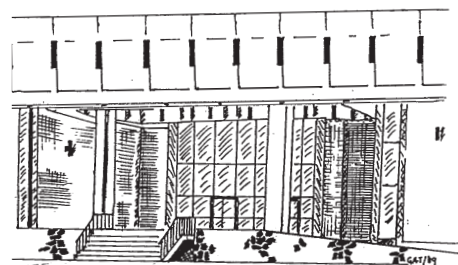
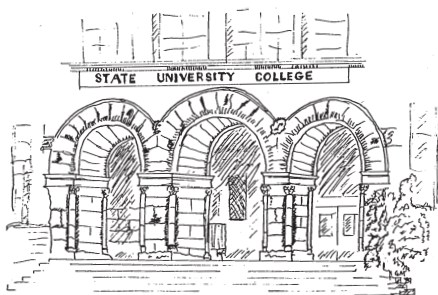


RETIRED FACULTY, PROFESSIONALS AND ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



NUMBER 26

2013

Welcome and Congratulations!

We welcome the following new retirees to the Retired Faculty, Professional and Administrators Association: **Donald Ackerman** from Maintenance/Facilities Operations, **Joann Barnhart** from Student Accounts, **Joanne Curran** from Education, **Ricky Gabriel-Baldwin** from the Health Center, **Bart Ingersoll** from Public Safety and Student Development, **Hanfu Mi** from Elementary Education and Reading, **Carol Mikoda** from Secondary Education, and **Susan Smith** from the SICAS Center. We wish you happiness and good health in your retirement.



*Three Presidents at College Camp, June 2013
Fran Bliven (past RFPAA president)
Dick Burr (RFPAA president)
Nancy Kleniewski (SUNY Oneonta president)*

College Camp Luncheon and Update on Campus

On June 4th thirty-four retirees and spouses attended our annual buffet luncheon provided by Sodexo Food Service at the College Camp. The event was planned by Director **Garth Stam** and Vice President **J. Taylor Hollist**. President Nancy Kleniewski and Todd Foreman, Vice President of Finance and Administration, gave an update on the campus.

President Kleniewski reported that the committee

of eighty people on self assessment was very commendable for Middle States. She also reported that the new Provost for Academic Affairs was Dr. Marie Thompson. Dr. Thompson was reorganizing departments into five schools with a dean for each. The five schools are (1) Arts and Humanities, (2) Business and Economics, (3) Social Science, (4) Natural Science and Mathematics, and (5) Education and Human Ecology. The first four positions for deans had been filled and the last search was to be conducted in the coming college year (this position has now been filled).

The Governor's latest initiative is a SUNY Tax Free Zone. The basic idea being that the creation of a new business related to research being done on a campus can be located on campus land and receive tax breaks with the promise to create new jobs. An example of the existence of a present situation is the nano science development connected with the Albany Campus. The most impact would be at University Centers and community colleges.

A task force to review the general education programs of transfer students was formed. Another task force to review procedures for tenure, retention and promotion was also created. Departments are encouraged to share guidelines for such procedures and to be more transparent. Other SUNY campuses are to be consulted. Two thirds of the faculty have been at the college for less than ten years and are coming up for tenure and retention.

Six new faculty have been hired. Vacancies in faculty lines have been replaced and a couple lecturer lines added. Biology is expanding with health and environment courses. To add more diversity to the faculty, a plan is to hire dissertation fellows half time for two years while they work on their doctorate.

Todd Foreman reported that the college budget is fairly stable. There is no additional aid from the state and they are not presently being cut. There is a concern about the status of Downstate Medical.

The Strategic Plan is to define priorities. Departments were asked for proposals and received forty-one to advance the Strategic Plan. Administrative processes and vacancies are planned to be transferred to other areas within Academic Affairs.

A new parking lot on Bugbee Road has been created. Fitzelle should open in 2014. The plan is to “green the campus” by planting more trees and shrubs. The sustainability initiative includes having recycling cans with all garbage cans. Now the college has a single source for recycling and also pays by the ton with a new garbage contract. Composting is done on campus. Water consumption has been cut as well as electricity.

Going forward, the Governor has allotted no capital money for SUNY. Projects will be on hold. Architects are, however, finalizing renovations for the Physical Science Building. Then next the plan in the line will be the renovation of Mattison Residence Hall.

Several questions were asked by the retirees. **Molly Swain** asked about the use of solar and wind energy on campus. *ANS.* The solar panels on the Ecological and Environmental Building supply enough electricity to run the building. There is not enough wind available to be used for power. Energy saving measures are incorporated into the new buildings and renovations.

John Carney asked about the college’s thoughts on the new apartment project being built on Blodgett Drive. *ANS.* It is felt that those who will reside there are now living downtown. A concern the administration has is about traffic issues at the intersection of Blodgett Drive and Bugbee Road and safety of walkers. The builders will be putting in sidewalks to partially help address this concern.

Mary Lou Wendel asked about the development of the area where the old apartments on Clinton were located. *ANS.* Presently that project is on hold. Town help to allow the Houses would expand the Graduate Program. Sixty percent of students live on campus and forty percent live off campus. More upper class students want to be on campus.

Ed Pixley is concerned that the curb cuts and handicapped parking that was planned years ago for Goodrich Theater never have occurred. *ANS.* This will be a project after commencement next summer. Any other suggestions anyone has could be sent by email.

Loraine Tyler asked about the use of online classes. *ANS.* The college uses very few online classes as a whole with several utilized during summer school. There are two programs, being dietetic and an MS in Educational Technology, that use online classes. The Chancellor is encouraging Open SUNY with degree programs online. Masters programs is where the action is. Oneonta’s highest priority is residential age students.

Boyce Rogers asked about the increased use of adjuncts in place of full time faculty. *ANS.* The administration is trying to reverse this trend. How departments are using adjuncts is being sought.

Annual Meeting

At the annual meeting which followed the College Camp luncheon and presentation by President Kleniewski and Todd Foreman, the following slate of officers were elected: **Richard Burr**, President, **J. Taylor Hollist**, Vice President, **William Benedict**, Secretary, and **Lawrence Guzy** and **Loraine Tyler** as directors.

Fran Bliven was thanked for her many years of service to RFPAA. In **Dick Burr’s** words, “We are grateful for her leadership, dedication, and the countless hours she contributed to the Association.” **Roy Bartoo** and **Wilbur Settle** were also thanked for their service of two two-year terms as directors.



RFPAA Board:

Loraine Tyler, Bill Benedict, Arleen Benedict, J. Taylor Hollist, Fran Bliven, Dick Burr, Garth Stam, Larry Guzy, Edith Davidson, and Dick Staley

Fall Luncheon

Fifty-five retirees, spouses and guests enjoyed a menu with some European flair ably planned, prepared and served by Oscar Oberkircher's students in Human Ecology's Food 239 class. Director **Loraine Tyler** and Secretary **Bill Benedict** planned the event which was held on October 24th.



Student Chefs of Food 239

Dr. David Jurasinski, a lecturer in the Human Ecology Department who instructs and develops various course materials for students majoring in Food Service and Restaurant Administration, gave a presentation on Leadership Sustainability. Dr. Jurasinski stated that students in the curriculum are guided and encouraged to develop their strengths and make improvements using self awareness and personal development to sustain energizing leadership throughout their careers and lives.



Dr. David Jurasinski

Other Planned Events

(Details and reservation instructions will be made available prior to event)

- April - Spring Meeting
- June 3 - Buffet Lunch and Annual Meeting at College Camp (Planned by Directors **Garth Stam** and **J. Taylor Hollist**)

In the News

“50 Years Ago, May 14, 1963

SUCO Faculty Wives rounded out their club year and honored new officers at the annual spring luncheon held Saturday at the Tunncliffe Inn, Cooperstown. An added touch was the fashion show put on by Joan Jacobson of the Smart Shop, Cooperstown. Styles for summer, including beachwear, were modeled before the 66 attending the luncheon. Included were fashions by name designers Oleg Cassini and Anne Fogarty.

Mrs. Jerry Shannon has been elected president for the coming year. **Mrs. Josef Elfenbein** is the new vice president, **Mrs. Robert Doyle**, secretary, **Mrs. Philip Robbins**, treasurer and **Mrs. John Havens**, hospitality chairman.

On the luncheon committee for the afternoon were **Mrs. Nicholas Barberio**, **Mrs. Robert Grosshans**, **Mrs. John Havens**, **Mrs. John Mazarak**, **Mrs. Hewitt Pantaleoni**, **Mrs. Jay Pawa**, **Mrs. Reuben Rusch**, **Mrs. Richard Siegfried**, **Mrs. Stanley Weisberger** and **Mrs. William Walisko.**” (The Daily Star. Oneonta, NY, May 14, 2013)

“Floral Arrangement Takes Award At Show

Fran Bliven's floral interpretation of Dana Matthews painting 'Agrilus Planipennis' won the viewers' choice award at Community Arts Network of Oneonta 'Art in Bloom' show held at the Wilber Mansion art gallery recently. 'Art in Bloom' is presented by the Oneonta Federated Garden Club. Displayed works of art were chosen by participants who used floral materials to interpret them. Bliven of Oneonta, used Solomon's Seal, Lady's Mantle, yellow Digitalis, Valerian and ornamental Sweet Potato Vine. The painting was the first place winner in the annual mansion show held June 7-25.” (The Daily Star. Oneonta, NY, July 13, 2013)

“Exhibits to open at SUNY Oneonta

... 'Prairie Series,' an exhibition of low-relief textured acrylic and mixed media painting by **Dan Young**, will be the first installation this academic year at the **Martin-Mullen** Art Gallery. 'Prairie Series' will open Thursday and run through Oct. 25. A former SUNY Oneonta art professor now living and working in Stockton, MO, Young will return to campus to share this new body of work.

...An opening reception...will be held from 5 to 7 PM Thursday, Sept. 5. Young will give a gallery talk at 6 PM.

Young, who spent most of his career working with clay and taught three-dimensional design, ceramic sculpture and art survey at SUNY is now painting. His exhibit will include 28 works on panels ranging in size from 24x24 inches to 72x72 inches. Included in this series is a recent painting created in response to the tornado in Moore, Oklahoma.

...He has shown his work extensively and received numerous awards during the course of his career. For the past 15 years, he has been painting full-time at his studio in Stockton, MO.” (The Daily Star. Oneonta, NY, Aug. 10, 2013)

News About and From Colleagues

Alison Black (Oneonta) and **Jane Miller** (Oneonta)

“This past spring, Pearson published a textbook written by **Alison Black** and **Jane Miller**. The book is entitled *Writing is Like Real Talk! Coaching Conversations for Preschool to Sixth Grade Writing*. This book highlights the work of 21 area elementary school teachers in 11 school districts, most of them former SUNY Oneonta education students. *Writing is Like Talk!* is an illustrative look at improving students’ writing through a sound combination of research-based authentic writing samples and positive coaching conversations. The authors’ goal in creating this user-friendly text is to encourage teachers to reflect on how they teach writing and to use what they learn from students’ writing to inform their instruction. Two local workshops, based upon this book, will be given this fall by the authors.”

Fran Bliven (Oneonta)

Fran Bliven reports that she enjoyed her trip to Portugal and Spain this year.

David Brenner (Oneonta)

David Brenner has created a one-man show where he impersonates Edwin Moore who was a local historian for many years and died about a decade or so ago. Ed wrote Oneonta historical columns for *The Daily Star* which were later published in book form. Dave delighted retirees with his impersonation at the UUP COARM luncheon meeting on October 30th which was held at Nina’s Restaurant in Oneonta.

Larry Guzy (Oneonta)

Larry Guzy is serving as President of the Oneonta Rotary.

Terry and Wanda Helser (Annapolis, MD)

“**Terry Helser**...writes that besides enjoying competitive bass fishing last summer, he and his wife, **Wanda**, sold their property in Middlefield, NY, and moved south to Annapolis, MD, to be closer to their children and four grandchildren. ‘We will miss our friends up there, however, but NOT the winters.’” (Reflections. SUNY Oneonta, Spring 2013)

Suzanne and J. Taylor Hollist (Oneonta)

Suzanne and **Taylor** shared their pictures and thoughts from their travels in Israel this summer with Brigham Young University professor John Welch to a group of about forty CCAL (Center for Continuing Adult Learning) members on September 23. Their itinerary included Nazareth, Mt. Carmel, Mt. Precipice, Sea of Galilee, Mt. of Beatitudes, Caesarea Philippi, Valley of the Doves, Capernaum, Caves of Qumran, Yad Vashem, Wailing Wall, Mount Moriah, Pool of Bethesda, BYU Jerusalem Center, Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Golgotha and more.

“**Taylor** gave a PowerPoint presentation titled ‘Eva Coe, Murderess’ to the Unadilla Historical Association on October 22, 2013. In attendance was a daughter of Sarah and Benjamin Hunt. The Hunts testified at the 1934 trial held in Cooperstown, NY. It was Benjamin who wrote down the license plate number of the car used to kill Harry Wright. Some humor was used in the advertisement for the talk. The flyer said that the sponsors were: Sing Sing Prison, Met Life Insurance, NY Electric Chair, Mallet Hardware Company, Eva’s Place Speakeasy, Crumhorn Mountain Estates, Route 7 Auto Club, and the Valstead Act.”

Frank and Anne Kost (Schenectady)

“**Frank** and **Anne Kost** visited Santa Fe in late November and Belize in February. Kevin graduated from the University of Delaware and is working in Walnut Creek, CA near San Francisco. Lindsay, also a Delaware grad, is an accountant with an engineering firm in Albany.”

Janet Potter (Oneonta)

Janet Potter is serving very aptly as President of The Greater Oneonta Historical Society. **John Carney**, past President, **Dorothy Scott Fielder**, **J. Taylor Hollist** and **Bill Pietraface** are on the Board. Many other RFPAA retirees and spouses are active members of the Society.

Marie and John Sejersen (Zephyrhilla, FL)

“**John** and I so enjoyed having **Verne** and **Mary Thomas** stop by for a visit while they were on their trip to the South!!!

We had workmen here for approximately six weeks re-doing our south FL room and the laundry room at our house (began in May and ended in mid July) but now that the work has been completed, we are thoroughly enjoying the results and believe that the confusion was well worth all of it! It forced us to do some throwing away, sorting and replacing items plus our minds were tested when we finally tried to remember where we had put things for temporary storage (not an easy task for a couple of oldsters).

John is scheduled to have a third pacemaker/defib implanted on Sept. 18, so this is a busy week around here. I have my iPad all set to take with me for that day at the hospital. Provided all goes well and things are back to normal once again soon, we are planning to make a 10-12 day trip in October 2013 via auto to IN, TN, MS and back to FL once again (approximately 2100 miles without any side trips).

I have thoroughly enjoyed former students ‘touching base’ with me again after many of them have now retired also has had a bit of a ‘shock effect’ too.

Wishing all good health, happiness and lots of laughter as you enjoy hopefully.”

Congratulations

The following Oneonta couples celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this past year:

Gail and Nelson Dubois

Susanne and J. Taylor Hollist

Edward and Kathryn Pixley

Updating the Directory and Membership List

The directory and mailing list for our organization will be continuously updated as **Christina Miller** is notified of changes. If you would like to have your name, principal address, telephone number or email address changed or removed from the membership list please notify Christina Miller, President’s Office, SUNY Oneonta, 108 Ravine Parkway, Oneonta, NY 13820, or Christina.Miller@oneonta.edu, or 607.436.2748.

Website

An Update Directory Information form is also available on the RFPA Association website at **oneonta.edu/rfpa**. Thanks to the efforts of Director **Dick Staley** and college web development staff Jennifer Smith and John Bugyi, our calendar of events, the current executive board, the constitution, and the association newsletter will be on the website. If you do not have or cannot use computer access, you may still receive hard copy materials by contacting Christina Miller (address and telephone in above article).

Newsletter Items

Due to delays partly in relation to obtaining emails, members were solicited for their news items only on the website. Even after the newsletter is online, if you wish to submit an item please do so to **Arleen Benedict**, Editor, 976 County HWY 35, Maryland, NY 12116 or benediaf@oneonta.edu. **It would be very helpful, cost and time saving to have your email address.**

In Memorium

Mabel Anderson (*Education*) - May 1, 2013

Mary MacArthur Beardsley (*Bugbee and Education*) - April 14, 2013

Dickson Brackett (*Mathematics*) - September 11, 2013

Mary Howes (*Psychology*) - March 3, 2013

Lyall Fletcher (*Bugbee School*) - October 19, 2013

Doris Lake (*Education*) - February 25, 2013

Joan Iversen (*History*) - September 16, 2013

Jean Parish (*Art*) - February 9, 2013

Robert Wheeler (*English*) - December 17, 2013

Families

Jeanine Petersen - December 24, 2012

Susan Simmonds - May 17, 2013

Colleagues

Savat Katrak - March 2013

Note: As we have no official or systematic way to obtain information about the death of retirees and their families the list above may be incomplete. If you know of any recently deceased, notify Christina Miller (address in “Updating the Directory” article).



RETIRED FACULTY, PROFESSIONALS
AND ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION

Officers 2013–2014

President: **Richard Burr**

Vice President: **J. Taylor Hollist**

Secretary: **William Benedict**

Past President: **Frances Bliven**

Newsletter Editor: **Arleen Benedict**

Directors: **Edith Davidson, Verna Engstrom-Heg, Lawrence Guzy, Richard Staley, Garth Stam, & Loraine Tyler**



Thank You!

The Board would like to thank the many people who help make our organization function. First of all we want to thank **President Nancy Kleniewski** for her support; **Colleen Brannan**, Assistant to the President for her assistance; **Christina Miller** from Community Relations in the President's Office for keeping our membership list up-to-date and seeing that our notices, newsletter, etc. are made available; and **Lorin Levins** from the Office of Communications Design Studio and **Kaitlyn Vishneowski**, Print Shop Student Intern for setting up the newsletter for distribution. We appreciate your help in making our organization possible.