

# DCRA Retiree News

Spring, 2005 Volume 1, Issue 2 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.

## President's Message

**Greetings:** It hardly seems possible that over a year has passed since the first serious discussions took place regarding the formation of a retiree association. Since then, considerable progress has been made, and we are now in the process of making preparations for our First Annual General Meeting (see the details elsewhere in this newsletter).

We hope that you were able to participate in one or more of the events we had this past year. I am blessed with a hard working and dedicated executive team and we continue to look for new ideas and ways to serve you and the college.

This leads me to my next point. We are most fortunate in having the support we receive from all areas of the college, from President Gary Polonsky on down. This support is not just financial but also includes a number of services as well. I would particularly like to thank Kelly Bailey and all the staff in Human Resources for their assistance and dedication to serving our needs.

Finally, please make an effort to attend the AGM. We promise to keep the business part of the meeting short, leaving most of the day to socialize and enjoy a great lunch. Your ideas, input, suggestions, and support are vital to the success of our organization.

On behalf of the executive, we look forward to seeing you there.

**Barry Bracken**

## Our Condolences to:

Barry Pogue, on the loss of his wife, Margaret.

Merle Amodeo, on the loss of her husband, Charles.

Other colleagues who may have suffered illness or the loss of a loved one.

## Report on Dinner Theatre

Many thanks to Ray Blomme for arranging the April 20<sup>th</sup> dinner and show! The Class Act Dinner Theatre in Whitby provided a terrific buffet followed by a lively comedy, with 28 DCRA members and guests attending. A highlight was the addition of well known local actor David Lepp, who substituted for an actor who was ill. His script reading, asides, and adlibbing all evening were hilarious.

## INVITATIONS to RETIREES—MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### 1] OUR TURN TO LEARN - May 17 & 18, June 7 & 8

See program at <http://www.dc-uoit.ca/pd/>. To register or to request a hard copy of the program, contact Lisa Kerr 721-3111 Ext.2593 or [lisa.kerr@durhamc.on.ca](mailto:lisa.kerr@durhamc.on.ca).

### 2] 1st DCRA ANNUAL DCRA GENERAL MEETING - Thursday, June 2

11:30 - MEETING; NOON - SOCIAL AND CASH BAR; 12:45 - HOT LUNCHEON

Members should RSVP by May 16<sup>th</sup> to [blommeraymond@rogers.com](mailto:blommeraymond@rogers.com) or 905-579-2680

DIRECTIONS: Simcoe Street North past Myrtle Road (White Feather Farms), watch for TRILLIUM TRAILS on West side of Simcoe.

### 3] ANNUAL STAFF BARBECUE - Tuesday, June 14, 12 to 2 p.m.,

Market Place Courtyard—outside Main Cafeteria, Oshawa

WE HOPE YOU CAN MAKE ALL OF THESE EVENTS!



## Weekly Report!

If you're not receiving a Weekly Report via email from Human Resources, please email Jim Anderson ([jimannabel@sympatico.ca](mailto:jimannabel@sympatico.ca)), so you can be added to the list. That way, you'll also be sent notices including upcoming retirements. Speaking of which...

### Gary Polonsky announces his retirement

From a Press Release dated April 15, 2005

OSHAWA, Ont. - During a press conference held earlier today, Dr. Gary Polonsky, President of Durham College and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) announced his retirement, following 18 years at the helm of Durham College and five years as the founding leader of UOIT.

Polonsky will retire in approximately one year, and under the guidance of the Durham College and UOIT Boards of Governors, two presidents will be named to replace him.

Polonsky's dedication to students is unparalleled. In announcing his retirement today, he told Durham College and UOIT students, "In total, I will have spent 43 years -- my entire adult life -- in the service of students and have loved every minute of it. Every student is special; every one an individual. I thank you."

## Next Golf Tournament

Jim Anderson has offered to arrange another Golf Day and get-together for September.

## On a Tee-Shirt : "Yes, I'm a senior, now give me my discount!"

### Retiree Use of Athletic Facilities

Jim also reports that retirees are welcome to use the Athletic Centre fitness area and squash courts on a complimentary basis. Check out [www.durhamcollege.com/athletics](http://www.durhamcollege.com/athletics) for details of operating hours and other operating procedures.

The Campus Tennis Centre offers staff rates to retirees; \$225 full year, \$180 winter and \$120 summer. These rates are separate from the Oshawa Tennis Club which offers a full range of activities. See [www.campustenniscentre.com](http://www.campustenniscentre.com) for more information.

Retirees should contact Ken for any other info. Our thanks to Ken for this arrangement.

### Tuition Discounts Policy for Continuing Education Courses

Retirees, Past Governors and Immediate Family Members of Employees Protocol:

Access to courses offered by the Continuing Education operations will be available at the same reduced rate plus any applicable supply or delivery costs. Retirees and Past Governors will be required to identify the date of their service with the College. The college reserves the right to limit the number of available seats.

Credit Courses: Tuition of \$20.00 + Supplies (if applicable).

General Interest Courses: Tuition of \$20.00 + GST + Supplies (if applicable) subject to seat availability.

Our thanks to Liesje de Burger for this information.

**Help Wanted:** Lister Robinson has spent 4 years as treasurer of the Ontario Colleges Retirees' Association and hopes to hear from a volunteer to take over this task. He writes, "If an aeronautical engineer can do this there should be lots of people with better accounting skills!" Contact Lister at [LstRbnsn@aol.com](mailto:LstRbnsn@aol.com) or 905-655-3296.

## Interesting Web Sites and Summaries

[www.homeexchange.com](http://www.homeexchange.com) There are 250,000+ successful home exchanges every year. Swapping homes can bring many unexpected benefits:

- You get a much closer look at other cultures and a "feel" for places you visit.
- Connections made with exchange partners can turn into lifelong friendships.
- If you're doing a home exchange, your home is cared for while you're away.
- Flexibility & freedom—Prepare meals at 'home'; come and go as you please.
- It's a free place to stay!

**A tip:** Search for people who want to visit Toronto!

[www.durhamregion.com](http://www.durhamregion.com) Read various communities' editions of This Week on-line (Durham, Ajax, Brock, Clarington, Oshawa, Pickering, Scugog, Uxbridge and Whitby). Choose from sections below, find lottery numbers, and more.

HOME SEARCH EVENTS WEATHER PERSONALS MOVIES FORUMS MUSIC PHOTOS  
MARKETPLACE 411 SHOWS NEWS SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT MILESTONES YOUTH ABOUT US

<http://ca.finance.yahoo.com/> Track your favourite stocks and more with Yahoo Finance. Build a free portfolio once and you'll always see the latest prices and news, both general business news and specific news on your stocks.

[www.elderhostel.org](http://www.elderhostel.org) Elderhostel is the world's largest educational travel organization for adults 55 and over. It's a not-for-profit organization that provides exceptional learning adventures to nearly 200,000 older adults each year. Elderhostel offers over 10,000 programs a year in more than 90 countries.

From Paris to New Orleans, Delhi to Newfoundland, Elderhostel offers unique educational experiences infused with camaraderie and adventure. Expert instructors share stimulating information through in-depth lectures, field trips, and cultural excursions. Except for travel costs, Elderhostel programs are all inclusive--no hidden expenses. Included are accommodations, all meals, lectures, field trips, cultural excursions, gratuities, and medical or insurance coverage.

Please send your favourites for the next newsletter to [s.babbs@rogers.com](mailto:s.babbs@rogers.com).

UNDERSTANDING THE DIGITAL CAMERA REVOLUTION By Ray Blomme

Our thanks to Ray for the excellent article he prepared for this newsletter, attached!

### **Durham College Retirees' Association Executive**

<b>Barry Bracken</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>905-985-2186</b>
<b>Jim Anderson</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>905-723-4298</b>
<b>Donna Crawford</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>905-655-5280</b>
<b>Guy Walton</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>905-655-9401</b>
<b>Ray Blomme</b>	<b>Social Director</b>	<b>905-579-2680</b>
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