

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Accolades to our speaker at the June Annual General Meeting. Dr. Mick Bhatia's presentation "Human Stem Cells: Biology and Applications Towards the Clinic" was highly informative, fascinating and even at times humorous. More on his talk on page 4.



There are a few changes to MURA Council following the elections at the AGM. Mary Johnston, who had been appointed by Council to complete Jack Evan's term as Vice President upon his resignation last fall, is now the *elected* Vice President. I am pleased to welcome two new Council members: Brian Beckberger and Betty Ann Levy, and to welcome back Shari Mercer for a second term. Many thanks to Helen Dietsche for her valuable contributions over her two terms on Council. You will find the announcement of the MURA Executive & Council for 2013-14 on page 4.

Fundraising activities to increase the value of MURA's annual Scholarship to a full time student in gerontology, and MURA's Prize to a part time student in gerontology is underway. Our goal is to increase the Scholarship to \$2,000 to cover 30% of tuition, and the Prize to \$550. To achieve this, we need to increase the value of the endowment fund from \$54,000 to \$64,000.

MURA, in response to a request from CURAC (College and University Retiree Associations of Canada), has committed to hosting the 2014 CURAC Conference at McMaster, May 28 – 30. We feel this is both an honour and an opportunity to present McMaster University, as well as the Hamilton community, in a very inviting and positive light. The Conference Planning Committee, with Mary Johnston and Helen Barton as Co-Chairs, is just beginning its work. Future issues of *MURAnews* will keep you updated on our progress.

Note the continuing saga relating to obtaining appropriate reimbursements for hearing aids from Sun Life Insurance on page 4.

All of the work of MURA is carried out by volunteers from the membership. As always, I encourage your suggestions to improve or expand our activities/services. This may be done by e-mail to mura@mcmaster.ca, by telephone at 905-525-9140, ext 23171 or by writing to the MURA office at McMaster, Gilmour Hall, B108. You may

also contact me directly by e-mail at waltersm@cogeco.ca, or by telephone at 905-648-2309.

Finally, I wish you a fulfilling, enjoyable and healthy summer.

Marianne Walters, MURA President

RETIREE BENEFITS REMINDER

The benefit year end is June 30th. Please ensure all benefit claims dated from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 are submitted to Sun Life prior to September 30, 2013.

Late claim submissions will not be reimbursed.

Please review all Sun Life claim responses. Human Resources Services works with Sun Life to continually increase the accuracy of the claims approval process. However, we recommend that all retirees review their claim responses and follow up with Sun Life if there is any question regarding accuracy (e.g. denial of a claim due to excess of maximum limit).

Please contact Sun Life at **1-800-361-6212**.

Besides contacting Sun Life, you can also contact Human Resources Services:

Phone: 905-525-9140, ext. 22247. Web Site:

<http://www.workingatmcmaster.ca/retirees/index.php>

CONTACTING MURA

Mail: Gilmour Hall B108, McMaster University
1280 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON L8S 4L8

Phone: 905-525-9140, extension 23171
(checked twice a week)

Email: mura@mcmaster.ca

Web Site: <http://mcmaster-retirees.ca/>



REPORT ON THE 2013 CURAC ANNUAL MEETING

Marianne Walters

This year the annual CURAC (Colleges and University Retiree Associations of Canada) Conference was held June 11-14 in St. John's Newfoundland (N.L.). I attended as the MURA Delegate, and Mary Johnston as the Alternate. The organizers did a wonderful job of introducing us to the "Newfie" culture, and of making us comfortable even though the temperature dropped to 4 degrees, with rain and wind making it feel appreciably colder. Underground tunnels connecting all the buildings at Memorial University where the meetings, lunches and the banquet were held, made for easy movement from one location to another.

It was fascinating to learn that Memorial University was established in 1925, as a memorial to the 739 out of a total of 825 members of the N.L. regiment who died in WWI in the battle of Somme on July 1, 1916. The university came into being largely due to the efforts of the mothers of those who died. We were told that in N.L. July 1st is observed as both Commemoration Day and Canada Day.

The sessions on the first morning of the conference included delightful story-telling by the well known actor and writer, Andy Jones, and a presentation by Greg Malone, actor, impersonator and writer, who presented a controversial view of how N.L. came to be a part of Canada, which prompted spirited discussion.

We were introduced to the development of the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre on Aging and also heard a presentation about the disturbing increase in elder abuse in nursing homes. The speaker pointed out that the worse abuse occurs in cases of individuals with dementia who have no family member involvement. He stressed the need for educating caregivers to make appropriate behavioural responses rather than increasing drug use.

The second day began with a presentation on the past, present and future of CURAC. While discussions about a national organization had begun in 1994, the founding meeting was in 2003. It was not until the 1990s that university and college staff/faculty started to retire in large numbers. This, combined with the fact that we are living longer, has led to the realization that there is a substantial third period of life for many of us. In the same session the destiny of CURAC was considered. Responses to a survey in May 2013 revealed that fewer retirees wish to be attached to retiree associations, and many had had enough of organizational/committee work; more were becoming involved in volunteer work in the

community. While health and financial concerns top the list for retirees, resources are now available from other sources. As has been the case in previous CURAC conferences, the questions of sustainability, mandate, and available resources were raised and need to be addressed.

Another session considered the experiences of the regional CURAC conferences, including their value and how they might be improved. You may recall that Ontario had its first regional conference last Fall.

What has become a yearly session of sharing best practices included an interesting report from Barb Cox of Memorial University. She reported on a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the University and the retirees association whereby the association became a recognized part of the University. They enjoy a "home" department within Human Resources (HR) and have regular meetings with HR and senior university administrators. Others attending the conference reported working out similar MOAs and felt they offered protection as individuals in positions of importance changed, as well as encouraging closer affiliation with their universities. This is a direction that our association may wish to pursue.

YOUR MONEY

PRESTO CARD and PUBLIC TRANSIT IN THE GREATER TORONTO/HAMILTON AREA

by Marianne Van der Wel

PRESTO is an electronic fare system that allows transit users in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) to use a single fare card to move between and within participating transit systems. Fare savings can be significant, particularly for seniors. Participating transit systems within the GTHA include GO Transit, Hamilton's HSR and Burlington Transit. For a complete list of participating transit companies, see the PRESTO web site listed at the end of this article. Please note that although the Toronto Transit System is not yet a full participant, you can use the Presto card at some subway stations.

The PRESTO card integrates the various fares, rules and policies of several transit systems. Hence it is important to check with the systems you use most to determine what will work best for you, and to obtain the most current information. For instance if you use the HSR system, you can use the PRESTO card to buy monthly or annual HSR passes at discounted prices, and also use it as an e-purse that you fill up with funds for use on any participating transit system. An e-purse works much like a debit card. Each time you use the

card, PRESTO calculates the proper amount to debit your e-purse to cover the journey.

Ordering and Activating Your PRESTO card

You can order your PRESTO card and load money onto it online with a credit card (minimum load is \$10), or do it in person at a Customer Service Outlet using cash, debit and - at some service outlets - a credit card. The PRESTO card will be sent to you within 30 days after ordering online. If you buy your card at a customer service outlet, you can use it immediately. Depending on which transit system you obtain your card through and whether or not you are a senior, there may be an initial fee of \$6.00. You will need to activate your PRESTO card within a specified time period by using the PRESTO card to pay a fare or by tapping it at a balance station found at some Customer Service Outlets and most GO stations. If you miss the activation period you will need to phone PRESTO before you can activate the card. Preloaded PRESTO cards, available at select HSR outlets, may already be "active".

Registering Your PRESTO Card

Though not compulsory, it is recommended that you register your card with PRESTO, either on-line or by phone, before you use it. There are a number of advantages to having a registered card:

- Your balance is protected if the card is stolen or lost, although there is a replacement cost of \$6.00.
- Online refills and automatic refills are available only for registered cards. This is discussed below under 'Reloading Your PRESTO Card'.
- For those who can claim a public transit tax credit, information is automatically tabulated for registered users and made available in February/March for the preceding year.
- There are some frequent-use discounts in the PRESTO system. For seniors (ages 65 and over), discounts are significant and are available only through a PRESTO card registered in your name.

The Tap On, Tap Off Experience

At first the experience of using your PRESTO card may seem awkward but the transit staff is generally most helpful. When you use GO Transit, you tap on when you board and must tap off when you disembark, else you will be charged the price of the longest trip possible (which could be as far away as Oshawa from Hamilton). For instance, if you take a GO bus from McMaster to the Aldershot Go Station, tap on when boarding the bus and tap off when leaving. In Aldershot look for the tapping stations near the entrance to the GO station and tap on again. When disembarking from the train, again look for tapping stations in the GO train station and tap off. If you take the same journey often, you can set it as a default trip eliminating the need to tap off.

In Hamilton, when using the bus, one only taps on when boarding. There is no tap off. The PRESTO program automatically keeps track of how much time you have used for your trip, eliminating the need for transfers when using multiple buses over a period of less than 2 hours.

Checking the Balance on Your Card

Your balance will show briefly on the PRESTO tapping station each time you use it. You can also check your balance on-line (if you registered with PRESTO) or you

can go to a balance tapping station. These are located at most GO stations and at the Dundas Municipal Service Centre and Hamilton City Hall.

Reloading Your PRESTO Card

You can reload i.e. add money to, your PRESTO card at Service Customer outlets. In the Hamilton area these are located at:

- GO Stations in Aldershot, Burlington and downtown Hamilton (36 Hunter Street East)
- COMPASS Station, Student Centre, McMaster University
- HSR Service Centre at 36 Hunter Street East.

You may also obtain \$20 preloaded PRESTO cards at the Dundas Municipal Service Centre and/or Hamilton City Hall as well as re-load your card or Month Pass, check PRESTO balances, and settle monthly PRESTO overdrafts.

If your card is registered you may reload it online or you can set it up to reload automatically. With automatic reloads, an amount specified by you is added to your card when your balance falls below a set limit. Without automatic reloads, your balance may fall below zero. In this case, you can complete your journey and go into overdraft that you can settle before your next trip. There is a small service charge for this overdraft protection

Senior Passes and Fares

To take advantage of senior fares, available to people 65 and over, you need a registered, activated PRESTO card. You must then go to the HSR Service Centre at 36 Hunter Street East, a GO Station Service Counter or the COMPASS at the Student Centre, McMaster University and show 2 pieces of Government ID to change your adult PRESTO card into a Senior PRESTO card. From that point on, all fares are calculated at the senior discounted rates.

Some examples of senior savings are:

GO Transit: Half price of the adult fare for single trips
HSR: - *Single Trip*: \$1.65 instead of the adult fare of \$2.55 cash or \$2.00 per bus ticket (good for 2 hours from initial boarding)

- *Monthly Pass*: \$20.50 instead of the adult pass for \$87 (not available for purchase from the 14th-16th of each month)

- *Yearly Pass*: \$205 (not available in adult fare and not available for purchase from the 4th-7th of each month)

Senior Identification: Be prepared to show proof of age when asked on public transit. If you do not have this, you can get a senior identification card at the downtown HSR station for \$3.00

Web Links and Phone Numbers

PRESTO: www.prestocard.ca or 1-877-378-6123

HSR: <http://www.hamilton.ca/hsr> or 905-546-2424 x1882 (905 527 4441 for automated information)

COMPASS: www.msumcmaster.ca/compass or 905-525-9140 x21000

GO TRANSIT: <http://www.go transit.com/> or 1-888-438-6646

Personal Note: As a senior, I found the setting up of the PRESTO awkward and inconvenient and using it did take getting used to but I am glad I switched as I find using PRESTO much more convenient and I save a lot of money.

YOUR HEALTH

Understanding your Retiree Health Benefits: Sun Life Hearing Aid Coverage is for Both Ears

When claiming reimbursement from Sun Life for hearing aids, retirees should be aware that reimbursement for those with hearing aid coverage is not limited to only one hearing aid. If hearing aids are prescribed for both ears Sun Life should reimburse you for both aids, according to the terms of most retiree benefit plans.

MURA has heard recently that Sun Life has often reimbursed retirees for only one hearing aid in cases where the retiree purchased (and had a prescription for) two hearing aids. Retirees who inquired about this with Sun Life were often misinformed and told that McMaster's policy was to provide reimbursement for only one hearing aid.

The university retiree benefit plans vary greatly with regard to reimbursement for hearing aids. The plans for more recent salaried retirees provide reimbursement up to a maximum amount every 3 benefit years, while older salaried plans and most hourly plans restrict coverage to hearing aids required as a result of accidents.

Whatever your coverage, it applies to both ears. For example, your plan may state "We will cover 75% of the costs of hearing aids prescribed by an ear, nose and throat specialist, up to a maximum of \$500 per person over a period of 3 benefit years. Repairs are included in this maximum. In those cases where hearing aids for both ears are prescribed, the claimant may receive reimbursement for the second hearing aid under the same conditions." Reimbursement in this case is for up to \$500 per hearing aid, depending on the cost of the aids; e.g. a maximum of \$1000 with a prescription for two hearings aids.

MURA has been informed that Sun Life has recently reviewed hearing aid claims back to 2010 and reprocessed as needed. They will also be doing monthly audits going forward. If you have had a prescription for two hearing aids and received only reimbursement for one aid from your retiree benefit plan, Sun Life should have contacted you in early June and provided you with an additional amount. If you think you qualify and have not received this additional reimbursement from Sun Life, please contact your HR advisor at 905-525-9140, extension 22247 (222HR)

For information about your benefits and Sun Life coverage check your benefits plan booklet (booklets for most plans are available online at

<http://www.workingatmcmaster.ca/retirees>), contact Human Resources Services at 905-525-9140, Ext. 22247, or call Sun Life at 1-800-361-6212.



MURA EXECUTIVE and COUNCIL 2012-13

Honorary President Arthur Bourns

Executive

President: Marianne Walters
Vice President: Mary Johnston
Past President: Joe Laposa
Treasurer: Beth Csordas
Secretary: Wayne Rouse

Councillors

Serving until 2014: Kathy Heywood
Janice Rischke
Harold Siroonian

Serving until 2015: Helen Barton
Dianne Coventry
Linda Grocott

Serving until 2016 Brian Beckberger
Betty Ann Levy
Shari Mercer

Consultants and Delegates

Salaried Pension Trust Committee: Bob West
Hourly Pension Plan Committee: Cliff Andrews
University Board of Governors: Betty Ann Levy
Chair, Pensions & Benefits: pending
Chair, *MURAnews*: Kathy Overholt
Web Site: Marianne Van der Wel, Patricia Chang

2013 MURA AGM

MURA's 28th Annual General Membership meeting and luncheon was held on June 4th, 2013. You can view the slide show capturing the day's events on the MURA website at <http://mcmaster-retirees.ca/s/3.html>

A light lunch was provided by Paradise Catering.

McMaster researcher, Mick Bhatia addressed the AGM with a presentation entitled Human Stem Cells: Biology and Applications Towards the Clinic.



While describing a future where stem-cells may be used to treat a number of serious health problems, Dr. Bhatia warned MURA members to use common sense and healthy skepticism when reading reports in the news media and on the web. Advertisements for products purportedly based on stem cells are especially suspect. He warned us to beware of "stem cell snake oil".

After giving the audience a primer on stem cells and what makes them special, Mick described ground-

breaking stem-cell research by his team at McMaster. Work at McMaster and elsewhere points to a future where the best stem cell therapy may use Pluripotent Stem Cell lines derived from human skin. He also described how stem cells might be used in the future for cancer treatment and to evaluate new drugs.

MURA thanks Dr. Bhatia for a very entertaining and informative talk.

NEWS FROM MURA MEMBERS

Dundas Seniors Day - Sept. 14, 2013

A day of events to celebrate seniors, hosted by the Dundas Division, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce.

The event will be at the Dundas Lions Memorial Community Centre (Hatt St. entrance) Dundas, with the entertainment starting at 3:30 p.m. For \$12 there is bingo, dinner, and music during and after dinner. Contact MURA member Pam Penny at penny@mcmaster.ca or 905-627-0463 for more information. Tickets go on sale Aug. 9th at Scotiabank (University Plaza) or Dundas Community Services

MURAnews ONLINE

Help keep our budget in check! If you receive *MURAnews* via the post, you can save MURA postage and printing costs by reading it online instead. Some MURA members prefer to read *MURAnews* on paper rather than on a computer screen. If this is your preference, please consider going to the online version of *MURAnews* on the MURA web site and printing a copy on your own printer. This will save MURA the cost of an envelope and postage - money that can then be used for another purpose to serve MURA members.



To try the online version of *MURAnews*, go to <http://mcmaster-retirees.ca/MURAnews.2012-13.html>. We hope that you like what you see!

To switch to the online version of *MURAnews*, please phone Linda Grocott at 905-689-7520 or email her at grocott@mcmaster.ca.

HONORARY DOCTORATE FOR FORMER MURA PRESIDENT

John Paul (Jack) Evans is now an honorary Doctor of Laws of McMaster University. On Friday, June 14, Chancellor L.R. Wilson, on the recommendation of the University Senate, conferred the degree on our former MURA President (1995/96; 1996/97). The citation was made by Dean Charlotte Yates of the Faculty of Social Sciences.



Moving from the University of Toronto in 1966 Jack became McMaster's Registrar. During his 25 years in administration at McMaster he also served as Secretary of the Senate, Assistant Vice-President, Secretary of the Board of Governors, and Associate Vice-President (University Services).

His work on behalf of students was stellar. He established the student government/administration consultation committee as a regular discussion forum that brought together senior officers of the University and student leaders. In his other major role at McMaster, what might be called that of chief recording office (Registrar, Secretary of Senate, Secretary of the Board), Jack Evans, for years was probably the best informed person on campus on the workings of the University's governing bodies. Since retirement in 1991 he has provided valuable service on the executive of MURA. We thank him again and we congratulate him on this well deserved recognition by the University.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

Catholic Family Services (CFS) Senior Volunteer Program

The CFS Senior volunteer program is a social support network for seniors by seniors.

Seniors in need are given the opportunity to talk by telephone with volunteers in their own age group who are trained in informal counseling, effective listening, communication and problem solving skills, exploring alternatives, the referral process and community resources. The volunteers use a self-help approach in assisting clients through difficult phases of their lives such as loneliness, marital separation, loss of spouse and health concerns.

CFS is actively recruiting volunteers for this program.

- Training is provided
- Contact **905-527-3823 x298 or x292** for details

Senior Peer Volunteer Requirements

- Volunteers must be 50+, available to provide weekly phone contact to assist seniors 60+ in our community by providing guidance, assisting in connecting with appropriate resources and non-professional counseling on a one to one basis
- Volunteers are required to commit approximately 2-3 hours per week for this position, working at CFS office

Catholic Family Services of Hamilton (CFS) is a non-profit charitable organization that provides services to the community in such diverse areas as credit counseling, abuse and violence intervention and prevention, senior self-neglect, employee assistance programs and personal counseling.

Information about the CFS and its programs is available at <http://www.cfshw.com/> or by phone at 905-527-3823.

S.H.A.R.E. - Seniors Helping Advance Research Excellence - how you can SHARE and contribute to the development of knowledge and education for the future

S.H.A.R.E. is a volunteer research group initiated by Dr. Ellen Ryan, and administered by the Gilbrea Centre for Studies in Aging at McMaster University

Anyone over the age of 60 can be a member of S.H.A.R.E.

Some S.H.A.R.E. members are volunteers who live near the university and come in to participate in a variety of research projects. Other S.H.A.R.E. members who live in various parts of Canada complete questionnaires in their own homes.

S.H.A.R.E. volunteers are asked to take part an average of 2-3 times a year. Participation is voluntary and you are not required to participate in specific projects if you choose not to.

All information is used for research purposes only, and kept strictly confidential.

There is no cost to participate as a member of S.H.A.R.E.

To become a S.H.A.R.E. member complete and submit the registration form available at <http://www.aging.mcmaster.ca/about-us-1/share>, or call S.H.A.R.E. at the Gilbrea Centre for Studies in Aging, 905-525-9140, ext. 24449.

Researchers in Bone and Muscle Health are looking for women aged 65 to 75, who have had a bone density scan in the past 3 years, to participate in a study of lower leg muscle and bone structure and function. Participation involves one visit to St. Joseph's Healthcare to have their lower leg scanned with MRI and pQCT, two non-invasive tests to measure bone and muscle; and one visit to McMaster University. Parking expenses are paid. Please contact Amanda Lorbergs at 905-818-7258 or lorberal@mcmaster.ca

SALARIED PENSION PLAN REPORT MURA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

by Bob West

What is the financial condition of our pension plan?

The last actuarial valuation of the pension plan on July 1, 2011 showed a deficiency of approximately \$168 million. This is a large amount, but not out of line with many other pension plans. There are several reasons for the deficiency, among them:

- The fallout from the 2008/2009 world financial crisis which saw negative investment returns of 11.6% in 2008 and 3.98% in 2009
- The artificially low interest rates (which still prevail today) that were used to calculate the plan liabilities (lower rates equates to higher liabilities) and thus the higher assets needed by the plan
- The good news, retirees are living and collecting pensions for a longer time

How is this being dealt with?

- The University is required and has been making substantial additional contributions to the plan. Because of the unusual situation, the Province has allowed these payments to be spread over a longer periods
- The University has negotiated changes to the early retirement "Rule of 80" up to a new "Rule of 90" for faculty
- The Province has proposed consolidating the assets of Ontario University pension plans to reduce costs and provide access to wider range of investment to improve investment returns. The plan was outlined in the "Morneau" report in the fall of 2012 but no legislation to enact its recommendations has yet been introduced

The success of these measures will be determined by the next actuarial valuation due as of July 1, 2014. To its credit, the University is attempting to keep a defined benefit pension plan when other employers have converted to a defined contribution plan which has much less certainty for employees.

Will we ever see another increase in our pension?

The January increase (if any) each year is calculated as the excess of the average investment returns for the 5 years ended the previous June, over 4.5%. The last increase received was in January 2009. No increases have been given from 2010 to 2013 as the 5 year average includes the negative returns in 2008 and 2009. Any increase is restricted to the average increase in the Consumer Price Index over the same 5 year period.

In order to receive an increase in January 2014, it would be necessary to earn investment returns of at least 9% for the year ended June 30, 2013. Investment returns for the first 9 months of this period have been good and I am cautiously optimistic that a modest increase in January 2014 is possible. Increases beyond 2014 are more likely as the large 11.69% negative return of 2008 will drop out of the 5 year average.

HOURLY PENSION PLAN UPDATE

Cliff Andrews reported at the Annual General Meeting that the Hourly Pension Plan continues in a struggling condition, but he feels that it is on the cusp of receiving indexing. This year the plan earnings were +12.1%. Such good results could mean that the hourly pensioners will see an increase in the next few years.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Diane Allen, Social Work
Dr. Singh Balraj, Physics & Astronomy
Ms Elizabeth Bayley, Health Sciences Library
Ms. Jeannette Baynton, Family Medicine
Dr. Larry Belbeck, Pathology & Molecular Medicine
Ms. Francese (Gerry) Benson, School of Nursing
Mrs Anne-Marie Cholewka, School of Nursing
Ms. Susan Chrolavicius, Medicine
Mrs. Nancy Clark, Chemistry
Mr. Vincent Condon, Bookstore
Mrs Laura Diskin, Pathology & Molecular Medicine
Mrs. Linda Eccles, Medicine
Mrs. Remedios (Medy) Espiritu, School of Graduate Studies
Dr. Anita Fisher, School of Nursing
Ms. Mary Gilbert, Pediatrics
Mrs. Stephanie Hellewell, Medicine
Mrs. Diane Haughton, Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics
Ms. Rosita Jordan, Anthropology
Mr. Michael Ladouceur, School of Nursing
Dr. Peter McCabe, Economics
Mrs. Muriel McKay, Centre for Continuing Education
Miss. Kelly McKee, Security
Mr Shengmin Pang, Nuclear Reactor
Ms. Christine Patterson, School of Nursing
Dr. Gladys Peachey, School of Nursing
Ms. Brigida Pileggi, Hospitality Services
Mrs. Maria Ribeiro, Hospitality Services
Ms. Rosalie Russo, Medicine
Mrs. Sindy Santucci, Hospitality Services
Mrs Arlene Joy Scopaz, Pathology & Molecular Medicine
Mrs Marcia Ann Settle, University Library
Ms. Halina Sinkins, Health Sciences Education Services
Ms. Susan Stansbury, Medicine
Ms. Norma Sullivan, University Technology Services
Dr. Peter Sutherland, Faculty of Science
Mr Joseph Michael Szucsik, University Library
Mr. James Thomas, Nuclear Reactor
Mrs Lorna May Turcotte, University Library
Mr Nicholas Vander Vliet, Nuclear Reactor
Mrs. Mary Wass, Human Resources - Payroll
Dr. Mary Susan Watt, Social Work
Mr. David Watters, Facility Services
Dr. Pingchang Yang, Pathology & Molecular Medicine.

RECENT PASSINGS

Mrs. Joyce (Joy) Bâby-Carson, Financial Services, July 14/13
Mr. Robert Bignell, Geography & Earth Science, May 25/13
Miss Regina Busko, Hospitality Services, Nov. 6/12
Mrs. Delia Chalut, School of Graduate Studies, May 17/13
Mrs. Edna Cutler, Geology, July 6/13
Mr. John Hickey, Bookstore, Apr. 18/13
Dr. John (Jack) Kirkaldy, Engineering Physics, Apr. 17/13
Dr. Stephen E. O'Brien, Surgery, Apr. 17/13
Dr. John Trueman, History, June 15/13

Mrs. Sally Waldes, Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Apr. 15/13
Dr. Donald Woods, Chemical Engineering, Apr. 26/13
Dr. Charles A. Woolever, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Mar. 27/13.

MAC ID PASSWORD CHANGES

University Technology Services (UTS) has recently changed the rules for MAC ID passwords to a new, more secure standard. You will be unable to use your MAC ID if you have not changed your password to fit the new standard since February 19, 2013.

In addition, MAC ID passwords will now expire after 12 months from the last password change date.

A MAC ID provides authentication to applications such as Univmail, LibAccess, the campus Wi-Fi network, McAuth, and the VPN.

(Your MAC ID is not your 7-digit employee number. It is an identifier that usually includes part or all of your surname. For retirees using a McMaster email account, it's the userid portion of your email address userid@mcmaster.ca)

The UTS online password change tool and a description of the new requirements are available at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/macid/index.html>

UTS recommends clearing all saved instances of a MAC ID password before changing it. Saved passwords are often found in, for example, email programs on computers and Wi-Fi logins on smartphones. See the 'Clearing Saved MAC ID Password Guide' at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/macid/clearpwds/index.html>.

Please contact UTS at 905-525-9140, extension 24357 or by email at uts@mcmaster.ca if you have questions or encounter difficulties.



MURA Christmas Lunch

Mark **Wednesday, December 4th, 2013** on your calendar for MURA's annual Christmas Lunch.

The lunch will be held in the CIBC Banquet Hall on the 3rd floor of the Student Centre on the McMaster campus.

Look for more details and a reservation form in the Fall issue of *MURAnews*.

"THE LIGHT IN THE PIAZZA"

Tuesday, September 24, 2013

Pillar and Post Hotel: Our day will begin with a delicious buffet lunch at this 5 star country inn, located in the beautiful Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"The Light in the Piazza": After lunch we make our way to the Shaw Festival Theatre for a matinee performance of "The Light in the Piazza". A glorious musical story set in Italy in the summer of 1953. Margaret is touring the Tuscan countryside with her daughter, Clara. While sightseeing, Clara has a chance encounter with Fabrizio, a handsome Florentine, and they fall in love. Margaret tries to keep them apart to protect her daughter, who isn't what she seems.

Departs: Hamilton, Fortino's 1579 Main St. West., East end of Parking Lot closest to Boston Pizza at 10:15am



Buffet
lunch
included

\$145 Per Person

Includes:

- Buffet lunch
- Ticket to show
- Luxury motor coach transportation
- HST

Please post-date cheques to Aug 1, 2013 and make payable to MURA.

OKTOBERFEST

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Oktoberfest at Concordia Club: Come along with us today to the Concordia Club in Kitchener for an afternoon of Oktoberfest celebration! While we are at the hall we will enjoy an Oktoberfest buffet lunch. You will also receive a free souvenir mug and your first beer on the house! Perhaps enjoy a few more while you sit back and enjoy a special Oktoberfest entertainment program. It's sure to be a wunderbar afternoon!

Departs: Hamilton, Fortino's 1579 Main St. West., East end of Parking Lot closest to Boston Pizza at 10:15am



Buffet
lunch
included

\$76 Per Person

Includes:

- Buffet lunch
- Free souvenir mug and one beer
- Luxury motor coach transportation
- HST

Please post-date cheques to Sept 10, 2013 and make payable to MURA.

"WHITE CHRISTMAS" Thursday, November 28, 2013

Crossroads Family Restaurant: Sit back and enjoy a buffet lunch full of delicious home-cooked comfort foods. Top it all off with a dessert, coffee or tea.

"White Christmas": After lunch we will take in a matinee performance of "White Christmas" at the St. Jacobs Country Playhouse. In this holiday postcard, two showbiz buddies try to help their old army General, now a struggling inn-keeper in Vermont, save his Inn and lift his holiday spirits. Make your days merry and bright by warming to this unforgettable musical about love, friendship, and loyalty.

Departs: Hamilton, Fortino's 1579 Main St. West., East end of Parking Lot closest to Boston Pizza at 10:45am



Buffet
lunch
included

\$97 Per Person

Includes:

- Buffet lunch
- Ticket to show
- Luxury motor coach transportation
- HST

Please post-date cheques to Oct 15, 2013 and make payable to MURA.

MURA TRIPS

For more information, please contact Shari Mercer at 905-336-5568 or mercers@mcmaster.ca.

Mail your cheque, payable to MURA and booking form to Shari Mercer, 1502-477 Elizabeth Street, Burlington, Ontario, L7R 2M3.

Please use the booking forms on page 10 of this newsletter to register for trips.



BOOKING FORMS FOR MURA TRIPS

To book any of the following trips, please complete and mail the relevant section of this form, along with a cheque payable to McMaster University Retirees Association or MURA, to **Shari Mercer, 1502-477 Elizabeth Street, Burlington, Ontario, L7R 2M3.** You can reach Shari by phone: 905-336-5568 or email: mercercs@mcmaster.ca for more information.

September 24, 2013

Niagara-on-the Lake, *The Light in the Piazza*

\$145.00 per person - post date cheques to August 1, 2013 payable to MURA

of persons: Amount (# persons X \$145) \$:

Name:.....

Address:.....

Postal Code: Telephone #: email address:

October 16, 2013

Kitchener, Octoberfest

\$76.00 per person - post date cheques to September 10, 2013 payable to MURA

of persons: Amount (# persons X \$76) \$:

Name:.....

Address:.....

Postal Code: Telephone #: email address:

November 28, 2013

St. Jacobs, *White Christmas*

\$97.00 per person - post date cheques to October 15, 2013 payable to MURA

of persons: Amount (# persons X \$97) \$:

Name:.....

Address:.....

Postal Code: Telephone #: email address: