

UMMRA INFO

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
VOLUME VII, NUMBER 2, FALL, 2004

CHANCELLOR'S GREETING

Greetings to members of the UMM Retirees Association at the beginning of the 2004-2005 academic year.

It should be another full and interesting season for our college. As the fall goes forward, we will be seeing increased work in the Social Science Building as the renovation project moves ahead. Most of the offices formerly housed in the Social Science Building are now temporarily in the Community Services building, as are some of the classes. It will be exciting to see this important project through to completion.

Predictions suggest that Minnesota will begin this coming legislative session with \$1 billion plus deficit. And, since the legislature could not agree on a bonding bill last year, in all probability they will be considering both a bonding bill and a biennial operating budget this Spring. UMM and the entire University has a big stake in both fiscal bills, so you will surely be hearing more about Capitol doings in the coming months.

I'm pleased to report that UMM has once again been cited by USNews as the third ranked public liberal arts college in the nation. I think they are only wrong by two, but this is still very good news, as we continue the struggle for visibility and recognition across our region, state and nation.

Finally, let me thank all of you for your expressions of good wishes following my frightening bicycle accident early this summer. I'm happy to report that I was able to return to work very quickly, and that the process of physical rehabilitation seems to be going quite well.

Thanks, too, for your continuing commitment to our wonderful college. I'll look forward to seeing each of you in the coming weeks.

Sam Schuman
Chancellor

FALL LUNCHEON MEETING

The UMMRA fall luncheon meeting will be held at the Prairie Inn on **Wednesday, October 13, at 11:45 a.m.** Mary Ellen Grossman has scheduled Doug Rasmusson, Hancock writer and poet, as our speaker. We will order pay-your-own lunch from the menu. We will start on time and move things along as this is the same day as the Learning Unlimited program.

BOARD MEETING—FALL-2004

The 2004-2005 UMMRA Board met September 9 at the La Fave House for an organizational meeting. Wes Gray was installed as the remaining member-at-large for a two-year term and will be responsible for planning the spring luncheon/reunion. We thank him for taking this position. Dates were set for the three luncheon meetings as follows:

October 13, 2004 - Fall Luncheon (see above); **February 9, 2005** - Winter Luncheon (talk and tour by James Gremmels, managing editor of the Prairie Gate Press at UMM); **April 28, 2005** - Spring Luncheon/Reunion. More complete information will be in the next two newsletters. Arden Granger reported that we have 85 paid members. Dues (\$10, \$15 couple) can still be sent to Arden if you happen to talk to colleagues who forgot to join. Except for the summer issue, UMMRA INFO is sent only to paid members.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Evergreen Readers is a reading-aloud program for home-bound older adults at West Wind Village, Grandview, Skyview Court and the Courage Cottage. Bernice Erdahl (320-246-3393) and Cathy Kemble (320-795-2290) are assigning readers for West Wind Village. Please give them a call if you can give an hour or so on a Thursday afternoon during October, 2004 through April, 2005.

Also, Bernice and Cathy will be looking for volunteers to help sort and sell books at UMM for the Briggs Library Associates Book Sale. (Information below).

Last spring 12 retirees helped at the Ice Cream and Lollipops Children's Art Show and eight people helped at Freshman Orientation on August 26. The Morris Tribune ran a picture of Avis Brandt and Bernice Erdahl serving as guides.

REGIONAL FITNESS CENTER UPDATE

We have enclosed a fall RFC schedule for area UMMRA members. The morning recreational pool hours on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays have become very popular with as many men as women exercising and doing their own routines. The free fitness seminars sound interesting and the price is right.

BRIGGS LIBRARY ASSOCIATES BOOK SALE

The Briggs Library Associates will hold a book sale on October 1, 2004, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Oyate Hall on the UMM campus. There will be a coffee bar. Donations of used books would be appreciated and can be left at Briggs Library through September 30. Also, volunteers will be needed to sort books from September 27-30 at the library and to sell books on October 1. Call Anne Schwaller (320-589-4394) or LeAnn Dean (320-589-6226) for more information. Also, please call Cathy Kemble or Bernice Erdahl at their numbers above if you can help.

LEARNING UNLIMITED

The fall 2004 Event/Forum, titled "At Home and Abroad: Horizons and Perspectives" is as follows:

Wednesday, October 13, 2004, 1:00 p.m. "An October Fest Program" with Lynn Schulz and his accordion. He will provide a program of accordion music and a discussion of the history of the accordion and of the polka. (Lynn works with UMM Computing Services).

Wednesday, November 10, 2004, 1:00 p.m. National Issues Forum: "The New Science of Food, Facing Up to Our Biotechnology Choices." Phyllis Gausman, moderator.

Wednesday, December 8, 2004, 1:00 p.m. "Can a European Union Be United?" A Great Decisions Discussion with Dr. Bart Finzel and Dr. Arne Kildegaard.

All programs will be at the Morris Senior Center, 603 Oregon Avenue, Morris, MN, and are free to the public.

Fred Farrell is the Learning Unlimited Program Director and Anne Schwaller is the Learning Unlimited/Adult Enrichment Coordinator. Their September newsletter is full of activities available to area citizens. They also give information about next year's programs entitled "War and Peace".

ONE DAY CAR TRIPS

The board had a few ideas for trips and a discussion will be on the agenda at the fall luncheon. Ideas included a visit to the vodka distillery in Benson for a Halloween party, winter dinner at Café Bella in Glenwood, return visit to the Carlos Creek Winery, and a theatre trip to Lanesboro.

SAD NEWS

-Jay Roshal, professor emeritus of biology, died on July 12, 2004. He taught at UMM from 1960 to 1983. A tree will be planted on campus in Jay's honor during homecoming, Saturday, October 9. We send our sympathy to his wife, Hertha. Her address is 2124 North Monroe Street, Arlington, VA 22207.

-According to the UMM databases Dr. Vilmos Peterfi died in 2002. Bill (as he was known to us) taught Political Science at UMM from 1965 to 1991 and moved back home to Hungary. Dr. Jenifer Cushman compiled biographical information on Bill's time at UMM and put it on the UMM website.

BITS AND PIECES

-Doris L. Benson and Avis Brandt were part of the group that traveled the trail taken by Lewis and Clark that started at St. Louis, MO, and ended at the mouth of the Columbia River in Astoria, OR. Doug Rasmusson wrote a series of stories about the trip for the Morris Tribune. The July 29 issue also has a picture of the Morris area participants that included Doris and Avis.

-Mary Ellen and Ollie Grossman went on an eight day Jay Buckley Baseball Tour through KMRS/KKOK in July. They went to five Major League baseball parks – Wrigley Field in Chicago, Comerica Park in Detroit, Camden Yards in Baltimore, Jacobs Field in Cleveland, and US Cellular Field in Chicago. They spent two days at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY, which included the induction of Paul Molitor and Dennis Eckersley.

-Donna Scarborough sends greetings to everyone. She keeps busy with volunteer work at the hospital, working with area first graders and serving on the YMCA Board for Older Adults. She tries to go where it's warm in winter.

-The Imholte family had a busy summer visiting, sailing and touring at Whitefish Lake, Big Deep (Sara's cabin), and the Apostle Islands. In September Jack and Lucy were on a cruise to Halifax, Nova Scotia. They had a great tour of the Mill City Museum conducted by two UMM graduates.

-The September 9 Morris Tribune published an article about the establishment of a scholarship at UMM by Douglas and Marian Payne of Edina. The money will aid UMM students interested in agriculture or interested in living and working in rural communities. Doug graduated from the West Central School of Agriculture and considered one of his instructors, Wes Gray, as being instrumental in providing him with a strong foundation in technical agriculture.

-The following are "news in photos" taken from the Morris Tribune during the past year:

-Many pictures of recent retiree Roger McCannon on his last day of work at UMM. Many UMM employees are included in the celebration.

-Judy Nord and Ralph and Martha Williams were pictured wearing Easter bonnets at the Morris Senior Center.

-Fred Farrell was featured with Randy Hokanson publicizing the Learning Unlimited Program, "Barn Stories: Our Stories".

-A photo of Clyde Johnson presenting the Betty Peterson Memorial Award to a senior who showed exceptional accompanying ability was part of the graduation festivities last spring.

-There are two photos of Gladys Henrichs volunteering for the American Legion and Auxiliary. In one she was being installed as an officer and the other was advertising Poppy Week which is a tribute to those who died in war.

All these photos are in the file in the UMMRA office.

UMMRA ART RAFFLE

The UMMRA board decided to conduct a raffle to raise money to help purchase furnishings for the LaFave House guest suite. There will be three prizes: Jim is contributing a Hodgell print to be raffled off; Jenny Nellis is contributing a Nelson bronze; Kevin Flicker is contributing a piece of pottery. Promotions, distribution and sales are being planned. The drawing will be held at the winter meeting in February.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Someone pointed out "that sign of old age, extolling the past at the expense of the present," however, I do not see too much of that perspective among UMMRA members. Their spirit appears to be forward looking. What can we do to make UMM a better place and to help others who have retired enjoy their retirement? You quickly discover that "retire", a French word that means to retreat, is not applicable to the lives most of us who belong to UMMRA now live.

James Gremmels, President

