The President and members of the Executive board extend all good wishes at this special season of the year. So, whatever you wish to call it - Christmas, Hanukkah, New Year, Festivus, Festival of Lights, Holiday – we hope you will enjoy all that the season has to offer. Just as the season means different things to different people so too are the ways we enjoy it. For many it is time for friends and family gatherings to wish each other well and share the joy of just being together. For others it is a time to remember those not so fortunate in life. Time, also, to relax and enjoy the many traditional offerings of the season – perhaps Christmas at Butchart Gardens, a Sing-a-long Messiah – the list is endless. Or, for those with a bit of “bah humbug” in their nature walking the beaches in warmer climes might be just the ticket. Whatever your taste or inclination – good wishes to all!!!

**Bits from the Board:**

*Changes:* There is one small change to the executive board. For personal reasons, Virginia Cummings has resigned as Member at Large. Thank you Virginia for your exemplary service to the Association first as Secretary for and then as Member at Large. We will miss you. We are delighted to welcome Sharon Crumly, formerly of Human Resources, as Virginia’s replacement.

*Privacy:* The Board is very conscious of the need for privacy for our members. We do our utmost to protect the information you give us and constantly update our policies to look after your interests. We felt that it was timely to summarize the policy that has been developed over the years on the use of the personal information of a member and specifically how we respond to requests for contact information of a member. The policy is summarized below. A statement of the Use of Personal Information is now included in our membership application forms.

**Use of Personal Information**

The UVRA uses personal information of our members, mainly contact information, gathered on application forms for membership, membership renewal and benefits, exclusively for the purposes of the Association. These purposes include the distribution of the newsletter and other information which may be of interest to members. Occasionally, we provide subsets of our database to campus departments for the purpose of assisting with the organization of social or academic functions that include UVRA members. A list of the names of members, but without contact information, is available to members on the UVRA website.

In addition, names and addresses of members are made available to Johnson Inc., for the sole purpose of distributing information about MEDOC© travel insurance and their other insurance plans as has been negotiated with the Association. There is an agreement with Johnson Inc., that lists so provided will be used by them and by their agents only for this purpose, and will be destroyed immediately after use.

In other cases if a request is made for the contact information of a UVRA member, our policy is NOT to give this information to the requester. Instead, the member is informed of the request and the member can then respond as he or she wishes.

**New University Identity Management System**

The University is introducing a new system for identifying people associated with the University, the Identity Management System (IDMS). This will include the existing personal records of all
June - Day Trip and Lunch,
June - Annual General Meeting

WATCH FOR FURTHER DETAILS IN THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Feedback and/or suggestions for future events: uvra@uvic.ca, 472-4749.
UVRA Events Committee: Trudy Byers, Jim Currie, Isobel Dawson, Jean Whiffin.

Masterminds: Mark your calendar for the 2008 Masterminds Lecture Series. The following is the lineup of presenters and their topics:

April 9: Dr. Nicholas Russell, heritage buildings and their importance to Victoria.
April 16: Dr. Pat Roy, from exclusion to inclusion of Japanese and Chinese Canadian citizens.
April 23: Prof Juliana Saxton, reminiscence theatre, applying theatre techniques to stimulate memories of life experiences, family histories, etc.
April 30: Dr. Paul West, pesticides, how to avoid using contaminants and live with our bugs.
May 7: Dr. David Sanborn Scott, hydrogen fuel and climate change.

This promises to be a varied and exciting program. More info in the next newsletter.

People in the News: Congratulations to Donna and Trevor Matthews who recently celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary.

Profs. Wolfgang J. R. Hoefer, professor emeritus and former director of the Computational Electromagnetics Research Laboratory, received an honorary doctorate from the Technische Universität München earlier this year. Professor Hoefer was cited for extraordinary accomplishments in the area of electromagnetic field theory.

Travel: check out the UVic alumni & Friends Travel Program. Information

In Memoriam

David Johnston Chabassol, January 9, 1923 - October 12, 2007. A proud Nova Scotian, David was born in Westville, NS and received his education at Pictou Academy and later at the Universities of Acadia, McGill and Toronto. After war service in the Infantry he returned to teach at Pictou Academy before winning a Kellogg scholarship to the University of Alberta where he earned a Ph.D. in psychology. His area of research was on adolescents. He taught for 29 years in the Faculty of Education at UVic. David is survived by his wife, Jean and two children Mark and Alison.

Jean Downie Dey, June 13, 1916 - October 17, 2007. Jean was born at New Lunnon, AB and from her earliest days knew she was born to be a teacher. She pursued her goal through home schooling by her mother (a teacher from Scotland), then the Edmonton Normal School, the University of Alberta and the University of California at Berkeley where she received her Ed.D. Her specialties were Language Arts and Early Childhood Education. Early in her career Jean taught in country schools in Alberta and joined the Faculty of Education at UVic in 1963 (the same day that UVic became a university) where she taught until her retirement in 1981. Jean was predeceased by two husbands, Cameron Hay and Allan McQuarrie, but leaves family in Alberta and B.C.
computer science students at the University of Victoria are teaching seniors how to use the Internet. In January 2008, members of UVic's Computer Science Volunteer Program—an outreach program run by graduate students—will offer free Internet training for people who are 60 years of age or older. "Participants will learn basic skills for navigating the Net," says computer science doctoral student Lior Malka. "The course will help seniors access online information and resources such as search engines, news and banking. In addition, by learning how to use email, participants will be able to keep in touch with their loved ones and even share photos."

The first offering of the course is scheduled for January 2008 and will include four one-hour classes on Mondays (January 7, 14, 21, 28) from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in room 348 of the Engineering/Computer Science Building at UVic. For more information please contact the Graduate Student Society at 472-4543 and ask for Juliet.

United Way Update: Despite a shortened campaign period this year, the UVic Campaign, under Campaign Chair Clint Hamilton, Director of Athletics, is very close to meeting its target of $250,000.00. As of November 27, the total stood at $218,413, 87.4% of the goal with 575 donors.

To those of you still planning to contribute, the sooner you send in your donation the sooner we reach our target and the better chance we have of beating Camosun College and Royal Roads University, who are officially challenging us this year.

You may donate by printing off a pledge form (from the link below) completing it and returning it to United Way of Greater Victoria, 1144 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 3K8. Or if you wish to donate online, click the link below and follow the links under “Donations”. Please ensure that you note in the “comment” section that you are a member of the UVic Retirees Association so that United Way can credit UVic towards its total for this year. http://unitedway.uvic.ca/Quickinfo.htm

Thanks to all who have donated for your support.

Victor Neufeldt,
Victor Neufeldt, UVRA Representative - UVic United Way Campaign Committee