



**USRA Newsletter**  
**March 2026**  
**No. 127**



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## From Our President

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The USRA is pleased to welcome a number of new retirees to the association this year. We look forward to continuing to present opportunities to stay connected, informed, and engaged with fellow retirees and the University. Our website continues to be updated with important news and benefits available to retirees, and be sure to review the Education, Social and Recreation Committee Report below for a list of upcoming events.



Vera Pezer  
*Photo credit: University of Saskatchewan*

The USRA continues to work on a number of important issues including the launch of a membership survey with the support of University Relations. The USask Alumni Office has kindly agreed to gather membership feedback, and we are eager to review the compiled results. The deadline to complete the survey is March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at which time the three winners of the Visa gift cards will be contacted. Should you have any questions regarding the survey or have trouble accessing the same, please contact Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator, Alaisha Gaudet, at [alaisha.gaudet@usask.ca](mailto:alaisha.gaudet@usask.ca).

A special thank you to our Treasurer, Tom Wilson, and Secretary, Jackie Huck, who have been working tirelessly to address the challenges that resulted from the University's email policy changes. We have 218 new members that has resulted in a total of 624 USRA membership. The USRA looks forward to engaging with new members who have since joined and appreciates all the work of the Membership Committee in processing new applications. We are continuing to work closely with Vice-President Cheryl Hamelin and the Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic Patti McDougall to best serve USask retirees and sincerely appreciate the support of senior leadership.

I would also just like to thank President Peter Stoicheff and Kathryn Warden for their warm Holiday Reception in December. It was a wonderful event and USRA members in attendance appreciated the opportunity to thank President Stoicheff ahead of his retirement for all his support of the association.

Wishing you all the best as we head into Spring.

Vera Pezer

## Board Members for 2025-2026

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USRA Board Meeting  
January 13, 2026.

Back row: Joe Angel, Bob Card, Jacqueline Huck, Merry Beazely, David Mandeville.



Front row: Hope Bilinski, Vera Pezer, Tom Wilson.

Missing, pictured at right: Kathryn Warden and Nigel Rawson.

## Education, Social and Recreation Committee Report

Members: Bob Card, David Mandeville, Nigel Rawson, and Jim Thornhill (Consultant)

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### Educational Presentations

Presentations by invited speakers will be held at the Western Development Museum (WDM) unless otherwise noted. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and lunch is served at noon with a guest speaker presentation to follow. E-mail invitations will be sent to members about two weeks before each event with information about the speakers, lunch menu and cost. We hope you will join us for the following events.

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Wednesday, April 15   | <b>Kristi Chisholm</b> , Executive Director, Prairie Hospice Society, will provide an outline of the services provided by the Society.   |
| Wednesday, May 20     | <b>Dr. Trina Racine</b> , Director – Vaccine Development, Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO), will review the role of VIDO in vaccine development.                               |
| Tuesday, September 22 | <b>Dr. Angela Bedard-Haughn</b> , Dean of the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, will make a presentation related to activities at the College.  |
| Wednesday, October 14 | <b>Jeff O'Brien</b> , City Archivist, will present on a topic related to City of Saskatoon history. <b>Note: this event will precede the USRA Annual General Meeting that begins at 2:00 pm.</b> |
| Wednesday, November 4 | Speaker TBA.   |

### Other Events

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Wednesday, June 17 | <b>Members and Awards Celebration</b> , Louis' Loft.  |
| December           | <b>USRA Holiday Event</b> . Note that the date and location of this event are to be determined. |

Tentative dates for 2027 have been secured from WDM and are available on the [USRA Website](#). They will be confirmed in the September newsletter.

We are always looking for new topics of interest and keynote speakers who you think might have an important message for our membership. Please contact us by phone at 306-966-6618 or by e-mail at [ss.usra@usask.ca](mailto:ss.usra@usask.ca). We also plan to develop an audience feedback form to fill in after each event.

We also have arranged tours for members from time to time and welcome suggestions for such events. For example, on January 21, 2026 USRA members took a guided tour of the Canadian Light Source (CLS) synchrotron.

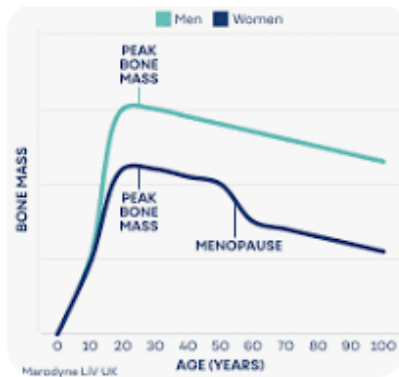
## Health Column: Boning up on Osteoporosis

By Dr. Tom Wilson, Professor Emeritus, USask College of Medicine

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Osteoporosis is one of those maladies that sneaks up on you. Patients are often unaware of their bone loss until they experience fractures. Fortunately, the medical community is working on this.

Osteoporosis is defined as loss of bone mass to the extent that bones can break easily—so-called “fragility fractures.” We reach our peak bone mass in our mid-20’s. After this point, we lose bone mass (see the graph below). Note the rapid loss in women during menopause.

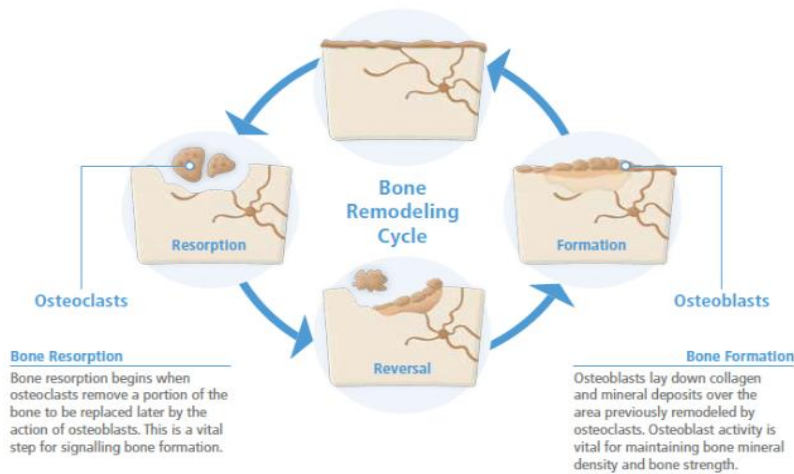


Also, the decrease is accompanied by changed bone architecture (<https://osteoporosis.ca/>), leading to an increased risk of fractures. According to Statistics Canada, 2.5 million Canadians are living with osteoporosis. Among those who suffer a fractured hip, one in five will be dead within a year.

The FRAX calculator is used to calculate the risk of fragility fractures, particularly hip fractures (<https://frax.canadiantaskforce.ca/>). For example, a 75-year-old woman weighing 60 kilograms (132 pounds) and 157 centimetres (62 inches) tall, a non-smoker, and moderate drinker has a 10% chance in 10 years of suffering a fragility fracture of some kind and a 3% chance in 10 years of a hip fracture.

Health Canada recommends resistance exercises, calcium intake of 1,200 milligrams daily, 800 IU of vitamin D daily, and avoidance of smoking and excessive alcohol. As well, prescription drugs are often an option. To understand how they work, we must learn some bone physiology, which this diagram below summarizes (1).

First, cells called osteoclasts (on the left), remove a portion of bone. Then another group of cells, osteoblasts (on the right), move into the area and lay down new bone. Finally, the cycle continues (1).



Many drugs have been marketed for treatment of osteoporosis. First, in the 1990s, came **bisphosphonates such as alendronate (Fosamax®)**. These medications bind strongly to bone and prevent osteoclasts from removing bone. They are taken once a week, or once a year in the case of intravenous zoledronic acid (**Aclasta®**), for up to four years and reduce hip fractures by 40% (2). To avoid harming the esophagus (gullet), oral tablets should be swallowed with plenty of water while sitting upright for at least 30 minutes.

Bisphosphonates can disrupt the bone cycle and may cause atypical fractures in leg bones. Also, bisphosphonates are associated with “osteonecrosis” of the jaw: a rare condition in which parts of the jawbone die and become weak.

Another drug which interferes with osteoclasts is **denosumab (Prolia®)**. It has the same efficacy as the bisphosphonates, but fewer adverse effects. It costs about \$400 per year, compared with \$120 per year for a bisphosphonate such as alendronate.

While the female hormone estrogen prevents bone loss in perimenopausal women, it’s potentially at the expense of breast and uterus cancers and blood clots. **Hormone replacement therapy** is therefore currently recommended only for women age 50-59 (3).

All the above “antiresorptive” agents preserve existing bone by slowing down bone loss but do not replace lost bone. Newer “anabolic” drugs may offer greater protection from fractures.

For instance, it is known that parathyroid hormone, secreted by small glands in our neck, stimulates both osteoclasts and osteoblasts. Analogues of parathyroid hormone such as **teriparatide (Forteo®)** can be given once daily by injection for two years or more. These drugs reduce hip fractures to about the same extent as bisphosphonates, but with fewer adverse effects (4). Forteo® costs about \$8,000 per year. At this writing, Forteo® is not a drug eligible for coverage under the Saskatchewan Prescription Drug Plan (SPDP).

The newest agent is **romosozumab (Evenity®)** which works both ways—building new bone and helping to slow bone loss.

This drug came about after researchers discovered that patients with a very rare genetic disorder (Van Buchem disease)—manifested by over-exuberant bone growth causing paralysis and deafness due to pressure on nerves and the spinal cord—lack the gene that produces a protein called sclerostin. Sclerostin inhibits bone formation. This discovery led to the hypothesis that reducing sclerostin in patients with osteoporosis would increase bone formation.

A randomized controlled trial found that romosozumab (210 milligrams injected each month for a year) increased bone density in postmenopausal women to a greater extent than teriparatide or alendronate (5). A later study found that hip fractures were reduced by 73% compared to patients given a placebo (6). Adverse events were no greater than those with placebo. Romosozumab is taken for one year and should be followed by treatment with a bisphosphonate or denosumab for at least one more year.

The published cost for romosozumab for one year is \$8,510. However, depending on your income, a portion of the cost may be covered by SPDP under the Exception Drug Status program which applies to postmenopausal women who have “a history of osteoporotic fracture and at high risk for future fracture (defined as a 10-year fracture risk  $\geq$  20% as defined by the FRAX tool).”

At present, women who have taken or are taking a bisphosphonate or denosumab are not eligible for coverage for romosozumab under this program. These patients likely would benefit from romosozumab but to date there is no published evidence to support this. However, there are studies on romosozumab underway involving women who have previously taken osteoporosis medications, as well as studies of these medications in men with osteoporosis. We can expect the price to decrease when a “biosimilar” medication is marketed.

In summary, we should:

- Do resistance exercises and consume recommended amounts of calcium and vitamin D (and maybe magnesium—see the September 2025 USRA newsletter).
- Complete the FRAX risk score. If you have a greater than 10% in 10 years risk of a fragility fracture, consider a bisphosphonate.
- For those who have a 20% risk and extra cash, an option might be to take romosozumab for a year, followed by a bisphosphonate.

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### Nominate a Retired Colleague for a University Retiree Award!

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The University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association (USRA) invites nominations for its annual awards, which recognize university faculty and staff who have retired and who continue to contribute to their discipline, to the university, or to the wider community.

Closing date for nominations to be considered for the USRA Awards celebration in June of 2026 is May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Criteria for the awards, nomination forms, and lists of previous recipients are available on the [USRA website](#).

Please consider nominating a USask retiree for one of the following awards:

- **ohpahotân/oohpaahotaan Let’s Fly Up Together USRA Award**--our newest USRA award recognizes significant contributions of a USask individual retiree, or a pair or group that includes one or more USask retirees, Indigenous or non-Indigenous, towards achieving the commitments of the Indigenous Strategy of the university “ohpahotân/oohpaahotaan - Let’s Fly Up Together.”
- **Prime of Life Achievement Award**--honours individuals who have retired from work at the university and, after their retirement, have been recognized for outstanding scholarly, artistic or service contributions.
- **Continuing Contribution Award**--recognizes and expresses appreciation to persons who have retired from work at the university, but have continued to make research, scholarly, artistic or service contributions.
- **Duff Spafford Award**--recognizes a USask retiree’s total contribution to the university community over the period of the retiree’s association with the university, including any contributions made during student years by a candidate who is an alumnus.

Nominations can be sent electronically or by mail.

**Please note that nominees need to be USask retirees but do not need to be USRA members.** For further information or assistance in preparing a nomination, please contact [merry.beazely@usask.ca](mailto:merry.beazely@usask.ca) or [ss.usra@usask.ca](mailto:ss.usra@usask.ca).

On behalf of the USRA Awards Committee,

Merry Beazely (Chair), Bryan Harvey, David Mandeville, Vera Pezer, and Kathryn Warden



Members and Awards Celebration 2025  
Photo credit: Alaisa Gaudet

## College and University Retiree Associations of Canada (CURAC/ARUCC) News

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**USRA is a long-time member of CURAC (College and University Retiree Associations of Canada),** a national organization that shares information about activities and best practices among member organizations and speaks publicly on issues of concern to university and college retirees across the country: <https://curac.ca/en/home>. Because USRA is a member of CURAC, **all USRA members are members of CURAC.**



**CURAC benefits for USRA members:** This membership brings you many opportunities, including discounts on hearing care, eyecare, car and home insurance, travel insurance, and guided travel tours. Please check these out at: [Member Benefits — CURAC](#).

### **USRA is represented on CURAC and its committees:**

- CURAC Representative – Merry Beazely
- CURAC Conference Committee – Merry Beazely
- CURAC Health Policy Committee – Tom Wilson
- CURAC Later Life Learning Committee – Murray Scharf, who regularly forwards virtual learning opportunities from CURAC that he and USRA Secretary Jackie send on to USRA members. These learning opportunities are now posted on a new events calendar that you can find on the CURAC home page (scroll down).

### **CURAC Annual Conference May 20-22, 2026 in New Westminister, B.C.**

Hosted by Simon Fraser University Retirees Association, CURAC's 2026 Conference will have the theme "Making Connections" and will take place at the Inn at the Quay on the Fraser River in New Westminister, B.C. Please join your CURAC colleagues and fellow university retirees for a program that will inspire us, teach us new things, and help us make connections to each other. **All USRA members are invited to attend.**

**Registration link:** <https://event.fourwaves.com/curac2026>. We are pleased that Kathryn Warden, from our USRA Board, will represent us at the conference and CURAC AGM.

### **CURAC Website Updates**

- **CURAC News:** welcome to issue number three, December 2025, of *CURAC News*. Current stories include CURAC Awards and Are You Getting Your CURAC/ARUCC Perks? Please see <https://curac.ca/en/blog/december-2025-newsletter>.
- **Newsletter Roundup:** CURAC News! recently relaunched to share stories with retiree colleagues and peers." *"Please enjoy missives from your fellow retirees, selected by newsletter editors at each RA (retirees' association). We encourage you to browse all the newsletters to enjoy the range of topics, events and pursuits at each retiree association."* **USRA's newsletter is well represented.**
- **CURAC Blog** includes story on *How Retired Professors Are Organized and How They e-Collaborate:* <https://curac.ca/en/blog/retired-professors-collaborate>.

## University Club Reopens: Opportunities for USRA Members

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### ***A place to dine and gather .... shaped by members past and present***

In 2020, the much-admired, historic University Club closed due to financial issues, in part related to the impact on revenue of COVID which had affected revenue and operations. Former USask President Peter Stoicheff worked with a new board to negotiate a new lease which included renovations to the 1912 building, one of the first built on campus. The refurbished Club officially re-opened on March 6<sup>th</sup> of 2025.



*Photo credit: University of Saskatchewan*

This past winter, Club manager Hanna Savola invited USRA to take out a **special USRA membership** which enables all USRA members to reserve any of the Club's beautiful spaces and order food and beverages for special functions (e.g., weddings, reunions). If you would like to book a function for your family or group, please indicate that the membership is through USRA. For reservations and inquiries, please contact Hanna at 306-955-4567 or email [university.club@usask.ca](mailto:university.club@usask.ca).



*Photo credit: University of Saskatchewan*

As well, the University Club invites individual USRA members to become **individual members** for a **special rate of \$89.78 a year** or 3-year lump sum of \$269.34. Individual members can enjoy complimentary coffee and pastries at the Club beginning at 8:30 am until 6:00 pm. À la carte lunch is available for purchase from 11 am - 5 pm. Members receive invitations to special Club functions, and of course, booking of special functions is welcome. To join, please complete the USask Retiree Membership Application Form at [Membership University Club | University of Saskatchewan](#) and make an INTERAC e-Transfer to [uclub.accounts@usask.ca](mailto:uclub.accounts@usask.ca) or email or call Hanna as she can take credit card details over the phone or via email.

## **USask Services for USRA Members – Highlights and Questions**

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As you will have learned through various communications to our membership, February 15, 2026 was the University of Saskatchewan's email access opt-in deadline **for all alumni and retirees**.

In preparation for this change, your USRA leadership had been working hard with the Provost and Vice-President Academic, the Vice-President University Relations, and current and past ICT leadership to negotiate and create an exclusive opportunity for USRA members to retain their email accounts. This includes Ordinary, Honorary, and Associate members (i.e., partners of Ordinary members). The result is that **USRA members can continue to have access to USask email through an opt-in fee of \$35**, collected by USRA and forwarded annually to the university.

The USRA Board has received many questions from members and non-members about this change, implemented to save the university roughly \$500,000 per year, and we are pleased to provide the information below about email, library access, and other services. Of note, in the [University/USRA Memorandum of Understanding](#), the USRA agreed, to the best of its abilities, to represent the perspectives of all retirees and to keep them informed of opportunities to engage with the University.

- **Do I retain my NSID?**

**All USask retirees** retain their NSIDs (Network Services Identification such as abc123) for life, even if they do not opt to retain USask email service. However, retirees need to opt-in to retain USask email and calendar; use of PAWs determined by their role; WiFi when on campus and EduRoam when travelling.

- **Do I have access to library services?**

**All USask retirees** automatically get library accounts and have lifetime access to the following USask library services: the physical collections; inter-library loan services at no charge; and on-campus access to electronic resources. The change to "retired" status updates their campus ID card automatically. This isn't tied to whether they have a physical card (or a USask email) but rather to their NSID. If retirees don't remember their NSIDs, the Library can look up NSIDs by name.

**Note:** Retirees (unless they are Emeriti—see below) can access the library's electronic resources including eBooks **only when on campus**.

- **Do I have access to PAWS, USask publications, and continuing education opportunities?**

**All USask retirees**, by way of their NSIDs and passwords, will have access to most USask publications posted on PAWS Announcements. Note that PAWS access remains for those who have not opted for email access. *On Campus News* publications can also be found here: <https://news.usask.ca/>.

**All USask retirees** have access to university-sponsored continuing education opportunities which include enhancing computer skills and other areas of interest.

### **How do these changes specifically affect USask retirees, Professors/Librarians Emeriti, and individuals who retire in future?**

- **Retirees who are USRA members**, who have opted in prior to February 15, 2026, and who will pay the \$35 opt-in fee **by May 1, 2026**, will retain their USask email accounts until **May 31, 2027**.

**Each calendar year**, USRA will provide sufficient notice to USRA members prior to the necessary renewal deadline to maintain USask email and co-ordinate the collection of opt-in fees from members.

- **For Professors/Librarians Emeriti**, ICT license packages, including USask email, are available for those who remain actively engaged. License requests and associated funding must be submitted by the individual's home unit (e.g., department) to ICT. This access is **reviewed annually** and so Emeriti **need to confirm this annually**. If not available through the home unit, Emeriti can maintain USask email service through USRA's opt-in plan. Emeriti have additional Library services, notably **off campus access** to all electronic resources licensed by the University Library, and may have other benefits, such as office space.
- **Future retirees: before retiring from the university**, faculty and staff members will receive notice from Human Resources (HR) that they can apply for a **1-year free USRA membership**. USRA will continue to work with HR to ensure prospective retirees receive this information. Those wishing to retain their USask email that year will need to pay the \$35 opt-in fee, unless they are Emeriti and are receiving ICT license packages from their home units.

**Note: After the first 'free' year membership** in the USRA, individuals, who wish to maintain their USask email, will need to purchase a USRA life or annual membership and pay the annual \$35 fee **to maintain USask email**, unless they are Emeriti and are receiving email through their home units.

If you have questions regarding the above, please contact USRA at: [ss.usra@usask.ca](mailto:ss.usra@usask.ca).

### **Annual Membership Renewal**

*Jacqueline Huck, Membership Committee Chair*

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Annual memberships cover July to June of the following year. Although notices are sent out in June, if your membership will be up for renewal, please consider renewing now. Life members do not have to renew annually.

The membership form is available on our website: <https://usra.usask.ca/member-information.php#MemberBenefits>. For convenience, we have added the option of e-transfer.

### **Members No Longer With Us**

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The USRA has learned of the deaths of the following members and extends our sympathies to their families.

Note: Surviving partners of deceased Life Members may inherit their partner's USRA membership if they wish to do so. Please contact USRA via e-mail at [ss.usra@usask.ca](mailto:ss.usra@usask.ca) or phone 306-966-6618 for further information.

### **Roy Billinton (September 14, 1935-December 23, 2025)**

**Distinguished Professor Emeritus Roy Billinton** is widely regarded as a pioneer of the modern discipline of power system reliability engineering. His 1970 book is considered the first book in English on the subject.

Born in the U.K., Roy immigrated to Canada with his father in 1952 at the age of 16. A few months later, he met his future wife Joyce and they were married in 1956. After apprenticing to become an electrician, Roy earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Manitoba. While working full-time for Manitoba Hydro, Roy obtained a master's degree and in 1964, the couple moved to Saskatoon where he joined USask's electrical and computer engineering department and went on to earn Ph.D. and Doctor of Science degrees at USask.

During his 40-year-plus career at USask, Roy served as an engineering professor, department head, assistant dean, associate dean, and acting dean. An industry expert in the field of power system reliability, Roy served as a consultant for many large utility providers in North America and abroad. He authored/co-authored 10 books and more than 975 professional papers. After his retirement in 2003, Roy continued to extensively publish journal and conference papers. He supervised more than 135 graduate students over his career.

Roy's accomplishments were recognized with the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Canada's McNaughton Gold Medal (1994), IEEE Canada Electric Power Medal (2008), and the New York-based IEEE's Charles Proteus Steinmetz Award (2008). In 2019, Billinton was awarded the IEEE Power & Energy Society's Lifetime Achievement Award. Roy was also elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a Foreign Associate of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering (2007), one of the highest professional honors accorded an engineer.

Roy was also honoured with USask's J.W. George Ivany Internationalization Award (2000), Saskatchewan Centennial Medal (2005), and [USRA's Prime of Life Achievement Award](#) (2010).

### **Yvonne Cuttle (August 16, 1932-January 2, 2026)**

**Professor Emerita Yvonne Cuttle** was one of very few women in North America who pursued the field of mathematics in the 1950s. Her subsequent professional career spanned decades, forging her legacy as a highly regarded mentor in her field.

Born in 1932 in Brussels, Yvonne immigrated to Canada in 1951 at the age of 18. After graduating from the University of British Columbia with an M.Sc., she went on to earn a Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Oregon (1959). The same year, she and her late husband, Percy, joined the USask math and statistics department where she taught for 41 years.

Yvonne served as the first editor-in-chief of the Canadian Mathematical Society (CMS) Notes (1979-85). In 2000, she was named the first recipient of the USask College of Arts and Science Teaching Excellence Award.

When she retired, Yvonne joined the Golden Eagles, a sub-group of the Saskatoon Nature Society, with her late partner Ted Melville. Yvonne served as a board member of the Nature Society of Saskatchewan (2004 to 2011) and treasurer of the Saskatoon Nature Society (SNC) for 10 years (until 2021). In 2022, she received the SNC's Lifetime Membership Award.

For many years, Yvonne was a supporter of the Nature Conservancy of Canada, the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, and the Society for the Protection of Animals, serving as president from 1994 to 2001.

Yvonne also served as scholarship convenor of the Canadian Federation of University Women in Saskatoon (2002 to 2006). She was USRA secretary (2002 to 2011) and in 2014, was honoured with [USRA's Honorary Life Award](#).

#### **Alexander Ollenberger (January 10, 1935-January 23, 2025)**

USRA life member Alex Ollenberger was born in the Black Sea area of Russia in 1935. During World War II, he went to Germany with his mother and two older sisters. He immigrated to Canada around 1947.

Alex was employed by USask for more than 30 years. In 1997, he retired as a journeyman electrician with the building and grounds department.

In 1996, Alex was awarded an Honorary Life Membership by CUPE Local 1975 and received gifts from CUPE and the university of a carved black seal and a watercolour painting of the university's original greenhouses by William Griffith.

Alex and his wife Sylvia were married for 62 years. The family lived in Saskatoon for 20 years, moved to the family farm and back to Saskatoon in 1997 upon Alex's retirement. The family rebuilt their long-time summer home at Emma Lake and stayed there until 2008, after which they moved into a retirement home.

#### **[Dwight Joseph Reynaud](#) (died February 18, 2026)**

Dwight grew up on the family farm near Basin Lake, north of Humboldt. Upon completion of Grade 12, he worked with his family constructing or renovating many buildings in the Wakaw area. He continued casual construction work after taking a position as senior storekeeper with the USask Department of Chemistry. Dwight and partner Brenda purchased land south of Wakaw and moved there in 2013 after construction of the house was completed and both had retired. Dwight's hobbies included fishing, hunting and working in the yard.

#### **[Charles \(Chuck\) Schumann Rhodes](#) (April 16, 1945-October 30, 2025)**

Veterinary education and research leader **Professor Emeritus Dr. Charles (Chuck) Rhodes** was raised on a farm in Clinton, Wisconsin where he was active in 4-H and Future Farmers of America. His father owned the local John Deere dealership.

Chuck attended the University of Minnesota where he attained both his Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees. He later earned a Master of Science degree in animal production at Iowa State University. After graduating from veterinary school in 1969, Chuck took a two-year contract with a federal program that sent him to Vietnam to provide veterinary services to local farmers during the Vietnam War.

While in veterinary school, Chuck met Anita Hoffman, an education student from Minnesota and the two were married in 1971. That same year, Chuck took a one-year position as a clinician at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) at USask.

During his 39 years at USask, Chuck served as department head, associate dean, and then dean of the college in 2002, a role he held until his retirement in 2010.

His research contributed to the understanding of the effects of confinement barn environments in intensive swine operations on the health of people and pigs, swine diseases, and anti-microbial use in swine production. His work was published nationally and internationally. He also remained active in clinical practice and provided professional advice to veterinarians and livestock producers.

In retirement, Chuck and Anita travelled to Arizona, the Caribbean, Europe, and Asia. Chuck actively supported USRA by attending lunch presentations and events. The Dr. Charles Rhodes Bursary at WCVM continues his legacy.

Note: For notices in memory of former employees of the university, as well as current students, employees and others honoured when the flag on the Thorvaldson Building is flown at half mast, please see the In Memoriam website maintained by the University Secretary: <https://governance.usask.ca/about/flag-at-half-mast.php#InMemoriam>.

## Keep in Touch!

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We welcome your letters to the editors Jackie Huck, Bob Card, Joe Angel, and Kathryn Warden. Do you have an event of interest to retirees and seniors that you want to let other members know about? We are happy to pass on news about your event by e-mail and in the newsletter. Please send information by e-mail.



### **Moving? Changing your e-mail address?**

Don't miss an issue of our newsletter and our e-mail notices about upcoming activities! Make sure you send us your new contact information.

### **University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association**

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