

# CUPARUC

newsletter of the concordia university pensioners' association  
bulletin de l'association des retraité-e-s de l'université Concordia



See our Website at <http://cupa.concordia.ca>

vol. 20, no 3, Novembre, November 2011



SEASONS GREETINGS

FROM THE EXECUTIVE OF CUPA  
DE L'EXECUTIF DE L'ARUC



- HOWEY
- SEASONS GREETINGS
- HOWEY
- Howard Fink
  - Bill Knibber
  - Eddie Ginocchi
  - Mary Baldwin
  - Shirley Robinson
  - Garry Milton
  - Roger Kenner
  - Graham Martin
  - Mair Verthuy
  - Doreen Hutton
  - Sandra-Lynn Spina
  - Barbara Harding
  - Colin Waters
  - John Woodnow
  - Geoff Adams
- BOYHOOR



SEE YOU ON DECEMBER 7th, H767, NOON  
AT THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH !!

## Les sabots du petit Wolff

Un extrait d'un conte de Noël par François Coppée. Le texte en entier, ainsi que plusieurs autres contes de Noël se trouvent au:

La Bibliothèque électronique du Québec  
Collection À tous les vents Volume 289 : version 1.01  
[http://beq.ebooksgratuits.com/vents/Contes\\_de\\_Noel.pdf](http://beq.ebooksgratuits.com/vents/Contes_de_Noel.pdf)

La messe de minuit terminée, les fidèles s'en allèrent, impatients du réveillon, et la bande des écoliers, toujours deux par deux et suivant le pédagogue, sortit de l'église.

Or, sous le porche, assis sur un banc de pierre surmonté d'une niche ogivale, un enfant était endormi, un enfant couvert d'une robe de laine blanche, et pieds nus, malgré la froidure. Ce n'était point un mendiant, car sa robe était propre et neuve, et, près de lui, sur le sol, on voyait, liés dans une serge, une équerre, une hache, une biseau, et les autres outils de l'apprenti charpentier. Éclairé par la lueur des étoiles, son visage aux yeux clos avait une expression de douceur divine, et ses longs cheveux bouclés, d'un blond roux, semblaient allumer une auréole autour de son front. Mais ses pieds d'enfant, bleuis par le froid de cette nuit cruelle de décembre, faisaient mal à voir.

Consider CENTRAIDE....

**form**

**CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY RETIREE,**  
Correspondence:  English  Français  Ms.  Mr.  
 Employee  Retired

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Employee No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home address<sup>1</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup>The Canada Revenue Agency requires the donor's personal address to appear on charitable tax receipts issued by Centraide.

**NEW:** In order to have an even greater impact in the community, the Leadership Challenge Grant will match donations of all new Leaders (\$1,000 or more), up to a limit of \$1 million.

I wish to receive by e-mail information about donations through wills, life insurance policies and retirement plans.



**Thank you!**

493 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, Quebec H3A 1B6 Tel: 514 288-1261 [communications@centraide-mtl.org](mailto:communications@centraide-mtl.org) [www.centraide-mtl.org](http://www.centraide-mtl.org)

Les écoliers, si bien vêtus et chaussés pour l'hiver, passèrent indifférents devant l'enfant inconnu ; quelques-uns même, fils des plus gros notables de la ville, jetèrent sur ce vagabond un regard où se lisait tout le mépris des riches pour les pauvres, des gras pour les maigres.

Mais le petit Wolff, sortant de l'église le dernier, s'arrêta tout ému devant le bel enfant qui dormait.

– « Hélas ! se dit l'orphelin, c'est affreux ! ce pauvre petit va sans chaussures par un temps si rude... Mais, ce qui est encore pis, il n'a même pas, ce soir, un soulier ou un sabot à laisser devant lui, pendant son sommeil, afin que le petit Noël y dépose de quoi soulager sa misère ! »

Et, emporté par son bon coeur, Wolff retira le sabot de son pied droit, le posa devant l'enfant endormi, et, comme il put, tantôt à cloche-pied, tantôt boitillant et mouillant son chausson dans la neige, il retourna chez sa tante.

## PENSION NEWS

We are fortunate to have Howard Fink tracking the developments relating to our pension plan, and the associated benefits. Howard reports that although the pension plan is in good financial health, especially considering the current

by payroll deduction, the easiest way to contribute

I am spreading my donation over 12 periods.

\$8 (\$5.40)<sup>2</sup>  \$15 (\$10.10)<sup>2</sup>  \$30 (\$18.10)<sup>2</sup>  
 \$85 (\$46.60)<sup>2</sup> or \$  <sup>2</sup> After tax rounded amount.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**LEADERSHIP DONATION**

by credit card

one payment of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 monthly payments of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ x 12 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(on the first of each month)

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

by cheque  cash

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

A receipt is issued for a contribution of \$10 or more. Registration No.: 11884 2517 RR0001



financial climate, the issues surrounding modifications to the benefits package are beginning to resurface.

We have previously obtained a legal opinion which assures us that the University is essentially bound by a contract upon the retirement of an employee, and cannot change the agreed upon benefit package after the fact. Unfortunately, as with the rest of our spiderwork of laws, there are different ways to interpret this. Because different Unions can re-negotiate benefits, this may have an effect on retirees. The University can propose to change it's contribution to the plan - thereby not changing the benefits, but radically changing the cost.

Several other Universities are struggling with this issue, and it has been proposed by the previous Concordia administration that this be reconsidered. As a new administration settles into Concordia, this is bound to become a more active topic.

CUPA/ARUC will continue to monitor this and bring developments to the attention of the membership.

Howard reports that this growing trend will be one of the topics discussed at the coming CURAC (CURAC/ARUCC is the federation of retiree associations at colleges and universities across Canada.) conference, in Victoria, B.C., April 18-20.

---



**CUPA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**  
*Mary Baldwin (Chair)*

---

The members of the Committee for 2010-2011 were J.Fiset, M.-J. Kornblatt & M. Baldwin (Chair).

The market value of the fund as of June 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 determines the payout for the 2011-2012 academic year, which is divided equally between graduates and undergraduates. Last year we raised the level of the Graduate Awards to \$5,000 each. Given the state of the financial markets we are fortunate that we can maintain this level of support for the current year.

During 2010-2011 some administrative changes were initiated by the University in the handling of scholarships and bursaries at the graduate level, and the University has now approved our suggested modification of the language of the original document setting up the fund, which will ensure the intent of our Graduate Awards and that Graduate Studies continues to administer these awards. Four Graduate Awards of \$5,000 will be made this fall to Graduate students on the basis of academic excellence and financial need through Graduate studies.

At the undergraduate level four in-course Scholarships of \$2,500 will be made, as well as four undergraduate bursaries of \$2,500 to students in financial need, one of each to a student in each of the four faculties of Arts and Science, Commerce, Fine Arts and Engineering and Computer Science.

The Retired Faculty and Staff Scholarships and Awards Endowment Fund, like most investments, will suffer again this year in the current financial uncertainty. However, costs to students are continuing to rise. To maintain let alone raise the amount of our support, or to increase the number of awards made, the fund needs to grow. In the Concordia Annual campaign there is now a box to earmark donations specifically for the Retired Faculty and Staff Scholarships and Awards Endowment Fund, and we urge you to consider seriously supporting students through this fund.

The money is genuinely appreciated by the students, as shown in the following two extracts from letters of thanks received from last year's recipients.

Michelle Bakker: PhD student in Religion, wrote:  
*"I would like to express my great gratitude for your support of me, personally, through this award, as well as graduate students generally, for having established the award in the first place. This funding is going to be extremely helpful to my studies in the coming year, as I finish my exams and thesis proposal, and prepare for the field-work portion of my dissertation research. They don't warn you before you begin, but doing a PhD is perpetually stressful, and it is a huge relief to have some of the financial strain removed It is also wonderful to know that there are private individuals who are willing to support unknown persons in their intellectual and ethical pursuits as undertaken through graduate work. "*

Camille Bédard : undergraduate in Art History who *"..decided to study art history as a "coup de coeur ". This decision proved to be the right one, as I enjoy both the university and my program, and I see a future for me in art history. Being recognized for my academic accomplishments confirms that I have finally found a field of study that corresponds to my personality, determination, artistic interests and analytical spirit ... Once again, please accept my most sincere thanks for this Scholarship and for giving me the opportunity of achieving my full potential*





## GUEST SPEAKER - QUINCY ARMORER

The guest speaker for the November meeting was Quincy Armorer, an accomplished actor, and now the Artistic Director of the Black Theatre Workshop of Montreal, Canada's oldest Black theatre company. He is a graduate of the Theatre Department at Concordia.

Quincy performed two seasons at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival, and trained at the Birmingham Conservatory. He has performed with Black Theatre Workshop, and won its Emerging Artist Award in 2002. He also served as BTW's associate artistic director for the 2005-2006 season.

He has performed with Centaur Theatre, Repercussion Theatre and the St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival. In 2002, he portrayed a memorable Hamlet at Le Swimming on St. Laurent Blvd.



Bill Knitter thanks Quincy Armorer

It was apparent from the beginning of his presentation that Quincy is passionate about Shakespeare. He enlightened the audience with his explanation of the language of Shakespeare, pointing out that the English of the time was different from that of today. He says when studying a play he has the Oxford English Dictionary by his side to continually reference the etymology of words.

He went on to point out that Shakespeare uses language to denote the social standing of characters: nobles and key characters speak in iambic pentameter, commoners and incidental characters are relegated to prose. Invariably one can get cues from the way the lines are developing in the play - there is greater meaning than the actual words being used. In some famous scenes, two characters will provide alternating lines of sonnet.

Quincy's presentation skills as an actor were quite enthralling, as he amused us with his brief discussion of

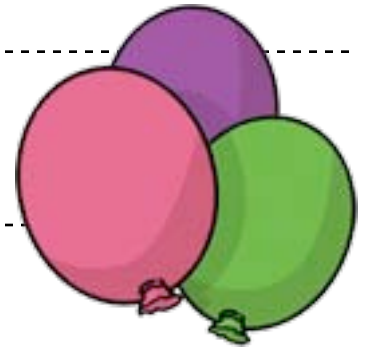
'The Scottish' play, and why actors avoid using the real name inside a theatre (you'll have to look this up, as I am afraid to use the name....). Although Quincy did explain there are rituals for warding off the evil caused by uttering the real name: one exits the theatre, turns three times, spits over one's left shoulder and swears, or recites a line from another of Shakespeare's plays. Phew!

Quincy described the difficulties faced by English language theatre in Quebec: continually decreasing funding, a tendency of actors to leave Quebec after establishing themselves, and the pressure of competition from French language theatre. There are relatively few venues, and, of course costs are increasing.

He ended his presentation by inviting the audience to attend a performance of 'Stori Ya' at the Black Theatre Workshop, which our Social Committee immediately started planning.....



## NEW MEMBERS



- Wendy Hedrich
- Andrea MacDonald
- Petre Tzenov
- Allan Davis
- Larry McGoldrick
- Bill Reimer
- Cindy Canavan
- Anthony Synnott



## CONDOLANCES - DECEASED MEMBERS

- Lionel Rothkrug
- Molly Petrie
- Alex Sproule

### The CUPARUC Newsletter

Do not reproduce without permission.

The Association assumes no responsibilities for the statements or opinions of authors or articles

