



ST. CLAIR COLLEGE
RETIREES' ASSOCIATION



From the President
Susan McLelland



Winter is upon us although so far it seems it's not going to be too harsh of a season for us to get through. Just a lot of cold and dreary stuff to deal with for the next couple of months. Happy New Year Everyone! Hopefully some of you will get the chance to go south for some warmth and sunshine. If you do

– please bring it back with you.

Unfortunately, both myself and Pat Taylor were away on vacation and had to miss our Christmas Luncheon and Show this year but I heard everything went off without a hitch, thanks to Pat's prior organization and to the fabulous staff at St. Clair Centre for the Arts. I heard the show was very entertaining and got everyone into the Christmas spirit! Many thanks to our VP Brian Hucker for taking over the MC'ing this year, as well as to Kathy Dupuis, Marilyn Portt, and Lori Caba for all their assistance when everyone arrived. Many thanks to all that attended and for the money donations for the SRC food bank and for the food, gloves and socks that you all brought in to donate to various charities around town. I was glad to hear there was a wonderful turnout! We also missed President Patti's staff luncheon, which I hear was wonderful as usual! Of special note – our colleagues were very pleased to see Vicky Downes (aka Queen Victoria) attend. Sorry I missed you Vicky. Knowing the challenges that she has been facing these past few years it was great to hear about this when I returned.

I was able to attend the Chatham Christmas party on November 30 at The Links of Kent in Chatham. Again – this was well thought out and arranged by Elizabeth Barr and Dale Jarrell, our Chatham Reps. Many thanks to them and to the Links of Kent staff for making that event a very festive and lovely affair. There were also food donations that came in at that event as well for our SRC student food bank in Chatham. Once again, our College was very generous in providing many door prizes to give away at the two events. The College, including the

President's Office, John Fairley, Mike Sorrell, the SRC, Athletics, and the Bookstore donated prizes. The folks in our College Administration are so supportive of our Association and we are very lucky to have this support throughout the year. Also, the Executive members in our Association work their hardest to ensure the best for our members.

Our Executive monthly meetings have been continuing in person at South Campus. We are looking for new faces for our Executive Board. If interested please let us know. We are always looking for fresh ideas to bring to the table for our retirees to become involved in, so please do not hesitate to join us! Just contact anyone on the Executive or join us for a meeting in room A0216 in the basement on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 9am. We have fun and enjoy sharing ideas for new events that we can put together for our members.

In September, we held our meeting at Woodland Hills Golf Course. This allowed us to not have to fight for parking with a new semester start up! Many thanks to Jeff McEwan and his staff for providing us with a really nice room, coffee, and great pizza. Everyone should go there for lunch (once it opens in the spring!) and of course, a round of golf on the beautiful golf course would be fun too! Moreover, don't forget - Association Members golf for free.

Watch your e-mail for new events that we will be putting on in the spring. Special Luncheons as well as a bus trip to the Huron Country Playhouse in Grand Bend in July to see Jersey Boys!! Also keep in mind we are always open to ideas if you know of a presenter that would be willing to share their interests or skills with our members, please contact us.

John Fairley, as the College VP of Communications and Community Relations, attends our meetings on a monthly basis and keeps us informed as to how things are progressing on campus. This past year has certainly brought a lot of changes to St. Clair's South Campus. Our AGM this year is tentatively scheduled for May 16th. At that meeting we hope to provide tours to show you all the changes. We are just in the process of securing a venue at South Campus for us to meet. Keep watching your e-mail for updates. Speaking of which, have you

Continued on page 6

Chatham Retirees Christmas Luncheon



Chatham Retirees Christmas Luncheon was held on Thursday, November 30th at the Links of Kent Golf Course in the River Deck Room, overlooking a beautiful pond & golf course on a beautiful sunny day.

There were 29 in attendance and it was so nice to see old and new friends and catch up. We all enjoyed a delicious meal of turkey, mashed potatoes, vegetables, stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce, and raspberry cheesecake for dessert. Tables were done in black and white linens with red poinsettias on each table. A beautiful Christmas tree in the corner of the room set off the Christmas festivities.

The winners of our door prizes were Liz Bruce, Keith Bruce, Lori Caba, Andrea Main, Kent McClain, Lynn Compton, and Dale Jarrell.

I am happy to say that the food items donated at the luncheon was able to fill up three boxes for the Chatham Campus Food Bank. Thank you all for your generosity.

A special thank you to the wonderful staff at Links of Kent for yet another outstanding event. ✨

Contributed by *Dale Jarrell*

Photos: *Elizabeth Barr*

Trivia Quiz By Lyn Medler

1. Which popular condiment was once sold as a medicinal cure for diarrhea?
2. "The Da Vinci Code" opens with a murder in which famous museum?
3. The theme music (The Liberty Bell) used by Monty Python for their TV comedy show, was written in 1893 by which American marching band conductor/composer?
4. What popular toy did mechanical engineer Richard James invent by accident in 1943, when he was working to devise springs that could keep sensitive ship equipment steady at sea?
5. Ferruccio Lamborghini established the Lamborghini automobile in 1963. What motor vehicle did Lamborghini produce before cars?

Answers on page 8

LtoR- Keith Bruce, Helen Hanak, Shirley Templeton, Liz Bruce, Milda and Walt Stechyshyn enjoying the luncheon.



Elizabeth Barr and Dale Jarrell at the Christmas Tree.



Windsor Retirees Christmas Luncheon

It was my honour and pleasure to MC the 2023 Retirees' Christmas celebration, and I thank Sue McLelland for her leadership and encouragement.

This year's Christmas luncheon, held at the St. Clair College Centre for the Arts, was a huge success. The event was a sellout, and it was great to see so many members enjoying the camaraderie, luncheon, and live theatre performance.

Many thanks to Patricia Taylor and Marilyn Portt for all the work they did organizing this event. Thanks also to Kathy Dupuis and Lori Caba for assisting Marilyn at the registration table and for coordinating the many wonderful donated door prizes.



Retirees and their guests enjoying the delicious luncheon.

Tony Ellul created a beautiful memorial presentation in honor of deceased colleagues and College staff whom we lost in the past year. Thank you Tony for all the memories you capture at each event. Covid keeps lingering on, but personal caution has allowed us to gather for more in-person events.



Anne Bennett receives her door prize from Kathy Dupuis.

Special thanks to Rosita Blackman-Smith and Sean Briand, as well as the chefs and servers for preparing and serving yet another outstanding meal. Many thanks to Sean for his prompt action to resolve a sound system issue, and for his thoughtful attention in taking care of many things needed during the event.

Following the luncheon, we made our way to the theatre where we were delighted to watch an excellent song and dance performance by the Performing Arts students that really put us in the Christmas spirit. Special thanks to Katherine Kaszas who directed the performance.

As retirees, we are very fortunate to have such wonderful support from St. Clair College. Thank you John Fairley and Mike Sorrell for all the help they have provided us during the past year. We are very grateful to President Patti

France for her generous financial and moral support in all that we do.

Bill Totten has been instrumental in building a strong positive relationship with President Patti, College Executive and Administration, and the College Board of Directors. We all reap the benefits through continued good relations with the College. Thank you Bill.

We are well into the New Year, and we look forward to seeing you at exciting events to come in 2024! ✨

Contributed by **Brian Hucker**

Photos: **Tony Ellul**

Christmas At Willstead Manor

For most of us, Christmas begins with decorating our homes and workplaces to bring on that “feeling of joy and celebration” that denotes the festive season. On November 28th, 60 retirees received an early gift - a tour of Willstead Manor in all her pre-Christmas glory.

Little did we know that this retirees’ event would be sold out in just over 2 days. It was overwhelming! I apologize to those who did not make the list, and I hope that we shall see you out at our next event.

To say that the Manor was a wonderland would be akin to comparing a premium champagne to a bottle of “plonk”. It was breathtaking! Each room that was open to the public was decorated in a different theme, and the main hall was in an amazing shade of sparkling green. Input from the Interior Design Students from St. Clair made us just that little prouder to be there. Docents (volunteer tour guides) explained the purpose of each room, and that the manor was designed with an open concept so that guests attending parties at the home could easily move from one room to another enjoying the entire lower level.

On completion of the tour, we adjourned to the Coach House for a lunch of various croissants, salad, and cookies supplied by Thyme To-Go. By all accounts, lunch was well received. Following lunch, we were treated to a film on the Walker Family and their contributions to Windsor, and especially Walkerville. They were a very socially conscious family and very involved with the development of the Walkerville neighbourhood.



Retirees and their guests listen attentively as one of the guides at Willstead gives her presentation about the Manor.

The film was created by local company Suede Productions who have a connection to SCCRA through our Vice President, Brian Hucker. Brian’s sons Aaron and Cameron with Jason Krug and Nick Shields were responsible for the production that debuted at WIFF (Windsor International film Festival) in 2022. Thanks to Brian for inviting a special guest, Mike Evans who acted as Research Historian for the film. He graciously answered our questions regarding the manor and its impact on Walkerville. All in all, it was a wonderful afternoon. Thanks to all who attended and to those who helped behind the scenes. ✨

We Care For Our Students and Community

As our association has done by tradition at past Christmas celebrations, our members generously made donations in various forms to support our students and our community at large.

Members who attended the Chatham Christmas luncheon were very generous with donations of boxes of cereal, mac & cheese, crackers, cookies, hot chocolate, several varieties of canned soup and vegetables, jars of spaghetti sauce and packages of pasta, granola bars, cake mixes and cans of icing, popcorn, and peanut butter - enough to fill three sizeable boxes. Elizabeth and Dale delivered the donations to the student food bank at the Chatham campus.



Cathy Myers (L) and Perri Crerar, volunteers for Divine Mercy Food Bank, receive our donations of children's winter clothing from Kathy Dupuis. Cathy Meyers is married to fellow College retiree Paul Meyers.



Kathy Dupuis (R) presenting the SCCRA cheque for \$305 to Ryan Peebles, SRC General Manager during the College President's Christmas Staff appreciation brunch on December 19, 2023.

Members who attended the Windsor Christmas luncheon were very generous with donations of \$305 for the SRC food bank, 124 items for our children's socks, mitts and hat drive, along with a number of non-perishable food items. Kathy Dupuis presented the \$305 cheque for the student food bank to Ryan Peebles, Student Representative Council (SRC) General Manager. Kathy also delivered the socks, mitts, and hats to the Divine Mercy Food Bank, and the non-perishable food items to the Riverside United Church Outreach Program. **

Contributed by *Tony Ellul*

Photos: *Kathy Dupuis*



Valentine's Day

Tomorrow is Saint Valentine's Day,
All in the morning bedtime,
And I a maid at your window,
To be your Valentine.



*Ophelia in Hamlet, Prince of Denmark
William Shakespeare*



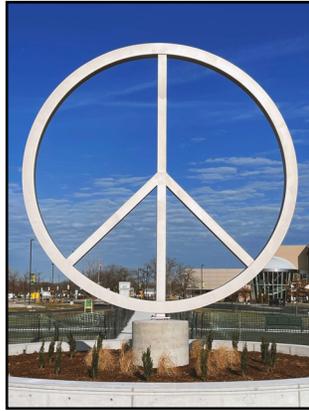
A "Cheesy" Limerick

One Saturday morning at three,
A cheese maker's shop in Parea,
Collapsed to the ground,
With a thunderous sound,
Leaving only a pile of de brie.



Around The College

1. Peace Garden - A new peace sign monument has gone up at St. Clair College's main campus. The monument is set up in a newly created area with plenty of seating at the north end of the main building. Incoming president Mike Silvaggi said the administration wants visitors to the South Windsor campus to feel safe and included.



2. In partnership with the Friends of Willistead, on Saturday, Nov 18th the Interior Design students participated in the annual Christmas holiday decorating of the North and East Galleries at Willistead Manor. The relationship between St. Clair College and the Friends of Willistead has spanned over 20 years and is an opportunity for Interior Design students to work alongside a local Interior Designer or Decorator to prepare the Manor for the holidays.

3. St. Clair College bestowed an Honorary Honours Bachelor of Applied Arts in Social Justice and Legal Studies Degree to Mehari Hagos at the 56th Annual Winter Convocation on February 22nd. Announcing the award, Patti France stated, "For over a decade, he has dedicated his life – personally and professionally – to mentorship, advocacy, the delivery of life-lessons, and inspiring the youth of our community.

4. A team of St. Clair College students has triumphed over hundreds of teams from around the world to win a prestigious digital marketing competition hosted by Purdue University Northwest's College of Business. Competitors were asked to create a campaign for a new product called Sole Search - an AirTag that locks onto a child's shoelace to keep track of their location. The St. Clair team was one of four finalists —out of 271 groups —to make their pitches in front of discerning judges and a global audience during the virtual Digital Marketing Competition & Summit.

5. St. Clair College has partnered with Habitat for Humanity to build sheds for geared-to-income housing. The students received hands on experience designing and constructing sheds for the community in need. Most lots on which Habitat builds would not have the space for a garage, and with an eye on economy, garage construction is a cost that they avoid. While seemingly small, an outdoor shed can play a crucial role, serving as storage for families to maintain their new homes effectively

6. The construction of the new Welcome Centre is progressing well. Located on the east end of the current building, the centre joins the current building adjacent to, and South of, the Classic Gym (Original gym). The centre will eventually house all services that a student may require when encountering an unfamiliar building – counselling services, financial services, admission and records, financial aids, to name but a few. The building has been enclosed and work proceeds on the interior. **

Contributed by **Bill Totten**

Content from the St. Clair College website, with permission

Photos: **St. Clair College & Art Rae**



President's Report cont'd from page 1

obtained your 2024 parking permits yet? Providing you have paid your 2024 membership, you can go ahead and order your new parking pass online for 2024 from the parking office. See further information about this on page 7.

If you are having problems ordering your permit, please contact the parking office – 519-972-2727 Ext 4515 in Windsor or 519-354-9100 Ext. 4515 in Chatham. parking@stclaircollege.ca

I am looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year. Try to enjoy the winter season, such as it is, and soon we will all be enjoying sunshine and spring air again. Keep well my friends!

Sue McLelland

A St. Patrick's Day Limerick

Saint Patrick would have never believed
How his memory would become perceived
In the Emerald Isle
They do it in style
With green outfits, green hats, and green sleeves.



OCRA Membership

We highly recommend taking a membership in OCRA (Ontario College Retirees' Association) when renewing membership in our association. The cost is \$10.00 annually (or a lifetime fee is available).

The link to the OCRA website is ocraretirees.ca. There, one can find information about the CAAT Pension Plan, health benefits and health providers, websites of other retiree associations of other Ontario colleges, and a membership application form. Access to other Retiree Association newsletters can also be available.

Newsletter by E-mail or Snail Mail?

The newsletter is distributed four times a year – on the third Wednesday of February, April, August and November. It is distributed to approximately 550 persons on our snail mail list via Canada Post. In addition, it is distributed via e-mail to approximately 415 retirees as well as to all College staff.

We are often asked why we send it both ways. The answer is that we have not had the ability to separate those who want only to receive it by e-mail.

Well folks, we can now accommodate your preference – receive the newsletter by both e-mail and hard copy, or, by e-mail only.

If you prefer e-mail only, send a message to sretiree@stclaircollege.ca **indicating your preference**, or when you renew your annual membership, you are provided with an opportunity to indicate your preference.

Contacts for Health Benefits and Pension

The College contact person for retirees seeking information on pensions and benefits is Laura Carcelen, 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

Attention All Retirees

If you believe that you are not receiving e-mails from the Retirees' Association, please send an e-mail with your name and phone number to scretirees2018@gmail.com.

Retiree Parking Permits For 2024

Your 2023 SCC Retiree Parking permit **expired on December 31, 2023**. Application for "Renewal" or for a "New Permit" has commenced and is an "on-line application".

Here are the steps involved to get this:

1. Contact Marilyn Portt to pay your membership. Wait a few days for her to get your info over to the Parking folks and for them to put your e-mail address on to their Parking Database. Marilyn will mail you your membership card.
2. Complete the application online and submit it. There is a 3-5 day waiting period to process your request at stclaircollege.ca/parking.
3. ****Something New!!** You can either pick up your parking tag at the Parking Desk, or you can request for them to mail it. The Parking Department staff will require the applicant's e-mail address and verification of paid membership (your membership card) in the SCC Retirees Association for 2024.

Note: You will not be able to access the online parking process if you have not renewed your membership for 2024 or if your email address does not match what is currently in the Retiree Association records.

Should you require assistance when completing your parking permit application, you can call the following numbers for help:
Windsor - 519-972-2727 Ext 4515
Chatham - 519-354-9100 Ext 4515

The Parking Department will allow someone else to pick up the permit or submit a completed application on a retiree's behalf, provided they provide written authorization to the Parking Office at parking@stclaircollege.ca.

Remember - proof of membership is required when picking up your parking permit! To renew your membership or update your e-mail please contact our Membership Secretary, Marilyn Portt at mpportt@gmail.com (519) 969-0693. You may send her your \$10.00 yearly fee by cheque or e-transfer. If you wish to be a member of OCRA (Ontario College Retirees Association) as well, the fee is \$20 for both.

****Please be advised that some parking permits were renewed and mailed out in December that were not properly completed. They are missing the sticker with the new expiry date (December 2024). If you received one of these in the mail, just bring it in to the parking office the next time you are there and the parking staff will take care of it. You do not have to go back outside right away to place it in your car. The parking staff will accommodate you to ensure you don't get ticketed that day and you can place it in your car when you return to your vehicle.**

Many thanks to the Parking Staff for working with us on this!

Membership Update – 2024 Renewals

Here we are again; a new year has arrived. Thank you to all the members who have already sent in their fees to renew their 2024 membership. If you have not renewed yet, please consider doing so soon. A reminder that if you wish a parking pass or want to golf free of charge at Woodland Hills, you must show a valid membership card for this year 2024. The fees are still \$10.00 (a bargain) and another \$10.00 if you wish to be a member of OCRA. As a reminder, you can pay by making an e-transfer to scramembership@gmail.com. Please use the security answer “Retirement”. If you prefer to pay by cheque or cash, you can send it by mail to Marilyn Portt, 208-5831 Newman Blvd. LaSalle, ON. N9J 0E1.

Marilyn Portt
Membership Secretary

Changes by OHIP to Eligibility for Optometric Services for Seniors

An agreement between OHIP and the Ontario Association of Optometrists that came into effect on September 1, 2023 has resulted in several changes to eye exam eligibility for senior citizens.

Easy to understand information is available at - <https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1002861/ontario-government-and-ontario-association-of-optometrists-reach-historic-agreement>

More detailed information is available at - https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/ohip/sob/optometry/20230901_SOB_optometry_services.pdf.

Mixed (Ladies and Gents) Fun Golf League Summer 2024



SCCRA is considering starting a mixed golf league at Woodland Hills – SCCRA member and guest.

Interested in joining?

Send an email to dolphbarsanti@gmail.com

Indicate if you will be bringing a guest.

The logistics of the league will be determined depending on member interest.



Mark Your Calendars

St. Clair College Retirees' Association Annual General Meeting Thursday, May 16, 2024

The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers, approve the 2024 budget, consider bylaw changes, and receive committee reports.

Urgent! Volunteers Needed

The RA has amassed a large collection of historical material going as far back as W.O.I.T. We are searching for retirees who would be willing to volunteer a few hours per week to help to organize this material and to use it creatively. Call and leave a message at 519 972-2727 Ext. 4432 or e-mail at secretirees@stclaircollege.ca

Please Note ...

You'll find the main College home page at <https://stclaircollege.ca/>

The Retiree pages are found by clicking on “About Us” or you can click on the following link <https://stclaircollege.ca/retirees>. You can then save it in your bookmark folder.

Down the right side of the Retiree page, you'll find a plethora of menu items from which to choose. Enjoy!

Wedding Anniversary Announcements

The SCCRA is pleased to include for its members announcements in our newsletter of significant wedding anniversaries – 50, 55, 60, 65, and 70 years. We ask members who wish to have an announcement published in our newsletter to provide the wedding date, a recent photo, and preferably a wedding photo.

Answers to Trivia Quiz

1. Ketchup
2. The Louvre
3. John Phillip Sousa
4. The Slinky - After accidentally knocking some samples off a shelf, he watched in amazement as they gracefully “walked” down instead of falling.
5. Tractors (which they still produce)

In Memoriam

*We remember the following Retirees/Full-time Staff who passed away during the period
October 26, 2023 - January 31, 2024*



Sandra Manzig passed away on November 4, 2023 at age 91. She is predeceased by her husband Ted (2020), and survived by her children Walter (Debbie), Loraine (Kevin), and Gloria (Grant). Sandra was a natural communicator who spoke five languages. She taught Modern Languages at St. Clair College and keenly felt the importance

of her role in mentoring students, especially young women.



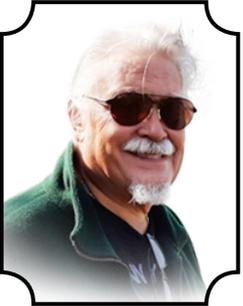
John Holsey passed away on November 18, 2023 at the age of 74 in Leamington, the husband of Bernice for 53 years. John retired from St Clair College where he counselled many young people.



Richard Lauzon passed away on November 11, 2023 at 58 years of age. He was the husband of Joelle, father of daughter, Lauren, and son, Matthew (fiancée Gill). Richard was a highly respected administrator at St Clair, managing the Apprenticeship programs.



Mary Patricia "Pat" (Hayden) Burke passed away on December 9, 2023 at age 97. She will be dearly missed by her daughters Fran (Joe) and Amy (Larry). A born teacher, she loved her career as a professor at St. Clair College, where she developed a close-knit group of life-long friends who became part of her family.



Glenn van Blommestein passed away on November 15, 2023, at 75 years of age. Husband of Connie and father of Christina van Blommestein, Lex van Blommestein (Em Rossi) and Moses Ure. Glenn enjoyed teaching Culinary Arts at St. Clair College for over 35 years. He was the proud owner of Overtures, an Eatery in Tecumseh for several years.



Bobby Bruce Chase passed away on January 5, 2024 at 81 years of age. He was the husband of Sharry, and father of Terryll Chase, the late Karen Chase, and Robin Chase. Survived by stepchildren Serena Scott and Sudine Lopez (Martin). Bobby was the first African-Canadian Korean Martial Arts instructor in Windsor in 1965. Bob retired from St. Clair

College after 25 years of service in the Plant & Services division.



Joanne Verhoog passed away on January 23, 2024 at Riverview Gardens in Chatham. She is survived by her brother Joseph Verhoog (Violet). Joanne taught nursing at St. Clair College in Chatham until her retirement.



*We remember also the family members of Retirees/Full-time Staff who passed away during the period
October 26, 2023 - January 31, 2024*

Ansel Philp passed away in Orlando, Florida on November 7, 2023 at the age of 77. Ansel was the brother of **St. Clair retiree, Burt Philp**.

Gayle Cumming, passed away on November 28, 2023. She was the mother of **Dawn Blackburn**, Technologist in the Medical Laboratory Programs.

Catherine "Katie" Penava passed away on November 29, 2023 at age 81. She was the wife of **St. Clair retiree Jerry (Jerko) Penava**.



Executive Board 2022-2023

President	- Susan McLelland
Vice-President	- Brian Hucker
Past-President	- Kathy Dupuis
President Emeritus	- Bill Totten
Secretary	- Lyn Medler
Treasurer	- Dolph Barsanti
Membership	- Marilyn Portt
Chatham Reps.	- Elizabeth Barr & Dale Jarrell
Social Director	- Patricia Taylor
Fundraising	- Dolph Barsanti
Newsletter	- Tony Ellul
Goodwill	- Silva Stamboulian
Board Observer	- Bill Jones
Archive Coordinator	- Lea Garber

SCCRA Telephone Number/Voice Mail -
519-972-2727 Ext. 4439

SCCRA e-mail address
sretiree@stclaircollege.ca

SCCRA Website -
<https://stclaircollege.ca/retirees>

Coming Events

February 22	Winter Convocation (Windsor & Chatham) Chrysler Theatre at St. Clair College Centre for the Arts
March 11 - March 15	March Break
March 20	SCCRA Executive Board meeting
Date TBA	Art Craft with Sandra Ellis Check your e-mail for announcement
Date TBA	Golf Begins at Woodland Hills Check your e-mail for announcement
Date TBA	Out-to-lunch Bunch - Oven 360, Tecumseh
May 16	SCCRA Annual General Meeting See announcement on page 8

For the Retirees' Association
Quarterly Calendar of Events
and listing of activities
visit our calendar webpage at

<https://stclaircollege.ca/retirees/calendar>



Have you changed your address?

Please update your address to continue receiving the Retirees' Association information.
We **do not share** your contact information with anyone.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street/Apt. City Postal Code

E-mail address: _____

Mail to: St. Clair College Retirees' Association, Box 41, 2000 Talbot Road, Windsor, ON N9A 6S4 or
E-mail to: sretiree@stclaircollege.ca