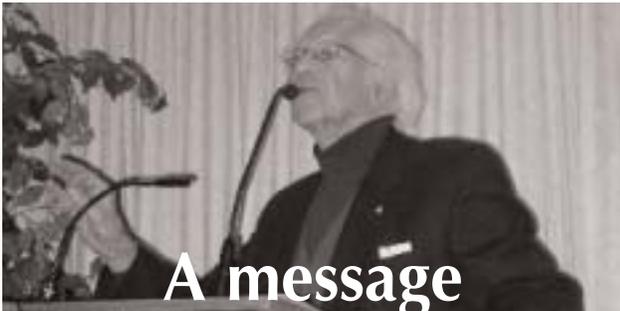


RAQ *news*



A message from the President

Before launching today's presidential gripe, I must stress that what follows represents *my* views and not those of RAQ.

When I arrived at Queen's in 1949 the head of my Department (Curtis) was the mayor of the City. Another colleague, the director of the now, alas, defunct Institute of Local Government (Crawford), was one of the leading aldermen. They contributed much to the high quality of the municipal administration at the time. Kingston then was admired as a well-run, efficient and enlightened city. How times change!

These recollections, and those of quite a few other colleagues (Lash, Bannister, Fyfe, Good, McDougall, Plunkett, Collom, Lavery, Curran) who were involved in civic politics, come to mind when I notice that our staff and faculty have been less visible on the municipal scene in recent years.

This drop-out phenomenon is strange, considering that an enormous number of the university family is deeply and extensively involved in an extremely wide range of non-governmental organizations and activities in the Kingston area. Our life here is so rich because of

the impressively active and extensive voluntary sector absorbing the energies and ingenuity of a wide stratum of society, including, and perhaps particularly, the campus folks. Yet with only a very few exceptions we, as individuals, do mighty little for the political life of Kingston.

An opportunity now presents itself to remedy the situation. Principal Leggett's administration has been making substantial efforts to improve the gown-town scene as has the AMS. VP Hood has clearly put Kingston high on his agenda. He headed the Kingston Economic Development Corporation and is involved in the newly formed, Queen's inspired, Kingston Community Forum headed by Bob Little.

Furthermore, under the new mayor, who appears to be a cut or two above his most recent predecessors, the City Council promises to be a more effective body.

This is therefore a particularly propitious time for those who care for the well being of the university and of the city to become active municipally. Among retirees, I see several potential candidates, with varied campus job backgrounds, who could make an important contribution to Kingston and Queen's by seeking elected office at the local level. Raquetees, and particularly the recently retired youngsters among them, should seriously contemplate plunging into the municipal pool. I suspect that many others of our number constitute a handsome reserve army ready to support and work for erstwhile colleagues and fellow workers in their new municipal quest. So think on it, as the saying goes.

JOHN MEISEL, *President*

MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT

If you haven't yet renewed your membership in RAQ for 2004-2005, please do so NOW. And please encourage other retirees and prospective retirees to join. Forms are available on our website www.queensu.ca/retirees or phone 533-6986.

Reports of Past Events Summer 2004

Residences Tour and Leonard Hall Cafeteria

A warm welcome from Roxy Dennison Stewart, the Associate Dean (Student Services) greeted the 25 RAQ members who toured the new residences

February 25 (rescheduled due to strike threat). Her presentation set the stage for the tour, including such information as the room layouts, why each room has a double bed, how to enter a shared bathroom in the residence when the other person has locked your side, why the laundry room is on public view, and construction cost per room. Answers: students are larger, much larger and may always have slept in a double bed; there is a way to unlock from each side; laundry rooms are social space and students want visibility late at night; \$87,000.



An entertainment venue?



*Food inspection?
Leonard Hall*

We then toured the completely redone Leonard Hall Cafeteria which offers students many choices and a "just in time" service, with many items prepared in front of them. It has tables and booths with lots of glass and light oak. Several RAQ members took advantage of the offer to have dinner in the cafeteria that evening. They reported the food was excellent, and with so many choices students were sure to find something they liked.

The new residences have a single locked entrance (\$125. fine if you lose your key), but the RAQ tour members were welcomed with an open door. We saw the attractive public spaces, floor lounges and a typical student bedroom (very, very compact) and bathroom (shower only) shared with the room next door.

How to eat well for health and pleasure

Marjan Shalchi, dietician with Cardiac Rehabilitation, HDH, spoke to 14 RAQ members January 23rd about healthy eating. A well balanced diet (including carbs) was emphasized. Helpful hints about increasing fibre in the diet were given and the glycemic index was explained. It has to do with how quickly various foods are digested and one is hungry again. Attendees had ample opportunity to ask specific questions about food selection and preparation. If there is interest in repeating this presentation, let Arlene Aish know at 546 2979.

Tea with Agnes

On Sunday afternoon February 15, 10 RAQ members joined other art lovers from Kingston for an informative tour of current exhibitions in the gallery. Included were Machine Life, a show featuring original use of materials and robotics; Metalwork of West Africa; an exhibit of Group of Seven artists and their contemporaries; and an exhibit of portraits of individuals and groups, including the recently acquired Rembrandt. After the tour a delicious and elegant tea including scones, clotted cream and jam was served in Etherington House.

The Rise and Fall of the Shoe-Fitting Fluoroscope

On March 15th, Dr. Jacalyn Duffin, Hannah Chair, History of Medicine, treated 17 RAQ members to a talk and slide presentation about how the Shoe-Fitting Fluoroscope emerged and flourished in the retail shoe business throughout the world and what led to its eventual demise. All those attending had happily explored the bones of their feet as children and memories were shared. It was a bit shocking to learn how much radiation the machines leaked to the surroundings and how long it took for awareness of danger to dawn. It was an informative and entertaining presentation.

Continued on page 3

Primary Health Care

Forty RAQ members heard Dr. Duncan Sinclair's presentation on April 15th. Primary Health Care was defined as the essential, basic care required by all. It should be universally accessible, comprehensive, and readily available. It would be provided by a multi-disciplinary team and would include 24 hour telephone coverage. Funding would be mainly by risk-adjusted capitalization. Enrolled members would have a choice of practitioner and practice group. A strong case was made that such a reformed system of primary health care could be delivered to all Ontarians at no further cost than the present system and without expanding the family physician work force, although substantially more nurse-practitioners would be required. It would be advantageous not only to recipients, but also to health care providers. A stimulating question period followed the presentation. More detail can be found in *Primary Health Care Strategy* (a report from the Health Services Restructuring Commission which was chaired by Dr. Sinclair) to the Minister of Health in Ontario in 1999. He also referred to a technical costing report on "Proposed



Echoes of Tommy Douglas? Telling how it could/should be?

Inter-professional Primary Health Groups" prepared for the Commission by Milliman & Robertson (Actuaries and Consultants).

RAQ Events Summer 2004

The RAQ Events Committee is pleased to announce the summer schedule of events.

There is a winery and cider company tour & lunch in the Picton area (**Thursday, 17 June**), a luncheon cruise to the Thousand Island Playhouse to see *The Music Man* (**Wednesday, 7 July**), opportunity for family entertainment at the Wolfe Island corn maze (**Wednesday, 11 August**), and a corn boil and pot luck lunch at Joy Hoselton's place on Lake Ontario near Bath (**Wednesday, 25 August**).

See enclosed Overview of Summer Events for details of arrangements and deadlines for advance registration.

RAQ Communications Committee Annual Report 2003-2004

Members: Arlene Aish, Dick Bowman, Peter Dorn, John Gordon, Jill Harris, Bernard Trotter, Erdmute Waldauer;
ex officio: Joy Hoselton, John Meisel, Alison Morgan

The Communications Committee meets usually twice a year to discuss the Newsletter and the Website. The key responsibility of the committee is to produce a Newsletter three times a year reporting on issues of import to retirees, events planned and completed, and to solicit memberships and suggestions for future initiatives. The Website of

the Association (www.queensu.ca/retirees) is an increasingly useful service for RAQ members and is updated regularly to reflect new developments and events of interest at Queen's as well as providing easy links to other relevant websites. This is due to the efforts of Alison Morgan and Bob Cavanagh from the School of Business. Suggestions to improve the newsletter and/or the website would be welcome.

JOHN GORDON, *Chairman*

Contributors to this issue: Arlene Aish, Alison Morgan, John Gordon

Design and electronic production: Peter Dorn

Editor: Bernard Trotter

Thanks to Queen's Printing Services for printing and mailing

Annual General Meeting approves New Constitution

The Annual General Meeting and Lunch (Luncheon? Nobody under 40 says this, but our members are not under 40. Please decide what fits our image!) of the Retirees' Association of Queen's was held April 26 at the University Club. Members congregated in the main

bar for about an hour before moving to the dining room. After the meal, the President conducted a lighthearted meeting, which accomplished serious tasks, despite the amount of laughter.



Dee Padfield

The President thanked the three retiring Council members, Doris King, Dee Padfield and Howard Pearce, who all contributed mightily to the vitality of RAQ. He made three general comments on RAQ's first year of full operation. The organization and its activities have fared well because of the generous participation of volunteers. However, membership bias towards academics and senior staff continues. He promised the Executive would try to alleviate this, if possible. He reaffirmed RAQ's basic purpose of providing links between



people, both socially and to help open doors so people's problems could be solved.

Reports from the Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Committee chairs were circulated to all members with the agenda material. The Chair of the Pension and Benefits Committee updated his report, explaining that, in February, the



University had issued a Request for Proposals from the insurance market to cover the 20% of medical costs not covered for retirees. No insurer presented any such proposal. He felt this was perhaps not surprising, given retirees were an older group and that not all would participate. He pointed out that a cross Canada survey of university retirees indicated health coverage at Queen's was above average.



Three wise men, constitutionally speaking

The meeting approved the new constitution (attached to the agenda and on the website) and elected Juliet Milsome to the Council to replace Doris King.

The chair closed the meeting by urging members to make suggestions to improve the association and its activities.



RAQ Council and Executive Committee convene following the Annual General Meeting

Retired Academics Database (RAD)

The Association of Commonwealth Universities, supported by the Nuffield Foundation, has launched RAD to help place retired academics and university administrators in universities in developing countries for periods ranging from three months to two years. Details are available at the RAD website: www.acu.ac.uk/adverts/rad, or through the office of Elaine McDougall, the Associate Vice-Principal (Faculty Relations), Room 239, Richardson Hall. Telephone 533-2020.