



NEWSLETTER Volume: 2
Date: September 29, 1998

Steering Committee:

- Doreen Badgero
- Tom Bell
- Marilyn Cairns
- Roy Carlson
- Harry Evans (Treasurer) 461-0989
- George Suart
- John Walkley (Chair) 929-6532

Benefits:

- Marilyn Cairns
- Lionel Funt
- Ron Ramsay

Constitution: Nominating Committee:

- Tom Bell
- Marilyn Cairns
- Harry Evans (Chair)
- Marvin Stark

Newsletter:

- Doreen Badgero

Recruitment:

- Tom Bell
- Harry Evans
- George Suart

Upcoming Calendar:

- October 20th General Meeting, Election of Executive Board
- October 20th Fall Dinner
- November ____ Lunch Speaker – Income Tax, Date to be arranged
- December ____ Diamond Club Christmas Lunch (Check with Deborah @ 291-4794, DUC)

Chair's Comments:

We are now one year old! True we became a recognized Association with its very own Constitution a mere three months ago, but we are into our second Fall (semester, remember them?) Dinner.

We now have 152 paid up members and our Association is well (enviously?) accepted within the University Community. We are getting a good sign-up from the new batch of retirees and all augers well for the future of our Association.

We have made a good start and I would like to thank the Steering Committee for all the work they have done over the past year. Many of these good folk are not standing for election to our first "Executive Board". They have, however, brought into being a much needed thing – an organization that can do things for us Retirees and make sure that our busy lives get even busier! Our thanks for a job well done!

One of our most pressing problems is that of suitable on-campus parking, the new C-lot (middle level) pay parking offers a small improvement. Even the drive/getting to campus is itself a discouragement to our getting together. (Hey, remember trying to get off campus when the place had been closed early because of a snowfall?) Perhaps we need to organize some socially interactive events off campus in the localities in which we live? Anyone volunteer to be a local coordinator (pot-luck dinners, visit to local bowling alley, pool hall, theatre Coffee morning)

What is new? Election of our first Executive Board, the Fall Association Dinner, Thursday "Round Table" lunches and a lunch time speaker to give us hints on filling in that income tax form!

Have fun, ain't life great? Read on.



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Retirees Association

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General Meeting of Members; April 27th 1998:

The meeting was called to order by John Walkley (as Chair) at 6:00 p.m. prompt with some 48 members present. In his introduction remarks JW first thanked the members of the Steering Committee for their very considerable help over the past six months and expressed a very special note of thanks to Harry Evans, George Suart and Marvin Stark for the work they had done in getting "The Constitution" together. JW went on to explain that the main business of the meeting was to get the Constitution of the SFURA ratified by the members present so we can then apply to get our society registered under the B.C. Societies Act. The implied legality of such registration is also the reason why the Steering Committee had made one major change to the Constitution.

In the Constitution as presented for ratification Part 1; Section 2; Clause (f) has been changed in wording from "to continually review retirement and other benefits and to recommend changes as required" to **"to encourage the University and its various employee groups to take into account requirements of its retirees."**

In answer to a question (Lionel Funt) the Chair explained that though this change will allow the Association to examine its considerations of a wider range of retiree concerns, it will not expand the work of the present Benefits committee. Other individuals will be asked to examine concerns as they are brought to our notice. Ratification of the Constitution was quickly moved and voted upon.

A later question (Charles Hamilton) raised the issue of using the experience and wisdom of us retirees in University business (committees, working groups, temporary employee replacements, etc.)

The Chair agreed that this is a valuable role for our members and that this concern will be examined. With quick dispatch the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Spring Semester Dinner:

Held on the same evening as the first General Meeting of the (original) Association, our second retirees dinner was a great success. As our "after dinner" speaker, President Jack Blaney wisely spoke before we moved into the pleasing buffet provided for us by those excellent persons at "the Club". We had asked President Blaney (Jack to us) to bring us up to date on the many new things happening at our University. New to most of us, was to hear the plans for the "coming soon" University Village. We all wish the university well in this project.

Jack's short address was upbeat and matched the mood of the moment as retirees and their guests had previously enjoyed a noisy 'cocktail' hour which allowed all of us to catch up on who is doing what now. It is astonishing how busy most of us are! Neither does retirement dull our gastronomic appetites, as after Jack's encouraging words, the excellent buffet dinner was demolished in record time. We thank the staff of the Club for a most pleasant evening.

Retirees Round Table at The Club:

The Club is in the process of examining its very continuance. Whilst it is recognized that the Club performs an extremely valuable role for the University, its support from the University community was too low to guarantee it a secured financial future. Changes made for the month of August suggest a better cash flow can be achieved, it is hoped that this may continue securing for the Club a sound financial future. We retirees can help by visiting the Club and, say, enjoying a pleasant lunch. We are suggesting a "Retirees Round Table". Come and lunch in the Club on a Thursday from 1:00 onwards and meet some friends at the "Retirees Round Table". No reservation needed – your lunch buys you a club membership if you are not already a member! New Club rules, you pay for your lunch plus gratuities at the time it is partaken!

Fall Dinner:

The Association's Fall Dinner will be held in the Diamond Club on Tuesday, October 20th. This dinner will be held in conjunction with the General Meeting. Programme: --

5:15 pm	Cocktail Hour (Members & Guests)
6:15 pm	General Meeting (Members only)
7:00 pm	Buffet Dinner (Members & Guests)

The cost of the dinner will be \$22.00 (dinner plus GST, PST and gratuity). Please phone Deborah (291-4794) to book your place at dinner BEFORE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17th. The \$22.00 cost of dinner will be collected by us "at the door". Remember, the Club NO LONGER CHARGES ANYTHING TO YOUR CLUB MEMBERSHIP NUMBER. Please bring cash (we can't afford to accept Visa, Mastercard or etc.!) Parking – limited parking outside Diamond Club and PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE ORANGE CONES DENOTE PARKING SPACE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SPECIAL NEED FOR PARKING CLOSE TO THE FRONT DOOR OF THE CLUB!

Parking is also available in C-lot. You need a Diamond Club parking permit – collect this from the Club before you park.

General Meeting; October 20th:

A General Meeting of all members is called for Tuesday, October 20th at 6:15 pm in the Diamond University Club. The purpose of the meeting is to elect the Executive Board of this Association (term of office from day of election until the AGM to be called in the Spring of 1999). As we are past the date of nominations for election, the 6 candidates now nominated will be presented for election by acclamation at this General Meeting. The Constitution of this Association calls for the election of 6 persons to the Executive Board and allows these elected members to:

i) appoint up to two other persons to the Board – IF THEY SO WISH, and
ii) from amongst those on the Executive Board elect the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer of this Association.

Come to the General Meeting, vote and then stay on for the Fall dinner!
(Remember to book your Fall dinner reservation in advance).

The Constitution:

The Steering Committee would like to express its gratitude to all members of the Association for the expeditious way in which they dealt with the ratification of the Constitution at the Spring General Meeting. Harry (Evans) then fought lengthy (and sometimes almost hilarious) battles with many bureaucrats and eventually got us duly registered under the Society Act of B.C. Thank you Harry, only someone who survived Senate meetings of the '60's and 70's' would have done what you did with such consummate wit and charm (not to say cunning).

DID YOU KNOW??

1. Downtown Seniors Programme
2. B C SEN. – BC Ferries are free Mon → Thur (ex. hol.)
3. Extension Credit Programs:
Did you know that Simon Fraser University offers credit and credit-free courses specifically for the older adult?

Each Fall and Spring, SFU at Harbour Centre offers credit courses for adults aged 60 and over. Courses may also be selected from regular University offerings at both the Burnaby

Campus and at Harbour Centre during the day and evening all three semesters. Courses may be applied toward the Senior Citizens Certificate, a degree program, or for interest. Current admission requirements apply. Credit courses are tuition free.

SFU at Harbour Centre also offers credit-free courses for adults aged 55 and over every Fall and Spring. Courses on religion, poetry, art history and more have been taught by qualified instructors (including retired SFU faculty!) Call 291-5212 to add your name to our mailing list. The Spring offerings will be available in late October. Modest course fees apply for credit-free courses.

Contact Cindy Lister, Seniors Advisor, for more information @ 291-5094.

4. The Archives needs help. The last complete remaining run of *The Peak* newspaper is disintegrating and is badly in need of microfilming. Before the age of electronic e-mail forums, faculty and staff shared the pages of *The Peak* with students to make their opinions heard. Please make a tax-deductible donation to help Preserve *The Peak* and SFU's history. Make cheques payable to SFU (Peak Fund) and send to Development Office, Strand Hall, Simon Fraser University, 8888 University Drive, Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6. We welcome donations in any amount. Questions? Please

contact Frances Fournier in the Archives, 291-5607.

5. Parking. The University has developed the following policy with respect to all day parking and parking permits. Further discussion is aimed at extending the day parking situation to shorter periods.

Two parking mechanisms are available to retired SFU faculty and staff for parking at SFU Burnaby Campus. Retired persons may choose either to continue to purchase faculty/staff permits or take advantage of a special daily parking rate at the visitors parkade.

Retirees of SFU requiring full time parking arrangements may select from any of those parking permit types generally available to faculty and continuing staff members. These permits may be purchased by the month, at regular faculty/staff rates.

Retirees of SFU requiring part-time parking arrangements may elect to park at the attended visitors parkade. The hourly parking rate shall apply, however the maximum daily rate will be capped at 1/2 of the normal daily rate. Identification and proof of retiree status will need to be shown to the parkade attendant at the time of exit.

Senior bus passes for one year are \$45.00, contact 682-0391.

6. Travel Health Insurance. Horror stories abound concerning medical costs incurred through out-of-Canada problems. These include having no insurance, having insurance but a non-insured pre-existing condition, and not realising that the first call for cost of treatment involves the extended medical lifetime amount.

An organization called CARP (Canadian Association for Retired persons) is well worth joining because they associate themselves with companies which have retirees as an important concern; included in these, is a medical travel insurance company. The cost of joining CARP is \$16 per year which includes their magazine, phone 1-800-363-9736.

These problems can be avoided by selecting appropriate supplemental insurance coverage.

Other similar organizations exist, such as the Canadian Snowbird Association (1-800-265-3200) with single annual membership fees of \$10.00 (couples \$15.00) which includes their magazine and other benefits.

Let us know if you have had a good experience with other retiree associations and we'll print phone numbers in later editions of the SFURA Newsletter.

Accurate information is your best defence for avoiding horror stories in your retirement; and it is a continuing task to stay up to date on insurance coverage.

Anyone knowing of anything else of use to our membership please let us know.

Any letters to the Editor may be sent to:

Human Resources,
Simon Fraser University,
2180 Strand Hall,
8888 University Drive,
Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6

Where Have All the Grandmas Gone?

In the dim and distant past,
When the tempo wasn't fast
Grandma used to rock and knit
Crochet, tat and baby-sit.

When the kids were in a jam
They could always count on Gran.
In the days of gracious living
Grandma was the gal for giving.

But today she's in the gym
Exercising to keep slim.
She's off touring with the bunch
Or taking clients out to lunch.

She's gone north to ski or curl
All her days are in a whirl,
Nothing seems to stop or block her
Now that Grandma's off her rocker.