



UMMRA



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THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
VOLUME IX, NUMBER 3, WINTER 2007

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Out with the 2006 calendar--the one that's a shorthand version of a busy year past--and in with the new--a clean slate ready to take on the events, appointments and significant happenings of 2007. Like the calendar, I'm ready to start fresh and hope that you are, too! A very happy, healthy, peace-filled New Year to all of you.

*Speaking of calendars, please note that our **Winter Luncheon/Business Meeting featuring speaker Sue Granger will be on Valentine's Day, February 14, at the LaFave House, 11:45 a.m.** Our luncheon will be catered by Common Cup.*

Luncheon options:

Cup of chicken wild-rice soup and 1/2 sandwich (choice of club--turkey/ham/bacon-- or chicken salad) \$5.75 including tax OR

Cup of chicken wild-rice soup and a whole sandwich (same choice as above) \$7.50 including tax

Please R.S.V.P. to me (ahernjt@morris.umn.edu or 589-2474) with choice of sandwich and filling no later than Monday morning, February 12.

Before Christmas we had an open house for Bert's history students. What a wonderful, interesting, diverse group of students filled with dreams of demanding study and careers and conversant on a wide host of topics! I knew you'd all be proud of them and proud of having helped build UMM--a college that attracts and educates such bright, caring young people. So if you're in or near Morris, find a way to connect with some UMM students. You'll feel better about our future!

Janet

UMMRA WINTER LUNCHEON BUSINESS MEETING

When: February 14, 11:45 a.m.

Where: The LaFave House, College Ave. and Third St.

What: Sue Granger will present
The UMM Historic Preservation Plan

Menu: Catered by Common Cup
Wild rice soup with whole sandwich \$7.50
Wild rice soup with half sandwich \$5.75
Choice of chicken salad or club filling

Reply to Janet (ahernjt@morris.umn.edu) with menu choice by Monday morning, February 12.

DATES TO REMEMBER

1ST THURSDAY CASUAL LUNCHEONS

January 4: Old #1, Morris, Noon

February 1: Steve and Arden Granger's, 42389 180th St., Morris, Potluck, Noon

March 1: Café Bella, Glenwood, Noon

April 5: Doolittle's, Alexandria, Noon

May 3: Potluck at the Skyview Courtyard, Morris, hosted by Ray & Dolores Lammers (tentative)

If you would like to attend or to car-pool, e-mail Janet Ahern at ahernjt@morris.umn.edu

LEARNING UNLIMITED PROGRAMS

January 17: *Through Veteran's Eyes: Korea, Viet Nam, Desert Storm.* 1:00 p.m., Stevens County Historical Museum. Dr. Miriam Frenier.

February 14: *Six Thousand Years of Bread (and Civilization).* 1:00 p.m., Morris Senior Center. Dr. Abdullah Jaradat.

March 14: National Issues Forum 1: *Democracy's Challenge: Reclaiming the Public Role.* 1:00 p.m., Morris Senior Center. Phyllis Gausman, Convener.

April 19 & 20: *Heritage Days,* Judy Nord-Johnson, Coordinator.

April 20: 1:15-2:45 p.m., Morris Area Elementary Concert Hall. Dr. John "Chuck" Chalberg as Ignatius Donnelly.

SPRING LUNCHEON/ ANNUAL MEETING

April 26: Chancellor Johnson will provide an update.

SAD NEWS

Arlene Bedel, who worked on the custodial staff from 1971-1982, died in Glenwood Retirement Village on December 4.

Lois Hodgell, professor *emerita* of studio art, died in Oshkosh, WI, on November 23. Lois, specialized in printmaking, was discipline coordinator for many years, and retired from UMM in 1994.

Ed LaFave, Morris banker and businessman in UMM's formative years, died in Alexandria on Dec 6. Ed and his wife, Patty, played pivotal roles in building support for UMM and for promoting it ever since.

Alvina Schulz, wife of Marvin Schulz who supervised plant services between 1965-1988, died on Dec. 15 at West Wind Village.

Our sympathy to their families.

UMMRA MEMBERS' SPECIAL MENTION

David Johnson: In a public ceremony on October 28, Independence Hall was renamed David C. Johnson Independence Hall in honor of Chancellor Dave, UMM's chancellor from 1990-1998. Dave lived in this dormitory when he arrived at UMM and is impressed with *the enormous impact which students' living arrangements have upon them.*

Roger McCannon: UMM's Center for Small Towns (CST) and the City of Morris together have won the 2006 Carter Partnership Award for Campus Community Collaboration—a bronze sculpture and a \$10,000 prize. Roger, former CST director, and former **Chancellor Dave** established the Center for Small Towns, which affects change through shared decisions.

Anne Uehling, whose pen name is Anne Stewart, has written a children's book, *I Saw a Moose Today.* A reception and book signing were held at the PRCA on December 21. The rhymed story features Whims Wiggin and the animals he sees when he goes out to play. The book is available through the UMM Bookstore or www.ravenwords.com. Anne worked for Continuing Education in the 80's and early 90's.

BITS AND PIECES

Bettina Blake writes: *New Year's greetings from out East! I am fine, though not yet as mobile as I had hoped, partly because my balance is still poor. I walk with a cane, it's hard to carry much in my left hand, and I'm a one-handed typist, but I can drive if necessary (it's not, usually) and I get out occasionally to events and to have dinner with friends. If you are in Boston, do stop by and see me.*

Bernice Erdahl was feted at an 80th Birthday celebration on Sept 16 with an open house in Kongsvinger Lutheran Parish Hall in Donnelly. She's also shown in the December 16 *Sun Tribune* making lefse with **Avis Brandt** at Common Cup.

Travelers **George and Pat Fosgate** and **Anne Uehling** joined UMMRA members at the October 5 1st Thursday luncheon in Alexandria

An article by **Nat Hart** titled "On This Earth: A changing skyline" appeared in the December 23 *Morris Sun Tribune*.

The November 8 "25 Years Ago" column mentions that then Chancellor **Jack Imholte** assured the Campus Assembly that UMM would remain open, in spite of the anticipated University-wide 12% budget cut.

Helen Kill's photo appears in several fall issues of the *Morris Sun Tribune*. As VFW auxiliary president, she wrote the nomination that resulted in the *Morris Sun Tribune* receiving a National VFW Special Publicity Award.

40 years ago, **Ray Lammers**, professor of Speech and Theatre Arts, directed Strindberg's play, *Easter*, featuring local student actors Alice Hedberg and Steve Rossberg (November 25 *Morris Sun Tribune*).

Dwight and Jeanne Purdy: *Our first full year in retirement has been fun and busy. We've spent much time landscaping the five acres of former cane field on which our new house sits. We also made two Elderhostel trips. One took us through France from Normandy to Provence. The other took us to Florence.*

Mary Ann Scharf and Karla Klinger helped re-initiate the Stevens County League of Women Voters. The group meets through April on the third Monday, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Sam and Nancy Schuman will move from New Mexico to their home in North Carolina in May. Sam has accepted a temporary one-year position as Interim Dean of the Faculty at UNC-Asheville.

Ralph Williams celebrated his 90th birthday on June 19. Ralph organized the music dept, was one of the original faculty members in 1960 and retired in 1976. He wrote the *UMM Hymn* before the first class began. These and other fall references are filed in UMMRA Archives.

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS!

UMMRA members read to residents of West Wind Village through the Evergreen Reading program and help with receptions and Ice Cream and Lollipops. Contact Cathy Kemble or Bernice Erdahl to volunteer.

MEMORY TOURS OF UMM

When **Jim Gremmels**, one of UMM's original 13 faculty members, was inducted into the UMM Cougar Hall of Fame in September, he reflected on the basketball team's inaugural season in 1960 with UMM's Sports Information Director, Brian Curtis. During his first season, he coached just nine players, all freshmen and junior college teams. By his third season, his best as head coach (8-9), he was able to drop all junior college teams and play all four-year schools. *Home court advantage was huge in the old P.E. Annex in the early 60's. The glare from the lights in certain spots seemed to bother players from other teams, and we were able to take advantage of that.* His last game as head coach was perhaps his most memorable. *We played St. Cloud, coached by Red Severson. They were really tough. We played a man-to-man defense and hung close, trailing by 12-13 points at halftime. In the second half, Red took out his regulars and brought in the reserves. We started to make a comeback and forced St. Cloud to put their starters back in. Even though we lost, the team played hard and well.* Now a UMM professor emeritus of English, Jim still works with current men's basketball head coach Paul Grove on a part-time basis. *Excerpts taken with permission from Brian Curtis's August feature about Jim.*