

UPCOMING EVENTS

The UMM Retirees Association, in keeping with campus tradition, has a lot going on in April & May.

SPRING QUARTER LUNCHEON

The spring quarter luncheon, scheduled for Wednesday, April 14, 1999 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Café in the Mall, Morris, is also our annual meeting. The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate for 1999-2000 (nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting):

President - Bettina Blake
Sec.-Treasurer - Ellen Ordway
Immed. Past Pres./UMRA Rep. - Laird Barber
New Member at Large of the Board of Directors - Avis Brandt.

The Board is also proposing to amend the UMMRA By-laws so as to add to the Board an Historian (Newsletter Editor) who would serve *ex officio* and without a set term of office. Copies of the By-laws and amendment will be distributed at the luncheon. If the amendment is approved, Dolores Lammers is proposed for the new post.

The luncheon speaker is Dr. Peh Ng, Mathematics, the Chancellor's special appointee for conversion of the Morris campus to semesters. Semesters are coming soon! What will this historic change mean for UMM? How will it affect *you*? Join us on April 14 to learn more.

MEMORIAL EVENT FOR DOROTHY BARBER

Later in the afternoon of April 14, in Oyate Hall from 4 to 5:30 p.m., a reception will take place in memory of Dr. Dorothy K. Barber, UMM English professor, who died last August. As part of this event, Interim Chancellor Sam Schuman will inaugurate a Barber Lecture Series, speaking on "... 'twas beautiful and hard: Why Study Literature?" The lecture series is made possible by a gift to UMM from Laird and Dorothy Barber. RSVP in advance to Judy Korn, Fund Development, 320/589-6066.

HISTORIC VISIT: UMRA COMING!

The University of Minnesota Retirees Association (UMRA), based in Minneapolis, is making a spring "Migration to Morris" Thursday-Friday, May 6-7, at our invitation. We do not know yet just how many Twin Cities colleagues will come but we will need your help in hosting the visitors, some of whom will be seeing western Minnesota for the first time. They plan to come in private cars and vans, arriving around noon on May 6.

12:00 Check-in at the Best Western Prairie Inn
12:30 Luncheon; introduction to Morris, Prairie Lounge, UMM Student Center
1:30 Campus tours, including WCES; classroom visits; student panel

3:00 Faculty-staff reception
4:00 Optional city tours
5:30 Special UMRA reception at Ingles'
7:00 UMMRA/UMRA banquet, Oyate Hall.

On May 7 the visitors will be on their own to see friends, tour the Morris area, visit other sites of interest, like St. John's Abbey in Collegeville or the Kensington rune stone in Alexandria, and return to the Twin Cities at their leisure.

Please let Arden Granger know (320/795-2928) if you can HELP with this big event. An invitation with more details will be coming soon.

RETIREES REUNION 1999

Finally, do not forget the UMM Retirees Reunion on Wednesday, May 19. We hope you will make a day of it! First comes a pay-as-you-go lunch in the Prairie Lounge, UMM Student Center (coffee, tea, and lemonade will be provided; pick up your lunch selection at Turtle Mountain Café). Then Lowell Rasmussen will conduct a very special tour of the new building construction sites on the campus. After some free time for visiting the UMM Bookstore, saying hello to the dinosaur and other attractions in Science, viewing the Studio Art Student Exhibit in the HFA Gallery, looking in on old friends, etc., you are invited to the home of Bettina Blake, 4 Circle Pines Avenue, for an all-faculty-staff-retiree reception. Then, of course, comes the big event: the annual Faculty-Staff Recognition Dinner. Not only will awards be made, as always, but a wonderful group of new retirees will be welcomed into our select company!

For overnight accommodations, call the Best Western Prairie Inn (former Sunwood), 320/589-3030 or 800/535-3035. Other possibilities include the Super 8 Motel (320/589-8888 or 800/800-8000), the American House Bed & Breakfast (320/589-4054), or the Morris Motel (320/589-1212).

OTHER SPRING DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

Friday, April 16 Kevin Byrne as Teddy Roosevelt
Morris Senior Center (Heritage Preservers)
Saturday, April 17 CNIA Pow-Wow (PE Center)
April 26-30 World Touch Cultural Heritage Week:
Year of the Elderly (!)
Wednesday, May 12 Student Honors & Awards Day
Friday, May 14 Storytelling, Carol McCormick
Morris Senior Center (Heritage Preservers)
Thursday, May 27 Genealogy-Stephen Gross, UMM
Morris Senior Center (Heritage Preservers)
Friday, June 11 UMM Commencement Day

COMMENCEMENT VOLUNTEERS

A reminder: Commencement helpers are always needed to line up students, usher, serve food, etc. To volunteer, please call Maggie Dylla at 320/589-6053.

SAD NEWS

The Morris campus and the larger Morris community have been shocked in recent weeks by the unexpected deaths of two long-time members of the UMM faculty. *Dr. Ifikhar Khan*, associate professor emeritus of English, succumbed to a stroke March 20 during a visit to his daughter in Cairo, Egypt. *Dr. Sun Myong Kahng*, Professor of Economics, who was to have retired this coming June, died at his home in Morris of a massive heart attack on April 5. Both scholars had long, full careers of service to their profession, to their UMM students, and to the campus at large, and will be greatly missed. Our sympathy goes out to Noori and Armie Khan and to Patricia Kahng and the five Kahng children.

OTHER NEWS

A new retiree, Joyce Bogenreif, joined our ranks at the end of March. She worked in Education for many years. Like Bonnie Storck, who retired from the Social Sciences Division last fall, Joyce served as the "institutional memory" for her Division. How are those two divisions going to manage without their long-time star players? We'll be watching . . .

RETURN ENGAGEMENT

The two planned giving officers from the University Foundation, Frank Robertson and Robert Peterson, who conducted some seminars here at UMM last fall, had such an enjoyable time that they are coming back for a second visit! This is an unusual opportunity to tap the expertise of people who know their way around retirement plans, wills, charitable giving as a way to save money for your heirs, and so forth. Frank and Robert will probably schedule individual appointments in the morning and offer some seminars in the afternoon. May 5 is the date.

HERITAGE PRESERVERS GRANT

The first three events of the 1999 Heritage Preservers program have now taken place and there are three more still to go, funded in part by a grant from the Minnesota Humanities Commission. The experiment in conducting National Issues Forums in Morris seemed to work quite well. Between 30 and 40 citizens turned out for each of the Forums, with many UMMRA members leading groups or participating. The discussions were lively and the videotapes and printed materials provided useful background information, as people wrestled with potential public policy issues related to children and their wellbeing. The Morris newspaper and radio station gave excellent coverage to the National Issues Forums. For the upcoming programs April 16, May 14, and May 27, see the listing on Page 1.

MOMENTOUS MEETING

On April 6 Interim Chancellor Sam Schuman, Vice Chancellor for Finance Cathleen Brannen, and Human Resources Officer Sarah Mattson met with the UMMRA Board of Directors for a discussion of

Morris retiree benefits and "perks." The focus was not on health benefits or disability insurance, which are set by policies made on the Twin Cities campus of the University, but on Morris-specific items like local campus parking and the use of Briggs Library. We talked about different categories of retirees from the various University units located in Morris (UMM, WCES, UC, Extension) and about such complex issues as who is eligible for a "U Card" (spouses? widows?) and what to do about office space during this construction period on campus when space is at a premium.

As Ellen Ordway stated later, the meeting was important but we are only at the beginning of a long process. Hammering out a successful UMM retiree benefits policy will take time and much consultation. What ideas do YOU have? What "perks" would you like to see accompany retirement from UMM (or from other Morris units)?

Sarah Mattson is now assembling information from various University sources and she plans to put together drafts of "perk" information sheets that will be specific to UMM faculty, P&A, USA/AFSCME, Teamsters, etc. We are grateful to Sam, Cathleen, and Sarah for the effort they are making on behalf of all University retirees in the Morris area.

FILM SERIES

The winter series of Academy Award-winning film showings was delightful Sunday afternoon entertainment for those who attended—but attendance was sparse (NFL football was a competitor for attention initially). Dolores Lammers announces that The Last Emperor has been found which completes her collection of Academy Award films. Is there interest in continuing the series next fall? Next winter? Suggestions as to time and place would be welcome (call Dolores at 320/589-1083).

YEAR OF THE ELDERLY

Did you know that the theme for this year's World Touch Cultural Heritage Week is "Year of the Elderly?" That is a good reason to participate in some of the events. A list of activities should be available later this month. Call Bonnie Tipcke in the Minority Student Office (320/589-6095) for details.

UMRA LIAISON

With our Twin Cities liaison representative, Laird Barber, away in London this past month, Bettina Blake attended the March meeting of UMRA. It sounds as if UMRA faces many of the same issues as our own UMMRA—but on a giant scale, of course. They are trying to get President Yudof to recognize the importance of the retiree group to the University and are working to document the many ways in which retirees contribute (literally and figuratively) to the "U." The Big Ten universities will be holding a joint retiree meeting during the summer (!) and the University of Minnesota will have delegates there.

ENJOY THE SPRINGTIME SUN!