

OUTREACH



To The Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan

President Horst's Notebook -- September 2005 -- Executive Meeting

Horst Sawatzki

President Horst's Notebook – September 2005 -- Executive Meeting

'To H-ll with Bells' and 'Fore' were the key points for many new chapter meetings in September. Our September Executive meeting started with an "Honouring the Past – Envisioning the Future" workshop. The translation being: Who are we? What do we stand for? How are we doing? What needs to be improved upon to meet the future needs of STS?

Your Executive met on September 20-21, 2005 tackling *The Appreciative Inquiry Process* and not skipping over the sub-topics: *Discovery, Dream, Design, and Destiny*. All Greek to you? Wait for further clarification as we continue our studies through 2005-2006. It is our hope that each one of you will help us create the ideal organization that we believe in and help sustain what we have created.

We thank SPDU for the very informative documentation. We also offer a special thanks to Margaret Pillay, facilitator, for making the in-service interesting, challenging and productive.

Now ladies and gentlemen, let's focus on STS business – September 22-23, 2005

I am sure the new kids on the block, Maxine and Peter, were overwhelmed by the number of comprehensive reports the Executive, as a whole, reviews and eventually

passes. Summary committee reports are presented in each edition of OUTREACH for your attention. I will not steal any thunder from the committees chairs – so seek out these reports.

A main focus for 2005-06 will be *communication* with each other. Our targets will include:

- Continued or new [first] chapter liaison
- Established *e-mail lists* between chapters and STS office [chapter presidents, secretaries as first responders] – check out that August - September Office Memorandum – get that e-mail in today

- Joint meeting with chapter president and the Provincial executive – now we've got your attention

You and I and the Executive have a responsibility to see that STS's past, present, and future are forged by our 'Dreams' as one.

The following quote was one of nine that was attached to a collective list of STS strengths. I think it merits some attention as we look ahead to our organization's growth beyond 2005-06.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." – Margaret Mead

TSC Report -Sept/05

Fred Herron

At the 2005 AGM I reported that the Teachers' Superannuation Commission has been examining various alternatives for the administration of the Teachers' Superannuation Plan, the Teachers' Group Life Insurance Plan and the Teachers' Dental Plan. Those alternatives include leaving the administration with the Teachers' Superannuation Commission, transferring the administration to the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, outsourcing those services to a private administration firm and transferring the administration to the Public Employee Benefits Administration.

Since the AGM the Teachers' Superannuation Commission has completed its examination and analysis and submitted a report to the Department of Learning. The Department will consider the report and forward its recommendation to the provincial cabinet.

The STS Executive continues to monitor this examination report very carefully on behalf of superannuated teachers. We continue to be consulted regarding this process and hope that the choice made for the future administration of the plans will be one that can be supported by STS.

2005 ACER-CART AGM Report

Fred Herron

The 14th Annual General Meeting of The Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (ACER-CART) was held in Ottawa on June 3-4, 2005, with representatives from all thirteen provincial retired teachers' organizations in attendance.

The 2005 AGM was one of the most productive meetings of ACER-CART. Comprehensive reports were provided by the President, Val Alcock from Ontario, now living in British Columbia; the Communications Committee, chaired by Pat Steele from Quebec; the Health Committee, chaired by George Little from Nova Scotia and the Pension and Retirement Income Committee by Pat Brady from British Columbia.

Among the resolutions passed at the 2005 AGM were the following:

Motions:

1. THAT Val Alcock be ACER-CART's official representative to the Congress of National Seniors Organization (CSNO). This organization is an umbrella organization made up of the largest seniors' organizations in Canada. It is another voice to forward issues to the Federal Government.
2. THAT a more systematic process by ACER-CART be followed that would aid in keeping website information current; and, to this end, THAT a person be designated in each member association (Director, webmaster, or other) to inform ACER - CART of any changes in names and addresses of the organization, the President, the ACER- CART Director, etc.
3. THAT ACER-CART strongly urge the Government of Canada

to establish a National Prescription Drug Agency under the *Health Care Act* to:

- (a) control costs, evaluate new and existing drugs, ensure quality, safety and cost effectiveness of all prescription drugs;
 - (b) encourage the provinces and territories to adopt the national formulary of prescription drugs;
 - (c) review the Canada patent law as related to prescription drugs; and
 - (d) use the Catastrophic Drug Transfer to offset the cost of provincial and territorial drug plans to reduce disparities in coverage across Canada.
4. THAT ACER-CART recommend to the Government of Canada that increased funding be provided for direct compensation for care givers and for adjustments to CPP and EI to relieve the pressure on personnel who must discon-

tinue regular jobs to care for sick family members.

5. THAT "Household Income Splitting" for tax purposes be implemented immediately.
6. THAT minimum withdrawal rates from RRIF's be lowered.
7. THAT the age at which RRSPs must be annuitized or converted to a Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF) be raised to age 73 by January 1, 2006.

The 2005-2006 Executive will include Pat Brady, British Columbia, President; Helen Biales, Ontario, Vice-President and Regional Director for Central Canada; Vaughn Wadelius, Manitoba, Regional Director for Western Canada and Fred Ripley, Prince Edward Island, Regional Director for Atlantic Canada.

The reports submitted by member organizations of ACER-CART are available on request by any STS member by contacting the STS office.

Honorary Life Memberships

Darlene McCullough

Attention : Chapter Presidents

Nominations for Honorary Life Memberships must be submitted to the STF office by **Feb. 14, 2006**. 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 Feb. 14 deadline.

Councillors' Report

Shirley Dyck

A Councillor Conference and Special Meeting of Council planned for October 14 and 15, will be held in the Saskatoon Inn. The format in the fall conference is intended to provide an opportunity for councillors to focus on some of the large policy issues during the conference part of the program. Council will move into a formally constituted Special Meeting on the second day to make decisions on policy questions and to deal with any resolutions from members.

The STS Councillors this year are: Doreen Lloyd, Horst Sawatzki, Wally Derkach, Shirley Dyck, Mike Kaminski, Margaret Martin, Jim Segel and Siegrid Shergel.

Benefits Report

Bert Gordon

Membership in the Benefit Plans continues to increase. As of September 15, 2005, there are 2405 participants in the Dental Plan, (up from 2256 on July 1) and 2496 in the EHC (up from 2313). 3071 members are participants in one or both of the plans. These figures include 5 retired STF staff members. The open window for June retirees is now closed, but applications can still be submitted. However, a medical form must be completed and approved by Blue Cross. APPLY NOW. Don't wait until you need the insurance. That will be too late.

New retirees are reminded that the drug cards issued by the STF are no longer valid under the STS Plan. All payments must be made up front and the receipts submitted to Blue Cross. For the new contract we are looking at a drug reimbursement plan which may allow claims to be sent in electronically from the pharmacy at the time of purchase.

Any change to, or cancellation of, coverage must be received in writing by the STS office by the 15th of the preceding month. NOTE: If you have a dependent who is over 21 and who is a full time student, you must contact the STS office in writing (letter or email) to have family coverage continued. You must include the name of the student, higher age and the name of the school being attended. Coverage is automatically stopped at the end of the school year and must be reinstated each year.

The Claims Ratio (ratio of paid claims to revenue) over the last 12 months of the current contract is 80.6 % and our surplus is growing, slowly but steadily. Information is being gathered in preparation for the negotiation of a new contract. Some of the topics being studied are: Sleep Apnea equipment, vision care options and costs, coverage limits, Refraction Exam Post Surgery, dental implants, and dental coverage limits. If you have further items that you feel should be considered, please contact the office.

FYI

1. Prescription drugs are still our biggest cost, at about 75% of the total.

2. Use of massage therapy is growing steadily.
3. The Saskatchewan Health Travel Policy states that if you travel for pleasure outside of the country for more than 90 days, you must inform Sask. Health at the time of leaving and upon your return. You can travel for up to one year, but then you must remain in the province for 6 months before Saskatchewan Health Coverage begins again. Special conditions apply when traveling for work or study.
4. The negotiation team for the new contract will consist of Past President, Doreen Lloyd, President Horst Sawatzki, Vice President Siegrid Shergel, Executive Secretary Fred Herron, and Committee Chairperson Bert Gordon.

CORRECTION:

We had indicated that Electronic Dental Payment is available in every province except Alberta. Unfortunately this method of payment is available only in Saskatchewan. To implement it in other provinces would necessitate having new cards and a new system. This would be very complicated and expensive. Sorry for the confusion.

Retirement Lifestyle Planning

Bert Gordon

A joint STS - STF Lifestyle Planning Seminar is being planned for this fall in Saskatoon at the STF Building on Saturday October 29. The Planning Committee will meet on Friday October 28 in conjunction with the seminars.

Shirley Dyck conducted a session at the Swift Current Convention on October 11/05.

The annual CAPP Conference was held in Saskatoon September 28 - October 1, 2005

Support Services

Ernie Epp

The March 16, 2005 meeting of this committee proposed that the Ad Hoc Support Services Committee be changed to a standing committee of the STS. A resolution denoting this was passed at the AGM along with a course of action that includes the following:

- oversee the proposed Short Term Action Plan (as per Ad Hoc Comm. Report March 2005)
- provide background information
- establish steps and procedures to implement the Short Term Action Plan.

The Support Services Committee has asked that Fred Herron communicate with Dalton Tamney re: implementing stages and steps of the Short Term Plan. STS has budgeted for this and if Dalton is prepared to do this, the Saskatoon members of this committee will serve as a reference group as this implementation stage progresses. Doug Glaser (STF Counsellor) has also been invited to continue to assist this committee in this implementation. The first step appears to take a thorough look at the Website and how it can best be developed and used for purposes of Support Services. Further planning for implementation will follow after reviewing the reports of our completed Planning Days of the past two days.

Further information will be included in *OUTREACH* indicating development stages of Support Services, and how each Chapter might help in making such services available to its own membership. It is expected that each Chapter will appoint a Support Services liaison person who will then become the primary contact with our central office. Also, this liaison person might then be the key person to become familiar with the Support Service Website and

make the relevant application of services to members in his/her Chapter. Chapters will also be contacted as to existing Service needs for consideration by the Support Services Committee.

The primary goal of this committee for 2005-2006 is to implement the Short Term Action Plan of the March 2005 Ad Hoc Committee Report.

For Your Information:

- The **Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism's database** is presently on line at www.skseiorsmechanism.ca. Senior's Information Hotline phone number: 1-888-823-2211.
- **Saskatchewan Health Line** phone number: 1-877-800-0002 (24 hrs)

Spotlight on the Fraser Valley Chapter

From the poet-in-residence of the Fraser Valley Chapter, Thurlow J.A. Gowan

The Last Days of School
That's the end of Education!
That's the end of Tribulation!
How many times my arbitration
Has saved me in my consternation
Of Johnny,
My Pupil,
whom, it seems, was no one's fool;
But he was not adept in school.

How many times throughout the years
I gloried in his clever peers?
Now they have gone to other climes
While Johnny stays and mows our lawns.
My Johnny,
That Pupil.

That Johnny!
My Pupil,
Who never got an "A" in Math.,
And calmly Watched his teacher's wrath;
Would run an errand twenty miles,
Who filled our day with little smiles.

At midnight and much below
He starts my frozen pump to flow;
Or, if your house is burning down,
Johnny isn't out of town:
He's frozen stiff in his fireman's suit;
Has saved the kids and the dog to boot.

I often think, "Where would Premiers be,
Or presidents, or the Ph.D.,
If it were not for such as he?"
My Johnny!

That Pupil
Whom we figured, "Just a clown".
Or, is our thinking upside down?
Without him, I'd have
No Home Town! *****
My JOHNNY!

STS Activities Report

Ed Magis, Audry Blais, Calvin Bachmeier



Upcoming Events

Kaiser Tournament -

Held in Unity Oct. 1/05;
Host needed for 2006

Stitch and Quilt Retreat -

Held at Kenosee Lake, October 2 & 3, 2005; Host needed for 2006

Fishing -

No STS Fishing Derby in Saskatchewan in 2005;
BC Victoria Chapter planning to host in fall of 2006;

Wine Connoisseurs Soiree -

Organizational meeting this fall.
Call Ed Magis. Phone 783-3350

STS Bowling 2006 -

Esterhazy SK May 3-4, 2006;
Contact: Ken Johnson Box 1122
Esterhazy S0A 0X0 306-745-2081

Golf -

Weyburn June 7-8, 2006

Travel -

Polar Bear Churchill Tour - at least 7 members are travelling with Club See Tours in late fall 2005. (See Jan/ Feb Outreach for more details.

Tutor.Com

is recruiting online Math, Science, English, and Social Studies tutors. If interested, contact Maryelizabeth Gano Tutor.com 40 Fulton St. New York, NY 10038

STS Provincial Curling Bonspiel

November 17 & 18, 2005, Moosomin Curling Club

Team entry fee: \$150.00; Registration Deadline: October 14, 2005

Open To STS Members and Spouses; Limit 16 Rinks; Extra Banquet Tickets: \$11.00

Contact: Dan & Gerri Dayday at 435-3755 or Dave & Sharon Meyers at 435-3049

Note: Outlook will host this event in 2006.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Members:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Fees:

__X \$150.00 = ____ Fees payable to: Moosomin Chapter STS

Send entries to **Dan & Gerri Dayday, Box 992, Moosomin, SK S0G 3N0**

Accommodations:

Country Squire Inn 435-4228; Prairie Pride Motel 1-800-488-8689;
Moosomin Motel 435-3391

STS 2005 Golf Tournament June 8-9/05

HOST: Nipawin Chapter

92 golfers participated
AND THE WINNERS WERE:

Texas Scramble

Bob Price, Geraldine Dobson,
Mitch Marushecka, Murray Rigg;

Senior Men

George Holizki

Senior Women

Shirley Krone

WOMEN:

Flight # 1

Shirley Krone, Glenda Berard,
Bernice Makowsky

Flight # 2

Beryl Robinson, Marie Farnden,
Janie Kellett

Flight # 3

Mattie Peever, Rita Severson, Joan
Diemert

Flight # 4

Mildred Knight, Bev Keys, Joan
Therans

MEN:

Flight # 1

Ernie Cychmistruk, Greg
Brososky, George Holizki

Flight # 2

Wayne Welte, Germain Dauk,
Fred Herron

Flight # 3

Bob Pollock, Wayne Neudorf, Ron
Meyers

Flight # 4

Brian Peever, Al Makowski, Ralph
Senga

Flight # 5

Carson Robinson, Oliver Seba,
Ken Diemert

Flight # 6

Matt Chychrun, Burt Thiessen,
Hab Love

Nature Saskatchewan Spring Meet

Audry Blais

Hosted by the South West Naturalists from Swift Current June 10-12, 2005 in the Eastend area with 180 naturalists in attendance from 4 Canadian provinces, from England and the USA. Highlights included: field trips to a) Old Man on his Back Conservation Area, b) Chimney Coulee and c) the Pine Cree areas. A variety of bird sightings and flower and fauna were enjoyed by all.

The Annual Meeting and Banquet were held at the Eastend Hall. Two hundred attendees enjoyed the presentations of authors Sharon Butala, Trevor Herriot and Candace Savage.

Ingrid Ruud (Weiss)

would appreciate hearing from anyone who attended Grade 3 in Rosemont School in Regina 1958-59. Ingrid is searching for the wonderful teacher who taught her spelling that year. She recalls that the teacher looked like Marilyn Monroe, had long blonde hair and wore bright red lipstick. Please write Ingrid Ruud 64 Brouillette Bay Regina, SK S4R 6G1

Wakaw S.D. #48

invites all past and present employees and board members to a Farewell Celebration, Friday, November 4, 2005 at the Cudworth Community Hall. Advance tickets only: \$11.00 per person. Please RSVP by October 14, 2005 to Tara (306)233-4623, fax (306) 233-4649 or see web address: wakawfarewell_wsd@saskschools.ca.

Lanigan S.D. #40

invites all past and present employees and board members to a Farewell Celebration Friday, October 28, 2005 at the Lanigan Recreation Complex. Advance Tickets only: \$12.00. Please RSVP by October 7, 2005 to Cheryl at 365-2015 or e-mail: cheryl.klatt_lsd40@saskschool s.ca

Did you ever teach in Redvers?

If so, we'd like to include your family history in our community history book. For more information: call Helen at 452-3828 (fax 452-3827) or e-mail Rose at redvershistory-book@hotmail.com or send your history to Redvers and District History Book, Box 49, Redvers, SK S0C 2H0

In Memoriam

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

Name (Nee)	Date of Death	Last Taught
Anderson, Ernst	26 June /05	Lutheran College Bible Institute
Balfour, Iris (Slessor)	26 June /05	Regina SU #21
Balitski, Roselie	19 June /05	Moosomin SD #9
Beaton, Sam	23 Oct /03	Churchbridge
Bjork, Edith	29 June /05	Prince Albert SD #3
Bourk, Edith	01 June /05	
Blais, Mary (Ianni)	29 July /05	Lloydminster RCSD #89
Braaten, Penelope	07 May /05	Moose Jaw SD #1
Cameron, Mary	06 July /05	
Campbell, Elsie	03 May /05	Moose Jaw SD #1
Clarke, Greta	05 May /05	Wilkie SD #59
Conn, Helen (Black)	23 May /05	
Crooks, George	03 May /05	
Dhillon, Harbans	11 July /05	Estevan Rural SD #62
Eamer, Arlene	25 July /05	
Farnell, Edna	11 July /05	
Farquharson, Neil	09 May /05	
Fitzpatrick, Irene	18 April /05	
Godfrey, Violet	12 July /05	
Glum, Lois (Winter)	29 May /05	
Griffin, Mary	18 July /05	
Hanna, Phoebe	12 Dec /04	Prairie West SD #75
Hanson, Edna	30 June /05	
Helmer, Doreen	26 May /05	
Holtvogt, Katherine	01 July /05	
Hoiium, Odelite (Torgunrud)	08 June /05	
Holz, Isabel (Dunn)	29 May /05	
Hubick, Lorne	08 May /05	Deer Park SD #26
Huertaas, Elinor	24 July /05	Yorkdale SD #36
Island, Audrey	20 May /05	
Kolysker, Paul	17 June /05	
Kroeker, Elizabeth	26 April /05	
Kuzyk, Walter	24 Mar /05	Yorkton Public School
Kuzyk, William	13 June /05	Lloydminster SD #99
Labossiere, Roseline (Polard)	13 June /05	North Battleford RCSD #16
LaLonde, Sr. Therese	22 July /05	Spiritwood RCSSD #82
Letendre, Blanche (LeComte)	28 May /05	Lanigan SD #40
Lewis, Marilyn (Reisler)	24 Mar /05	Regina SD #4
Lindgren, Agnes	24 June /05	Lanigan SD #40
MacKay, Bernice (Blakley)	31 May /05	
Marciniuk, Dan	18 July /05	Blaine Lake SD #57
Martin, Melvin	10 July /05	Battleford SD #58
McCreary, Gladys	18 May /05	Saskatoon SD #13
Megaw, Joseph	13 July /05	Radville SD #67
Millar, Jane	12 June /05	
Molberg, Alphild (Claybo)	17 May /05	
Moen, Mina	19 May /05	
Olson, Elaine	13 July /05	Hudson Bay SD #52
Ottoson, Jenet	14 July /05	
Penner, Edna	01 June /05	
Plaxin, Reginald	25 July /05	Melfort SD #100
Prentice, Margaret	13 July /05	Prairie View SD #74
Quale, May	11 May /05	
Rafoss, Merrilyn (Dumaresq)	02 July /05	
Reitler, Mary	02 July /05	
Richford, Willis	06 May /05	
Scopick, Elizabeth	02 July /05	Wakaw SD #48
Scott, Norma	20 May /05	Biggar SD #50
Senko, Peter	12 June /05	Prince Albert Rural
Shirley, Clifford	12 May /05	Arcola SD #72
Shukin, Annette	22 July /05	Kamsack SD #35
Snook, Catherine	29 April /05	
Steif, Alma (Smith)	29 May /05	Long Lake SD #30
Stewart, Lloyd	16 April /05	Ridgedale SD
Stobbs, Helen (Newhouse)	27 Aug /05	Prince Albert Rural SD #56
Teece, Frederick	31 May /05	
Torell, Mary	19 June /05	Regina SD #4
Tradewell, Kenneth	26 June /05	Lloydminster SD #99
Vance, Jean (Detwiller)	04 June /05	
Varley, Vera	30 June /05	
Waite, Frederick	12 June /05	
Walter, Brian	09 May /05	Saskatoon SD #13
Watson, Alma (Reichert)	02 Feb /05	
Weir, Daniel	02 June /05	Outlook SD #32
Wensley, Glen	04 June /05	Saskatoon SD #13
Wilkie, Blanche	28 May /04	
Willems, Reuben	08 May /05	
Winniski, Jack	16 June /05	Melville Comp

Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation

Ernie Epp

The 2004-05 Annual Report of this Foundation has been submitted. The Foundation selects research in education projects and sponsors opportunities for teachers and others to learn about educational research. An annual Learning from Practice exchange of teacher knowledge and research showcases recently completed McDowell projects. Annual expenditures on research have increased from \$39,411 in 1994-95 to \$88,093 in 2004-05.

STS Executive 2005 - 2006

Past President/Councillor:	Doreen Lloyd, Prince Albert
President/Councillor:	Horst Sawatzki, Moosomin
Vice-President/Councillor:	Siegrid Schergel, Moose Jaw
Councillors:	Wally Derkach, Nipawin Shirley Dyck, Swift Current Mike Kaminski, Assiniboine Margaret Martin, Saskatoon Jim Segó, Unity
Members-at-Large	Calvin Bachmeier, Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Audry Blais, Battleford Ernie Epp, Saskatoon Ed Magis, Yorkton Darlene McCullough, Tisdale Maxine Stinka, Assiniboine Peter Wiebe, Regina
ACER-CART	Fred Herron, Saskatoon

2006 Annual General Meeting

Shirley Dyck/Darlene McCullough

The 2006 Annual General Meeting will be held in the TRAVELODGE HOTEL in SASKATOON on Tuesday, MAY 9 - Thursday, May 11.

We are planning a great AGM.

We received very positive feedback from the delegates that attended the 2005 AGM. The 180 evaluations we received stated that this was the best ever AGM. The Planning Committee members wish to thank the delegates for the thought and effort put into completing the Evaluation Form. At our first meeting on September 22 the Planning Committee spent a great deal of time reviewing your remarks and considering your comments. We would also like to report that the expenditure of the 2005 AGM came in near budget.

OUTREACH

To The Superannuated Teachers
of Saskatchewan

The newsletter of the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan, is published five times a year.

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.

Phone: 373-3879 • Fax: 374-1122
E-mail: sts@stf.sk.ca
2317 Arlington Ave.
Saskatoon, SK S7J 2H8
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