

DCRA Retiree News

Spring 2006, Issue 4

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

There must be some truth to the old adage about how "the older you get, the faster time goes." Two years have flown by since the formation of the DCRA, and I have decided it is a good time for me to resign as President. I will continue to serve on the Executive as Past President. The by-laws of our Association require that the term of office for all officers shall be two years, no individual holding a single office for more than two consecutive terms. Ray Blomme has also decided to step down at this time due to a very demanding schedule. Ray will really be missed as he played a very significant role in our organization. A nominating committee has been formed and they are responsible for bringing forward a full slate of potential candidates for election at the Annual General Meeting later this spring. This means that, due to the resignation of Ray and me, at least two new people will be on that list of candidates. Please note that additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at the AGM.

I am so thankful for the members of the Executive who have served with me over the past two years. They made things easy for me. Everyone pitched in and made a contribution without hesitation and, at the same time, we had a lot of fun. I'm very proud of what we have been able to accomplish. With your support, which continues to grow, we seem to be settling into a routine and are on a solid footing. Finally, I wish to thank the College. Our primary liaison with the College is with the Human Resources department. All the people there have been great, and I especially would like to acknowledge Kelly Bailey who has been our key contact from the beginning.

Thanks again for the experience and your support; hope to see you at the AGM!

Barry Bracken

Recent "Grads" enrolling in the Retirement Lifestyle—Welcome!

Lorraine Andrews
Joe Mueller

Diane Brien
Micki Walters

James Heys
Gary Polonsky

Debra Horricks
Maggie Young

Thinking of You

Minna Anderson
Ron Neun

Mel Garland
Gerry Pettit

Peggy and Herb Kirkconnell
Gwen Treadwell

UPCOMING EVENTS—Mark your Calendar!



Wed., May 17th → Gary's "Au Revoir" Open House

Please join us in honouring Gary on behalf of the Retirees' Association, which he so kindly assisted in establishing. Members are requested to send donations by May 10th to: Durham College Retirees' Association, c/o Human Resources, 2000 Simcoe St. N., Oshawa, L1H 7K4. We apologize that the deadline included with the invitation mailing was not realistic.

Hope to see you at the South Residence Cafeteria 4:30-7:30 pm; Entertainment and remarks begin at 5:15.

Wed., May 31st & Thurs., June 1st → OUR TURN TO LEARN—The Planning Committee is currently working on this year's conference. Watch for program topics at <http://www.dc-uoit.ca/pd/>. Retirees are always welcome to attend.

Tues., June 6th → 2nd Annual General Meeting & Luncheon, Trillium Trails

11:30 - Social/Cash Bar; 12:15 - Luncheon—Come and visit with other members and check out the website being launched for DC Retirees! This is a members-only meeting. Guests are welcome at all other events. Please reply to the enclosed invitation soon.

Golf Day in September → Plan ahead for a good time, whether you're a duffer or a serious golfer! Come out for a round of golf, lunch, and a pleasant afternoon. Thanks to Jim Anderson for arranging things at the Deer Creek Academy for the third time!

RECENT EVENTS

Wall of Recognition and In Memoriam Wall Unveiling

Over 85 retirees and their guests attended on April 12. Durham's 4th President, Leah Myers, in her first week at the college, voiced appreciation for retirees' contributions towards Durham College's success.

Commenting on the 'Purple Pit', President Myers declared that it be re-named "Recognition Square".

Sincere thanks to: Gary Polonsky, Bruce Bunker, Angie Youroukis, Kelly Bailey, Brenda Jackson, and others for their efforts on the occasion of the unveiling of a permanent tribute to former college employees.



Class Act Dinner Theatre—44 members and guests attended the dinner and show, "Who's in Bed with the Butler?" Our thanks to Ray Blomme for arranging the evening!

Christmas Luncheon—Trillium Trails

More than 80 retirees and guests met for fun, food, and freebies (a Christmas Turkey Voucher and several door prizes).

Helen and Donna tested everyone's knowledge and memory, with clues to identify Durham College's original staff.

Enjoying a visit are retirees Richard Snowden, Bernice Burke, and Jan Lean.



CPR TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES—Your executive is still pursuing the possibility of providing Basic Rescuer first aid training for members.

TRAVEL TIPS

Special Summer Rates at College Residences: Seniors qualify for a \$74.95 rate at Residence Conference Centres (normally \$99) in 14 Ontario locations: Brampton, Brockville, Hamilton, King City, Kitchener, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Oakville, Ottawa + Ottawa Downtown, Toronto, Toronto East, Welland, Windsor and, for your visitors, Oshawa.

You'll have a 2-bedroom or double open-concept suite with double beds, kitchenette, fridge, microwave, 3-piece bathroom, TV, Internet access, and free local calls. Complimentary continental breakfast, linen, housekeeping, on-site laundry, and BBQ's are included. Rate is subject to availability, based on double occupancy, plus applicable taxes.

Reserve toll-free at 1-877-225-8664 or find availability at <http://www.residenceconferencecentre.com/travel/locations.asp> Click on city desired, fill out the form, and mention the Seniors Rate. They'll email and/or phone you. Note: A summer rate mentioned in our last newsletter is available only for current students and college employees.



Niagara College Residence

RETIREEES' ACTIVITIES—Let us hear about you,too!

Ev McCrimmon: "Since 1999 (when my wife died), I have been traveling widely during winter months. In the intervening years I've spent several weeks each in Tuscany (3 times), Victoria, BC (twice), New Zealand, Greece and Turkey (once). I hope to continue traveling so long as my health permits. During two winters in Tuscany, I was a University of Alberta student and got better marks than in undergraduate days!"

Brian Beatson reports that he has been learning and teaching bagpipes at the Robert Anderson Campus Pipes and Drums (College/UOIT Pipe Band). "Join us every Sunday evening in the Simcoe Building from 7 to 9 p.m. Anyone can learn!" Thanks for the invitation, Brian!

MaryRose & Gordon England have been enjoying their 1st year of retirement: "...going out for nice long drives, just relaxing, and enjoying our new way of life. We plan to travel soon and look forward to moving next year to a condo overlooking Cobourg Harbour."

Shirley & Dennis Campbell are moving from Oshawa this summer to take up residence in North Brampton, at an adult lifestyle community. They plan to spend time on the golf course and swim in the indoor pool, as well as visit their grandchildren, who'll be 10 minutes away.

Norm & Sharon Babbs saw snow in Myrtle Beach, in Feb., drove to Norfolk, and caught a Caribbean cruise to get warm.

Judy Allen and husband Lawrence took a South American cruise around Cape Horn, spending two weeks on the Norwegian Crown.

Alice Bartlett Michaud: "Patrick & I had a great three months in Clearwater, FL! What a life! I attended meetings of my Teachers ADK Sorority, US chapter."

Ron and Joyce Parker enjoyed the sun and beaches in Eleuthera, Bahamas.

Marg Sills writes: "I went to Ireland in October, 2005. It was a wonderful trip."

Gary and Donna Crawford enjoyed three months in Texas and plan to continue wintering there.

AUTHORS AMONG US!

How to Stop Your 67 Worst Worries, Clive Lilwall's 3rd book, available at amazon.com or visit worryfixer.com.

My Caravan's a Rainbow, by David Chesterton, is about a boy of 7, who sees auras and prefers drawing and painting to contact sports, meets a gypsy family and is encouraged to accept being different. At orders@trafford.com and www.trafford.com.

Merle Amodeo attended a poetry workshop in El Noviciado, Chile, in January. Two of her poems will be published in an anthology this spring.

Moving? Downsizing?

Because first impressions matter...

... before you put your home on the market, call us. The impression a buyer gets is the single most important factor in determining whether an offer is made, and if you get the price you want.

The purpose of home staging is to set your house apart from the competition. Staged properties sell faster and for more money. As Professional Home Stagers, we will work with you and your Realtor to showcase your property to its maximum potential.

Alice Lytwynchuk 905-725-0307
Michelle Nichols 905-242-5420



In-Your-Home Computer Help

Beginner or Advanced—Internet, Email, Word, Excel, Genealogy

List your learning needs and call Sharon 905-434-6297 or s.babbs@rogers.com

Durham College Retirees' Association Executive

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Enclosed are Membership and Associate Membership forms in order for you to join our group if you have not already done so. Perhaps you know someone who doesn't receive our Association's mailings and may wish to join.

Joining the Association entitles you to receive future newsletters and flyers about upcoming events. There is no membership fee.

The College will continue to contact you concerning College business.



Q. What is a retiree's bedtime?

A. Three hours after he falls asleep on the couch.

Q. Why don't retirees mind being called Seniors?

A. The term comes with a 10 percent discount.

Q. Why do retirees count pennies?

A. They're the only ones who have the time.

Q. What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?

A. If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.