



UMMRA Info

A quarterly publication of the University of Minnesota, Morris Retirees' Association

<http://www.morris.umn.edu/ummra>

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Happy New Year!

For those of you who were not able to attend our last two UMMRA events of 2014, I would like to give you a brief report. The November event took place at Old No 1 in Morris where Ferolyn Angell gave a very interesting report on the work supported by an UMMRA grant to help her learn about some of her ancestry. We encourage other retirees to apply for one of UMMRA's grant. The forms and regulations are available on our website. The December event was held at the home of Bonnie and Tip Tipcke, where we admired Bonnie's MANY decorated Christmas trees plus other beautiful holiday arrangements. Everyone brought delicious food to share. A donation was collected and we agreed to donate the money to Someplace Safe.

The challenging question for UMMRA in the new year is how to recruit more individuals to join the University of Minnesota Morris Retirees Association. Over the past couple of years the number of our paying members has dropped from around 120 down into the low 70s. We are familiar with the fact that many of our retirees have moved a distance from the Morris area and that our newsletter is available online, so there are fewer incentives for being a paying member of UMMRA. However, the fact remains that if we are not able to get more UMMRA contributors, we will have to curtail some of our activities, such as this newsletter; awarding scholarships; or awarding grants to members, such as Ferolyn, to research a topic that they had always wanted to do, but never had time while they were working.

I will be away from Minnesota for most of the winter, so our president-elect, Margaret Larson will be chairing our board meetings and events in February and March. Happy New Year to all of you.

Andy Lopez
President 2013-15
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Coming Events

All UMMRA members are welcome to attend these meetings and events.

February 5: UMM Winter Quarterly Meeting, 11:45 a.m., LaFave House, meal will be catered. UMM student Kelly Fischer will speak on her research with bees.

March 5: First Thursday Luncheon, 11:45 a.m., Gazebo Room, Ranch House at the Prairie Inn. Community update from the Morris Area Chamber of Commerce.

April 2: Annual UMMRA Meeting, election of officers. 11:45 a.m., Cougar Room, Prairie Inn. UMM update by Chancellor Jacquie Johnson.

May 9: UMM Commencement. Contact UMMRA to volunteer for this campus event.

June 4: Picnic in the Park. Watch for updates.

SAD NEWS

Bruce Allen Nord, one of UMM's 13 original faculty members, passed away in September 2014.

In 1960, Bruce began his 30-year tenure at Morris where he taught sociology and anthropology until 1990. He helped foster the international scope of the University of Minnesota.

Elanda Hanson passed away October 11, 2014. Elanda worked as a custodian while earning a degree in art and geology from UMM.

Dr. Samuel Schuman died November 11, 2014, after an 18-month ordeal with lung cancer. Sam began in 1995 as dean and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs and later became acting chancellor at UMM in 1998. He served as chancellor from 2000–2006. Sam was proud of his role in helping UMM successfully complete its first-ever capital campaign, in recruiting and retaining some fine faculty, mentoring some promising administrators, and of strengthening international education at the school. He retired from UMM in 2006, accepting a one-year appointment as the Caruthers Chair Visiting Distinguished Professorship in the Honors College of University of New Mexico before returning to Asheville, N.C. He then assumed several different part-time roles at UNC Asheville, including teaching. He also returned to University of New Mexico for an additional semester in 2012.

Clyde McPhee, father of **Nic McPhee** (computer science), passed away October 20, 2014. A service was held October 22 in Rogers, Arkansas.

Virginia "Ginny" Larson, mother of **Dee Schultz** (plant services) and a Morris alumna, passed away November 26, 2014, after a long battle with cancer. A celebration of her life was held in January in Mankato.

Jim Tanner and **Pat Tanner** were inducted into the Cougar Hall of Fame during the Homecoming 2014 Cougar Hall of Fame/Distinguished Alumni Award/Networking Banquet.

Along with the Tanners, **Paul Martin '04**, **Beth Ann Ploof Cordes '94**, **Heather Pennie-Roy '94** are HOF inductees. [photo courtesy UMM Alumni Association]

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Maggie Larson gave a presentation in October at the West Central Research and Outreach Center on decorating for fall.

Carol Cook, professor of education, retired December 24, 2014.

"Untitled" by **Athena Kildegaard**, instructor of English, was featured on American Public Media's The Writer's Almanac on October 27. This was the second time host Garrison Keillor has shared her work on the show in 2014.

Margaret Kuchenreuther, associate professor of biology and environmental studies, was named the fourth UMM Founders Scholar. Founders Scholar projects are to reflect, question, challenge, investigate, or advocate for UMM's public liberal arts mission. Kuchenreuther intends a Founders Scholar project that will "explore how we can reconnect with our roots [by] capitalizing on UMM's location in the middle of farm country to encourage meaningful engagement by the majority of UMM students with food and agriculture" and by identifying the "roles food and agriculture could play in UMM's liberal arts curriculum and co-curricular activities."

HATS OFF TO UMM!

Information compiled in part from the UMM News Service

For the first time in program history, the **women's cross country team** won the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) Championship. The Cougars finished 27 points ahead of St. Scholastica, who took second place.





Lucy Imholte and **Ruth Gremmels** chat during a gathering in memory of the late Chancellor Emeritus John Q. Imholte held during Homecoming 2014. [photo courtesy UMM Alumni Association]



A smiling **Bernice Erdahl** led the annual Donnelly Threshing Bee Parade as its Grand Marshal. [photo courtesy of the Morris Sun Tribune]

CAMPUS CORNERSTONE: THE 1970s

by Roger Boleman, retired
Director, Instructional and Media Technologies

I moved with my wife Joan and daughters Julie and Marie from the Twin Cities area in 1968 to begin a career at the Morris campus that would last over 45 years. I had been working at the College of Continuing Education on the Twin Cities campus in the Radio and Television department as a Radio and Television technician. I was hired by Russ DuBois to provide classroom technical support for the campus. I was the only full-time employee in the department known as Audio Visual Services. My office as well as a small TV studio was on the second floor of the Humanities building and a

classroom equipment checkout room was in the basement of Social Science. Four students worked for me during the academic year. Classrooms were equipped with an overhead transparency projector and a pull-down screen. For showing movies or videos, equipment was carted by the A/V staff to individual classrooms.

The Morris campus was a big change from the Minneapolis campus both in terms of size and natural surroundings. I did not come to Morris with a prairie eye, and the broad flat expansive landscape was rather foreign to me. I have to admit: the vast prairie vistas and big sky made me feel vulnerable. Adding to this horizontal flatness, the campus mall was completely flat; the berms that remain to this day were added in the early 1970s.

I remember the late 1960s and through the 1970s as a time of increased building construction. It seemed that every year new buildings were being constructed. When I arrived, the Science West complex was dedicated and Phase 1 of the library (not yet named Briggs) was ready for fall quarter 1968. During the 1970s construction took place for HFA phase I and II, Library phase 2, PE Center, PE pool, Dining Services, Independence Hall (Johnson Hall), and the student apartment complex. As a side note, HFA phase III, a large performance hall, was assumed to follow on the heels of phases I and II. As I recall, however, federal funding required for the project dried up.

Enrollment was increasing each year. However, the late 70's also ushered in a period of declining enrollment. I remember campus discussions taking place regarding the liberal arts mission and if there was a need to change the curriculum to offer more applied science based course offerings. Did the campus need to provide more vocational based instruction to increase enrollment? In the long run the influence of the original core faculty which

crafted the liberal arts mission, along with the able leadership of Jack Imholte, carried the day, and the core mission remains to this day.

KUMM radio began broadcasting from a small studio in Pine Hall in 1972. The station was low power and barely covered the city of Morris. It was entirely student operated and I do recall some colorful student station managers. George Carlin's "7 words you can't say on the air" had apparently not reached the Morris campus.

Other things I remember about the 1970s: It was the beginning of the Al Molde football dynasty; discussions about limiting enrollment to 2,000 students or create a second campus with shared support facilities; smoking allowed in classrooms; and Louie's Lower Level.

I remember a number of sororities and fraternities in Morris in the early 70s. None remain today. As I look back to that time, I recall the major events, such as Viet Nam and Kent State, that defined that decade and created the culture clash that changed the established institutions including the Morris campus.



Marge Kleinhans and Lois Kunde were among those who enjoyed the annual UMMRA Holiday Party, this year hosted by Bonnie and Tip Tipcke at their beautifully decorated home

Mini Grants Awards

UMMRA awards a maximum of three mini-grants, of up to \$350 each, in support of an UMMRA member's learning activity, whether research, assistance for a project, or travel reimbursement. Criteria, suggestions for proposals, and application forms can be found at: <http://www.morris.umn.edu/ummra/UMMRAMiniGrants.pdf>
Deadline for applications is at least three months prior to the proposed date for the beginning of the project. Send applications to Bonnie Tipcke, UMMRA secretary, 311 W. 7th St., Morris, MN 56267.

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