

UMMRA INFO

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
VOLUME II, NUMBER 4, SPRING 2000

CHANCELLOR SEARCH

The search ended in February when President Yudof selected Samuel Schuman as Chancellor at UMM. The process took 26 months which began when Chancellor Dave Johnson retired. Sam will join us for lunch at our Spring/Annual Meeting on April 26. Come meet Sam and congratulate him on his new position.

NEW WCROC HEAD

On February 15, Greg Cuomo was named head of the West Central Research and Outreach Center. Greg has been an associate professor/forage agronomist at the WCROC since 1996.

SPRING LUNCHEON/ANNUAL MEETING

The Spring Luncheon/Annual Meeting will be combined with the Annual Retirees Reunion on April 26, 2000. (The schedule of events is given below.) The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers for 2000-2001 (nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting):

President – Bettina Blake (1 year term)

Sec.-Treasurer – Ellen Ordway

Past Pres./UMRA Rep. – Laird Barber

New Member at Large – Maurice Tipcke

Charlotte Eul has completed her term; the terms of Avis Brandt and Dolores Lammers continue.

APRIL REUNION

Because of the semester calendar the Retirees Reunion will be held on April 26, 2000. Schedule:

11:45 a.m. Luncheon in the Cougar Room at Prairie Inn. (pay your own way and order from the menu). After a brief annual meeting with election of officers, Chancellor Sam Schuman will speak. The luncheon should end in time to attend the first National Issues Forum (At Death's Door: Ethical Issues Related to Dying) at Morris Senior Center.

2:30 p.m. Lowell Rasmusson will treat us to a tour of the new Science Building.

4:00-6:00 p.m. Reception for faculty, staff and retirees at the home of UMMRA president, Bettina Blake, 4 Circle Pines Avenue, Morris.

6:00-6:30 p.m. Social hour at Oyate, UMM Student Center.

6:30 p.m. Faculty/ Staff Recognition Dinner. For reservations, call Maggie Dylla, 320-589-6053.

If you need overnight accommodations the number for the Best Western Prairie Inn is 320-589-3030

(800-535-3035), Super 8 Motel is 320-589-8888 (800-800-8000), the Morris Motel is 320-589-1212 and the American House Bed and Breakfast is 320-589-4054.

The arrangements are being coordinated by Charlotte Eul and Avis Brandt.

NEWS FROM UMRA (TWIN CITIES)

Forthcoming speakers at UMRA meetings:

March 28, 11:30 a.m. Speaker: Prof. Emeritus Eville Gorham about the University's involvement in ecological research and environmental policy.

April 25, 11:30 a.m. Speaker: Cheryl Dickson, President, Minnesota Humanities Commission.

UMRA is meeting in various locales, since the former Campus Club is no more. Laird Barber should have information about particular locales after March 15.

The University's Health Plan Task Force is meeting about a potential establishment of a separate plan from the State of Minnesota for purchasing health benefits for its employees. The Task Force proposes to issue a formal report in Fall, 2000. There must be extensive consultation, and any new plan would not be established before January, 2002.

The Minnesota Senior Federation (See the UMMRA INFO for Winter, 2000.) is continuing to work on the suit now being brought to adjust the grave "differentials in Medicare payments to the states." A "Justice Coalition" has been established which is helping with the lawsuit. One can join this coalition for free.

SAD NEWS

Raymond Ring, a painter at UMM for 22 years until his retirement in 1982, died on Friday, Feb. 11. His wife, Ruth, died in October of 1999. He is survived by four sons and one daughter.

Francis Hovend died on Feb. 11. He worked for Plant Services at UMM as a carpenter. He is survived by his wife, Helen.

Lois Hogander, secretary in the Division of Science and Mathematics, died on March 8. She is survived by her daughter, Mary Alton, and 3 grandsons. A MEMORIAL for Lois will be held on Thursday, March 23, University Club, St. Paul, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

RETIREE PERQUISITES UPDATE

Separate staff and faculty perk sheets were handed out at the winter luncheon. They will be available at the spring luncheon for those who need one. They

were prepared by Sarah Mattson, UMM Human Resources Director. Also, Sarah is in the process of updating the Faculty/Staff Handbook which will include a section on UMMRA.

SPECIAL INTEREST MEETINGS

March 29, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. HFA Recital Hall. Campus forum for faculty/staff re: future of UMM—this may be a good time to make known UMMRA's need for office space and it's own meeting/social place. (Important meeting ???)

March 23 An Investment Workshop for Women (men are welcome, too)

March 30 International Investing
These two are part of the Brown Bag Lunch Series, held in HFA #7 from 12 to 1:00 p.m. via ITV. RSVP to Jenny Quam, 320-589-6024.

April 27, Barry Melcher, employees benefit rep. visits campus—make appt. by calling 6024.

COMMENCEMENT

Retired faculty members will soon receive an invitation to march in the academic procession on May 12. A form will be enclosed to order cap, gown, and hood before the deadline of April 3.

NEW RETIREES

Several long time members of the UMM community will retire this spring; among them is Jim Gremmels and Jack Imholte, who were among the “Original 13”. We will hear more about that group when UMM celebrates it's first Founders Day next fall on September 26. Many activities are being planned. The next newsletter will list all new retirees.

HERITAGE PRESERVERS 2000

The first two events of Heritage Preservers have taken place and were very well received. The remaining schedule is:

An Afternoon with Mark Twain

Bill Cosgrove, Moorhead State University
Fri., Apr. 14, 2000 at 1:00 p.m. Senior Center.
National Issues Forums:

At Death's Door: Ethical Issues Related to Dying

Phyllis Gausman, Convenor
Wed., Apr. 26, 2000, 1:00 p.m. Senior Center.

Containing Health Care Costs: By What Means

Burt Nypen, Convenor (Senior View)
Thurs., May 18, 2000, 1:00 p.m. Senior Center.

Containing Health Care Costs: By What Means

Anita Rundquist, Convenor (Working Adult View)
Thurs., May 18, 2000, 7:00 p.m. First Lutheran Church, Morris.

These programs have been funded in part by a grant from the Minnesota Humanities Commission. Would you like to help with next year's Heritage Preservers series? If so, please call Bettina Blake at 320-589-4737.

RFC UPDATE

The Regional Fitness Center is running smoothly. The parking problems have been settled and people seem to have worked out the convenient times to walk and use the fitness equipment.

Eight brave “Seniors” (seven of them UMMRA members) signed up for the Senior Strength Program. They are now experts in the basic use of machines, dynabands and dumbbells. RFC will be offering the program again next fall or winter.

Water aerobics is offered at 12:00 p.m. Tues. and Thurs.; 4:30 p.m., Mon., Wed., and Thurs.

RFC is starting an Arthritis Foundation Aquatic Program on April 3. It meets every Monday and Wednesday from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. For information call 320-589-6485.

“CAMPAIGN MINNESOTA”

How about making a gift to UMM this spring? Retirement is a time for donations because, quite literally, “you can't take it with you ...”. And the way US and state inheritance taxes are set up, your children may end up with only a small piece of your estate (with the government taking a big chunk), unless you do some careful planning now. Two advantages of major giving to UMM are, first, that your family name will be perpetuated (institutions of higher education have great longevity) and, second, that you can get help in setting up an inheritance-advantageous gift. Of course the best advantage of all is knowing that you are contributing forever to the improvement of human lives through education. (Fund Development Office: 320-589-6066)

UMMRA'S IN PRINT

Clyde Johnson was featured in the Winter 2000 “M”, a paper for alumni and friends of the U of M. Ralph William's UMM HYMN was printed in “Profile” a UMM publication.

Bettina Blake was the ‘centerfold’ in the newsletter, “Contributions” at UMM.

Laird Barber was pictured in the “Morris Tribune” as he was introducing Mark Vinz at the Heritage Preservers presentation.

Arlene Beseman was featured in an article in the “Morris Tribune” as representative for UMMRA in making plans for Prairie Pioneer Days.

Leona Classen, Judy Nord, Bettina Blake, Phyllis Gausman and Laird Barber were featured in an extensive story on the Heritage Preservers in “Senior Perspective,” a regional publication. As Jane Cunningham, Program Officer for the Minnesota Humanities Commission, said in her e-mail message, “What an extraordinary piece!”

These articles will be kept in the historian's file.

SUMMER NEWSLETTER: Plans for UMM's 40th birthday—Founder's Day and much more.

