

Winter 2013

Emeritus News

The Association of Retired Faculty
and Professional Staff
from SUNY Fredonia



For your social calendar:

Open House

At the home of President Virginia Horvath

Saturday, December 7, 2013

194 Central Avenue

1:00 — 5:00 p.m.

Please bring a non-perishable food
donation for the Chautauqua County

Rural Ministry

RSVP to Jayme.Delcamp@fredonia.edu

or

673-3456



SUNY Emeritus Group and Friends
Fall Meeting, October 17, 2013
White Horse Inn Restaurant, Cassadaga, NY

Before the 65 members arrived and the greetings began, our in-house photographer Peter Komada stopped to take a quick picture of the decorations displayed outside the restaurant on this sunny fall day. Upon arrival, everyone was issued a name tag by organizers Phil and Rosemary Kumler.

As members gathered in the dining room, the friendly greetings began and lighthearted conversations filled the room. It would not be surprising if much of the group's conversation centered on the US government's 16-day "shutdown" which ended today.

President Horvath was unable to attend but the group was highly attentive to the campus update given by Vice President for Finance and Administration Stephen Schillo. He mentioned the good news that the funding for the new science building is intact, the six townhouse style residence halls to house approximately 200 students being built on Ring Road is well underway, and the \$36M Rockefeller Arts Center renovation is scheduled for the next major undertaking. Other guests today include Martin and Barbara Robichaud, relatives of Dianne and Morgan Dowd.

Kevin cited several colleagues that have passed whose names might have been missed by many of us. They were Wilma Pyle (Education), David Meerse (History) and Ruth Roberts (English).

Phil spoke about the success of the recently adopted plan of Life Dues for members and noted that 27 people have signed up thus far. Earnings from the Life Dues will help fund a scholarship from the emeritus group – something that has been lacking for many years. Discounted dues will remain in effect until April 15, 2014. For information on the age groups and discounted dues, refer to the Fall 2013 Emeritus Newsletter or contact Phil Kumler (kumler@fredonia.edu; 716-673-1901).

After a truly fabulous luncheon, names were drawn for six beautiful fall centerpieces, created by Rosemary Kumler. The happy winners were: Andre Penot, Margaret Sawkins-Hastie, Ruth Shokoff, Martha Smith, Richard Weist, and Wayne Yunghans. A special grand prize of a large frame for family photos was donated by David and Vivian Larsen, John Connelly was the winner.

A special thanks to Jayme Delcamp, Keyboard Specialist in the President's Office, for her assistance and patience. Without her help, this newsletter could not be assembled and mailed in a timely manner. Thank you Jayme for all you do for this group.

Dan O'Rourke is another who deserves our thanks. In each newsletter he encourages all emeritus members to send him "news bits" to be included with each issue. Please send your retirement news to him at orourke@netsync.net. Everyone enjoys reading what others have been doing in the years following SUNY Fredonia employment.

The next gathering will be at President Horvath's home for an Open House - time and date to be announced.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Briggs, Secretary.

Here in alpha order are some bits of news about our colleagues. Thanks for sending them to us. Please send us your news too. Try to be brief if you can. 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. Dan O'Rourke, Editor

While we keep contentedly busy with our projects, writing, and trips from Kenmore, it is, thanks, to our older son Nick, that we have most of our "adventures." Last year we went to Nairobi for three weeks to visit him (and his fiancé) -- he headed a freight-handling company there. If it weren't for his local savvy, we would never have been able to travel around in *Eritrea* for a week! We can also enjoy their trips vicariously -- this summer they trekked around S. America for two months (Ecuador, Columbia, Peru, Argentina: there's Skype everywhere!). Then this past September we spent three weeks in Italy, first for their wedding (Laura is from Fossano, south of Turin), then with the happy couple, plus her parents and two other friends, spent a week in the scenic Cinque Terra coastal region--gorgeous. And finally, with Nick and Laura, off to Siena, then down to Naples, Sorrento, Amalfi, Capri, even the Greek temples of Paestum. Wonderful stuff! But fortunately, our younger son Mike lives down the road in Auburn, teaches high school in Ithaca, and we can have local excursions with him and his wife. No wonder they warn you: "When you retire, keep fit!"

JANET & DAN REIFF

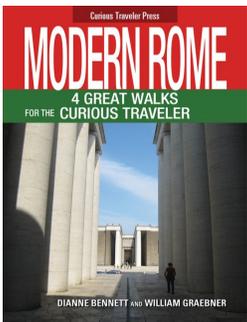
Shirley and I went to the Boston Symphony Orchestra concert sometime ago, and bumped into Jere Wysong and his wife Jade. What a pleasant surprise. A few months ago, I had a shingles attack on the nerves in my spinal cord. This effectively crippled me, but my leg is slowly getting better. Anyway, we finally woke up to the fact that a three-level condo was not the best arrangement for us. So we are leaving Watertown in a few months to move into a retirement complex in Needham, close to Wellesley. As soon as I get our mailing address I'll let you know. My email is still the same, schagrין@fredonia.edu.

MORT & SHIRLEY SCHAGRIN

~ The President's Office received this information from Karen West regarding Dianne Bennett and William Graebner's published book. ~

Hi all - Bill & I have JUST published a second alternative Rome guidebook - this one in eBook format only.

Modern Rome: 4 Great Walks for the Curious Traveler.



Right now, it's available on amazon's Kindle store (for Kindle readers and also for the Kindle app on an iPad). Shortly it will be available in the other eBook formats. All at \$1.99. We're excited about this new, small guidebook that features four itineraries.

Like our first book, *Rome the Second Time: 15 Itineraries that Don't Go to the Coliseum*, this one explores Rome outside the center, the Rome most tourists don't see because the guidebooks don't cover it. Walk Four explores Garbatella, a delightful 1920s planned community; Walk Two traverses spectacular, monumental EUR, built to commemorate Fascism; Walk Three begins in Flaminio, the heart of Rome's burgeoning cultural scene, then moves across the

Tevere to the Foro Italico, a virtual Mussolini theme park that hosted the 1960 Olympic Games. Walk Four features the charming, intriguing stairways in Trastevere's back yard.

Modern Rome features over 100 hyperlinks, 63 photos, and 4 detailed maps.

Dianne and Bill







Those in Attendance at the Emeritus Luncheon:

Jack Berkley
 Carolyn Briggs
 Sandra Colvenback
 Claire Connelly
 John Connelly
 Robert Coon
 Shirley Coon
 Lou Dispenza
 Theresa Dispenza
 Andrea Domst
 Dianne Dowd
 Morgan Dowd
 Judith Elwinger
 Kevin Fox
 Gloria Garretson
 Bernie Gerling
 Jack Gillette
 Linda Gillette
 Carmen Gilman
 Dick Gilman
 Joanne Goetz
 Tom Goetz
 Joyce Haines
 Carolyn Huffman
 Jim Huffman
 Pete Komada
 Phil Kumler
 Rosemary Kumler
 Dave Larson
 Vivian Larson
 Patricia Lefferts
 Doug Lloyd

Mary Lee Lunde
 Jean Malinoski
 Barb Mallette
 Giulio Mannino
 Silvia Mannino
 Tom Morrissey
 Ann Murphy
 J. Brien Murphy
 Mac Nelson
 Dan O'Rourke
 Andree Penot
 Carol Prevet
 Tom Prevet
 Stephen Rees
 Lucille Richardson
 Barbara Robichaud
 Martin Robichaud
 Margaret Sawkins
 Stephen Schillo
 Jim Shokoff
 Ruth Shokoff
 John Slaughter
 Martha Smith
 Diane Stinson
 John Stinson
 Lyn Taylor
 Marjorie Weist
 Richard Weist
 Fawzi Yaqub
 Penny Yaqub
 Wayne Yunghans

Obituaries



Dr. David E. Meerse

Former Associate Professor and Department Chair, Dr. David E. Meerse, passed away on September 26, 2013. He served as a faculty member in the Department of History from 1966 until his retirement in 1986.

A memorial service was held on Wednesday, October 9 at 1:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 362 State Street, Albany, NY 12210.

Condolences may be sent to his wife Clancy at 76 Beach Avenue, Albany, NY 12203.

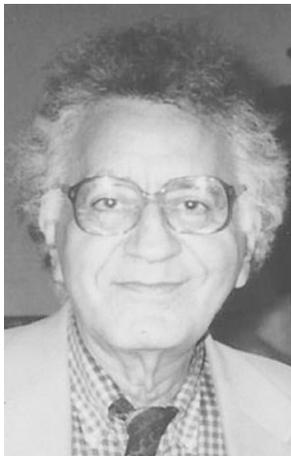


Dr. Richard F. Sheil

Professor Richard Fort Sheil passed away on Saturday, November 9, 2013. A former Professor in the School of Music, Dr. Sheil taught voice and choral conducting from 1949 until his retirement in 1980.

Following his wishes, there will be no memorial service.

Condolences may be sent to his niece Karen Carnali, 368 East Main Street, Fredonia, NY 14063.



Dr. Osvaldo Chinchon

Professor Osvaldo Chinchon passed away on Monday, November 18, 2013. A former Professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, Dr. Chinchon was employed from 1970 until his retirement in 1995.

Memorial contributions in Dr. Chinchon's name may be made to the charity of your choice. Online condolences may be made at larsontimkofuneralhome.com.

Message from President Virginia Horvath

Recently I heard a first-semester student say, “I can’t believe that the semester is almost over. As I get older, the time just seems to go so fast.” Just wait, I thought.

It has been a busy semester, as we welcomed a large first-year class and continued to direct efforts toward recruiting for next year. With the dropping high school population in Western New York, the Admissions Office, Public Relations, and many others across campus are working to attract the best students to come to Fredonia.

If you’ve looked at the website, you’ve probably noticed the portraits of Fredonians featured there. In Open Houses and other recruitment events, we have emphasized that there are certain characteristics of those who succeed here, and we are highlighting the stories of young alumni in a range of academic fields. Last year, faculty, staff, and students agreed on four baccalaureate goals: Fredonia graduates are skilled, creative, connected, and responsible. Everything we do across campus is in support of developing these qualities in Fredonia students.

We’ve also been emphasizing the value of a liberal education as the best preparation for work and life in the twenty-first century. This has long been a tradition at Fredonia, but the idea of a liberal education is not well understood these days. Prospective students and their parents are asking about the degrees that will lead directly to a “hot field” or guarantee a substantial income in an era of financial uncertainty. I understand their concerns, but I consistently remind students of the need to develop the capacity to learn, to understand and communicate with others, and to change. It’s likely that they will change careers several times in their lifetimes, and each field has new knowledge contributed at a rapid pace. Students need to know how to learn, how to ask new questions, how to make a case for what they know—whether it’s chemistry, music theory, psychology, history, or mathematics.

To make their degrees more marketable, students are pairing their classroom learning with internships, field experiences, service learning, and clinical experiences. All of these forms of engagement extend the formal learning environment and allow students to see how the research, communication, and reasoning skills that they have learned can be put to use to make a difference in their work and community.

I’d love to hear your ideas about this! I hope to see you at the Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 7 (1:00 – 5:00) at the President’s House. In other years, we held a separate event for *emeriti*, but because of the positive response to including you in the beginning-of-the-year party, I’m hoping you’ll enjoy a chance to meet with current faculty, staff, and students as well.