President’s Report
Siegrid Schergel

Happy New Year and may 2007 bring you and your families all the best. For many of you 2007 has come roaring in; hopefully, the worst storms are behind us and the rest of the winter will be mild and short.

Rambling Thoughts
Shovelling snow is one of my least favourite things to do. My eyes water; my nose runs! I get cold and I sweat! It is not a pretty picture. But after each snow fall I’m out there—bundled up like the Michelin Woman with shovel in hand. Every summer I tell myself, next winter it’s only a path to the front door and enough of the driveway to let the car in and out. But come the first snow, there I am. First the driveway, then the walk and finally the front sidewalk.

continued on page 2

Members elected to the Executive for 2006 - 2007
Back row (from left) Barry Hollick, Ed Magis, Mike Kaminski, Jim Slough, Wally Derkach, Ernie Epp, Peter Wiebe, Calvin Bachmeier, Bert Gordon. Front row (from left) Maxine Stinka, Margaret Martin, Jim Sego (Vice-President), Siegrid Schergel (President), Horst Sawatzki (Past President), Darlene McCullough, Shirley Dyck, Fred Herron (Executive Secretary).
Why do I do it? With only one car, half the driveway is never used. Only the mail carrier, paper girl and visitors come to the front door. In this quiet residential area, the front sidewalk is not heavily travelled. When I’m going for a walk I tend to walk in the other direction—away from my pristine sidewalk. So why do I bother? I remember how much I appreciated cleared sidewalks when I was a teenager, walking to school and how much I dislike negotiating over icy walks now. But more importantly, I do it because it is the right thing to do, runny nose and watery eyes notwithstanding.

The last time I was shovelling, thinking why am I doing this, I segued to other things that are the right thing to do. Like addressing the unfunded liability of the Teachers’ Superannuation Plan. It too, is not a pretty picture and over decades has accumulated like a snowdrift in a howling blizzard! And like shovelling my sidewalk, addressing it now is the right thing to do. It is time the government acknowledges that successive decades of governments did not contribute their portion to the superannuation fund and that now is the time to address that issue. The Saskatchewan economy is healthy and the government has surplus funds. Funds that should be used to begin to address the shortfall it caused.

As the STF goes into the next round of collective bargaining, I hope that the government will acknowledge its responsibility to both the active and Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan. Over decades we teachers upheld our end of the contract—contributing to our pensions, it’s time the government addresses theirs. It’s the right thing to do.

Executive Meeting

The Executive Meeting was held on Thursday, January 18, 2007 and was preceded by Executive Committee Meetings on Wednesday. Details of these discussions are outlined elsewhere in this edition but I would like to highlight a number of points.

• The cost of living adjustment which will be reflected on your January pension allowance will be 1.7% if you have been in receipt of pension for the full year past. If you have received your pension for only part of the year, the COLA will be prorated.

• A first draft Budget for 2007-08 was received by the Executive for discussion. The 2007-08 Proposed Budget will be published in the March edition of Outreach for your consideration.

• For those of you who are members of the Extended Health Plan, I refer you to the Group Benefits Committee Report. The Executive has taken the decision to terminate the pilot project electronic submission of claims for drug cost reimbursement effective March 31, 2007. Beginning April 1st we will return to sending in our prescription receipts to Blue Cross for reimbursement as we did in the past.

• The deadline for the submission of nominations for Honorary Life Member of the STS is rapidly approaching. Please forward your nominations to the office.

Also, with sincere regret, the Executive accepted the resignations, effective June 30, 2007, of Shirley Henderson and Loretta Romankewicz. Both these women will leave a lasting legacy of outstanding commitment and dedication to STS and all its members.

Loretta has edited Outreach with dedication for many years and has nurtured its growth and development. Outreach is our main channel of communication, our link to almost 8000 members. On behalf of all of us, I extend our most sincere thanks for that dedication. We are holding its result in our hands.

Shirley Henderson has been our Office Manager for seven years. Hers is the patient, cheerful and knowledgeable voice you hear when you call with a question. If she can’t help immediately, she’ll find the answer as soon as she can. We will miss that. Again, on behalf of all of us, thank you for your years of dedication to the cause of the STS and to the needs of each individual member.

Best wishes to both women as they embark on the next stage of their retirement life.

Cost of Living Adjustment

All superannuates who have received an allowance from the Teachers’ Superannuation Commission or the Saskatchewan Teachers Retirement Plan for the full 2006 year will have their allowances adjusted upwards by 1.7% effective January 1, 2007. Superannuates who have received an allowance for less than the full 2006 year will have their increases prorated.
The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism President, Fern Haight, hosted the annual Christmas Come and Go on Thursday, December 7, 2006. Over 80 guests attended the Christmas Come and Go, including Mrs. Betty Calvert, Regina Mayor Mr. Pat Fiacco, and other dignitaries, including Dave Forbes, Minister of Labour; Regina Counsellors, Mike O'Donnell and Fred Clipsham.

Our primary focus at our last SSM meetings was the consideration of the SPRA Grant requests. Six Associations submitted their requests for grants.

The tentative SPRA Grant Timeline was set as follows:

October 17, 2006
Call for Applications to SSM Member Organizations

November 24, 2006
Deadline for member Organization Application Submission

December 21, 2006
Deadline for Evaluation Submission

January 31, 2007
Deadline for Submission of Grant Application to SPRA

Only those Board of Directors whose organizations are not involved in applying for a grant will evaluate the submissions.

In the past, a five-category process was used for Grant Evaluation. This year we adopted a 10-step process to be consistent with the SPRA 10 Step Process. Below is a listing of the categories used for our Grant Evaluation Process:

Grant Allocations Analysis

1. Identity Target Group (Goals)
Identify individuals, populations, groups, or communities that are direct beneficiaries

2. Program Need (Goals)
Need (problem, situation, issue) program addresses

3. Program Vision (Goals)
Long-term impact on target group

4. Input (should be quantifiable)
Includes financial resources (expense sheet), human resources, facilities, equipment, supplies, and materials

5. Activities (should be quantifiable)
Key activities that produce desired outcomes

6. Outputs (should be quantifiable)
Direct products of program activities

7. Program Outcomes (Results)
Changes (in behaviors, knowledge, attitude, skills, or emotional/psychological state) as a result of participating in the program

8. Environmental Scanning (Results)
Outside factors that positively or negatively impact program

9. Review Logic Model (Results)
Are inputs identified sufficiently to produce desired outcomes? Are there additional inputs required?

10. Indicator Statements (Results)
Further information describing benefits and/or enhancements of program

Those of us on the Board of Directors whose organizations are not involved in applying for a grant evaluated the submissions, and submitted our evaluations. These evaluations will be collated, and then submitted to SPRA by January 31, 2007. This has been an interesting process and a learning experience.

STS Benefit Plan Alert

As we approach the end of the first fiscal year in our current three year agreement with Saskatchewan Blue Cross, it appears that we may experience a small deficit in the Extended Health Plan. The claims have been significantly higher than expected, mainly as a result of inflation, higher drug costs and increased utilization. The Plan should have sufficient reserves to ensure that the premiums will remain unchanged for the remaining two years of our contract. However, we felt it was important to alert Plan participants in the Extended Health Plan that we will be faced with a premium increase in 2009 if utilization continues to escalate. It is important to view the Plan as an insurance plan and to remind ourselves that we are the only ones who can control the costs of the Plan.

As a result of increased costs to the Extended Health Plan and significant administrative problems regarding the use of the Saskatchewan Blue Cross Card for submitting drug claims electronically, please be advised that the electronic claims pilot project will be discontinued effective March 31, 2007.
Support Services Report - Ernie Epp

Your Support Services committee met on January 17 and discussed the status of this service, especially in light of forward planning for the current year. It was noted that the protocol for our “Chapter Liaison Persons” as prepared and accepted at our last meeting, has been sent to every Chapter. In communication with a Chapter on this, it was clear that the information had been received within a few weeks of the Chapter Presidents’ meeting and reviewed thoroughly.

A ‘Clearing House’ concept has been further developed by Dalton Tamney so as to capture successful things Chapters are doing in promoting health and healthy living in their own locations. In doing so, a General Subject Area could be identified and a Chapter would be invited to submit any activity it might have conducted to enhance this Subject Area. A hypothetical area of “Caregiving” was suggested with a Chapter identified as having done something significant in this area. A notice of this intent will be included in the next mailing to all Chapter Presidents to further this concept in their area. Should any information be forthcoming in this Subject Area, it would be emailed back to our office for redirection to our Web site via the STF web site with which we are intricately linked. Dalton Tamney and Fred Herron are going to explore and develop this further.

In terms of longer term planning, it was noted that the Support Services planning template of March 2005 identifies a Short Term plan, a Possible Medium Term plan, and a Possible Long Term plan. All of these, we found, were all already in varying stages of progress. The Short Term plan had essentially already been completed. It was agreed by the committee that STS continue to proceed along the guidelines of planning as outlined in the above plans. One area, that of monitoring the accessing of this site (hits), had been discussed with STF but to date no specific action had been initiated. It was agreed that feedback from our membership would be valuable in assessing the value of this service to our members. However, doing a ‘hit’ count would not necessarily provide the evaluative feedback that would be most helpful.

STS Support Services Website: www.sts.sk.ca (click link to support services)

Resolutions Committee - Jim Sego

Is there something on which you would like to see the STS take action? Is there an issue on behalf of which you would like the STS to advocate? Are there policy issues you would like debated? Why not submit a resolution to the AGM?

Copies of the ‘Submission of Resolutions’ form are available from your Chapter president and the format criteria is outlined in the Policy handbook, Guideline 3, page 37. Please submit all resolutions to the STS office. Resolutions received before March 15, 2007 will be published in the March/April Outreach; those received after that date will be mailed with the AGM material.

We look forward to receiving your resolutions.

Attention Chapter Presidents

Nominations for Honorary Life Memberships must be submitted to the STS office by February 14, 2007. If you have worthy candidates for these awards, ensure that the nominations are submitted well before that deadline. Please check the Policy Handbook for the correct format of the nomination. If a Chapter wishes to have a previously submitted nomination considered again this year, ensure that the office is notified of this by the February 14 deadline.

Last Call for Submissions to Redvers and District History Book!

If you ever lived, worked, or went to school in Redvers or have family that did, we want to hear from you. Send your family history and photos to Redvers and District History Book, Box 49, Redvers, SK S0C 2H0 or email: redvershistorybook@hotmail.com. Please do not email photos. For more information call Helen at (306) 452-3828 or Rose at (306) 452-3846. Check out our website at www.redvershistorybook.org.
STF Post-Secondary Education Prizes

Prizes for Children of STF Members

In accordance with a resolution passed by Annual Council 2003, the Federation is offering ten (10) STF Prizes in the amount of $1,000 each to be awarded annually to children of teachers who are current, superannuated or deceased members of the STF. Five (5) will be awarded as entrance prizes for post-secondary education and five (5) for continuing post-secondary education.

Applications for the Prizes must be received in the Saskatoon office of the STF by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 30, 2007. Faxed and e-mailed applications will not be accepted. Application forms may be downloaded from the STF website (www.stf.sk.ca). Completed applications should be directed to: Martha Driedger, Administration/Governance, Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation, 2317 Arlington Avenue, Saskatoon SK S7J 2H8. Telephone: (306) 373-1660; Fax: (306) 374-1122; E-mail: admin@stf.sk.ca

The recipients will be drawn by the STF President or designate. The successful recipients will be contacted by April 20, 2007. If you have not been contacted by that time, your application was unsuccessful. The names of the successful recipients will be published in the May issue of the Saskatchewan Bulletin.
Acer-Cart Report - Fred Herron

For the second consecutive year, The Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (ACER-CART) had the opportunity to present a Brief to the Federal Government’s Standing Committee on Finance Dealing With Pre Budget Consultation.

The following is a summary of the recommendations included in the ACER-CART Brief:

1. That the federal government offer the option of splitting pension between spouses to couples as soon as one of the spouses reaches age 65.

2. That the federal government change the Income Tax Act to allow for the following:
   a. Lower the compulsory minimum withdrawal rates from RRIF’s;
   b. Raise the age at which RRSPs must be converted to an annuity or to a RRIF;
   c. Allow 100% of all medical expenses not covered by a provincial health plan or any other insurance plan and 100% of all charitable donations to be claimed;
   d. OAS benefits be considered as non-taxable income;
   e. Re-introduce the deduction for interest income.

3. That the federal government convene in the near future a meeting of seniors’ organizations with the purpose of establishing a consortium that will be the main spokesperson of the group.

4. That, in the next budget, grants be made available to this consortium of seniors’ organizations so that it can fulfill its responsibilities and provide effective public policy input representing the views of Canadian seniors.

5. That the federal government, in consultation with the provincial and territorial governments, establish a National Prescription Drug Agency under the Canada Health Act to control costs, evaluate new and existing drugs, ensure quality, safety and cost effectiveness of all prescription drugs.

6. That the federal government, in consultation with the provincial and territorial governments, establish a national formulary of prescription drugs as a measure to control health costs.

7. That the federal government, in cooperation with the provincial and territorial governments, establish a catastrophic drug transfer fund to allow provinces and territories to offset the high costs associated with prescription drugs.

STS Outreach Report - Ernie Epp

The November-December ’06 issue of Outreach was in the mail at about the same time as the heavy Christmas mailing season began. Most of our members got their copy before Christmas, but I suspect some may have had to wait until later. The production of Outreach continues with the first draft coming to our office within a few days of our meetings. This draft is then reviewed by our office and additional information is included if pertinent. The decision of an 8 or 12 page issue is made at this time. Actual mailing after all the proof reading and printing of 7400 copies is complete, generally takes about 3 weeks.

Our editor Loretta Romankewicz has made the decision to leave her role as editor of Outreach as of June 30, ’07. We greatly appreciate her faithful, dedicated and competent service in this capacity for many years. She has always referred to her work as a ‘labour of love’ which she cheerfully did for her many colleagues. And, the results of her commitment always showed in each issue. We will miss her great contribution and wish her many happy years doing many other enjoyable things in her retirement.
**Events**

Recreational Activities Participation STS Style . . .

- **Bowling**
  Yorkton
  May 2 & 3
  Contact: Muriel Dalshaug
  (306) 783-5643
  See registration form

- **Fishing**
  Round Lake
  July 5
  Contact: Allan Yung
  (306) 645-2703

- **Kaiser**
  No Host confirmed

- **Bridge**
  Saskatoon
  October 4 & 5
  Contact: Bill Meger
  (306) 249-1329

- **Stitch & Quilt**
  Waskesiu
  (date t.b.a.)
  Hosted by Prince Albert Chapter
  Contact: Shirley Gange
  (306) 982-3311
  hgange@sasktel.net

- **Curling**
  Melville
  November 8 & 9
  Contact: Wally Oucharek
  (306) 728-2588

- **Wine Soiree**
  Host Required

- **Golf**
  Golf 2007 will be held in Melfort
  June 13 and 14. The format this year will be 18 hole Scramble on the first day followed by a regular round on the 14th.
  Registration form and further information will appear in the April edition of *Outreach*.
  Doug Lyon contact person
  (306) 752-2910 or douglyon@sasktel.net

- **Nominations for 2007-2008 STS Executive**

**Horst Sawatzki**

Nominations are now being accepted for the following Executive positions: President, Vice-President, ACER-CART Representative, Councillors and Executive Members-at-Large.

Please submit the name, address and phone number of nominees for these positions to the STS office. If there are questions, contact Horst Sawatzki by phone (306) 435-2551 or e-mail h.j.s@sasktel.net

Nominations received by March 15, 2007 will be listed in the next *Outreach*. However, nominations may be submitted up to 9:00 A.M., Thursday May 17, 2007, the day of voting at the AGM. Candidates should provide a brief resume to the office by April 15. These will be made available to all AGM participants.

It is quite acceptable to submit your own name. If submitting the name of another member, be certain that you have his/her consent.
STS Provincial Bowling Tournament
May 2 & 3, 2007, Yorkton, SK

Fee:
$40.00 (Includes the banquet and luncheon)
$17.00 Extra Banquet ticket
$ 7.00 Extra luncheon ticket

- Enter as single, double or as a team
- Register by: Saturday, April 21, 2007
- Make cheques payable to STS Bowling 2007

Name: ________________________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________ E-mail: ________________________________

Send entries and total fees to:
Muriel Dalshaug
#206 - 27 Erichson Place
Yorkton, SK S3N 3Z6
Phone (306) 783-5643

Accommodations:
Best Western $83.00 (until April 2): (306) 783-9781; Comfort Inn $82.00
(306) 783-0333; Days Inn $81.00 (306) 783-3297; Howard Johnson $66.00
(306) 783-6581.

Banquet: Best Western

STS Provincial Fish Derby
July 5, 2007, Bird’s Point, Round Lake, SK
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Registration Fee: $100.00

Make cheques payable to STS Fishing Derby Moosomin STS

Name: ________________________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________ E-mail: ________________________________

Send entries and total fees to:
Horst Sawatzki
Box 1167
Moosomin, SK S0G 3N0
Ph: (306) 435-2551
e-mail h.j.s@sasktel.net

For Derby information, contact Irene Norton (306) 645-2869, Allan Yung (306) 645-2703 or
Naomi Windrim (306) 645-2912 or (306) 793-2875

Accommodations:
Best Western $83.00 (until April 2): (306) 783-9781; Comfort Inn $82.00
(306) 783-0333; Days Inn $81.00 (306) 783-3297; Howard Johnson $66.00
(306) 783-6581.

Banquet: Best Western
College of Education
80th Anniversary Event Listings for 2007

April 20
College of Education, University of Saskatchewan 80th Anniversary Celebration Reunion. Vincent Massey School, Prince Albert. 7 – 9 p.m. All alumni and current and former educators are invited. For more information go to www.usask.ca/education/anniversary

April 22
College of Education, University of Saskatchewan 80th Anniversary Celebration Reunion. Student Lounge, College of Education, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon. 2 - 4 p.m. All alumni and current and former educators are invited. For more information go to www.usask.ca/education/anniversary

May 4
College of Education, University of Saskatchewan 80th Anniversary Celebration Reunion. Chapel Gallery, North Battleford. 7 - 9 p.m. All alumni and current and former educators are invited. For more information go to www.usask.ca/education/anniversary

May 11
College of Education, University of Saskatchewan 80th Anniversary Celebration Reunion. West Harvest Inn, Regina. 4 - 6 p.m. All alumni and current and former educators are invited. For more information go to www.usask.ca/education/anniversary

May 12
College of Education, University of Saskatchewan 80th Anniversary Celebration Reunion. Sacred Heart High School, Yorkton. 2 - 4 p.m. All alumni and current and former educators are invited. For more information go to www.usask.ca/education/anniversary

May 28
College of Education, University of Saskatchewan 80th Anniversary Come and Go Tea to be held in conjunction with the CSSE Conference. College of Education, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon. 11:30 – 3:00 p.m. All CSSE delegates are welcome to attend, with a special welcome to all U of S alumni. For more information, go to www.usask.ca/education/anniversary

November 22
Teaching in the Wireless Age. A public lecture by David Booth, Professor Emeritus, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. 7:30 p.m. Quance Theatre, College of Education, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon. For more information, go to www.usask.ca/education/anniversary

SBCS Seeking Area Coordinators
The Saskatchewan Breast Cancer Study (SBCS) is seeking qualified, motivated women to act as Area Coordinators. We are searching for women who know their community and who are looking for interesting, challenging work with total time flexibility.

This is a volunteer position; however, we are able to offer an annual compensation with a value of about $250 to $300 per month.

Duties include staying in touch with volunteers in your community and surrounding area, and coordinating the breast cancer survey in your community.

For more information, or to participate, please contact Amber at (306) 586-7727, or at sbcs.gift@gmail.com.
34th Annual General Meeting of the STS

Tuesday, May 15th – Thursday May 17th, 2007
Travelodge Hotel in Saskatoon

In recognition of the 80th Anniversary of the College of Education our keynote speaker will be Dr. Pat Renihan.

Dr. Renihan is currently a professor with the Department of Education Administration at the University of Saskatchewan. He will be familiar to many superannuated teachers as a result of his presentations to teachers' conventions and conferences. He brings humor and substance to his presentations.

We will be offering five Interest Sessions again this year.

- Alzheimer Disease – Shirley Kerr
- Ask the Pharmacist – Bill Martin
- Container Gardening – Sharon Leach
- Crystal Meth Labs – Wilbur Hueser
- Financial Concerns – Karen Tzupa and Trevor Keher

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS:

You will be receiving a package of information early in February. Please send your list of delegates to the STS Office shortly after receiving the information.

The Executive has calculated that the attendance formula for this year will allow each Chapter to send two delegates for the first 50 paid members or portion thereof, and one additional delegate for each additional 50 paid members or portion thereof.

DElegates:

You will be receiving a package of information shortly after you are registered at the STS Office. The Travelodge is holding a block of rooms for us at a flat rate single or double occupancy. To make reservations please call (306) 242-8881 or the direct toll free number of 1 888- 278-4209. These guest rooms will be held at the STS preferred rate until APRIL 16. Most rooms have two beds if you wish to share accommodation and assist the STS in reducing the cost of the AGM.

WE ARE PLANNING A GREAT ANNUAL MEETING
Plan to attend.
Co-chairs – Shirley Dyck and Darlene McCullough
In Memoriam

With great appreciation we remember our colleagues for their many years of educational services to the children and young people of Saskatchewan.

We are only able to include the maiden names of the deceased teachers if the family gives that information to the Teachers’ Superannuation Commission.

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<td>Schrader, Eldon</td>
<td>Nov/06</td>
<td>Regina SD #4</td>
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<td>Shopa, Roseanna</td>
<td>Dec/06</td>
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<td>Welgan, Marguerite</td>
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<td>York, Floreen</td>
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<td>Regina RCSSD #81</td>
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From Your Retiring Editor

“The time has come,” so Loretta does say, “To fold my tent and silently steal away.”

It’s been an interesting run being the Editor of Outreach. The Nov/Dec issue in 1993 marked the beginning of my commitment to the best organization in the world, the STS, and my connection with some very special people – you. Many of you were very kind and appreciative of my efforts but there is one that summed up what I tried to do. She said, “You give us the facts and news we need to know but you treat us as friends you’d enjoy meeting over coffee.”

Friends, you are my extended family and I appreciate your support over the years.

Take care and God bless!

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STS Bursary
Fred Herron with Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Bursary recipient Sharon Bunz

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