

## UNIVERSITY OF RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWS SASKATCHEWAN February 2010

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## Message from the President February 2010

This past fall our educational sessions focused on the nuclear industry and the U of S, planning the academic future of the University; and the University's new School of Public Policy. During the winter-spring we will take a broader look at the fine arts scene in Saskatoon: the Saskatchewan economy and economic trade; and then an examination of our judicial system. We will also feature computer, photography and gardening workshops as well as birding and a Batoche tour. A complete listing of our events is provided later in this newsletter.

An Ad-hoc Committee on the Future Role of the USRA has been active under Chairman Michael Hayden. This committee's January report offered several excellent suggestions for expanding our offerings to our members based on information provided by our sister organizations at other Canadian Universities. As a follow-up, our Executive will be meeting with President MacKinnon to discuss the committee's proposals. We urge members to provide us with your thoughts on how the USRA can provide services or programs that would be of benefit to you.

The Prime of Life Achievement Award is being promoted, and you are encouraged to nominate a USRA member for this award of distinction. We want to recognize members who "are making an extra effort" during retirement that makes a difference in the lives of others.

The recent earthquake in Haiti makes us all realize how fortunate we are to live in Canada, in spite of the rather harsh winters. Our thoughts, prayers and support go out to the Haitians and to the individuals and organizations devoting their efforts to assist following this earthquake.

May you and your families have health and happiness in 2010.

### **IN MEMORY**

#### Owen Mann

Deceased - November 12, 2009 College of Engineering Hire Date: July 1, 1950 Retirement date: June 30, 1990

### Shirley Patola

Deceased - October 22, 2009 Pediatrics Hire date - January, 1980 Retirement date - December 31, 1997

#### Frantisek (Francis) Hrudka

Deceased - January 8, 2010 College of Veterinary Medicine Hire date - September, 1969 Retirement date - June, 1988

### Robert (Bob) E. Brack

Deceased - January, 2010 **Extension Division** Hire date – May, 1952 Retirement date - June, 1992

# USRA Speaker Series 2010

(Please mark your calendar for these events!)

USRA Speaker Series sessions are held at **Mano's Restaurant** on 8<sup>th</sup> Street, beginning with lunch at **12 Noon**, followed by a half-hour presentation and a question and response session. The Speaker Series for Spring 2010 consists of the following:

### Thursday January 21, 2010 Peter England

Bassoonist with Saskatoon Symphony; distinguished band director, teacher, adjudicator and clinician; President of Sask. Culture.

Topic: The Fine Arts Scene in Saskatoon.

### Thursday, March 18, 2010

Gerald Seniuk, Saskatchewan Chief Justice (Retired)

**Topic:** An assessment of the Judicial System: Power of the Word or Power of the Purse?

### To attend, please contact Jim Blackburn (374-9751) - jblackburn@sasktel.net

### Workshops and Activities

#### Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

Jay Wilson et al. – Computer Workshop Room 3134, Education Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Session 1: Communication Tools, Blogs, Twitter, Wiki, etc.9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Cost: \$10 per person

#### Session 2: Website Development and Management

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Cost: \$10 per person

Enroll: Phone Marj or Murray Scharf, 374-0874
(Jay Wilson is an Assistant Professor of Curriculum Studies, Communications and Technology, in the College of Education)
(Max 25 participants per session)

### Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

Barry Brown - Photography Workshop 9:00 am. to 12:00 noon, Cost: \$10 per person Education Building, Room – to be posted

## **U of S Retiree Honours**

### Larry Fowke

Larry Fowke, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Biology, has been elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, joining 1800 other academics selected for fellowships by their peers in recognition of outstanding contributions to the arts and sciences.

Fowke joined the U of S in 1970. His research centers on understanding cell division in plants, how cells move material from outside their membranes to inside, and the cloning of conifers.

### **Henry Woolf**

On the occasion of his 80th birthday, Henry Woolf, retired professor and Head of the University of Saskatchewan Drama Department, was honoured at a party held on January 8 at the Frank and Ellen Remai Arts Centre. Aaron Hursch, representing the Saskatoon and Area Theatre Awards group, presented Henry with its Award for Continuing Theatre Achievement. It will subsequently be known as the Henry Woolf Award.

Asked for a few words of wisdom for his fellow U of S retirees, Henry advises that we pay little heed to the passage of time and look always to the future.

### C.M. Williams

C. M. "Red" Williams, Professor Emeritus in the Animal and Poultry Science Department, recently received one of the "Top 25 Canadian Awards" from the Canadian Association of Retired Persons. The citation described him as a mentor, volunteer and inspiration for the boomer generation.

### Executive Committee meetings for 2010:

January 4; February 1; March 1; April 5; May 3 and June 7. All at 2:00pm, Retirees' Lounge, U of S.

## **Gleanings From the Minutes**

(This is a new column to highlight important items from Executive Committee meetings)

### **November 2nd Executive minutes**

- An invitation for retirees to attend the University President's Christmas reception was received.
- Jim Blackburn requested that Barry Brown take a photo of the new Executive Committee and also send copies of the pictures taken at the AGM and banguet.
- Kevin Wilson was confirmed as the new Vice-President of the USRA.
- It was agreed that the 2010 AGM would be held on September 20, 2010.
- An Ad hoc committee on the future role of the USRA was established, chaired by Michael Hayden.

### **December 7th Executive Minutes**

- A tentative meeting was set for President MacKinnon to meet with the USRA Executive committee at 2:15 pm Feb.1st.
- Eileen Harvey presented the committee report with plans to revitalize the Prime of Live Achievement Awards.
- Kurt Tischler presented the first report of the Ad hoc committee on the future role of the USRA.
- Dean Jones agreed to review the USRA web site and to recommend needed improvements.
- President Jim Blackburn reported that Barry Brown provided photos taken at the 2009 AGM & banquet.

### **January 4th Executive Minutes**

- -Chair Jim Blacckburn reported that the February 1st meeting with President MacKinnon is set.
- Eileen Harvey presented an update of the work of the Prime of Life Achievement Awards Committee.
- Michael Hayden presented the second report of the Ad hoc committee on the future role of the USRA.

## USRA EXECUTIVE 2009-2010

President: Jim Blackburn **Past President: Murray Scharf** Vice President: Kevin Wilson Secretary: Yvonne Cuttle **Treasurer: Ken Smith** Members at Large: Yvonne Brown Les Coleman Eileen Harvey Michael Hayden Fave Kernan **Dale Miguelon Bob Sanche** Nancy Senior George Sofko **Duff Spafford** Kurt Tischler **Bob Woods** 

### Prime of Life Achievement Award

The University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association (USRA) requests your assistance in identifying and nominating prospective recipients of the Prime of Life Achievement Award (PLAA) that honours and gives recognition to former faculty and staff after retirement. If you know an individual who fits the Award description below, please submit a nomination.

#### History

The University and its respective Colleges often recognize and reward employees for outstanding accomplishments while working at the University of Saskatchewan. However, if after retirement a former University employee receives special awards or recognition, the University does not have a mechanism by which to offer recognition and congratulations. In 1997, the USRA inaugurated such a mechanism.

The first awards were given in 1997 to a backlog of 60 worthy recipients. Since that time, a further 24 Awards have been presented. Please see insert for the list of past Award recipients.

## Award Description

The PLAA honours and expresses appreciation to former faculty and staff who have been recognized for outstanding scholarly, artistic or service contributions achieved **after their retirement.** Such contributions would have been recognized internationally, nationally or locally (e.g., Order of Canada, Saskatchewan Order of Merit, honorary lifetime recognitions from national or provincial professional societies or associations, honorary degrees, national artistic commissions, Saskatoon Citizen of the Year, etc.)

The award is presented each year in the fall, at the banquet following the USRA AGM.

## **Nomination Forms**

The PLAA Committee invites nominations from the University community; however, anyone may nominate a worthy candidate. A nomination form is included as an insert in this Newsletter. Should you require additional nomination forms, please send us an email at <u>ss.usra@usask.ca</u>, call the USRA Office at 966-6618, or download a form from the USRA website (www.usra.usask.ca) when it becomes available there.

Please note that two signatures are required for the nomination. A complete postretirement CV may be requested.

## **Of Interest To Retirees**

### **Artists For Station 20 West**

On Sunday February 7, at 8 pm, Artists for Station 20 West will come together to support this important project promising positive change in Saskatoon's core communities. The show is sponsored by, and takes place at, Grosvenor Park United Church -- corner of Cumberland Avenue and 14th St. E.

The show will be hosted by Brenda Baker and will include artists such as: Andrea Menard, Eileen Laverty, Gillian Snider, Yann Martel, Henry Woolf, the Amati Quartet, and many other well-known musicians and artists.

Tickets are available at McNally Robinson Booksellers, Darren's Music, Grosvenor Park United Church, and the Station 20 West office. Please call 653-3245 for more information.

## **E-Mail Addresses Requested**

In addition to the distribution of the USRA Newsletter to some members via e-mail, we also send e-mail reminders just before our USRA events to those living in or near Saskatoon. We request that you send us your e-mail address so we can keep you up to date with our activities.

Please send an e-mail to

ss.usra@usask.ca requesting to be added to our e-mail distribution list and, if you wish, to receive the Newsletter by e-mail. In order to respect privacy and keep addresses confidential, we take care to send these e-mails as "blind carbon copies."

#### Prime of Life Achievement Award Recipients

1997 Allen, J. R. Ambrose, E.R. Anderson, C.S. Bailey, D.A. Baker, H.R. Bakhshi, N.N. Beck, R.N. Bell, J.M. Bigland, C. Bornstein, E. Brack, R.E. Brewster, E. Carter, R.C. Cates, W.F. Chakravarti, A.K. Cotter, W.A. Coupland, R.T. Crawford, R.D. Cribb, P.H. Day, S.E. Dommasch, H.S. Egnatoff, J. G. EI-Serafi, A.M. Fedoroff, S. Gray, D.M. Greenough, P.R. Hamilton, G. Hass, G., Henry, J.L. Holmes, I.H. Horlick, L. Houston, S.C. Howard, T.M. Hrudka, F. Jackson, P. Knott, D.R. Kupsch, W.O. Kyle, M. Lane, P.R. Lawson, P.A. Laxdal. 0.E. MacLean, H. Murphy, G.J. Neis. V. Rennie, D. Richards, J.H. Riekman, G.A. Roe, W.F. Sachdev, M. Saunders, J.R.

Schmeiser, D. Schnell, B.R. Simpson, E. C. Smith, C. Sosulski, F. St. Arnaud, R. Stinson, E.W. Wallace. W. Whale, W.B. Williams, C.M. 1998 Dabbs, D.H. Fedoruk, S.O. Fulton, F. Gerrard, J.W. Harrison, M. Howell, W.E. Kennedy, E.J. Newman, M. 1999 Emson, H.E. Katz, L. Slinkard, A.E. Strayer, R.C. 2000 Green, M.A. Nixon, H.R. Wolfe, B. Wyant, G. 2001 Crowle, M. Dorotich, D. 2003 Mills, I. Shook, C.A. 2004 Vella, F. 2005 Kaplan, D. Nikiforuk, P. 2006 Radostits, O.

### University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association

### Prime of Life Achievement Award Nomination Form

Nomination Information

Name of nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

College or unit of the U of S:

Description and dates of nominee's outstanding award(s) or recognition: Any other comments that might help in preparation of citation:

Printed name, address and phone number of first nominator:

Signature of first nominator:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name, address and phone number of second nominator:

Signature of second nominator:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please forward to Eileen Harvey, Chair, Prime of Life Achievement Awards Committee, University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association, RJD Williams Building, 221 Cumberland Ave., Saskatoon, SK S7N 1M3, or email to e.harvey@usask.ca