



Sault College Retirees' Newsletter

June 2011

Our group was a little smaller compared to last fall but you would never know it by the noise level in the room. That's what happens when friends meet and share experiences.

New Retirees

Rosemary LeBlanc, one of the new retirees was able to join us. I had the privilege of working with Rosemary for many years in the Office Administration Program. Welcome to our group.

Other new retirees since we met last fall include Mary Johnston, Library Services; Alvin Mortimore, Support Staff Central Stores; Emilia Maione, Support, Counselling and Special Needs; Brenda Rooney, Manager Payroll and Human Resource Information Services; John Jones, Professor Correction Services.

Congratulations to all of you. Please join us whenever you can and meet up with former colleagues and friends.

Greetings/Regrets

As in the past, several retirees were unable to join us and send their best wishes. These include Val Uchmanowicz who just got back from Greece the night before our dinner, Dianne Armstrong (visiting grandchildren), Leslie Foster, Ron Fraser, Penny Gardiner (climbing mountains in the Rockies!), John Jones, Joe Lucchetti, Emilia Maione, Denise McCarrel, Ken McClelland, Bernie McComiskey, Rick McGee (brother D'Arcy and dear friend David McNutt passed away recently); Ivan Murphy, Judith Rose from Cape Coral, Florida, Faye Smedley, Pat Story, Linda Tozer-Johnston (still traveling), and Bob Tulloch.

Important Staffing Change

Some of you may have already discovered that Gina Drinkwater is no longer in the benefits office. She has been promoted to Manager, Compensation, replacing recently retired Brenda Rooney.

The new Benefits and Information Specialist is Diane Bryson. Diane joins the College after working with the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation for the last 20 years and has extensive experience in pensions and benefits. Diane joined us for dinner so now some of us can put a face to a name. She invited retirees to give her a call if they have any questions or simply drop in to say hello. Diane may be contacted at (705) 759-2554, ext. 2696.

Cards Update

Marg Simpson has been very busy sending out 47 cards to retirees and friends of the College. Marg performs such an important function by keeping us in touch with people who may not be able to make it to our get-togethers.

Many of you will remember Vera Subic who was at most of our gatherings. Vera passed away suddenly in January. Her family was very appreciative of the fact that several retirees attended Vera's funeral.

Another dear friend and retiree, Ruth Williamson passed away in April. Ruth was very active in community theatre and, at the Funeral Home, her sons ran a short movie in which Ruth starred. A class act!

Sympathy cards were sent as follows: Rose Sartor (husband's death), Pat Story (father's death), Peggy DiDonato (brother Jamie died) Kathy Rehel (loss of sister), Laurie (Barbeau) Niemi (stepfather died), Evelyn Simon (passing of partner, Chris Bosley), Walter Morrow (passing of spouse, Hughetta), Ron Sarlo (death of dad), Wally MacQuarrie (passing of sister), Jane Borelli (passing of husband), Rick McGee (passing of brother D'Arcy).

Thinking of you cards: Bev Browning (knee surgery), Richard Ozga, Ron Fraser's wife Toots, Don McCormack, Bonnie Williams, Michael Farelli (cancer treatments), Edith Spitzbarth (broke arm).

Of special note was a congratulatory card sent to Russ and Nan Disano who celebrated 65 years of marriage in January. Russ is a retiree as is his son Geoffrey. Best wishes from all of us!

Sault College Retirees Bursaries

Three awards were presented this year by Heather Fox. After deducting the \$900 award money, we are short only \$324.29 to hit our target of \$20,000. This would then ensure the three awards in perpetuity so if anyone wants to make a contribution for 2011, it would be much appreciated. New retirees may not be aware that our group has been raising funds for the past few years with a goal of reaching \$20,000. All funds are matched by government so if someone makes a \$20 contribution, it is really \$40 towards our funds.

Anyone wanting to donate should go to the Accounting Office at the College and let them know the donation is to go to the Retiree Award. Of course, it can also be mailed in.

Heather read the thank you letters from all three recipients who were most appreciative of our financial assistance.

Recipients were Kristy Boissoneau, Esthetician program, Meghan MacLeod, Occupational Therapist Assistant and Physiotherapist Assistant Programs and Salena Martin, Pre-Health Sciences Program.

Thanks Heather for representing us so well at the Awards Night.

New Business

I informed the group that Bill Durnford, Associate Director, Advancement & Alumni Relations requested a meeting with us in order to update us on the capital campaign. The first phase of construction is the new academic wing which is on Northern Avenue and is due to be officially opened this month.

Phase II is a new Student Health & Wellness Centre which would involve the construction of a 45,000 square foot facility consisting of academic labs, fitness rooms, meeting space and a gym to

better accommodate varsity sports which are a huge draw for students. Bill's intention is to make a presentation to our group and explain the plans to us as well as to request if and how we want to be involved.

Marg Simpson, Gloria Grummett and I met with Bill a couple of times and provided feedback from those present at the dinner. Some of the suggestions from the dinner group were: have a fund-raising dinner; have retirees volunteer time for events; a direct mailout; a silent auction; focus on sponsoring a specific cause or items such as gym equipment or something in the sports area.

New Sault College Website

If you have tried to access our retiree page recently, you will have noticed some changes. In order to access our website which has all our newsletter, the Scuttlebutt, as well as photos of our retirees, go to www.saultcollege.ca

Click on "corporate" at the bottom left and then under "choose a section", select "retirees".

Email Addresses

If you have changed your email address, please let me know. It eliminates "bounced" messages and ensures you receive information in a timely manner. If you haven't provided me with your email address, please do so now. It cuts down on costs and saves time.

Newsletter Contributions

If you have a story to tell or want something included in this newsletter, please contact me at rosecaicco@shaw.ca or by telephone at (705) 942-3891.

A Final Word

Laughter is the shock absorber that eases the blows of life.

Have a great summer!

Regards,

Rose