



# Senior Alumni News

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## "LEST WE FORGET"

Surely John McCrae's message "In Flanders Fields" to hold the torch of peace and freedom high, is an inspiring challenge which continues to ring out through the years and especially for Remembrance Day as we meet at the Soldiers' Tower. We hope many Alumni along with students and friends will participate in the service, which this year will be at the tower on **Friday, November 10, 2006, starting at 10:30 a.m.**



Remembrance Service at the Tower November 1999

Food, water, energy, living space, peace and security, survival of human and other species all require significant improvement from past experience on the planet. As with the Marshall plan for reconstruction of Europe after World War II and the MacArthur program for Japan, and other major initiatives like NATO, World Health Organization and the International Space Station there is great need for cooperative endeavour and effective communication.

The great contributions made by U. of T. people to Canada's survival and progress in peace and war are a vital part of the University's traditions and history. We salute and honour them and the service and sacrifices of those who participated.

In a "global village" of risk and change U. of T. Alumni continue to take an active role in coping with intractable and life-threatening problems and in the vital search for sustainable solutions and economic development despite finite resources. "Be prepared" can be a relevant slogan! The wise scientific analysis and deductions by Dr. Tuzo Wilson and associates regarding tectonic plates and continental movement have alerted us all to the reality and perils of global warming and cooling.

The United Nations and other world associations have been struggling for decades with how to cope with poverty, hunger and disease. Planning assumptions require searching examination regarding whether they are valid and to determine how objectives and feasible solutions can be achieved.

Our being alert and vigilant is an essential element in both daily life and the future. Every citizen can help by exercising positive and continuing review of events and life in the world around them. Democracy in action can demonstrate results! Thanks for your help.

John G. W. McIntyre,  
former Chair of the Soldiers' Tower Committee

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## SENIOR ALUMNI VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteering is an important part of Senior Alumni. We regularly post several opportunities on this page. We hope you will try one these undertakings. For further information, please call Kathy Parks at the Senior Alumni Office, phone 416-978-0544 or e-mail [senior.alumni@utoronto.ca](mailto:senior.alumni@utoronto.ca) or the contacts listed below.

**The Faculty of Dentistry**, Department of Periodontology needs volunteers to perform the following duties:

1. For the Graduate Periodontology Clinic two times per year for assistance with chart auditing. This involves reviewing charts to ensure that the paper work and charting is complete.
  2. For the Oral Reconstruction Clinic once every week to review dental implant charts to ensure they are up to date and complete.
  3. To help establish a digital picture library, help in the collection and cataloguing of digital intraoral photographs taken by the graduate residents. Requires basic knowledge in the use of computers and Microsoft programs.
  4. To establish a digital library of journal articles. This requires collecting, scanning and reformatting journal articles. Requires basic knowledge in the use of computers and Microsoft programs.
  5. Volunteers interested in participating as subjects for periodontal research. Participation will depend on exclusion and inclusion criteria of the specific research project.
- For more information please contact:  
Bernard Blackstien D.D.S at (905)-763-8711  
or e-mail [bernie.blackstien@rogers.com](mailto:bernie.blackstien@rogers.com)

**Robarts Library Tours:** We need seniors interested in becoming tour guides at Robarts Library. They must be comfortable spending one or two hours walking through the library and speaking to groups of up to 20 students. A bonus is a complimentary U. of T. library card. Training is provided.

**The Department of Psychology** at the University of Toronto still needs volunteers. Are you age 50 to 85 and interested in participating in studies of learning and thinking as people age? Participants will be paid \$12 for a one-hour study. You must have graduated from high school, speak English as a first language, and provide your own transportation to U of T, St. George Campus. Call (416) 978-0905 or e-mail [adultpool@psych.utoronto.ca](mailto:adultpool@psych.utoronto.ca)

**Mailings:** Occasionally volunteers are needed to help with mailings at various locations. Volunteers are called a week or more in advance to check availability and inform them about time and location. A good project for those who would like to participate, but who don't want a regular shift.

**The Soldiers' Tower Committee** is looking for people who would help keep the Tower open. This would appeal to those who like meeting people and who believe that it is important to remember the sacrifices of those who served in the two world wars and other engagements. Normally this would involve one afternoon a month. Training will be provided.

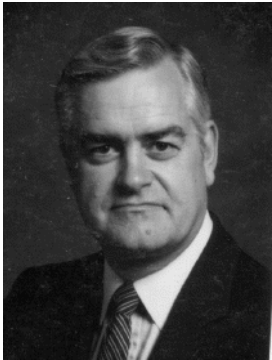
**The Soldiers' Tower Committee, Roll of Service:** Help is still needed to scan material from the U of T Roll of Service and to send this to the Canadian Virtual War Memorial web site, run by the Department of Veterans' Affairs. This project requires access to a computer and scanner and ability (or willingness to learn how) to use scanner.

**The Dept. of Sociology** requires volunteers for occasional alumni events which take place several times a year, usually in the early evening, at Croft Chapter House or the Sociology offices (Spadina and Bloor.) The volunteer would greet people at the door and sign them in. It is a friendly environment, which often provides the opportunity to partake of refreshments and hear interesting presentations on social issues. This project would appeal to people-oriented persons who are able to stand for an hour or so, who are comfortable going out at night, and who are interested in sociology.

**The L.C. Campbell Cognitive Neurology Research Unit** at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre is conducting research on various types of dementia, such as Alzheimer's Disease. They are looking for healthy volunteers between the ages of 65 and 90 willing to undergo paper and pencil tests as well as brain imaging to serve as normal controls for comparison purposes. All information is confidential and parking costs are covered. For more information, contact Isabel Lam at 416-480-6100 x2317 or email [isabel.lam@sunnybrook.ca](mailto:isabel.lam@sunnybrook.ca).

**Princess Margaret Hospital** is looking for healthy men between 50 & 90 to act as controls in cancer research. They wish to compare the quality of life, physical and mental function of healthy men with those receiving treatment for cancer. For further information call Henriette Breunis at 416 946 4501 ex 3926.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



For any organization to be truly successful, including ours, there is a need for a vibrant hard-working executive team to handle capably all the duties.

The Senior Alumni Association revolves around four lecture series and our volunteer work for the University of Toronto. The Coordinating Chair of the Canadian

Perspectives Lecture Series and the group leaders work diligently in the preparation of lectures. They contact speakers (usually with a U of T connection) and gather suggestions for the speakers and the lecture topics from the lecture attendees. Much effort, and time is spent to ensure that the lectures are motivational, interesting and well-attended. If the product is good, so is the attendance and the continued interest!

We now need Assistant Chairs to help at the Tuesday Ramsay Wright lectures and for the Tuesday group at Emmanuel College. To provide the best speakers and topics we need assistance in contacting professors. Please consider taking on this very worthwhile and interesting endeavour. And please, don't be reluctant when asked to introduce speakers at your lectures. It's not a daunting task to read the resumes and background information which is supplied. We need your help.

Your board meets every month, except July and August, to review the business at hand and to work diligently on your behalf. Our office Administrative Assistant, Kathy Parks, does an outstanding job helping committee chairs. Upon retirement, many wonder what they will do to keep busy. I'm very pleased that I discovered Senior Alumni. The Executive members are a great group of people, who enjoy working together on your behalf.

From time to time, as circumstances change, some of our members find it necessary to retire from the board. Such is the case with Bob Saunders, Chair of Membership and a stalwart member of SAA from its inception. We will miss him and his valuable input at our meetings. We honoured Bob with a luncheon following our October Executive meeting and presented him with a gift in appreciation for his dedication and outstanding contribution to the University of Toronto. Bob graduated from Trinity College in 1931!

Continue to enjoy the lectures. Volunteer if and when you are able. We thank you for your support.

Doug Philp

## CANADIAN PERSPECTIVES

Yesterday I had lunch with Mollie Christie, who was the person who asked me to chair a group in the Canadian Perspectives Lecture Series. She asked me if I knew why I was asked and I told her that I had always wondered why anyone would ask me. She said it was because I was regular.

We did not discuss if regular meant ordinary, reliable, healthy or uniformed but now, ten years after Mollie asked me for help, I am looking for some regular people to back up the Chairs of our Canadian Perspectives lecture groups. Even if the leaders have attended every lecture for years, the law of averages says that one day he or she will not be able to be there as expected and needs to have some regular human to phone who will make sure the speaker is welcomed, given water to drink, the right audio-visual equipment, an introduction, a thank you and a cheque.

This is not a hard job and is a great way to meet interesting people. If you come to lectures on a regular basis, please make yourself known to your chair and offer your services. The Chair of your group probably recognizes your face and speaks to you frequently but would love to know your name particularly if you are willing to come to his rescue when he needs someone to fill in for him.

It is obvious by the number of suggestions we receive for speakers that many people are keenly interested in continuing our lecture series with excellent speakers. Thank you for your suggestions and please offer to be more involved.

Bev Coburn

## THANK YOU BOB

After nearly three decades of service with Senior Alumni, Bob Saunders decided it was time to step down. The following are excerpts from President Doug Philp's letter of thanks to Bob.



**Bob Saunders in 1986 with Florence Blackwell, one of the early members of SAA Executive who served with him.**

"It is with sincere regret that I accept, on behalf of the Senior Alumni Executive, your decision to retire from service on the Committee. For so many years we have looked to you for carefully considered comment, for sound judgment and effective action. You will be greatly missed.

"You have the distinction of holding the record as the longest serving active member of the Senior Alumni Executive Committee. From 1977 when you first served on the Pension Committee in preparing a brief to the Royal Commission on the Status of Pensions in Ontario, through three terms as Chairman of the A.T.U. in 1978-79, 1981-82 and 1986-87, terms as Treasurer of the Association, Chairman of the Association 1988-89 and 1989-90, and, at various times, Chairman of Planning, Nominating, Membership and Institute of Human Health Committees, you have actively contributed to the well being and success of the Association. In addition to these positions of responsibility, you have volunteered your time and assistance to projects that included Retirement Planning seminars, Robarts Library tours, the Engineers' Iron Ring Ceremony preparations, and many other programs where your contributions have been both worthy and significant. We applaud your unparalleled record.

"During your distinguished term of service, the Senior Alumni Association and the Executive Committee have been honoured by your presence. Your contributions to the Committee's progress and achievements will be gratefully remembered.

"We join in wishing you continued good health and blessings in the years ahead."

## EVENTS

**Sunday, December 17, 2006, 2 p.m. Taddle Creek Walk.** A joint event with The Lost Rivers Committee. It will start in front of Hart House. Easy walking. Observe Taddle Creek, Historic U of T buildings and other points of interest. Leaders will be Peter Hare and Ilmar Talvila. No charge, just come.

**Scarborough Canadian Perspectives Lectures** still have spaces available.

**U of T Art Centre** has several exhibits open or coming. Call 416 978 1638 for information.

**UTAA Annual General Meeting** will be on June 18, 2007. More information to come.

**Senior Alumni Annual General Meeting** will be on May 3, 2007. More information to come.

## SENIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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<http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/groups/senior.htm>

