



University of Michigan Retirees Association

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JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2006

Social Hour Programs

February 9. Generational Legacies – An Approach Through Stories. Recently retired from UM's Dearborn Campus, Prof. Emeritus John Kotre is a psychologist who has studied and portrayed the lives of people for over 25 years. His research asks: "what kinds of legacies do we receive from the past and give to the future?" Kotre will explore the use of research stories, teaching tales, and the experiences of ordinary and great people. He has published seven books on life-historical subjects and created the award-winning public television and radio series *Seasons of Life*

March 9. Juan Mestas, Chancellor, UM Flint, will speak on the future of the UM Flint campus.

April 6. To be announced.

May 9. Juan Cole, UM Professor of Middle Eastern and South Asian History, will discuss the situation in the Middle East.

The UMRA officers elected for 2005 have agreed to continue in 2006. See page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

- Report of the December social hour talk by James Steward, UM Museum of Art.
- In Memoriam
- Kudos

RETIRES BOOST UM'S UNITED WAY SUCCESS

According to information provided by the Office of the Vice President for Governmental Relations, as of December 20th, UM participants contributed over \$887,000 to this year's UW campaign, exceeding the goal of \$850,000.

The current database used in record-keeping cannot always directly identify all contributions from retirees because some individuals continue to make their pledges through their original UM unit, but over \$52,000 can be verified as contributions from UM retirees.

By comparison, the top five departments in total giving were: Stephen M. Ross School of Business, \$36,773; Pathology, \$17,826; Radiology, \$14,984; Athletics, \$14,340; and Medical School Administration, \$13,478. Given the difficult economic realities that face many Michigan citizens, often especially retirees, the participation of UMRA members is heartwarming.

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Social Hour Details

UMRA Social Hours are held most months during the academic year on second-Thursday afternoons from 3 to 5 PM. All UM retirees and their guests are cordially invited to attend. The gatherings usually include light refreshments—coffee, sliced fruit, cookies, and soft drinks. Social Hour programs begin at 3:15 PM and continue until about 5:00 PM. Announcements about speakers and programs are made in this newsletter, in University Record *Events* notices, and at <www.umich.edu/~hrraa/umra>, the UMRA web site.

Meeting Locations

Social Hour gatherings are held at the Best Western Motel, 2900 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor. Parking is plentiful, and easy access to the meeting room is gained by using the Ballroom entrance at the rear of the building. Handicap access is good. Other venues will be used from time to time. Please check the meeting notices on Page 1 to find the latest information.

The University of Michigan Retirees Association Newsletter

2072 Administrative Services Building, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1432

The Administrative Services Building is located at the intersection of Hoover and Green Streets. Parking is available nearby.

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IN MEMORIAM

The University of Michigan Retirees Association wishes to honor the memory of those members who served the University with their devotion and dedication. *[Please alert one of the listed UMRA contacts to include a name in future issues of the Newsletter.]*

Dunne, Joe October 18, 2005, Age 80
Retired 1991 from University Information Systems

Rathbun, Ethel M. November 9, 2005, Age 73
Retired 1994 from Department of Mathematics

Ethel M. Rathbun, who served as a member of UMRA's Board of Directors for ten years, and as its secretary for the last three, died November 9th at the age of 73, while returning home from a visit to Germany. She had been a staff member of the Department of Mathematics, serving as assistant to several Chairs, from 1967 until her retirement in 1994. Her duties in the department brought her in close contact with both visiting and regular faculty as well as the many graduate students in residence, and she became known to the mathematical community not only within the U.S., but in many foreign countries as well.

KUDOS

UMRA President Doug Woolley disclosed that this past fall, Newsletter Editor Fred Remley, was invited to New York to receive the prestigious "James A. Leitch Gold Medal Award" given annually by the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers to recognize outstanding contributions in the "application of digital technology to the motion imaging arts and sciences." The award also noted that Fred has been actively involved in the society's activities for many years, becoming a Fellow of the Society in 1967, the recipient of the Progress Medal Award in 1990, as well as the 1995 Eastman Kodak Gold Medal Award.

JAMES STEWARD, DIRECTOR UM MUSEUM OF ART

Over 70 UMRA members braved the day's cold and snow and attended the December 8th program at the Best Western Hotel. The featured speaker was James Steward, Director of the UM Art Museum, who discussed the Museum's plans to essentially double its available space by the construction of an addition to the existing building along its northern side.

Although a discussion of such a building project might seem to be primarily of interest only to Museum personnel, Dr. Steward delivered a highly entertaining presentation, accompanied by slide illustrations, not only of the addition's appearance, but also a behind-the-scenes description of all the topics that went into its planning – from security issues, handicap accessibility, to factors to enhance the building's appeal and visitor-friendliness. Because of substantial private support which has already reached 80% of expected construction costs, work is expected to begin in spring 2006.

UMRA Hiking/Walking Group

The next hike, around Gallup Park, is on Wednesday, January 18th at 10 AM, providing the weather cooperates. Enter from Fuller Road, continue and cross the bridge near the canoe livery, then turn left and proceed to the parking lot at the far end of the road. Meet in the parking lot by the covered picnic shelters.

For additional information, please contact Sandy Sipkin at 747-8785,
or via email at ssipkin@comcast.net.