



Senior Alumni News

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Page 1

HOW TO GET THE CANADIAN PERSPECTIVES LECTURE SERIES YOU WANT

When I started working for the Senior Alumni 5 years ago, we were running two lecture groups with a total enrolment of about 240. Now we have expanded to four groups with a total enrolment of about 500. Administering the registrations can be a challenge. I talk to many of you on the phone and I know that some of you are disappointed when you cannot get into the lecture group of your choice. Here are some ideas that may help you secure your desired series.



Current registrants who are renewing: Submit your application early! People who attend a given lecture series will get the first chance to renew for the next series. During the last two lectures of a given series, we hand out the application forms for the next series. Many people bring along their cheque books and about 80-90% of our registrations come in at this time. If you do not renew, we will mail you a reminder, but be aware that by the time you receive your reminder, some of the lecture groups may already be full. The best way to ensure your renewal is to attend the last two classes and pick up your application form for the next series.

2) New People: There is a waiting list for new people wanting to join the lecture series. The proper way to get put on the waiting list is to phone or e-mail our office and talk to me. Do not just pick up a registration form from a friend and submit it with a cheque. This can be counterproductive and may result in you being put farther down on the list.

3) Previous "lapsed" registrants who want to return after an absence normally have to go on the waiting list.

How Our Mailing List Works: We are unable to send out unlimited mailings. If you are a current registrant who has not yet renewed for the next series, we will mail you one reminder. After that, the onus is on you to contact us. If you are a new person on the waiting list, we will mail you an application when space becomes available. If you do not apply, but are still interested, please let us know.

Questions? Feel free to contact me at 416-978-0544. I am only here part-time so you will usually get my voice-mail, but leave a message and I will get back to you.

Kathy Parks

Kathy Parks, Administrative Assistant

Elsewhere in this Issue:

The Soldiers Tower Register	Page 2
Pictures from Soldiers' Tower	Page 2
President's Corner	Page 3
Volunteer Opportunities	Page 3
Editor's Notebook	Page 4
Contact the Senior Alumni Association	Page 4

THE SOLDIERS' TOWER REGISTER

The Soldiers' Tower was built in 1924 in memory of the 623 students, faculty and alumni who died in the Great War. Their names are carved into the stone of the Memorial Screen attached to the Tower. After the Second World War. The names of the 557 lost in that conflict were placed on the walls of the Memorial Archway. The Tower contains a carillon of 51 bells and has a Memorial Room housing wartime mementoes and military memorabilia. We have been asked by the Soldiers' Tower Committee to prepare a register of all the items placed in the Memorial Room.

An initial survey revealed the following contents:

- 106 medals
- 53 other military memorabilia
- 19 furniture items
- 37 photos, pictures and plaques
- 110 file folders of correspondence
- many boxes, bags and drawers full of photos, pamphlets, books

We will be examining all these items and recording their descriptions in Registry forms. The forms will be stored in loose-leaf binders by item code and number for easy reference.

The work has already started with the following persons being involved: John Corkill, Dorothy Sedgwick, Doug Philp and the undersigned. For more information or to offer help please call me at (416) 231-1752.

Ilmar Talvila

Ilmar Talvila



Interior view of Memorial Room



The 106 medals include single medals and sets such as this set of five medals donated by the family of Lieutenant James Gordon Beatty, MC.



Among the photographs hung in the Soldiers' Tower is this one of the SPS Jr. Rugby team, winners of the Mullock Cup in 1915. Every member of this team joined up in 1916 and not all returned. It was donated by H.R. Burton, a member of the team, who drew the crosses showing which of his friends did not return. "Bob" Burton, a veteran of both world wars, was Chief Traffic Engineer for the City of Toronto for many years. Among his many accomplishments was the development of this City's traffic control computer. He was a member of both the Soldiers' Tower Committee and Senior Alumni. Bob died in 1997 at the age of 101.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Well, our speakers, rooms and arrangements are all in place for the Spring series of Canadian Perspectives and our volunteer activities are increasing and running smoothly. And so our thoughts turn to the Annual General Meeting. So make an early notation in your calendars for May 6, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 179 of Uni-

versity College (the location of our Canadian Perspectives lecture series for many years).

At that meeting we will be considering the various postings on our Executive Committee and our arrangements for the new year. It is very clear that some new people would be extremely useful for the Committee. Those who have joined us in recent years started by attending a few meetings to see whether they wish to have a continuing involvement. Such attendance gives a person a feeling of whether they wish to become further involved or not.

We meet once a month for about two hours, except in the summer months, to plan our lecture series, our volunteer activities, our special events and to hear reports from our various standing committees which lead to Executive decisions. The work for each Executive member is neither onerous nor demanding. But there is a real sense of accomplishment in knowing that your activities contribute to renewing the association of senior alumni with their University in a real and positive way.

If you would consider a "trial run" with the Executive, we would be most pleased to hear from you. We are always looking for new ways to offer volunteer services to the University and for people to help in these activities. Particulars of some of our new and interesting endeavours are included in other sections of this Newsletter. Please consider whether you might like to be involved and call us.

Best wishes to all.

John Corkill
416-626-7716

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Toronto Rehabilitation Institute needs volunteers for an examination of potential promoters and barriers to exercise therapy for seniors exercise. Volunteers are needed to discuss this matter. If you are over 65 years of age, they would like to hear your opinions. A small-group study is being conducted at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute in March & April. To learn more, please call 416-586-4800 ext 6499 and please leave a message.

Tracing Alumni who have moved: A volunteer is needed to work with a computer and appropriate reference material at 21 King's College Circle, to restore the mailing list. For more information call Senior Alumni Office 416 978 0544

U. of T. Art Centre: Volunteering at the Art Gallery is not just sitting for a few hours! It is an opportunity to see and learn as well as guiding viewers if they ask or look lost! There are opportunities to attend lectures and have a cup of tea as well as concerts and other events, visit other galleries, using a pass, and more! For more information call Senior Alumni Office 416 978 0544.

ADVANCED NOTICES

Spring Reunion June 3 to 6, 2004 For more information call Senior Alumni Office 416 978 0544 **Stacie Bellemare at 416 978 5881**

Senior Alumni Annual Meeting and Recognition Day May 6 2004 UC Room 179 For more information call Senior Alumni Office 416 978 0544

EDITORS NOTEBOOK

Special thanks to the 48 members who attended the tours at Victoria University on November 18 and 20th. They went well and their success could lead to more campus tours in the future. I would like also to thank Alison Broadworth and her guides for doing an excellent job.

On December 8th, Jackie and I, along with several other volunteers, played the "patient role" for first year student nurses at the school of nursing during exam time. It was great fun for us and a positive experience for the students, a few of whom were a bit nervous testing real people!

The Executive Christmas luncheon at University College on December 11th was a festive occasion. Along with guests, we sang a few carols to welcome in the season. As yet we've not received any recording contracts.

I'm glad to report that my sidekick (co-editor) Peter Hare is recovering well from a broken arm sustained from a fall at his home.

In a recent memo prepared by Kerry Dean re: the alumni & friends web site I was pleased to learn that our newsletter is a very hot item. On average, 325 issues of the "Senior Alumni News" are downloaded each month. Last December, for example, 619 issues spanning ten issues from April 2001 to the present were downloaded. I don't think Torstar is concerned about our circulation, as yet, but they'll need to keep their eyes on us!

Spring reunion is still a long way off but for many of you who will be interested, John Arpin will appear in concert at Hart House theatre on Thursday, June 3rd. Complete details will be provided when you receive your spring reunion brochure.

We have a great need for volunteers for a variety of projects. If you can spare some time to help us in these initiatives please contact our office at 416-978-0544. Thank you.

That's all for now.



Doug Philp



Participants in tour of Victoria College

CONTACT SENIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Learn more about Senior Alumni activities and programs by picking up the phone and calling 416-978-0544. We will be happy to send you a copy of our brochure and answer any of your questions. You could also write to us at:

Senior Alumni Association
Division of University Advancement
21 King's College Circle, University of Toronto
Toronto, Ont. M5S 3J3

Phone: 416-978-0544

FAX: 416-978-3958

Mark fax "Attention: Senior Alumni Assoc."

E-mail: senior.alumni@utoronto.ca

You can also visit the Senior Alumni web page at:
<http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/groups/senior.htm>