

# **CDAA NEWS AND NOTES**

## **Fall 2024**

Hello fellow CDAA members,

As it is now officially Fall, I hope everyone has had a good summer. We are a group that is scattered around the country and the world, so the pace of seasonal change varies. Enjoy the seasonal transition. I'm sure we have all experienced ups and downs at times, as happens at our ages, I hope we are moving forward and finding the support we need, when we need it. This is my first note to you as president of CDAA and I'm becoming acquainted with my new role and responsibilities. I had the pleasure to see many friends, whom I had not seen in years, at the recent annual picnic. Thank you to Sally Mullan and Kim Pack for the wonderful arrangements. There will be more events throughout the year, so watch for notifications of those. The best place to see information about what CDAA is up to is our website, <https://www.codannuitants.org>. Peggy McCarthy has done great work remodeling and refreshing the site. We will be trying to use this more and more as your source of information. Please take a look.

I think it's very important to remember that we are not just a social organization. CDAA and SUAA are organizations that advocate and work to protect our pensions. SUAA lobbies our elected representatives in Springfield to protect our annuities and the pensions of future members.

A major goal for us and SUAA (our parent organization) is to increase our membership. SUAA and all chapters lose membership for the obvious reason. In the game of influence,

numbers count. We are one of the largest chapters in SUAA. Bob Sobie, our SUAA Action Representative extraordinaire, gave a report on SUAA and its priorities at the annual picnic in September. There are now multiple ways to pay your dues found at the SUAA website <https://www.suaa.org>, along with good information. That said, it would be wonderful if you would talk to any of your COD friends, retired or still employed, and encourage them to join. There are some employees not joining CDAA and I want to see them represented. Tell them their pensions need their support! The monthly cost is about the cost of a cup of coffee at a restaurant, cheaper than those coffee places.

John Kovach and I will be at the COD Benefits Fair on Oct. 10th to recruit new members. This is first time since the start of Covid-19 that we have been invited and this was the result of Sally's tireless effort to have CDAA included. We will also be reaching out through other channels. To that end, John and I met with VP Walter Johnson and Ellen Farrow of Institutional Advancement at COD. It was an excellent first meeting that will open many doors at the College. Ellen has also been a great contact and friend of CDAA.

You will be hearing more from me as we move forward. I'm attending the SUAA fall meeting in a few weeks in Bloomington and I will chair my second CDAA Board meeting on Oct. 16th

I will share as I learn. Thank you for allowing me this new opportunity and your trust.

All the Best,  
Glenn Hansen

## **The Official CDAA Website: [www.codannuitants.org](http://www.codannuitants.org)**

The CDAA official website [codannuitants.org](http://www.codannuitants.org) is full of useful information which is available to all members and updated on a regular basis by board member Peggy McCarthy.

Some areas included on the site are a list of upcoming CDAA events, information on the officers and board, and the by-laws of CDAA. It also provides a history of CDAA from its beginnings as a social group in 1987 to its current role and functions, and its relationship with SUAA at the state level.

Also on the site are past issues of the [CDAA News and Notes](#) and some recent items from Chatterbox (updates on members' activities). Copies of David McGrath's columns from the [Chicago Tribune](#), Gloria Golec's columns from the [Chicago Sun Times](#) and the writings of Tom Montgomery Fate are also available.

Another section of **[www.codannuitants.org](http://www.codannuitants.org)** provides a memorial list of our members who have passed away in recent years.

When you get a chance, visit [www.codannuitants.org](http://www.codannuitants.org) for information and updates. It's a very useful source about CDAA, its purposes, programs and related activities.

## **CDAА ANNUAL MEETING**

### **May 3, 2024**

On Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, thirty-nine members of CDAА gathered for a delicious “American South” themed lunch prepared and served by students of the College of DuPage Culinary Arts Program at the Waterleaf Restaurant. After lunch, outgoing CDAА President Sally Mullan led the CDAА Annual Meeting at which the election of new officers was begun (and completed a few weeks later with on-line voting) Glenn Hansen was elected President and John Kovach was elected Vice President of CDAА. Steve Cunningham of SUAA was there and gave a presentation on the current issues at the state level.

One of the real pleasures of this annual event is the reuniting of former colleagues who shared many years and experiences together at the College of DuPage.

As the meeting ended, those present expressed much appreciation to Sally for her impressive years of leadership as President of CDAА.

Other CDAА events which brought people together over the summer included a delicious lunch at the charming Oscar Swan Country Inn in Geneva, a breakfast gathering at the Hummingbird Restaurant in Winfield and the Annual CDAА Picnic at Herrick Lake Forest Preserve in September.

## Upcoming Events:

Morton Arboretum Acorn Express Tram Ride.	Friday October 4
SUAA Fall Delegates Meeting.	Tues October 15
CDAA Officers and Board Meeting.	Weds October 16

## CHATTERBOX: CDAA Members' Updates

**CDAA Chatterbox** is now a part of CDAA News and Notes. Chatterbox is a way to share information about current activities and interests of CDAA members. We welcome submissions concerning any activities, travel, volunteer efforts, family updates etc. Items can be brief or detailed and photos can also be submitted (.jpeg format preferred). Our email address for submissions is [cdaachatterbox@gmail.com](mailto:cdaachatterbox@gmail.com).

**Peggy McCarthy, Kim Pack and Jackie Reuland** joined the SUAA sponsored trip to Scotland last Fall. Lead by Linda Brookheart of SUAA, the group landed in Glasgow and visited Stirling Castle where the freedom fighter William Wallace (Braveheart) defended his country. The group also visited Inverness and St Andrew (the birthplace of golf). Edinburgh was the last stop on the trip where they enjoyed the historic city, the Edinburgh Castle and the unique architecture and neighborhoods of the new and old city.

In Massachusetts, **Kathryn Golden** has been spending time researching family history. She became a member of the Massachusetts Society of Genealogists which provides seminars and training on family research. Many genealogists in Massachusetts are obsessed with tracing their roots back to the Mayflower in 1620. Kathryn's great grandparents boarded their ships 250 years later, traveling in steerage. They lived in poverty in small towns and on farms in Ireland and left there to work in the textile mills of Fall River, Massachusetts. Those whose families emigrated here in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century are just newcomers in the eyes of the Mayflower crowd. But their stories are remarkable.

Submissions are welcomed at [cdaachatterbox@gmail.com](mailto:cdaachatterbox@gmail.com)