

# SENIOR ALUMNI NEWS

Vol. 22, No. 1 September / October 2015

## Accessibility and Awards at SAA 2015 AGM

The Senior Alumni Association held its 2015 AGM and Volunteer Recognition Day on Monday, May 4th, with our president, Maureen Somerville, presiding. The business part of our meeting was efficient and brief. The 2014 AGM minutes and the treasurer's report were presented to and approved by SAA members. Maureen Somerville gave the annual report and the chair of the planning committee, Gloria Buckley, presented her report. It was noted that this year there were no amendments to our constitution or bylaws put forward. The report of the nominating committee and the proposed slate of the SAA executive committee was presented by the past president, Wendy Talfourd -Jones. The proposed slate (below) was voted upon and passed by the SAA members present.

> President: Maureen Somerville Vice President: Ihor Prociuk

Past President: Wendy Talfourd-Jones

Treasurer: Anna Kennedy

Assistant Treasurer: TBA Secretary: John Lang Assistant Secretary: Bev Colburn

Chairs & Members of Standing Committees:

Communications Chair and

Newsletter Editor: Ihor Prociuk

Assistant Newsletter Editor: Maureen Somerville Senior Alumni Volunteers Co-Chairs: Mary Vohryzek,

Bev Coburn

Events Chair: Wendy Talfourd-Jones

Assistant Events Chairs: Irene Devlin **Bev Coburn** 

> Planning Chair: Gloria Buckley

Canadian Perspectives Lectures Chair:

CP Lecture Series Coordinators:

Kristine Thompson,

Laura Cooper, Dianna Craig,

Irene Devlin, Dagmar Falkenberg,

Jean Orpwood, Ken Ward,

Kathlene Willing

Archivist: Wendy Talfourd-Jones

After notices of upcoming events, Maureen closed the official part of the meeting.



Our guest speaker this year was the Honourable David Onley, the former lieutenant governor of Ontario. He spoke of his experiences as lieutenant governor and, in particular, how the challenge of physical accessibility had played a part in his personal development and his own career in the media and public office . He explained how his decision to pursue the theme of barrier-free accessibility had

shaped the theme of his tenure as lieutenant governor.



Several of the volunteers who were awarded pins for their years of service. From left: Irene Devlin (5 years), Don Forsey (5 years), Dagmar Falkenberg (5 years), Bernie Blackstien (10 years), and Ihor Prociuk (5

Following our guest speaker, the SAA honoured Carol Dineen with a first-year service pin. Five-year service pins were given to Laura Cooper, Irene Devlin, Dagmar Falkenberg, Don Forsey, Alexander Ma, Shirley Pentland and Ihor Prociuk. Presentations were made for ten-year of service to Bernie Blackstien and Brigid Elson. Presentations were also made to two long-serving SAA executive members—Don Forsey (treasurer) and Kristine Thompson (chair, Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series) who are retiring from the executive. Don will provide help our new treasurer in her transition into the treasurer's job and Kristine, although not on the executive, will continue to run the Canadian Perspectives Series.

The members then moved next door to the reception in the Croft Chapter House for light refreshments and conversation. We hope you will join us next year at the beginning of May for our 2016 AGM.

> Wendy Talfourd-Jones Past President

### New SAA Treasurer



The SAA welcomes Anna Kennedy to the SAA Board. Anna has recently retired from TD Bank and previously worked at Canada Life Assurance. Both positions involved managing the IT related agreements with major software vendors such as IBM and Microsoft. Anna earned a BA in 1978 through Victoria College where she met her wonderful husband Robert and has been married 37 years. She has two children, both married; one living in Montreal and the other in

Atlanta. Anna has lived in Toronto since 1965 and is particularly partial to her current neighbourhood, Greek Town. Outside of work, Anna has enjoyed volunteering as a leader and District

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#### 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.

#### Community representative on U of T animal care committees

The University of Toronto upholds the highest ethical standards for animal research. All research must undergo rigorous review by animal care committees, which are made up of members of both the University community and the community at large.

The University is currently seeking volunteers for the position of community representative on several animal care committees across the three campuses. Interested candidates should have no current formal affiliation with the University, good communication skills, compassion for living beings and a commitment to contribute to the advancement of research at U of T.

We encourage interested alumni to consider serving as volunteer community representatives. Meetings are usually 2-3 hours long and are held monthly during regular business hours. For more information, please contact:

Mr. Rhain Louis Animal Care and Use Program Manager, 416-946-0836 or rhain.louis@utoronto.ca

### Healthy participants needed for driving simulator study

St. Michael's Hospital and U of T are seeking healthy control subjects to participate in a driving simulator study aimed to understand how disorders of the brain affect driving abilities. You may be eligible if you meet ALL of the following criteria:

- You are between 18 and 85 years of age.
- You have a valid Ontario G class driver's license.
- You have NOT had a history or past diagnosis of a neurological or psychiatric condition.
- You live in Toronto or the GTA.

The study takes place in our research lab for 1-2 hours where you will be required to complete simulated driving scenarios and some additional cognitive tests. Your participation in this study is voluntary and all data will be kept confidential.

You will be compensated for participation if you are eligible. A phone screening (which participants will not be reimbursed for) will be required to determine eligibility. If you are interested, contact:

Winnie Oian

Research Assistant

Cognitive Neuroscience Lab

Keenan Research Centre in the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institutes St. Michael's Hospital

cognitive.neurolab@gmail.com / 416-864-6060 ext. 77342

#### Volunteers needed for clinical trials on memory-loss drug



Are you concerned about the possibility Sunnybrook of memory loss as you grow older?

This A4 study is a landmark clinical trial to test whether a new investigational drug can slow memory loss associated with Alzheimer's disease. A4 is a clinical study for people ages 65-85 with normal thinking and memory abilities.

For more information, visit http://a4study.org/ To find out if you are eligible, contact Joanne Lawrence:

(416) 480-6108 or joanne.lawrence@sunnybrook.ca

### Senior Alumni Association CANADIAN PERSPECT Lecture Series

Preparing an outstanding lecture series is a lot like cooking: it's not just the ingredients, it's how you put them together. Once again, Series coordinator Kristine Thompson and her committee members (Laura Cooper, Dianna Craig, Irene Devlin, Dagmar Falkenberg, Jean Orpwood, Ken Ward, and Kathlene Willing) have put together two delicious fall lecture series. All lectures take place at the Carlton Cinema at 20 Carlton Street (at Yonge St) which is easy to reach via the TTC.

The best value is to purchase an entire 7-lecture series but you can pick only the lectures you are interested in. The lectures are open to the general public so bring along your friends. For your convenience we offer secure, online registration at:

http://alumni.utoronto.ca/alumni-groups/senior-alumni/ canadian-perspectives-lecture-series/

or call the Senior Alumni Office at 416 978-0544.

#### Monday Afternoon Series, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

#### October 19

Mapping the Ocean Floor. Professor Steven Scott, Earth Sciences

The Mysteries of Mystery Writing. Rosemary Aubert, Author, Arthur Ellis Award recipient

#### November 2

Main Streets as Old Growth Forest. Cathy Naismith, Heritage Architect and Advocate

#### November 9

What War Memorials Tell Us. John Plumpton, Historian

Mental Health in Later Years. Dr. David Ryan, Psychologist, Toronto Regional Geriatric Program

#### November 23

What We Can Learn from Ancient Languages: Aramaic-Syriac. Professor Amir Harrak, Near and Middle Eastern Studies

#### November 30

The Franklin Expedition. John Geiger, President, Royal Canadian Geographical Society

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### "Quotable Quotes"

Expect people to be better than they are; it helps them to become better. But don't be disappointed when they are not; it helps them to keep trying.

Merry Browne, writer

I have learned that the best way to lift one's self up is to help someone else.

Booker T. Washington, educator, writer and orator

Nothing truly innovative, nothing that has advanced art, business, design, or humanity, was ever created in the face of genuine certainty or perfect information. Because the only way to be certain before you begin is if the thing you seek to do has already been done.

Jonathan Fields, author

### **President's Corner**



I'm writing this on Labour Day weekend, in the midst of a heat wave. I spent part of this summer with two of our past presidents, Gloria Buckley and Beverly Coburn at their summer cottages. They are both still very involved with the SAA, and it was good to discuss issues with them and have some fun as well, including celebrating Gloria's birthday. (I won't tell which

The Shaw trip to see Sweet Charity in Niagara-on-the-Lake drew a few of

our members. I personally felt that the play was not the best I have seen at the Festival. I look forward to Pygmalion on September 30. There may be spaces left on the coach, if you want to join us. Contact Mary Morton Tours directly if you are interested. See the back page for details.

The Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series (CP for short) will be starting up again in October with a varied and interesting slate of speakers. The lectures will all be taking place at the Carlton Cinemas, which raises a concern. We have been paying more than we used to for the venues we use. Large enough space is not available to us on campus because of the number of students now enrolled. The result is that we have had a financial deficit for the last two years. We cannot continue offering the program unless more people begin to attend the lectures. We are already placing posters wherever we can, and we are working with the staff at Alumni House to spread the word about the CP program. If you know of any persons in your circle of friends who might be interested, please spread the word. We are a non-profit organization, and any excess funds we accumulate are put into one of several student scholarships we support at the St. George Campus. One does not have to be a senior nor a U of T graduate to attend. I hope to see you at the Carlton!

We have a new treasurer, Anna Kennedy (see story on the front page). Don Forsey, the retiring treasurer, will be involved with the SAA on a more casual basis, for which I am thankful. Anna, however, is a wonderful addition. We are still in need of an assistant treasurer if anyone would like to join the executive. We are also in need of some other new members of the executive to reinforce our numbers. Leave your name and number on our office number, or send us an email, and I'll get back to you!

Two former members of the SAA executive passed away in the spring. Sibyl Geller and her husband Jack both died within a short time span, and Dorelle Cameron also was lost to us. We remember them as active, engaged members of our group and were sad to hear of their passing.

This is a little early to announce, but I will be doing another walk in May. It will be a stroll of St. George Street from College to Bloor, looking at the oldest and newest additions to the campus. Actual date will be determined later.

I hope to see you at the lectures and at other events we hope to offer to you in the coming months.

> Maureen Somerville president, SAA

### Gloria Buckley receives St. Michael's College Alumni award



Gloria Buckley (centre), the longest serving member of the SAA, stands between SAA members Gerry and Irene Devlin.

[Below are remarks made by Steven Williams, past-president of US-MCAA on May 31, 2015. They have been edited to fit available space. – editor]

The University of St. Michael's College Alumni Association has created a special award in honour of retired President Richard Alway – USMC's first lay president and an accomplished alumnus himself.

The award recognizes outstanding contributions to society by a member of our alumni family. The award is presented to an individual: who is an alumnus/alumna for more than five years; demonstrates the highest character beyond reproach; makes significant contribution to society through the pursuit of spiritual, professional and/or personal excellence, and; brings both esteem to her/himself and honour to the College.

For the year ending 2014, we recognize a person of singular distinction. A pioneering spirit, a scientist, working mom and community volunteer who understands that with success in life there brings a tremendous responsibility to support others. A women who was raised with strong values, from rural southwestern Ontario.

At peace with both faith and science, a lifelong passion for knowledge, and thrilled by discovery. With a penchant for asking questions, a feminist before the movement began, a desire to contribute to saving lives, to fight for health and to understand the world at its most basic elements.

Our seventh recipient of this esteemed award is a graduate of the University of Toronto's Bachelor of Arts program. One who blazed a path for women in science and returned her good fortune by serving others. She has served as a researcher, mentor, teacher and innovator.

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#### THE SENIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

University Advancement 21 King's College Circle

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Senior Alumni Newsletter Staff

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#### Wednesday Morning Series, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

#### October 14

Palliative Care: What It Is and What It Is Not. Dr. Dori-Lynn Seccareccia, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

#### October 21

Smart Cities. Professor Mark Fox, Industrial Engineering and Computer Science

#### October 28

Myths, Magic and Memories: Why Do We Care About Ancient Egypt? Gayle Gibson, Egyptologist, Royal Ontario Museum

#### November 4

How to Eat, Move and Sleep for Better Health. Dr. Greg Wells, Kinesiology and Physical Education

#### **November 11**

*Highlights of the Aga Khan Museum*. Dr. Ruba Kana'an, Head Education and Scholarly Programs

#### **November 18**

Ten Legal Cases that Changed the World. Mayo Moran, Provost, Trinity College and Former Dean of Law, University of Toronto

#### **November 25**

Planning in a High Growth Context: Challenges and Opportunities. Jennifer Keesmaat, Chief Planner City of Toronto

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#### Gloria Buckley receives St. Michael's College Alumni award

... She has served as:

- a researcher at University of Toronto
- a scientist in the private sector including in bioscience and clinical chemistry specializing in cancer research
- a researcher at St. Michael's Hospital's Lipid Centre
- a member of the Christian Family Movement, supporting peers with children cope with the pressures of raising families
- Her husband Bob was a USMC Year Rep and Gloria continued on after he passed
- the longest serving member of U of T Senior Alumni Association
- for 35 years propelling the Lenten Retreat
- for 25 years serving on the Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph
- as Secretary and longest serving Board Member of USMC Alumni Association

Please join me in honouring Ms. Gloria Buckley our 2014 Alway Award recipient.

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#### New SAA Treasurer

Commissioner Girl Guides and was a treasurer at St Thomas's Anglican Church for several years. She is very proud to support the Toronto Masque Theatre in a variety of ways. She enjoys singing in a choir and playing the piano. Anna is looking forward to her new role as treasurer of the SAA and enjoying the variety of activities it has to offer.

# SHAW 20 Application for Shaw's FESTIVAL 15 Pygmalion

Mary Morton Tours informs us that there are still a few spots available for *Pygmalion*. — but don't wait too long! Call them directly, 416 488-2674, to reserve your package.

#### Cost: \$150.00 per person

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

Mary Morton Tours 11316 Petty Street

Ailsa Craig, Ontario N0M 1A0

Phone: 416 488-2674

#### Date of Trip: Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Be at 50 Carlton St. (Loblaws entrance of the old Maple Leaf Gardens, east of Yonge St.) by 9:00 a.m. for a 9:15 a.m. departure. If you wish to be picked up at the Islington Subway Station, please be there by 9:30 a.m. for a 9:45 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 Prince of Wales Hotel in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Wine, etc., are available, but are not included in the cost. We will arrive in time for lunch and the 2:00 p.m. matinee of the play.

#### Return:

We will arrive back in Toronto on Carlton at about 7:15 p.m.

	Toronto Senior Alumni Association Wednesday September 30, 2015
Full Name:	
Address:	
City, Province:	
Postal Code:	
Email:	
Home Phone:	
Cell Phone:	
COST:	\$150.00 per person
PAYMENT:	Make cheque payable to Mary Morton Tours
BUS PICKUP:	☐ Carlton St. ☐ Islington Ave.
LUNCH:	☐ chicken provençal
! 	fire-roasted pork loin cutlet
l	Indicate any dietary restrictions below
:    -	
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IREMEMBER.	Complete this form and send it to Mary

Morton Tours along with your cheque to the above address.

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