

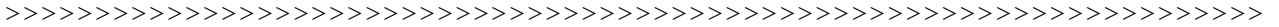


RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWS

November 2008

Number 76

www.usra.usask.ca



President Peter MacKinnon

invites you to the

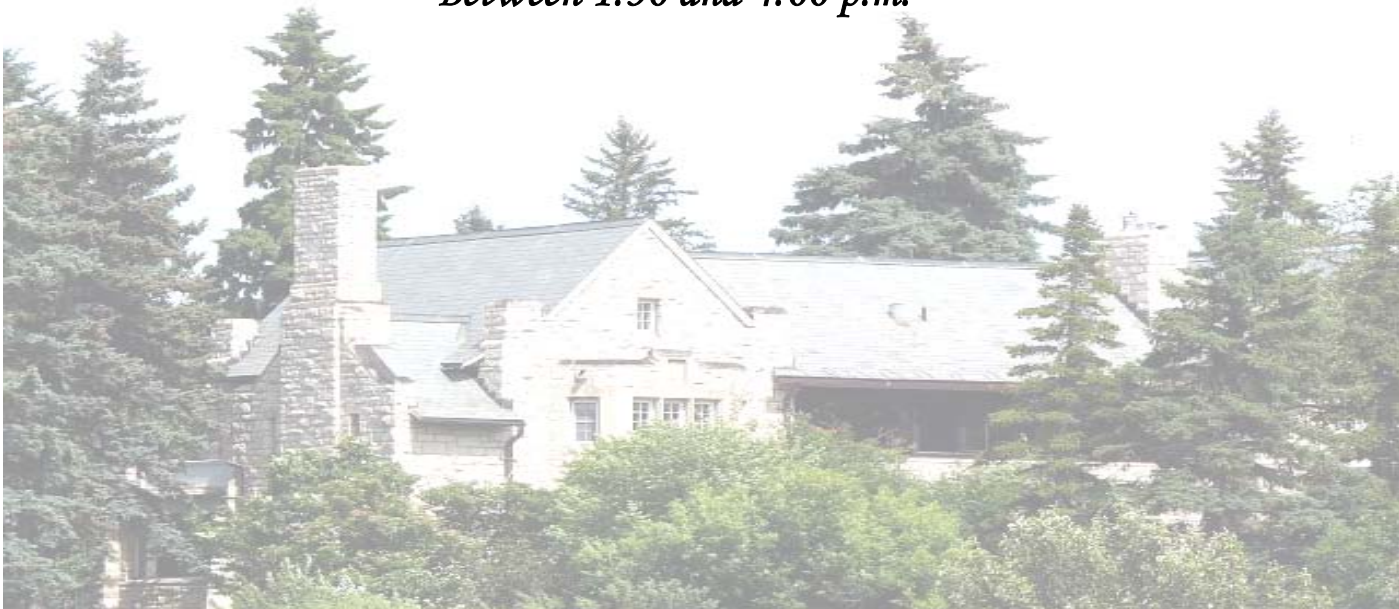
University of Saskatchewan Retirees

Come & Go Christmas Reception

Monday, December 15, 2008

101 President's Place

Between 1:30 and 4:00 p.m.



If you plan to attend please call Eleanor at 306-966-6613 or

e-mail: eleanor.peppard@usask.ca

Message From President Murray Scharf :



It appears that the USRA is off to a good start in the 2008-2009 year. While only 26 members attended the annual meeting, over 60 members and spouses attended the banquet. Once again, the social card trumped the business card. The educational presentations by Doug Schmeiser and Greg Poelzer have been excellent and well attended. We have been averaging about 40 attendees at these monthly sessions at Mano's Restaurant. Our next educational event will be Ron Marken's presentation at noon on December 4th and, our next social event will be the President's Reception from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. on December 15th.

With the retirement from the Executive of Norah Carey, the Executive has found it must address the issues of office management and electronic communications. It had become very evident that Norah had been serving as our informal receptionist and administrative officer. We owe her a great debt. In order to fill this void, Les Coleman, Chair of the Office Services Committee, and Jim Blackburn, Chair of the Communications Committee, plus other members of the Executive have formed a task group to

develop administrative procedures and communications protocols to direct our operations. As part of this effort, through the kind offices of the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education, Bob Cram has proffered telephone receptionist services for the USRA.

The following are among the activities of the Committees of the Executive. Chair of the Prime of Life Achievement Awards Committee, Eileen Harvey has initiated a review of the terms of reference for this award. As part of this review, the Committee is soliciting observations and recommendations. Faye Kernan, chair of the Pictorial History Committee, has requested a photographic display of the Founding Members and Honourary Members as well as a list of the recipients of the Prime of Life Achievement Awards to be hung in the Retirees' Lounge (room 132, College Building). Barry Brown has agreed to be the "official" photographer for the Association and began his voluntary efforts at the Annual General Meeting.

Kurt Tischler has taken action on the "International Student Initiative" of the USRA. One option the Executive had considered under this initiative was to develop a needy student fund for international students. Kurt has learned, with the international students now being able to access the general university dire need fund, our best approach may be to bolster the funding of the existing International Student Emergency Loan and Bursary Fund for undergraduate and graduate students. He and Robert Sanche have been exploring ways in

which faculty and retirees could contribute to the fund through the charitable donation check-off system and through the University development funds. The role of the USRA would be to serve as an advocate and not as the funding agency. Also, the scholarship-bursary fundraising supper and airport reception activities are also to be explored. Some initial meetings on the formation of college chapters of USRA have been held. There is a need to develop terms of reference for such chapters before we proceed further on this initiative. I will be meeting with individual retirees from the colleges to draft these terms of reference and a description of the relationships of the chapters with the main USRA.

The USRA has been approached to enter into an arrangement wherein USRA members, in cooperation with the Saskatoon Council on Aging, would undertake research on certain topics and develop position papers in order to assist with the development of the strategic plan for addressing the needs of seniors within the Saskatoon Health Region. Vice-President Jim Blackburn and I will be meeting with representatives from SCOA and the Health Region to discuss this matter.

While there is much activity, it is my hope that we can inform the membership of some results in the next newsletter.

Again, if you have suggestions or comments, please contact us.

Murray Scharf

USRA PROGRAMS 2008 – 2009

*(Please mark your
calendars for these
events!)*

*More details on the 2009
programs will be
provided after Christmas)*

**Thursday, December 4 –
Professor Emeritus Ron
Marken**

Lunch – 12:00 noon;
Presentation – 12:50 PM
(*Mano's Restaurant 200-
1820 8th St. E.*)

**Topic: "Pigs in
Literature: After Babe"**

**Mon. Dec 15 1:30 – 4:00
President MacKinnon's
Reception**
President's Home

**Thursday, January 22
Chancellor Vera Pezer**
Lunch – 12:00 noon;
Presentation – 12:50 PM
(*Mano's Restaurant 200-
1820 8th St. E.*)
**Title: *The Chancellor's
experience after Year
One: A Report Card on
Outreach and
Engagement***

**Thursday, February 26
Professor Emeritus John
Courtney**
Lunch – 12:00 noon;
Presentation – 12:50 PM
(*Mano's Restaurant 200-
1820 8th St. E.*)

**Topic: *Elections and
politics in Bolivia - a
break with the past***

TBA – March and April:

Driving Education Refresher
for Seniors

Computer Workshop
(Beginner and Advanced)

**May 20 (tentative) –
Birding Excursion**

**June 8 – USRA Annual
Barbecue, Faculty Club**

**Sept. 21 – AGM and
Banquet**

USRA EXECUTIVE – 2008 - 2009

**President: Murray Scharf
Past President: Bob Woods
Vice President: Jim
Blackburn
Secretary: Yvonne Cuttle
Treasurer: Ken Smith**

Members at Large:

**Les Coleman
Eileen Harvey
Faye Kernan
Dale Miquelon
Bob Sanche
Nancy Senior
George Sofko
Duff Spafford
Kurt Tischler**

IN MEMORY

Gerald Langley
Deceased Aug. 13, 2008
College of Education
1947 – 1980

Byron S. Wenger
Deceased Sept. 8, 2008
Anatomy Department
1969 – 1987

Choi Chuck Lee
Deceased – Sept. 30, 2008
Chemistry Department
1955 – 1988

Mary Elizabeth Towe-Gray
Deceased – Sept; 27, 2008
Veterinary Medicine
1067 – 1981

Peter Shargool
Deceased – Oct. 6, 2008
Biochemistry Department
1968 – 2002

Tom MacLachlan
Deceased – Nov. 17, 2008
College of Medicine
1964 - 1991

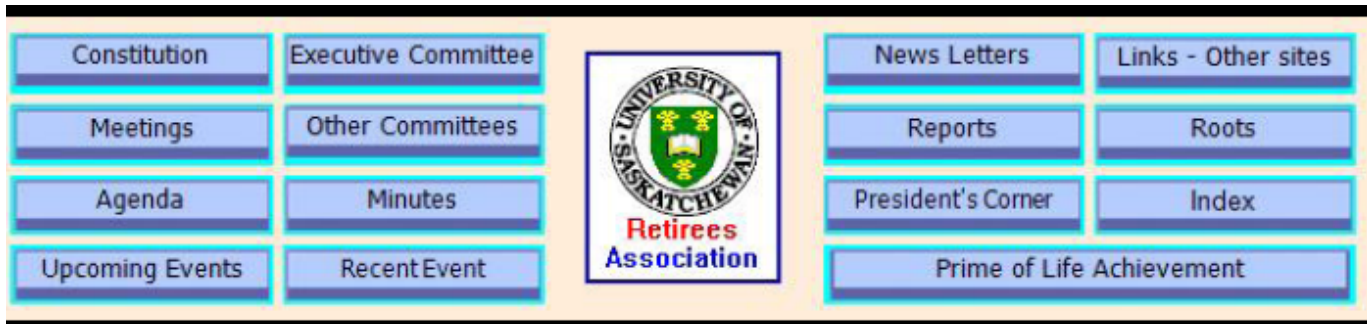
**If the label on the envelope
with this Newsletter indicates
2008, it means your membership
fees are due. The annual
membership fee is \$15. If you
wish to obtain a life membership,
it is dependent on age according
to the following schedule:**

<60	\$ 180
60 - 64	\$ 160
65 - 69	\$ 140
70 - 74	\$ 110
75 - 79	\$ 80
80 +	\$ 50

Payment of fees should be sent
to:

**Ken Smith, Treasurer, RJD
Williams,
Univ. of Sask. Retirees
Association
221 Cumberland Ave
Saskatoon, SK S7N 1M3**

USRA WEB SITE: www.usra.usask.ca



USRA Contact Information : Telephone – 306-966-6618 E-mail – ss.usra@usask.ca
Ground Mail – USRA, RJD Williams, 221 Cumberland Ave.
Saskatoon, SK S7N 1M3

Programs at U of S of interest to Retirees:

Nov. 20-29 Greystone Theatre “Mother Courage and her children” for tickets, call 966-5188

Nov. 28 – U of S Concert Band – Quance Theatre at 7:30 PM – silver collection

Nov. 30 – Greystone Singers Fall & U. Chorus Concert – 3 PM Knox United Church – tickets at McNally Robinson or at door.

“My husband and I divorced over religious differences. He thought he was God and I didn't.”

“I used to have a handle on life, but it broke.”

“The gene pool could use a little chlorine.”

We welcome your suggestions for material for the Newsletter or programs for USRA members.

Jim Blackburn, Editor

2008 - 2009 Executive

Back row: Les Coleman, Ken Smith, Murray Scharf

Second row: Kurt Tischler, Yvonne Cuttle, Eileen Harvey, Dale Miquelon

First row: Robert Sanche, Bob Woods, George Sofko

Missing: Jim Blackburn, Faye Kernan, Duff Spafford

