

SENIOR ALUMNI NEWS

Vol. 19, No. 4 April / May, 2013

Notice of Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition Day

Monday, May 6th, 2013, 1:30pm Room 179, main floor, west wing University College, University of Toronto

1:30pm Business Meeting

2:00pm Guest Speaker: Professor Donald McLean, Dean of the Faculty of Music,

University of Toronto

2:45pm Presentation of Volunteer Recognition Pins

3:00pm Reception, Croft Chapter House

Our AGM speaker this year is Professor Don McLean, Dean, Faculty of Music, U of T



We are delighted to announce that the speaker at the Senior Alumni Association's AGM on May 6 will be Professor Don McLean, Dean of the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto. He has held this position since January 2011 and with his colleagues there, is pursuing an ambitious program of renewal and expansion. He is a triple alumnus of the University, having earned his BA, MA and PhD all here, as well as qualifications from the Royal Conservatory of Music. His teach-

ing includes U of T between 1978 and 1989, before moving to Montreal to teach at McGill, where he spent 10 years as dean of the Schulich School of Music.

Professor McLean is renowned for his innovations in interdisciplinary teaching and research, and his success in infrastructure development. On that latter point, he outlined in an early interview some of his plans, including a makeover of the MacMillan Theatre to make it a better opera venue, which would create an opera-style horseshoe balcony and increased backstage and fly space. The inclusion of the Planetarium space is also an idea. New faculty already include such luminaries as Daniel Taylor. I hope he will share some of these plans with us!

Do join us at our AGM and stay for the reception afterwards in the Croft Chapter House, just down the hall.

Maureen Somerville, events chair



There's still time to register for many excellent lectures in our Canadian Perspective Lecture series. See:

http://alumni.utoronto.ca/alumni-groups/senior-alumni/

SAA volunteers give back in many ways!

Many of us in the "volunteer sector" (if you want to lump our little association into that demographic) often fret that volunteerism seems to be waning. It would be easy to point to the recent economic malaise, both local and global, and speculate that Canadians are just waiting for things to pick up before they feel secure enough to volunteer their "spare time".

There is no need to despair—we Canadians are a heartier lot! A recent report from Statistics Canada (*Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating* from data collected in 2010) shows that between 2007 and 2010, money donated and hours volunteered remained stable. In 2010, nearly 24 million people, or 84% of the population aged 15 and over, made a financial donation to a charitable or non-profit organization, for a total of \$10.6 billion. The ongoing success of U of T's Boundless Campaign is a clear reflection of this generosity.

At the same time, more than 13.3 million people, or 47% of the population, volunteered their time through a group or organization. Canadians volunteered nearly 2.1 billion hours in 2010!

And I can tell you that SAA volunteers are holding up their end of these statistics. On the back page you'll find a report of the hours our volunteers have donated to various projects at U of T. The report was prepared by Mary Vohryzek and June Pemberton, co-chairs of the Senior Alumni Volunteers with the assistance of Emma Duncan our administrative assistant. At our AGM, the financial report will summarize our income from the Canadian Perspective Lecture Series which we use to support student scholarships.

In recognition of the contribution of volunteers, April 22-27 is "National Volunteer Week" in Canada. The SAA recognizes its volunteers at our AGM with the Volunteer Recognition Pins.

So, if you're volunteering your time, attending our lectures, or making a financial donation—you're in good company.

Thank You!

Ihor Prociuk, editor



Senior Alumni Volunteer Opportunities

One of our objectives is to provide opportunities for senior alumni to serve the University. We hope you will try one of these opportunities.

Toronto Rehab Research Volunteer Pool



The need for rehabilitation research has never been greater...

- More than half of us will be touched by disability, either personally or through someone in our family.
- Seniors are the fastest growing population segment.
- There has been a recent rise in the prevalence of chronic disease.
- Over 3 million Canadians voluntarily care for someone affected by disability or aging.

You can help

By participating in research at the Toronto Rehab-UHN (University Health Network), you can be a part of advancing rehabilitation. Our discoveries are helping to:

- Speed up the return to home, work or school
- Allow people to live independently in their home longer
- Significantly improve use of impaired limbs with new treatments and technologies
- Ensure that healthcare is delivered in the best way possible
- Assist those who care for people with disabilities
- · Prevent injury and illness

Join the Research Volunteer Pool

People who join will help advance rehabilitation by participating in research studies at Rehab-UHN. If you enroll, a research staff member will contact you to get relevant information about you and your health. When a specific study matches your profile, researchers will contact you. You can choose whether or not you would like to participate. Remember...

- Enrollment is completely voluntary.
- All information is stored confidentially and will not be shared outside Rehab-UHN.
- Only Rehab-UHN researchers will contact you. You can say how often you would like to be contacted.
- Each time you are contacted you can choose whether or not you want to participate in that study. You will remain in the pool for other researchers to contact you again in the future.
- All Rehab-UHN research studies have been reviewed to ensure they meet the highest scientific and ethical standards.
- You can always change your mind if you no longer want to be contacted

For more information on the Toronto Rehab Research Volunteer Pool, please contact:

Toronto Rehab Patient Research Liaison 416-597-3422 ext. 7840 rehabresearch@uhn.ca



Events

REGISTER NOW!

U of T Spring Reunion: May 29 – June 2, 2013



If you graduated in a year ending in 8 or 3, this Spring Reunion is for you! You can stay up-to-date with all events hosted by your college, faculty or department, as well as U of T-wide events by going to:

http://springreunion.utoronto.ca/

Some 55 events (most of them free) are already scheduled. See:

http://springreunion.utoronto.ca/events.htm

You can subscribe to updates at:

http://springreunion.utoronto.ca/subscribe

Stop by the Senior Alumni Association information table in Alumni Hall on June 1!

Call 416-978-5881 or spring.reunion@utoronto.ca if you have any questions about the Spring Reunion.

Betty Carter, CAM, CGA



We are sad to announce the passing of Betty Carter on November 27, 2012 at the age of 92. She was the wife of the late Godfrey (Jerry) Carter for over 50 years and had two daughters, four grandsons and six great-grandchildren.

After 20 years on the U of T student loans committee, she turned her talents to the SAA. She became treasurer as soon as she joined in 2001 and held that position for five years.

Betty graduated with a Certificate in Business from Woodsworth College and volunteered as treasurer during the 1980s and 90s for their alumni association. A CGA (Certified General Accountant), Betty was treasurer/secretary of VTR Productions (producers of *King of Kensington*). Upon retirement she joined the Royal Ontario Museum as budget officer.

An English ex-pat (Cuckfield, Sussex), Betty came to Toronto in 1954, but maintained her lovely Sussex accent. Her interests ranged from yoga to reading, and the enjoyment of opera, ballet and theatre. Betty was an Arbor Award recipient.

A scholarship donation will be made by the SAA in honour of Betty's many years of service to the SAA and the University.

Now and then it's good to pause in our pursuit of happiness and just be happy.

Guillaume Apollinaire, French writer, poet and critic

Too often man handles life as he does the bad weather. He whiles away the time as he waits for it to stop.

Alfred Polgar, Austrian journalist

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President's Corner



When I last wrote, we were suffering double-digit sub-zero temperatures. And as I write this, we are still at double-digit sub-zero temperatures! The groundhogs were obviously wrong with their prognostication of an early spring! However, what is it they say about anticipation...?

We have an excellent line-up of speakers and topics for our Canadian Perspectives Series' ten spring lectures, so we hope to see you there. For those snowbirds returning from the sunny south, there is still time to sign up and join us. You can get a deal of 5 lectures for \$50 or select

individual lectures for \$15 each.

With the help of Alumni Relations, we have been working on a marketing plan for the SAA which includes reaching out to senior alumni via email, improving and updating our website and arranging for on-line registration/payment for our CP lecture series. Our very first on-line registration came from one of our alumnus while they were travelling in Whitehorse! I'd like to thank Barbara Dick, Satpal McCaughey, Anne Cobban, and Julia Knapp from Alumni Relations who worked with Kristine Thompson, Ihor Prociuk and Emma Duncan from the SAA to make the on-line registration happen.

We are also working on a stylish new brochure and a bookmark for distribution to better publicize the SAA–especially at events such as U of T Reunion.

Speaking of the 2013 U of T Reunion, campus events take place May 30th to June 2nd this year. The UTAA is holding its AGM in Convocation Hall on June 1, from 11:00am to 12:30pm, with our new Chancellor, the Hon. Michael Wilson, as keynote speaker. The annual BBQ will be held following the AGM in the big tent on the front campus. The SAA will have an information desk set up at Alumni House, so we hope you will stop by to say hello.

A reminder about our Annual General Meeting on Monday, May 6th at 1:30pm. Our guest speaker is Professor Donald McLean, Dean of the Faculty of Music, U of T, and a reception follows the meeting and speaker. Also upcoming, we have two trips to Stratford. The first trip is to see "Fiddler On The Roof" (our first musical) on Wednesday, June 12th with Mary Morton Tours. Information on both trips appears in the insert in this newsletter.

Sadly, we lost one of our great SAA volunteers a few months ago (see the opposite page). Betty Carter was our treasurer for many years and she was a delightful lady and a pleasure to have as one of our Executive members. We miss her at our meetings.

Hope to see you at the Spring lectures, SAA AGM, at Spring Reunion, at the UTAA AGM and on the bus to Stratford!

Wendy Talfourd-Jones, SAA President wendytj@alumni.utoronto.ca

By the time you're 80 years old, you've learned everything. You only have to remember it!

George Burns, American comedian

Sometimes the volunteer you're looking for shows up in the most unexpected places...

For many years, John Corkhill and Maurice Cooke co-chaired the "engineering mailing". Three times a year a group of SAA volunteers gathered to stuff envelopes for various Faculty of Engineering events. Some projects could be large and complicated with different inserts for various recipients – about 28,000 items could be sent to graduates of certain honoured years.



Facing the camera from the left, SAA volunteers Ken Nakamura, Ellen Dooley, Dianne Mathieu, Maurice Cooke

John Corkhill passed away in 2011 and Maurice Cooke wanted to step down and give another volunteer the opportunity to chair this group. I was in the process of preparing an article for our newsletter but, on the off-chance that we might find a volunteer sooner, I asked Kristine Thompson, who chairs the Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series, if she would make an announcement at an upcoming lecture. But it never got that far. Kristine's husband, Ivor Thompson, saw the announcement on their kitchen table and said, "I can do that!" (I'm not sure if those were his exact words, but you get the idea). And that's how we found a new chairperson for the engineering mailing.



Facing the camera from the left, SAA volunteers Erna Stiller, Jackie Philp, Doug Philp, Ivor Thompson

The above photos are from a recent session. The Faculty of Engineering wanted to send out a reminder to their alumni about the upcoming U of T Spring Reunion.

Ihor Prociuk, editor

Correction

In the Jan/Feb, 2013 issue of the SAA newsletter we listed some inconsistent dates for the two Stratford Theatre trips we have planned for this year. See the insert page in this newsletter for the correct information. We apologize for the confusion.

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Report on SAA Volunteer Activity January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012

A total of 45 volunteers participated in projects, out of our list of 84 volunteers. These 45 volunteers collectively worked a total of 938 hours, involving 12 projects. The time spent on Executive Committee activities (including the CP lecture series) is additional to the above-reported hours.

Academic Retiree Centre

This project began in 2009 soon after the centre held its opening reception on October 1, 2009. The Centre retains a part-time staff person and relies on volunteers at the reception desk to help the Centre stay open during office hours.

Centre for International Experience

Volunteers assisted groups of international students to improve their English language skills. Volunteers had a fair bit of leeway with regard to how they wish to conduct their sessions. Melanie Milanich, for example, lead nature walks and historic tours. Many of the other volunteers lead sessions inside the classroom.

Faculty of Dentistry

Dr. Blackstien continued to serve on the animal ethics committee for the Faculty of Dentistry.

Engineering Mailing

Volunteers worked as a team to stuff envelopes. Some the projects were large and complicated with different inserts for various recipients. This year the second mailing pertained to Spring Reunion – a total of 28,000 items were sent to graduates of certain honoured years. See a larger article on this group on page 3 in this issue.

Nursing Exams

The volunteers played the role of patients and were then examined by the nursing students as part of the Health Assessment Skills Test. There was a morning and afternoon shift. Most volunteers did one shift but some, like Maurice Cooke, did both. There were some volunteers who had done this project many years in a row. Maurice Cooke commented that the staff of the faculty were very pleasant and made the volunteers feel well appreciated.

Robarts Tours

This is a long-standing project. Volunteers provided tours of the Robarts library to students in groups of 5–15 persons.

Spring Reunion

Volunteers helped to assemble lanyards for alumni and guests prior to the event. They also prepared voting ballots for the UTAA Annual General Meeting. During the reunion, they welcomed guests and helped with refreshments at 21 King's College Circle. The volunteers were stationed at the Senior Alumni table at Alumni Hall and, in addition to promoting the SAA, they gave general information to visitors.

Soldiers' Tower Memorial Room

Volunteers staffed the Memorial Room museum inside the Soldiers' Tower. Volunteers also handed out programs and provided information to audience members at the carillon recitals. The need for volunteers was less than usual in 2012 as the Memorial Room was closed for part of the year due to restoration to the Tower.

Special Events

Volunteers provided assistance at events. For example, for events which took place at the U of T President's house, volunteers were present to assist and direct guests.

Volunteer Activities within the SAA

Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series

The Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series is the SAA's marquee undertaking. Volunteer tasks included contacting and booking speakers, chairing each lecture, and attending planning meetings. Volunteers also assisted in mailing the lecture series programs.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee planed, coordinated, and oversaw Senior Alumni Association activities, in accordance with the SAA constitution and bylaws.

Volunteer Activities Beyond the SAA

Many members of the SAA also applied their skills and experience within other volunteer associations on campus including the college book sales, the Dept. of Psychology research lab, the alumni associations of colleges and faculties, Council of Presidents, and the University's Governing Council.

Also, the SAA was contacted by organizations seeking volunteers for research studies. Our criteria stipulate that the sponsoring organization must be connected to University of Toronto. We advertised their research studies by placing notices in the Senior Alumni News, including flyers when we mail to our members, or by posting notices on our web site. Volunteers were typically asked to contact the organizations directly.

In 2012 we distributed notices on behalf of the following offices and organizations:

- U of T Animal Ethics Committee seeking community representative.
- U of T Technologies for Aging Gracefully Lab, seeking seniors who had undergone long-term hospitalization or who suffered chronic pain, to help researchers discover better methods of communication and support for seniors and their families.
- BRAVO-Baycrest Research About Volunteering in Older Adults, Research study focusing on the link between volunteering and healthy aging.
- Movement Disorder Unit at Toronto Western Hospital, looking for healthy volunteers for brain imaging research, to help in understanding Parkinson's disease.
- Centre for Addiction and Mental Health brain imaging study, pertaining to a receptor in the brain, which will advance understanding about diseases such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and stroke.
- Ryerson Cardiac Insomnia Study.
- Fort York Commemorative Event–Senior College, Academic Retiree Centre.

THE SENIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

University Advancement Phone: (416) 978-0544

21 King's College Circle Email: senior.alumni@utoronto.ca University of Toronto Senior Alumni webpage:

Toronto, ON M5S 3J3 http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/senior

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Two Great Stratford Trips with the SAA in 2013!

Fiddler on the Roof, Wednesday, June 12 *The Merchant of Venice*, Wednesday, October 9

Once again, our events chair, Maureen Somerville, has se-

lected two excellent productions from the 2013 Stratford season: *Fiddler on the Roof* and *The Merchant of Venice*. Read her synopses below. These events are always popular so join Maureen and other SAA members and friends for these theatrical outings. One low price covers Mary Morton Tours coach and escort, lunch, taxes, gratuities, and orchestra seat tickets in the Festival Theatre. You'll find details and registration forms on the back page. Space is limited so register early (note the registration deadlines). Invite your friends. If you have any questions, contact us at (416) 978-0544 or senior.alumni@utoronto.ca

Ihor Prociuk, editor

Fiddler on the Roof — Wed., June 12, 2013

The play is set in Tsarist Russia and is a portrait of life in a Jewish village. It is an affectionately humorous musical which focuses on



Tevye, a milkman philosopher who finds his values challenged by his daughters' desire to follow their hearts rather than the dictates of tradition. A serious note is the change on the horizon in Russia, which threatens the very existence of the community. The cast includes Scott Wentworth as Tevye, Kate Hennig as Golde, his wife, Jacquelyn French and Keely Hutton as two of their

five daughters, and Gabrielle Jones as Yente the Matchmaker. There are some wonderful songs in the musical, including *Tradition*, *If I Were a Rich Man* and *Sunrise*, *Sunset*.

The play had its debut in New York in 1964, and ran for 3,242 performances, a record at the time. Some of the people who have performed in the play are Zero Mostel, Beatrice Arthur, Bette Midler, Theodore Bikel, Pia Zadora, and Topol.

The book is by Joseph Stein, music by Jerry Bock and lyrics by Sheldon Harnick. The director for Stratford 2013 is Donna Feore who is also the choreographer. Several of her productions have garnered rave reviews.

Merchant of Venice — Wed., October 9, 2013

Shakespeare sets this play, of course, in Venice, Italy, which he never, to our knowledge, visited himself. However, his plots were always geared to an English audience, and this is no different.

The merchant of the title is Antonio, a businessman, who finds himself in need of a fairly large short-term loan and approaches Shylock, a Jewish usurer whom Antonio has always treated with contempt. Shylock asks for a pound of his flesh to be the penalty if Antonio does not pay back the loan in the allotted time. A court case ensues when that happens and Portia, a very bright



aristocratic woman, poses as a male lawyer to defend Antonio. There are several comic subplots, one in which Portia must choose a husband by a method decreed by her deceased father, and another in which Shylock's daughter elopes with a Christian.

The Merchant of Venice was probably written and first performed in the late 1590s. This year's cast includes Brian Bedford as Shylock, Tom McCamus as Antonio and Michelle Giroux as Portia. The director is Antoni Cimolino.

Both of these plays deal with ages—long prejudice against Jews. *Fiddler on the Roof* is much more sympathetic in its treatment. *The Merchant of Venice* is brutal in its treatment of Shylock, a problem in modern times. Originally he would have been portrayed as servile to Antonio, but vicious behind his back and even his appearance would have been unattractive. Nowadays, directors must carefully tone down the bias and make the main Christian characters less forgivable in their treatment of the money-lender. I am looking forward to both plays to see the interpretations of their directors.

Maureen Somerville, events chair



Stratford 2013 SAA Theatre Trips Information/Registration

Fiddler on the Roof — Stratford

Cost: \$155.00 per person

The cost includes taxes and gratuities. You will receive a receipt. Make your cheque payable to Mary Morton Tours. Compete the form below and mail directly to:

Mary Morton Tours 11316 Petty Street Ailsa Craig, Ontario N0M 1A0

Deadline: Friday, May 10, 2013

The completed order form must be received at Mary Morton Tours by the deadline date.

Date of Trip: Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Please be at the Coffee Zone, 30 Carlton St. (in the Holiday Inn, north side of Carlton St., east of Yonge St.) by 9:15 a.m. for a 9:30 a.m. departure.

If you wish to be picked up at the Islington Subway Station, please be there by 9:45 a.m. for a 10:00 a.m. departure. The bus pick up is on the east side of Islington Ave., by the phone booth.

Trip Details:

Lunch will be at the Waterlot in New Hamburg. Please check off your choice of entrée on the form below. Salad, dessert, and coffee or tea are included. Please include any dietary restrictions. Wine, etc., is available, but is not included in the cost. We will arrive at the Festival Theatre in Stratford in time for the 2:00 p.m. matinee of the play.

We will arrive back in Toronto at the Holiday Inn on Carlton at approximately 7:15 pm.

University of Toronto Senior Alumni Association Fiddler on the Roof – Wednesday, June 12, 2013		
Full Name:		
Address:		
City, Province:		
Postal Code:		
Email:		
Home Phone:		
Cell Phone:		
COST:	\$155.00 per person	
PAYMENT:	Make cheque payable to Mary Morton Tours.	
BUS PICKUP:	Carlton St. Islington Ave.	
LUNCH:	Please select ONE entrée. Indicate dietary restrictions below.	
	Pork loin glazed with maple syrup, apple butter and mustard	
	Oven-roasted chicken breast with wild mushroom	
REMEMBER: This completed form must be received at Mary Morton Tours by Friday, May 10, 2013.		

Merchant of Venice — Stratford

Cost: \$151.00 per person

The cost includes taxes and gratuities. You will receive a receipt. Make your cheque payable to Mary Morton Tours. Compete the form below and mail *directly* to:

Mary Morton Tours 11316 Petty Street Ailsa Craig, Ontario N0M 1A0

Deadline: Friday, September 6, 2013

The completed order form must be received at Mary Morton Tours by the deadline date.

Date of Trip: Wednesday, October 9, 2013

Please be at the Coffee Zone, 30 Carlton St. (in the Holiday Inn, north side of Carlton St., east of Yonge St.) by 9:15 a.m. for a 9:30 a.m. departure.

If you wish to be picked up at the Islington Subway Station, please be there by 9:45 a.m. for a 10:00 a.m. departure. The bus pick up is on the east side of Islington Ave., by the phone booth.

Trip Details:

Lunch will be at the Pazzo's Ristortante in downtown Stratford. Salad, dessert, and coffee or tea are included. Please include any dietary restrictions. Wine, etc., is available, but is not included in the cost. We will arrive at the Festival Theatre in Stratford in time for the 2:00 p.m. matinee of the play.

Return:

We will arrive back in Toronto at the Holiday Inn on Carlton at approximately 7:15 pm.

University of Toronto Senior Alumni Association Merchant of Venice – Wednesday, October 9, 2013	
Full Name:	
Address:	
City, Province:	
Postal Code:	
Email:	
Home Phone:	
Cell Phone:	
COST:	\$151.00 per person
PAYMENT:	Make cheque payable to Mary Morton Tours.
BUS PICKUP:	☐ Carlton St. ☐ Islington Ave.
LUNCH:	Chicken breast, cremini, white wine, and braised shallots
	Indicate dietary restrictions below.
	This completed form must be received at Mary by Friday, September 6, 2013.