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**Retirees Association of Mohawk College
News Letter July 2001**

The dog days of summer are once again upon us and after a wet and dreary spring and a sultry June, we look forward to a more pleasant fall. Since the last newsletter we have had three events

Approximately 40 retirees and their guests enjoyed **A Day at the Races** at Flamboro Downs on Saturday April 21. This appears to be becoming an annual event. Many thanks to Geoff and Lynda Brooker for organizing this.

On Wednesday, May 26, more than 40 retirees and their guests enjoyed lunch at the Town and Country Restaurant and a production of **Mamma Mia** at the Royal Alexandra Theatre (Bill Fulton reports on page 4). Alan and Dorothy Gregson very ably arranged this outing – thank you Alan and Dorothy.

On Wednesday June 27, the **Annual General Meeting** was held at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington, (reported on page 5). Once again David and Betty Crossley's care and attention in organizing the AGM was much appreciated. Thank you, Dave and Betty.

Coming Events

Friday Oct. 26 **The Sound of Music** at the Stratford Festival (see enclosed)

Saturday Dec 1 **Rotating Dinner Tour** – Westfield Pioneer Village (Watch for more details in the next newsletter).

In Memoriam

It is with the deepest regret that we announce the passing of the following members:

Kenneth Connolly (Stationary Engineering),

Elinore Dyck (Nursing),

Charles H Gamble (Building Sciences)

Harry Sutcliffe (Mechanical Technology)..

Our deepest sympathy is extended to their families.

Retirees Association of Mohawk College
 Newsletter
 Published four times per year

Board Members:

Geoff Booker –	Chair	905 772-5160
Marie Yakimoff –	Vice Chair	905-522-7370
David Crossley –	Treasurer	905-627-3278
Santos Dalal –		905-648-4327
Ann Dunn: –	Secretary	905-383-9772
Carl Easton: –	Webpage	905-385-2794
Brian Welsh –	Editor	905-627-4932

Where are You?

Carol Day
Kenneth New
Douglas Simmons
Andre
w Smith
Richard Spiers
Helen Stewart
Arnold
Thisdelle

If any reader can help please let Susan
 Frame know at 905 575 2198 or by
 email
frames@mail.mohawkc.on.ca

Let's Do Lunch

Three more restaurants for your consideration. YHE, (my husband) has asked me to report on a some luncheon "meetings" with lady friends, so the opinions expressed are probably not those of the management. Here goes.

The Potters Café – 2290 Highway #5W - Troy, ON

A pleasant fifteen minute drive from Hamilton brings you to the café. Café would imply small and simple, but this is not the case. High ceilings, stained glass, and antiques are the order of the day. Often busy, it might be a good idea to arrive either before or slightly after lunch hour. The menu is somewhat upscale and slightly pricey. The food, however, was quite good and nicely presented on handmade pottery. You can also tour the pottery adjacent to the restaurant, so this makes an additional attraction if you are entertaining.

Roberts' – 119-121 Grand River St. N. Paris, ON

This charming, small restaurant on the Grand River will take you closer to twenty five minutes driving from Hamilton. This can be a very good thing if you have lots to share with a friend or want to extend the lunch hour. The menu here could be described as "classic" and "West Coast" but I would describe it as above average cuisine, nicely presented with friendly service. Price range would be similar to the Potters Café (above) Paris also offers many interesting shops to check out after lunch. If you passed on the excellent desserts at Roberts', as we chose to do, you can stop in St. George for an ice cream cone on the way home.

Café Palazzo – 612 Upper James St. Hamilton, ON

Just happened to be lunching with a friend who works near the Fennel Plaza, close to the Café Palazzo, so we chose to have lunch there. As the name implies, Italian food, and very good Italian food was the order of the day. Soup and the daily special was our choice as my friend had limited time. Prices were quite fair, and we both dined for under \$20.00

Our Wandering Board Members Report

Geoff and Lynda Brooker

Athens- the Islands and Asia Minor

The snow-created ridge produced an incredible contrast to the deep blue Aegean Sea and sky. Santorini was to be the last island visited on a brief but spectacular cruise.

For our trip to Greece, Trafalgar Tours utilized K.L.M. Royal Dutch Air Lines and therefore had a brief stopover in Amsterdam to change planes. We flew into the brand new Athens Air Port. We were met by a hostess and driver who delivered us to the Royal Olympic Hotel. We were greeted there by 'Irish Bill' - our hotel escort - who arranged for our luggage to be delivered to a rather swank room. This level of service was to continue on our cruise as well where we were 'mother-henned' by a ships tour director in a most appreciated way.

Contrary to expectations the city air was not visibly polluted and we could easily see the Acropolis from the hotel which was located directly across from Hadrian's Arch and the Temple of Zeus.

The city tour, which was provided, included all of the high lights; Temple of Athena, marble Olympic stadium, Parthenon and the governmental buildings replete with tutu-clad guards who were all very tall and, according to Stella our guide, chosen for their good legs. We shopped in the Plaka market where shops and vendors abounded and spent a few thousand drachmas (one thousand equals five Canadian dollars). We had arrived in Greece with plastic only but A.T.M.'s were everywhere.

The following morning the regular wake up call arrived and we were driven to Pireaus and boarded the 18,000 ton "Stella Solaris".

We cruised to Mykonos after the life boat drill where we paraded around like bloated penguins. It was certainly a good laugh but the Greek crew took it very seriously. It was late afternoon when we docked but we still had plenty of time to traipse through narrow streets. This is a fairly expensive island, a playground for the jet setters but still largely in it's pre-tourist state. Of course it was a little late in the day for the nude beaches which caused some disappointment. That evening dinner on board was later than the norm but the stewards were very flexible and of very good cheer. Indeed, we found that a good attitude is almost universal in Greece. With fishing restricted to certain areas its as if the people have responded very positively to tourism; an industry ranking third in the nation of twelve million.

The next morning we sailed into Kusadasi, which means Island of Birds in Turkey, and while the birds are now scarce the fort built by the crusaders is in fine repair. The main point of this stop was to visit Ephessos. Now many miles from the sea, the historic sea port has been home to Greeks, Romans, Turks and others. From an archeological perspective it was probably the high point of the trip. The ruins, still being unearthed and restored are fabulous and lens shutters could be heard clicking continuously. On a lighter note the communal ancient Greek toilets (for men only) were incredible. We also were shown the first known advertisement pointing the way to a brothel. One square inscription in the stone was, or so our guide assured us, an indicator that all credit cards were accepted.

The rest of the brief Turkey visit was spent haggling in the Kusadasi bazaar and in buying a hand made carpet in the government endorsed dealership. It was shipped separately and arrived safely after only a few weeks.

A short sail then to Patmos where St. John the Theologian wrote much of his work in a grotto. Shopping was good and we finally found a souvenir tea towel to add to our collection.

We had a whole day in Rhodes or Rodos. It is a beautiful well populated place. The bus trip took us to the Acropolis at Lindos and back to the mediaeval walled city replete with three dry moats and catapult balls lying about. To our regret our camera developed a temporary hiccup and we have few pictures to show including our 'dress up' night with the captain that evening when the food was particularly good.

Sailing overnight we arrived at Crete, famed for the Minoan (2000B.C.) Palace at Knossos. Crete is a large island and has a fairly large agricultural base. One of the wealthiest of islands, producing 40% of Greek olives. Its city Herakleon was grubby and, dare I say, Western looking. We enjoyed the countryside.

Finally it was Santorini where the 'snow', turned out to be many white buildings and cave 'houses' trimmed in blue. A hair-raising ride up hairpin bends, breathtaking views, the glorious village of Thiera and the cable car ride down (don't take the donkeys) made it tough to beat. This crescent shaped Greek island with an Italian name once had a volcanic centre which fell into the sea around 1400B.C. and is now a haven for cruise ships. The tender boats were fast and efficient and the little island handles two or three cruiseship visits daily.

We arrived back at Athens the next morning and rode the funicular to St Georgiou and spent the last of our drachmas. The flight home was smooth and we took an hour canal cruise around Amsterdam during a five hour layover there.

A great trip, well recommended. Kalli Mara.

Mamma Mia

On Wednesday May 16th a full busload of Mohawk Retirees visited the Town and Country, for lunch, and then participated in the seventies rhythms of ABBA in the musical *Mama Mia*. The lunch, as always was delicious and plentiful and the show was great entertainment. It really demonstrates how time flies when the seventies are referred to as the "olden days".

We all thank Mary Cheeranjie for encouraging the board to book this trip and are looking forward to more of the same.

Bill Fulton

**Mohawk College – United Way Annual
Presidents Fourth Annual Welcome Back Breakfast and Annual President's
Garage Sale
Awards For Excellence Ceremony**

For inquiries on becoming a vendor call 905-575-2081

North Cafeteria (Fennell Campus), Thursday Sept 6, 2001, 8:30 to 10:30 AM
(The Association is not hosting tables)

Please register by calling the Staff Development Registration line at 905-575-2121 ext. 3293 and to arrange for tickets.

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Annual General Meeting

The AGM was arranged by **Dave and Betty Crossley**. It was preceded by a chance to renew old friendships and make new ones. **Bob Cooper** entertained at the piano prior to a delicious lunch.

The following were the highlights of the AGM. Chair Alan Gregson presented his report:

- ▶ introduction and thanking of the the board members
- ▶ advantages of membership in the association
- ▶ concern over premiums for the benefit packages
- ▶ the formation of the Ontario Colleges' Retirees Association
- ▶ request for notice of illness or bereavement of members
- ▶ the passing of various members since the last AGM
- ▶ a summary of events over the past year and plans for the year ahead

Dave Crossley presented the "Treasurer's Report" for the year ending March 31. We are in good shape. Dave Lynch was reappointed as auditor.

Just as there has been a changing of the guard at the college, so also will there be in the association, a new chairman and two new board members. Chairman Alan, having rendered yeoman efforts and leadership to the Association has retired from the board. He will be missed. The members present gave a round of applause in appreciation. Anne Philip, the board's secretary, and den mother, having completed two three year terms must, in accordance with the constitution of the association, retire. Doreen Vallente is retiring from the board after devoting three years. All three were presented with small tokens of thanks on behalf of the association.

Two new members were elected to the board to fill it out to its correct compliment of seven. These new additions are **Ann Dunn** and **Santos Dalal**.

Another change is that retirees must remit their annual dues before the mailing of the third newsletter or they will not receive it, nor the fourth newsletter.

Thank you, Dave and Betty for a beautifully arranged meeting.

Class of '76 Reunion

On October 20, 2001, the Mohawk College Alumni Association is hosting the 25 year reunion for

the Class of "76" and we need YOUR help!

We have hundreds of "lost souls" we would love to find! If you would like a list of these people, we will send you a copy of our latest Alumni Magazine, "In Touch" which has them listed. We are also looking for lost alumni of any year, so if you know the whereabouts of any of them, please let us know. Please call the Alumni Office at (905) 575-2258. We need your help in another way-we want you to attend the reunion! These reunions are an annual event, and I can't begin to tell you how disappointed the Alumni are when they arrive, and their favorite teacher or staff member is not there. Even if you can't attend the entire evening, at least please consider coming out for a drink to see how well your students have turned out..those staff and faculty who have shown up in the previous years will tell you what a rewarding and fun night it is. If you need further information, please phone the Alumni office. If you would like to see pictures and articles of previous reunions, please go to our website at: <http://www.mohawkc.on.ca/alumni> , and look for the In Touch section.

Mohawk College Fitness Center

The College operates a fitness centre offering various fitness services to the Mohawk Community in a club like atmosphere. Some of the services offered are:

Changerooms, lockers for day use, hot showers and towel service (\$1/towel rental). Certified Personal Trainers to provide fitness appraisals and design workout programs (additional cost involved). Certified Group Fitness Leaders offer up to 10 aerobics classes per week at noon and after 4:30pm (\$3/class or \$20/month).

The cost: \$40 per semester (4 months) or \$100 per year.

For further information contact: Dan McLennan 905-385-3200 ext 5013

Email: maclend@mail.mohawk.on.ca.

Rose Charmee – Manager, Alumni Relations

A Word of Appreciation

On behalf of your board, I would like to say a word of appreciation for the services our retiring chairman, Alan Gregson, has rendered to the association. Alan was one of the founding members in the spring of 1993. Since I retired in 1995 and particularly since I became newsletter editor in 1997, I have had an opportunity to observe the service Alan has performed and the time he has given to the retirees' affairs. From organizing and preparing agendas for the board meetings to visiting sick members and attending funerals; from organizing trips and acting as M.C. on the bus and dispensing his one liners; from keeping the board members informed between meetings to making sure the meetings usually ended on time; thank you Alan, your presence as chairman will be sorely missed, not only by the board but by all the members.

Your Humble Editor