

Rec Connect: The Official Newsletter of the Society of Acadia University Recreation Graduates

June 2013 Volume I Issue 2



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TO JOIN SAURG

SAURG presently has over 100 members, one of whom is you if you receive this newsletter from the SAURG Board. We are hoping to increase the membership, primarily so we can be in communication with as many graduates as possible. Membership fees are \$20, renewable in 2017! So any person who has graduated for the Acadia Recreation program may join the Society by forwarding the payment of the \$20 fee to Secretary Chad Haughn (chaughn@chester.ca), Municipality of Chester PO Box 369, Chester NS B0J 1J0, 902 275-3490 with cheques payable to Society of Acadia University Recreation Graduates. Please pass this on to any fellow graduates with whom you are in contact.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held May 11th in Wolfville. Unfortunately we were a few short of quorum and therefore no official business could be transacted. None the less, spirited discussion took place with those in attendance related to a number of ideas for initiatives that SAURG might undertake in the future. Considerable discussion took place regarding how to better connect with members and potential members of the Society. To that end, the official website is being launched later this month, and the Board is exploring means by which members can connect with the Board and participate electronically in events such as the AGM.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is hard to believe that just over a year has passed since our 40th Conference and Reunion. It was great to have seen so many of my fellow grads as well as having the opportunity to meet so many of you for the first time. We must thank Brenda Robertson for bringing us together and it was only fitting that we were able to celebrate Brenda's retirement as a faculty member during that wonderful event.

Your Board of Directors has been busy throughout the year wrapping up the conference and reunion business on campus, as well as setting priorities for our new *Society of Acadia University Recreation University Graduates*. Our thanks to Carroll Randall for his leadership as the first President of the Society and to the directors who have given their time and energy over the past year. The role of SAURG becomes more important than ever given the changes to the Recreation curriculum here in Wolfville. We want to preserve our history, create forums for our Society to communicate with one another and give back to the Acadia community in our true "reckie" fashion!

We look forward to hearing from you, our membership, about what you envision the Society to become. We hope that you will participate with us in capturing the 40 years of Recreation history at Acadia U. We hope that you will help to strengthen our membership base by supporting and promoting SAURG. Shortly you will be able to check out saurg.com and perhaps we will have a mini reunion at a location near you in the months to come! We look forward to the 175th Anniversary of Acadia kicking off at Homecoming 2013. Lots to look forward too and lots of great work to do in the upcoming year. Despite the disappointment of not having quorum at our AGM this year, we look forward to seeing you at next year's AGM whether it be in person, by conference call or other technological wonder! Hope to see our Nova Scotia grads at the Lower Deck next Friday the 14th of June. Enjoy the second edition of our SAURG newsletter! Thanks to our editor Brenda Robertson.

Laurie (Dickson) Wanamaker ('86, '90)

ACADIA RECREATION GRADUATE SOCIAL FRIDAY JUNE 14TH, LOWER DECK PUB, HALIFAX

SAURG will be holding a social at the Lower Deck Pub, located on 1869 Upper Water St in Halifax, from 4:00p.m. - 7:00p.m. on Friday June 14th. We have the Beer Market section reserved, which is located on the 2nd level, with a great view of the harbour. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other members, re-connect with old friends, and learn more about SAURG. Complimentary appetizers will be served, and we encourage you to kick start your weekend with a nice meal at the SAURG social. This event is open to members, their guests, and non-members who are Acadia Recreation Management graduates. Must be 19 years of age or older. For more information, please contact erictmackenzie@hotmail.com

MEET THE SAURG 2013-2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

There was not a quorum at the AGM, and therefore no official business could be conducted. Therefore, the Board held an emergency meeting on June 3rd to fill a number of vacancies for the year in accordance with section 25 of the bylaws.

Past President: Carroll Randall, Bridgewater, N.S. (1976) dacara@eastlink.ca

Carroll started as the first Recreation Coordinator for the Municipality of Lunenburg in 1977 and retired in January 2010. Over those 33 years he helped the municipality become a leader in Nova Scotia in trail and open space development. Carroll spent 15 years as a RANS board member, chaired the National Rails to Greenways committee for five years and spent five years on the board of Recreation Society Atlantic Canada. Carroll is now retired and spends a great deal of time fishing and is now a licensed fishing and hunting guide in Nova Scotia. Family was the most important part of his life when he was working and still is. Spending quality time with family is what life is all about.

President: Laurie Wanamaker (Dickson), Kentville, N.S. (1986, 1990) wanamale@gov.ns.ca

Laurie is the Court Administrator at the Kentville Justice Centre. Prior to that, she served as the Western Regional Coordinator with the Maintenance Enforcement Program, NS Dept. of Justice; and Coordinator of the Valley Youth Alternatives Program. She claims that favorite memories of her time in the Acadia Recreation Program are too many to count but Spring Camp, the Texas Tour, and being the honoured as the first recipient of the James Bayer Award are certainly amongst them.

President Elect: Brenda Robertson, (1975, 1983) brenda.robertson@acadiu.ca

Brenda retired in June from being a Recreation Professor at Acadia for 29 years. During that time she also served for a number of years as Director of the Recreation Resource Centre of Nova Scotia. Prior to entering academe, she served as the Development Coordinator with NS Ladies Curling Association, conservation Corps Supervisor with Parks Canada, Recreation Assistant with the Wolfville Recreation Department, Director of Rainbow Haven Camp, and with the special events staff at the Banff Springs Hotel. A favorite memory of her 36 years of experience with Acadia Recreation as a student and professor, was the conference and reunion which took place in 2012.

Corporate Secretary: Chad Haughn, Chester, N.S. (2000) chaughn@chester.ca

Currently Chad is Recreation & Parks Director, Municipality of Chester prior to which he served as their Community School Coordinator. A favorite memory for Chad was orientation his first year at Acadia where they participated in crazy team building games and then progressed to trying dare devilish climbs and stunts on the high ropes course with fellow reckies. It was a great introduction to the Recreation Management program, the field and many of people who are now his colleagues.

Treasurer: Karol Halliday, Wolfville, N.S. (2012) karolhalliday@hotmail.com

After working in different sectors until 2008 Karol made the decision to return to school to follow through on her passion to enhance the quality of life of community members. Karol is able to do this in her current position of Program & Events Coordinator for the Department of Community Development with the Town of Wolfville Karol is able to work with many local businesses and stay closely connected to Acadia University. As a student volunteer, she worked on the 2012 Conference and Reunion, designing the

souvenir program guides for both events. Her most fond memories of Acadia are the relationships that were made with both the faculty and the other students and Karol hopes to maintain those relationships for years to come.

Director at Large: Kate Friars, Victoria, B.C. (1980) kfriars@shaw.ca

Kate is currently the Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture for the City of Victoria. Her career path has been in municipal parks and recreation working in cities across Canada. Prior to Victoria she was the Recreation Director of the City of Burnaby. The most memorable time for her while at Acadia was serving as President of the Acadia Recreation Club and being invited to attend faculty meetings and provide input from the student perspective.

Director at Large: Laurie Miller Winder (1980) lewinder@telus.net

Laurie (Miller) Winder (1980) began her career as the Executive Director for "Between Friends", a social and recreation club for disabled teens in Calgary. After three years, she moved on to the position of Inpatient Supervisor, Recreation/Child Life at Alberta Children's Hospital - a job that was a wonderful mix of clinical work and management. For the past 20 years she has been employed in Administration and Research Management in her home town of Lethbridge. She does remain active in her community on a volunteer basis - most recently as Governor of Female Hockey for Lethbridge Minor Hockey and as a member of the Sport and Recreation Policy Steering Committee which developed a Municipal Policy Statement for the City of Lethbridge. As a transfer student in her third year, her time at Acadia was short and sweet. A favourite memory is 'traying' on U Hall Hill with members of her Group Dynamics class - during class time!

1970s Representative: Jude Hirsch (de Guerre), Milledgeville, Georgia (1977) jude.hirsch@gcsu.edu

Jude is Professor and Chair, Department of Outdoor Education at Georgia College & State University. Previously, for 18 years she was an Associate Professor and Coordinator of Outdoor Recreation at Acadia University. Her favorite memories of her time in Recreation at Acadia were as a professor responsible for the Spring Camp. In particular she mentions specific programs she designed and executed with the assistance of students and alumni including Welcome to the Planet Sher, Adventure in Middle Earth, and Star Peace Force.

1980's Representative: Robin Norrie, Truro, N.S. (1986) robin.norrie@gov.ns.ca

Robin's current position is the Manager of Recreation, NS Department of Health & Wellness (Physical Activity, Sport and Recreation Division). Previous work experience includes Director of Aquatics & Fitness, Wabush Labrador; Director of Wolfville Recreation & Parks Department; Coordinator of Policy & Research, National Liberal Caucus Research Bureau, and Fundy Region Physical Activity Coordinator, NS Dept. Health and Wellness. She identifies one of her favourite experiences at Acadia being the 1985 trip to Texas to attend the NRPA conference and tour recreation facilities around the State.

1990's Representative: Oonagh Proudfoot, Wolfville, N.S. (1993, 2006) oonagh.proudfoot@acadiau.ca

Oonagh is the Senior Alumni Officer at Acadia. Prior to that, she served as Manager of Student Support and Acadia, as well as lecturing part time in the School of Recreation Management and Kinesiology. Previous positions at Acadia include First Year Advisor, and Coordinator of Alumni Reunions/Special Events, as well as Community Program Coordinator for the YMCA. A favorite memory for her was

volunteering to work in the kitchen at Spring Camp and eating an entire cookie sheet of Nanaimo bars with only two other people.

2000's Representative: Eric MacKenzie, Greenwood, N.S. (2006) ERIC.MACKENZIE@forces.gc.ca


Eric is the Base Community Recreation Coordinator, at 14 Wing Greenwood and previous to that served as Recreation Director for the Municipality of the District of Barrington, N.S. His favorite memories of Acadia revolve around the people he met, many of whom remain close friends today. As an athlete, he proudly represented the university at the CIS National Curling Championships. Another favorite memory was having the lead singer from the Sam Roberts band pick out the Grad photo for the yearbook when Eric ran into to him downtown the day of a sold out concert at the SUB.

2010's Representative: Andrew Waters, Kentville, N.S. (2010) andrew.waters@acadiu.ca

Andrew currently serves as the Enrolment Advisor for Acadia. His most vivid memory was the first time he stepped onto the Acadia campus. He was making the transition from the concrete jungle (Ontario) to a beautiful pristine campus in rural Nova Scotia. Now he considers it to be a privilege going to schools and talking to students about the Acadia experience.

Shout Out to Retiring Board Member

Ivy Warren (1983) has served as SAURG treasurer during the inaugural year of the Society and her duties have been amongst the most challenging of all Board members. Not only has she carried all the tasks of establishing the financial infrastructure for a new association, she also was responsible for reconciling all accounting associated with the conference and reunion, with most transactions occurring prior to her taking office. In addition, she has been an active and engaged member of the Board relative to all others matters not of a financial nature. Although other aspects of her life prevent her from reoffering for the Board, President Randall and the other Board members express their deep felt appreciation to her for her invaluable service. Thanks Ivy!

| SAURG Financial Report | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Financial Statement – Year Ending March 31, 2013 | |
| Balance at March 31, 2012 | 0 |
| Revenue Received During Current Year | 10,710.00 |
| Accrued Revenue (SAURG Acadia University Account) | <u>5,279.95</u> |
| Total Revenues | <u>15,989.95</u> |
| Expenses Paid During Current Year | 5,377.45 |
| Accrued Expenses (Outstanding Cheques – Speaker’s Honourariums) | 650.00 |
| Total Expenses | <u>6,027.45</u> |
| Year End Balance to March 31, 2013 | <u>9,962.50</u> |
|  | |
| SAURG Treasurer | Date Presented: May 11, 2013 |

Update on Initiatives

History Project: The concept of undertaking a project to record the 40 year history of the Recreation degree program at Acadia is slowly progressing. A framework is currently being developed by a committee of Board members that will better define the scope of the project, as well as a work plan. Any SAURG members interested in becoming involved in the initiative should contact Brenda Robertson at brenda.robertson@acadiau.ca.

Data Base: In the first newsletter, we put out a call to members to provide information about themselves that could be used to develop a data base of graduates. Although we have received some response to that request, we are still seeking this information from many of the grads. To assist us, we would very much appreciate if you would send along the following information to Brenda Robertson (brenda.robertson@acadiau.ca) at your earliest convenience: 1) Name (including maiden name); 2) years at Acadia; 3) preferred email address for us to correspond with you; 4) current home town; 5) current position/employer; and 6) previous positions/employers. The data base will be used by the Board in communicating with you, developing profiles of what Graduates have done with the degree, and carrying out its work.

Web Site: The official SAURG website will be launched June 14th at 5:00pm Atlantic time, during the SAURG social being held in Halifax. The address will be <http://www.saurg.com>. If you have any feedback on the website please contact the web master, Andrew Waters (andrew.waters@acadiau.ca).

New Initiatives

Regional Gatherings: the Board is in the process of designing criteria for hosting regional gatherings of Acadia Recreation Alumni under the SAURG banner. The inaugural gathering will be held in Halifax June 14th with another being planned on Vancouver Island in the next few months. Other locations currently being considered for gatherings include St John's, Newfoundland and Fredericton, New Brunswick. Further details about regional gatherings on how to host one in your area will be forthcoming shortly.

Homecoming: Acadia Homecoming takes place this year October 18-20th so mark your calendars as plans are shaping up for a special weekend for SAURG members. In addition to the traditional activities such as bulmer race, football game, and alumni barbeque, SAURG is planning events for SAURG members and guests including a golf tournament the morning of October 20th. Further details will be posted on the website as they become available.

Acadia 175: Acadia University began in 1838 making this year the 175th year of our alma mater. Beginning on Founders Day this Fall, a yearlong series of special events will be held to mark this significant occasion. SAURG would like to make a contribution to the celebrations. One idea being considered is the preparation of an audio visual piece that would showcase some of the unique aspects of the recreational aspects of student life as they have evolved over the past 175 years. The Board is interested in receiving other suggestions from the membership, as to how we might best commemorate this important milestone.

News from the Office of Alumni Affairs

Oonagh Proudfoot, Wolfville, N.S. (1993, 2006) has recently assumed the position of Senior Alumni Officer with the Office of Alumni Affairs at Acadia. In her new role, Oonagh will be responsible for coordination and management of the daily operational functions of the alumni outreach and engagement strategy. This includes the delivery of the daily activities of Alumni Affairs including, but not limited to, operational support for the Associated Alumni of Acadia University (AAAU) and its committees, Acadia's alumni affinity partners, planning for Homecoming, alumni reunions, off-campus receptions and events, special events, and volunteer recruitment, training and recognition. We wish her well in her new position knowing that the office is in good hands with a Recreation Graduate serving as Senior Officer.

Elimination of the Acadia Recreation Management Program

In the last newsletter, it was reported that major curriculum changes had been approved by Faculty regarding the nature and content of courses in the Acadia Recreation Management program. At the February 11th meeting of the Senate of Acadia University, a motion was passed to change the name of Recreation Management and Community Development Degree to Bachelor of Community Development, thus eliminating Recreation Management.

Upcoming Board Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors will take place on Thursday September 5th. Anyone wishing to have an item discussed should contact President Wanamaker at wanamale@gov.ns.ca



**See all the local Grads at the Lower Deck in Halifax
Friday June 14th, from 4:00-7:00+**