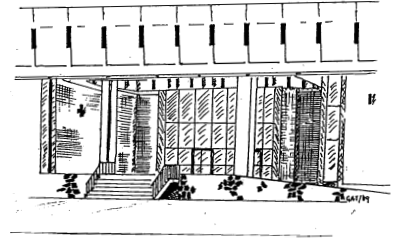


SUNY ONEONTA RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



NUMBER 23

2010

News of Retired Faculty, Administrators and Professionals

Welcome and Congratulations!

We welcome the following retirees to the Retired Faculty Association: **Edward Beck** from Economics, **Barry Berman** from Elementary Education and Reading, **Paul Conway** from Political Science, **Glenn Mayer** from Administration, **Jane Miller** from Elementary Education and Reading, **Richard Staley** from Educational Psychology, **Hilda Wilcox** from Center for Academic Development, **Charles Winters** from Art, and **Nancy Wolters** from Administration. We wish you happiness and good health in your retirement and we hope you will join us in our activities.

From the President

Greetings from **Fran Bliven**, President of the SUNY Oneonta Retired Faculty Association. As you probably know, faculty, administrators and professional staff are eligible for membership upon retirement. In addition, membership is extended to your spouses. Currently, we are considering a name change to more nearly reflect the entire membership. Work is progressing on an update of the membership list. Every retiree is assumed to be a member and will be listed unless you contact Rose Thomas in the College President's office to the contrary.

Besides our four planned social activities with speakers or tours, we are exploring avenues to interface with the Alumni Association, Science Center and other special interests of the College.

If you have questions about the Association and its activities, please call me at 432-1825 or email fbliven@stny.rr.com.

October Event

Vice President, **Bill Swain**, again planned and coordinated our popular annual October luncheon which was prepared and served by Oscar Oberkircher's Restaurant and Catering Class FOOD 239. The event was held on October 10th and was attended by forty-six retirees and spouses. One of our members called upset because he thought he had missed Oscar's luncheon. The CSEA Retirees had an announcement in the paper of one of their meetings but did not make it clear that it was only their group, which is actually called The Golden Oldies.

After the luncheon thirteen people were led on a tour of the renovations of the Fine Arts Building by Tom Rathbone. It was enjoyable to see downstairs and back stage in the

theater area. The new dressing rooms were most impressive and appreciated by those who had seen or used them before renovation. The long extensive costume storage room was of special interest and the well designed costume production room by **Esther Elfenbein** still serves its purpose well. We learned that theater majors are required to be involved in every part of producing a play each for a different production, a policy which was initiated by **Junius Hamblin**. The newly built foundry which is separated from the main art section of the building houses two kilns. A ceramics lab, drawing studios, and areas for sculpture, metal, stone, wood and most forms of art are available. We were shown the recording studio for the Industrial Music program which is very popular. The new addition to the Music Department is still being constructed so we were not able to tour there. While riding the large elevator, **John Mazarak** made the comment that the architect did not leave enough door space in the original building as requested for the grand piano to be placed in the elevator without being tipped.

Other Planned Events

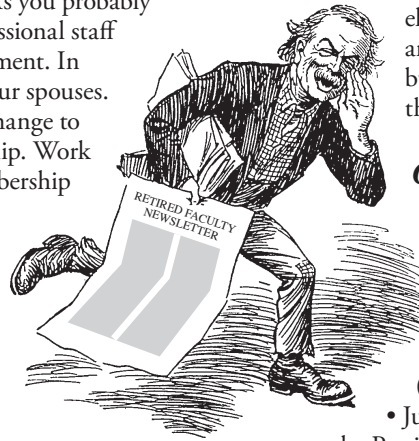
(Details and reservation instructions will be sent prior to event)

- April - Luncheon and "Rediscovering the Science Discovery Center" (Planned by Director **Will Settle** and Secretary **Bill Benedict**)
- May - Carpool to Greenwoods Conservancy (Planned by Director **Roy Bartoo**)
- June 7 - Annual luncheon at College Camp with update by President Nancy Kleniewski (Planned by Directors **Frank O'Mara**, **Taylor Hollist** and **Garth Stam**)

Spring Visit to Greenwoods Conservancy

Members of The Retired Faculty Association have been invited for a light breakfast and tour of The Greenwoods Conservancy in Spring 2011. Dr. Earl Peterson, benefactor of the Conservancy, spoke at our April Luncheon and later invited those who would like to a guided tour of the facility and grounds, which comprise several hundred acres of very natural environment including bogs and lakes. We will probably set up our visit for late April or sometime in May when we are confident of weather conditions. Members who wish to attend will have a chance to sign up at the April Meeting 2011. Please keep this event in mind when planning your Spring activities. Contact **Roy Bartoo** at 263-5620 if you need more details. HAPPY WINTER!!

Director Roy Bartoo



Spring Luncheon

On April 27th members met at the Brooks' Roost for lunch and to hear Dr. Earl Peterson speak about Greenwoods, a land trust and nature conservancy located off route 80 near Burlington. The original purchase was 245 acres and is now 1200 acres. They hope to add 400 more acres. Greenwood is a very unique and well managed private conservancy begun by Dr. Peterson many years ago. The Conservancy contains five different ecological entities including conifer woods, over 150 acres of water, fifteen beaver ponds, a cranberry bog, and is the headwaters of Butternut Creek. An 1850 farmhouse is also on the property. The Conservancy is cooperating with local colleges on research projects. **Bill Butts** is doing an exhaustive study on mosquitoes; bird counts are going on; Cornell is recording bird songs. There are twelve miles of trails in the Conservancy. As **Roy Bartoo** said, "A GEM environment in our own backyard."

June Luncheon and Annual Meeting

At our June luncheon at College Camp President Nancy Kleniewski gave us an update on the college. She passed out a draft of the *Mission, Vision, and Strategic Plan 2010* which was based on the work of SPARC (Strategic Planning and Resource Council) and others. In the draft she emphasized the goal of the Teaching, Learning and Scholarship section which was to promote a learning-centered environment that facilitates excellence in teaching, research, and creative activity. It was suggested that exploration should be done for and the establishment of a center that enhances and supports this goal. It suggested the applied learning opportunities such as service learning, faculty-sponsored student research, and international study be expanded. She also emphasized the goal of promoting increased cultural understanding, immersion, and inclusion by enhancing opportunities for greater interaction in the global arena for faculty, students and staff.

She drew our attention to the Sustainability section where the goal was to promote individual and collective responsibility for the continued well-being of the College, community and environment by encouraging educational initiatives, environmental protections, and fiscal responsibility. In relation to the status of the budget she said that they were being efficient by saving on utilities, not printing as much and pooling positions after retirement if possible. Carol Blazina's position was not replaced with another Vice President but Colleen Brannan was appointed as a President's Senior Assistant. Dan Larkin who had been serving as Provost is returning to the History Department. The President stated that they would probably have to downsize in the future by attrition because 85% of the budget is payroll. An early retirement incentive was being formalized by the state (which has come into being).

The building projects on campus that the President mentioned were the Milne Library Quad where the planters have been raised and replaced with grass, pavement and fountains, and the Fine Arts Building addition which will provide more music rehearsal space.

Passed the Hat

Our Association has no dues but there are some expenses such as paying for the meal of a speaker or speakers at our events. President **Fran Bliven** passed the hat at our October luncheon and was pleased with the generous donations collected. THANK YOU!

IN THE NEWS

"**William Starna**, professor emeritus of anthropology at the State University College at Oneonta, is coeditor of the recently released *William Fenton: Selected Writings*, which brings together six decades of Fenton's writings on the Iroquois.

The book includes Fenton's studies of Iroquois folklore, factionalism and the repatriation of material culture; discussions of theory and practice and the methodology of 'upstreaming'; obituaries of colleagues and reviews of other studies of the Iroquois; and summaries of the early Conferences on Iroquois Research."

The Daily Star, Oneonta, NY 12/17/09

NEWS FROM COLLEAGUES

Fran Bliven

"At the Executive Service Corps Celebration of Service luncheon in October, **Fran Bliven** was recognized for 20 years of dedicated participation in the work of the organization."

Carey Brush

"We are living in a facility for old folks where we are among the minority who can still walk to meals, etc. without a cane or walker. The only good thing about being out here is being close to our daughter who has a Tea Shoppe in a nearby town. Usually **Tinker** helps her on Saturdays by cashiering and waiting on customers in the gift shop.

The rainy season will soon begin, but in the five years we've been here, only one winter has had significant snow, although we are in sight of snow capped mountains.

All good wishes to my old friends and colleagues at SUCO."

Marti Corry

"Last summer in Oneonta was one of the best climate-wise and I enjoyed the pleasant weather. Much of my effort has been on getting rid of old journals and books which must go. Many people know that my house on College Terrace will be for sale this summer. I'm hoping to find the person(s) who like the style of the Tech-built house developed by MIT architects and engineers which won a national award. This will probably be my last summer in residence in Oneonta, sorry to say. It's nice to see old friends and join the Monday am bridge at First Presby Church. Greetings to those I missed. Bay Village in Sarasota, FL has been home for nearly six years and it is very pleasant with lots of activities and friends. Visitors are welcome."

Verna Engstrom-Heg

Verna reports that her son, Leif Engstrom, was elected Auditor of the City of Albany and has two sons. Martin Donnelly-Heg, her other son, is now a Workman's Compensation Judge stationed in Syracuse. Martin has a daughter.

Shirley Fioravanti

"Traveling is a different matter without **Joe** but I did go to Washington State in June, with **Fran Bliven** to the Berkshires in July where we enjoyed good theater, to a son's in California in August, and to our time share in September. In between I go to CCAL classes and to other organizations."

Ernie Goodman

"**Ernie Goodman** was surprised and thrilled to have an Endowed Scholarship created in his honor. Some of his former students were responsible for it and Ernie writes that he is so grateful to students & faculty friends who are contributing so generously, thus enabling some students to attend SUCO and remain to receive their degree.

On June 5th, during Reunion Weekend 2010, Ernie received the Emeritus Faculty/Staff Outstanding Award. A luncheon followed the ceremony at which he and his family were united with some of his former students, colleagues and friends. 'What a wonderful world,' he writes, 'because he always thought that such high honors are mostly bestowed on the departed.'"

Brian and Paula Holleran

"**Brian and Paula Holleran** have been living in Florida for nearly fourteen years. They still spend their summers up north and enjoy seeing old friends."

Taylor Hollist

"**Suzanne** and I have visited grandchildren in Illinois and California this summer. Also grandchildren have been to Oneonta to attend soccer camp at Hartwick College and to study at the Decker School of Ballet. In September, we attended a Road Scholar program (Elderhostel, Inc.) at the New Britain Museum of American Art near Hartford, Conn. We attended lectures with slides on the mind-bending works of artist M. C. Escher. This museum presently has original works of Escher on display with wood blocks and lithograph stones Escher used to do his prints."

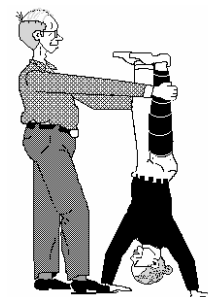
Armand and Carolyn LaPotin

"**Armand and Carolyn Haessig LaPotin** continue to enjoy their retirement in an active adult community 15 miles northwest of Tucson, Arizona in the town of Marana. The 'town' is about 40% of the land mass of Otsego County with a population of 45,000. They participate in the numerous groups in their immediate community; both are on the Activities Committee where Carolyn produced, to date, two Mystery dinner theatre presentations. Her quilts, crafted from a skill she honed in one of the community groups, have been sold in a Tucson museum gift shop; and she was one of the gold medalists in the Southern Arizona Senior Olympics Bocce Tournament. Professionally, she is an Adjunct Professor of Nutrition and Dietetics at Central Arizona College and offers an on-line course to dietetic technicians. Armand is active on

the board of and volunteers at the Marana Community Food Bank; he has applied for certification to teach history at Pima County Community College, and has resumed his research on a project he began at the College. They can be reached at lapotias@aol.com. Mailing address is 9423 North Dancing Gecko Place, Tucson, AZ 85743 (We have plenty of Geckos (lizards) out here-and in the hot sun they 'dance' or move rather quickly along with the rattlesnakes and javalinas.)"

Fred Miller

"**Ellen (Billie) Miller** fell and broke her leg in August. She is still recovering at the Oneonta Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. Here's a version of their Autumn activities, Fred helping Billie walk without her putting weight on her broken right leg." (Happily, Billie is now home.)

**Richard Schadt**

Georgia reports that "**Richard S. Schadt** has changed his address to Countryside Care Center on Rt. 10 in Delhi, NY. His friends may visit during most of the day."

Marie Sejersen

"Some day perhaps I may be able to do the polka again, but for now I am happy being able to move around with the use of a cane following lots of physical therapy sessions. I had a total knee replacement in my right leg in June 2010, so I feel I have lost three months of this year. **John** keeps active with his daily swimming and walking and is glad he is able to do that."

In Memorium

Julia B. Boken - English Literature - January 7, 2010
Janet E. Green - Library - September 12, 2010
Esmat Nouri - Mathematical Science - April 2010
Raymond Rainville - Psychology - October 2009
Anthony B. Roda - Philosophy - March 4, 2010
Louis Rothman - Health Center - May 30, 2010
Marion T. Schatzky - Bugbee - June 2010

Families

Jill J. Elfenbein - May 6, 2010
Marjorie Murphy Shuman - July 29, 2010

Thank You!

The Retired Faculty Board would like to thank the many people who help to make our organization function. First of all we want to thank **President Kleniewski** for her support; **Rose Thomas** from Community Relations in the President's Office for keeping our membership list up-to-date and mailing our notices, newsletter, etc.; **Lorin Levins** from the Graphic Design & Publications Department for setting up the newsletter for print; and the **Print Shop Staff**, of course, for doing our printing. We appreciate your help in making our organization possible.



ONEONTA
RETIRED
FACULTY
ASSOCIATION
Founded 1989

**Retired Faculty Association
Officers 2010-2011**

Frances Bliven, President;

William Swain, Vice President;

William Benedict, Secretary;

Directors: Roy Bartoo, Taylor Hollist,

Verna Engstrom-Heg, Frank O'Mara,

Garth Stam, and Wilbur Settle

Newsletter Editor, Arleen Benedict