

► *Emeritus Group and Friends Update*

Winter Gathering, Open House on December 5, 2015
Lanford House, 194 Central Avenue, Fredonia

Let's start this message by saying, "we must have done something right." After two horrible winters, the approach of fall left everyone a bit skeptical about the upcoming winter months. That "something right" was the fact that we endured those months (however grudgingly) and at this writing have been rewarded with mild, spring-like weather for the Open House hosted by President "Ginny" Horvath.

Peter Komada, our reliable camera man, was among the first to arrive. He made his move right away to meet several people at the front door to catch their smiles and grins. He then made his way through the adjoining rooms, tapping folks on their shoulders and getting some very good close-ups. The good times with friends and former colleagues are thus captured in these memorable pictures. It should be noted that upon arriving, many folks brought donated canned goods and non-perishable items for the local food pantry and placed them in the boxes by the front door.

A special thank you goes to Ginny for keeping the Emeritus Group's gathering an exclusive event. Many were pleased with this aspect which allowed members to mingle freely with colleagues and friends at this holiday season. And although there was no accurate count of how many attended, conversations filled every room — especially the dining room where hot mulled cider, eggnog, stuffed mushrooms, and plenty of healthy vegetables were offered.

Someone asked Ginny about her dogs to which she quickly responded, "Would you like to see them?" And that's all it took for her to be upstaged by those two adorable creatures. She allowed members to hold them and explained their names to everyone — Winifred (Freddie) at 8 lbs and Miss Donna at 3.5 lbs. Together their names sound like Fredonia. The breed type is a Biewer. It might be safe to say that several of us would be willing to adopt them — should the occasion arise.

As the afternoon came to a close, it was evident everyone enjoyed themselves. Some even lingered on the portico and near the driveway to get a few more chances to wish each other a warm holiday greeting. At this point, it looks like we may have a mild winter, but we must remember that this is Western New York and Mother Nature is fickle. We hope to see you at the next meeting at the Shorewood Country Club on Thursday, March 17, 2016. Reservation forms are attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Briggs, Secretary

As we try to be as sustainable as possible, the Emeritus Newsletter is also available in electronic form. Please email Denise Szalkowski at denise.szalkowski@fredonia.edu if you are interested in receiving the newsletter through email instead of a paper copy. Thank you!

► *Emeritus Newsbits*

We all enjoy reading about the lives and accomplishments of our former colleagues but we can't do that unless our colleagues submit the information! If you haven't done so recently, please consider sending a brief (100–200 words) update to: Dan O'Rourke, 8002 Frisbee Road, Cassadaga, NY 14718 or orourke@netsync.net. Don't think of them as letters but as postcards to old friends and colleagues. They are interested in you. We will only edit gently. Thank you.

— Dan O'Rourke, Editor

Many thanks for your efforts with the retiree newsletter. Here is a little info about what I've been up to. I thoroughly enjoyed my first summer as a retiree but now I have returned to work part time until April as Auditions Manager in the School of Music. I fill my spare time with travel, reading, cooking, and knitting (those three grandchildren in Wisconsin need hats and scarves!). I also love to go out for lunch. You can contact me at catherine.kilpatrick@fredonia.edu.

— *Catherine Kilpatrick*

I retired in 2001 to Helsinki, where I had a Fulbright in 2000. There, I met and married a Finn (10 years later) who now is a major player in the EU marine research agenda. I have taught for all those years courses in English Writing of Science, which means courses for those who want to publish in English. Recently, my contract was terminated due to ageism. But I still continue to do editing, scholarly advisement, and the like for students bereft of local advice. As I write, I have a project from a faculty member who expects me to reduce 13000 words to 8000. So it goes. Since I moved here I have explored the difference between my (former) "job" and my present and ongoing "work." I have published three books (one to come out in the spring from Routledge) and over 30 articles. I have resumed my hobby of Japanese culture by building a karesansui garden here (with a waterfall), engaging again with bonsai (separately forwarded if interested), and have moved most of my collection of oriental artifacts and arts here. Any friends who are in these parts are welcome to visit: we have plenty of room for visitors.

— *Tom Regelski*

I have had a busy year in Chicago. I am teaching 2-3 courses per quarter for the School of New Learning at DePaul University. Most are online courses so it does make it easier for commuting and fitting it into my design work. I just remounted, for the fifth season, The Christmas Schooner opening at the Mercury Theater - Chicago this December. I am also teaching quilting courses in the region, as well as doing my own quilting and working part-time for Husqvarna-

Viking. This past autumn my son and I took a 14-day cruise through the Panama Canal from San Diego to Galveston. I traveled on Amtrak to San Diego and again from San Antonio to Chicago, and found it a wonderful way to see the country. We visited the Mexican Riviera and Cozumel, as well as Panama and Cartagena Colombia. I took advantage of sightseeing and shopping, while my son squeezed in all the scuba diving he could. Hopefully next cruise my husband and I will be joining him on his diving adventures.

— *Carol Blanchard-Rocheleau & Patrick Rocheleau*

James Ulrich will be inducted in the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame on February 15, 2016 in Jamestown. Due to health issues he will not attend the ceremony, so Trevor Hitchcock (formerly coached by Ulrich), will accept the award on his behalf. Ulrich's athletic accomplishments, both as an athlete and as a coach, have earned him a place in five athletic halls of fame.

Previously, his induction into the Niagara Track and Field Hall of Fame included the James D. Ulrich award, which is given annually to the top collegiate Div. III Male Track & Field athlete in upstate NY. Jim's book, "Effective Coaching," is available on Amazon.

— *Jim and Linda Ulrich*

I am well into the second set of replacement batteries to support the implants from the Deep Brain Surgery (q.v.Google) five years ago. The implants have made a remarkable difference, restoring my independence (dressing and undressing, bathing, fishing) and making life endurable for my caregiver/partner Sharon. But my speech is usually unintelligible (I have frequent post-modernist conversations), my handwriting is always illegible, and screens unexpectedly disappear from my computer. I gave up driving several years ago. I can now testify that the connection between freedom and the automobile is not just theoretical. I live in Amherst (MA) in a 1742 house with an attached barn. We are surrounded by five major colleges and universities and the scent of Emily Dickinson is everywhere. Wrestling with Parkinson's was not how I'd planned to spend my retirement, but at least it keeps me from playing golf.

— *Steve Warner*

► *Retirement Celebration*

Please join us in extending best wishes to Vice President for Student Affairs David Herman on Friday, June 24, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. (campus location TBD). Dr. Herman has been with the State University of New York at Fredonia since 2001 and Higher Education for 47 years.

R.S.V.P. to Erin Mroczka (erin.mroczka@fredonia.edu) or Lisa Newell (lisa.newell@fredonia.edu) at 673-3271.



► **From the President**

This is certainly an important time of transition for Fredonia, and I'm very proud of the ways our campus community is coming together in a challenging time. With Dr. David Tiffany's retirement in December 2015, after more than ten years of outstanding service, **Ms. Betty Gossett** was promoted to Interim Vice President for University Advancement and Interim Director of the Fredonia College Foundation, and she is already doing a great job of continuing Dave's legacy and establishing her own direction as a leader. The appointment is for two years to allow a smooth transition with the comprehensive campaign; we expect to do a full, national search in the Fall of 2017.

Dr. David Herman announced in January that he will be retiring in July 2016 from his role as Vice President for Student Affairs, a position he has held since 2001. He has contributed substantially to the growth of the division, overseeing many positive changes in campus life, residence life, first-year programs, recruitment and enrollment, financial aid, health and counseling services, student government and other organizations, and other areas. Clearly, he leaves large shoes to fill, and the Senate Chair and I have charged a search committee with conducting a national search for a new Vice President to begin, ideally, in early summer 2016. Members of the College Council will all be invited to the retirement reception planned for early summer.

Sadly, the sudden death of **Ms. Liz Praetorius**, Vice President for Finance and Administration, in February has left Fredonia not only mourning a smart, talented colleague and friend, but also needing to have immediate leadership in key areas of our institution. Fortunately for Fredonia, **Mr. Kevin Seitz** has agreed to serve as Interim Vice President while we conduct a national search. A recent retiree who lives in Western New York, he brings valuable SUNY and other experience to step into this role immediately and assist us in a smooth transition. Kevin served for more than 30 years in university services and financial reporting at the University at Buffalo before becoming Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance at East Carolina University. After five years there, he became the Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he also served as Interim Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, managing a \$2.4 billion budget for the university and 2,000 employees in his division. We welcome him at this College Council meeting.

This is the final College Council meeting for **Mr. Michael Barone**, Director of Marketing and Communication since 2008. He will start next week at Tipping Point, an advertising firm in Buffalo, leaving his mark on many Fredonia initiatives he led: revision of the mission statement and logo, redesigns of the Statement, Campus Report, and website, and development of many print, television, and radio communications for marketing. A search for the critical position will begin soon.

After a successful search, a new Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, **Dr. J. Andy Karafa**, will begin in summer 2016. This appointment by Dr. Terry Brown, Provost, brings experience in curricular revision, faculty governance and collaboration, and new program development to this leadership role in the College. His academic specialty is organizational psychology, and his most recent position was Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences at Ferris State University in Michigan.

Despite these changes, the campus has continued to move forward on these **big initiatives**:

- Strategic Enrollment Planning process
- Work toward the approved SUNY Excels goals
- Emergency preparedness training, scheduled for April
- Strategic Plan for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

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In addition, SUNY has determined that Fredonia is one of the campuses scheduled for a **Presidential Review** this spring. Because I had already asked the University Senate to engage in a review so that I could have helpful feedback, finishing my fourth year as President, I am glad to have an expanded review at the SUNY System level. If any emeriti would like to see the materials prepared for SUNY and to offer your perspectives, please share your ideas with University Senate Chair Rob Deemer and the campus committee.

One of the things I am most proud of at Fredonia these days is the ways groups continue to talk together and work together for understanding. The most moving such example was held in February, when the **Black Student Union** organized a panel discussion on life at Fredonia for students of color. This dialogue, shown in the photo below, offered frank and sometimes difficult accounts of situations faced by students of color at Fredonia.



The audience included many members of BSU, other students, faculty, directors from across campus, and senior administrators, including Provost Brown, Vice President Herman, and me. We heard personal accounts and suggestions, along with many descriptions of the positive things students find here in programs, in residence halls, and in the community of Fredonia people. As students across the country examine the impact of race on policies and practices at their campuses, I'm proud that Fredonia students share those concerns in ways that invite listening and call for response.

I couldn't be happier to be right where I am, right at this moment of Fredonia's history.

Virginia S. Horvath

Virginia S. Horvath,
President

► Emeritus Group Spring Meeting

Shorewood Country Club
West Main Road, Dunkirk, New York
March 17, 2016 at 11:30 for punch; lunch at 12 noon



Corned beef and cabbage, potatoes, carrots,
and soda bread
number (____)

or

Fish sandwich with lettuce/tomato (tartar sauce
on side) with french fries
number (____)

or

Green Greek Chicken Salad (mixed greens, olives,
green peppers, tomatoes, feta cheese, pita bread)
number (____)

Crème de Menthe sauce over vanilla ice cream for
dessert coffee and tea will be served.



**Please indicate your meal choice(s) and send
your checks for \$15.30 per person
no later than March 7, 2016 to:**

J. Brien Murphy
8 Lowell Place
Fredonia, New York 14063-1216

Name(s) _____

I (we) plan to attend the spring meeting at
Shorewood Country Club.

Number attending _____

Enclosed is a check for \$_____

Please consider donating an item that we can give
as a door prize.

We hope to see you there!



Emeritus members at the meeting on December 5, 2015 at the Lanford House, Fredonia, NY.

