



Sault College Retirees' Newsletter

November 2009

As you know, we changed things a little this year and moved our fall dinner to a lunch date in the Gallery. Looking back over my records, I saw two things. The first is that our attendance improved over last year. Secondly, we saw some retirees that we had not seen for a while.

The meal was superb and the Gallery staff and students were professional in all they did. I see this group of students going a long way in their chosen field. Our thanks go out again to Professor Deron Tett, Chef Sarah Berkenhauer who was in charge of the menu and the Gallery Restaurant, the Chef Training students and the Culinary Students.

We welcomed two new retirees: Laura Bourgeois and Georgie Parsons. Georgie was celebrating a birthday and she was so pleased that we had all gathered to help her celebrate and sing Happy Birthday to her. Congratulations Laura and Georgie and welcome to our distinguished group!

Greetings/Regrets

It is always gratifying to hear from retirees who are not able to attend but who take the time to contact me with regrets and the occasional message.

Those unable to attend included Keith Maidens, Rick McGee, Bonnie & Joe Williams, Diane & Barry Armstrong, Bernie McCominsky, Bob Tulloch, Bill Govett, Ken McClelland, Ruth Williamson, Doug & Diane Heggart, Marilyn Robb (out of town), Nancy Peters (leaving for the sunny south), Penny Gardiner (just back from Newfoundland and off to Florida) and last, but not least, Sharon Lane who was in Vancouver attending her daughter's graduation from a Ph.D. program and marriage.

Traveler Assistance

Many retirees will remember Bill Maki from his days at Sault College. Bill retired and moved to Sarasota, Florida, where he has lived for several years. Bill noticed that many retirees travel to his home state so he called me to volunteer to act as a

contact for anyone travelling his way. He may be contacted at 941-586-5610 by phone or at 5130 Central Sarasota Parkway, Unit 208, Sarasota 34238. Thanks Bill for the offer and for staying in touch.

Cards update

Marg Simpson has been kept busy over the past year and reported that she had sent out a total of 54 cards from October 2008 – October 2009. These included cards to families and staff who had lost a loved one. Others were get-well cards, cards welcoming retirees and others to let people know we are thinking of them.

We noted the passing of several retirees during that period:

Bud Gallagher	Technical Trades
Bill Armstrong	Electrical/Electronics Engineering Technology
Gordie Frech	Civil & Structural Engineering Technology
Arnold MacKay	Technologist, Heavy Equipment
Bill Davies	Civil & Construction Engineering Technology
David Kelly	Health Sciences
Theresa Prentice	Secretarial Science
Christina Shand	Manager, Campus Shop
Lyle Solomaa	Printing, Custodial Services.

Even with all this activity, Marg still has funds to keep us going for a while. If you know of anyone who should receive a card, please contact Marg at marg.bert26@shaw.ca, or by telephone at 945-8674.

Sault College Retirees Bursaries

The next two bursaries of \$300 will be handed out during the Awards Night on March 23, 2010. Thanks to an anonymous and generous donation of \$3,500, our funds have grown to approximately \$20,000. We are well on our way to either increasing these awards to \$500 each or to offer a

third one for \$300. We will be asking for recommendations before that decision is made.

These awards will continue to be made to first year students in various college programs based on worthiness and financial need.

Remember that all contributions continue to generate matching Ontario government funds. The best way to make a contribution is through the Financial Aid Office at the college as this will ensure that you receive an income tax receipt for your contribution.

Thanks to Harvey Robbins and Gwen Iburg who make up our Retiree Awards Committee. They have recently added Heather Fox to their group. Thanks Heather for helping out on this important committee.

New Business

Change of Venue—Stay Tuned

I have received several suggestions for our spring dinner and I am following up on those. From the discussion at the lunch, it appears that retirees are willing to trust me with the decision so I will let everyone know when we get closer to the date. I am looking at a date later in May so that we can give travelers some time to make their way home. I appreciate the support all of you so generously give me. Thank you.

Registry of Retiree Interests

Thanks to those who have completed the questionnaire. If you still want to be included in this survey, please send it to me.

Once I have had the opportunity to collate the results, I will pass the information along. There are many common areas of interest including quilting, reading, gardening, farming, singing, photography, scrapbooking, among others. Some rather unique ones surfaced as well: cloud watching, nature touring, stamp collecting, genealogy, building miniature dollhouses. What a wonderful variety!

Retirees were also interested in knowing more about travel to Cuba, Syria, Jordan, Greece, Hawaii, South America, China, Viet Nam, Tibet,

Egypt, Peru & Galapagos, Argentina, Brazil, Newfoundland & Labrador, Sweden, Russia, and others.

We also had some offers from retirees who would be willing to make brief presentations.

Retiree Website

Our website just became a lot easier to access thanks to Sault College and the generous support we receive from them. Simply go to www.saultc.on.ca, click on Retiree on the right side and there we are! Hint: If you can't remember someone's name that was at one of our events, just click on Photo Gallery and look around!

We will be making some changes of our own so drop in once in a while to see what we are up to.

Retiree Privileges

Just a reminder to all the new retirees that parking passes are available through the Human Resources department. Call Gina Drinkwater at 759-2554, ext. 2696 to obtain your pass. Be sure to park in the lot that is indicated on the parking pass to avoid being ticketed.

Also, a Sault College Retiree ID card entitles you to discounts in the Campus Shop, Library privileges, access to Athletics Centre and can be used to receive discounts at some businesses. To obtain your Retiree ID card, call Lisa Bagnall in the Registrar's Office at ext. 2303 to arrange an appointment to have your picture taken and receive your card.

Sault College retirees have the opportunity to take one Continuing Education course per academic year at a fee of \$20 plus supplies and any other fees applicable to the course. (Courses noted with a C4 designation are full-fee courses. No discounts apply to these courses.)

Did You Know?

OCRA is the Ontario Retirees' Association, a retiree advocacy group for academic, support staff and administration college retirees. It advocates for members on issues of importance to retirees, i.e. pensions and benefits.

The cost to join is \$10 per year. Find out more about this group by going to their website at www.ocraretirees.ca or by contacting the Membership Co-ordinator at membership@ocraretirees.ca.

Christmas Social

You are cordially invited to attend the College's Staff Holiday Social which will be held as follows:

Thursday, December 24th
from 12 noon – 2 pm
in the College's Cafeteria

I hope on behalf of your friends at the College that you will make a point of placing this function on your calendar. We look forward to sharing this event with you.

Rick Webb, CHRP
Director, Human Resources

Newsletter contributions

As always, if you have information or anything else you would like to pass on to retirees, let me know and I will include it. My email address is rose.caicco@sympatico.ca and my phone number is 942-3891. Any updates to your email addresses helps me out and eliminates those "bounced" emails.

A Final Word

If you can't see the bright side of life, polish the dull side.

Regards,

Rose