SEPTEMBER 2015

MPD Chief Janee Harteau to speak on transformational leadership at luncheon

Minneapolis Police Chief Janee Harteau was nominated in 2012 by then Mayor R. T. Rybak and unanimously confirmed by the city council to become the 52nd and first female chief of police in the city’s history. She will be the speaker at the UMRA luncheon September 22. Her remarks are titled: “MPD 2.0 Transformational Leadership.”

Chief Harteau joined the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) in 1987 and worked her way through the ranks from her service as a patrol officer in the Phillips neighborhood. In 2006 she was appointed as one of the five regional leaders of the MPD to serve as inspector of the First Precinct, which is downtown Minneapolis. In that role she was a proponent of public/private partnerships to strengthen public safety downtown. Among those partnerships include the creation of an MPD station on Block E and the Downtown Courtwatch program, which won a community policing award from the International Association of the Chiefs of Police (IACP).

In 2010 Harteau was appointed assistant chief, second in command of the MPD. Prior to that promotion, she served as deputy chief of the Patrol Bureau and was responsible for all MPD 911 response personnel and the department’s emergency services.

As MPD chief, Harteau introduced MPD 2.0, which established values and goals to achieve organizational change. In MPD 2.0 the department is envisioned to be “a values-driven department with our core values being commitment, integrity, and transparency.” The department’s key goals are “improving public safety, public trust, and employee engagement and morale” in which results are to be achieved “through creating a culture of accountability.”

Harteau has been recognized for her innovative leadership by the Twin Cities Business Journal and Minnesota Women’s Press. She was honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award from St. Mary’s University of Minnesota.

Currently she trains law enforcement leaders nationally and serves on various boards including the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), a national law enforcement think tank based in Washington D.C.; the YWCA of Minneapolis; Youthlink, a non-profit that serves homeless youth; and Cornerhouse, which provides resources for and assesses suspected child sexual abuse victims.

Harteau earned a B.A. in police science and an M.A. in public safety administration from St. Mary’s U. She is a graduate of the Senior Management Institute of Police in Boston and the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety’s Police Staff and Command School where she was a Franklin Kremel Leadership Award winner.

—Kathleen O’Brien, Program Committee
One of the exciting things about being an UMRA member is connecting with University colleagues who have retired and who are enthusiastically seeking knowledge, contributing expertise, and pursuing avocations. It is always fun to learn about the hidden talents that emerge when one is freed of a paycheck. (Who knew that Crystal played a bassoon or Elmer would write a novel?)

Much has been written and discussed about what it means to be retired. With the health and vigor of those well over the age of 65 or 70 these days, “retirement” is more like a commencement—the beginning of a new phase of life. Some have suggested that we need a new name for this phase; I found that challenge intriguing. I thought about the popular word “tweeners” for the awkward age between childhood and teenagers. Recently retired folk are also in an awkward age between full-out employment and a quite more reflective age. We are indeed “tween ages.”

Popular songs suggest we are in the autumn or third phase of our lives—a tri-age, or to push the pronunciation, a triage age. According to the American Heritage Dictionary 5th edition, 2013, triage is “a process in which things are ranked in terms of importance or priority.” I suggest that at this age we are busy re-ranking the priorities in our lives; we are triaging activities, possessions, locations, and even friends. So, I would like to name this the triage age. Perhaps some readers of this column will devise another name, and if so, please send it to me at jkinsey@umn.edu.

The plans for UMRA activities for 2015-2016 are robust. We are sponsoring the rejuvenation of JOIE (Journal of Opinions, Ideas and Essays). This will give all of you an opportunity to publish your ideas in an electronic journal dedicated to exploring the ideas of the great minds at the University of Minnesota. Many thanks to John and Judy Howe who have taken on the task of editing and managing this publication, mounted on the University of Minnesota Libraries “Open Scholarship and Publishing Services” platform. For an introduction go to https://www.lib.umn.edu/JOIE.

Another new initiative this year comes from our very caring Cares Committee led by Earl Nolting. Since Dr. Robert Kane, director of the University’s Center on Aging, spoke to UMRA last April about the difficulties of navigating the complexities of our health care system, the committee has been searching for a way to assist UMRA members confronted by care-giving decisions. They will soon be launching a pilot project in collaboration with the University’s Center on Aging in which Dr. Kane will train a small cadre of “Care Guides” to be a resource to colleagues. If you would like to talk to someone about volunteering for this training, please contact Earl, enolting@umn.edu.

By popular demand “Finances During Retirement” workshops are in the making. Three workshops that deal with financial management and decisions around money management for retirees are planned for our post-luncheon workshop series. Thanks to Vern Eidman for his leadership in this effort; we can look forward to some new insights on this topic.

UMRA provides opportunities for a variety of activities from volunteering through the URVC (University Retirees Volunteer Center), to book discussions, to a photo club; and the field is wide open for anyone who wants to start a new activity or informal group. Let’s talk.

My goals for this year are that participating UMRA members find exciting and useful activities, find opportunities to stay engaged with their University, and find enduring friendships. On the administrative side, we shall continue to better define our official relationship with the University and engage additional volunteers to sustain our communications and activities.

Jean Kinsey, UMRA President  
jkinsey@umn.edu

Have you renewed your membership yet?

This summer you received a renewal request by e-mail or by U.S. Mail. This is a reminder that memberships expired on August 31. Don’t miss out on new benefits, the newsletter, and notice of UMRA activities. If you haven’t yet renewed, or have questions, contact Virgil Larson, UMRA data manager, at larso071@umn.edu; 651-644-4562.

Who do you know who’s retiring?

If one or more of your colleagues, friends, or neighbors has retired recently or is even thinking of retiring from the University, be sure to share the good news that membership in UMRA is waiting for them. We are a supportive group, and are here to welcome them into the next phase of their lives—be it the “traiage age” or an avocation gone wild.
Bring your walking shoes — Weisman Art Museum tour follows September 22 luncheon

At the close of UMRA’s September luncheon meeting, UMRA members will be treated to a special tour of the art and exhibitions at the Weisman Art Museum (WAM). When you sign up for the luncheon, please indicate if you intend to attend the tour so that the Weisman tour staff can plan for our numbers accordingly.

Carrying on a tradition begun last year with the tour of the New Northrop, this year we have arranged for UMRA members to tour the Weisman Art Museum at 1:45 p.m. after the September 22nd luncheon. The museum is at 333 East River Road, just a short walk from Coffman Union.

Since its origin in 1934, when the original art collection was housed in Northrop, the University’s art museum has been a teaching museum. Today, education remains central to the museum’s mission to make the arts accessible to the University and public communities.

Frederick R. Weisman was a noted California philanthropist, art patron, and entrepreneur. He provided the pivotal gift of $3 million, which gave the University of Minnesota Art museum its current home. The Weisman opened on November 21, 1993. The architect, Frank Gehry, created a striking stainless steel and brick design for the Weisman Art Museum, winning him a prestigious Progressive Architecture Design Award in 1991.

“The museum’s collection features early 20th-century American artists, such as Georgia O’Keeffe, Marsden Hartley, and also a diverse selection of ceramics and contemporary art.”

Several types of tours are available at the Weisman. We will split into manageable size groups and focus on the unique architecture, the permanent collection, or special exhibits. You will be welcome to stay after the tour and explore the ceramics collections and other parts of the museum.

Don’t forget to visit the Weisman gift shop, which offers a 10 percent discount to UMRA members on the days of our meetings. We hope you all plan to attend and enjoy this wonderful U of M asset.

— Jean Kinsey, UMRA President

UMRA supports new online journal project

The JOIE (Journal of Opinions, Ideas and Essays) project is moving ahead as an UMRA program. The JOIE committee is working steadily with our University Libraries colleagues toward the goal of bringing JOIE up and running, which is to say online, by early September.

As you may recall, JOIE will be a new, open access, electronic journal sponsored by the University of Minnesota Retirees Association and supported by the new University Libraries Publishing system. Its purpose is to provide a digital venue for a wide variety of articles submitted by retired or active faculty, staff, and civil service employees from the Twin Cities and coordinate campuses of the University.

More information concerning the program and how to submit articles for publishing in the JOIE program will be forthcoming soon. If you have questions, contact me.

— John Howe, JOIE editor
howex002@umn.edu

From the Cares Committee files —

Radiation therapy (also known as radiotherapy)

We have found a free reference that will be very helpful to a patient advised to use this treatment option. It is entitled Radiation Therapy and You and it is available from the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, 2007 revision, NIH publication 12-7157. It provides an excellent discussion with Q & A about radiation therapy, side effects and ways to manage them, helpful organizations, further reading, and definitions of medical terms and procedures.

This reference is available free of charge from the National Cancer Institute by calling 1-800-422-6237 (1-800-4-CANCER) or www.cancer.gov. If you or someone you care about is facing radiation therapy, look to this excellent resource to help navigate the experience.

— Earl Nolting, Cares Committee
Welcome new members to UMRA

Please give a hearty welcome to new members who have recently joined UMRA. Greet them at luncheon meetings, and help introduce them to other members.

John Archer, Cultural Studies and Comp Lit., Faculty  
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612-716-5624; archer@umn.edu

Fredrick M. Asher, Art History, Faculty  
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612-232-6233; asher@umn.edu

Carol Ann Balthazor, Institutional Compliance, Civil Service/Bargaining Unit  
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651-482-1213; cbalthazor16@me.com

Marvin E. Bauer, Forest Resources, Faculty  
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651-731-6216; mbauer@umn.edu

Dale and Linda Blyth, CEHD, Faculty and P&A  
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651-493-8453; 612-385-3048; blyth004@umn.edu

Beverly A. Bybee, Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences, Civil Service  
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Deborah L. Chapman, School of Dentistry, Civil Service  
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Tom Clayton, English Language and Literature, Faculty  
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651-644-8441; 651-307-7788; tsc@umn.edu

Paul Cleary, Microbiology Immunology, Faculty  
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651-482-0107; 651-233-4860; clear001@umn.edu

Sheila Collins and Christine Reisdorf, Global Programs and Strategy Alliance, P & A  
5328 Colfax Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55419  
612-308-5467; colli059@umn.edu

Linda DeBeau-Melting, University Libraries, P & A  
2824 43rd Ave. S., Minnetonka, MN 55406  
612-501-3000; 612-729-1539; l-debe@umn.edu

Laurie L. Fitch, Surgery, Civil Service  
11551 Fetterly Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55305  
952-541-0034; 952-913-2123; laurieakabb@gmail.com

Paul and Carol Letourneau, Neuroscience, Civil Service  
23 E. Oaks Rd., North Oaks, MN 55127  
651-481-0068; 612-624-5999; letou001@umn.edu

David and Carolyn Levitt, Integrative Biology and Physiology, Faculty  
535 Grand Hill, St. Paul, MN 55102-2659  
612-227-8609; 612-625-7649; levit001@umn.edu

Joan Marie Mitchell, College of Pharmacy, Civil Service  
1642 W Skillman Ave., Roseville, MN 55113-5616  
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Constance L. Pepin, CEHD/ATS  
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424 Otis Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104  
651-644-4084; srose@umn.edu

Lynne and Roger Schuman, Humphrey School, P & A  
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Steven Taff and Susan Hoyt, Applied Economics, Faculty  
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Douglas and Margaret Wangensteen, Integrative Biology and Physiology, Faculty  
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651-698-0687; 612-625-5580; wange001@umn.edu

Nancy and Jerry Witowski, Medicine/Dept. of Surgery, P & A  
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952-941-3374; 952-381-4774; witow001@umn.edu

Book Club discusses fiction and non-fiction

The UMRA Book Club meets at 2 p.m. on the third Friday of every month except December. The meeting location is the 1666 Coffman building, which is on Larpenteur Avenue near the St. Paul campus. We read both fiction and non-fiction; each book is chosen by a member who then acts as discussion leader for the book.

Meeting over the summer, in June we read God’s Hotel by Victoria Sweet; in July, The New Yorkers by Cathleen Schine; and for both August and September, The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism.

Upcoming book discussions will be Bill Bryson’s One Summer in October; we’ll read Pain by Vladimir Nabokov for November. New members are welcome. Contact Pat Tollefson, p-toll@umn.edu, for more information.
May’s Annual Meeting featured election, good conversations, and music for our ears

Newly elected officers and members of the board (left to right): Donna Peterson, president-elect; Chip Peterson, secretary; Gloria Williams, board member; Jean Kinsey, president. Not pictured, but also elected at the annual meeting, were Carl Adams, treasurer, and Steve Benson, board member.

A Big thank you to retiring board members Vandora Linck and Paul Quie, and to retiring Treasurer Richard Skaggs and Secretary Julie Medbery for their many years of service (Dick, 5, and Julie, 4).

Musicians Vern Sutton and Lawrence Henry entertained the UMRA audience by presenting the rich history and music of American vaudeville and the Ziegfeld Follies. An appreciative audience enjoyed this musical performance and the stage banter of the 1920s and ‘30s era.

Past president Hal Miller (left) and incoming president Jean Kinsey (right) welcomed Vern Sutton to the Gala Luncheon.

The Annual meeting and Gala Luncheon provides more time for members to socialize and get better acquainted. Chatting before the luncheon are Kay Swanson, James Fuchs, and Sandra Fuchs.

Recalling the past year’s workshops on housing decisions and choices, Cares committee chair Earl Nolting directs attention to a copy of the latest Senior Housing directory, now available.

Dave Naumann, UMRA’s webmaster, served as unofficial greeter at the door, where he welcomed the Schroeders, Marlene and Roger.
UMRA Photo Club is open to all UMRA members who have an interest in photography

The Photo Club meets regularly to share photos and talk about different aspects of photography. From time to time we meet for a photography shoot somewhere in the Twin Cities. The two most recent shoots have been at the Como Zoo and Conservatory and along the Green Line in St. Paul. Recent discussions and demonstrations have included photo books, restoring old photographs, and video tutorials on different aspects of photography. There is also active sharing of web resources by members of the club.

We meet at the Hennepin County St. Anthony Branch Library, located in the small shopping center at the intersection of New Brighton Blvd. and St. Anthony Blvd.

For the 2015-16 academic year we will be meeting on the fourth Friday of each month except for November and December. Prior to the meetings at 1 p.m., many members of the Photo Club gather at noon for lunch at the Great Dragon Buffet, just across the parking lot from the St. Anthony Branch Library.

Join us for the first meeting of the fall on Friday, September 25, from 1 to 3 p.m. Please contact Sheri Goldsmith, golds009@gmail.com; or Craig Swan, swan@umn.edu, for more details and to be put on the Photo Club email list.

— Craig Swan

Mark your calendars for upcoming Luncheon speakers and Workshop topics


November 17: Craig Packer, professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior.

January 26, 2016: Julie Schumacher, professor, U of M Creative Writing Program; author of “Dear Committee Members.”

February 23, 2016: Provost Karen Hansen, “The University of Minnesota’s Strategic Plan.”

UMRA workshops for fall 2015 and beyond

October 27, Finance Workshop #1: Andrew Whitman, professor, Carlson School of Management, “Money Decisions in Retirement.”

November 17: Martha M. Feda, “Lifetime Physical Health: Moving and Grooving.”


February 23, 2016: “Being Mortal” with clips from “Frontline” and discussion by Cindy Cain, “Finding peace and gratitude for you and your family in the final years.”

Your participation in University research studies is a contribution that is greatly valued

This has been a banner year for the University Retirees Volunteer Center (URVCC) in providing senior participants for medical research projects. Using the UMRA listserve, we can get the information to you swiftly, and you respond equally so. Our thanks.

A newly announced study is being conducted in the Psychology Department, “Attention and Memory in Older and Younger Adults.” You are encouraged to participate if you meet these requirements: 60 to 80 years of age; normal vision and hearing; no history of serious health problems that would interfere with performing computerized tasks; native English speaker (or learned English before 6 years old). (Subjects ages 18 to 30 are also needed; so pass this information on to the youngsters in your midst.)

Participants will perform computerized tasks: visual tasks using colors and letters, visual puzzles, and a personality questionnaire. The study requires 90 minutes for the tests. There is compensation of $10/hour plus free parking or necessary transportation costs.

Contact urvc@umn.edu (612-625-8016) for the next step in participating in this important study.

Other active research studies at the U that still need additional subjects:

1) “Speech Intelligibility of Parkinson’s Patients While Performing a Distractor Test.” Especially needed are those diagnosed with idiopathic PD, as well as subjects for the control group.

2) “Touch Sensation and Sweat Sensitivity for Diagnosing Neuropathy.” Especially needed are those who have been diagnosed with neuropathy, as well as healthy adults for the control group.

Thank you,
— Alan L. Kagan, Project director, University Retirees Volunteer Center, urvc@umn.edu (612-625-8016)

“Food for Thought” from the Cares Committee — Ideas for Aging Well (#1): Embrace change by adapting, adjusting, and helping others.

Thank you to the University of Minnesota Foundation for its sponsorship of UMRA’s September Newsletter.

UNITS for sale at 1666 Coffman condominiums


UNIT 118, Minneapolis section, 1324 Sq. Ft., 2 BR + Den, 2 Baths, Living/Dining, Kitchen, Laundry, and Fireplace. Built-in bookcases. New carpet and freshly painted. 1st floor allows 1 dog. Choice end unit w/3 exposures N.E. List Price $254,900; PRICE REDUCED $244,900

See pictures at: http://spacecrafting.com/nnnts;
Jeff Machacek, Coldwell Banker Burnet, 612.925.8277. Tours can be arranged by calling 651-451-3197. For more information go to the website: 1666Coffman.com.

— Eve Brown, chair, Coffman Promotions Committee

See the newsletter online, delve into the archives, and stay current on news for retirees — There’s always something new on UMRA’s ever-expanding website: www.umn.edu/umra

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UMRA’s phone: 612-626-4403
Website: www.umn.edu/umra

In Remembrance
We report the passing of UMRA members as we learn of losses to our UMRA community. Since the Newsletter was published last May, we have received news of the following.

Mary M. Halbert, School of Public Health, Civil Service, died March 25, 2015. She had been an UMRA member since 1998.

Richard Oriani, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science faculty, died August 11, 2015. His wife Constance Oriani continues as an UMRA member; they have been members since 1990.

William E. Rempel, Animal Science faculty, died August 1, 2015. William had been an UMRA member since 1992.

UMRA Cares Committee is here for support
For assistance and support in the event of the death or serious illness of an UMRA member or family member, please e-mail us at umracares@umn.edu or call 612-626-4403, and leave a message for UMRA Cares.

Also, if you learn of someone who is facing a difficult life challenge, please contact the UMRA Cares Committee.

Thank you to the College of Continuing Education and its LearningLife program for sponsoring the UMRA September Newsletter. CCE also offers a 15 percent discount to UMRA members. See below for a message about their fall sampler.