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UMMRA Info

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University of Minnesota, Morris Retirees' Association

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UMMRA INFO

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS RETIREES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
VOLUME II, NUMBER 3, WINTER, 2000

CHANCELLOR'S GREETING

It is a delight to welcome back the UMMRA for the 1999-2000 academic year. After an astonishingly short summer, due to the semester conversion process, we are on the verge of our first ever semester—and the last one of the twentieth century!

This should be a full and interesting year for our college. Not only is our calendar switching to two 15 week terms, but much of our curriculum has been altered to conform to the new academic pace. And, of course, this fall we are inaugurating the new Freshman Common Course, replacing the old Inquiry offering after a two year interim. This year should see the completion of much of the ongoing construction on campus; the visitation of the North Central Association accreditation team in the spring; and several important administrative searches.

I look forward to working with you again this year, and welcome and appreciate your continuing contributions to UMM.

Sam

*Samuel Schuman
Interim Chancellor*

REMINDER ON DUES

Have you paid your 1999-2000 dues yet? If not, they can still be mailed to Ellen Ordway or paid at the October 13 luncheon at the Prairie Inn. Cost is still \$5.00 per person or \$10 per couple.

T-SHIRT CAPER CONTINUED

The maroon and gold T-shirts are still available—especially in sizes XL and M. They will be for sale at the October luncheon for \$10 payable to UMMRA. They can be ordered by mail for \$13 payable to UMMRA and sent to Ellen Ordway or Dolores Lammers.

FIRST UMMRA LUNCHEON

If you attended the Spring luncheon you noticed the need for a larger meeting place. So, Charlotte Eul has planned the event at the Prairie Inn in the Cougar Room. Cindy Perkins from Morris Community Education will join us on Wednesday, October 13 at noon and bring us up to date on the Regional Fitness Center. As always, you pay your own check..

REGIONAL FITNESS CENTER

The grand opening/dedication of the RFC is scheduled for Saturday, October 16, during

homecoming weekend. Doris Benson from UMMRA is on the subcommittee to make the arrangements for the ceremony. We plan to be part of the celebration with our new UMMRA banner and bright T-shirts. People will know we are there and excited about the new facility. Final plans will be given at the October luncheon.

Brad Pickle is the manager of RFC and can be reached at the Community Ed office at 589-4394. Necessary information on cost, parking, etc. is in the Fall Booklet from that organization. If you didn't receive one they are available at the Com. Ed. Office.

CHANCELLOR SEARCH

The Chancellor Search Committee is on schedule according to the following timetable: October 1: Meeting of the Search Committee, credential screening exercise, begin screening of credentials; October 17: Meeting of the Search Committee, select 12-15 candidates for reference checking; November: Reference checking and telephone or off-campus interviews; December: Campus visit by finalists; January 15: Target date for final report to the president.

HERITAGE PRESERVERS 2000

Heritage Preservers 2000 is still in the formative stage but the signs are hopeful! Jane Cunningham, Program Officer of the Minnesota Humanities Commission, spent September 8-9 in Morris, presenting two workshops and assisting members of the Steering Committee with the next grant proposal. Phyllis Gausman organized a workshop for potential moderators of National Issues Forums, to which a large and enthusiastic group of people came, and then an equally impressive group turned out for a workshop on reading aloud to older adults, sponsored by Leona Classen and The Saga Spinners. The second group included ten students and two teachers from Chokio-Alberta High School. Many UMM retirees participated in both sessions.

The tentative schedule of activities for Heritage Preservers 2000 comprises six events: a program sponsored by the Stevens County Historical Society (February); a poet reading aloud, sponsored by The Saga Spinners (March); a Mark Twain impersonation as part of the Senior Center's "Heritage Days" (April); and then three National Issues Forums (April and May) on topics related to aging which are likely to be central to the 2000 national election campaign.

Our UMMRA president, Bettina Blake, is the 2000 Heritage Preservers Project Director.

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR HEALTH CARE

Open enrollment for health insurance is from October 1 to October 31. There will be a meeting on October 12 (Tuesday) from 8 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. in the Alumni and University Rooms on the UMM campus. Representatives from each of the providers will be there. Presentations will be from 8:30 to 9:30, questions from 9:30 to 10:30. Sarah Mattson says that retirees are welcome and should find the information helpful.

MORRIS SENIOR CENTER

You can receive a newsletter from the Center by calling Judy Nord at 589-2951. It contains information that can be valuable; such as:

55 ALIVE DRIVING CLASS;

Nov. 4 and 5, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. (8 hours)

Nov. 12, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. (refresher course)

FLU SHOTS;

Oct. 6, 12:30 to 4:30

Oct. 13, 1 to 4 P.M.

Oct. 20, 12:30 to 4:30

Judy's word to the wise! Try water aerobics—you'll like it. The water is warm and the exercise is great. (Note: With three classes scheduled at RFC and the schedule at the Chokio pool, you can exercise every day except Friday and Saturday.)

SAD NEWS

Joyce Cain, 57, died on August 1. She worked at UMM from 1961 to 1997. Several UMMRA members and UMM colleagues were honorary pallbearers.

Dennis Warnes, 66, died on September 16. He was a Research Agronomist at the West Central Experiment Station for more than 26 years. Current and retired WCES faculty and staff served as pallbearers and honorary pallbearers.

Bruce McGrew, 61, died on August 10 in Oracle, Arizona. He was a professor of art at the University of Arizona for 33 years. Bruce taught at UMM from 1964 to 1966. Joanne and Harold Anderson, from Morris, have stayed in touch with Bruce and Joy and had visited them last January in Oracle.

Our sympathy to Pete, Evelyn, Joy and their families.

RAIN FOREST AND ELDERHOSTEL

Ellen Ordway took a 2-week Elderhostel trip to the Peruvian Amazon and its rain forest in July. International Expeditions arranged the transportation, accommodations, guides, and one week aboard a river boat that cruised up the Amazon and some of its tributaries. The weather was great, and the plants,

animals, river people, and scenery were a biologist's dream come true. Elderhostel gave the group a well organized and most informative experience.

UMMRA HEADQUARTERS AT UMM

Our office is located in Humanities, Room 14. Our telephone number is 589-6284.

UMMRA BANNER

At the September 23 board meeting members saw the UMMRA banner for the first time. Vernard Brown did a great job and it will be a focal point of the RFC Grand Opening. Thank you to Avis Brandt for her coordination of the project. Avis will also do the planning for the Retirees Reunion 2000 next May. It will be on the same day as the Faculty/Staff Recognition Dinner. Final plans will be in the next newsletter.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The UMM Capital Campaign will kick off with a gala event on Friday, October 15, with a visit from President Mark Yudof. The time is 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. at Oyate Hall. Doris Benson was approved by the UMMRA Board as the staff representative for the campaign and Bettina Blake as the faculty representative. Everyone is invited.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Heritage Preservers received national "honorable mention" in *The Deliberator*: 1999 Public Policy Institute's publication by the Kettering Foundation.

HAPPENINGS NEAR AND FAR

Lois Lovig: Lois and Arvid celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last year in Alexandria.

Norma Thorp: Norma has gone high tech with a satellite dish and a computer. Her e-mail is: nlthorp@ibm.net.

Lila Watson: Lila spends much of the winter in Florida but is back in Hancock during the summer.

Donna Scarborough: Donna is enjoying her new home in Hudson, Wisconsin. She volunteers with a kindergarten and first grade class where she is known as "Gramma Donna".

Mercedes Ballou: Mercedes sends greetings to fellow retirees and is keeping busy in the Bonita Springs area of Florida.

Verna Teberg: Verna has spent the summer going from one family reunion to another.

DATES TO REMEMBER

UMMRA Luncheon: Oct. 13, (Prairie Inn)

RFC Grand Opening: Oct. 16 (UMMRA will assemble as a group at 10:45 in the lobby of RFC wearing their maroon and gold T-shirts).

Homecoming: Oct. 15-17..