

# ARF NEWS LETTER

## ASSOCIA- TION OF RETIRED FACULTY

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### ARF NEWS LETTER

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## 1: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM is called for:  
**October 15, 1997**  
**12:00-2:00 p.m. in**  
**Sylvester's,**  
**Stong College.**  
(2nd floor of Stong)

- . election of officers
- . reports
- . consideration of constitutional amendments
- . the concerns of members constitute the business of the meeting.

This will be our first full membership meeting since the YUFA strike, actively supported by so many ARF members. Members will hear progress reports about outstanding issues: YUFA negotiations including improvements in post-retirement benefits, and ARF representation on all University bodies that affect the lives of faculty retirees.

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## 2. SPECIAL INTEREST:

- . (Light lunch will be provided)
- . Remember, **Free Parking** on day of meeting: Lot 'DD', on presentation of this Newsletter (please leave newsletter on dash):

## 3. ELECTIONS!

The Nominating Committee has produced the following for members' approval or amendment at the Annual General Meeting to be held 15 October 1997:

President	George Eaton
Vice President	Mavis Waters
Secretary	Theodore Olson
Treasurer	Ian Sowton
Past-President	[if not available, then one more "at large"]

Members at large of the Executive:

Lillian Lerman  
Margaret Knittl  
Mel Zimmerman  
Gwenda Echard

Eaton and Olson are incumbents.

Waters served in several functions in YUFA and has been an at-large member of the Executive.

Sowton has also spent the last year on the Executive and replaces Lillian Lerman, our founding treasurer.

Knittl and Zimmerman have been alternative members of the Executive (see the story on amendments!) and would, if elected, become regular members.

Echard comes directly from the membership to the Executive.

Four names are presented for information in accordance with the proposed amendment to Article 5(ii) as people the Executive would like to ask to serve as alternates or to take the place of any of the above if unable to continue serving: Howard Buchbinder, former YUFA chairman; Don Holoch, formerly of DLLL; Phyllis Platnick, librarian; and Ian MacDonald, ex-Glendon and former YUFA pension specialist. The Executive has found that extended travel absences and ill health combine to sap our ability to get jobs done. So a reserve of qualified people has become a necessary condition of our ability to carry out effectively the work of ARF.

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#### 4. NOTICE OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS (PROPOSED)

Two will be presented at the AGM. They expand the Executive and provide explicitly for ad hoc or informal expansions to meet special needs. They arise from experience of the hazards of depending on two few people, who are exposed to the exigencies of travel and ill-health. The text follows, with new wording underlined.

-to Article 5(i) -- The Association shall be managed by an Executive Committee of nine (9) members, including a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and five members at large, including the immediate past president, if such is available.

-to Article 5 (ii) -- The nine members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of members, except that the Executive Committee shall have authority to co-opt alternative, non-voting members to the Executive at need and shall report such action to the membership in a timely manner.

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#### 5. ARF AND PRESIDENT MARSDEN

YUFA and ARF leaders met in late June with the incoming University President, to present her with appreciations of a number of issues. Different sectors of concern were commented upon briefly but forcefully by designated persons, including the President of ARF.

#### 6. THE SAME OLD QUESTIONS.....

They keep being asked, either by new retirees or by people who suppose that something must have changed and reduced the need for ARF.

##### *a. Isn't there already a retiree organization?*

Yes, one for everybody who wants it, from groundskeepers to graduate deans. YURA's current constitution still lists its purpose "to enlist and organize retirees of York University to serve in areas of need identified by the Administration in order to contribute to the well-being and excellence of the University [emphasis added]." ARF's objective, on the other hand, is "to protect, promote and advance the interests and welfare of the retired faculty of York University [Article 2]."

##### *b. Hasn't YURA recently interested itself in issues that ARF has focussed on?*

Yes, which is interesting after twenty years. It's a good thing, but one plainly prompted by the presence and pressure of ARF.

**c. Doesn't YUFA really negotiate for us? Isn't YUFA our main means to press the Administration?**

YUFA does currently negotiate some matters that affect retirees directly. And both groups, during the recent strike were reminded of the common history of their members; ARF people were on the lines daily. Clearly YUFA would like to pay more attention to retiree issues. And the presence of our President on the YUFA executive is a benefit to both groups. He will report at the AGM on other institutionalized forms of cooperation now taking shape. But YUFA has many constituencies, some of them pressing very hard indeed just now. The lowered rates for retiree teaching, as well as long-standing provisions that hurt retirees' benefit structure, remind us that at bottom retirees constitute a distinct interest. We are coming, more rapidly than either YUFA or the Administration can easily adjust to, to constitute a large body of people with our own stake in how the University is run and how we ourselves are represented.

**d. What about the Retirement Centre?**

Until recently, the Centre's mandate was construed narrowly, on pre-retirement counselling. With ARF having questioned with YUFA the effectiveness of YUFA's financial support of the Centre and with ARF now having representation on the Centre's advisory board, the Centre now proposes to extend its concern to matters confronting actual retirees.

**e. How do I join ARF?**

We thought you'd never ask! Come to a meeting. Or, if you'll trust us sight unseen, send the application form attached, with your \$15.00, to Association of Retired Faculty, c/o Sara Costantini, Division of Social Science, S756 Ross Building, York University, 4700 Keele Street, North York, Ontario, M3J 1P3. In return, we'll send you a secret decoder ring enabling you to decipher those notices from the pension office.

# JOINING ARF / SUSTAINING ARF

To: ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FACULTY  
c/o Sara Costantini  
Division of Social Science, S756 Ross Bldg.  
York University, 4700 Keele Street  
North York, Ontario, M3J 1P3

- I want to join ARF, to receive its mailings and come to its meetings.  
 I want to continue my ARF membership  
 I am not yet a retiree, but I want to get in on this as an associate member

Here is my dues cheque:  \$15.00 regular member  
 \$10.00 associate member

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

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ADDRESS ON CAMPUS

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HOME ADDRESS

POSTAL CODE

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CAMPUS PHONE

HOME PHONE

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FAX #

E-MAIL ADDRESS

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DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE ELSE WHO OUGHT TO BE SPECIALLY INVITED TO JOIN ARF? IF SO, GIVE US THE INFORMATION BELOW:

NAME

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ADDRESS

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POSTAL CODE

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