



GREETINGS FROM THE BU SOCIETY OF RETIRED FACULTY AND STAFF

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2017-2018

You are receiving this Newsletter because you are a member of the Boston University Society of Retired Faculty and Staff (BUSRFS), which fosters the continued relationship of retirees with the University and supports their interests and needs. The BUSRFS Board of Directors has been meeting monthly to deal with issues of concern to BUSRFS members.

By this time, you should have received issues of Bostonia Extra and a copy of BU for Retirees to keep you aware of events and goings on, courtesy of Alumni Relations.

Many photos of the attendees at the May 24, 2017 annual Luncheon are available [here](#). For photos of other events, [click here](#).

Two new members fill vacancies on the BUSRFS Board of Directors, Sonia Parker and Paul Clancy.



Sonia Parker joined Boston University in 1978, serving in various administrative capacities at the College of Engineering, the Office of the Provost, the Office of External Programs, and, until retirement in 2016, as assistant dean at Metropolitan College. Between them, she and her spouse, Simon, Professor of Hebrew Bible at the School of Theology, were part of the BU University community for over 66 years.



Paul Clancy joined Boston University in 1988 and retired in July of 2015 as director of Risk Management. He was responsible for a segment of the University's financial affairs, interacting regularly with General Counsel, Student Activities, Student Health, the Medical Campus, Facilities, Safety, International Programs, and various faculty members and academic units, providing guidance on their outside activities.

For a complete list of the members of the Board of Directors of BUSRFS, [click here](#).

The year's final **BUSRFS event** took place at the Gotlieb Archival Research Center on December 5, 2017.

About 25 retirees and their guests gathered on the first floor of Mugar Library to view the on-going exhibition in the Richards-Frost Room, entitled *Portrait of an Artist: The Life and Work of Edward Sorel*.

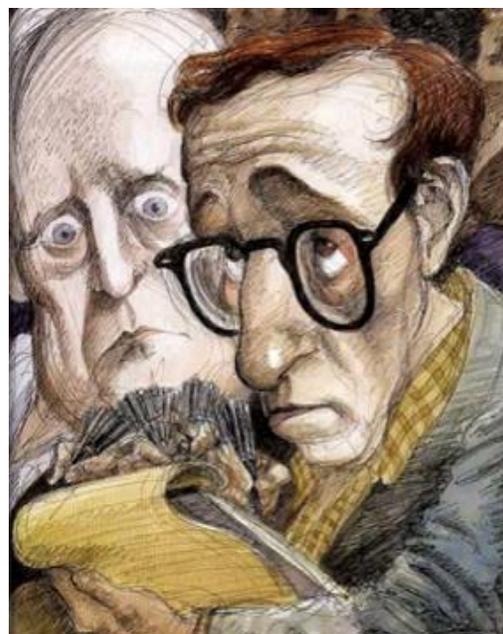
Organized from the extensive Edward Sorel Collection in the Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center, this retrospective exhibition spans Sorel's more than 60-year career as an illustrator, cartoonist, graphic designer, author, and noted political satirist. The magazine covers, illustrations, books, and other memorabilia displayed reflect his deep interest in cultural and political life in his native New York City, Hollywood of the 30s and 40s, and presidential politics from the Kennedy era to the present day.

Former BUSRFS board member and BU Emeritus Professor of History Joe Boskin introduced the event with an engaging, frequently laugh-out-loud talk about "American Humor and Edward Sorel." Gotlieb Center Exhibition Curator Chris Gately provided an overview of the

center's Edward Sorel Collection and answered questions from attendees as they examined the 24 cases of Sorel materials he had selected for the exhibition.



Joe Boskin and BUSRFS President David Berndt



From the Sorel Collection

Special thanks to Joe and Chris; Gottlieb Center Associate Director Sean Noel, who organized and hosted the event; and Gottlieb staff members Laura Russo and Bill Gallagher, who were on hand to make sure everything ran smoothly on a very memorable day. Note: The Sorel exhibition will be on display at the Mugar Library for a while. It's well worth the trip. Check out the [Gottlieb Center website](#) for more information. Leo Sorel, Edward's son, has made a documentary (*Edward Sorel: Nice Work If You Can Get It*) -- a perfect introduction to Sorel's life and art that can be seen on-line (just Google "Edward Sorel: Nice Work . . ." for a link to the video).

2018 Grant Program for Retired Faculty and Staff – Deadline March 1, 2018

Boston University provides annually at least \$2500 to the Society to award project grants of up to \$500 to retired faculty and staff for educational, creative, and/or productive projects that enhance their lives in retirement. At the completion of the project, a summary suitable for distribution to other retirees is required. A detailed description of the program that includes a link to the application can be accessed [here](#).

In this issue, the featured Director of BUSRFS is **Natalie McCracken**.



Natalie's is a BU family, beginning with her father, Harry Jacobson, who came from Valley Junction, Iowa, to graduate in business in 1921. Her kids are Harry (History, 1986) and Elizabeth (English, 1988) McCracken. Natalie's late husband, Sam, and she were briefly faculty members in the 60s, she as adjunct in the long-extinct Speech Department. She was an editor and writer on various publications from 1977 until she retired in 2010, as editor-in-chief of *Bostonia*, the Charles River most of Charles River Campus alumni and development print and on-line publications, and *Parnassus* (for the Howard Gotlieb Center for Archival Research)

and *The Link* (for Human Resources on both campuses). She writes: "One great joy of this hallowed state was that as both the boss and a reporter, I could assign myself interviews and receive private instruction on virtually any topic save architecture and veterinary and library science, and I could chat with the University president, vice presidents, and deans, alumni, police, Buildings and Grounds staff, designers, photographers, and myriad others."

This year's activities will include several interesting to BUSRFS members in which you may participate in order to keep involved with the Boston University community. You will be notified by e-mail of planned events.

One unresolved problem is the incompleteness of the BUSRFS retiree distribution list. Because of the change in mailing from regular mail to e-mail during the past few years, we might have lost touch with some retired members. If you know of any BUSRFS members who do not have or don't use e-mail, please send their names and addresses to us at retired@bu.edu. Also, if you know of any retirees who have lost their BU e-mail address and would like to revive it, please let us know.

We are analyzing survey returns to determine how best we can communicate with you. The next issue of the Newsletter is planned for the Spring. In the meantime, keep warm.

We will try to keep you informed of further events and developments as they become available in a timely manner.

Your BUSRFS Board of Directors

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