

OUTREACH



To The Superannuated Teachers
of Saskatchewan

President's Report

Jim Sego

In the past year, since you elected me your president, I have tried to execute the office diligently and in your best interests. During that period I have had a mentor and model for my activities. If I have done my job well, it is because I have lived up to her standards. If I have stumbled, it is because I have not done as she would have done. I regret that Siegrid Schergel, our Past President, has decided to leave the executive. She did us proud! She will be missed.

Our Executive committees are all submitting reports of their individual accomplishments and major recommendations to the Executive. I won't steal their thunder or diminish the excellent work that they do in preparing reports and justifying their recommendations. As I sit on each committee as an ex officio member I can attest to their thoughtful work and their adherence to policy. Below are my impressions of the committees and the major work each does on your behalf.

The Budget, Finance and Audit Committee oversees the financial affairs of the STS. Its efforts have led to a clean audit and a balanced budget proposal with no fee increase. Under their stewardship membership has increased to over 8700 members.

The Group Benefits Committee has negotiated a new three year agreement with Saskatchewan Blue Cross to ensure that the health and dental needs of the members who participate in the plans are met. A small increase in premiums and changes in benefits make the plan an excellent service that meets the needs of members and continues to attract new members to both the STS and the Benefit Plans. As well, the committee adjudicates special needs and unusual circumstances with Saskatchewan Blue Cross if a provision does not make a clear decision possible by policy alone.

The Support Services Committee continues to provide updated information links on the STS web site to the members and also is expanding the clearinghouse of successful programs that Chapters can access when planning programs for Chapter meetings. It has also encouraged Chapters to link with one another to plan programs that small Chapters could not access if they had to depend on their budgets alone.

The Retirement Lifestyles Committee continues to attract interest from teachers. Several Divisions requested information sessions at the Spring Council this year. Shirley Dyck and her team

provide a very informative introduction to what it's like to live as a retired person.

Our STS Councillors have also done good work bringing the perspective of superannuated teachers to the resolution debates of Spring Council regarding retirement issues. They bring knowledge of the history behind STF procedures to STF Councillors who may not understand the whys and wherefores of many policies that have served teachers well in the past. As well, we look forward to espousing the needs of superannuated teachers as preparations for another round of provincial bargaining in 2010 begin.

The *Outreach* Committee has done an excellent job of providing rapid communication of the results of Executive Meetings throughout the year. If you make use of the web version you can even access the news more quickly. As well the *Bulletin* provides a "Spotlight on Superannuates" column that permits us to communicate with you and prospective superannuates. Our thanks go out to our *Outreach* editor, Shirley Henderson and to Jens Neilson, *Bulletin* editor.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" our parents said. Our

Recreation Committee has taken that advice to heart and in each *Outreach* provides a variety of activities to support the need for superannuates to be active. I also commend the many Chapters around the province who provide the venues and the willing hands that make our varied recreational opportunities possible and so interesting to those who attend.

Personally I'd like to thank all the Chapters for their kind invitations, warm welcomes, and the new friendships they have offered Carole and me



President Jim Segó, Past President Siegrid Schergel, Executive Secretary Fred Herron, Vice-President Margaret Martin

in the past year. It has been a pleasure to re-visit so many areas of the province that I lived in as I grew up. Saskatchewan's teachers exemplify the hospitality that the province is

known for. Carole and I thank you for the past opportunities and those still to come in Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Wakaw, Carnduff, and Nipawin. I look forward to continuing to visit Chapters in the next year too.

Finally I must commend to you our Office Staff. Without the ongoing work of Colleen, Heather, and Fred our organization

would not operate as smoothly. They always have a smile for us face to face, or in their voices on the phone. Really, a smile back is so little payment and yet a fitting reward.

Highlights of the 36th Annual General Meeting

Shirley Dyck & Doug Haroldson

The 2009 Annual General Meeting held in the Travelodge Hotel in Saskatoon on May 12 to May 14 was a huge success. Registration began at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, May 12 under the direction of the Office Staff of Colleen Bailey and Heather Hase, assisted by delegates from the Prince Albert and the Swift Current Chapters.

There were 208 registered delegates representing 43 Chapters, plus 16 Executive Members, our Executive Secretary and two Office Staff. These Chapters included 5 delegates from our British Columbia Chapters of Fraser Valley, Victoria and Okanagan Valley.

We again had Corporate Sponsorship for our AGM. We sincerely thank the **Travelodge Hotel, Greystone Capital Management Inc., TCU Financial Group, Saskatchewan Blue Cross** and **ESTI** for their generosity.

Tuesday Evening

President Jim Segó welcomed the delegates to this 36th Annual General Meeting.

Past President, Siegrid Schergel, Chair of the Nominations Committee introduced the candidates for the 2009-10 year.

President Jim introduced the evening's entertainer, Len Gadica. Len's performance included pieces from the opera, old time music, pattern dances, classical, a time to laugh, his own compositions, and a time to love. His light hearted and humorous entertainment certainly was a wonderful way to begin our Annual General Meeting.



Above: 58 letter name of a place in Wales

Right: Entertainer, Len Gadica



Wednesday, May 10

President, Jim Segó chaired the Plenary Session.

The singing of 'O Canada' was accompanied by Kate McCorrison playing the flute.

Peter Wiebe asked the Invocation. This was followed by a minute of silence to remember our fellow superannuates who are deceased.

President Jim delivered his President's Address.

Siegrid Schergel, Past-President, presented a resolution to deal with the fact we would not have a Past-President in the 2009-10

term because she was not letting her name stand. The resolution was to elect six Councillors for the 2009-10 term. This resolution passed and Siegrid then brought forward the slate of nominees.

Fred Herron, Executive Secretary, presented the Budget. He moved that we table the committee reports until Thursday.

Shirley Dyck, AGM Co-Chair, discussed the Annual General Meeting format.

Delegates broke into five groups to discuss the resolutions.

In the afternoon delegates could attend three of the five Interest Sessions offered:

- *“About teaching” – an Interesting reading by Robert Currie – Poet Laureate of Saskatchewan;*
- *Care to Care* presented by Dr. Narmin Ibrahim;
- *Dealing with Fraud and Power of Attorney* presented by Kathy Styrancko from TCU Financial (**for a copy of the TCU Financial interest session powerpoint presentation please contact the STS Office**);
- *Laughter Yoga* presented by Pastor Darlene Harrison;
- *Saskatchewan Tourism* presented by Roxanne Young.

Wednesday Evening

On Wednesday evening the delegates, Honorary Life Members, and guests enjoyed the banquet held in the Galaxy Ballroom. President Jim Segó introduced the head table, the Executive and Office Staff, the Honorary Life Members and the special guests.

The Archive Committee of Siegrid Schergel, Calvin Bachmeier and Jim Segó presented Membership Growth Awards to 6 Chapters. Jim read the list of superannuates who had received a Chapter Award in 2008-09 from their local Chapters.

James Slough, Chair of the Honorary Life Membership Committee, bestowed this prestigious award on three worthy candidates: **Volodimer Derkach, Dr. Ernest J. Epp, and Gabrielle Hamilton.**

The evening concluded with socializing and Blaine Morrison playing the piano.

Thursday Plenary Session

President Jim introduced Dianne Woloschuk, President of Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation, who brought greetings on behalf of the STF. In her opening remarks Dianne congratulated the three members who received the Honorary Life Membership at the banquet the evening before.

The major points of her address:

This has been a year of intense work of the Federation, especially in the area of social and political advocacy. “We have been advocating with the government in a number of areas particularly with various proposed amendments to *The Education Act, 1995*. These amendments include:

- Discipline processes for non- STF members who have some impact on the duties of boards to report, other proposed Education Act amendments concern schools of opportunity and the change in authority of school boards with respect to local property taxation. The impacts of many of these changes remain to be seen.
- A policy renewal process is underway within the Federation to support its advocacy work. The Provincial Executive continues to focus on even more open transparent and accountable processes for decision-making. The Executive is also working to put processes in place to support greater member engagement and stronger strategic planning.
- The Federation is always thankful for the participation of STS Councillors at the Annual Meeting of Council and Special Meeting of Council. Their wisdom, insights and experience always support strong decision making for the Federation.

SSM President – Al Morrison

James Slough, the SSM representative for STS, introduced Al Morrison, Chair of Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism, who brought greetings on behalf of SSM. Al

Morrison stated that SSM is an umbrella organization with 13 senior organizations under it. STS is a charter member of Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism. He spoke of the importance of having a parent organization that will speak with one unified voice for the betterment of all seniors.

Displays

We were pleased to have displays from the McDowell Foundation, the TCU Financial Group, and STF Memorabilia. Several draws were made from the TCU Financial Group. We wish to thank these groups for their generosity. James Slough had a continuous running DVD made by the STF to celebrate their 75th Anniversary in 2008.

The Annual Meeting

The minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting were presented by Executive Secretary, Fred Herron. These minutes were adopted as printed. Siegrid Schergel presented the nomination slate with four additional candidates added to the Members at Large slate. Siegrid conducted the election of officers.

Committee Reports presented and adopted were:

Executive Secretary – Fred Herron

Office and Staffing – Fred Herron

ACER-CART – Fred Herron

Budget, Finance and Audit

– Margaret Martin

Councillors – Margaret Martin

Outreach – Margaret Martin

Group Benefits – Siegrid Schergel

Archivist – Siegrid Schergel

Support Services – Calvin Bachmeier

Recreation – Calvin Bachmeier

McDowell Foundation

– Maxine Stinka

SSM – James Slough

Lifestyle Planning – Shirley Dyck

Robert Wuschenny, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, presented the Resolutions

Fred Herron, Executive Secretary, presented the 2009-10 Budget. An auditor was appointed for next year.

Margaret Martin presented the Courtesy Resolution.

In closing, President Jim Sego thanked Siegrid Schergel for her many years of service to the STS.

President Jim thanked everyone for attending and then adjourned the thirty-sixth Annual General Meeting.

Honorary Life Members

James Slough

Congratulations!

Volodimer (Wally) Derkach

- Provincial Executive Member 2000-08
- Served on Annual General Meeting Planning, Group Benefits, Budget, Finance and Audit, Honorary Life Member, Office and Staffing and Support Services Committees

Dr. Ernest J. Epp

- Provincial Executive Member 2003-07
- Served on Support Services, *Outreach* and Office and Staffing Committees
- Received Saskatoon Chapter Award in 2007

Gabrielle Hamilton

- Served as Vice President and President of Yorkton Chapter
- Served on Chapter Committees such as Archives, Awards, Newsletter, Phoning, Nominating and Program Committees
- Has presented Pre-Retirement Lifestyles Seminars



Election Results Siegrid Schergel

Executive Positions for 2009-10

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
Roger Marchand
Kate McCorriston
James Slough
Maxine Stinka
Robert Wuschenny

ACER-CART Representative

Fred Herron

Membership Growth Awards 2009

Chapter Name

Carrot River Valley (Melfort and District) Chapter	Plaque
Lloydminster Chapter	Plaque
Maple Creek – Medicine Hat Chapter	Plaque
Souris Moose Mountain Chapter	Plaque
The Battlefords and District Chapter	Plaque
Tisdale Chapter	Plaque

Chapter Award Recipients 2009

Assiniboine Chapter

Maxine Stinka

Moosomin Chapter

Horst Sawatzki

(June 2008 Chapter Award)

Fraser Valley Chapter

(13 year membership)

Erie Chaykowski
David Falk
Henry Teichrob
Thurlow Gowan

Prince Albert Chapter

Al Subchyshyn

Regina Chapter

Terry Gabriel

Saskatoon Chapter

Verne Alldred
Stella Shulhan

Swift Current Chapter

Al Romankewicz

(2008 Chapter Award)

Marlin Buhr

Ruth Sapinsky

The Battlefords & District Chapter

Janet Anderson

Grace MacFarlane

Tisdale Chapter

(10 year membership)

Dennis Dahlsjo

Lil Hunchak

Lois Marsh

BJ Madsen

Kathy Madsen

(20 year membership)

Eleanor Alyea

Weyburn Chapter

Blaine Morrison

April Sampson

Yorkton Chapter

Mary Scraba

Orest Machushek



Recreation

Calvin Bachmeier



Upcoming Events

Recreational Activities Participation STS Style . . .

Golf

Presently 54 of 72 possible entires
Host: Midlakes Chapter – Craik & Davidson – 9 hole courses
Date: June 15-16, 2009
Contact: Elaine Ebenal
Phone: (306) 567-4763 or
(306) 651-7284

Fishing

Host: Moosomin Chapter
Date: July 2, 2009
Entry: \$10.00
Contact: Horst Sawatzki
Phone: (306) 435-2551

Stitch 'N Quilt

Host: Mainline Chapter
Date: October 5-7, 2009
Location: Calling Lakes Centre
in Fort Qu'Appelle
Contact: Gladys Oleksyn
Phone: (306) 332-6179

Kaiser

October 8, 2009
Unity New Horizons Hall, Unity
Entry: \$20
Registration begins 9:00 a.m.
Cards begin at 10:00 a.m.
Contact: Jim Sego
Phone: (306) 228-3981

Bridge

Host: Saskatoon Chapter
Please join us for the Annual
Bridge Tournament.
Date: October 23-24, 2009
Friday at 7:00 p.m. – singles
Saturday at 9:00 a.m – pairs,
1:00 p.m. – teams
Entry: \$40.00 for all 3 sessions
(Includes snacks Friday evening,
continental breakfast and lunch

Saturday, prizes and cards.)

Where: Grace Westminister United
Church, 505 10th St E, Saskatoon
Open to all Superannuated
Teachers, current teachers and
non-teacher guest partner. One
member of partnership must be a
Superannuate or teacher.
Contact: Maureen Scott
Phone: (306) 373-0408

Curling

Host: South Central Chapter
Location: Assiniboia Curling Club
Date: November 2-4, 2009
Entry: \$160.00
Presently at 14 of 16 teams
(there will be a waiting list)
Accommodation – Franklin Motel
Contact: Maurice Koszman
Phone: (306) 268-2867

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.

Superannuated Teachers' Bridge Tournament

October 23-24, 2009

Grace Westminster Church, 505 10th Street East, Saskatoon

Format: Friday 7:00 p.m. Social with snacks and Bridge with random partners
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. Duplicate Bridge (1 member must be Superannuate or STF member)
1:00 p.m. Swiss Teams (2 members of team must be Superannuate or STF member)
Lunch will be provided.

Fee: \$40.00 per person (includes all meals, cards, prizes)

Contact: Maureen Scott (306) 373-0408, moscott@shaw.ca, 538 Delaronde Rd S7J4A8

Entry Form (call, e-mail or mail to above address):

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Final date for entries: October 16, 2009

Registration Quilt Retreat 2009

October 5, 6, 7, 2009

Calling Lakes Center, Fort Qu'Appelle, SK (3 kms. from town along Echo Lake)

Deadline for Registration September 7, 2009

Please complete all fields. Please print.

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Registration Fee:

2 days: \$175.00 (includes 6 meals, all coffee breaks, instruction and use of facility)

1 day: \$100.00 (includes 3 meals, coffee breaks, instruction and use of facility)

Workshops:

Monday 1-4 p.m., Tues. 9-12 p.m.

1st Choice: _____ 2nd Choice: _____

Tuesday 1-4 p.m., Wed. 9-12 p.m.

1st Choice: _____ 2nd Choice: _____

Accommodations: At Calling Lakes Center. Mostly two single beds per room.

\$25.50 per person per night, double occupancy ___ nights @ 25.50 = _____

\$42.50 per person per night, single occupancy ___ nights @ 42.50 = _____

Supply list will be mailed or e-mailed to all participants upon receipt of registration fee.

Include room fee with registration fee. Retreat Committee is booking rooms.

Are you a retired teacher? Yes No

Registration:

Please submit your registration and full payment by September 7, 2009

Mail to Gladys Oleksyn, Box 2621, Fort Qu'Appelle, SK S0G 1S0

Make cheques payable to Mainline Chapter STS

Cancellation Fee: \$50.00 non-refundable on cancellations after October 1, 2009

Congratulations

*Marjorie E.I. Ingram
will be celebrating her
90th birthday on
October 15, 2009.*

*The celebration for this
special day will take place at
the Quill Lake Community
Centre on August 9.*

*Evelyn Switzer
will be celebrating her
109th birthday
on November 2, 2009.*

Roche Percee Former Teachers

If you have taught in
Roche Percee, SK
come and help celebrate its
100 years as a village
on July 17, 18 and 19, 2009.

For more information,
send your name and address to:
Roche Percee Centennial Committee
Box 1034, Estevan, SK S4A 2H7
or email m.boyer@sasktel.net

It will be wonderful to see you there.

Bowling Results

The Prince Albert Chapter and the Host Committee would like to thank all who participated in the Provincial Bowling Tournament that was held in Prince Albert April 30 – May 1, 2009.

Results:



First Place: Home Team – SASKA-TOONS (Saskatoon) – Flora Henderson Trophy Winners
Back: left to right – Tom Brophy, Rick Murza
Front: left to right – Rose Yaworski, Cecile Martell, Stella Shulhan

Second Place Home Team

The Eliminators (Saskatoon)

Bob Chaben
Dennis Kittelson
Jane Isinger
Peter Rolston
Les Szabo



First Place: Travelling Team #10 – Winners of STS Saskatoon Chapter Plaque
Left to right Sylvia Mardell, Ken Mathers, Madeline Schmitz, Orest Machushek, Rose Yaworski

Second Place Travelling Team #1

Silver Medalists

Nancy Heron
Ed Machushek
Walter Palidwar
Ann Simpson-Elmer
Jim Slough

Winner of Ladies' High Single

Cecile Martell (Saskatoon)

Winner of Men's High Single and High Triple – Rick Murza (Saskatoon)

Winner of Ladies' High Average

Bev Stewart (Prince Albert)

STS Resolutions 2009

Robert Wuschenny

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. **Carried**

Resolution Two

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

Refer to Executive

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. **Refer to Executive**

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.

Refer to Executive

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.

Refer to Executive

Resolution Six

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS continue to work with the STF to obtain 100% indexing for Teacher pensions. **Refer to Executive**

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.

Amendment: Remove 80% **Carried**
Resolution **Carried** as amended.

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. **Defeated**

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. **Carried**

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. **Defeated**

Resolution Eleven

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Executive of the STS lobby the STF to give superannuated teachers a high priority during provincial bargaining. **Defeated**

Resolution Twelve

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS urge its health benefit insurance carrier, Saskatchewan Blue Cross, to add the cost of a flu shot to the list of services covered under the plan. **Defeated**

Resolution Thirteen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan request the government of Saskatchewan and the government of Canada to call for public

consultation on proposed nuclear power generation by Bruce Power and/or other nuclear development corporations anywhere in Western Canada. **Carried**

Resolution Fourteen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Policy 4 be amended to provide that an Honorary Life Member, who attends the AGM as a non-delegate, be granted the same breakfast and lunch privileges as a delegate. Payment would be required for these meals for a spouse or guest of the HLM. **Carried**

Resolution Fifteen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS annual fee for 2009-2010 be \$30.00 per person. **Carried**

Resolution Sixteen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the annual rebate to Chapters for 2009-2010 be \$8.00 per person. **Carried**

Resolutions Directed to ACER-CART

Resolution Seventeen

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. **Defeated**

Resolution Eighteen

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. **Carried**

Resolution Nineteen

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. **Carried**

Late Resolution One

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS increase the provincial recreation events grant to \$250.00 per activity.

Carried

Victoria Chapter
invites you to attend
our meetings should
you venture our way!

Dates are:

September 17, 2009

February 18, 2010

May 20, 2010

September 17, 2010

December 9, 2010

For details contact:

Elda Coulter – (250) 727-0070

Warren Rongve – (250) 754-3859

or Val Young – (250) 391-0661

Benefits –

Siegrid Schergel

The members of the Benefit Committee for 2008-09 are Calvin Bachmeier, Doug Haroldson, Shirley Henderson, Fred Herron, Maxine Stinka, Robert Wuschenny, Jim Segó (ex-officio) and Siegrid Schergel, Chair. As in past years, Bob Wilhelms, Saskatchewan Blue Cross Employee Benefit Specialist, continued to attend Committee meetings to assist the Committee with information about our plan.

The duties of the Committee are outlined in Guideline 1 of the STS Policy Handbook and primarily, the Committee has responsibility for overseeing the STS Group Benefits Program and regularly reviewing its finances. At each Committee meet-

ing we review and monitor the Extended Health and Dental Program claims experience, receive an updated membership report and consider specific problem claims and/or appeals. The Committee also reports regularly to the Executive and via *Outreach*, to the membership.

Since January 1, 2000, STS has had contracts for an Extended Health, Travel and Dental Plan with Saskatchewan Blue Cross and our experience and relationship with them has been very good. On February 1, 2009, we entered into a new three-year agreement. A new fee structure was implemented at that time and will remain in place for the duration of the contract. This represents the first increase in premiums since 2003. The new contract includes some changes to the financial agreement and some changes to the benefits. For a detailed outline of the Extended Health, Travel and Dental Plan coverage or the current schedule of premiums please contact the STS Office.

The Extended Health and Dental Plans continue to operate on a sound financial footing. At our last Committee meeting we received the Financial Accounting schedule for the period February 1, 2008 to January 31, 2009. There was a modest surplus for the year and as in past years this surplus stays with the plan and is invested very conservatively.

Membership in our Benefit Plan continues to grow. As of March 2009, there were 3366 participants in the Dental plan and 3620 in the Extended Health plan for a total membership of 4199. (Note: individuals may be participants in either Dental or Health or both.)

In conclusion, I would like to thank everyone for their continued commitment to the smooth administration and success of our Extended Health, Travel and Dental Plan. It is an important feature of our organization and the 2009-10 Benefit Committee will continue to oversee and review it on your behalf.

Budget, Finance and Audit

– Margaret Martin

The Budget, Finance and Audit Committee, Margaret Martin (Chair), Michael Gorkoff, Doug Haroldson, Mike Kaminski, Siegrid Schergel, Jim Segó (Ex-Officio), Maxine Stinka, with Support Staff, Fred Herron and Colleen Bailey, continued to scrutinize the STS Financial Reports for the Operating Fund, the Contingency Fund, and the Extended Health Fund. In September, 2008, we met with Albert Johnson, Lead Client Service Partner, Deloitte and Touche, to give us an overview of the audited Financial Statements dated June 30, 2008, and review the responsibilities of the auditors. He reported that we had a clean audit.

We met in March, 2009, with Curt Wagner, Audit Senior Manager, Deloitte and Touche, to review the Audit Service Plan for the year ending June 30, 2009. On both occasions the Committee had opportunities to ask questions of the auditors. Our fiduciary responsibility to our members is of great importance to each of us.

The Committee updated the Operations Continuity and Disaster Recovery Plan for approval by the Executive on January 16, 2009. This document provides for a plan for the operations continuity of our organization in the event of a disaster that necessitates the closure or relocation of the STS office.

We have provided input and scrutiny for the budget planning for the Proposed Budget July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. In doing so we also looked at the Lease Agreement with the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation for July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2012. This lease agreement will increase significantly the amount spent in the Office Operation line of the 2009-10 Budget and the budget years to follow.

Fred Herron has also provided regular updates to our Committee and the Executive regarding the present economic situation and its impact on our financial situation.

Councillor's Report – Margaret Martin

On April 22-25, 2009 Calvin Bachmeier, Shirley Dyck, Mike Gorkoff, Michael Kaminski, Margaret Martin, Siegrid Schergel, Jim Sego, and Peter Wiebe attended the 76th Annual Council of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation in Saskatoon. We participated in the large and small group sessions dealing with the 58 Resolutions and 16 Notices of Motion. We also listened to addresses from Ken Krawetz, Minister of Education, Roy Challis, President of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association, John Kuzbik, Past President of LEADS, and Emily Noble, President of the Canadian Teachers' Federation. We were provided with additional information about the Saskatchewan Teachers Retirement Plan and the Advocacy efforts of the STF.

At the Dinner on Friday evening, April 24, 2009, Lyle Vinish and Norm Stonehouse were honored as the 2009 recipients of the Arbos Awards.

Dianne Woloschuk was re-elected as STF President for her third term, and Steven Allen was elected as STF Vice-President.

McDowell Foundation – Maxine Stinka

Since my last report in *Outreach*, Board Dynamics was contracted to do an independent review of the governance, administration and growth of the Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research into Teaching. Their report was presented to the Board at its May meeting and after a lengthy, thought provoking, and extensive discussion, the Board decided to establish a subcommittee to make recommendations to the Board about future directions based on an intensive analysis of the report.

Results of the two new ventures undertaken this past year were

presented to the Board. David Friesen reported on the commissioned research regarding assessment in Saskatchewan schools and provided the Board with the final report – "Student Assessment for Teaching and Learning: Teacher Perceptions and Practices". This comprehensive report will provide a basis of discussion for a number of agencies involved in student assessment. The Board was provided with a report on the first year of the Interagency Family Literacy Research Project – "What Really Matters in Family Literacy? Research Findings – Year One". Additional funding has been provided for the next year of this project and the McDowell Foundation will continue to administer it. Both of these projects will need to be reviewed to determine whether similar activities should be undertaken in the future.

The Board approved a draft of the Annual Report for 2008-09 and examined the financial statement for the current year to date along with the proposed budget for 2009-10. Investments are now valued at their present market value and we all know what has been happening in the stock market over the last year. Consequently, the investment funds of the Foundation have seen a considerable decrease over the last year.

The annual call for research projects was issued in January, 2009, and the Project Review Committee met May 2 and awarded \$83,514 to the 2009-10 projects. The annual orientation session to support new researchers and assist them in becoming familiar with the ethical issues that may arise in the course of their research was held. The annual report writing workshop to assist researchers in writing their final report will be held at the end of May.

For more information on the McDowell Foundation and the research projects it has funded, refer to the website:
www.mcdowellfoundation.ca.

Outreach Committee Report – Margaret Martin

The *Outreach* Committee, Margaret Martin (Chair), Shirley Henderson (Editor), Shirley Dyck, Kate McCorriston, Jim Sego (Ex-Officio), Maxine Stinka, Robert Wuschenny, with Support Staff, Fred Herron and Colleen Bailey, has met four times this year in conjunction with each Executive meeting.

Our goals for 2008-09 were:

- to scrutinize the printing and distribution of each *Outreach* issue so that these tasks would be accomplished in a timely fashion,
- to continue to inform our members that *Outreach* is available to them on line or by paper copy,
- to continue to monitor the size of each issue, and
- to continue with the Spotlight on Superannuates page if space permits. Please continue to provide us with information about a superannuate in your Chapter that you would like to spotlight.

We also would like to update the chart showing the Provincial Recreation Activities of the STS for inclusion in a subsequent issue.

We have received many positive comments from our members about the *Outreach* publication as an important form of communication to them.

Retirement Lifestyles Planning Report – Shirley Dyck

The Retirement Lifestyles Planning Committee members are:

George Georget, STF liaison
Bert Gordon
Calvin Bachmeier
Elaine Broughton
Darlene Kidd
Dianne McLeod
Shirley Henderson
Doug Haroldson
Shirley Dyck, Chair

This year members of our Committee have made presentations at the following seven conventions:

- Chinook Teachers' Convention held in Swift Current on Oct. 14.
- Northwest Teachers' Convention held in Lashburn on Feb. 20.
- Prairie Valley Teachers' Convention held in the Delta, Regina on Feb. 19.
- Prince Albert Teachers' Association Convention held on March 16.
- Prairie South Teachers' Convention held in Moose Jaw on March 27.
- The Tri-West Teachers' Convention held in North Battleford Collegiate on May 4.
- The Holy Trinity Teachers' Convention held in Vanier Collegiate in Moose Jaw on May 15.

As well as presenting at conventions Bert Gordon made a presentation to the Nipawin Chapter in March.

A sincere "Thank You" to the presenters for doing such a great job at these Conventions. The evaluations we received from teachers told us how much we were appreciated. Also a very sincere "Thank You" to all who participated and assisted in making this another successful year for Retirement Lifestyle Planning.

Archives Report – Siegrid Schergel

This past year the Archives Committee members were Jim Slough, Jim Segó (ex-officio) and Siegrid Schergel, Chair.

The committee has not been very active this year; it has mainly been in a maintenance mode continuing the template established by past committees. Thanks to their efforts the archives have been purged, catalogued and listed on the STS Archives Inventory Database. Following this AGM, the Honorary Life Membership Registry and the

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:

Saskatoon Health Region: 1-866-543-6767

Regina-Qu'Appelle Health Region: 1-866-622-0222

Chapter Membership Growth Award Registry will be updated.

Jim Slough distributed copies of the DVD he produced for the 2008 AGM to Chapter Presidents at the Presidents' Meeting in November. The DVD has pictures of all the Honorary Life Members of STS and all our past presidents.

If you are looking for historical information or information about past recreational activities, please contact the office.

Support Services Committee Report –

Calvin Bachmeier

At our first meeting we worked on our guidelines for Chapter Support. Our goal was to make the program user friendly. Chapters should feel free to phone or e-mail the office or contact their Chapter liaison if planning an event and need financial assistance. As a committee we are hoping to support Chapter by allowing them to have better Chapter meetings and events. We are encouraging Chapter to plan joint ventures and increase their level of resources. A presentation was made at the Presidents' Meeting to increase awareness and understanding at the Chapter level.

This year significant changes have been made to the Personal Support portion of our STS website. The first major change was the installation of a search engine. This is very

common on websites and adds to an already user friendly format. You can type in a key word and the website will give a listing of sites you might go to for information which might be helpful to you.

The website now has a counter. The counter not only records "hits", but the length of time spent on various sites and where the user goes on the website. This information can be used by our webmaster to add or delete items. This website is considered a "work in progress" project as it requires changes and updates as the needs of our membership change.

The last significant change is the addition of several general interest topics. Members are not always looking for help when they come to this site, but they may be looking for ways to enhance their lifestyle. It is hoped teachers will find these additional sites helpful.

As users of the site we owe much to our webmaster Dalton Tamney. He not only provides new ideas, but makes them happen on the website. The enthusiasm he shows for his work provides us with inspiration to find new and innovative ways to better serve our membership.

I would, on behalf of all superannuated teachers, like to thank Elaine Broughton, Wally Derkach, Doug Glazer, Fred Herron, Al Schell and Jim Segó for their contributions to the success of this committee.

Spotlight on Members

Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan



STS Presidents 1973-1988



Avery McDowell
Regina
1973-74, 1974-75



Stan Fowler
Saskatoon
1975-76



Margery Steinsvol
Prince Albert
1976-77



Bill Cook
Estevan
1977-78



Reta Freethy
Regina
1978-79



Stewart Thompson
Yorkton
1979-80



Jeanne Morgan
Prince Albert
1980-81



Eric Fielding
Battleford
1981-82



Nick Froh
Regina
1982-83



Frank Mudry
Swift Current
1983-84



Anna Ewanchuk
Moose Jaw
1984-85



P.J. Wlasichuk
Kamsack
1985-86



Harry Costello
Saskatoon
1986-87



Flora Henderson
Saskatoon
1987-88

**Thank you to
Bert Gordon
for compiling
this group of
Presidents.**

From The Editor's Desk

Another closing of a successful AGM has just taken place. A huge bouquet and thank you to the co-chairs Shirley Dyck and Doug Haroldson and to Colleen Bailey, Heather Hase and Fred Herron who work behind the scenes to keep things moving along smoothly.

Congratulations to all who let their names stand to run for a position on the Executive. An election always shows a healthy active group.

Another closing of a busy STS year is soon to occur. As has been previously reported the Executive have been keeping a close eye on the STS workings.

By the time you read this I hope that spring and summer have arrived in your area. As I sit and write this the snow threatens to fall again.

Have a safe summer and talk to you in September.

Shirley

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 Executive 2008-09

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 McCorrison	Nipawin Chapter	
James Slough	Regina Chapter	
Maxine Stinka	Assiniboine Chapter	
Robert Wuschenny	Yorkton Chapter	
ACER-CART		
Fred Herron	Saskatoon Chapter	



OUTREACH

To The Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan

To control costs, one copy is sent to households where both spouses are members. If this is not satisfactory, please contact the STS office in Saskatoon.

The Outreach is available online. Please e-mail the STS Office if you wish to receive notification when it is posted on the website instead of receiving a hard copy.

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