

► *Emeritus Group and Friends Update*

Spring Meeting, March 20, 2015
Shorewood Country Club, Dunkirk, NY 14048

Today is the first day of spring but many of us are having a hard time believing it. Again this year our area experienced a severe winter—breaking many temperature and snowfall records. So it is quite understandable when the sun came out today all 43 members were more than a little pleased.

As with all emeritus meetings, there was plenty of conversation throughout the dining room, but capable “Pete” Komada was ready with camera in hand and managed to get some very good pictures with lots of smiles.

Shorewood provided three excellent choices to choose from for today’s menu: corned beef and cabbage, fish sandwich with French fries, or the Greek chicken salad. Favorable comments around the tables confirmed the members’ pleasure.

Kevin Fox is fantastic at researching and informing everyone about recently deceased members. Today’s tribute included many. In random order Kevin gave a brief excerpt of the following: Alvin B. Aubert (English, 1970-1979); Alan Wheeler (Dean of Educational Studies, 1988-1995); Moti Sharma (Biology, 1964-1990); Dan Roselle (History, 1950-1968); John Connelly (Director of Reading Clinic, 1962- 1995); David Kasper (Assistant Campus Center Director, 1969-1998); and Cutler Silliman (Music, 1949-1985). Also mentioned were two remarkable women who left their mark on the Fredonia area. Asja (Mrs. John) Saulitis, originally from Latvia, who earned a Med. Tech. degree and worked in our local hospitals – John died in 2007. The other was Barb (Mrs. Al) Shalkowski (Student Affairs for 24 years). Barb was truly a warm and wonderful

friend to all. A moment of silence allowed us to reflect on the memories of those who have passed.

Dick Gilman, with his deep baritone voice, treated the crowd to a recitation of “The Fiddler of Dooney” by William Butler Yeats—an appropriate verse for our Irish friends having celebrated St. Patrick’s Day just two days before.

Once again special thanks go to Brien and Ann Murphy for their efforts in preparing this spring gathering. Along with a fresh apple pie donated by Tracy Bennett, the Murphy’s offered several prizes which were awarded to the following: Dick Gilman, Fawzi Yaqub, Carter Rowland, David Larson and Penny Yaqub. (NOTE: It would be a welcome treat if other members would like to donate a prize for future luncheons. Someone even suggested that while spring cleaning, if you find an amusing article that can be re-purposed, it could be brought to the summer meeting on Thursday, June 11th. Good idea!)

We’re looking forward to spring and summer and seeing old, as well as new, members.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Briggs, Secretary

As we try to be as sustainable as possible, the Emeriti 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

In March Lou and I escaped the harsh winter for a week at our favorite Couples Swept Away resort in Negril, Jamaica. Since we were going with a bunch of my clogging friends, we decided to enter the talent show by clogging to a song by rap artist Pitbull called Fireball. It was a hit. Not only did we get a standing ovation, but also a bottle of rum each! Hope to have the performance on YouTube soon.

Theresa Dispenza

I have such fond memories of my many colleagues and enjoy seeing you all at emeritus luncheons. Regrettably, I missed many this past year because it had been a year of "adventure" for me. In late June and through July, I traveled through Germany, Czech Republic and throughout Poland with my two daughters, their husbands and my granddaughter. In October, I took to the friendly skies for 22 hours to stay for six weeks with my daughter, Suzanna, and her husband in Singapore where they now live. While there she and I traveled to Vietnam and Cambodia. I returned to Forestville for a few days to pack up for Florida where I now spend several months. It has all been a whirlwind of amazing sights and experiences. Needless to say, I will spend much of this year attending to all the neglected house projects! I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Jean Malinoski

► A Little Help Here, Please!

As you know, preparation of four newsletters each year requires a certain amount of time and expense. This year it became more complicated when the President's Office gave up a staff position—traditionally they do most of the work on production and distribution. We will manage but would ask that you consider two things that would help: (1) If you currently receive a paper copy of the Emeriti Newsletter but are able and willing to receive it in electronic format please advise us. (2) If you currently enjoy receiving your newsletter in either format please remember to pay your dues—when

I continue to visit and feed Marie at the Chautauqua Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (The old County Home). Her food is pureed now and she can no longer walk. She is frail and fading. I try to take it day by day. If you will forgive me some self-promotion, I have recently published another book. It too is a compilation of my columns in the Observer. Its title: "The Very Last Word – Reflections on Life, Spirituality and Politics" is available on Amazon. The soft cover paperback is \$16.95; the Kindle edition is \$3.99.

Dan O'Rourke

In early January 2015 Janet and I spent two weeks in Fossano (northern Italy, south of Turin) to visit with our son Nick and his wife Laura (and her parents) on the occasion of our first grandson—Leonardo Sebastian Reiff, born on Christmas day, 2014. Leo now even has two passports -- Italian, and US. Besides enjoying the visit, and helping out, we managed several excursions to hill towns, nearby historic villages and cities, often with wonderful old streets, churches, castles, set in beautiful landscapes; sunny and cool, and no snow! In one village Nick took us to we visited ancient wine cellars and a leisurely tasting of the vintage. Even got to some Roman ruins on one outing. Managed two short visits to Milan as well. Nick is now back in Yangon (Myanmar) at work (freight logistics), and Laura will follow when Leo is certified to travel by air.

Daniel Reiff

NOTE: Word has reached us via Theresa Dispenza that Carter Rowland had a bad fall in mid-April and cracked his pelvis and several ribs. He spent a week at ECMC and while recovering he enjoyed visits from family and friends. He subsequently underwent physical therapy and rehab at the Chautauqua County Home. We are all anticipating a full recovery.

you neglect to pay you are allowing your former colleagues to subsidize the cost of your four copies each year.

If you would like to change to e-mail delivery please contact Denise Szalkowski (Denise.Szalkowski@fredonia.edu) in the President's Office. If you are remiss in your dues please consider making payment when we ask for them later in the year. Thanks.



► *From the President*

As we close this academic year, I'm proud of the many accomplishments across divisions at Fredonia since last summer. In addition to opening the Science Center and University Village townhouses and making significant progress on construction of the Rockefeller Arts Center addition, the campus has achieved several accreditations/reaccreditations, been recognized with the Carnegie Engaged Campus classification, passed a new general education program, implemented a new visual identity/brand, prepared the Middle States Periodic Review Report, and conducted important reviews of our information technology and international efforts. We have hired a new (replacement) Chief Information Officer, Director of Residence Life, and Director of the School of Music. All of this—and much more—was achieved with each of the Vice Presidents reducing spending, as we collectively narrowed the gap between our spending and our revenues. None of this is easy, and faculty and staff have been remarkable in their creativity and resilience in a time of great transition in higher education.

Enrollment remains an important challenge, and in the next few months we will be evaluating our past efforts and collaborating on an enrollment plan for the upcoming academic year and beyond. The competition for good students is intense, and despite the many new scholarships available to Fredonia students through the good work of the Fredonia College Foundation and its donors, we have not yet reached a point of being competitive with renewable scholarship offerings for first-year students.

One strategy for enrollment has been to make Fredonia more attractive to out-of-state students, who currently pay nearly three times the in-state tuition rate. Fredonia collaborated with Alfred State College and SUNY Potsdam on legislation that would help us, as campuses on New York State's borders, to offer a special out-of-state tuition rate for students living within 300 miles of our campuses. SUNY initially supported this as a pilot project, and Senator Catharine Young introduced a Senate bill on this issue in February. Because that bill asked for authority to exempt three campuses but did not ask for an allocation, it was removed from the state budget discussions but is expected to be considered in this legislative session. SUNY is suggesting some changes in the language of the bill—including allowing the SUNY Board of Trustees to determine up to four campuses that would have a special tuition for out-of-state students. We are once again in the position of waiting but hope that this can be approved, with Fredonia as a designated campus, in time for us to recruit aggressively in other states for the Fall 2016 incoming class.

This past year included significant work to ensure that Fredonia is compliant with regulations for Title IX, Violence Against Women Act, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, Ebola, Child Protection Act, and many requirements for federal financial aid. In addition, we began work on reviewing policies in light of transgender people, beginning with a Task Force on Preferred Names. The SUNY Excels metrics, which will likely be used to determine our campus share of an \$18 million performance allocation from the State, have also been the focus on data gathering and attention to issues.

It was a long, cold winter, and we survived the months of ice and shoveling and general crankiness that results. I am hoping that the summer brings opportunities for faculty, staff, and students to reflect, to restore ourselves, and to start again the hard work of being a welcoming, inclusive public liberal arts university.

With best wishes,

Virginia S. Horvath, President

► *In Memoriam*

Dr. A. Cutler Silliman passed away on February 13, 2015. Dr. Silliman began his career at Fredonia in 1949 as an Assistant Professor in the School of Music and subsequently retired as Professor in 1985.

Memorials may be made as a book donation in his name to the Barker Memorial Library.

Mr. Alvin Bernard Aubert passed away on January 7, 2014. A former Professor of English, Mr. Aubert was employed from 1970 until his retirement in 1979.

A memorial website can be viewed at <http://www.forevermissed.com/alvin-bernard-aubert/lifestory#about>.

Mr. David C. Kasper passed away on January 9, 2015. Mr. Kasper was employed from 1969 until his retirement in 1998 as Student Activities Director.

Memorials may be made to the Crary Art Gallery, 511 Market Street, Warren, PA 16365 or the Warren Concert Association, P.O. Box 844, Warren, PA 16365. Condolences may be left for the family on the funeral home website atlewisfuneralhomeinc.com.

Dr. Alan H. Wheeler passed away on September 7, 2014. Dr. Wheeler served as the Dean for Educational Studies from 1988 until his retirement in 1995.

Memorials may be made to the Callaway Betterment Foundation for the Fulton Animal Shelter, c/o Maupin Funeral Home, 301 Douglas Boulevard, Fulton, MO 65251. Condolences may be left for the family on the funeral home website at <http://www.maupinfuneralhome.com/Home>.

Dr. John E. Connelly passed away on November 30, 2014. A former Professor of Education, Dr. Connelly was employed from 1963 until his retirement in 1993. While at Fredonia, he was the Director of the reading clinic and coordinator of the Hamburg student internship program.

Memorials may be made to the St. Vincent DePaul Society. Condolences may be made at larsontimkofuneralhome.com.

► *Emeriti Group June Luncheon*

Thursday, June 11, 2015
Fredonia College Lodge

Please reserve *Thursday, June 11th* for our next Emeriti Luncheon at the College Lodge in Brocton, NY. We will meet and mingle over fruit juice punch at 11:30 a.m.— lunch will be served at 12:00 noon.



Fresh Fruit Salad, Mixed Green Salad

Green and Yellow Beans with Baby Carrots

Penne Pasta Primavera with Alfredo Sauce

Greek Chicken

Pound Cake with Strawberries & Whipped Cream

Coffee/Decaf/Tea



Please send your reservations and checks for \$16.87 per person by June 5th to: Kevin Fox, 37 Leverett Street, Fredonia, NY 14063.

We look forward to seeing you all.
—Kevin and Lyn

Name(s) _____

No. attending _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____
(by June 5th please)



Emeriti members at the Spring Meeting on March 20, 2015 at the Shorewood Country Club in Dunkirk, New York.

