

At our Valentine's Day meeting with President MacKinnon, we received much encouragement to pursue our strategic plan and affirmation of the importance of the role USRA can play in the life of the University of Saskatchewan. It was clear that USRA enjoys the support of the President.

Since February, the Executive has mainly directed its attention to many internal matters. First, our offices have been moved within the Williams Building to Room 310. The mailing address and phone number remain unchanged. The advantage of the move is access to a kitchen and a board room.

In order to improve access to the Retirees' Lounge in the College Building, efforts are being made to have the door unlocked during the business hours. Currently, you must go to the President's Office to have a receptionist unlock the room.

Both of these moves should ensure our physical presence on campus and facilitate our activities.

The educational presentations by Michael Pomedli, on February 28th, George Sofko, on March 27th, and Richard Schwier, on April 26th, were well attended and very well received. The Manos Restaurant venue and luncheon format appear to work well with the presentations; and the campus venue on Saturdays appears to work well for workshops. The Canadian Light Source tour in May, of necessity, must be on campus. (The notices of these events are included in this newsletter.)

Soon we will be working on our program for 2008-2009 so if you have some suggestions on possible activities or events, please forward them to Nora Carey care of the USRA office. We believe the monthly schedule of events has been a positive move.

USRA can only progress if we have the support of our members and have a strong Executive. We are approaching that time of year when we must nominate individuals to the Executive and obtain a renewed list of volunteers for the various activities. In addition, we are making the call for nominations of worthy candidates for the Prime of Life Achievement Award – please forward the nominations to Peter Cribb care of the USRA office.

In summary, we are making progress in our shift from a benefits-based organization to a social/educational/support organization dedicated to promoting the quality of life of our members, and to enhancing the academic life of the University of Saskatchewan. In July, we look forward to welcoming the 2008 group of new members in our Association.

Murray Scharf

IN MEMORY

Helen McDuffie

Deceased February 14, 2008
College of Medicine
1988 – 2006

Witold Zaleski

Deceased March 11, 2008
Dept. of Pediatrics
College of Medicine
1967 – 1987

Roland E. Muir

Deceased March 21, 2008
Administration
1960 – 1990

Congratulations to Professor Emeritus David Smith as the author of the "The People's House of Commons: Theories of Democracy in Contention" which was awarded the 2008 Donner Prize!

University Retirees Lounge on Campus!

When the College Building (Admin Building) was re-opened, **Room 132** on the ground floor was set aside for the use of University retirees as a lounge and meeting place. The room has comfortable chairs and facilities for making coffee and tea. It is open for use during University business hours.

When you are on campus, drop in for a visit. We encourage retirees to make use of the lounge. If the door is locked, go to the University Secretaries office (212) to obtain a key.

The following was submitted by Murray Scharf as an information item concerning programs that provide support to those in need of assistance in our city:

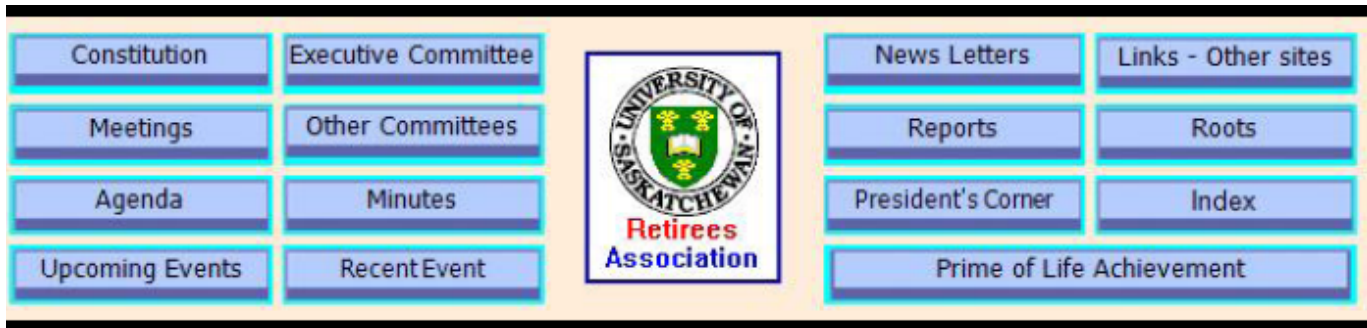
Cheshire Homes of Saskatoon is investigating the possibility of a new housing option in Saskatoon for young adults with physical disabilities. The intent is to fill a niche for individuals who require attendant care services but want more independence and living space than would be available in a nursing home or group home setting. The idea is to construct a building with perhaps 6 to 8 accessible condo-style units with access to 24 hour on-site attendant care services to be provided by Cheshire. Preliminary plans have been drawn up to illustrate how the units might look, which can be viewed on the Cheshire Homes website at www.cheshirehomessaskatoon.com. On these plans there are six smaller units of 548 square feet and two larger units of 743 square feet. Each unit would have its own bedroom, bathroom, living space and small kitchen area. There would be a central laundry and kitchen with some common space available for meetings or gatherings.

These plans will be further modified and developed in consultation with the individuals who express an interest in the project. The building would be constructed on Cheshire's existing property in the quiet residential neighbourhood of Eastview. Funding options are currently being investigated. One possibility is for individuals to purchase a life lease in a unit, which they or their estate are able to sell at whatever the market value is, and also pays a monthly amount to cover the typical condo fees, food, and to contribute to the cost of the attendant care services. This project is in the early stages of this project and Cheshire is looking for feedback and expressions of interest from those who are interested in this concept. Please feel free to contact Cheshire at 306-374-6191 or by email to cheshiresaskatoon@sasktel.net.

USRA EXECUTIVE 2007-2008

President: Murray Scharf
Past President: Bob Woods
Vice President: Jim Blackburn
Secretary: Yvonne Cuttle
Treasurer: Ken Smith
Members at Large:
Norah Carey
Les Coleman
Peter Cribb
Faye Kernan
Barry McLennan
Dale Miquelon
Mohindar Sachdev
Bob Sanche
Nancy Senior
George Sofko
Duff Spafford

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

Membership in the USRA

This is a reminder that the annual membership fee expires on July 1. Currently the annual membership fee is \$15. If you wish to obtain a life membership, it is dependent on age according to the following schedule:

Age (on July 1)	Fee
<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
Univ. of Sask. Retirees
Association
RJD Williams,
221 Cumberland Ave.
Saskatoon, SK S7N 1M3

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

“Wrinkled Was Not One of the Things I Wanted to Be When I Grew up.”

“Consciousness: That annoying time between naps.”

“The gene pool could use a little chlorine.”

The Sunday school teacher asked, “Now Johnny, tell me, do you say prayers before eating?” No sir he replied, “We don't have to, my Mom is a good cook”