

# UMMRA INFO

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME II, NUMBER 3, WINTER, 2000

## HAPPY NEW MILLENIUM

This is the first INFO of the millenium. Perhaps in 100 years this newsletter could be valuable to TV's "Antique Roadshow" as a piece of memorabilia. So far there have been no predicted bugs or glitches. The most exciting happening was the Eiffel Tower display.

## MEMBERSHIP

We now have 70 paid members for this year and always welcome new members to our organization. Our membership consists of both retired and not-yet-retired members of any of the University units, primarily those in the Morris area. It includes faculty and all other staff (including bargaining units).

Members get together quarterly to meet informally with old friends, receive four newsletters per year with communications about certain activities on campus and in the Morris area, and receive information on various "perks" offered to retired members.

If you are not an UMMRA member for this 1999-2000 year but would like to join, you may send your name and address with \$5.00 per person annual dues (July '99 - June '00) to our Treasurer, Ellen Ordway, 915 West 4<sup>th</sup> St., Morris, MN 56267.

## RETIREE PERQUISITES UPDATE

Sarah Mattson has almost completed a draft of "perk" information sheets that will be available to members later in the year.

Two "perks" that are worth repeating:

E-mail Accounts- UMM retirees who become members of UMMRA may maintain their UMM e-mail account while they continue to reside in Morris. In order to be part of the University network they must also be in the University Demographic Database. An account may be set up by contacting Computing Services, 10 Behmler Hall, and providing a valid notice of participation in UMMRA.

UMM Parking Pass - Retirees who become members of UMMRA may obtain an "UMMRA" plastic parking tag for their vehicle, free of charge. (UMMRA pays the annual group fee.) The tag allows parking in any public UMM lot. The tag can be obtained from UMM Campus Police, 9 Camden Hall, when you provide the receipt for your dues payment.

## LOGO

We hope people have noticed our logo on the newsletter, T-shirts, and large banner. We need to thank Robie Abbott for designing it.

## QUARTERLY LUNCHEON

Charlotte Eul has scheduled the winter meeting for WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16 at NOON in the COUGAR ROOM at the PRAIRIE INN. As always it's pay your own way. Steve Nagle, Executive Director of West Central

Communities Action will be our speaker. His group serves 5 counties with a variety of programs such as Head Start, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program and many others. Their slogan is "People Helping People". We would appreciate your suggestions for future topics or speakers.

We are planning to combine the Spring quarterly luncheon with the annual Retirees Reunion. It will be held on April 26 at noon in the Cougar Room at the Prairie Inn. It will also be our annual meeting. Tentative plans are to have the new Chancellor join us.

## REUNION PLANS

Avis Brandt reports that the Annual May Reunion has become the Annual April Reunion because of the semester change. The celebration will be in conjunction with the UMMRA luncheon and annual meeting on April 26. We plan to make a day of it. We will be free to shop at the UMM Bookstore, or visit other places on campus. A reception for faculty, staff and retirees is planned at the home of the UMMRA president, Bettina Blake. Then everyone will gather in the Student Center in Oyate Hall for the annual Faculty-Staff Recognition Dinner. Plans are pending for other events so watch for more information in the next newsletter.

## CHANCELLOR SEARCH

The University of Minnesota, Morris Chancellor Search Committee has submitted the names of four finalist chancellor candidates to University of Minnesota President Mark Yudof.

The Committee has relayed its decision informally to the President's Office and is in the process of preparing its formal recommendation and analysis. Following submission of this formal report, further action rests with President Yudof, who will interview the finalists and make the final choice.

## SAD NEWS

Joseph Latterell, Professor of Chemistry in the Science and Math Division at UMM from 1967 to retirement in 1998, died on October 1. Joe finished the final proof-reading of his family history the day before he entered the hospital. Their daughter, Terese, got a rush printing so he was able to see the books during his final days. Our sympathy to Gerry and their four daughters.

## NEWS FROM UMRA

The University of Minnesota Retirees Association (UMRA) has moved to new offices, which they share with the Retirees Volunteer Center: Address is 200 Oak Street, Minneapolis, MN 55455-2002; telephone number is (612) 624-8016.

Upcoming speakers:

Jan. 25 Professor Mary Jo Kane, Tucker Center

Feb. 22 Ann Pflaum, Associate Dean of University College

Mar. 28 Regents Professor (retired) Eville Gorham

The location of these meetings is yet to be announced. Laird Barber (589-4254) should know by the middle of January and can give more information on the programs. The meetings begin with lunch at 11:30 a.m., and end about 1:15 p.m.

UMM retirees can join UMRA and so receive UMRA's monthly newsletter describing all current activities.

## INTERNATIONAL RETIREMENT CONFERENCE

The conference will be held on May 27-29, 2000 at the US Grant Hotel in San Diego. Goals are to improve retirement associations like UMMRA. Perhaps some members from the west coast could put on their maroon and gold T-shirts and represent UMMRA. More information can be obtained from board members.

## SENIOR FEDERATION

Along with the State of Minnesota, the Federation has filed a suit against the Federal Government which seeks to adjust the great differentials in Medicare payments to states. You can join the Federation if you pay the necessary fee to Judy Nord at the Senior Center. As a member, you will receive a newsletter and can attend the meetings, held on the third Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the Senior Center.

## REGIONAL FITNESS CENTER UPDATE

On October 16 the RFC was officially dedicated. UMMRA participated as a group with their T-shirts and large banner and had their picture taken by the Morris newspaper. A copy of the picture will be kept in our historian's file.

The RFC appears to be a great success. People of all ages can be seen coming and going. The lobby is a comfortable place to meet and chat with former colleagues and friends. The walking track and fitness room seem to be favorites with people of later years (Fosgates' word usage for senior citizens).

Water Aerobics: (Free the week of Jan. 17 to Jan. 21)

12:00-12:50 p.m. Tues. and Thurs.

4:30-5:30 p.m. Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs.

Senior Recreational Pool Times (great for water walking):

8:00-9:00 a.m. Mon. and Thurs. (Free for members)

Senior Strength Training:

10:00- 11:00 a.m. Tues. and Thurs., Feb. 22 to Mar.30.

(Cost is \$35 for members/\$50 for non-members).

## HERITAGE PRESERVERS 2000

The schedule has been set for the Heritage Series presented by UMMRA and Heritage Preservers. The first three events use a different approach to show how ordinary citizens can understand and gain further knowledge of American culture, past and present. The three National Issues Forums are designed to show how ordinary people can study current social and political concerns to some purpose.

Wed., Feb. 16, 2000, at 1:00 p.m. Senior Center  
History or Heritage: What Are the Differences?

Randee L. Hokanson and Larry Hutchings

Fri., Mar. 10, 2000 at 1:00 p.m. Senior Center

A Poetry Reading and Commentary with Slides

Mark Vinz, Moorhead State University

Fri., Apr. 14, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. Senior Center

An Afternoon with Mark Twain

Bill Cosgrove, Moorhead State University

National Issues Forums:

Wed., Apr. 26, 2000, at 1:00 p.m. Senior Center

At Death's Door: Ethical Issues Related to Dying

Phyllis Gausman, Convenor

Thurs., May 18, 2000 at 1:00 p.m. Senior Center

## Containing Health Care Costs: By What Means

Burt Nypen, Convenor (Senior View)

Thurs., May 18, 2000 at 7:00 p.m., First Lutheran Church, Morris

## Containing Health Care Costs: by What Means

Anita Rundquist, Convenor (Working Adult View)

## EVERGREEN READERS

Evergreen Readers/Elder Reading Circle program is a new reading aloud program for older adults. Leona Classen has organized an Elder Reading Circle at the Villa of St. Francis. She has scheduled volunteers once a week at the Villa to provide an hour of stories, poems and reminiscing for a group of residents.

At this time the Villa is the only Elder Reading Circle in Morris, however, with more volunteers Leona could expand the program.

If you would like information, please contact Leona at 324-2557 or Lisa Johnson, Villa Activities Director, at 589-1133.

## VISIBILITY OF UMMRA

Because UMMRA is a relatively new organization—and has no publicity budget—it is important for people to be reminded that we exist. Laird Barber does this whenever he attends a meeting of the larger UMRA Board in the Twin Cities. The wide distribution of the quarterly UMMRA INFO is another way of making us visible. Recently, UMMRA has been represented on campus on one of the North Central Association reaccreditation Self-Study Committees (Blake), on the RFC Grand Opening Committee (Benson), and on the Capital Campaign Committee (Benson, Blake). In a more informal way, your president tries to attend major community meetings on behalf of UMMRA. During the fall, among other events, Blake attended a breakfast meeting with staff of the West Central Initiative, Inc., to discuss community issues that WCI might address in the future. The needs of older citizens were among the concerns raised. Blake also attended a West Central Educational Development Association (WCEDA) reception for Patricia Spence, Chair of the University Board of Regents, and talked briefly with Regent Spence.

Retirees had a very active role in welcoming the five Chancellor candidates and their respective spouses to the UMM campus. Arden Granger has served since last spring as coordinator of the search process under the direction of the Search Chair, Eric Klinger. Her work reached crisis proportions as the three-day visits of each candidate unfolded with separate schedules for the candidate and for the spouse. Blake organized a luncheon for each spouse, inviting people of appropriate professional interests.

YOU can help with UMMRA visibility, too, by wearing your maroon and gold UMMRA T-shirt! They will be available at the winter luncheon for those who need one. Blake even took her UMMRA shirt on her Christmas Mississippi steamboat cruise from New Orleans to Natchez, Baton Rouge, etc., and it gave her a chance to talk about UMM with several of her fellow passengers. That's free publicity for UMM, folks, and it's always needed.

Remember the UMM CAPITAL CAMPAIGN as you plan for the year 2000. More about this in the next newsletter.