The 26th President’s Reception for Retirees

The 26th President’s Reception for Retirees will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2009, at 2:00pm in Marshall McLuhan Hall, Room 204 University Centre, the University of Manitoba Fort Garry Campus. You are invited to meet with Dr. David Barnard, President and Vice Chancellor, other retirees of the University of Manitoba, and our speaker Jay Anderson, who will speak on Stalking the Prairie Tornado.

Manitoba has had nine tornadoes in 2009; Saskatchewan and Alberta each have had sixteen. When summers turn hot and muggy, the severe weather season is upon us. Nearly every thunderstorm is a threat. Though the past century has seen over two thousand tornadoes reported between Winnipeg and Edmonton, they still remain an enigma and a source of wonder and fear. How, then, does a selection of adventurous souls try (and succeed) in capturing these elusive twisters on video and camera? This presentation will demonstrate how it’s done. We’ll take a look at the history of prairie tornadoes, examine what is known about their causes, and show how modern technology now makes it possible to predict at least the larger tornadoes with a fair rate of success. And if you want to try some chasing yourself, this talk will show how to get into the right position and avoid the danger zones. Your summers may never be the same again.

Jay Anderson is a retired Environment Canada meteorologist with a 30-year history of trying to predict tornadoes and other weather beasts, mostly on the prairies. Over the past 8 years, he has collected reports of prairie tornadoes, amassing a dataset of over 3000 events. Recently, he has been occupied in teaching meteorology and climate change at the University. In the summer months, he helps teach and conduct the storm-chasing course that takes students out into the field to try their skills at prediction and interception.

At the reception which follows, there will be time to greet your former colleagues and friends. Spouses/partners are also welcome to attend. Please invite those survivors of retirees whom you know. You are asked to RSVP by Friday, October 16 to Linda Lassman, E-mail: linda_lassman@umanitoba.ca or telephone: (204) 474-9124.

Changes to your address or status?

This is a reminder for retirees to advise the Staff Benefits Office of any change in address or family status. If you currently receive monthly payments, such as a Post Retirement Adjustment payment or a monthly annuity payment from the University, or have Retiree Supplementary Health, Dental or Optional Life Insurance benefits, please contact the Staff Benefits Office directly at (204) 474-7428 or by E-mail at SB-Webmaster@ms.umanitoba.ca to report changes. Also, would you please notify UMRA at (204) 474-7175 or E-mail: retirees@cc.umanitoba.ca

The 26th President’s Reception for Retirees

The spring President’s Reception for Retirees is on Saturday, April 17, 2010, and will take place in Marshall McLuhan Hall on the Fort Garry Campus.

At our April reception, Debbie McCallum showed us the architect’s rendition for the new student residence which will be built over Pembina Hall. What a clever use of space for a very attractive addition to the campus.

President Barnard’s Strategic Planning Framework 2009-14 can be viewed by going to the UMRA Homepage and clicking on the Search button in the upper right hand corner.

Click on UoM, then type in the name of this document, University of Manitoba Strategic Planning Framework. Another way to access this document is by typing the following address into the address field in your browser: http://umanitoba.ca/admin/president/media/UMPlanningFramework200914.pdf

Order of Manitoba Presented

On July 15, 2009, Dr. Emoke Szathmáry received the Order of Manitoba from the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba in a ceremony at Government House.

The National Science Fair, held at the University of Manitoba in May 2009, was a success. Barry Webster, a member of UMRA, coordinated the event. Thank you to the retirees who volunteered to be judges. Seven or more UM retirees found it a worthwhile and rewarding experience.

Email contact to Retirees

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Submissions to Retirees’ Newsletter

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Restoration of the Duff Roblin Building

After the fire April 11, 2009, the restoration of the Duff Roblin Building is underway. Faculty, staff, and graduate students have been allocated to space all over campus. A temporary archive exists from which affected faculty and students can retrieve materials. For the fall of 2009, trailers have been set up in B Parking Lot to house faculty and graduate students. The restoration of the Duff Roblin Building will take considerable time.

For more information, go to the UMRA web site. Use the Search button on the upper right corner, select Uof M, then type Duff Roblin restoration in the search box.

Choir for seniors

The Joie de Vivre Choir is inviting new members to join this vibrant group of singers age 55 plus, under the direction of Helga Anderson, with accompanist Ross Houston. Participants enjoy learning a repertoire ranging from Renaissance to contemporary works. Previous choral singing or musical experience is an asset, however all seniors who love to sing are welcome. Rehearsals are held on Saturday mornings from 10:00-11:30am, in Room 226 Education Building, beginning September 12, 2009. This 32-week program is offered through the Division of Preparatory Studies, Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music. Fee: $255.00. For further information on this group and for other musical opportunities, please call (204) 474-9797 or visit the website www.umanitoba/music/prep

UMRA Annual General Meeting

The next UMRA AGM will be held before the President’s Reception, Saturday, October 24, 2009, at 12:30pm in Rooms 205/207 University Centre – across from Marshall McLuhan Hall

At the AGM, there will be the election of members to the Executive to fill vacant positions, reports by the Treasurer and UMRA committees, and matters of interest to all retirees. Even though only active members of UMRA can vote on the election of members and other motions, all attendees are encouraged to fully participate in the discussions at the AGM.

Parking for Reception and Annual General Meeting

Parking for the President’s reception and AGM is available in Parking Lot A (located north of University Centre, excluding A Lot St. John’s Resident 24-hour reserved) and in Parking Lot P (north of the Education Building). Parking is also available in the Parkade for a fee. Rates are posted at the entrance.

Alumni House demolished

Alumni House was demolished in August in order to make way for a new building to provide for high-tech studio spaces for the School of Art. The UMRA Office has been relocated from Alumni House to 135 Innovation Drive in SmartPark. The telephone number and mailing address remain the same, (204) 474-7175.

For more information on the demolition of Alumni House, use the Search button in the upper right corner of the UMRA home page, select Uof M and then type Alumni House.

Would you be interested in a walking tour of the University of Manitoba Campus?

There have been many changes to the Fort Garry Campus recently and Brian Macpherson has agreed to conduct tours whenever a sufficient number of retirees are interested. For those interested, there will be a sign-up list at the Information table at the October AGM and Reception, or you may call the UMRA office at (204) 474-7175.
UMRA Website Updates

Photos, anecdotes, and memories

Retirees are invited to share photos, anecdotes, and memories of their spring and summer activities. Tips on great vacations or places to travel are also welcome. Send along your items and photos to UMRA by email at retirees@cc.umanitoba.ca.

“In Memoriam” is a new section on our Website to recognize retirees’ lives. It appears in the list on the left side of the UMRA Homepage. When you click on “In Memoriam”, a list of deceased University of Manitoba retirees, along with a short description of where each person worked at the university, will appear. By clicking on a name, you will be linked to a PDF containing the full published obituary.

UMRA Jackets and Coffee Mugs for Sale: Buy one with the UMRA logo.

At the April 2009 President’s Reception, a sample UMRA jacket was on display. If you are interested in buying one, a minimum of six jackets must be ordered at one time. Sample jackets will be available at the October AGM and Reception. Please contact UMRA by telephone or E-mail when you are interested in ordering. (UMRA Jacket - $60, UMRA Coffee Mug - $12).

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Deadlines for submission of articles to Retirees’ News: July 15 for the September newsletter, January 15 for the March newsletter.

Alumni Reunions
UMRA retirees were kindly invited to attend the reunions held in Vancouver and Victoria held in the spring ’09. There was a good turnout of UM retirees and the Alumni were delighted to see their “old” pros and former staff members again.

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The University of Manitoba Retirees Association
Box 5, Administration Bldg., The University of Manitoba Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2
Phone: (204) 474-7175
E-mail: retirees@cc.umanitoba.ca
Website: http://umanitoba.ca/outreach/retirees/