

# UMRA U NEWSLETTER

*A Communication of the University of Minnesota Retirees Association*

JANUARY 2010

## Jan. 26 lunch topic: The Peregrine – icon of science, conservation overachievement

The January luncheon speaker is Patrick T. Redig, a co-founder of the Raptor Center located on the U campus in St. Paul. His topic: The Peregrine Falcon: Icon of Culture, Science, and Conservation Overachievement.



Pat came to the University of Minnesota to earn his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 1974 followed by a Ph.D. in physiology in 1979, and he has been on the faculty of Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences ever since. In 1974 he collaborated with Dr. Gary Duke to establish The Raptor Center, dedicated to the rehabilitation of ill and injured birds of prey. During 25 years as director, he has overseen the construction of a facility dedicated to housing and rehabilitating raptors as well as the development of an international, comprehensive program in research and training of clinical medicine and surgery for raptors.

The Raptor Center is one of the most frequently visited units of the University of Minnesota. Every year thousands of school children and adults enjoy engaging visits during which they hear about some of the travails endured by individual birds; they

always enjoy meeting some of the resident recuperating bald eagles, red-tailed hawks, barn owls, and falcons. Last year The Raptor Center was involved in the recuperation and eventual release of more than 400 raptors back into the wild.

One of Pat's major passions has been the reintroduction of peregrine falcons into the Upper Midwest. In the 1960s the widespread use of the insecticide DDT caused the decimation of the peregrine falcon population throughout much of the United States. Pat, in collaboration with the late Harrison B. (Bud) Tordoff, led the way for reintroducing peregrines and assisting their survival by installing hacking boxes at the top of smoke stacks and very tall buildings. The results have been quite spectacular, resulting in a population that is now approximately four times the size of the historical Midwestern population. It is now possible to observe peregrines even in the city centers of our metro area; the peregrine was removed from the endangered species list in 1999.

Pat will describe the restoration project, including the process of banding young chicks so that they can be identified at a distance, and he'll tell us about the course of falcon population growth over the last 20 years.

You can follow the falcons' progress and information on the Midwest Peregrine Database, which is accessible by anyone at: [www.midwestperegrine.org](http://www.midwestperegrine.org).  
— John Anderson, President-elect

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

JANUARY  
LUNCHEON MEETING

Tuesday  
January 26, 2010  
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Featured Speaker**  
Patrick Redig, director,  
The Raptor Center  
“Peregrine Falcon: Icon  
of Culture, Science, and  
Conservation Overachievement”

**Location**  
Conference Room ABC  
Campus Club, Fourth Floor  
Coffman Memorial Union,  
East Bank Campus, U of M

**Cost**  
Prepayment: \$12 per person;  
\$14 at door, for reservations that  
are not prepaid.

**Reservation Deadline**  
**Thursday, January 21**  
To reserve your place(s) and take  
advantage of prepaid price, send  
a check, payable to UMRA, to  
UMRA Reservations, c/o  
Frank Miller, 979 18th Ave. SE,  
Mpls, MN 55414. Contact him at  
[mille005@umn.edu](mailto:mille005@umn.edu) or 612-331-  
2145. Reservations requested after  
Jan. 21 may be on a waiting list.  
Please let us know about cancella-  
tions by noon, Jan. 21.

**Parking**  
Parking is available in the East  
River Road Garage at UMRA's  
membership discount, \$5.00  
for the entire day.

**Board Meeting at 10 a.m.**

UMRA NEWSLETTER

## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I was surprised at the number of comments I received on my “Notes” in the November Newsletter. All authors are flattered when they discover that somebody is actually reading what they write.

Some pointed out that the G.I. Bill had little impact on the enrollment and support of women in higher education, and that it took a long time before the number of women in the University equaled the number of men. I don’t have the exact number, but I believe that is correct; however, the history of the participation of women in the student body raises some interesting questions.

In the first 40 years after the University first admitted students, what became the College of Science, Literature and the Arts (SLA) was by far the largest college. In SLA in 1901-02 there were 544 men and 635 women; in 1906-07, 535 men and 882 women; in 1909-10, 613 men and 953 women. One cannot easily get a breakdown of enrollments by sex after 1910, but a general survey suggests that women remained a significant part of undergraduate enrollment up to the 1930s.

Even in the professional and graduate programs the early history is somewhat different from popular belief. The first Ph.D. awarded at the University went to a man in history in 1888; the second Ph.D. in history went to a woman in 1895. Between 1888 and 1929, ten Ph.D.s were awarded in history; five of these went to women. And, they got respectable employment.

The professional schools were lagging a bit behind, but in 1900, of the 44 medical degrees awarded by the Medical School, six went to women. That’s about 14 percent. But remember that in 1900 those six women M.D.s had to wait 20 years before they could cast a vote for a U.S. president.

The opportunities and rights granted to women in the

last decade of the 19th century and the first decades of the 20th were a momentous change; however, the Great Depression brought about some significant reversals. There developed a widespread feeling that there should be only one “bread winner” in a family and that typically will be the man. Some draconian rules were put in place like the anti-nepotism rules. I encountered one when I came to the University.

In the spring of 1956, when I was working on my dissertation, I got a telegram offering me a one-year instructorship at Minnesota at the princely salary of \$4,500. Since I had no alternative, I accepted. In the spring of 1957 the department offered me a three-year appointment, which I accepted. After the appointment papers were filed, they were sent back with a statement that I had an elder sister who was an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry. The University had a rule that no more than one person from a family could be employed by the University. Big sisters always look after their kid brothers, and so my sister submitted her resignation and got a position in psychology at Macalester College.

A year later she married the man who had filled the vacancy created when she resigned from psychiatry, and the following year a letter came to me saying that I had a brother-in-law employed by the University, and one of us would have to resign. The older sister came through again. She resigned her position; her husband resigned from psychiatry at the U and took the job his wife had vacated at Macalester, where he stayed until the end of his life. I was reappointed and stayed at Minnesota for 45 years. My sister went into private practice and never returned to the fields of academe.

If I had come to the University in 1910 rather than in the 1950s, none of this would have happened.

— Robert Holt, President

### UMRA’s revolving reservation system

Frank Miller offers his usual astute suggestions with a predictably humorous twist: **This is a warning!** Take care to notice who is handling reservations for luncheon programs each month so that your reservation will not go astray. Explanation: almost every month a different individual is taking your reservations. Mail your check to Frank this month and again in February. See page one for that information.

### In Memoriam

We report the passing of UMRA members as we learn of losses to our UMRA community. Our condolences to the family and friends of:

Lucille Caldecott, d. November 14, 2009. Her husband Richard, Biology, is a member.

Raymond Lammers, Speech and Theatre, UM, Morris, d. October 30, 2009

## New members as of December 2009

Please give a hearty welcome to new members who recently joined UMRA. Greet them at the next lunch program and add this information to your 2009-10 directories.

Linda Charles, Work, Community, & Family Education  
4818 Debra Lane, Shoreview, MN 55126

Harvey M. Feldman, Education & Human Development  
9317 – 40th Ave. N., New Hope, MN 55427

Marcia Finke, Educational Policy & Administration  
3943 Standish Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407

Carolyn D. Fiterman, Physical Therapy  
2100 Spruce Trail, Golden Valley, MN 55422

Elizabeth Fletcher, Education & Human Development  
3200 Garfield Ave. S., #205, Minneapolis, MN 55408

Sherilyn B. Goldsmith, Univ. Child Care Center  
10533 W. River Rd., Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

Debra M. Haessly, Kinesiology  
4218 39th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55406

Marlene Hass and Eric Birkeland, Boynton Health Service  
3105 Rankin Rd., St. Anthony, 55418; 612-788-8321

Marshall Hoff, Academic Health Center  
250 126th Ln NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55448  
763-757-6036

Andrea S. Johnson, Work, Community & Family Education  
9007 Colby Court, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

Marilyn L. Johnson, School of Social Work  
3640 46th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55406

Judith J. Lambrecht, Educational Policy & Administration  
1766 Carl St., Lauderdale, MN 55113

Grace M. Lindberg, Academic Support Resources/ITU  
9115 Sandy Slate Way, Las Vegas, NV 89123  
612-819-0002

Maria L. Mancuso, Curriculum & Instruction  
2706 Brighton Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55418

Marijo W. McBride, Educational Policy & Administration  
911 Hall Ave., West St. Paul, MN 55118

Ann Mooney-McLoon, Institute of Child Development  
4241 25th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55406

Rebecca T. Rapport, Curriculum & Instruction  
5501 River Bluff Curve, Bloomington, MN 55437

Sally F. Schakel, Epidemiology & Community Health  
16052 Quality Ct. S., Lakeland, MN 55043  
651-436-8868

Susan L. Smith, HR Benefits  
10139 3rd St. NE, Blaine, MN 55434  
763-639-9104

Edward Swanson and Carsten Slostad, Libraries/Minitex  
1065 Portland Ave., St. Paul, 55104; 651-271-1261

## Get ready for UMRA Computer /Web Fest, your opportunity to connect

At the November luncheon meeting, your president asked for a show of hands from those interested in a workshop on computer use to be held after a regular luncheon meeting in Campus Club rooms A,B,C. A goodly number of arms shot up, and so, in response to popular demand, we have scheduled a session on computer use to follow the meeting on February 23 from 1:30 to 2:30. All UMRA members are invited to attend. Details on what will be covered and how to sign up will be in the February Newsletter.

At this time we can say the session will be led by our local Web master and computer guru, Ron Anderson. We also have enough computer experts in UMRA to form our own Geek Squad, and some will be available to move among the participants to give some personal help when necessary. The topics will include a visual presentation on how to use the UMRA web site optimally, and will move on to introduce you to other web sites with useful material for retirees. Other topics will probably include security—how to defend against viruses and spyware, erasing cookies and using pseudonyms, back-ups, and trouble shooting. If you have any issues or problems that you particularly want addressed, make your wishes known by e-mailing Ron Anderson (rea@umn.edu).

If you have a portable computer, plan to bring it along, but it would be most useful if you have wireless capability. If not, you might consider getting a wireless card. We will try to have a few (very few) computers available for those who want to attend, but who don't have a portable device.

Again, watch for details in your February Newsletter.

## UMRA's phone is installed and answered by volunteer from Membership Committee

Did you know that UMRA has an office in McNamara Center? And, a recently-installed phone listed in the University's directory? Even though the phone rings there now, we have no receptionist there to answer it, but you can rest assured that the call will be attended to.

Messages are picked up daily by Pat Tollefson, a member of the Board and the Membership Committee, who answers the questions she can or passes pertinent messages on to other UMRA officers and board members.

The number? 612-626-4403

University of Minnesota  
McNamara Alumni Center  
Room 264, Suite 250  
200 Oak Street S.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55455-2002

First Class Mail  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Minneapolis, MN.  
Permit No. 155

**Have you changed your  
address, e-mail, or phone?**

1. Print new information below.
2. Cut out this form **and address label**.
3. Mail both to the address above.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Info \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**URVC supports hospital volunteering**

Hospitals are in the news—but the news isn't good! As you are aware, state institution budget cuts have created a desperate situation for hospitals. One way we can help provide relief and share in improving the health of the community and the hospital experience for patients and their families is by volunteering for many hospital activities. Hospitals are ready to match your preferences and abilities with the hospital needs.

The University Retirees Volunteer Center has selected three hospitals for your choice: Fairview-University Medical Center, Hennepin County Medical Center, and Regions Hospital. With variations between hospitals, the general policy is for a minimum commitment of a weekly 3- to 4-hour service for a period of four to six months. An application is followed by an interview and perhaps an orientation session. The hospital will conduct a background check, require proof of immunizations, provide a tuberculosis test, etc. Depending on the hospital, volunteers receive benefits for parking, meals, educational programs, and discounts.

The volunteer opportunities are very diverse; these are just a few examples: hospitality desks, recreational therapy, library help, patient tutorial, reading projects, flower & mail delivery, clerical assistance, hospice, child patient care, and many others that will make a difference in improving patient care.

Applications for each hospital differ. For further information, or to submit your choice of hospital, contact the URVC office (612-625-8016) or e-mail [urvc@umn.edu](mailto:urvc@umn.edu).

— Alan L. Kagan, URVC Project Director  
[kagan001@umn.edu](mailto:kagan001@umn.edu)

**Do you know a U of M retiree who's not yet a member of UMRA?**

The more the merrier! Encourage fellow retirees to sample UMRA's programs and hospitality. Invite a prospective member to join you for this month's luncheon program.

It'll be UMRA's treat! Just call in to alert us when you make your reservation; give us their names for the name tags, and help give them a hearty welcome by introducing them to others. And, don't forget to tell them about the benefits of membership, including our expansive discount program.

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Keep current on UMRA news and discount programs  
with a visit to the association's  
new and improved web site: [www.umn.edu/umra](http://www.umn.edu/umra)

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