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**Retirees Association of Mohawk College
News Letter July 2003**

Spring, such as it was, has passed and summer is well upon us. Since our last newsletter we have had two events.

On May 14, 28 members and their guests lunched at the Crossroads Restaurant in St Jacobs and then on to the Drayton Festival Theatre for a performance of Annie Get Your Gun – Bill Stafford reports on page 4.

The Association's Annual General Meeting and lunch was held on June 11 at the Chamber of Commerce dining room at the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club. A report is on page 5

Coming Events

Sept 11, – Noel Coward's **Present Laughter** at the Stratford Festival – enclosed sheet.

Oct 5, 6, and 7, – **Algoma Country Adventure** – enclosed sheet

Report on the July Board Meeting

The July board meeting was held at the college on July 8. Goff Brooker was reelected chair, Marie Yakimoff vice chair and Anne Dunn secretary. Dave Crossley, Fred Oldfield, and Brian Welsh were appointed as ex officio members to serve as treasurer, webmaster and newsletter editor respectively. They are to serve at the pleasure of the board.

The retirees website is in need of updating. The possible relocation of the website from the Mohawk College site was discussed but no decision was reached.

There is, apparently, a movement afoot to resurrect the sculpture by George Wallace called "Education Experiment" that graced the courtyard between A and C blocks. It was said to have been constructed of "Weathering Steel" that would oxidize to a protective patina, but unfortunately it corroded to such an extent that it became a hazard and had to be removed. More details will undoubtedly be forthcoming.

The board decided to have the next Annual General Meeting at the Chamber of Commerce dining room at the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club again. The actual cost to the association was about \$29 per person. It was suggested that the charge be increased to \$15 for a member and partner or \$8 for a single member.

News of Members

Retirees Association of Mohawk College

Newsletter

Published four times per year

Board Members:

Geoff Brooker – Chair 905 772-5160
 lmbrook@kwic.com
 Marie Yakimoff – Vice Chair 905-522-7370
 Hans Bastel – 905-679-8173
 hebastel@sympatico.ca
 Brad Berry – 905 679-6598
 bgbjerry@aol.com
 Santosh Dalal – 905-679-3561
 santosh.dalal@sympatico.ca
 Bob Dawson – 905-648-1009
 Ann Dunn: – Secretary 905-383-9772
 ann.dunn@sympatico.ca

Ex-officio Members

David Crossley – Treasurer 905-627-3278
 david.crossley@sympatico.ca
 Fred Oldfield – web master 905-643-3442
 fdo@elmlane.com
 Brian Welsh – Editor 905-627-4932
 brianfwelsh@cogeco.ca

report the passing, due to an accident of Margaret Reid, wife of retiree Brian Reid. Our sympathy is extended to him and his family.

Let's Do Lunch

In the newsletter four years ago, visits to two restaurants in Brantford, the **Gibraltar Point Oyster Bar**, and **Trattoria Giuliana**, and one in Hamilton, **Papagayo** were reported on. The Oyster Bar is no longer in business, and when, one Friday, we visited Trattoria Giuliana it was closed for lunch. We decided to try a restaurant on Dalhousie St. that was in the Entertainment Book, but it appeared to be defunct. Next door to it, however, was **The John Peel Restaurant** at 48 Dalhousie St., just west of Queen St., a white table cloth establishment specializing in steaks and seafood. We both ordered a glass of house wine – there were four house reds available by the glass – the luncheon special from the menu consisting of soup and roast beef on a baguette served *au jus*. with a vegetable medley and french fries. The cream of carrot soup was delicious as was the entrée. The service was excellent and the ambiance warm. Lunch including wine, tax and tip was \$44.

The **Papagayo** is still in business at 246 King St W. When we lunched there recently, we started

off with a glass of Mexican dark beer and shared an order of *chile rellanos "Veracruz"*. (These are not for the faint of heart being very spicy). Mary chose the *quesadilla* with chicken stuffing and yhe the *chile colorado*. All *tortilla* items come with guacamole , sour cream, Pico de Gallo and salsa verde. The *chile colorado* was accompanied by rice and beans. The restaurant is small with pleasant intimate atmosphere. Lunch with beer, tax and tip was \$39.

JapaneseGrill Mori Mori is located at 771Queenston Rd, nestled in amongst several fast food restaurants and other gaudy establishments. Mary and yhe both enjoy Japanese cuisine and were impressed by the atmosphere and service. We shared orders on *sashimi*, *sushi* and *tempura* accompanied by Japanese beer and finished off with Japanese icecream, ginger for Mary and red bean for yhe. All were very good; the only draw back was the price. With beer, tax and tip lunch was about \$57.

The Old Mill in Ancaster is in the Entertainment Book. Not having taken advantage of many savings so far this year, we decided to give it a try. It has changed hands at least once since we last lunched there many years ago. The ambience is refined and dignified as befits a "white tablecloth" restaurant. We both had the delicious squash soup du jour; Mary chose the chicken sandwich and yhe a roast beef and cheese melt on a *baguette*. The portions were very adequate and as delicious as the presentation. With beer, tax and tip, lunch, before the deduction, would have been about \$60 but was \$44 after.

The Collins F&B Warehouse, 33 King Street West, Dundas, is also in the Entertainment Book. Being a bar, smoking is allowed, but since it was a warm day we were able to have lunch in the outdoor area; we would otherwise not have lunched there. We both had a pint of ale. Mary chose the Cajun chicken sandwich which she proclaimed excellent and yhe the smoked brisket melt, also very good. With beer, tax, tip and less an \$8 deduction, lunch was \$24.

Yhe decided the better part of wisdom was to let me take our daughter and grandson (2yr old Brian) to lunch at **Mexicali Rose's** in Oakville. Situated on Kerr St. at Lakeshore Road, this is a family restaurant and so we felt we would be among friends if baby Brian threw his taco. We started with seasoned *Nachos* and dip. Cami and I shared a *Quesadilla* (flour tortilla with melted cheese) which was quite tasty. For the main course, I had a *Chimichanga* (beef), while Cami had the *Burrito (chicken)* Our young guest fancied a plate of fries and a pop, which was readily available. Cami and I shared a beer. The food was hearty and quickly served. We felt we could have shared the main course also as the portions were generous and we took home a "doggy bag" Our bill came to approximately \$43.00 which we thought was perhaps a bit costly for the fare but it was a pleasant place and I would pay a return visit. Baby Brian is still welcome, too.

The Opera House Bakery and Tea Room situated on Highway 99 (2844 Governor's Road, just outside of Copetown) is a fairly new addition to the restaurant/tea room scene. We have passed it many times on our way to more mundane tasks, i.e. taking the bullies to the vet in Lynden. The century farmhouse is located at the end of a long treelined driveway and is a charming introduction to lunch at The Opera House. Brian and I both ordered the soup of the day and quiche with a side salad. Both were very tasty and service was prompt and pleasant Tea is offered in elegant china

cups as soon as you sit down and is available throughout the meal. We were glad we left room for one of the delicious desserts which are prepared on premises. Complete "English Tea" is available as well, and might be an option we will choose next time. The cost for two would be about \$25.00 depending on your choices.

Open Thursday - Saturday Reservations recommended Tel. 519-647-3174

Mary Welsh

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Vendors are wanted for the
22nd Annual Mohawk College United Way Garage Sale
on
Saturday, September 6, 2003
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Fennell Campus Parking lot.
One 8 foot table with three parking spaces – \$40

To obtain a registration form contact the Fennell Campus Student Life Office at 905-575-2081. The rain date is Sunday, September 7th.

r Gun

On Wednesday May 14th twenty eight retirees assembled on the sidewalk outside Mohawk College front entrance waiting patiently for the arrival of Wills Bus Lines Coach to take the group to Drayton, Ontario to attend the presentation of "Annie Get your Gun" at the Festival Theatre.

A few minutes after 10:00 a.m. the coach arrived and the retirees headed for the coach entrance door and within a few minutes the coach was full and ready to go. The driver introduced himself as "Blake representing Wills Bus Lines" and looking forward to an enjoyable day.

After a drive of about 1½ hours we arrived at the Crossroads Restaurant where we were scheduled for a buffet lunch. Prior to debusing David Crossley nipped into the restaurant to make sure they could accommodate twenty eight hungry souls. Within a few minutes we were in the restaurant and seated, then one of the waitresses explained the procedure and the menu for that day. Following the instructions each retiree was on his or her own to select and charge their plates with all the goodies

Email Address Update

The email addresses in our data base have become stale and with a new webmaster it is felt that they should be updated. In order to do this as painlessly as possible, please send a blank email to retirees@elmlane.com. Write **Post** or **No Post** on the subject, depending whether or not you are willing to have your address shown on the new site.

on the buffet tables. During the eating period the servers looked after the retirees with tea, coffee or a beverage of your choice. Also during this time period David distributed the theatre tickets and we

found out we were located in the balcony. We regrouped at 1:00 p.m. and boarded the bus for the drive to Drayton, which according to the coach driver would take about twenty minutes. The drive was pleasant and enjoyable to watch the changing scenery on the rural roads of Ontario.

Around 1:30 p.m. we arrived at the Drayton Festival Theatre, from observation the Theatre appeared to be located just off the main street. The Festival Theatre building is basically a three story brick structure, possibly constructed in the early twentieth century. The writer's first view of the Theatre building gave the impression that originally it was the City Hall or a building of similar status.

Just before 2:00 p.m. the majority of the retirees were in the Theatre and seated, some reading their programs to while away the few minutes before the curtain rose to signify the start of "Annie Get Your Gun"

The lights went dim, the music started, the curtain rose and we were into the opening scene of the musical. From the writer's perspective I really enjoyed the different scenes, the singing and the poise of the actors. Overall the show was well presented, nicely organized and the actors performed their parts in a professional manner. I'm quite sure the attending retirees really enjoyed the production.

The coach left Drayton about 5:00 p.m. and headed for Hamilton. During the ride Geoff Brooker took time to tell his funny stories, announce future retiree activities, and most importantly express sincere thanks and appreciation to David and Betty Crossley for doing the leg work and organizing "Annie Get Your Gun" trip. Finally, on our arrival at M.C. Geoff expressed thanks to our coach driver for a job well done.

Bill Stafford

Annual General Meeting

The Association's Annual General Meeting was held on June 11, 2003 at the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce's dining room at the RHYC.

After a half hour get together prior to lunch, our chair, Geoff Brooker, asked founding past chair, Alan Gregson, to say grace. After lunch Geoff introduced the guest speaker, **Imogene MacKinnon**. Ms. MacKinnon gave an amusing talk on the value of laughter replete with ribald witticisms. Our vice chair, Marie Yakimoff, thanked the speaker.

Geoff then reported briefly on the past years events including the passing of several retirees. He mentioned the various events enjoyed by participating members, and then called upon Bob Pando to update the gathering on OCRA. The points covered by Bob were

- OCRA has now more than 1200 members of which Mohawk members constitute $\frac{1}{4}$ total and $\frac{1}{3}$ of the paid up members.
- Work on health benefits is on hold pending the outcome of negotiations between OPSEU and the CoR..
- OCRA is being inexplicably stone walled by the pension committee in contacting retirees who are not involved with local associations.
- Talks are on going with other college and university retirees associations.
- The OCRA AGM was held at Mohawk and Bob thanked the college administration. for their hospitality.

Dave Crossley, our treasurer reported on the financial health of the association. Donations of

\$1000 were made to the counseling dept. for emergency assistance to needy students and \$200 to the college for the Peace Garden. Your board had previously decide that it would recommend to the AGM that a donation of \$1000 be made to the college's Shaping the Future Fund. This was put to the meeting and approved. Our auditor, Dave Lynch., having indicated that he would serve, was reappointed.

The board's nominating committee proposed the following new members for th board: Hans Bastel, Brad Berry, and Bob Dawson. They wee duly elected by the meeting, Alan Gregson had kind words to say about, and thanked the three board members, Dave Crossley, Carl Easton and Brian Welsh, who had served for six years and must retire as voting members.

Geoff thanked Ann Dunn and Marie Yakimoff for their efforts in arranging such a pleasant venue for the Annual General Meeting and adjourned the meeting.

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You're Invited

Thursday September 4, 2003 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

The 6th Annual President's Breakfast

Join us for great food and music while enjoying some time with your former colleagues!

To register call Lisa Fitzpatrick at x 3067 or by e-mailing
lisa.fitzpatrick@mohawkcollege.ca
 by August 15

You need a ticket to attend!

e are pleased to welcome
John Carnegie, Peter Dawn,
Barbara Hallman, Keith Nixon,
Ted Strauch, Kent Turvey,
 and **Michael Walton**
 as new members of the association.

Volunteer atThe Art Gallery of Hamilton

Ideal candidates are dynamic individuals with an interest in visual arts and people (particularly children). Various placements are available, including assistance with special events.

If you are interested in volunteering

Please contact the Gallery at 905 527-6610 and ask for Michele Kirk-Taylor (x.234)."