

The Henry Herald

A newsletter for retirees of Schoolcraft College

Fall 2017 Vol.1, No. 3

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Big Success

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A Message from Victoria



With this edition of *The Henry Herald*, we are officially celebrating the first full year of our Schoolcraft College Retiree Program! In the past year, we have hosted the first retiree breakfast, organized several retiree trips, kept you informed with timely information through email communications, and produced three editions of *The Henry Herald*.

We want to welcome all of our new retirees and encourage you to get involved and stay connected. Please make certain we have your personal contact information and especially your email address, as email is our primary means of communication. Send to vrexius@schoolcraft.edu.

Moving forward, it is our intention to schedule retiree activities around the same time each year. With this in mind, our annual retiree calendar will include the following: an annual Florida event in February, an annual SC retiree group trip each spring which will depart from the Livonia campus, an annual SC retiree breakfast in June, and an annual SC retiree group trip each fall which will depart from the Livonia campus. We hope this schedule will make it easy for you to pre-plan and support the program's activities. You will find details for 2018 retiree activities in the **What's Coming Up** section.

We are very pleased with the support and feedback we are getting from everyone and we look forward to another great year.

Cover photo by Patrick Mog

Message from the Retiree Committee



Back Row, left to right: Jack Washka, Roger Sutherland, Cheri Holman, Elizabeth Lichty-Mayes, Mary Beaudoin, Joyce Galindo. **Front Row:** Sylvia Vukmirovich, Jean Pike, Elgene Doinidis
Not Pictured: Robert Burnside, Deb Dani, Art Lindenberg, Richard Tomalty, Gordon Wilson

As retirees, we all know that time flies when you are having fun. It's hard to believe that this is already our third edition of *The Henry Herald*. The response has been overwhelmingly positive and we are excited to continue. As you read through this publication, you will learn about all the exciting things that have taken place as well as what events are planned for our future.

With the college's recent employee buyout, we have a lot of new retirees. We would like to welcome all of you to our group and encourage you to attend one of our meetings, participate in upcoming events, share your ideas for events, and suggest items for this publication. Be sure to check out the **What's Coming Up** section on page 5 and join us in your new role as retiree. To be sure we have an accurate email address for you, please contact Victoria Rexius at vrexius@schoolcraft.edu or 734-462-4501.

Stay Connected



▶ **Check your email inbox for important messages coming soon!**

Please keep your contact information up to date with us. Email is the primary method used to send announcements and information about special events, so make sure we have your most current email on file. Contact Victoria to update your information at 734-462-4501 or email vrexius@schoolcraft.edu.

First Annual Retiree Breakfast

The first annual Retiree Breakfast was a great success. More than 125 people gathered to reconnect, share memories, and hear the latest campus news. Everyone enjoyed hearing Dr. Conway Jeffress' spirited summary of all the changes that have happened on campus over the past 20 years as well as the vision for the College's future.

In addition, Schoolcraft College's Lt. Mark Engstrom gave a presentation explaining that the college now has its own official police force and he described how they are keeping campus safe with the help of a high tech security facility known as "Command Central."

Next, Tom Block, the director of Schoolcraft's new Brewing and Distillation program gave an overview of the new academic program and shared a time lapse video detailing how space in the culinary school was carved out to build what is now a state-of-the-art brewery.

The crowd also heard a moving presentation from Schoolcraft student Hermann Chendjou, a young man from Cameroon. Hermann shared the story of his struggles and the successes he is experiencing as he continues to pursue his educational dreams at Schoolcraft College.

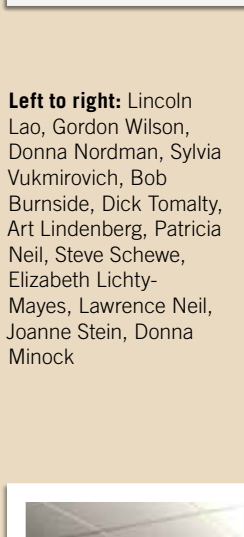
The program wrapped up with Cheri Holman, Roger Sutherland, and Dick Tomalty sharing some humorous memories of their time on campus.

Afterward, guided tours of campus were arranged so all could see first-hand the growth on campus.

Next year's event is already in the works so mark your calendar to attend our second Retiree Breakfast on Thursday, June 21, 2018. Your support for retiree events will ensure their continued success.



Front to Back: Steve Schewe, Gordon Wilson, Donna Nordman, Art Lindenberg, Dick & Elaine Tomalty, Donna Minock, Elizabeth Lichy-Mayes



Left to right: Lincoln Lao, Gordon Wilson, Donna Nordman, Sylvia Vukmirovich, Bob Burnside, Dick Tomalty, Art Lindenberg, Patricia Neil, Steve Schewe, Elizabeth Lichy-Mayes, Lawrence Neil, Joanne Stein, Donna Minock



Above: Lt. Mark Engstrom gives a tour of "Command Central."

At left, left to right: *Front Row:* Lawrence & Patricia Neil, Art Lindenberg, Elizabeth Lichy-Mayes, Pat Partyka, Elaine Tomalty, Donna Nordman, Lincoln Lao, Bob Burnside. *Back Row:* Gordon Wilson, Tom Block, Dick Tomalty, Steve Schewe, Donna Minock, Joanne Stein, Sylvia Vukmirovich.

What's Been Happening

All Things Detroit



First Retiree Trip

It was a beautiful sunny spring day in May when we kicked off our first retiree outing. Thirty SC retirees boarded a deluxe motor coach to experience a guided day tour of Detroit. Among the places visited were; Belle Isle, the Guardian Building, Eastern Market, Indian Village, Motown Records, and the new Riverfront walkway. The tour was thoroughly enjoyed by all and especially the lunch stop at Detroit's landmark restaurant the Roma Café. The comments below are a sampling of the positive reviews for our first trip:

“Wonderful trip to Detroit, thank you to the planning committee for their work in making the first trip a success. Gerry and I had a great time catching up with our fellow retirees.”

— FAYE DRISCOLL

“The trip was a terrific success.”

— DICK & ELAINE TOMALTY

“Thank you for hosting the wonderful tour “All Things Detroit.” We truly enjoyed the tour, food and camaraderie. Perfect four-star day.”

— COLETTE & JON PERUGIA

“What a great day! Great job of organizing and Bianco did a great job of executing. The committee field trips are off to a good start.”

— JOYCE GALINDO

Stratford Trip

Retiree Fall Trip

Great company, beautiful weather and fabulous performances came together to make the retiree trip to Stratford a memorable one. The group of 22 boarded a luxury tour bus and began the journey to Canada. After arriving in Stratford and checking into a lovely hotel, there was just enough time to unwind and enjoy some companionship by the fire before gathering for dinner at the hotel. Following dinner, the group was off to the Festival Theatre to see the fabulous production of *Guys & Dolls*. The next day, following a group breakfast, everyone had a chance to shop and walk the quaint streets of beautiful Stratford. After a lovely lunch, the group attended the matinee performance of *Twelfth Night*. The trip was a huge success and earned rave reviews from all who attended.

“We had such a fun, compassionate group! I hope that many of them are back for all of our trips. Thanks for getting it together.”

— SYLVIA VUKMIROVICH

“We appreciated your efforts to see that everything went smoothly on our Stratford adventure. We enjoyed the plays, food, hotel, and shopping. We had a great time!”

— MARY JO KELLER

“Thanks for the Stratford Trip. It was wonderful ...well, it was more than wonderful!!

— JOYCE GALINDO



SC retirees enjoy the Hitsville stop.



Group pose before Stratford performance.

What's Coming Up

Upcoming
Retiree
Events

Schoolcraft Focus 2018: Retiree Informational Session—We need you!

Wednesday, December 6, 2017
1:30p.m. VisTaTech Center

As a retiree, your insights are very important to the college. The Schoolcraft Board of Trustees is considering placing a proposal on the November 2018 ballot to increase funding for the college. Before it makes its final decision, it needs input from important stakeholders like you. We encourage all retirees to join us for this important retiree informational session. Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP immediately, but no later than Monday, November 27, by calling 734-462-4501 or emailing vrexius@schoolcraft.edu. Look for reminders about this event in your email in November.

Retiree & Alumni Florida Event

February 2018

Back by popular demand! We will be hosting another event in the Naples area of Florida in February 2018. If you are going to be in Florida during our visit, please join us! Watch for specific dates and details in January or contact Victoria Rexus at 734-462-4501 or email vrexius@schoolcraft.edu.

Retiree Spring Trip: Frederick Meijer Garden & Sculpture Park and the Gerald Ford Museum

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Join your fellow retirees to experience masterpieces of art and nature at one of the nation's premier horticultural display gardens and sculpture parks in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In addition, we'll visit the Gerald Ford Museum to experience highlights from President and Mrs. Ford's lives. Deluxe motor coach transportation and a coupon for lunch at the Frederick Meijer Café included. \$89 per person. Put your name on a waiting list today! Call 734-462-4501 or email vrexius@schoolcraft.edu.

Annual Retiree Breakfast

Thursday, June 21, 2018
9:30–11a.m.

Join us for the SC Retirees Annual Retiree Breakfast! Just like last year, this event will be a wonderful opportunity to see old friends and hear from our President about the latest news at the college. Watch for announcements in April 2018 with details and to RSVP.

Retiree Fall Trip: Detroit Parade Company Studio and Ford Field


Friday, November 9, 2018

You're invited to take a behind-the-scenes look and discover Detroit's hidden treasures at **The Parade Company Studio**. Step into a story land of color and fun as we get ready for one of Detroit's most anticipated holiday events, America's Thanksgiving Parade®. Wander through a wonderland of fantasy and floats. Marvel at the world's largest collection of antique paper-mâché heads. See the Costume Department where Parade characters come to life. Meet award winning artisans who bring the magic to YOU!

Then...

We'll also get a behind-the-scenes glimpse at Detroit's crown jewel and the NFL's most revered stadium, **Ford Field**. Experience this innovation in architecture, and get a peek at a Ford Field suite and an NFL locker room. Walk down the tunnel to the field and stand on the turf for a player's view of the stadium. Includes: Transportation and lunch at a popular Detroit restaurant. \$74 per person. Put your name on a waiting list today! Contact Victoria Rexus at 734-462-4501 or email vrexius@schoolcraft.edu.

Don't wait!
Spaces are limited.
Reserve now!
734-462-4501

Check your email for
important messages
coming soon! 

New Retirees

We congratulate and welcome our new retirees! With the recent employee buy-out there are too many to list here individually. Visit the retiree website for a complete list. Go to scf.schoolcraft.edu/new-retirees, then choose Retirees in the menu box.

The SC Retiree Webpage

With the support of the Schoolcraft College Foundation, SC retirees have their own webpage! We encourage all of our NEW retirees to get familiar with it and *all* retirees to visit it often. To visit the webpage go to scf.schoolcraft.edu and then choose Retirees in the menu box.

Retiree Benefits

Free Classes

Retirees who have been granted Emeritus or Honoraire status, along with their spouses, can take one class per semester tuition-free.

Additional Benefits

- Emeritus/Honoraire Parking Passes
- Emeritus/Honoraire Discount Fitness Membership
- Bookstore discount
- Access to Campus Library
- Discount on CEPD classes for retirees over 60 years old

SC Retiree Events At A Glance *See p. 5 for details*

- **Wednesday, December 6, 2017** Schoolcraft Focus 2018 Informational Session
- **Wednesday, May 16, 2018** Meijer Gardens and Gerald Ford Museum
- **Thursday, June 21, 2018** Annual Retiree Breakfast
- **Friday, November 9, 2018** Parade Company and Ford Field

Campus Community Events

Retirees Welcome!!

- Holiday Reception, Thursday, December 7, 2017, 2:30 p.m., VisTaTech Center, DiPonio Room
- Employee Appreciation Luncheon, Wednesday, April 13, 2018, 11:30a.m., VisTaTech Center, DiPonio Room
- Ice Cream Social, Wednesday, July 11, 2018, 3:00 p.m., VisTaTech Center, Waterman Wing

In Memoriam

Chef Richard Benson passed away on August 31, 2017. He served as a culinary professor for 29 years until his retirement in 1993.

Geraldine Caplan passed away on June 24, 2017. She served as a professor of nursing for 24 years until her retirement in 1988.

James R. Hartman passed away on May 3, 2017, just after making the decision to retire. He oversaw the Theatre Department and staged scores of plays during his 30 years with Schoolcraft College.

Gary Hershoren passed away on April 17, 2017. He served as a counselor and professor for 29 years until his retirement in 1996.

Grover Niergarth passed away on February 22, 2017. He served as a professor of biology for 26 years until his retirement in 1990.

Richard Reinholt passed away on October 20, 2017. He served as a professor of architecture for 30 years until his retirement in 1995.



Do you have an idea about an activity that we could plan for retirees? We welcome all suggestions! Contact Victoria at vraxius@schoolcraft.edu or 734-462-4501.

Retiree Spotlight

Janina Udrys

I am delighted that Schoolcraft College is providing opportunities for retirees to share stories about their lives and travels. My husband and I have visited the country of Lithuania six times. Why Lithuania, you might ask? Well, we were born there and at a very young age left the country under oppressive circumstances. As the Second World War was raging and Lithuania was occupied by the Russians for the second time, our family fled because of a threat that we were on a list to be deported to Siberian gulags. This topic always piques the listener's interest and that's where the story begins—a harrowing story I was asked to share.

My family of six began the flight from Lithuania with a horse drawn wagon packed with several household items and a small supply of food. In a stream of other refugees, we headed through the countryside of Lithuania then through northern Poland, desperately trying to reach the West. The flight lasted almost a year because of various barriers—we were caught between retreating Germans and attacking Russians, constantly seeking shelter from bombs and bullets. Even though I began the journey only being three years old, I remember vividly some of the incidents we encountered. For example, my father was taken away by the Germans to dig defensive trenches—if he refused, he would have been shot instantly. I remember a Russian soldier jamming his rifle in my mother's chest demanding she give him her golden wedding bands. She refused thinking she might have to barter them for food for her children. At the end of the war we were still in Poland. Eventually, due to my mother's efforts, we were able to leave Poland, then occupied by the Russians, and reach the American zone of Berlin. I remember, on a subway, an American soldier gave us kids a Hershey bar—can you imagine what a treat that was! In Berlin we lived in a refugee camp, where I got a first gulp of a magnificent drink called *Coca Cola*.

Through exchange of letters among Lithuanian refugees and the United Nations Relief Agency's family reunification program, we were reunited with my father whom we found in southern Germany.



At first, I attended a Lithuanian grade school organized by Lithuanian refugee teachers, but the school closed so we began attending German grade schools. Because job prospects after the war in Germany were bleak, my father sought a sponsor who would help us to emigrate to the U.S. After arriving in Chicago in 1950, at age 9, I began attending a local public school with my English vocabulary of “yes,” “no” and “thank you.” To read the full account of my humble beginnings, please go to the retiree segment of the Schoolcraft College Foundation website: scf.schoolcraft.edu/retiree-spotlights.

As we age we have more time to reflect and be thankful for what we have. I am extremely grateful to our gracious country for giving my family a chance to experience freedom and prosperity through education and hard work. I am deeply grateful to the college for giving me the opportunity to have a successful career and to share my story with my friends and colleagues. ♦



Schoolcraft College

FOUNDATION
18600 Haggerty Road
Livonia, MI 48152-2696

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Minds in Motion

Join us for our new Lifelong Learning series, *Minds in Motion!* Each term we will focus on a theme. Classes will include an overview of the topic along with guided discussion and/or an activity. Students may enroll in the series or an individual class.

- Series cost: \$64/Senior \$51.20
- Individual class cost: \$24.00/Senior \$19.20
- Registration opens November 20, 2017

Minds in Motion: Biology

Learn about the accuracy of DNA testing and the future of forensic identification.

Friday, February 16 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Minds in Motion: Chemistry

Discover and witness chemical reactions that take place every day.

Friday, March 9 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Minds in Motion: Physics

Explore the physics involved with photography.

Friday, March 23 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Dine and Discover Luncheons

Advanced registration is required. Call 734-462-4448 at least seven business days prior to the event. Cost is \$24; Senior Rate is \$19.20

Who Gives a Hoot about Michigan Winters? Owls Do

Friday, December 8, 2017

Cranbrook House & Gardens:

A Life Without Beauty is Only Half-Lived

Friday, February 23, 2018

1915 – 1948 Classic Cars: The Era of Elegance

Friday, March 16, 2018

Coffee & Conversation

Advanced registration is required. Call 734-462-4448 for more information. Cost is \$15; Senior Rate is \$12

Polish Folk Art

Friday, January 26, 2018

Life on the Spectrum: Asperger's Syndrome

Friday, April 6, 2018

Wednesday Noon Concert Series

Located in the VisTaTech Center • Kehrl Auditorium
All Wednesday recitals are open to the public at no cost.
Donations are gratefully accepted at the door.

- December 13: Paul Keller Holiday Jazz
- January 13: Ellen Rowe Trio "All About the Trio"
- January 24: The Merling Trio
- February 14: Fritz Kaenzig, tuba
- February 21: Ellen Rowe Trio "All About the Trio"
- March 14: Schoolcraft Faculty Recital
- March 21: Planet D Nonet
- April 4: The Mack Sisters, piano duo



A Message from the Schoolcraft College Foundation

The Schoolcraft College Foundation is pleased to make the SC Retiree Program possible and congratulates the program on a successful first year. The Foundation also wishes to thank all the retirees who continue to generously support the work and students of Schoolcraft College. In doing so, you are

Fostering opportunity today. Changing lives forever.

For more information about ways in which you can make a difference, please contact the Foundation at 734-462-4455 or visit scf.schoolcraft.edu/ways-to-give.