

BURA Executive

President:	David Siegel dsiegel@brocku.ca
Past President:	Jill Brindle jillabrindle@gmail.com
Vice President, IT Coordinator:	Rico Natale ricojnatale@gmail.com
Membership Facilitator, Transportation Facilitator:	Pat Cane buramembership@outlook.com
Secretary:	Joan McCurdy-Myers joan.mccurdy.myers@alum.utoronto.ca
Treasurer:	Jill Grose buratreasurer@gmail.com
Communications Coordinator:	Renée Kuchapski rkuchapski@brocku.ca
Newsletter Editor:	Ronald Ogawa rbgabadh@gmail.com
Councillor:	Ian Brindle ibrindle@brocku.ca
Councillor:	Hilary Findlay hfindlay@brocku.ca
Councillor:	Steve Hartman shartman@brocku.ca
Councillor:	Gail Neff gail@neff.ca
Councillor:	Wesley Turner wesleybt777@gmail.com
Brock Pension Rep.:	Terry Varcoe
Phone Ambassador:	Peggy Collins
Phone Ambassador:	Marilyn Ferracuti

Upcoming Events

April, 2023

Brock Update

Details will be finalized at a later date.

May 17, 2023

Annual General Meeting

via *Zoom*,

June 14, 2023

Niagara Parks Power Station Tour and Lunch

at the *Niagara Power Station*,

Arrive: 9:30am

Cost: \$70/\$80

BURA Coffee Club

at the *Perkins Family Restaurant*,

Arrive: 9:30am

April 25, 2023

May 24, 2023

June 22, 2023

Member News



In Memoriam



In sorrow, and with respect, BURA observes the passing of the following members:

Josie Reed's spouse, Tomáš Hudlický, May 10, 2022

Walt Thiessen's spouse, Nettie, October 21, 2022

John Auer, March 13, 2023

Know of any major events in the lives of our BURA colleagues and friends?

PLEASE let our membership facilitator know of any major life changes you wish to share. Contact: Pat Cane buramembership@outlook.com

New BURA Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Nick Baxter-Moore, *Communications, Pop Culture and Film, Politics*

Shyamal Bose, *Physics*

Andy Morgan, *ITS*

Derek Knight, *Visual Arts*

Marie Schimmelpenninck, *spouse of a former Brock employee*

Mary-Ann Hull, *spouse of a former BURA member*

Avoid missing out on BURA Newsletters and Event Notices

MAKE sure we are kept apprised of any revisions to your e-mail or home address. Please email any changes to: Pat Cane buramembership@outlook.com

My Second Careers

by *Barbara Bucknall*

I would like to let my colleagues in BURA know that after pursuing a career as a Professor of French specialising in the work of Marcel Proust, on whom I ended up as quite an authority internationally, I have pursued a career in the visual arts. Ever since being introduced to the use of powdered paint in Grade School I came to love using colour as much as I loved listening to stories. The Second World War broke out when I was six years old, and everything was in short supply in England, so I did not have a paintbox of my own until my teacher wrote an open letter to the Midland Educational store saying that I was so good at art that I deserved to have one. My father had to show the letter to buy one. My brother Roddy shared my interest and our mother got us busy painting Christmas cards. I dabbled in art as a hobby until towards the end of my time in the French Department of the University of Illinois I started taking it seriously again. This was the result of making friends with a professor in the Music Department who was great friends with John Cage and introduced me to him. We became friendly and had interesting conversations about Marcel Duchamp. I also attended art classes given by the professor's wife and became enthusiastic about it again.

After a year of this I was hired by the newly created Brock University and was delighted to discover Rodman Hall and NAC, both of which I attended. I spent even more time on art after I retired from teaching French and joined the Niagara Pumphouse Art Centre as well as NAC. I was really encouraged in my artistic activity by the example of Marcel Proust, as my doctoral thesis from Northwest-

ern University bore the title "The Religion of Art in Proust." I picked this title because I was very aware of the aesthetic movement in Europe towards the end of the 19th century. It was published by the University of Illinois Press, to which it was recommended by Philip Kolb, the professor who first introduced me to the work of Proust. My own grandfather had been strongly influenced by the aesthetic movement.

I have frequently shown my work in St Catharines and Niagara-on-the-Lake at art centres and started showing it on my front lawn at the beginning of the pandemic. I was advised to do so in a reading by a psychic medium who said it would provide needed entertainment with little risk of infection. In the future, it will be limited to fine weather on Saturdays. This attracted attention, particularly from the well known photographer, Mark Zelinski, to whom I was recommended by a member of the Brock Art Department. An article on me will be included in his forthcoming book, due out spring 2024, to which that member of the Art Department has also contributed.

I have just realised that I completely forgot to mention the encouragement I received from the well known artist, Basil Ivan Rakoczi, while I was on sabbatical from Brock in Paris. I drew and painted with him and a group of other artists and also paid frequent visits to Parisian art museums and galleries, attending the Louvre every Sunday afternoon as a second place of worship.

Best wishes,

Barbara J. Bucknall

United Way Trivia Night

BURA finishes in third place at the United Way Trivia Night!

IN early December BURA fielded a team in the United Way Trivia Night and Dinner. Always an annual favourite fund-raiser, the dinner and trivia contest took a two-year hiatus until it was safe to meet in person again this year. The event featured a family-style pasta and meatball dinner followed by eight rounds of trivia questions led by quiz master James Bell, ITS Client Services. The evening was well-attended with 20 teams entered – each team having eight members.



BURA Trivia Team

BURA was represented by members Pat Cane, Alan Castle, Steve Hartman, Harris Loewen, Joan and Les McCurdy-Myers, Rico Natale, and Dave Siegel who managed to finish in a tie for third place! The real winners though are the clients of the Niagara region United Way. Proceeds went towards **Brock's \$160,000 workplace fundraising goal** for United Way Niagara.

–Rico Natale

...excerpt from Brock News, March 23, 2023

BROCK University's 2022 United Way Campaign has surpassed its campaign goal for the year. Together, Brock employees and retirees raised more than \$172,000, exceeding the \$160,000 campaign goal announced in October.

This year, Brock's United Way Committee teamed up with the Brock University Retirees' Association (BURA) to increase retirees' involvement in the campaign.

"True to Brock University's tradition of excellence and creativity, a budding partnership between the Brock United Way Committee and BURA resulted in more retirees choosing to continue their legacy of enhancing the economic, social, cultural and intellectual lives of the community by participating in the Brock University United Way campaign," says Frances Hallworth, United Way Niagara's CEO.



United Way cheque presentation

Past Events

Holiday Cheer

with the *Niagara Klezmenchen Band*



Niagara Klezmenchen Band performing



Niagara Klezmenchen Band members

Taking Control: Liquor Licensing and the Legacy of Prohibition in Ontario.

with *Dan Malleck*

PROF. Dan Malleck, Professor of Health Sciences and Director of Centre for Canadian Studies was our first speaker of 2023.

Have you ever wondered how our liquor laws came to be so ... interesting? In this talk, Prof. Malleck discussed how the development of Ontario's liquor laws involved persistent tension between the federal and provincial governments.

Prof. Malleck concluded with a number of the observations. Attempts to prohibit repeatedly did not work. There was general disinterest by leadership in pushing an excessively restrictive system. There was a need to avoid disorder. Most people wanted to drink and were willing to in an orderly way. And finally, persistent concern that all drinking is a problem denies the existence and possibility that drinking can be reasonable, moderate, and respectable.



Dan Malleck

Recent Results from the Perseverance Mars Rover

with *Mariek Schmidt*

PROFESSOR Schmidt came to Brock's Department of Earth Sciences in 2009, following a Ph.D. at Oregon State University and postdoctoral work at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. She has been a member of the international teams directing three different NASA Mars Rover missions.

Prof. Mariek Schmidt gave us the scoop on the latest news from Mars. Professor Schmidt is a Participating Scientist on the Perseverance Mars 2020 Rover, which landed on Mars in February 2021 and is the most sophisticated probe ever sent to Mars. She reported on the rock samples the rover has collected, and on the tests that revealed the composition and structure of the rocks. The plan is to have the next rover mission retrieve the samples and return them to earth.



Mariek Schmidt

Are you 90 years of age or will you turn 90 in the next year?

YOU qualify for our **I'm 90 Birthday Club**, and your membership is free forever! (The change to free membership was discussed and unanimously approved at a past Executive meeting for anyone 90+.) Your membership card will be mailed to you each year at no charge.

Please let us know by e-mail to:

Pat Cane buramembership@outlook.com

Exploring the Shickluna Shipyard

with *Kimberly Monk*

Now an empty lot in St. Catharines, the site was once a busy industrial hub. It was first used as a shipyard by Russell Armington from 1828 to 1837 and then by Maltese immigrant Louis Shickluna from 1838 to 1880. Joseph Shickluna was the last to run the shipyard from 1880 to 1891 before it was leased to the St. Catharines Box and Basket Company until 1901. The ships built there supported the trade of bulk goods, such as grain, coal and lumber, throughout the Great Lakes region.

Kimberly and her team brought a selection of artefacts for us to examine.



Kimberly Monk



Upcoming Events

April, 2023

Brock Update

Event Details:

Details will be finalized at a later date

Check the events page at the BURA website:

<https://brocku.ca/retirees-association/events/>

May 17, 2023

Annual General Meeting

via *Zoom*

YOUR participation in the AGM is important. It provides support and guidance for our BURA Executive in its role of enriching the lives of our members.

Event Details:

Venue: *Zoom*

An Invitation to Join the BURA Executive

Dear BURA members,

On behalf of BURA's executive, I invite you to consider becoming part of our BURA Executive team.

The executive members work together to create events and programming that we feel are meaningful and enjoyable for BURA's retiree community. Generally, we meet once a month, and meetings last about 2 hours.

Personally, I've found this opportunity to be extremely rewarding. If you are interested in joining the team, please let me know.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Best wishes,

Jill Brindle, Past President

jillabrindle@gmail.com

June 14, 2023
Niagara Parks Power Station Tour and Lunch
at the *Niagara Power Station*

JOIN us on a guided tour of the first major power plant on the Canadian side of the Niagara River. From the most towering turbine to the tiniest detail, uncover fascinating stories hidden within the historic Niagara Parks Power Station, Niagara Park's newest must-see attraction. Wear comfortable shoes for this tour.

Descend 180 feet in a glass-paneled elevator and explore the 2,200-foot long tunnel, leading to an observation deck at the river's edge.

Lunch is at the newly renovated Table Rock House Restaurant which is a very short walk from the Power Station. Power Station, Tunnel and Restaurant are all fully accessible.

Parking is available adjacent to the Power Station and is free on ticket validation at the restaurant. Please make sure you bring your parking ticket with you when you park your car.

Event Details:

Time : 9:30am

Venue: *Niagara Power Station* 7005 Niagara River Parkway, Niagara Falls, ON

Cost : \$70/\$80

BURA Coffee Club
at the *Perkins Family Restaurant*

April 25, 2023

May 24, 2023

June 22, 2023

GOOD news! The monthly coffee club will continue to be in-person gatherings this spring at *Perkins Family Restaurant*, 89 Meadowvale Drive, St. Catharines, starting at 9:30am. Please save the above dates. We hope to see you there!

Contribute to the BURA Newsletter!

THE BURA Newsletter continues to publish three times a year — the first week of September, December and April. Your contributions may include reports, notices of events, travelogues and photos, humour, poetry, and other information of interest to members. Send your submissions to: [Ronald Ogawa \[rbgabadh@gmail.com\]\(mailto:rbgabadh@gmail.com\)](mailto:Ronald.Ogawa@rbgabadh@gmail.com)

Future Events

Lunch and the Shaw Festival

Brock University Retirees' Eighth Autumn Outing in Niagara-on-the-Lake

September 12, 2023

Lunch at the Zees Grill and

Matinee Performance of *Gypsy* at the Shaw Festival Theatre

Starry-eyed and blindingly ambitious, Momma Rose pushes her daughters onto vaudeville stages in this landmark Broadway musical.

Gypsy Rose Lee was the world's most famous striptease artist. Momma Rose was the ultimate stage mother. Follow their extraordinary story in Stephen Sondheim's timeless musical about sex, power and longing. With legendary songs, including "Let Me Entertain You" and "Everything's Coming up Roses," Gypsy remains the greatest American musical.

We are offering an optional lunch at Zees Grill, in the Shaw Club Hotel opposite the Shaw Festival Theatre prior to attending the Shaw matinee performance.

We have taken advantage again of the Special Matinee Seniors Group rate available to the end of January and have reserved 40 of the best Festival Theatre seats possible at time of booking. This outing has been a popular event with BURA members over the years. We hope that those who have participated in the past and those who haven't will consider joining us in the future.

If you would like to attend, please complete the registration on BURA's website at <https://brocku.ca/retirees-association/events/>

These tickets will be allocated as per request and as reservations and payments are received. Full payment is due by July 29, 2023.

Event Details:

Time : 11:30 am for lunch at noon

Venue: *Zees Grill, Shaw Club Hotel*, 92 Picton Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake

Cost : \$40.00 per person

Time : 2:00 pm

Venue: *Shaw Festival Theatre*, 10 Queen's Parade, Niagara-on-the-Lake

Cost : \$55.00 per person

Other Events

CURAC: later-life-learning

Why stories linger in our minds – Using stories to probe human memory and thought

A good book is not only characterized by the reader's experience while in the midst of reading it. In fact, a good book is marked by its ability to shape the content of our thoughts for hours, sometimes days, after putting it down. This presentation will examine the idea that stories have a propensity to linger in your mind. We will look at how this phenomenon can be quantified in the laboratory and what it might reveal about how our memory system works.

Our speaker is Dr. Bellana Buddhika, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Glendon College.

Registration & further info available here:

https://yorku.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QL5DB316Ray1LqIWYHBMmg

When: Wednesday April 19, 2023 4pm – 5pm Coordinated Universal Time

Historical Society of St. Catharines

Celebrating the history of St. Catharines and its vicinity

Presentations – April to June 2023

THE Society was founded in 1927 and maintains its mission to increase the knowledge and appreciation of the history of St. Catharines and vicinity.

April 27, 2023 7:30 pm – *Liz Vlossak, Brock University, “Local Sport History”*

May 25, 2023

June 22, 2023

There will be different invitations to these meetings posted in the coming months. More information can be found at the following link:

<https://stcatharineshistory.ca>