President’s Report

Jim Sego

How quickly the year has gone by! Already we’re getting the materials and information out to the delegates you have selected to speak to the Executive on your behalf at the AGM! At least the weather seems to have turned and we can anticipate the kind of weather that makes an AGM seem possible.

Since the last time I wrote to you, I have enjoyed the hospitality of the east side of our province as representatives of the Yorkton and Moosomin Chapters have welcomed Carole and me to their Chapter meetings. We have also enjoyed a warm welcome from our Chapter members in Victoria who invited us to meet them in February. Although the weather was below normal, their reception was warm and filled with interest in the organization. The Chapter felt that members from up island also deserved a visit. They encouraged all members regardless of what province they live in to form Chapters for the social value of meeting like-minded people and for the opportunity to provide leadership to the organization. It doesn’t matter where you go or where Chapters are located, Saskatchewan Superannuates are interested in their organization and enjoy the opportunity to find out how their colleagues are thinking about the issues that matter to superannuated teachers!

Another Executive meeting is over and the Office Staff and Fred have the organization putting along in good shape. (How do you know I’m a golfer?) The major items of business, the financial condition of the STS and the Health Benefits Plans, are operating successfully.

We ended the last three-year agreement with Saskatchewan Blue Cross with a modest surplus that we can add to the reserves to protect us from unexpected expenditures during the next three years. When we asked the people at Saskatchewan Blue Cross what they ascribed our success to, they said it was the way you, the membership of the plans, have taken ownership – using them not as a benefit owed by an employer, but as insurance whose premium depends on wise use. Good answer! They also felt it was the communication that we have with you that makes the plans operate so well.

As we indicated last year, we would look at funding for the organization. If you look at the budget presented in this Outreach, you will see that increased membership and the good management of our benefits plan administration funds has allowed us to hold the line on both fees and rebates to Chapters.

While we have not been immune to the effect of the downturn in the economy, our investment of the surpluses of the benefits plans have fared relatively well. Our staff and the executive have looked after your interests well.

I look forward to seeing some of you personally in my upcoming visits to Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Souris-Moose Mountain, and Nipawin. I also hope to connect with your delegates at the AGM in May. My calendar for travel and Chapter visits is wide open for April. Carole and I would love to visit your part of our province then.

Congratulations

Dorothy Haldenby celebrated 100 on February 21, 2009. Happy Birthday!

Marjory Kornder will celebrate 100 on April 20, 2009. Happy Birthday!
Thanks to our Office Manager, Colleen Bailey, and our Assistant Office Manager, Heather Hase, the Chapter Presidents have received the package of information about the Annual General Meeting. The names of the delegates were registered and each delegate will be receiving his/her package of information. Delegates, please register at the Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon by April 16th. Call either (306) 242-8881 or the direct toll free number 1-888-278-4209. When making reservations indicate that you are with the Superannuated Teachers Annual General Meeting to get the preferred rate.

Travel: At the AGM each Chapter will submit one voucher for travel costs. The rate will be $0.35 per kilometre for return travel on the basis of one car for each three delegates.

We have planned a great AGM. Hope to see you there!

### TUESDAY, MAY 12
5:00 – 7:15 Registration
7:15 Welcome by President Jim Sego
Introduction of Candidates
Entertainment – Len Gadica

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 13
7:15 – 8:30 Breakfast
9:00 Plenary Session followed by small group sessions to discuss resolutions
1:00 – 3:55 Five Interest Sessions will be offered
6:00 Banquet – Following the banquet, Membership Growth Awards, Announcement of the Chapter Awards and Presentation of the Honorary Life Memberships.

### THURSDAY, MAY 14
7:15 – 8:30 Breakfast
9:00 Greetings from the Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation
The Annual General Meeting

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**Group Benefits**

Siegrid Schergel

The Group Benefits Committee held its regular meeting on Monday, March 16, 2009, to review our Extended Health and Dental Plan. As you know, on February 1, 2009, we entered into a new three year contract with Saskatchewan Blue Cross that includes a new fee structure. The new contract also includes some changes in coverage. If you have any questions about the coverage or the premiums, please contact the STS office and either Colleen or Heather will be able to help you.

We also received a draft financial statement from Saskatchewan Blue Cross covering the period February 1, 2008 to January 31, 2009, the last year of the old contract. The benefit plan continues on a sound financial footing; the required reserves are full and the plan had a small surplus for the year. This surplus stays with the plan and is invested by us.

In conclusion, my regular reminder to all STS members as you approach your 65th birthday remember to apply to Saskatchewan Health for the Saskatchewan Senior Drug Benefit. If you are a member of our Extended Health Plan remember to submit a copy of your letter affirming your eligibility for this program to the office so that you will receive the reduced Extended Health premium. There is no retroactivity for the premium reduction. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of the Extended Health or Dental Plans, please contact the STS office.
## Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan

### Proposed Budget: July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

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| EXPENSES                                     |                    |                    |                          |                      |
| Annual General Meeting                       | 62,813.00          | 68,000.00          | 82.31                    | 68,000.00            |
| Amortization                                 | 3,592.00           | 4,000.00           | 74.14                    | 4,000.00             |
| Chapter Rebates                              | 58,480.00          | 61,000.00          | 60,648.00                | 63,000.00            |
| Executive and Committee Meetings             | 31,467.00          | 32,000.00          | 20,641.93                | 34,000.00            |
| STS Affiliations                             | 5,444.00           | 6,000.00           | 3,217.99                 | 6,000.00             |
| Executive Chapter Travel                     | 8,308.00           | 8,000.00           | 4,146.21                 | 9,000.00             |
| Chapter Presidents' Meeting                  | 9,332.00           | 10,000.00          | 10,495.95                | 12,000.00            |
| Communications, Membership Growth, PR        | 32,317.00          | 34,000.00          | 21,505.61                | 34,000.00            |
| Retirement Life Styles Planning Committee    | 2,636.00           | 2,000.00           | 3,000.00                 |                      |
| Support Services Planning Committee          |                    | 2,000.00           | 659.39                   | 3,000.00             |
| Recreation                                  | 914.00             | 2,000.00           | 1,286.86                 | 2,000.00             |
| Office Staff                                 | 103,923.00         | 98,000.00          | 71,368.76                | 110,000.00           |
| Office Operation                             | 23,387.00          | 51,000.00          | 25,638.75                | 51,000.00            |
| Computer and Programming                     | 6,690.00           | 8,000.00           | 11,334.15                | 12,000.00            |
| McDowell Foundation                          | 1,050.00           | 1,000.00           | 1,000.00                 |                      |
| Scholarships                                 | 3,000.00           | 2,000.00           | 1,000.00                 | 2,000.00             |
| Bank Service Charge                          | 98.00              | 1,000.00           | 676.45                   | 1,000.00             |
| Management Fees                              |                    |                    |                          |                      |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES**                           | $353,451.00        | $390,000.00        | $232,776.50              | $415,000.00          |

| SURPLUS (DEFICIT)                            | 31,603.00          | $390,000.00        | $232,776.50              | $415,000.00          |

### NOTES:

1. The proposed budget for 2009-2010 is based on an annual fee of $30.00.
2. A financial statement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 will be prepared as soon as possible after year-end, audited, and made available to all STS Chapters. Copies of the audited financial statement for 2008-2009 will also be made available to all AGM delegates at the 2010 AGM.
3. The Operations Reserve Fund had a balance of $184,028.00 as at June 30, 2008. Should a deficit be incurred for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, it would be covered by monies from the Operations Reserve Fund.

### ASSUMPTIONS:

1. 8600 Members
2. Rebate to Chapters of $8.00 per member
Nominations

Siegrid Schergel

As per the Policy Handbook, Page 5, Number 1: Nominations are called to elect the following Executive: President, Vice-President, Five Councillors, Seven Members-at-Large, and an ACER-CART Representative.

Nominations will be received until nine o’clock the morning of the day elections for the STS Executive are held.

Are you interested in a new challenge? Have you considered letting your name stand for the provincial Executive? Now is the time! If you are interested in having the opportunity to affect the STS at the provincial level, I invite you to submit your name as a candidate for the Executive. The process is simple – forward your name and the position for which you are declaring your candidacy to the STS office. Append a resume that outlines your background and your involvement in STS. This resume will be included in the AGM delegates, package and will serve to introduce you to the delegates as we do not have candidates’ speeches at the AGM. That’s it!

To date the following individuals have declared their candidacy for the 2009-2010 Executive:

President/Councillor
Jim Sego

Vice-President/Councillor
Margaret Martin

Councillors
Calvin Bachmeier
Shirley Dyck
Michael Gorkoff
Doug Haroldson
Mike Kaminski
Peter Wiebe

Members at Large
Elaine Broughton
Shirley Henderson
Kate McCorriston
James Slough
Maxine Stinka
Robert Wuschenny

ACER-CART Representative
Fred Herron

Nominations remain open until 9:00 am Thursday, 14 May 2009, the day of the elections at the AGM.

Councillor’s Report

Margaret Martin

Elaine Broughton and Margaret Martin represented the STS at the STF Symposium on March 20-21, 2009, entitled “Big Questions Worthy Dreams”. The symposium considered questions in Social Justice and Teacher Professionalism.

Eight STS Councillors will be attending the STF Annual Meeting of Council on April 22 to 25, 2009 at the Radisson Hotel in Saskatoon. Resolutions we will review and vote on deal with topics such as Social and Political Advocacy, Professional Stewardship and Responsibility, Economic Services – Bargaining and Benefits, Governance and Finance and Administration. We will look carefully at any resolutions that deal with teacher pension plans.

Attention All Former Teachers

Did you ever teach at Perdue, Kinley, or any schools in the R. M. of Perdue #346? If you did and you have not received information on our upcoming 100 Anniversary Celebration, please send your name and address to CELEBRATE “100”, Box 94, Perdue, SK S0K 3C0. We will send you a registration – information notice. Our big event will take place the weekend of July 24-26, 2009. Hope to see you there.

The Seniors’ Information Hotline: 1-888-823-2211
Please Note: This is not an STS hotline. This is a general hotline for all seniors.

Saskatchewan HealthLine: 1-877-800-0002

Surgery Wait Time Hotline:
Resolutions Directed to the STF

Resolution One
BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the STF to examine all options and pursue the best alternatives for achieving full Canadian CPI annual adjustments to teacher superannuation allowances. – STS Executive

Resolution Two
BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request the STF to negotiate changes to the TSP to provide 100% indexing of superannuation allowances.
– Saskatoon Chapter

Background (provided by Saskatoon Chapter)
At one time our pensions were fully indexed. This resolution calls for a return to full indexing. Some government plans, e.g. federal government, do have full indexing. Annual resolutions to STF Council have requested a return to full indexing.

Resolution Three
BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request the STF to negotiate changes to the TSP to provide 85% indexing of superannuation allowances effective January 1, 2010, 90% indexing effective January 1, 2011, 95% indexing effective January 1, 2012, and 100% indexing effective January 1, 2013.
– Saskatoon Chapter

Background (provided by Saskatoon Chapter)
Although the STS maintains the goal of full indexing, this resolution sets out intermediate steps in the return for full indexing.

Resolution Four
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request the STF to negotiate changes to the TSP to provide 100% indexing of the first $30,000 of all superannuation allowances.
– Saskatoon Chapter

Background (provided by Saskatoon Chapter)
Although the STS maintains the goal of full indexing, this resolution sets out a partial return to full indexing until our goal is achieved.

Resolution Five
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request the STF to negotiate changes to the TSP to provide 100% indexing of superannuation allowances for the term of the next STF Provincial Collective Agreement.
– Saskatoon Chapter

Background (provided by Saskatoon Chapter)
Although the STS maintains the goal of full indexing, this resolution would not tie the provincial government in perpetuity to full indexing. Full indexing would have been affordable by the government in the last few years during massive budget surpluses but would provide the opportunity to return to 80% indexing during depressed economic periods.

Resolution Six
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS continue to work with the STF to obtain 100% indexing for Teacher pensions.
– Prince Albert Chapter

Resolution Seven
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request the STF to negotiate changes to the TSP to provide 80% indexing of superannuation allowances based on the Saskatchewan CPI or the Canadian CPI, whichever is highest.
– Saskatoon Chapter

Background (provided by Saskatoon Chapter)
Although the STS maintains the goal of full indexing, this resolution sets out intermediate steps in the return for full indexing.

Resolution Eight
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request STF to negotiate that on January first of each year all retirees receive the benefit of the indexing for the full year.
– Prince Albert Chapter

Resolutions Directed to the STS

Resolution Nine
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS work with Saskatchewan Blue Cross to re-implement the automatic billing system for prescription drugs.
– Prince Albert Chapter

Resolution Ten
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS urge its health benefit insurance carrier, Saskatchewan Blue Cross, to add Sildenafil Citrate (Viagra), Tadalafil (Cialis) and Vardenafil (Levitra) to the formulary of drugs covered under the plan.
– Saskatoon Chapter

Background (provided by Saskatoon Chapter)
Some other group plans (e.g. federal government) do provide coverage for these drugs. There are cost implications for these treatments.

continued on page 6
Resolution Eleven
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS annual fee for 2009-2010 be $30.00 per person.

– STS Executive

Resolution Twelve
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the annual rebate to Chapters for 2009-2010 be $8.00 per person.

– STS Executive

Honorary Life Members

James Slough

Congratulations!

The following members have been selected for Honorary Life Membership for 2009 and will be presented with their certificates at the AGM:

Volodimer Derkach, Nipawin
Ernie Epp, Saskatoon
Gabrielle Hamilton, Yorkton

Resolution Thirteen
BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (ACER-CART) to request the Government of Canada to ensure that information on Canadian travelers to the US be stored by Canadian Border Security Officials in Canada rather than by US Border Authorities.

– Saskatoon Chapter

Resolution Fourteen
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request ACER-CART to lobby the federal government to phase in a national prescription drug strategy which would begin with coverage for key catastrophic drug costs with gradual expansion of coverage as finances permit, until the plan is universal in application.

– STS Executive

Resolution Fifteen
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request ACER-CART to lobby the federal government to

Eliminate the renewal of protection of drug patents so cheaper generics are available sooner, saving money for the health care system, patients, hospitals and provinces.

– STS Executive

Recreation Results

Kaiser 2008
Hosted by Prince Albert Chapter
High Lady: Helen Chernoff
High Man: Walter Paidwar
Cash Prize Winners:
Ruby Rafuse & Frank Will

Curling 2008
Hosted by Saskatoon Chapter
A Event: George Anderson Trophy
1st Saskatoon – Cec Hodgins, Barry Davies, Bill Martin, Marg Martin

B Event: Assiniboine Chapter Trophy
1st Swift Current – Ross Orth, Keith Ahrens, Rick Lake, Ray Finlay

C Event: STS Trophy
1st Saskatoon – John Toles, Roland Thiessen, Ernie Balzer, John Krahn

D Event: Saskatoon Chapter Trophy
1st Melville – Wilmer Kolyaba, Wally Oucharek, Polly Wardle, Joan Oucharek

E Event: Consolation
1st Saskatoon – John Wall, Ken Theis, Bill Woodward, Elaine Theis

Bowling 2008
Hosted by Regina Chapter
Home Teams – Saskatoon

Rose Yaworski, Stella Shulhan, Joyce Senger, Tom Brophy, Rick Murza
Travelling Teams – Regina
George Exner (Regina), Terry Briere (Regina), Bev Stewart (P.A.), Ken Mathers (Moose Jaw), Alma Brown (Yorkton)

Golf 2008
Hosted by Maple Creek Chapter
Men’s Championship Flight – Carson Robinson – 79
1st Flight – Don Johns – 89
2nd Flight – Wayne Guenther – 91
3rd Flight – Leroy Starkes – 95
4th Flight – Ed Bath – 100
5th Flight – Doug Haroldson – 106
Seniors Men’s Champion – George Holizki – 80

Ladies Championship Flight – Doris Morrow – 91
1st Flight – Joan Braaten – 110
2nd Flight – Marjorie Popenia – 121
Seniors Ladies’ Champion – Joan Diemert – 116

Scramble Results
A side – Shirley Helmerson, Ross Orth, Ron Meyers, Dave Stewardson
B side – Jim Bobick, Dale Chant, Robert Gordon, Audrey Gordon

Recreation Results
**Upcoming Events**

**Recreational Activities Participation STS Style . . .**

**Bowling**
Location: Prince Albert  
Date: April 30 & May 1, 2009  
Contact: Lori Veregan  
Phone: (306) 763-7263

**Golf**
Host: Midlakes Chapter – Craik & Davidson – 9 hole courses  
Date: June 15-16, 2009  
Contact: Elaine Ebenal  
Phone: (306) 567-4763 or (306) 651-7284

2010 Host: Souris-Moose Mountain Chapter  
Contact: Merv Walker  
Phone: (306) 433-2207

2011 Host: Assiniboine Chapter  
Contact: Tom Jordans  
Phone: (306) 542-3265

**Fishing**
2009 Host: Moosomin Chapter  
Location: Birds Point, Round Lake  
Date: July 2, 2009 (alternate July 9, 2009)  
Contact: Horst Sawatzki  
Phone: (306) 435-2551

**Kaiser**
2009 Host - Unity Chapter  
Contact: Jim Sego  
Phone: (306) 228-3981

**Bridge**
2009 Host – Saskatoon Chapter  
Date: October 23-24, 2009.  
Contact: Bill Meger  
Phone: (306) 249-1329

2010 Host – Parkland Chapter

**Curling**
2009 Host – South Central Chapter hosted by Assiniboia Curling Club  
Date: November 2, 3 & 4, 2009  
Contact: Maurice Koszman  
Phone: (306) 268-2867

2010 Host - Saskatoon Chapter

*If Chapters are interested in hosting provincial events please contact the STS office or a member of the Recreation Committee. We would also be open to any proposals for new events.*

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**STS Provincial Golf Tournament June 15 & 16, 2009**

Davidson Golf Course and Craik Golf Course (Both courses are 9 holes)

**PRE-REGISTER BY MAY 30, 2009**

First 72 paid golfers accepted.

Cost: $100.00 Includes two – 18 hole rounds (Monday at Davidson, Tuesday at Craik); a banquet at the Davidson Golf Course Clubhouse on Monday night.

Cart rentals available.

Extra Banquet tickets available at $ 20.00 each.

**Accommodations:**

**Davidson:**
Jubilee Motor Inn (306) 567-2033  
C & T Motel (306) 567-2033  
Davidson Hotel/Motel (306) 567-5520

**Craik:**  
C & T Motel (306) 734-2476  
Trail’s End Guest Ranch 1-866-885-0775

**Camping:**
Town of Davidson  
(no reservations accepted)  
Craik Regional Park (306) 734-5120 reservations accepted after Jan. 15th

**Contact:** Elaine Ebenal  
(306) 567-4763 or (306) 651-7284  
ebenalfarm@sasktel.net or  
Elaine.ebenal@sasktel.net

Return completed registration form and fees to:  
Elaine Ebenal  
Box 296 Davidson SK S0G 1A0

Note: Names of interested participants will be noted if received by phone or e-mail, but registration requires the receipt of the $100.00 fee.

Come for the Golfing Fun … then Stay to Explore the innovation and excitement that the area has to offer.

**Registration Form**

Name

Address

Phone

E-mail

__

Extra banquet tickets ____x $20.00

Senior Division? ____ (must be 70+)

Cart Rental Required? ____

Average Score for 18 holes ____

*Please make cheques payable to STS Golf Tournament.*
As we in Saskatchewan get a fleeting glimpse of spring we are still reminded that winter is not quite ready to give up the reins just yet. What a tease winter has been this year. But as I wrote this I heard geese flying over and they were travelling north. So there is hope!

Another year of the STS will be completed with our AGM. A great deal of planning has gone into this with decisions to be voted on and new Executive to be elected. I hope that if you are attending the AGM you will take an active part.

As reported in the Group Benefits Report our Benefits Plans are doing quite nicely because of our vigilance over them. They are our Plans and we are responsible for their smooth operation.

As you are reading this may the flowers of spring be blooming and showing off their many splendor.

Remember there is no better time to try something new than right now.

Shirley

**STS Executive 2008-2009**

**President/Councillor**  Jim Sego  Unity Chapter

**Vice-President/Councillor**  Margaret Martin  Saskatoon Chapter

**Past President/Councillor**  Siegrid Schergel  Moose Jaw Chapter

**Executive Secretary**  Fred Herron  Saskatoon Chapter

**Councillors:**
- Calvin Bachmeier  Maple Creek/Medicine Hat Chapter
- Shirley Dyck  Swift Current Chapter
- Michael Gorkoff  Red Deer River Valley Chapter
- Mike Kaminski  Assiniboine Chapter
- Peter Wiebe  Regina Chapter

**Members At Large:**
- Elaine Broughton  Saskatoon Chapter
- Doug Haroldson  Maple Creek/Medicine Hat Chapter
- Shirley Henderson  Prince Albert Chapter
- Kate McCorriston  Nipawin Chapter
- James Slough  Regina Chapter
- Maxine Stinka  Assiniboine Chapter
- Robert Wuschenny  Yorkton Chapter

**ACER-CART**  Fred Herron  Saskatoon Chapter

**Reminder – STS Group Benefit Primary Plan holders**
If you qualify for the Saskatchewan Seniors’ Drug Plan and have not already done so, please send a copy of the confirmation letter to the STS Office in order to receive the reduced premium for Extended Health.

**STS Office Notice**
1. If there will be a change in your delegates’ list for the AGM please notify the Office immediately or no later than May 1, 2009.
2. Chapter Reports need to be forwarded to the Office by April 15, 2009.
3. If your Chapter has awarded any Chapter merit awards, please let the Office know the names of the recipients by May 1, 2009.
4. The list of Chapter Officers for 2009 – 2010 should be sent to the Office by June 30, 2009.
5. The STS Office will be closed on May 12 -14 to enable staff to attend the AGM.