

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It was a year to remember as 2017 marked the 50th Anniversary of the Ontario College system and St. Clair College took to celebrating at both campuses and with the community its' 50 years! Hopefully many of you participated in some of these events. 2017 will also be

remembered for the college strike, which was the longest in the history of Ontario colleges. The Music Theatre Performance and Entertainment Technology Program students were still ready to put on a fine performance of *A St. Clair Christmas* at the Chrysler Theatre. The Retirees' Association's Christmas Luncheons, one held in Chatham and the other in Windsor, went on as planned and we were able to enjoy the wonderful talent of the students' performances in the show. Both luncheons had a very good turn-out with the attendance at the Windsor Retirees' Christmas luncheon over one hundred. The St. Clair Centre for the Arts put on a lovely buffet and the service-staff were excellent! Retirees at each luncheon made contributions to the St. Clair College Student Food Banks. On behalf of the Retirees' Association, I want to acknowledge John Fairley and Joe D'Angela for their help to subsidize the Retiree Christmas luncheon and show, Katherine Kaszas for keeping us updated about the student show, Tony Ellul for his photo video presentation, and the many who donated door prizes.

We are already two months into 2018 and your Executive is busy planning your upcoming events. The big celebration this year is the 25th Anniversary of the St. Clair College Retirees' Association. Keep May 11, open on your calendar for the 25th celebration. Plan to also attend the Annual General Meeting on April 4, which is earlier this year due to the anniversary celebration in May. More information on these events and others is contained within this Newsletter.

Many retirees took the opportunity to renew their 2018 Retiree Association memberships when attending the luncheons and as of January 30, there are 293 paid up members. We extend a warm welcome the new retirees, who have joined the association since the New Year. If you have already paid your membership, thank you. If you have not already done so, you can still renew your membership by contacting Marilyn Portt, our membership coordinator. You may also join OCRA, the provincial Ontario College Retiree Association for \$10. Jim Martin is the Retiree Association's OCRA representative.

Join us and other retirees by attending your Retirees' Association's events. Let us know what activities you would like to see in 2018 by contacting any member of the Executive. We are always open to new ideas and welcome anyone interested in volunteering for any of the activities.

Cynthia Bissonnette
President

Save the date ...

Retiree Association 25th Anniversary celebration

Friday, May 11th, 4th floor St. Clair Centre for the Arts (more information to come)

WINDSOR RETIREES' ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS PARTY 2017

submitted by Pat Hallahan

This year's Windsor Retiree Association Christmas party was held again in the Dieppe Room at the St. Clair Centre For The Arts on December 16/17.

Once again, it was a most successful venture which attracted over 100 participants.

A sumptuous buffet turkey lunch, beverage station, lovely table settings and mood music provided a most pleasant venue, as did the slide show of retiree activities provided by Tony Ellul.



Bill and Liz Green, JoAn Dale, Anne Campeau and Lou Sargent.

Many thanks to Jay Ertel and his band of organizers, including Marilyn Portt, Lori Caba, Ida Totten, Jim Martin, Kathy Dupuis and, of course, President Cindy Bissonnette.

At a subsequent meeting, Jay Ertel was effusive in his praise of the service supplied by the St. Clair Centre staff and cited the ongoing support from John Fairley's Office.

And, of course, the Christmas Pageant put on by the Music Theatre Performance students was outstanding; equally impressive were the stage sets provided by the Entertainment Technology students.

It made for a most festive seasonal activity. Many thanks, once again, to all the organizers!



Thelma & Gerry Service, Denis Lorte, Bob Martyniuk, Jack and Uta Costello

There were lots of happy campers among the group who took home the numerous door prizes provided by the President's Office, the Retiree Association, the Liaison Office, the Bookstore, the SRC and others.



Santa Cindy Bissonnette with Bob Braidford



Bill and Ida Totten, JoAn Dale, Ida Little, Elizabeth Barr and Karla Ertel

Thames Christmas Party

submitted by Elizabeth Barr and JoAn Dale

The Thames Christmas Party was held on Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at the Countryview Golf Club in Chatham. This was a mild day for the kick-off of the Holiday Season. Twenty-five people attended and enjoyed an excellent buffet luncheon. Elvy Deline, Jay Ertel, and JoAn Dale were thanked for arranging the door prizes and organizing another successful Christmas Party. People enjoyed their social time especially with presentations being made by Santa, Jim Martin assisted by Elvy Deline. We wish to thank Jay Ertel for setting up Tony Ellul's excellent power-point presentation which showcased the Retirees' social activities of 2017.

Jim Martin was the recipient of the Retirees' Christmas basket. Congratulations!

Attendees filled several boxes with food supplies for Thames Student Food Bank.

The retirees were invited to attend the Christmas Pageant and the Windsor St. Clair Retirees' Christmas luncheon.



Liz and Bill Green, Liz and Keith Bruce



Jim Martin being presented with gift basket by Elvy Deline



Leslie Graham, Doris and Dave Summerfield, Roy and Elvy Deline

CONTACTS FOR HEALTH BENEFITS AND PENSION

The College contact person for retirees seeking information on pensions and benefits is Kim Bode, 519 972-2727, Ext. 4687, located in Human Resources, room 274C. The CAAT Pension can be reached at 1-866-350-2228 or 416-673-9000, or Fax: 416-673-9028. For general inquiries: contact@caatpension.on.ca

WILLS & ESTATES SEMINAR

Submitted by Marilyn Portt

On November 14, 2017, the SCCRA executive invited Darren Hebert, Wills & Estates Lawyer, to do a presentation on the most recent changes of laws regarding this important subject. This is the third time we have had Darren do a presentation for us. Every time we learn new things regarding our plans for managing our assets. It was a pleasure to welcome 43 retirees who attended and stayed for dinner. Many questions were asked and answered, giving everyone an overview of important matters. The best advice Darren left with his presentation was to ask your lawyer about the latest changes to the Laws of Ontario.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Annual General Membership Meeting will be moved up April this year to due to our special 25th Anniversary Celebration to be held in May.

**Annual General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, April 4, 2018
Time and Location to be announced.**

Retirees' Association Executive Elections
will be held at this meeting

RETIREES' BRIDGE CLUB

submitted by Bill Totten



Fr. row – Denise Brown, Pat McMahon, Mary Loncke, Helen Campagna, Loretta Dick.

Middle row – John Payne, Frank Dick, Ida Totten, Keith Brown, Dean Campagna, Audrey Payne.

Rr. row – Pat Hallahan, Dan Loncke, John MacIntosh, Judy MacIntosh, Elsi Hallahan, Tom McMahon, Jim Chambers, Bob MacKenzie

Do you play Bridge? Have you played Bridge in the past and might like to play again? Have you never played Bridge but might like to learn?

From September to May this congenial group gathers at Roseland Golf Club every other Tuesday afternoon from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm for fellowship, fun and Bridge. After Bridge many of us adjourn to the Roseland dining room for dinner. It makes for a very pleasant afternoon.

If you have never played bridge, or if you would like to return to playing after many years, don't let that hold you back. There are folks in the Club that would be willing and able to provide instruction and help until you are comfortable playing.

It is not necessary to commit to playing every scheduled day. We need folks who can act as spares on occasion to make up the necessary multiples of four.

If you think you might be interested, contact Dean Campagna at 519 966-3884 or ryan0579@MNSi.net or just drop in on any of the dates listed in the Coming Events on the back page of this newsletter. Feel free to bring a friend.

COLLEGE FOLKLORE VIDEO PROJECT

submitted by Pat Hallahan

The Folklore Project, an archival activity intended to capture significant events in the history of the College, is nearing completion.

The 5 week work stoppage interfered with project completion but the the Retiree Association is committed to finalizing the work by the end of the spring semester.

A video on the general history of the College has been filmed and will be edited in the very near future. Videos on the respective histories of WOIT and Thames Campus are in the planning stages.

Project staff are diligently working toward their completion. The completed videos, which have had over 1000 views, are available on the Retirees' Association website.

Have a look!

SOCIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE:

submitted by Sue McLelland

Christmas has come and gone and now we are into the doldrums of Winter! UGH!!

Batten down the hatches and keep warm folks!!

Towards the end of February I am hoping some of you ladies can come out of your igloos for a Luncheon. This would be for all the ladies out there that still have their charm bracelets sitting in their jewellery boxes collecting dust! Let's pull them out and show them off again! We are also in the process of planning an afternoon of Trivia in March for any retiree that would like to join in. I will send out an email with a date, time and location soon about these events and others I am in the process of setting up. Watch your email!

Save the date: the afternoon of Friday, May 11/18 for our 25th Anniversary Gala at St. Clair Centre for the Arts. You will receive more info on this in the future - but in the meantime - mark your calendar! This should be a fun event with opportunities to go down memory lane with many of our colleagues from back in the day!!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Submitted by Marilyn Portt

As you are aware a Renewal Form was included in the last Newsletter, if you have not already mailed it back to the Membership Secretary, now is the time. The Retirees' Association has worked hard to give you interesting events to attend and your membership fee helps us to offer these events. Please mail your fee of \$10.00 or \$20.00 if you are an OCRA member to:

Marilyn Portt, 715 Morand Avenue, Windsor, ON N9G 1J1. We hope to see many of you in the coming year.

every day
may not be good
but there is
something good
in every day

A NOTE FOR SCCRA EMAIL LIST MEMBERS

Ken Garber, SCCRA Email list administrator

INTRODUCTION

A quick study of the membership list for email broadcasts from the SCCRA shows that out of approximately 355 active email accounts (email addresses that are sent periodic messages), of these, an average of 46% of those messages are opened within a reasonable period of time.

For the 54% who have not recently opened a message, there are a couple of things to watch out for.

If you see an asterisk next to your name on the address label, read on.

A plethora of retirees have not been receiving emails from the SCCRA list. There are multiple symptoms for non-delivery we're looking at:

1. Haven't checked SCCRA broadcast messages since before August 2017.
2. Haven't checked ANY messages since being subscribed to the list(s).

Not included in the 355 active accounts noted above there are a couple of other inactive accounts:

1. Unsubscribed from the SCCRA list but would now like to reconnect.
2. Your address is no longer valid (or similar reason) and bounce back to us as unknown

If you have not been getting any of the SCCRA email broadcasts and you should have been, contact Marilyn (sccramembership@gmail.com) with your current email address and city of abode and we'll get your list information updated.

A Heads-Up for SCCRA Email list members with Microsoft family addresses (Live.com, Hotmail.com/ca, Outlook.com, MSN.com, MAC.com).

Out of the last 8 broadcasts five of them have had delivery failures due to spam filtering on the Microsoft end. Check your account on your above listed server and see if you can unblock messages coming from retireesassociation@stclaircollege.ca and/or contain the subject text 'From the SCCRA'

If you have NOT been seeing any messages from the SCCRA, contact Marilyn at the email address above or at the mailing address on the website <http://www.stclaircollege.ca/retirees/membership.html>

If you have been getting messages but have been ignoring them, you can go to the link(s) found at the bottom of any broadcast and change your configuration: "This email is intended for "your email address". Update your preferences or Unsubscribe"

In preferences there are four email groups: "ALL", "W-E (Windsor-Essex)", "C-K (Chatham-Kent)", and "O-o-R (Out-of-Region)". You can add or delete any of those groups from your profile. There is also a subgroup called '519' for those out-of-region people who still live in the 519 area code. This subgroup is aimed at those who may be interested in events in London, Grand Bend, Stratford, and the like. That one is added manually by myself where applicable.

ATTENTION ALL COLLEGE STAFF

All College staff will now receive each quarterly issue of the St. Clair College Retirees' Association Newsletter via email.

We welcome your feedback and hope that you enjoy seeing what is available to your colleagues who are already enjoying retirement.

JUST FOR FUN

Many retirees will remember with fondness the periodic cartoons depicting current activities around the college done by Architectural professor, Tom Malone. These were remarkable for their insight and for the likenesses that Tom was able to convey. We will continue to pass on some these in later editions as room permits.



submitted by Bill Totten

THE MANY ROADS OF LIFE

GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
- 2) When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap.

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD:

- 1) Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.
- 2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- 4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- 5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- 6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- 7) Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

submitted by Ken Garber

REMEMBERING MASON MACDONALD



St. Clair College is mourning the loss of a key member of the school's history with the passing of Mason MacDonald earlier this week at the age of 89.

Born in 1928, MacDonald came to Windsor from Sydney, N.S. in 1958 and was one of the founders of the Western Ontario Institute of

Technology, which grew in St. Clair College in 1967.

"Mason was a true Maritimer that possessed a generous spirit and helped everyone he came across," former St. Clair athletic director and hockey coach Jack Costello said. "He was the original leadership of St. Clair athletics transitioning from WOIT.

"He set the framework for the next generation of leaders and hired Al Hoffman, who headed our early success at the college. I am forever grateful to him personally as he paved the way for my career at St. Clair College."

MacDonald served dean of applied arts and was also at the forefront of college athletics while serving as athletic director from 1958-66 at WOIT. During that time, he also coached hockey, basketball and soccer. MacDonald also established St. Clair's student athletic association and was the board's first advisor and continued to coach through the 1987-88 school year.

As a tribute, St. Clair named its annual athlete of the year in his honour beginning in 1967, which goes to a male or female student, in their graduating year, that combine athletic excellence, scholastic progress and achievement while consistently demonstrating qualities of leadership, loyalty and dedication to their respective team.

MacDonald created an endowment in his name so that recipients of it would receive financial assistance in perpetuity. To date, 88 student-athletes have received this award.

"I remember Mason as an intelligent and kind man who took great pleasure in spending time with those around him," Saints athletic co-ordinator Ted Beale said. "He enjoyed staying in touch with the college long after his career was over and made every effort to attend the athletic awards banquet.

"From an academic and athletic point of view, I don't think we could have asked for a better architect of our history. It is appropriate that our most prestigious student-athlete award is named in his honour."

No service is planned for MacDonald, who also served as an alderman for the Village of Riverside, but a tree planting in his memory will take place at a later date.

Email: jpparker@postmedia.com

Twitter: @winstarparker

OF INTEREST

Noted on the website of the just relocated "THE SECRETS OF RADAR MUSEUM" in London Ontario is a photo of the two museum founders, WWII veteran radar technicians, on the occasion of the opening of the new exhibit facility. One of the persons in the photo is our retiree, former Principal of W.O.I.T. and Vice President of the College, **Charles Jackson**. Mr. Jackson served as a radar technician in the Second World War.

Photo attached, taken from the Museum webpage. Museum website address: <http://secretsofradar.com/>



FUNDRAISING

submitted by Jay Ertel

ST. CLAIR COLLEGE'S FOUNDATION FOR LIFE

The College is now in **Phase Two** of the capital campaign which has been named "Foundation for Life". This \$10 million community campaign will strengthen the College pillars of **Entrepreneurship & Innovation, Academic Excellence and Student Life.**

OUR PARTICIPATION TO STUDENT SUCCESS - \$2,000

The SCCRA has made a donation to the President's Circle campaign. This entails a total gift of \$2,000 over a two year period. The first gift of \$1,000 was made in 2016 and the second gift of \$1,000 was made in 2017 and was aligned with the College's 50th anniversary celebration. There are only 500 members of the President's Circle campaign and they will be recognized during the College's 50th Anniversary Celebration.

HEALTHPLEX & SPORTSPLEX

St. Clair College retirees have raised \$37,879 to date, 126% of our \$30,000 goal.

We were pleased to advise the College that we retirees have surpassed our Fundraising Target.

Retiree fitness memberships are available for us both in Chatham and Windsor. We are pleased to see the Bricks in place from our fundraising at both the HealthPlex and the SportsPlex. The Landscape Architect has done a nice job at the entrances of both complexes

We are now in year 9 of this 10 year fundraising campaign. We advised President Patti France that the SCCRA will continue to support and contribute to the College fundraising initiatives.

Thank you to the retirees who have already made their contribution to the HealthPlex Campaign. The retiree pledges made during the Brick Campaign ranged from \$100 to \$10,000. The HealthPlex Brick Campaign forms were included with an earlier Newsletter and they are available on request. The SCCRA has purchased two bricks for \$150, one for both Thames and Windsor. Please consider supporting the Fundraising Brick Campaign.

CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS??

Continue to receive the Retirees' Association information by updating your address.
We do not share your contact information with anyone.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____
Street/Apt City Postal Code

EMAIL: _____

Mail to : St. Clair College, Retirees' Association, Box 41, 2000 Talbot Rd., Windsor, ON N9A 6S4
or email to: retireeassociation@stclaircollege.ca

In Memoriam

RETIREES & FULL TIME STAFF



Horst O.E. MEYSICK passed away on November 27, 2017 at the Ottawa General Hospital. Horst was an early member of the Architectural Department. He represented St. Clair College on the commission charged with the implementation of the metric conversion in Canada. Horst is survived by his wife Mary and two daughters. A 'Celebration of Life' will be held in Windsor at a later date.



Mason H. MACDONALD passed away on January 14, 2018 at age 89. He is survived by his wife Dorothy (St. Clair retiree), and 2 sons. Mason was one of the founding staff members of the Western Ontario Institute of Technology, which grew into St. Clair College, where he served as a professor and it's first Dean of Applied Arts. At W.O.I.T. he coached basketball and hockey. His legacy will also include the Mason H. MacDonald trophy for academic and athletic excellence. He was founding President of the St. Clair College Retirees' Association.



Paul Edmund BALKWILL, passed away on February 6, 2018 at Victoria Hospital, London at age 81. He is survived by his wife Shirley and four children. Paul retired from St. Clair College of Applied Arts and Technology as Principal of Thames Campus, Chatham. Prior to his employment with St. Clair College he had worked as a teacher for The Kent County Board of Education and was active in community endeavors. He served on many community organizations and was Mayor of Ridgetown from 1978 to 1981.



No Shame

There is no shame in crying
There is no shame of feeling sad
There is no shame in grieving
For the loved ones you once had

There is no shame of hurting
There is no shame in sorrow
Grief has no time limit
Could be today could be tomorrow

There is no shame in silence
There is no shame in tears
It may a while
Days or months or years

Remember we all are different
Know one grieves the same
But how ever long it takes
Remember there is no shame

By John F Connor

In Memoriam

FAMILY / FRIENDS OF RETIREES AND FULL TIME STAFF

Susann "Ann" ROBINSON, passed away on October 24, 2017. Sister of retiree Kelly (Jo-Ann) Robinson.

Ken AMBROSE, former coach of the St. Clair College Saints women's basketball team, passed away on Wednesday November 8, 2017 at age 69. Ken was in his seventh season with the St. Clair College.

Wilhelmina FAAS (Wilma), passed away on Friday, November 10th in her 99th year. Wilma is survived by her son Andrew (Andy) who was a former St. Clair College Student Government President (1972); the college's first Alumni of Distinction recipient; Premier's Award winner and generous benefactor of St. Clair College.

Amelia STECHYSHYN, passed away peacefully in Hamilton, Ontario on November 10, 2017 in her 96th year. Amelia was the mother of retiree Walter Stechyshyn.

Duane HUMPHRIES, passed away on November 12, 2017. Duane was the husband of retiree Jan Humphries.

Marjorie McWHIRTER, passed away on November 12, 2017 at age 95. She was the Grandmother of staff member Kim Bode.

David James POLLARD, passed away on November 15, 2017 at the age of 73. He was the father of staff member Patti France (Don), and Jennifer Silvaggi (staff member Michael).

Muriel MOORE, passed away peacefully on November 19, 2017 at 94 years of age. She was the mother of St. Clair retiree Janice Ziebart.

Lydia E. MUELLER, passed away on November 27, 2017 at 82 years of age. Mother of retiree Elizabeth Weglarz .

Charlotte LINK, passed away on November 30, 2017 at the age of 75. She was the wife of the late retiree Harold Link (2015).

Gwyn DAVIES, passed away on December 20, 2017 at age 77. Gwyn was the husband of retiree Susan Davies.

Robert James HOFFMAN, passed away on January 1, 2018 at the age of 73. He was the brother of David Lupton (retiree Sandi).

Douglas GRAY, passed away on January 2, 2018 at age 87. Douglas was the brother-in-law of Susie (wife of the late retiree Joe Korchnak).

Edward DeEROCHE, passed away on January 2, 2018. He was the father of St. Clair retiree David DeRoche.

Wayne CAMPBELL, passed away on January 2, 2018 at age 75. Wayne was the brother of retiree Becky (retiree Doug) Queen.

Margaret TAYLOR, passed away on January 6, 2018. Margaret was the wife of former college controller RAYMOND TAYLOR (1978) and was a long-time Associate member of the Retirees' Association.

Fleming Clarence DAREL, passed away on January 16, 2018 at age 85. He is survived by his loving partner in life, St. Clair retiree Lillian Addley-Darel.

Rachel Marie LESPERANCE, passed away on Friday, January 19, 2018 at 81 years of age. She was the sister of retiree Elaine Thibert (Donald).

Carolyn Nancy PLANT, passed away on Wednesday, January 13, 2018. She was the mother of Leslie Jimmerfield (staff member, Mike Jimmerfield).

Joyce **ROMAIN**, passed away, on February 6, 2018 at age 96. Joyce was the mother of retiree Denise (late Kent) Billingham.

Valeria AYLESWORTH, passed away at age 64 on Friday February 9, 2018. She is survived by her loving husband, St. Clair retiree Robert (Bob) Aylesworth.

NOTE: The November issue of the newsletter carried a memorial for James O'HARA, father of retiree Barbara Sedlacek. We apologize for 'retiring' Barb prematurely. Barb is still a full time staff member at St. Clair College.

