

President Ilene Busch-Vishniac Cordially Invites You To The...

University of Saskatchewan Retirees Come & Go Holiday Reception Date: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 Location: 101 President's Place Time: 2:00 p.m - 4:00 p.m.

If you plan to attend, please call Jean at (306) 966-6613 or e-mail: jean.goldie@usask.ca

Please RSVP by December 7th



Message from the President Dale Miquelon

Don't leave home without it . . . and don't let go of it!

Do you have a U of S Services card (a.k.a. library card) with dog-eared edges and an old photograph fading into a Rorchach inkblot? You might think it's time for a new replacement card. Let me tell you my story. I felt that very way myself and so about six

weeks ago I went to the bookstore where cards are made and said I would like a new one with the identifier "Professor Emeritus" just like the new card a friend of mine received a year or so ago. After much fumbling about and muttering by the card maker, I was told it was impossible since there was no such category. I was neither a faculty member nor a student: neither fish nor fowl. I noticed a lot of computer keys were struck in the process. Anyway, I decided to leave matters until after my holidays. Just a few days ago, I returned with my friend in tow so that he could do show and tell with his card. This time another operative was at the computer and after the requisite fumbling and muttering told me there was no category for me and that I had better take the card to the library to see if it worked because my file said it was inactive.

Off to the library I went and there I was told it was indeed inactive and I could not have this corrected there, I forget--it was either because I was retired too long or not long enough. I was instructed to go to Human Resources. Then a tireless receptionist phoned at least two people and told me to leave it till the next day, Friday. When I phoned the next day, she suggested Monday. When I returned Monday, she phoned at least three people and finally got Lori in Library Technology. The next day I met Lori. She told me that the bar code on my card no longer matched the code in my file, so the card didn't work. (This must have resulted from my first visit to the bookstore.) She restored the correct code to my file so that the card worked again, but then got on the phone and called three more people, telling them that we retired folk had lifetime library privileges and that our cards could not be expected to last that long. She told them about my friend's shiny new card. She will get back to me when she gets to the bottom of it. I was impressed by the tenacity of two people in their efforts to help me, but also by the wheels within wheels common to bureaucracies. I now look at my card wondering, which will fade right out first, the card photo or me. I'll keep you posted.

This year as last, I placed a wreath at the Memorial Gates on your behalf on November 11. It was a lovely occasion in spite of the chill weather. But it seemed silly that I should go there on behalf of our large organization all alone. Perhaps next year's president can have a delegation.

Finally, I don't want to miss this opportunity to thank Robert Sanche for his contribution as editor of this newsletter. His effort has been tireless. Now he turns his attention to other volunteer work. I know we will all wish him well. The current issue is put together by Adil Afzal, a graduate student whom we have hired. He is an old hand at newsletters.

Dale Miquelon

********** Upcoming Lunches ********* ********** @ Mano's Restaurant ********* 200 - 1820 8th St. E

Lunches are at 12:00 Noon with talks starting about 12:45 pm

Monday, January 21st, 2013

Dr. Jim Miller, Canada Research Chair in Native-Newcomer Relations, Department of History. Topic: "Why Don't We Get Along?"

Monday, February 18th, 2013

Howard Wheater, Canada Excellence Research Chair in Water Security, Global Institute for Water Security, School of Environment and Sustainability.

Monday, March 18th, 2013

Ilene Busch-Vishniac, President of the University of Saskatchewan

In Memory

Margaret Dutli

Date of death:October 14, 2012Department:St. Thomas MoreCollegeJoined the U. of S.:July 1, 1966June 30, 1988

USE YOUR USRA CARD

O The Campus Bookstore will give a 10% discount on all items except textbooks.

O The Campus Computer Store will give the education discount on hardware offered by companies like Apple, Toshiba, Lenovo, Lexmark and HP.

O This will extend to the educational pricing offered on accessories and supplies (ink,

toner, paper, etc.) which is often well below the prices offered outside the University.

O The discounts do not apply to educational pricing on certain software packages (e.g. Microsoft or Adobe software), software companies prohibit their sale to people not actively within the educational institution.

For questions please contact the Campus Computer Store (966-8375) and someone will be happy to help you out.

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USRA AGM 2012 Captured Moments



John Courtney accepts the Prime of Life award while Bryan Harvey looks on.



Bryan Harvey congratulates David Smith on his Prime of Life Award



Our founders Art Sumner and Jack Pringle were honoured at this year's banquet. The photo shows members of the Pringle and Sumner families, who were our guests.



Vera Pezer brought greetings from the university for the last time as chancellor.

Robert Sanche's Salute... A Time For Change And Renewal

After five years as editor of the USRA Newsletter-two years as co-editor with Nancy Senior and three years on my ownit is time for me to move on. I want to spend more time and energy on two other organizations in which I am active-L'Arche Saskatoon (look it up through your search engine) and Station 20 West-where I am a member of the Community Mobilization Committee. I consider Station 20 West the most important social justice project in the history of Saskatoon, and L'Arche is a remarkable project creating community for adults with intellectual disabilities. While I was originally a member of the board of L'Arche Saskatoon, I am now a volunteer and participating member in the life of the L'Arche Saskatoon community. As longtime members of L'Arche Saskatoon (my wife Margaret is Secretary Treasurer of the board), Margaret and I traveled to Trosly-Breuil France, in Late September to spend 10 days in conference with Jean Vanier and 30 international participants at the site of the birth of L'Arche in 1964. It was a remarkable, life-giving experience! We will journey back to L'Arche in Trosley in mid February 2013 (along with the other 28 delegates), for ten more days with the founder of L'Arche at the place of its origin. (L'Arche Saskatoon is the newest of 28 L'Arche communities in Canada and of close to 150 communities around the world).

In moving on to spend more time with other organizations, I am confident that there is opportunity for renewal in the publishing of the USRA Newsletter. It is healthy for any organization to renew itself, especially after five years with the same hands on the wheel. The USRA needs new retirees to bring their ideas and energy to the organization—and especially to the USRA Newsletter—which keeps all retirees aware of how their former colleagues are living retirement and contributing to their university and community. It has been a privilege to serve as editor of the URSA Newsletter—though after five years one does tend to do things as they have been done in the past—and that is not healthy for the life of the organization. I will be glad to help the new editor as need be, though renewal will be more likely if the new editor charts her/his own course with the Newsletter.

One of the real bonuses of being editor of the Newsletter is that I was also a member of the USRA Executive Committee during that time. I really appreciated and relied on the support and encouragement provided by each Executive Committee member. The Executive members made my job as editor much easier and more interesting. A special thanks to each of you and best wishes for the Christmas season! ~Robert

USRA Memberships And Dues

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

Life Membership one-time fee:

\$ 200
\$ 180
\$ 160
\$ 130
\$ 100
\$ 70

Send Payment 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:

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