



KEEPING IN TOUCH

Newsletter of the Niagara College Retirees' Association

If you haven't
already done so,
please renew your
NCRA membership
for 2017-2018.

What a Year It's Been!

Here are photos from just a few of this year's NCRA activities. Much more to come, so be sure to check out the list of upcoming events below and come join us.



Events Coming Up

Shaw Festival Plays: Grand Hotel (June) & Hound of the Baskervilles (Oct.) – click [here](#) for details.

March 7: Lunch at Coppolas in St. Catharines with presentation by Master Gardener Bob Martin on "Looking for Food in All the Small Places"

March 22: Experience Indian Cuisine in St. Catharines with Alexandra Fic

April 4: Lunch at Betty's Restaurant – presenter Niagara historian Sherman Zavitz

April 17: Guided Tour of Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo with optional lunch

May 8: Spring Hike at Beamer Conservation Area in Grimsby - led by John Clark

May 25: Early Bird dinner at the Lighthouse Restaurant in Stevensville

June 6: Annual General Meeting and Lunch at the Benchmark Restaurant, NOTL campus

June: A play at the Showboat Festival in Port Colborne – date and details to follow





Treasurer's Note:

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas season and you are enjoying the New Year. I think this year is going to be another great one for the NCRA.

I would like to thank all the members who have paid their membership and remind everyone that our membership year begins in September. If by chance you are reading this and are not yet a member, please consider joining; the \$15 annual fee goes a long way to helping Niagara College students. If you are not sure if you've already renewed your membership for this year, send us a quick query to the email address listed at the bottom of this page.

So far this year, 2017-18, we've donated \$1,550.00 to the Indigenous Garden at the Welland Campus and \$376.00 to the Safe Fund at Christmas; for a total of \$1926.00 – and we still have six months left. Wow! Donations like these are funded by your membership fees, 50/50 draws, and individual member donations. Only 3.5% of our yearly intake goes towards operating costs. Congratulations members! Without your support, none of these donations could have happened.

~ Ron Mottola



What Are They Up to Now

Bea Clark



Retirement from Niagara College gave me the opportunity to do so many interesting things, including volunteering, operating my own consulting business, and spending more time with my husband, John. I began volunteering in my community of Pelham by chairing the Pelham Active Transportation Committee to promote walking and cycling. Through the efforts of this committee, Town Council and staff, Pelham is the only community in Niagara achieving both "Walk Friendly" and "Bicycle Friendly" status. I was also a founding committee member of the popular Pelham Summerfest that now attracts more than 30,000 visitors annually and is recognized as a "Top 100" festival in Ontario. Through volunteering, I have really enjoyed meeting so many new people. My consulting business focused on the college and government network that I knew well. Most importantly, "retirement" means that schedules are now flexible - walks on a sunny day, books on a snowy or rainy day, lunches with friends and family, and trips both near and far, anytime.

~ Bea Clark

Recognition of Appreciation from College Students



Ryan Huckla, Niagara College Student Administrative Council president, attended our January luncheon at the Blue Star restaurant in Welland to present our president, Carolyn Gould, with a plaque recognizing the important contributions the NCRA and its members have made over the years to the success of college students.

Next month, we will be participating in two college events that directly impact students – Student Appreciation Day and the Rise and Shine Breakfast program on March 15th. Contact us if you are interested in helping with these or other future events!

Optimism is the only moral choice.
~ Barbara Kingsolver

People who think they know everything are a great annoyance to those of us who do. ~ Isaac Asimov

Music is a moral law. It gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, a charm to sadness, and life to everything. ~ Plato