

OUTREACH



To The Superannuated Teachers
of Saskatchewan

President's Report

Siegrid Schergel

Welcome to another year of both local and provincial STS activities. Welcome particularly to our new members and I invite you to become active in your local Chapter. While no two of our Chapters are the same—some are very large, some very small; some meet monthly, some only two or three times a year—they all provide the opportunity to meet friends, enjoy a meal, learn something new. I also invite you to take part in our provincial recreational activities; upcoming events are outlined later in this issue.

Executive Highlights

Following the Committee meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 25 and 26, the Executive met on Thursday, September 27 for the first meeting of 2007-08. Reports of the committee discussions and decisions taken by the Executive are outlined elsewhere in this issue but I would like to highlight a number of points:

- The Budget, Finance and Audit Committee met with the auditors from Deloitte and received the audited financial statements for the period ending June 30, 2007. No problems or concerns were noted with the audit. Copies will be forwarded to Chapter Presidents.

- The Executive appointed the Resolutions Committee to study Bylaw 3 – Elections, Terms of Office and Vacancies, as per the resolution passed at the 2007 AGM and to report to the Executive by December 31.
- The agenda for the Presidents' Meeting on Friday, November 16, 2007 was set. The Presidents will be asked for input on the review of Bylaw 3. They will also be asked to share successful program topics.
- Information was presented on Showcase 2008 to be held in Saskatoon and Regina in February 2008. Superannuated teachers can register with Susan Bates for \$40 for one day or \$75 for two. The STS Retirement Lifestyles Planning Committee will present workshops at both sites.

- Fred Herron reported on the ACER-CART AGM and a number of resolutions from the STS 2007 AGM were passed.

President's Visits

Thank you to all the Chapters who have invited me to come to their Chapters to talk about the STS. I thoroughly enjoy these visits and since the Fall colors have been so glorious this year I've also enjoyed the drive. The mixture of dark green conifers and bright golden, orange and red leaves has been spectacular! In the coming weeks I will be traveling to Swift Current, Tisdale, Prince Albert, Melfort, and Assiniboine Chapter. I look forward to meeting with you all.

Attention Chapter Presidents

Nominations for Honorary Life Memberships must be submitted to the STS office by Feb. 14, 2008. If you have worthy candidates for these awards, ensure that the nominations are submitted well before that deadline. Please check the Policy Handbook pages 38 and 39 for the required information and for the correct format of the nomination. If you have any questions or you require additional information please contact Darlene McCullough at (306) 873-2030 or email at darlene.mccullough@sasktel.net.

Highlights of Executive Meeting

AGM

The 2008 Annual General Meeting will be held in the Travelodge Hotel in Saskatoon on Tuesday, May 13 – Thursday, May 15. We received very positive feedback from the 163 evaluations completed by delegates attending the 2007 AGM. The Planning Committee wish to thank the delegates for filling out the evaluations. At our first meeting on September 26, we spent a great deal of time reviewing your remarks and considering your comments. We are in the process of planning another GREAT AGM.

Group Benefits

For faster reimbursement of Group Benefits claims a member may wish to have the reimbursement electronically deposited directly into their bank account. A paper statement will follow as usual. Contact Saskatchewan Blue Cross for details 1-800-667-6853.

For any major expense one should have a predetermination done first.

If a member is faced with major dental procedures consider asking other dentists for comparison costs.

With the holiday and snowbird season approaching keep in mind the 3 month preexisting condition(s) before you travel. A member has 65 days per trip. If you purchase extended travel coverage the preexisting conditions change.

Budget, Finance and Audit

The audited statement for the year 2006-2007 was approved and will be forwarded to all Chapter Presidents.

Special Meeting of STS Chapter Presidents – November 16, 2007

The Executive at its September Meeting designated the Resolutions Committee to review Bylaw #3 as the AGM directed at its May meeting.

Please review the Bylaw with your members and your Executive and come to the Presidents' Meeting prepared to inform the Resolutions Committee of your members' feelings about possible changes.

The Traveling Diabetes Program

The Traveling Diabetes Resource Program for Saskatchewan is looking for capable volunteers to assist in delivering diabetes awareness, prevention, and management presentations throughout the province. Training is provided.

Contact: Tracey Briggs, 917A Albert Street, Regina, S4R 2P6, (306) 584-8445 ext 227 or email tracey.briggs@diabetes.ca

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

Retirement Lifestyles

The Retirement Lifestyles Planning Committee consisting of Shirley Dyck (chair), Shirley Henderson, Bert Gordon, Calvin Bachmeier, Elaine Broughton, Darlene Kidd, Dianne McLeod and George Georget as the STF liaison met for a planning session in regards to the eight presentations at Showcase in Saskatoon February 21 and 22 and in Regina February 26 and 28, 2008.

SHOWCASE 2008

For regular updates and information regarding SHOWCASE 2008, please go to the STF website... www.stf.sk.ca and go to the SHOWCASE 2008 link.



If you are interested in attending, please note the following...

(1) DATES & LOCATIONS...

February 21 & 22 in Saskatoon (several downtown venues and Prairieland Building on Exhibition grounds)

February 25 & 26 in Regina (several downtown locations and Conexus Arts Centre).

February 28 & 29 in Regina (several downtown locations and Conexus Arts Centre)

(2) There are 5 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS and there will be about 70 break-out sessions offered in Saskatoon and about 45 break-out sessions offered in Regina.

Each day, there will be 2 time slots... 9:30 am - 11:30 am & 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm.

There are a few exceptions to this. Those exceptions will be

clearly noted in the program which will likely be available on line in November/December sometime.

There will be a FOR-PROFIT and a NOT-FOR PROFIT TRADESHOW.

No programs/events will be offered in the evenings.

People are on their own for all meals.

(3) If you wish to attend SHOWCASE 2008...

FEE: 1 day - \$40
2 days - \$75

TO REGISTER: Please forward a cheque for the appropriate amount, made out to SHOWCASE 2008, to: Susan Bates, Provincial Coordinator, SHOWCASE 2008, 2317 Arlington Avenue, Saskatoon, SK., S7J 2H8
1-800-667-7762
(306) 373-1660
batess@stf.sk.ca
FAX: (306) 374-1122

Please ensure that on the cheque or attached to the cheque you write the date(s) on which you want to attend.

(4) If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact us at any time.

Susan Bates,
Provincial Coordinator
SHOWCASE 2008

Support Services

We reviewed the minutes of our last meeting and a discussion followed regarding the compiling of a brochure incorporating a clearing-house of program ideas. Chapter response was poor. It was decided that this proposal should be raised at this year's Presidents' Meeting.

Fred Herron indicated that Dalton Tamney talked to him about refreshing the website. Material would be reviewed on an as needed basis. He

referred to it as giving the website a "paint job".

When discussing future goals of the committee it was apparent that the committee should become more operational and less structural. We no longer see the need for having a business meeting; we need to put some things into practice. One half day meeting would facilitate designing workshops, updating the website, providing support to chapters, etc. Therefore, we recommend that the first operational meeting take place in November prior to the Executive meeting.

We see this as a way to fulfill the long term goals proposed in the AdHoc committee report.

At the Executive Meeting it was recommended that the STS establish a grant program to support professional growth or personal development activities related to the Support Services Program and consistent with the aims of STS.

An annual grant of up to \$400 be made available from the Support Services Budget line to any Chapter that requires financial assistance to participate in a professional growth or personal development activity.

ACER-CART Report

The 16th Annual General Meeting of ACER-CART (Association Canadienne Des Enseignantes Et Des Enseignants Retraites - Canadian Association of Retired Teachers) was held in Ottawa on June 1 and 2, 2007. ACER-CART is made up of the thirteen (now fourteen with the addition of the Yukon Retired Teachers Alumni) provincial and territorial retired teacher organizations in Canada.

Reports tabled at the AGM outlined the progress made during the 2006-2007 year by ACER-CART in supporting the establishment of the National Seniors' Council (an organization dedicated to the betterment of the lives of seniors in Canada) in

representing ACER-CART before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance and in supporting the cause of pension splitting for retirees.

When preparing their 2007 tax return, seniors will be eligible to transfer retirement income from one spouse to another on their tax form. This will allow for the equalization of income and perhaps a reduction in Income Tax.

The 2007 AGM made a number of decisions including the following:

1. Increased the fees from 20 cents to 25 cents per member.
2. Increased by one the number of official regions represented on the ACER-CART Executive (Ontario and Quebec will become separate regions).
3. Established 2007-2008 priorities related to elder abuse, cost of prescription drugs and escalating property taxes.

The following resolutions from the 2007 STS AGM were also passed:

1. That ACER-CART lobby the Government of Canada to restore funding for literacy.
2. That ACER-CART lobby the Government of Canada to restore funding for the Status of Women.
3. That ACER-CART lobby the Canadian Teachers' Federation to urge all provincial Departments of Learning/ Education to require the study of History, especially Canadian History, in all Canadian High Schools.

The new Executive for 2007-2008 includes President Helen Biales from Ontario; Past President Pat Brady from British Columbia; Regional Representatives Vaughn Wadelius from Manitoba and Tim Gaskell from Nova Scotia. Regional Representatives from Ontario and

Quebec will be selected at a later date.

McDowell Foundation

The fall meeting of the McDowell Foundation Board received the auditors' report for the year ending June 30, 2007. Revenue for the year was more than \$290,000, mostly from investment income. Expenses were over \$113,000 with almost 64% on research grants. A large expense this year was the development of new software. The new system is easier to use, provides better management of data, generates timely and accurate reports and facilitates the work of the McDowell Foundation in both receiving and granting money. Net assets are now over \$2 million and research grants of over one million dollars have been offered since 1994. In 2006-07, donations were about \$63,000 with more than half from corporations or businesses. Over the last three years, research grants have exceeded the year's donations.

This year, the Project Review Committee granted eleven awards totaling \$74,034. The next call for research proposals will be in January, 2008. The theme of this year's Learning From Practice Exchange to be held at Radisson Hotel in Saskatoon, November 23 and 24, is Research and Assessment.

The Foundation is experimenting with a couple of projects that would involve broadening its focus. This past year the Literacy Commission provided \$10,000 to the Foundation to organize a research project into best practices in early and family literacy. If this research goes ahead, the McDowell Foundation will serve as the administrator of the project with funding coming from the Literacy Commission. The other initiative is to try research in an identified area of need. The Foundation is planning to commission a research project in the area of assessment.

The organizational review of the Foundation will continue over this upcoming year and is expected to set directions that will guide the Foundation into the future.

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism

SSM presented a position paper to the Legislative Committee on the Economy. In this paper, SSM opposed TILMA.

A survey was taken of Issues of Concern to Saskatchewan Seniors. Health was number one, with some of the concerns here being the lack of availability of doctors (especially in rural areas); wait times – both in doctors' offices and for surgeries – the cost of long-term care; lack of spaces for levels 3 and 4 care in rural areas. At the SSM Board meeting on September 25, 2007 a motion was passed that read something as follows: Adopt a program informing seniors about the availability of health care services in Saskatchewan, and disseminate the information through our member organizations throughout the province. It was suggested that we encourage displays in waiting rooms at doctors' offices, and that more publicity be given to the work of wellness clinics and rural health nurses. We also wondered if we should be advocating that nurses and pharmacists be given more authority in such things as prescription refills, etc., especially in rural areas. It was also suggested that people check to make sure they are on the waiting list they think they are on.

The second greatest concern was housing and home-care.

Transportation and income tied for third. Because of its small size and lack of resources, SSM cannot hope to address all these concerns, so SSM is considering establishing a pool of volunteers who would accompany seniors to medical services. This

accompanying might involve more than just driving, but also to help interpret medical jargon, etc. to those who may get confused or not remember what was said. This is most important in situations where family members are not available. This kind of service is already provided in some rural areas, but not everywhere. Because of the limited resources and the volunteer nature of SSM, even this project would take

a huge amount of co-ordination, especially if it were to be done on a province-wide basis.

It was suggested that member organizations create resolutions regarding the high cost of long-term health care.

In other matters, the ABC's of Fraud program may be discontinued as early as the end of October 2007, as

the major sponsor has dropped funding. Other sponsors are being sought.

There is an Elder Abuse Workshop in Vancouver on November 8, 2007, that the Executive Director, Bev MacLeod, will attend on SSM's behalf.

**Respectfully submitted,
Jim Slough**



Spotlight on Members

A Little Bit of History

I have had a most interesting experience lately. I am taking a class focusing on Saskatchewan history from 1905 to the post World War II era. The majority of the students are in their second or third year of university. What is unique is to see recent history through the eyes of these young people, to whom this is "history". Yet those were the times in which we and our parents lived.

The students associate the one-room country school with the pioneer era, but how many of us started our careers there? What were realities in our lives are quaint and often amusing stories to them. Things that we took for granted are foreign concepts. What is a cistern, and how did it make life easier? Is it a tool? A piece of equipment? In this age of laser printers, faxes, text messaging and the internet, try to

explain how it worked to make copies using the good old hectograph gel and an indelible pencil, and what a tremendous improvement the spirit duplicator was.

Yet those simpler times, with their unsophisticated teaching and learning methods produced some of the most brilliant minds of our society. Leaders of our profession, decision-makers of our province, the stars of virtually any profession - many started the road to their careers in those little schools in rural Saskatchewan. In spite of not having all the conveniences and technology that are the norm and considered necessities in today's schools, we teachers did a remarkable job. What is equally remarkable is how most of us have embraced new technologies that we encountered through the years.

It causes one to wonder - what is the true essence of education? I suspect

many of us would suggest it is that interaction between teacher and student that is the key. The rest is just details. That critical interaction can occur irrespective of the technology at hand. Throughout their lives, students may not remember facts or the specifics of various subjects, but they do remember their favourite teachers, and they do live the values and attitudes that they learned in our classrooms.

It has been gratifying to me that the young people in my class have a deep interest in earlier times, and they show respect and appreciation for those of us who lived the history that has been the foundation for the lives they enjoy today. It will be interesting through the coming years to see what kind of history they create.

**Sadie Urban
Saskatoon Chapter**

Streetsville Secondary School

(Mississauga, Ontario)

Celebrates its 50th Anniversary (1958 - 2008) June 6-7, 2008.

For more information, visit www.sss50thanniversary.ca

STS Activities Report



Events

Recreational Activities Participation STS Style . . .

Bowling

2008 Host – Regina May 2 & 3,
Glencairn Bowlarama

Contact: David Statt
(306) 761-0824

Golf

2007 STS Golf Championship,
June 13, 2007

Hosted by the Carrot River
Valley Chapter (Melfort &
District)

72 Golfers participated

Winners:

Scramble – Pauline Welte,
Germain Dauk, Don Szakacs,
Art Berard

Ladies Champion –
Shirley Krone

Ladies over 70 Champion –
Shirley Krone

Men's Champion –
Carson Robinson

Men's over 70 Champion –
Geo Holizki

Need Host for 2008

Fishing

Held at Bird's Point – Round
Lake July 5, 2007

15 participants – Fishing was
slow, but it was a great day

Blue Cross Trophy – the great-
est weight of 2-3 species identi-
fied in derby permit Winner:
Walter Gorkoff, Esterhazy, SK

Teachers' Credit Union Trophy
– Largest Northern Pike –
Derby Winner: Alex Sutherland,
Tantallon, Sk.

2008 Host: Moosomin Chapter
willing to host, if no other bids
are submitted

Kaiser

2007 Hosted by North
Battleford Chapter, Oct 25, 2007

Contacts: Stella Ewanchuk,
Phone (306) 445-6721

Carole Corbeil,
Phone (306) 445-8958

Location: Ukrainian Seniors
Centre, 792-108th Street,
North Battleford

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

2008 Host – Prince Albert

Contact: Con Honish,
Phone (306) 763-6633

2009 Host – Unity

Bridge

Location: Grace-Westminster
United Church, 505 10St E,
Saskatoon

Nov. 2 & 3, 2007 (Please note
date change)

Cost: \$30.00

Contact: Maureen Scott, Phone
(306) 373-0408

Stitch and Quilt

Cancelled due to lack of regis-
trations

Curling

Location: Melville
Date: Nov. 8 & 9, 2007
Fee: \$120.00 per Rink

first 16 teams will be accepted,
Spouses of retired teachers are
welcome to enter.

Send list of members and
cheque to Margaret Shanks,
Box 191, Melville, S0A 2P0
(306) 728-2611

Make postdated cheques
payable to Melville STS/
Curling Provincials.

Accommodation; Prince
William Hotel agreed to provide
reduced rates up until a month
prior to November 8, 2007,
Phone (306) 728-4546

Location 2008: Nipawin

STS RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES (1979-2008) (Ed Magis)

DATE	BOWLING	BRIDGE	CURLING	GOLF	HORSESHOES	OTHER
1979				HUMBOLDT		
1980				KAMSACK		
1981				ESTEVAN		
1982			MELFORT	PRINCE ALBERT		
1983			GOVAN	REGINA		
1984	MOOSE JAW		KAMSACK	MELFORT		
1985	YORKTON	N. BATTLEFORD	OUTLOOK	SASKATOON		
1986	REGINA		LANGHAM	PRINCE ALBERT	SASKATOON	
1987	TISDALE	MELFORT	N. BATTLEFORD	N. BATTLEFORD		TENNIS
1988	PRINCE ALBERT	SWIFT CURRENT	YORKTON	N. BATTLEFORD		SASKATOON 1988
1989	KINDERSLEY	REGINA	FOAM LAKE	MOOSE JAW		
1990	LLOYDMINSTER	SASKATOON	LAFLECHE	MOOSE JAW		
1991	FOAM LAKE	YORKTON	KAMSACK	SASKATOON		
1992	ASSINIBOIA	MOOSE JAW	PRINCE ALBERT	SWIFT CURRENT	N. BATTLEFORD	KAISER
1993	MELVILLE	SWIFT CURRENT	WEYBURN	MELFORT	MOOSE JAW	N. BATTLEFORD 2001
1994	MOOSE JAW	REGINA	NIPAWIN	REGINA	SASKATOON	NIPAWIN 2002
1995	YORKTON	SWIFT CURRENT	GRENFELL	NIPAWIN	N. BATTLEFORD	HUMBOLDT 2003
1996	SASKATOON	PRINCE ALBERT	PRINCE ALBERT	MOOSOMIN	MOOSE JAW	N. BATTLEFORD 2004
1997	REGINA	MOOSE JAW	SASKATOON	SHAMROCK	SASKATOON	UNITY 2005
1998	MOOSOMIN	REGINA	ROSETOWN	RED DEER RIVER VALLEY	N. BATTLEFORD	PRINCE ALBERT 2006
1999	SWIFT CURRENT	SASKATOON	MELVILLE	N. BATTLEFORD	MOOSE JAW	FISHING
2000	HUMBOLDT	SWIFT CURRENT	MELFORT	ESTEVAN	SASKATOON	MOOSOMIN / MAINLINE / 01
2001	YORKTON	MOOSE JAW	WEYBURN	SWIFT CURRENT	N. BATTLEFORD	MOOSOMIN / MAINLINE / 02
2002	PRINCE ALBERT	REGINA	N. BATTLEFORD	YORKTON		MOOSOMIN / MAINLINE / 03
2003	REGINA	SWIFT CURRENT	CANORA	SASKATOON		MOOSOMIN / MAINLINE / 07
2004	MOOSE JAW	SASKATOON	PRINCE ALBERT	REGINA		QUILTING
2005	SASKATOON	MOOSE JAW	MOOSOMIN	NIPAWIN		MOOSE JAW 2004
2006	ESTERHAZY	SWIFT CURRENT	OUTLOOK	WEYBURN		KENOSEE 2005
2007	YORKTON	SASKATOON	MELVILLE	MELFORT		MANITOU BEACH 2006
2008	REGINA					WASKESIU 2007

From The Editor's Desk

This is going to be an exciting time; the beginning of a new year for the Executive and for me in a new position.

Many issues were discussed at this Executive Meeting.

Please look at the Group Benefits Report for some timely reminders.

Note any superannuate may request the STF Bulletin if you wish.

An exciting new program is being offered by the Support Services, please look at their report for more information.

Each issue we hope to shine the spotlight on our members. This month Sadie Urban has volunteered her impressions of going back to school after retirement.

In the future I shall be tapping shoulders or twisting arms of members for contributions. 2008 is the 30th Anniversary of STS and the 75th Anniversary of the STF and what a wonderful way to celebrate by spotlighting your Chapter or members. If you have someone in your area who has specific talents please do a write-up about them or ask them to contribute an article. Pictures always make things more interesting. So please tell us about your Chapter, its history, its accomplishments, any human interest would be appreciated.

In Lord Byron's words, "Always laugh when you can. It's cheap medicine."

Shirley Henderson

STS Executive 2007-2008

President/Councillor	Siegrid Schergel	Moose Jaw Chapter
Vice-President/Councillor	Jim Sego	Unity Chapter
Past President/Councillor	Horst Sawatzki	Moosomin Chapter
Councillors:		
V.A. Derkach	Nipawin Chapter	
Shirley Dyck	Swift Current Chapter	
Mike Kaminski	Assiniboine Chapter	
Margaret Martin	Saskatoon Chapter	
Peter Wiebe	Regina Chapter	
Members At Large:		
Calvin Bachmeier	Maple Creek/Medicine Hat Chapter	
Elaine Broughton	Saskatoon Chapter	
Doug Haroldson	Maple Creek/Medicine Hat Chapter	
Darlene McCullough	Tisdale Chapter	
James Slough	Regina Chapter	
Maxine Stinka	Assiniboine Chapter	
Robert Wuschenny	Yorkton Chapter	
ACER-CART	Fred Herron	Saskatoon Chapter
Outreach Editor	Shirley Henderson	Prince Albert Chapter
Retirement Lifestyles Planning	Shirley Dyck	Swift Current Chapter

Congratulations!
Shirley Andrist –
recipient of the
Saskatchewan
Volunteer Award.

Unfortunately, due to the Privacy Act, we are no longer able to publish the names of our members who have passed away.

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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