

UMMRA INFO

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER VOLUME V, NUMBER 1, SUMMER, 2002

ONE DAY CAR TRIP—JUNE 18

We are planning a day trip on Tuesday, June 18 to the Terrace Mill. We will tour the Mill, have lunch on the porch overlooking the lake, look at the sculpture and art works and walk through an 1800 era house. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. at the North parking lot at UMM and pool the cars. Plan to be back in Morris by 3:30 p.m. If interested in going, call Avis Brandt, 1-320-589-3304 or Bernice Erdahl at 1-320-246-3393.

2002-2003 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Installation of the newly elected UMMRA Board was held at a board meeting on June 10 as follows:

Secretary/Treasurer – Ellen Ordway

Member at Large – Harold Fahl

Newsletter/Historian – Dolores Lammers

The terms of Fred Farrell, Bettina Blake, Laird Barber and Avis Brandt continue for 1 more year.

Also:

Doris Benson, Campaign MN Representative

Cathy Kemble, Co-chair, Volunteer Committee

Bernice Erkahl, Co-chair, Volunteer Committee

DUES

Enclosed is a letter from Ellen Ordway which is being sent to all retirees of any University unit, primarily in the Morris area. It explains the history of UMMRA and the benefits of membership. As you may notice, dues have increased to \$10 per person; reasons for this are explained in the section below. The dues cover one year membership from July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003. Please take care of this while it is fresh in your mind. Ellen wrote in her yearly secretary's report that we like getting as much input from everyone as possible. Let us know what you are doing and where your travels have taken you when you send in the dues. Members receive all 4 newsletters which are sent out in June/July, September, January and April. All retirees, paid members or not, will receive only the July issue starting in 2002-2003. KEEP IN TOUCH!!

OFFICE FOR UMMRA

Chancellor Sam Schuman has provided office space for UMMRA on campus. It is located in the Community Services Building as part of the Center for Small Towns Complex (previous Post Office site). It is the last cubicle on the right hand side and is open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office has a desk, table, chairs and a file cabinet. We have a Macintosh computer donated by Judy Korn in External Relations and a printer donated by Mike Korth in Science and Math. The increased dues will help with the costs of running the office; telephone, increased postal rates, office supplies, and repairs. At the annual meeting Chancellor Schuman offered to pay for the e-mail fees for the computer (\$100 set-

up fee plus \$100 per year). Sam also subsidizes the UMMRA INFO each year, so remember to thank him.

UMMRA e-mail Listserve INSTRUCTIONS

UMMRA has an e-mail address that goes to all subscribers in the listserv. To access the UMMRA listserv, the address is:

ummra@mrs.umn.edu

You can check the membership of the list at any time by sending an e-mail to: majordomo@mrs.umn.edu containing the message text: **who ummra.**

Any individual with e-mail can add themselves to the list if they send the command: **subscribe ummra** at the address: majordomo@mrs.umn.edu.

To delete send the message: **unsubscribe ummra** to the same address. If you do not have a computer, you can go over and read the e-mail on the computer at the UMMRA office.

RETIREES REUNION/ANNUAL MEETING

The annual/reunion luncheon was held at the Prairie Inn on Wednesday, April 17, 2002, the same day as the Recognition Dinner. Elections were held for the 2002-2003 Board of Directors. A voice vote accepted the slate of officers as stated in the spring newsletter. Two other action items, change in by-laws to include the office of vice-president (president elect) and an increase in dues to \$10 per person, were passed. Chancellor Schuman gave a review of the year on athletics, homecoming and the legislative bonding bill. (As we now know, the bill for remodeling the Social Science Building was vetoed by Governor Ventura)

In the afternoon Maggie Larson, at the LaFave House and Lowell Rasmusson, at the newly remodeled "old" science and math building, gave us grand tours that were appreciated.

The UMMRA cocktail party at the home of President Fred Farrell was well attended and all enjoyed great food and conversation.

The Recognition Dinner honored two retirees, Janet Ahern, Assistant Professor of Music and Cheryl Estenson, principal accounts supervisor in the Business Office. Congratulations to Janet and Cheryl.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Luncheon meetings – The fall meeting was held at the Common Grounds Café (now closed) with Josh Fischer entertaining us with songs from his CD. The winter and spring luncheons were back at Prairie Inn. Dr. Joan Radcliffe from the Stevens Community Medical Center told us about her medical background and what her practice at SCMC includes. The spring luncheon was part of the reunion celebration. Board member, Maurice Tipcke, scheduled and introduced the meetings.

Volunteer Committee – The committee of Cathy Kemble (1-320-795-2290) and Bernice Erdahl (1-320-246-3393) scheduled several events for UMM and the city of Morris.

Graduation – programs and ushering (4 people)

MN Campaign Phonathon – (6 callers)

Wine serving – (3 people)

Ice Cream and Lollipops – (18 people)

Evergreen Readers – (6 readers)

This program schedules adults to read to the residents of West Wind Village (Villa). They read once a week for an hour from September through May. Shirley Kleepies, Joanne Hagstrom and Laird Barber attended the reader's training workshop presented by Jane Cunningham, Director of Learning in Retirement Programs, MN Humanites Commission.

Car Trip – Several retirees enjoyed a one day car trip through several towns in western Minnesota. Avis Brandt did the planning for the visits to a Kensington apple orchard and the Carlos winery. (Both are worth the time!!)

Campaign MN – The multi-year fund raising effort of the entire University was very successful, especially on the Morris campus. The UMMRA representatives on the UMM campaign, Doris Benson and Bettina Blake, reported that the retirees outdid all other groups on campus. The campaign is still going on.

Heritage Preservers/Learning Unlimited – The change of including the Heritage Preservers Program under the umbrella of Learning Unlimited seemed to work very well. The six sessions titled "Watersheds, West Central Minnesota and the World" were well attended, interesting and informative. All participants deserve commendation. Bettina Blake was grant project director from 1998-2002. Fred Farrell will take over the leadership of the Minnesota Humanites Commission Grant. A copy of the last grant application is in the UMMRA file. Learning Unlimited publishes a community newsletter that is a great resource of programs for area older adults.

UMRA UPDATE

The University of Minnesota Retirees Association (UMRA) of the Twin Cities will have their annual dinner meeting on Tuesday, June 25, at the Carlson School of Management. Speaker will be C. Lance Brockman, Professor, Theatre Arts and Dance, who will be discussing "The New Showboat". Call Laird Barber, 1-320-589-4254, for more information.

The new showboat will be christened the Frank M. Whiting to honor the founder of the original boat in 1958. Ray Lammers, Professor Emeritus, Speech and Theatre Arts, was an original cast member of the first season. They gave 105 performances. Opening night is July 5 through August 25, Harriet Island Regional Park, St. Paul, MN.

HEALTH INSURANCE UPDATE

The University created a new position of Director, Retirement Benefits Programs which will be a full time position devoted to the needs and interests of retirees. We still need to remain vigilant to out-state needs.

In ans

Thanks for your e-mail concerning physician coverage in the Morris area under the University's proposed retiree health plan. While I am not at liberty to divulge the names of the 4 Health Plans to be included in the new offering- retirees currently covered under the coordinated plan statewide should find that they will have access to the same providers as they had before. At least, that is what we were led to believe in the material provided by the plans to the selection committee.

(Note: The final selection of plans is scheduled for the end of June.)

BITS AND PIECES

Ellen Ordway took a river cruise through Holland during May. They were stationed on a boat and moved each day, landing to visit windmills, tulip gardens and parks, and cities such as Brussels and Amsterdam. Last fall, she visited Indonesia and Borneo.

Avie and Wes Gray spent 3 weeks of late January and early February enjoying an Elderhostel Program in which they visited and studied cities in Louisiana. The Mardi Gras is celebrated throughout the state and is much more orderly than the famous one in New Orleans.

A group consisting of Jack and Lucy Imholte, Mary Ann Scharf, Barbara McGinnis, two of her daughters, Catherine and Mara, had lunch with Tim McGinnis in Amsterdam, Holland. Tim and his wife live in the city and acted as tour guide through the beautiful streets and flower gardens. Lucy reports she walked for 4 ½ hours through the flower beds at the Floriade in Haarlemmermeer, the Netherlands. From there the Imholtes flew to Norway to spend a week next door to Jim and Ruth Gremmels. Ruth is researching her family history and they plan to return the middle of June. Mary Ann went on to Iceland for 2 days. She had been there 3 years ago in January when there is light from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., but wanted to experience Iceland in May when there is daylight from 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Last September, Ernie and Kathy Kemble went on Grand Circle Tours to Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji. They were on a plane over the Pacific when the plane hit the Pentagon on September 11 where their son-in-law was stationed. In January, they along with Gigi Ingle toured the Sea of Cortez and Copper Canyon in Mexico in a small boat. Kathy is enthusiastic about the Lindblad Travel Agency –they care about the environment.

Laird Barber, along with his son and daughter-in-law, visited England in January. It seems to be a favorite journey.

Janet Ahern, newly retired Assistant Professor of Music, will begin duties as state governor for the Minnesota Chapter of the National Association of the Teachers of Singing in July. She was also featured in the Spring 2002 Profile on her retirement from UMM after 32 years of teaching.

Bettina Blake will complete her term as Class Fund Chair for the 50th Reunion of Barnard College, class of 1952, on June 30. They reached their goal of \$200,000. Ask her about her mysterious interlude with the Dean of the Georgetown Medical School.

ENJOY SUMMER TODAY-TOMORROW IT MAY SNOW

