

## NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

May 18, 1994 *John*

DC Room 136

The President, Jim Walker, welcomed guests to this, the ninth Annual General Meeting of MURA.

Jim announced that outgoing members of Council have allowed their names to stand for re-election, with the exception of Jean Dushenko who regretted the necessity for leaving Council but stated she has now become heavily involved in her work with the Cancer Society.

The President expressed appreciation to Joy Baby and Marion Welton with respect to their untiring efforts in organizing the coach tours over the past year. The tours, of varying lengths, had proved extremely popular with MURA members and were usually booked to capacity.

A vote of thanks was extended to Gil Murray from MURAL for his generous help over many years.

It was moved by Bill McMicking and seconded by Joy Baby that the minutes of the 1992/3 Annual General Meeting be approved.

A meeting had been held with President Geraldine Kenney-Wallace regarding difficulties in obtaining information from Personnel/Employee Benefits section regarding Major Medical. We also discussed the possibility of changing Gerry King's status from "Observer" to "Voting Member" on the Pension Trust Committee. Further discussion required.

Tom Kennett and Carm McMullen are nearing completion of a new Data Base. In the near future, MURA may produce their own labels rather than using Personnel records.

### EVENTS

The Coach Tour to Muskoka in September of 1993 had proved most enjoyable and the President added that trips had been arranged in almost every month since then, including a Niagara Cruise, Forever Plaid, Stage West, and Tulip Time in Ottawa.

Joy Baby announced that the Blue Jay game had been sold out but that there were still tickets available for Oktoberfest.

The Vermont Trip will take place according to interest shown.

Citizenship Court had proved enjoyable and informative for those who attended and observed the court procedure. Those in attendance were invited to attend a reception in late May.

Pre-Retirement Sessions - Several members have been participating in these sessions throughout the year. June 14th, 1994 is the next session.

An Insurance Seminar had been held in the fall of 1993 in the Council Chambers. A Significant attendance of 134 had participated in the Seminar which had proved to be most enlightening.

#### MURAL

It was announced that we have 942 members, of whom 50 members stated that they do not wish to receive the MURAL. Our paid up membership is 550 members (just over 60%), a substantial increase over last year. The President stated that the next issue of MURAL will include a list of events as well as data on Council members. All members will receive this edition. After this issue, however, only those within 18 months of retirement prior to the Annual General Meeting will receive the MURAL unless they have paid for active membership. A \$500 cost is incurred for each MURAL distribution/mailing.

#### Benefits Section - Personnel Services

Jim stated that MURA has attempted to obtain an up-dated version of the Major Medical Services. MURA covers faculty, staff and hourly employees but the hourly paid employees had not received information by mail from the Personnel Office. We were told that hourly employees receive information from their union (which apparently may not be the case). Averil Thompson is our representative on the Benefits Committee for those with questions or who require additional information. MURA has requested information from the Benefits section on the standing of hourly paid workers regarding the new changes to the Major Medical Plan.

#### Pension Trust Committee

A portion of the fund has been transferred to stock analysts to ensure diversification of the investment. A cost of living increase of 1.84% will benefit retirees from July 1, 1994, which is very favourable compared to other universities and many companies. The fund as a whole realized 9.3% even with the fluctuation of the stock market.

## Major Medical Proposal Mailing

Averil Thompson spoke on the upcoming changes to the Drug Prescription Plan. Retirees will be able to stay with the current (Old) Plan or change to the new Plan. This will depend on individual circumstances. Roman March and Bill MacPherson spoke on the 'Smart Card' which may be unknown to some Pharmacists. Averil mentioned that Bob Tangney will be preparing information on the changes and evidently there will be collection/distribution points located in various areas for the convenience of members. When all foreseen problems are ironed out it is hoped that members will receive the relevant information from Mr. Tangney.

Several other items for consideration by the Benefits Review Committee were discussed, including better value for our money, changes to dental plan, Same Sex benefits, Long Term Disability, and the suggestion that the Eye Glasses benefit be extended to beneficiaries of retirees.

Carm McMullen enquired where funds emanate for our Benefit Plan. It was stated that monies accrue from University Operating Funds. It was also noted that research grant holders must contribute to the Benefits Fund.

## Election of Officers

The President, Jim Walker, turned over the Chair to Averil Thompson, who in turn passed the meeting over to Bill MacPherson who presented the slate of nominees for the four positions which were vacant:

Council Members	Carm McMullen
	John Williamson
Vice-President	Jack Evans
President	Jim Walker

MOVED that nominations close, by B. Goldsmith, seconded by Bill McMicking.

All the above were elected by acclamation.

Dr. Harry Thode very graciously accepted our invitation to carry on as "Honorary President" of MURA for 1994-95.

Joy Baby and Dorothy Matheson agreed to act as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively, for 1994-95. Thanks go to them for carrying on in these functions.

The President discussed the Annual General Meeting and it may be held in the afternoon next year, to see if this would increase attendance.

### Coming Events

Annual Picnic	June 8th - Dundas Driving Park
BBQ	August 24th - Rear Lawn - President's Residence
Canterbury Hills	September 8th - (Speaker to be arranged)
Schwaben Inn	Christmas Luncheon - December 12th

All events will be publicized in the next issue of MURAL

The new Power of Attorney Ruling by the Government of Ontario has brought forward. Members were advised that those people without a designated Power of Attorney would have their estates handled by the government by means of this new Act which had been 'slipped through' with other bills. Seniors were urged to draw up a Power of Attorney so that this legislation does not affect their estates. A will must have the words '**excluding the Public Trustee**'. Barney Goldsmith advised that a kit is supposedly in preparation by the Ontario Government for distribution to the public.

Members were invited to think about any future events they would like held. Any suggestions could be relayed to Joy Baby, Marion Welton or any Council member.

Bill Cook, formerly of McMaster's Registrar's Office, had sent his best wishes from British Columbia where he now holds the position of Registrar at Fraser Valley College, Chilliwack.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. and was followed by refreshments.

*Barney Goldsmith Secretary*