I have only been retired and away from the University for three years, and boy do those years seem to fly by. Maybe you too have noticed. When I was a kid, it seemed to take forever for Christmas to come. But these days, when I reach for the boxes of tree lights and ornaments, it feels like I had just put them away weeks earlier. Still when the tree is decorated and the lights are turned on, the old magic returns. Of course, in the old days I didn’t (couldn’t) have a Manhattan in my hand which somehow helps tease out fond memories of Christmases long ago.

When I go back to campus these days, and/or read the BC Chronicle, I rediscover how the University continues to grow and change, sometimes in ways, I have to admit, that make me feel a bit like a stranger. Not that these changes surprise me. The many years you and I shared at Boston College were exciting ones of enormous growth and change too, in nearly every facet of life. On the other hand, some of you retired while the dream of a new academic building to house your departments and named after Father Don Monan, languished as the City of Newton
stubbornly blocked the University’s plan to modernize the Southwest corner of the Middle Campus.

Fortunately, strolling around the Heights these days, there are plenty of familiar totems that make me feel at home. And you know what? As I survey one of the numerous enhancements made to the Middle and Lower campuses in recent years, I muse to myself “That’s cool. Why didn’t we think of doing that years ago?” So the new blends well with the old.

One thing that makes me feel more at home on visits to the campus is when I see you walking toward me on your way to a monthly ARF meeting or some other event. Sure your step may be a bit slower, or is it mine? But, as I have said and written before, when I am with you and our retired faculty cohort, I get a warm feeling inside and realize this is still my/our place. I am with colleagues and friends who, miraculously, have not changed a bit in forty years.

And having the attractive Donovan Suite set aside for us is a concrete reminder to me that we are still welcome members of the University community. If you have not been out to a general meeting of the Association recently or at all, join us when we resume in September, and you will discover that BC’s old magic does return.

Jack Lewis, President

PROVOST MEETING

On Thursday, August 10th, the ARF planning committee met with Provost and Dean of Faculties Bert Garza.* We extended an invitation to Dr. Garza to acquaint him with the Association of Retired Faculty and also to learn about his priority goals, especially those to which we as individuals and as an organization might contribute. Bert suggested focusing on a few specific areas where our contribution could be helpful.

One area he feels strongly needs more attention is undergraduate advisement and will assist us in linking to the new Academic Advisement Center, headed by Ms. Ibby Nathan. Another area in which Garza feels that we can contribute relates to enhancing educational opportunities for senior citizens, including alumni as well as older members of the community. He pointed to the resources of centers in the University which focus on various aspects of aging as the catalyst for such an endeavor.

We expressed our concerns about on-campus parking for retired faculty attending ARF events, and enlisted his support in making arrangements for those with special needs. The importance of our relationship to the Office of the Provost was discussed. Members of he planning committee emerged from the meeting with a very positive impression. We presented Dr. Garza with his personal key to the Donovan Suite. Hopefully, we can recruit him in the near future as a speaker at an ARF general meeting.

* The title “Academic Vice President and Dean of Faculties” was recently changed to “Provost and Dean of Faculties.”

Fr Jim Skehan adds a geological point during the ARF historical walking tour of the BC campus
ARF BOOK CLUB

A Book Club meeting: Standing: Jean O’Neil, Rosemary Krawczyk. Sitting: Carolyn Thomas, Jean Mooney, Eileen Plunkett

The meetings of the Boston College Retired Faculty Book Club will resume in the Fall. All are welcome. The schedule will follow the pattern of the regular meetings using the Thursday following each regular meeting, hopefully making it easier for people to attend. The fall schedule will therefore be Thursdays, September 28, November 2, December 7 at 11.00 AM in the Donovan Suite. The agenda for the first meeting will focus on planning for the year and the follow-up discussion of the last book chosen: Hidden Powers—Presidential Marriages That Shaped our History by Kate Marton (2002) ISBN: 0385721889. For further information contact Jean O’Neil at jean.oneil@bc.edu

BCARF VOLUNTEERS AT MAY COMMENCEMENT

Several retired BC faculty served as Marshals or University Hosts at the 2006 University Commencement in May: Dahl Fisher, John Junkala, Jack Lewis, Jean Mooney, Jean O’Neil, Joe Orlando, and Rachel Spector.

RECENTLY DECEASED

We note with deep regret the passing of William J. Haggerty (Philosophy)

Condolences to Joan Jones (LSOE) on the loss of her husband Teddy.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Unless otherwise indicated all meetings of BCARF are held in the Donovan Suite on the 5th floor of 21 Campanella Way. Spouses and significant others are welcome. Parking is available in the Beacon Street garage. If anyone needs a ride, we will try to coordinate drivers and riders!! Call Laurel Eisenhauer (617-965-4877) at least one week before the event

September

Wednesday, September 6  4 PM University Convocation. Robsham Theater

Thursday, September 21 10:30-12 BCARF meeting. Jim Skehan, S.J., “Geology of New England”

Thursday, September 28 11-12:30 BCARF Book Club

October

Wednesday, October 25 10:30-12 BCARF Program. Jim Gipps and Peter Olivieri: “Eagle Eye”

November

Thursday, November 2 11-12:30 BCARF Book Club

Thursday, November 30 10:30-12 BCARF ANNUAL MEETING

Program: To be announced

December

Thursday, December 7 11-12:30 BCARF Book Club

ARF walking hisorical campus tour with Joe Burns
Robert Louis Sheehan (Romance Languages) has written a children’s book titled An Elephantasy. The Legend of Lawson’s Elephants.

From the book cover: Professor Sheehan and his late wife, Jela, a Harvard librarian, traveled to many parts of the world, but their hearts always returned to their little cottage in Scituate where they spent 37 happy summers. In riding or walking around Scituate, they would often pause at Scituate Commons to watch children at play in the pool surrounding the fountain with the three elephants. It was there that Professor Sheehan conceived the idea of bringing life to the elephants through a children’s story. He wanted to do for the elephants what Robert McCloskey had done for the ducklings in the Boston Public Garden: immortalize them. First he did research on the life of Thomas W. Lawson in the Scituate Historical Society and then, blending fact with fancy, ultimately brought forth this “elephantasy”.

The book is published by Dober Dan Press and can be purchased at the BC Bookstore.

Bob also has also authored two memoirs: Dorchester Streets and A Dorchester Marine’s World War II.

New University parking policies and procedures were implemented in August that will affect all persons who use these facilities, including Association of Retired Faculty members.

With the steadily increasing demand on limited parking space and the rising cost of maintaining these facilities, which heretofore has largely been borne by students, there was a need to create a more efficient system, with overall parking costs being shared more equitably among the various constituencies involved.

Special arrangements have been made with Transportation and Parking Services for retired faculty to park in certain areas of the Commonwealth Garage for scheduled ARF meetings and events, including those occurring in the morning. Entrance would be through the St. Ignatius Gate. After you identify yourself, the attendant will provide a pass for the garage. The first two hours are free, after which the cost is $2 for each additional hour, payable when exiting the garage.

For retired professors needing more frequent access to the campus for research, a “G” sticker may be purchased for a modest fee per month. A request should be directed in writing to P.J. Cappadona, Manager, Transportation and Parking Services, Rubenstein Hall.

The complete policies and procedures covering “visitors” (We are not visitors!!!) can be seen at: http://www.bc.edu/offices/transportation/parking/visitor

While changes like this are not easy to accept, especially for us, the parking plan overall seems fair, and one small facet of a vibrant university that continues to grow in complexity and stature.
Annual Banquet

The ARF Annual Banquet as held on May 31 in the Murray Room of the Yawkey Center. A good time was held by all!!
THE DONOVAN SUITE
This invaluable resource for retired faculty is located on the fifth floor of 21 Campanella Way on the lower campus.
The suite has a meeting room and three offices with PC and Mac computers. The suite also has a small lending library, so check the bookcase and also bring in any reading matter you would like to share. The phone number for the suite is 617-552-6051. If you need a key contact Nancy Samya in the AVP Office 617-552-2260.

NEED COMPUTER HELP?
The Faculty Micro Resource Center in Gasson Basement, 010 is at your service. Under the direction of Michael Connolly and Richard Jenson.
Fall semester staffed hours:
Connolly: Mon/Wed 3.15-4.30
connmj@bc.edu or 552-3912
Jenson: Tu/Th 8.45-10.00
jenson@bc.edu or 552-3757
Come to the FMRC with your BC ID to get registered for 24x7 access to the latest technology.

BCARF Planning Committee:
Jack Lewis (CSOM), President
Joyce Dwyer (CSON), Secretary
Laurel Eisenhauer (CSON), VP and Newsletter Editor
Jean Mooney (LSOE), Treasurer
William McInnis, S.J. (CSOM), Alumni Liaison
Tom O’Connor (University Historian)
Jim Skehan, S.J. (Geology), Program Chair
M.J. Connolly (FMRC & Slavic/Eastern), Newsletter Consultant
Nancy Samya (AVP Office), Coordinator

BCARF website:
http://fmwww.bc.edu/ARF/ARF.html

Cosmophilia (literally “love of ornament”) is an exhibition comprised of 123 of the finest examples of Islamic art from the C. L. David Collection in Copenhagen, Denmark. “Islamic art,” a term coined by eighteenth-century Orientalists, refers not only to the arts made for the faith of Islam, but also to all arts created in lands where Islam was the principal religion. Ornament is one of its most characteristic features, as can be seen from the objects in this exhibition. The works presented incorporate the full array of Islamic art from its origins to modern times, representing vast spans of time (seventh-nineteenth centuries), space (Western Europe to East Asia), and media (textiles; ceramics; metalwares; carved ivory, wood, rock-crystal and stone; parchment; and paper). Rather than the typical organization by chronology, place of origin, function or technique, these works are presented visually to reveal how artisans in the Islamic lands explored four major themes of decoration.
If you wish to attend the public celebration on September 12, 2006 from 7 - 9 PM, call 617-552-8587.

http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/cas/artmuseum/exhibitions/archive/cosmophilia/index.html