

UMMRA INFO

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
VOLUME V, NUMBER 4, SPRING, 2003

SPRING LUNCHEON/ANNUAL MEETING/REUNION

The spring luncheon/annual meeting will begin the UMMRA reunion celebration on Thursday, April 17, 2003. The schedule is as follows:

11:45 a.m. Luncheon in the Cougar Room at Prairie Inn followed by the annual meeting which includes election of officers for 2003-2004. Our speaker, Chancellor Sam Schuman, will report to us about UMM, this year and in the future.

Harold Fahl and Avis Brandt have planned a full afternoon of activities. We will share rides or drive ourselves.

1:30 – 2:15 p.m. Tour and presentation at the Aaron Carlson Cabinet Company, 801 Atlantic Avenue, in the former Juergensen Super Valu Store

2:15 – 3:00 p.m. Presentation at the Prairie Renaissance Arts Gallery, 630 Atlantic Avenue

3:00 p.m. Common Grounds Coffee House, 501 Atlantic Avenue, for special coffees and an explanation of their unique organization

4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Reception hosted by UMMRA for retirees, current faculty and staff at LaFave House, 305 College Avenue, Morris. Remind your former colleagues to join us as the reception is a short stroll from their offices.

6:30 p.m. Faculty/Staff Recognition Dinner, Oyate Hall Student Center, UMM campus. Make reservations with Maggie Larson, LaFave House, UMM; cost is \$15 per person.

Accommodations for out of town people are available at:

Morris Motel, 320-589-1212; Super 8 Motel, 320-589-8888 (800-800-8000); Best Western Motel (Prairie Inn), 320-589-3030 (800-535-3035).

ACTION ITEM AT ANNUAL MEETING

UMMRA members will vote on officers for 2003-2004 including president, president-elect, secretary/treasurer and one member-at-large. The slate of names prepared by the nominating committee (full board) will be handed out at the meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted with the nominee's consent. A big thank you to Bettina Blake, Avis Brandt and Ellen Ordway who are leaving the board after many years of exceptional service. Fred Farrell will remain on the board for another year as past-president.

NEW RETIREES

Congratulations and welcome to UMMRA to:

Thelma Wilson, principal secretary in the Office of the Registrar

Vinod Nangia, associate professor of physics, Division of Science and Mathematics

Vicky Demos, professor of sociology, Division of the Social Sciences

John Ingle, professor of studio art, Division of the Humanities

Audre Ross, principal accounts specialist in the Division of Science and Mathematics

COMMENCEMENT 2003

This year the ceremony will be special because it is the 40th commencement at UMM. Retired faculty members are invited to march in the procession which will start at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 10, 2003. Plan to line up at HFA at 12:30 p.m. Gowns can be ordered at the bookstore until April 10. Also, by April 10 please call Maggie Larson, 320-589-6053 so your name can be put in the program. Division receptions will be held at 11:00 a.m. Complete directions will come later.

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE

Bernice Erdahl (320-246-3593) and Cathy Kemble (320-795-2290) will need 2 or 3 people to help at the Student Awards Celebration on Friday afternoon, May 9. Also, they will need ushers at graduation on Saturday, May 10 at 1:30 p.m. Call them if you can volunteer your time for these activities or any other things that could come up. You may sign up at the Spring Luncheon, also.

ONE DAY CAR TRIP

Plans are underway for a one day car trip to both the Blue Cloud Abbey near Milbank, South Dakota and a return to Tolkheim's Pottery near Milan, Minnesota during April or May. More information will be given at the Spring Luncheon with a sign-up sheet. Please call Avis Brandt at 320-589-3304 if you have suggestions for other trips for summer or fall. Avis has agreed to coordinate car trips for us even though she is leaving the board.

LEARNING UNLIMITED/HERITAGE PRESERVERS

Four sessions of the series "Empowering Citizens: Past Knowledge and Future Action" have been completed. There were good audiences who appreciated the work done by the various planners and presenters. The remaining programs are:

Wednesday, April 2, 2003, 1:00 p.m., Morris Senior Center, "Up Front and Personal: What are our Specific Individual Responsibilities in the Implementation of the Goals?"

Presenters will be Mary Jo Forbord and David Fluegel.

Wednesday, April 23, 2003, 1:00 p.m., Morris Area Elementary School, South Gym, 600 Columbia Avenue (Shuttle buses will be provided from the Morris Senior Center). "Mary Gibbs: She Freed the Mississippi, 1903-2003". Presented by Charlie Maguire with music and photographs and sponsored by the Saga Spinners.

Friday, April 25, 2003, 1:00 p.m., Senior Citizens Center. A dramatic interactive presentation by the UMM "Creative

Dramatics for Children” Theatre class, led by Dr. Ray Schultz and sponsored by the Stevens County Council on Aging. Learning Unlimited distributes a newsletter that is a great guide for opportunities and activities for Morris area residents, particularly Seniors. Their address is Learning Unlimited/Heritage Preservers, Morris Area Community Education, 600 Columbia Avenue, Morris, MN 56267 (320-589-4394). Fred Farrell is the Learning Unlimited Program Co-Director with Cindy Perkins of Community Education.

RFC UPDATE

The 3rd Annual Health Awareness Day will be held on Thursday, April 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Regional Fitness Center. There will be free health screenings, health information, learning sessions, and 25 booths from area health and wellness providers.

On Monday, April 14, at 5:00 p.m., there will be a free workshop for RFC members called “Lower Body Blast”. You will be shown ways to work your lower body using free weights, machines and home exercises. If not a member, you can purchase a daily pass.

The noon water aerobics class (Tues. and Thurs.) has been cancelled, but the Mon. and Wed. 4:30 p.m. class is continuing, as are the arthritis aquatic classes.

A final decision on offering a reduced rate for RFC membership for UMMRA members has not been made. UMMRA members can call Mary Zosel at 320-589-6022 **after the first week in August 2003** to get specific information (last year the cut-off day was September 13). There will be a reminder in the Summer UMMRA INFO.

UMRA—TWIN CITIES

The remaining monthly programs of the University of Minnesota Retirees Association, Twin Cities are as follows:

April 22, 2003 -- A talk will be given by Linda Mack, Architecture Editor, Star-Tribune newspaper.

May 27, 2003 –The guest speaker will be Carol A. Carrier, Ph.D., Vice President, Human Resources and Professor of Curriculum and Instruction.

June 24, 2003 –The annual meeting will be held with Robert Bruininks, President of the University of Minnesota, as speaker.

All meetings start at 11:30 a.m. and are held at the Campus Club in the newly restored Coffman Memorial Union. We are all invited to these meetings but reservations must be made. Laird Barber can be called for more information.

The following letter written by David Johnson, UMRA President and our former Chancellor, is taken from the March 2003 UMRA Newsletter:

I write to you from a consulting stint at the world’s northernmost university, Tromsø in Norway, established in 1970 to serve this huge and sparsely populated area. There are research institutes of eminence here, e.g., aurora borealis, tundra ecology, polar ice, Sami (no longer called Lapp) public health and linguistics, Russian-Nordic relationships. Tromsø is the lead institution in an exciting international consortium of polar universities: Fairbanks, Lulea in Sweden, Murmansk, and Rovaniemi in Finland.

In every meeting, from the law and medical schools to the faculties in the humanities, sciences and social sciences, people come up to tell me with enthusiasm about their work in the United States: their Fulbrights, their sabbaticals, their student days – whatever. Although there are at the present time great problems in Norway, as elsewhere in Europe, related to understanding our foreign and environmental policies, this is a most challenging time to be an American abroad. One thing remains clear, however – our higher education continues to be highly admired. It’s nice to see recognition in eyes here when I am introduced as a retired member of the University of Minnesota community.

Let’s let our legislators hear this kind of story!
David Johnson, UMRA President

SAD NEWS

Bernard Folkens died on February 7, 2003. Bernie was a longtime employee in Residential Life.

Judy Ann (Smith) Tichick died on January 14, 2003. Judy was the daughter of Zelda Smith, longtime employee at the bookstore and Ralph Smith (deceased), former superintendent of WCSA and Experiment Station.

We extend our sympathy to Zelda and to Bernie’s family.

PRESIDENT’S CORNER – FRED FARRELL

UMM continues to be recognized nationally as an outstanding liberal arts college where students can receive a strong liberal arts education at an affordable cost at the hands of a first-rate faculty and staff. At a time when the State of Minnesota faces severe financial constraints the University of Minnesota, like all state agencies, is being asked to contribute its share, which is substantial, to reduce the budget. As a part of one of America’s great universities, we, on the Morris Campus have an exciting story to tell.

As retirees from the UMM Campus we are in a rare, perhaps even unique, position to tell this story to our legislators, for there remain among us some of the original founders of the campus and we have all participated in substantial ways to the development of the college in its very early years and in the continued growth that has made it a leader among liberal arts colleges in the United States. I urge you to write to State Senator Dallas Sams and State Representative Torrey Westrom who represent the legislative district in which UMM is located and to the Governor of Minnesota, Tim Pawlenty, thanking them for their past work on behalf of our Campus and asking for their continued support of UMM. Each of us has a story to tell; each of us knows how to tell that story. Let’s do it so that we can continue to move forward in reaching our goal of becoming “the best public liberal arts college in America”.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, April 17 – Spring Luncheon/Reunion

Thursday, April 10 – Last day to order commencement gowns

Saturday, May 10 – 40th Commencement Ceremony and reception at UMM (Do you remember the 1st?)

PEACE!!

