

Your Voice

MUN Pensioners' Association (MUNPA) Newsletter Vol. 15, No. 7, December 2017

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



December, the 12th month of the year ... a time to reflect on the various happenings and events in our lives in 2017 — some good, perhaps some not so good — as we look forward to a new beginning in 2018.

For MUNPA, the month began with a luncheon reception at Gushue Hall, hosted by MUN President, Dr Kachanosky, where our three 2017 Tribute Awards recipients were honoured. These individuals, Mr.

Warwick Hewitt of Grenfell College, Dr. Marquerite MacKenzie of the Department Linguistics and Mahmoud Haddara, Faculty of Engineering and **Applied** Science, definitely earned these awards for their continued work in their chosen professions, where love of community, mankind and passing on their knowledge to others was quite evident in their citations (see pages 3, 4 and 5.).

We moved on to our Annual Christmas Social, held December 7th, at the Fluvarium. We set a record for the most attendees at this event. It was wonderful to see and talk with so many colleagues that we had worked with over the years, and also good to see some of our recent retirees getting involved with MUNPA events and activities. A big thanks goes out to our Programming Committee,

Anne Sinnott as Chair, Karyn Butler, Donna Jackman, Cynthia Whelan and Steve Wolinetz, for organizing this festive occasion. I had wanted to put a number before the word 'annual'; i.e., our 20th Annual Christmas Social, but we don't have any records to determine when the first one was held. If you know when this event started, please let us know.

The Christmas Social again had a silent auction filled with holiday goodies. Karyn Butler was busy baking again, but she was not alone. Donna Jackman made several plum puddings and Anne Sinnott assembled a basket. The auction raised \$433.65 for the MUN Campus Food Banks. A special thanks to Anne, Karyn and Donna.

Since this is the season for giving, MUNPA also donated to the Food

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L- R: Karyn Butler's baking was well received by silent auction participants. Donna Jackman also contributed several plum puddings and Anne Sinnott assembled a basket. The auction raised \$433.65. • Attendees enjoy the Fluvarium's delicious Festive spread. • Liz Stanford (far right) was one of the lucky prize draw recipients selected by Anne Sinnott.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D. FROM PG. 1

Banks on our campuses. At the end of each calendar year, the Board reviews its finances, and if there are any extra funds available, a portion of our funds are donated to charities. This year the Board approved donations of \$1,500 to the Main Campus Food Bank and \$500 to the Grenfell College Food Bank. Both are very worthy and needy causes. Every member of the association is thanked and recognized for this contribution.

As December and 2017 come to an end, the Board looks forward to continuing what we've been doing this past year, while hoping to bring some new events and activities into play. We also look forward to our move to the Battery (sometime in the spring) where we will have access to better facilities and new technologies.

On behalf of the MUNPA Board, it is my pleasure and honour to wish you, your family and your loved ones, a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and all the best for a very Happy New Year ... hopefully one filled with good health, friendship, peace and happiness.

Jane M. Foltz, President Jane@mun.ca



From the editor

Sooner or later it had to happen. This is the fourth issue of *Your Voice* that I've edited and the first not to make its deadline. Reviews have been good — praise has been rolling in and thus far no brickbats, threatening letters or even indications of annoyance — but putting out a lively newsletter is work. Only in the week before Christmas, busy with too many things, have I been able to sit down and go through content, edit where necessary and prepare a preliminary layout for Patrick to shape into the December YV. However by the time the layout is done, just about everyone will be busy with other things. In that you will not see this number until January, I toyed with designating it the December-January edition, and would have until I realized that I would need to add 2017-2018 as well. So, December 2017 it is.

No matter. Everyone or just about everyone is busy with the holidays and nothing we publish is so urgent that it needs to go out right away. Several of you have told me they enjoy the photographs we have sprinkled throughout — there are more in this number — but getting everything together takes time. Apologies for the delay, but doing this shouldn't seem like work.

You will hear more from us in early February and in the months thereafter. Keep that copy flowing and you will continue to see a newsletter that contains real news — we will leave fake kind to others — and items that we hope are fun and interesting to read. In the meantime, follow your e-mail and check http://www.mun.ca/munpa/ for notices about winter activities in St. John's and Corner Brook.

Steve Wolinetz yourvoice@mun.ca

Tribute Award Citations

Hewitt Warwick retired from the Grenfell Campus in 1992 after having served 22 years at Memorial.

In May 1970, after graduating from what was then the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, he became Graphic Designer in the Educational Television Department at MUN in St John's; five years later, in August 1975, Warwick

transferred to Corner Brook as Graphic Designer and Illustrator in the Graphics and Audiovisual Departments of the new west

Designer strator in phics and ovisual nents of

coast MUN campus. For five years after his retirement he continued activities in the his professional field, working as a free-lance graphic artist from 1992 to 1997 completing designs for a variety of customers including local towns, businesses and community and tourist organizations. His work included designing crests for three local towns namely Pasadena, Steady Brook and Cormack. He designed the Cormack Cenotaph located near George's Church in Cormack. Two of his designs which are viewed daily by large numbers of both residents and visitors are the Viking Ship logo on the Viking Trail Route signs, and the information plaque for the Man in the Mountain viewing site.

In 2005 Warwick ran for a position on the town of Cormack council and garnered the largest number of votes, becoming the mayor of the town. During his term as mayor he represented the town participating in various regional meetings and he was instrumental in overseeing the completion of several major projects which added to the town's facilities. These included the construction of the Community Resource Centre which included a community hall,

> c o n f e r e n c e rooms, town offices, a library and an agricultural heritage centre. He was also instrumental in revitalizing the

sale of building lots in a zoned residential area that had been dormant for a number of years. He was also successful in obtaining government funding to pave community side roads. As mayor he also held meetings with the then incumbent Liberal MP, Gerry Byrne, to discuss the Federal Government's responsibility to the agricultural industry and those issues which affected primary producers.

Since his retirement Warwick's interest and hobbies have included salmon and trout fishing, darts, playing cards and gardening, while maintaining a lovely house on a beautiful 10-acre lot in Cormack. This would be enough to keep many retirees fully occupied and satisfied, but Warwick has used his time in retirement to also make valuable contributions to his home community and to the Humber



Valley region as a whole. For his services to his local community we are today awarding him a well-deserved MUNPA Tribute Award.

Tribute Award Citations cont'd. on next page

Dr. Marguerite MacKenzie

After almost 20 years at Memorial, Dr. Marguerite MacKenzie retired in 2014 and was almost immediately awarded the title of Professor Emerita in recognition of her outstanding career as a researcher and teacher and for her contributions to Memorial.

Her retirement has been no less exceptional. She continues to participate in SSHRC funded Research Projects and in 2016 served on



SSHRC grant assessment committees ... a mark of respect and high regard in the research community. She continues to sit on pan-University committees including the VP (Research) Committee on Aboriginal Research Policy in 2017, and the Interdisciplinary Committee on Ethics in Human Research in 2016. Most importantly, her volunteer and pro-bono activities reflect support of education and

tradition in indigenous communities, as well as her rapport with indigenous communities at both provincial and national levels.

Dr. MacKenzie is a founding member of the St. John's Native Friendship Centre, and has been elected to its Board of Directors every two years. The Board has fostered the growth of the Centre to one of the significant NGOs in the city, with a Homeless Shelter, Child Care Centre, Youth Centre and outreach for Indigenous people in the city. Further demonstrating her commitment to the values of the Centre, she is the epitome of NL hospitality, opening her home to Innu people visiting St. John's, providing needed transportation and visiting those at hospital receiving medical care.

Her work in supporting education in indigenous communities has been prodigious since her retirement. She is, on a pro-bono basis, an Innu Language Consultant with Mamu Tshishkutamashutau, the Labrador Innu school board. She travels to two Innu communities regularly to work with speakers to prepare Innu language materials for use in local schools, and has worked with Innu in Quebec in the production of online games to promote the Innu language. She collaborates with the Naskapi Development Corporation, producing books of traditional stories and legends that are used in local teacher training courses and that serve as an important record of the oral traditions of the Naskapi people. In 2016-17, she collaborated with Eastern Health, preparing booklets of Cancer Care vocabulary and body part diagrams for use in all Labrador indigenous communities.

For her continuing efforts as an educator, mentor, researcher and true friend of the indigenous community at home and nationally, Dr. MacKenzie is recognized today with the MUN Pensioners' Association Tribute Award.

Dr. Mahmoud Haddara

Dr. Haddara retired from Memorial University in 2010, after 25 years with the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science. At the same time, he served the Muslim community of St. John's as Imam, interpreting that role broadly and, besides being spiritual leader, he became a public spokesperson and ambassador for the Muslim community.

Since his retirement, and move to London, Ontario, Dr. Haddara has continued and expanded his work for the Muslim community. He was Acting Imam for the London Muslim Mosque and chaired several of its committees. He served as an educator, teaching introductory courses on Islam for non-Muslims at the London Muslim Mosque, teaching a six-week course — Islam for Christian Leaders — and teaching a shorter workshop — What everyone needs to know about Islam —

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organized by Continuing Studies at the University of Western Ontario, giving talks for students in various schools and to a wide variety of groups in London. He himself became a student, enroling part-time in the Master of Theological Studies program at Huron College of UWO, Ontario.

Together with Rev. Dr. Kate
Crawford, with whom he worked
in St. John's, he is a founding
member of the Multi-social Action
Coalition of London, Ontario, a
multi-faith group advocating for
the elimination of poverty in
Canada. This is a testament to his
concern for broader social issues.
And he has not forgotten St.
John's. He continues to return
annually to speak at the



Christian-Jewish-Muslim Dialogue event here.

While he is a highly regarded naval architect who continues his academic pursuits in his retirement, an appropriate way to think of Dr. Haddara is as a bridge builder, continually finding ways to span differences of all kinds with an emphasis on bridges between Muslims and people of other beliefs. And today we recognize this commitment throughout his retirement with the MUNPA Tribute Award.



L - R: Sheila Singleton, MUNPA Board director; Jane Foltz, MUNPA President; Dr. Marguerite MacKenzie; Hewitt Warwick; Dr. Mahmoud Haddara; MUN President, Dr. Gary Kachanoski.

2018 Tax Information for MUNPA Pensioners

The Department of Human Resources' payroll manager has posted a memo to the HR website detailing 2018 tax information. This memo is available here.

Employees, retirees and survivors are encouraged to read this information and consult a tax advisor with any questions regarding how these changes may affect them.

What's been happening in St. John's

Gene Herzberg treated attendees to some beautiful photos in his talk titled *NL Outdoors* held on November 20th: birds, flowers (see pages 2 and 7); butterflies, icebergs, and sunsets were some of the subjects included in his slideshow. In addition to the pictures, Gene was able to tell us botanical and migratory patterns of many of his subjects, rounding out the show with a chance to learn as well as look.

Linda Kirby and Anne Sinnott ran an all-MUN Trivia game on November 29th. There were 10 different topics ranging from MUN history, to buildings, to president names. Participants were given 2 - 3 minutes to answer each set of questions, which was just enough time to be sure of your answer or guess well! The winner was Bernie Conran, who was awarded a Chapters gift card for her excellent recall of MUN topics.

Our focus and special interest groups have been as active as ever.

Memoir Group

Digging into personal vaults of time, the Memoir group met and shared their memories on subjects as diverse as the early days of the MUN Botanical garden, growing up in Queen's, NY, and serving on the MUNFA executive.

The Shutterbug Club

The Shutterbug Club took field trips to photograph the Battery in fading light, shared photos and tricks and continued to fill hard drives with photos that their heirs will struggle to view — and like all of us, confronted with shoeboxes filled with photos and negatives — will be unsure what to do with them.

The Outing Club

The Outing Club went on forays to Mt. Pearl, Octagon Pond, and the Punch Bowl trail off the Cape Spear Road. With winter coming and snow on the ground, some will continue indoors, on the Field House track, while others switch to Yak Tracks, snowshoes or—weather and trails permitting — the odd walk on bare ground.

Woodworking Group

Our woodworking group was launched.

Crafts Group

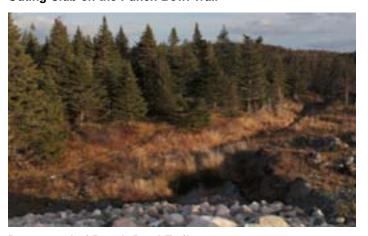
And not to be outdone — if that's possible — the craft group has been busy. We will let you know with what in a future *Your Voice*.

Christmas Social

Record numbers attended our annual Christmas Social, held as it has been for the last several years at the Fluvarium. We've yet to see the sun setting over Long Pond starting at 4 p.m. — that is dicey in December — but we will keep on trying to catch a few last rays. It has to happen sooner or later.



Outing Club on the Punch Bowl Trail



Dam at end of Punch Bowl Trail





Additional photos
from Herzberg
presentation, NL
Outdoors, held on
November 20th.
(Top) Moonrise.
(Middle) Sunset.
(Bottom) Yellow
Lady's Slippers on
the Northern
Peninsula.









What's been happening on the West Coast

Above photos, L to R: Recent retirees Olaf Janzen, Jim Duffy and Jeannette Kerrivan enjoying their first MUNPA social event • Martin Steele, (door prize recipient) and presenter, Madonna Day • Henry Mann, another door prize recipient, accepts a butternut squash from Madonna Day.

On Nov 29, almost 40 people attended an information session on MUN's Emergency Travel Insurance Plan (provided by SSQ) and the Health and Dental Plan (provided by Medavie Blue Cross).

Human Resources co-ordinated the session and arranged to have presentations by representatives from both insurance companies. Jessica Couture, Grenfell's HR Director was present and contributed information as well. The session focussed on points relevant to MUNPA members. Some active MUN employees also attended.

Everyone agreed it was a very informative session and worth repeating on a regular basis as new retirees join MUNPA.



Scene from information session on MUN's Emergency Travel Insurance Plan (provided by SSQ) and the Health and Dental Plan (provided by Medavie Blue Cross).

Thirty people attended Nov 15 the Grenfell MUNPA 'Christmas in November' social at the Blow Me Down Cross Country Ski Club Chalet.

Sean and Linda Leamon and their staff prepared a turkey dinner with all the trimmings and a draw was held for door prizes that included chocolates, vegetables and Christmas decorations.

Attendees contributed a \$195 donation to the Grenfell Campus Student Food Bank.



Lois Bateman (left), and Sharon Walsh (right) presenting the Food Bank donation to Jennifer Mitchell (center), Manager, Student Housing, Grenfell Campus.



Travel Notes

by Dr. Joan Scott, Biology



Clockwise from top: A strikingly colourful wreath on display at the Basel Christmas market. A scene from the Christmas market outside Basel cathedral. Trees at Hampton Court, UK.



platform against the ice. It was my second visit to HCP. While Victoria greatly enjoyed the excellent art, I found

the gardens — the Yew avenues, the Great Vine, the

formal beds, the persimmon tree loaded with orange fruit and a magpie, up against the warm tan bricks of

the palace — had great impact. **W**



by Dr. Peter Sinclair Sociology

I worked for 30 years at Memorial in Sociology and never regretted my move from Guelph in 1980. I had many friends, conducted a wide range of local and international research, and every year I always found some students who would have been stars at any university. However, Gladys and I decided to move, initially to Waterloo for family reasons, and soon after that to Courtenay, BC, for its combination of a temperate climate and moderate housing costs.

So far this change is working well. True, there are the occasional inconveniences of island living, but we do make good use of the Comox airport. Courtenay and

Comox have most urban facilities and the natural environment is exceptional. We live in a condo overlooking the Courtenay estuary while Mount Washington is visible from our balcony. Our building is on the edge of a nature reserve with a lovely creek and the temperate mixed rainforest that is common on this coast. However, summers are dry with most rain falling from November to March. Unlike many people, we stay here in the winter and travel in Fall and Spring. Summers are too good to miss. Actually, it's not always wise to move for weather. I am now a west coast wimp, complaining like the locals when the temperature drops below about five degrees.

Most importantly, we have a wide circle of friends and there is

Above: The band *La Familia* seen performing in conjunction with the Georgia Strait Jazz Society. Photo courtesy of Peter Sinclair.

always something interesting to do in a community that seems full of enthusiastic organizers. I still do a small amount of academic work, but spend much more time developing my photography on a wide range of subjects. This includes volunteer photography for various groups and events for which funds to hire professionals are normally scarce. For example, for five years I have photographed performances for the Georgia Straight Jazz Society. I've always loved the music but can't play.

Life is good.

Quiz Time for St. John's Campus Retirees

Some St. John's retirees recently found themselves taking exams. They weren't back in school but rather wracking their brains trying to answer trivia questions assembled by Anne Sinnott and Linda Kirby. Here is a sampling: How many can you answer? (See answers at bottom of page.)

- 1. Two buildings have identical names, except for the spelling, occasionally leading to confusion for non-campus visitors. What are they?
- 2. The Parade Street Building's cost of construction was _____
- 3. This building, housing one faculty member, grew from two to four floors in the 1990s.
- 4. In the space of about one year, this person served in a full or acting capacity as President, Vice-President Research and Vice-President Academic.
- 5. How many full, not pro tempore, presidents has MUN had since 1949?
- 6. Prince Philip Drive was closed during student protests due to the tragic death of a MUN student in a car accident in what year?
- 7. Name the Med School Professor and Doctor known for his humour and bow ties?
- 8. What was the name of the cafeteria in the TSC in the early 1970s?
- 9. Burke House is named after Vincent P. Burke. When he was very young, he became principal of the high school in Torbay. Was he: a) 17 b) 18 c) 19 or d) 20?
- 10. When was the cornerstone for the Arts Building laid when the plan was for the university to move from Parade Street to Elizabeth Avenue?

Kudos for Your Voice from Dr. Vance Maxwell

I want to congratulate all of the devoted volunteers of *Your Voice* for having created a beautiful MUNPA web site. It draws one into its various sections and doings. I especially enjoyed reading the Halloween reminiscences, and recall the doings of us children in my village in Nova Scotia, including fire works and high jinks like putting a burning tire in the middle of the road, and overturning out houses. These usually brought visits from the RCMP to survey matters, but

with no arrests or charges, since the perpetrators would have long disappeared into the gothic darkness protecting us all. I look forward to future issues of *Your Voice*, though I'm now retired and far from St. John's. I send greetings to you all and I send you all best Holiday and New Year's wishes.

Vance Maxwell, Philosophy, (Ret.) (but still researching, writing and publishing).

Making Your Voice a lively read depends on you

Copy and photos are coming in but we need a steady flow. Our thanks to everyone who has already contributed. If you have an idea or something in hand, ideally no more than 300-400 words (or less) in length please send it in. Contact us at yourvoice@mun.ca. The next issue will appear in February.

Answers to Exam Time: 1. Field House and Field Hall; 2. \$300,000; 3. Business Building; 4. Dr. Chris Loomis; 5. 8; 6. 1980; 7. Bill Eaton; 8. Spanish Cafe,; 9. 19; 10. Oct. 9, 1952

FROM THE ST. JOHN'S PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

A final word....

by Anne Sinnott, Chair, Programmes Committee

As the article on *What's Been Happening in St. John's* indicated (see page 6), the St. John's Programme Committee has been finishing up a busy fall. The high point was the Christmas Social. We had a record attendance and everyone had a good time.

More important, we raised \$270 from the Silent Auction, \$433.65 from individual donations, and with the \$1500 donated by MUNPA (see Jane Foltz' note on page 1) that amounted to \$2,203.65 for the Campus Food Bank. This is just wonderful! The Campus Food Bank values hampers at about \$150 so that was almost enough for fifteen hampers. **

Needless to say we have been working on programming for the winter and spring. **Our first event is Genealogy 101**, with Wanda Garrett, January 23 at 2 p.m. at the Lantern. We will roll out the rest of the winter programme early in the new year. Please check the MUNPA website for details.

** MUNPA also donated \$500 to the Grenfell campus food bank.