

RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWS August 2012

Number 90 <u>www.usra.usask.ca</u>

USRA Annual General Meeting and Banquet

You are invited: Monday, Sept. 24, 2012 – USRA Annual General Meeting, U of S Faculty Club 4:30 pm – Annual General Meeting 5:30 pm – Refreshments 6:00 pm – Banquet \$ 35.00 per person Please RSVP by Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012 e-mail: jblackburn@sasktel.net or 374-9751

PAC (R) Lot is available for free parking for retirees for the evening, compliments of the USRA. The parking arm will be up when you leave.



Message from the President Dale Miquelon

Endings and Beginnings -- It's that time of year!

Members of the Executive Committee of the Association are busy getting together the reports required for the Annual General Meeting, which will precede the banquet on September 24th. There are reports on office services and membership. communications (the newsletter and the website and other possible publications), a committee that stages the various events that we offer, the Prime of Life Award committee, the report of the person charged with liaison with CURAC (the federation of retiree associations of colleges and universities across Canada), a committee that suggests possible candidates for honorary degrees, a committee that sees to our pictorial record, and a nominations committee. There is also the report of the Treasurer.

One of the things you will be asked to do at the AGM is to change the clause of the Constitution requiring an audit of our financial statements by an accountant. A retired accounting professor and member of our Association advises us that our "financial transactions are so small that a casual perusal of the financial statement would reflect its fairness (which is all an auditor attests to do when reviewing the details of the year's transactions)." We find that we are in the position of many small organizations, such as small church congregations, that cannot afford the expense of a formal audit, and have had to take similar measures.

Every year retirees at the AGM are invited to nominate from the floor persons to be added to the Executive Committee. I think people have come to see this as a *pro forma* requirement that need not be taken seriously. But that is not what the Executive intends in inviting nominations. Our method of seeking out new committee members via the grapevine of our personal connections can only take us so far. We really do need, say, three new members to bring a breath of fresh air into our conclaves.

You will see at the banquet a modest homage to our predecessors in the

Association: portraits of our two founders, Art Sumner and Jack Pringle, in one frame, along with photos of the five people who have been accorded honorary life memberships. These pictures will hang in the Retirees' Lounge in the Peter Mackinnon Building (formerly the College Building, and, to go way back, the old Administration Building). Together with them will be framed lists of those who have received the Prime of Life Achievement Award. Three more individuals will receive the award at this year's banguet.

AGMs and banquets mark a conclusion to a year's activities. But the Executive has also been busy preparing for the year to come. The work of our several committees does not stop. A good slate of speakers for our lunches at Mano's will soon be finalized. I hope you will all come to hear them and to enjoy lunch with former colleagues. And for both the banquet and the lunches, do not hesitate to bring friends.

IN MEMORY

Peter Dooley

Date of death:	June 19, 2012
Department:	Economics
Joined the U. of S.:	July 1, 1966
Retired:	June 30, 2005

William Sherman Wallace

Date of death:	July 29, 2012
Department:	Commerce
Joined the U. of S.:	July 1, 1964
Date of retirement:	June 30, 1992

Gordon Walburn

Date of death:	July 10, 2012
Department:	Audio Visual Services
Joined the U. of S.:	August 1, 1965
Retired:	June 30, 1993

Sergey Fedoroff

Date of death:	March 19, 2012
Department:	Anatomy
Joined the U. of S.:	July 1, 1958
Retired:	June 30, 1992

Paul Riemer

Date of death:	July 26, 2012
Department:	Civil Engineering
Joined the U. of S.:	September 1, 1949
Retired:	December 31, 1988

Ian Hugh Holmes

Date of death:August 19, 2012Department:MedicineJoined the U. of S.:January 1, 1968Retired:June 30, 1994

USRA Activities in the works

MONDAY, SEPT 24, 2012 - USRA Annual General Meeting, Faculty Club

4:30 pm – Annual General Meeting

5:30 pm – Refreshments

6:00 pm – Banquet

\$ 35.00 per person

Please RSVP by Thursday, Sept. 20 so we will know the number attending:

jblackburn@sasktel.net or 374-9751

PAC (R) Lot (just in front of the PAC) is available for our use at no cost. We will have the parking gate open when you leave following the banquet.

MONDAY, OCT 22, 2012 -

Mano's Restaurant 200 - 1820 8th St. E. Lunch – 11:30 am NOTE EARLIER TIME! Presentation – 12:20 pm

Dr. Jim Dosman, Distinguished Chair, the Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture

If you are planning to attend, please contact <u>jblackburn@sasktel.net</u> or 374-9751 by Thursday, Oct 18

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2012 --

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

Program to be announced

If you are planning to attend, please contact <u>jblackburn@sasktel.net</u> or 374-9751 by Thursday, Nov. 15

USRA Proposed Bylaw Amendment

In recent years it has been difficult to find a qualified volunteer to do an annual audit of the accounts of the USRA. Also, it is prohibitively costly to try to pay for commercial auditing services. The USRA received advice to remove the requirement for annual audits from its constitution and to replace the audit with an annual review and vote on the accounts at the Annual General Meeting.

Motions for the Sept. 24 AGM:

Delete Clause 9.5: "An audit of the Association's financial affairs shall be conducted annually."

Add new Clause 9.5: "The University of Saskatchewan Retiree Association's accounts are open to the membership and the annual financial statements shall be approved by a majority vote of members present at each Annual General Meeting."

Of Interest To Retirees

John McLeod, a recent recipient of the USRA Prime of Life Achievement Award, has completed and self-published a twopart biography. The first part—titled, *Where I'm Coming From*, was published in 2011 and the second part, *A Three Continent Professional Odyssey*, was published in 2012.

Part One of the biography begins with John's parents and chronicles his life from infancy, through grammar school, teaching, undergraduate and graduate education. The volume is illustrated with many family and historical photographs, drawings and charts. Part Two, the odyssey, presents his work over the years on three continents: at Wallasey, England; Brisbane, Australia and finally, Saskatoon, Canada. This second part of the biography is also welldocumented with photographs, charts and illustrations. Together, the two parts of the biography present an interesting personal story of one man's journey through an eventful life.

THE USRA EXECUTIVE IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

The current USRA Executive includes the following:

Dale Miquelon (President); Dean Jones (President Elect); Kevin Wilson (Secretary/Past President); Duff Spafford (Treasurer); Bryan Harvey; Michael Hayden; Robert Sanche; Asit Sarkar; Michael Swan and Kurt Tischler. Several previous past presidents also participate in the executive's activities.

Michael Swan and Kurt Tischler have indicated that they will not be available to continue on the executive for the 2012-2013 year.

Therefore, we are seeking USRA members who would be interested in serving on the Executive for the coming year. We need new ideas to enhance our program and activities. We meet on the third Monday of each month at 2:00pm for an hour, so it is not a large time commitment. If you are interested please contact Dale Miquelon at dale.miquelon@usask.ca

Programs for Seniors and New Retirees:

For information about U of S Programs for Seniors offered by the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education (CCDE), go to the following website: http://ccde.usask.ca/seniors

Saskatoon Seniors Continued Learning (SSCL) Programs: CCDE partners with SSCL to offer courses for people aged 55 and better. These popular courses deal with a wide range of literary, political, religious and artistic subjects. Classes meet on campus for two hours once a week for eight weeks.

USRA Memberships And Dues

Any U of S faculty or ASPA retiree can become a member of the USRA by paying the appropriate membership dues to the USRA Treasurer at the address below.

Membership dues in the USRA were unchanged for more than a decade. At the September 2011 Annual General Meeting, a dues increase was approved so that on July 1, 2012, annual membership dues went from \$15 to \$20 and each category of Life Membership increased by \$20, depending on the age of the Retiree.

The membership dues are now as follows: Annual membership: \$20.00 per year

Life Membership one-time fee:

<60 years	\$ 200
60 - 64	\$ 180
65 - 69	\$ 160
70 - 74	\$ 130
75 - 79	\$ 100
80 +	\$ 70

Dues can be paid at the Sept. 24, 2012 AGM Banquet or sent by mail to:

Duff Spafford, Treasurer, USRA, RJD Williams Building, 221 Cumberland Ave. Saskatoon, SK S7N 1M3

The USRA Newsletter is published four times a year. Please send articles or stories to:

Robert Sanche (306) 374-5501 or robert.sanche@usask.ca