with the college's School of Science & Engineering Technology, who will be assisted by a third-year student in the Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technology program.

Durham College's collaboration with GreenWorks will concentrate on the development of a new ground-mounted solar tracking system. Brooks will direct the design and development of this innovative technology and the research assistant will aid with research testing once the prototype has been established.

When complete, the unique solar tracking system will enable GreenWorks to become competitive in the fast growing renewable energy industry by offering a safe and effective product to consumers.

"We are very pleased to be working with an emerging company like GreenWorks Solar Power," said Debbie McKee Demczyk, director of the Office of Research Services and Innovation at Durham College. "This collaboration will provide invaluable opportunities to our faculty and students, enabling them to work directly with industry on a product that is original and will ultimately provide new job opportunities for our graduates."

The relationship also reinforces the college's

commitment to developing green technology provincially, nationally and globally including the three-phase expansion currently underway at its Whitby campus that includes a strong focus on the green energy industry.

Phase 1, already completed, offers a living laboratory learning environment that includes solar water heating; solar cell systems; geothermal technology; wind turbines; and electrical and energy auditing. Through programs like Renewable Energy Technician and Energy Audit Techniques, students are researching and learning about the importance of products and prototypes such as this one.

"GreenWorks is very excited to be working with the professionals at Durham College," said Steven Kayser, chief executive officer, GreenWorks Solar Power. "We have chosen to focus on building our company through product research and development and we are very pleased at the quality of work being done by Brent Brooks and the team from Durham. It is also nice to see that some of Durham's best students will get a chance to participate in a real-world project and see what a company does when designing and launching a product into a very competitive marketplace. We hope our relationship with Durham continues as we proceed with more research and development."

In addition to the fields of alternative and renewable energy, Durham College also explores research and testing in the construction, digital media, environmental technology, health and life sciences and manufacturing and materials industries.

Funded by the Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation, CONII is a consortium of 20 Ontario colleges dedicated to helping business and industry stay competitive in the global economy. In addition to providing support to businesses, it also offers financial support to colleges, enabling them to provide quicker access to the expertise of Ontario's top researchers and the most state-of-the-art equipment and research tools available.

Continued over

GreenWorks Continued

About Durham College

At Durham College, the student experience comes first, an approach it has taken for more than 40 years. Through a vast range of market-driven programs that are taught by exceptional professors with real-world experience, students develop the skills required to meet the ever-changing needs of employers and the job market. Moving forward, Durham College's expansion plans will see its Whitby campus grow by 40,000 square feet. Phase 1 of the construction features an energy-neutral living laboratory for new technologies and education that will serve the growing needs of the emerging energy sector. Phase 2 is increasing the size of the Skills Training Centre to create classroom and laboratory space to support new program development, and Phase 3 will be a Food and Hospitality Centre designed to house culinary arts programs; a food and agricultural component; a food processing centre and agriculture and science laboratories. Durham College has more than 7,000 full-time students, thousands of part-time students and more than 1,400 apprentices.

For more information, visit www.durhamcollege.ca or call 905.721.2000.

About GreenWorks Solar Power

In response to the Ontario government's launch of the MicroFIT program, GreenWorks Solar Power is focused exclusively on designing and manufacturing the world's best two-axis solar trackers designed for the climate experienced in Ontario. As the only company in Ontario to focus exclusively on this one segment of the market, GreenWorks has naturally emerged as one of the leading manufacturers under Ontario's new renewable energy economy.

To contact GreenWorks, call 613.293.2431 or write info@greenworks-solarpower.com.

New Student Services Building

Construction soon to be complete for Durham College's new Student Services building

Construction of the new Student Services building at the Oshawa campus is still underway and is expected to be completed by December of this year.

The construction of Durham College's new Student Services building at the front of the college's Oshawa campus is now in the home-stretch. The new space will accommodate most of the essential student services such as Student Life, Financial Aid and Awards, Student Academic Learning Services, Hired Career Services and more.

The existing space inside the Gordon Willey building is also currently undergoing renovations to improve the learning environment for students by adding new labs, classrooms and study spaces. Approximately \$20 million has been invested in these renovations with \$16.5 towards the new building.

The idea for a new space came about through a new infrastructure program two years ago. College officials thought that a new building would allow more services to be provided in one location. Vice-president of Student Affairs Margaret Greenley says that Durham College is growing and more space is needed for students. "We discussed the greatest impact for student success," she said. "The new building would allow high quality integrated services in a central destination."

There are many major ongoing projects at both of the college campuses. Phase 2 renovations at Whitby are in progress and the planning of Phase 3 has already begun. Renovations inside the Gordon Willey building at Oshawa and the Student Services building will be completed by December 2010.

The purpose of these projects is to increase student space and improve student access. The new Student Services building will also provide an opportunity to cross-train staff and provide an integrated approach to optimize customer service delivery.

Continued over

Your Executive—2010-2011

As part of the new building's attempt to streamline student services, an online knowledge program will be introduced that will contain all of the information needed to enhance student services. "The student experience comes first at Durham College, and this building reflects that," said Greenley.

Retiree Volunteers—for DC Open House

As most of you know, Durham College has traditionally held the Fall Open House on a weekday and bussed tons of high school students to campus. Applications for this September 2010, Ontario Colleges had approximately 175,000 students apply. Of that, over 100,000 of these applicants were non-post secondary (meaning not coming directly from high school).

For this reason we are having the Fall for DC/ Durham College Fall Open House on Saturday, November 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The goal of the Fall for DC Open House is to draw as many direct and non-direct applicants to our campus as possible. A Saturday event will allow potential students from all over Ontario to visit Durham College. We expect to have thousands of potential students, their friends and families at both the Oshawa and Whitby campuses.

In order to accommodate the expected attendee numbers we need your help! Here are the ways you can get involved:

- directions in the parking lots;
- be a greeter;
- provide directions to specific locations on campus;
- All shifts are 3 hours in length and run from 9 to 12 p.m., 12 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- All volunteers will receive their own DC t-shirt!

To volunteer or ask questions, please send an e-mail to sue.hawkins@durhamcollege.ca by Friday, November 5 indicating which role you would prefer and the time slot you would like. Or, call 905-721-2000 x6587

President:

Judy Moreton
judy.moreton@gmail.com

Vice President:

Ted Shiner
shiner.sigma@rogers.com

Past President:

Dianne Aru
dianne.aru@sympatico.ca

Secretary:

Michelle Nichols
michelle_nichols@sympatico.ca

Treasurer:

Micki Walters
emwalters@rogers.com

Communications:

Brenda Jackson
bjjay@rogers.com

Social Events:

Alice Lytwynchuk
alice.bob@rogers.com

Member at large:

Jim Anderson
jimannabel@rogers.com

Goodwill Committee:

Patricia Whaley
pwhaley@sympatico.ca

Gladys Smithson
yorkshiregran@yahoo.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.

Do you know a retiree who is ill or housebound, please contact anyone on the Executive. And, you can contact Kelly Bailey with any information. Thank you.

OCRA Membership Application

To join or renew your membership in OCRA, please complete the form below and forward it to the Membership Coordinator as shown at the end of the form. A membership card will be mailed to you when your application has been processed. All information you provide on the membership form will be kept strictly confidential. Enquiries should be sent to the address shown below or by email to membership@ocraretirees.ca

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PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

▶ _____
FAMILY NAME FIRST NAME MIDDLE INITIAL

▶ _____
STREET NO., APT. NO., R.R (IF APPLICABLE) STREET NAME

▶ _____
MUNICIPALITY PROVINCE / STATE COUNTRY POSTAL CODE

▶ (_____) _____
TELEPHONE EMAIL - PLEASE PRINT VERY CLEARLY

▶ **COLLEGE - LAST ONE IF MORE THAN ONE:** _____

▶ **LAST EMPLOYEE GROUP:** ADMINISTRATION ACADEMIC SUPPORT

VOTING MEMBER \$10 ANNUAL FEE

VOTING (LIFE) MEMBER (On the back of this form, check the age group you are in and pay the amount shown.)

VOTING MEMBER (Associate/Surviving Spouse) \$10 ANNUAL FEE
ONLY PAID-UP AND LIFE MEMBERS MAY VOTE AT GENERAL MEETINGS AND BE NOMINATED FOR THE EXECUTIVE

PLEASE SEND YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO:
OCRA Membership Coordinator
266 Charlotte Street, Suite 244, Peterborough, Ontario K9K 2V4

*****ENCLOSE CHEQUE / MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO OCRA**

TODAY'S DATE: _____ **YOUR SIGNATURE:** _____

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OCRA USE:
 Form 10-12-09
 File No.: _____ Date Opened/Renewed: _____
 Date Closed: _____ Membership Status: _____
 Active/Non Active: _____ Fee Received: _____

Lifetime Membership Rate Table—Please Check Appropriate Box

Age	Total Life Membership Fee	Age	Total Life Membership Fee	Age	Total Life Membership Fee
70 years or older	\$50	66 years	\$90	62 years	\$130
69 years	\$60	65 years	\$100	61 years	\$140
68 years	\$70	64 years	\$110	60 years or younger	\$150
67 years	\$80	63 years	\$120		