

OUTREACH



To The Superannuated Teachers
of Saskatchewan

President's Report

Siegrid Schergel

Rambling Thoughts

I know it's a hoary old saw that time goes by faster as we get older, but just because it's a cliché, doesn't mean it isn't true. Maybe it's because as retired persons we get to decide our priorities, to set our own schedule and routines. Maybe, it's because we have the luxury of time. But whatever the reason, it's that time of year again.

Time to think about **resolutions**. Those that have been received to date are published in this issue. However, this does not preclude you from submitting others. As I have previously written, resolutions passed at the Annual General Meeting can have an impact on the direction of our organization. For example, the Support Services Committee grew out of a resolution presented at an AGM. Resolutions can also be a way to lobby government for public policy changes. Are there issues you would like to see debated?

Time to think about **nominations**. In March 2007, I wrote about leadership and, as I have travelled across the province this past year, my thoughts on this topic have only been reinforced. Retired teachers demonstrate daily that they have the skill set needed to be effective leaders in their communities. In fact,

I wonder what would happen if suddenly all the retired teachers vanished from the organizations they serve? So, I encourage you to consider a leadership role in your local Chapter or to submit your name as a candidate for the Provincial Executive.

Time to think about Spring. Soon I hope!

Executive Meeting Highlights

Following committee meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday, the Executive met on Thursday, March 13, 2008 for its regular meeting. The discussions and decisions taken are outlined in the committee reports published in this issue but I would like to highlight some of them:

- Declared candidates for various positions on the Executive are outlined in this issue. However, nominations do not close until 9:00 am the day of the elections.
- The proposed 2008-2009 budget is included for your information. It envisages no change in fees or in Chapter rebates.
- The AGM planning is on-going and information packages will be mailed to delegates in April. These will include all resolutions received.
- James Slough has been appointed

Chair of the Honorary Life Membership Committee. Darlene McCullough resigned as Committee Chair as she has been nominated for an HLM. Congratulations to all the 2008 recipients.

- The eight STS Councillors will be attending the STF Spring Council in April. We very much appreciate the continued role of the STS in the STF; it is a relationship we value highly.
- The Executive has adopted a process to integrate the government's new Seniors Drug Plan into our Extended Health Plan. It is outlined in detail in this issue. Please be aware that the deadline dates stated are firm. However, the STS office would very much appreciate it if you could forward a copy of the letter that indicates you have coverage under the Seniors' Drug Plan as soon as you receive it.

Conclusion

As winter is finally leaving us and winter road conditions are rapidly becoming a memory, I am starting my President's visits again. Thank you for the invitations I have received and I look forward to meeting with you.

35th Annual General Meeting of the STS

Tuesday, May 13 – Thursday, May 15, 2008

Shirley Dyck/Darlene McCullough

35th Anniversary of Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan

Thanks to our Office Manager, Colleen Bailey, and our efficient office staff, the Chapter Presidents have received the package of information about the Annual General Meeting. The names of the delegates were registered and each delegate will receive his/her package of information. Delegates please register at the Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon by April 16. Call either (306) 242-8881 or the direct toll free number of 1-888-278-4209. When making reservations indicate that you are with the Superannuated Teachers Annual General Meeting to get the preferred rate.

Travel – Each Chapter will submit one voucher for travel costs at the AGM. The rate will be 32¢ per kilometre (return travel) on the basis of one car for each three delegates.

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

TUESDAY MAY 13

5:00 – 7:15

Registration

7:15

Welcome by President Siegrid Schergel

Introduction of Candidates

Entertainment – Martin Janovsky

WEDNESDAY MAY 14

7:15 – 8:30

Breakfast

9:00

Plenary session followed by small group sessions to discuss Resolutions

Wednesday afternoon:

Five interest sessions will be offered

Wednesday evening:

Banquet

Membership Growth Awards

Announcement of Chapter awards

Presentation of Honorary Life Memberships

THURSDAY MAY 15

7:15 – 8:30

Breakfast

9:00

Greetings from the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation

The Annual General Meeting

Honorary Life Members

James Slough

Congratulations!

The following members were selected for Honorary Life Membership for 2008 and will be presented with their certificates at the AGM:

Ed Magis nominated by Yorkton Chapter

Darlene McCullough nominated by Tisdale Chapter

Horst Sawatzki nominated by Moosomin Chapter

Al Schell nominated by Saskatoon Chapter

STS Group Benefit Plan

ALERT

TO: ALL STS MEMBERS 65 AND OVER PARTICIPATING IN THE STS GROUP BENEFITS EXTENDED HEALTH PLAN AND LIVING IN SASKATCHEWAN

FROM: STS EXECUTIVE

DATE: MARCH, 2008

RE: IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE CHANGES, TO THE SASKATCHEWAN SENIORS' DRUG PLAN AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE STS EXTENDED HEALTH PLAN.

If you are over age 65 and live in Saskatchewan, you should have received information from the Government of Saskatchewan regarding the Seniors' Drug Plan.

A brief summary of that information is as follows:

1. The Government of Saskatchewan Seniors' Drug Plan available to all Saskatchewan residents 65 years of age and older is valid only until June 30, 2008.
2. Starting July 1, 2008, you will be required to apply (Form A) to receive coverage under the new Seniors' Drug Plan.
3. You are eligible for coverage if you are a Saskatchewan resident 65 years of age and older as of July 1, 2008 with a reported individual net income of less than \$64,044.00 on your 2006 income tax (line 236).
4. If you think you are eligible for coverage, return your application to the Seniors' Drug Plan by March 31, 2008 to ensure your Seniors' Drug Plan coverage is not interrupted as of July 1, 2008.
5. If you did not receive an application form by mail it is available as follows:
 - 5.1 Online at: www.health.gov.sk.ca/seniors-prescription-drug-plan.
 - 5.2 At your pharmacy.
 - 5.3 Contact the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch in Regina at 787-3317 or toll-free at 1-800-667-7581.
6. You will receive a letter in the mail informing you if you have been approved for coverage or if you do not meet the eligibility requirements.

The changes in the Seniors' Drug Plan have significant implications for participants in the STS Extended Health Plan living in Saskatchewan and over the age of 65 as of July 1, 2008. Those implications are described as follows:

1. In order to benefit from the reduced premium for the STS Extended Health Plan, you must submit a copy of the letter that indicates that you have coverage under the Seniors' Drug Plan.
2. **That letter must be received at the STS Office as soon as possible, but no later than August 15, 2008 in order to retain the reduced premium effective September 1, 2008.**
3. If the STS does not receive a copy of this letter, your premium will revert to the full premium for Extended Health until such time as proof of coverage is submitted.
4. There will be no retroactive premium adjustments.

STS Resolutions 2008

Jim Sego

Resolutions that were received by March 15 are included in this edition. Resolutions sent to me or to the STS office by April 30 will be made available to delegates when they register at AGM. As usual, resolutions, designated as late resolutions after April 30, will be received until the day prior to debate of resolutions at the AGM.

See your Chapter President for the correct format for resolutions and to get a copy of the form to use for submission of resolutions.

For information about the disposition of resolutions from AGM 2007, please see your delegates to the 2008 AGM.

If you need help wording a resolution or outlining supporting material, phone me for help at (306) 228-3981.

Notice of Motion One

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Bylaw 2 #2 be amended to read as follows:

The Executive shall appoint the following:

- Executive Secretary (Non-voting)
- *Outreach* Editor (Non-voting)
- Chairpersons of all Standing Committees (Appointments must be from the elected members of the Executive).

STS Executive

Background (provided by the Saskatoon Chapter)

1. This would result in no lapse of membership and/or benefits.
2. Follow-up time would be eliminated.
3. This would assist the larger Chapters.

Resolution Five

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the delegates attending the AGM for 2008 be paid mileage on a pro-rated basis as follows: One delegate per vehicle 20 cents per km, two delegates per vehicle 30 cents per km, and three or more delegates 45 cents per km.

Shamrock Chapter

Resolutions Directed to the STS

Resolution One

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS negotiate with Saskatchewan Blue Cross to either remove the \$6 deductible or eliminate the 25% co-insurance provision for drugs.

Melville Chapter

chiropractor, physiotherapist, chiropractor, naturopath, acupuncturist and registered massage therapist.

Resolution Three

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS negotiate with Saskatchewan Blue Cross an annual limit for all paramedical services of \$1500.

Saskatoon Chapter

Background (provided by the Saskatoon Chapter)

Please refer to the background information under Resolution Two.

Resolution Two

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS negotiate with Saskatchewan Blue Cross to increase the annual limit for paramedical services to \$300 per specialty.

Saskatoon Chapter

Background (provided by the Saskatoon Chapter)

Currently the maximum is \$225 per specialty for a total of \$1800. Specialties are: licensed psychologist, speech therapist, podiatrist/

Resolution Four

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS explore the implementation of automatic membership fee deduction at source for retired Saskatchewan teachers who choose to join the STS.

Saskatoon Chapter

Resolution Six

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS Provincial Executive investigate the possibility of STS members being given the option of not receiving a print copy of *Outreach* as it is available on the STS website.

Tisdale Chapter

Background (provided by the Tisdale Chapter)

At the present time, *Outreach* is mailed to every member except in the instances where two members reside at the same address.

As more of our members are accessing web sites, there are potential cost savings for printing and postage.

Resolution Seven

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request the STF to negotiate for 100% indexing of teachers' pensions.

Saskatoon Chapter
Prince Albert Chapter
Potashville Esterhazy Chapter

Resolution Eight

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS Benefits Committee study the feasibility of covering annual vision

tests for members 65 years of age and older.

Prince Albert Chapter

Resolution Nine

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS Benefits Committee study the feasibility of re-introducing the use of the Member card for submission of costs of prescription drugs to Blue Cross.

Prince Albert Chapter

Resolution Ten

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS annual fee for 2008 – 2009 be \$30 per person.

STS Executive

Resolution Eleven

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the annual rebate to Chapters for 2008 – 2009 be \$8 per person.

STS Executive

Resolutions Directed to the STF

Resolution Twelve

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the opportunity to participate in the Teachers' Life Insurance Government Contributory Plan to age 85 be made retroactive to include all members who were participants of the Plan on July 1, 2006.

Prince Albert Chapter

Resolution Thirteen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT STS request the STF and ACER-CART urge the federal government to review and amend the Privacy Act in order to limit the government's ability to collect and share vast amounts of personal information.

Saskatoon Chapter

Background (provided by the Saskatoon Chapter)

Private sectors are limited in the information they can collect and must tell individuals how and why their data are used while government departments don't have to adhere to the same requirement.

Resolution Fourteen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT STS request STF to negotiate that Pension Indexing be based on the higher of the Saskatchewan CPI Saskatoon-Regina Index, or the Canadian CPI.

Prince Albert Chapter

Resolution Fifteen

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

Prince Albert Chapter

Resolution Sixteen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT STS request the STF to investigate alternatives to the Canadian Consumer Price Index as a mechanism for adjusting teacher pensions to more closely reflect the provincial situation, i.e. Saskatchewan CPI, Saskatoon-Regina Index as well as indices related to economic growth, such as Average Weekly Wages in the province.

Regina Chapter

Background (provided by the Regina Chapter)

While the Canadian CPI may be an appropriate measure of the cost of living in Canada, it may or may not reflect the cost of living in Saskatchewan, nor the ability of the Saskatchewan government (as reflected in public or private sector earnings, for example) to improve pension provisions for those who have retired from teaching in the province.

Resolutions Directed to the Provincial Government

Resolution Seventeen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT STS urge the Government of Saskatchewan to take action to reduce wait times for surgery, especially for seniors.

Battleford (North) Chapter

Resolution Eighteen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT STS urge the Government of Saskatchewan to make mobility aids and wellness services more available to seniors.

Battleford (North) Chapter

Resolutions Directed to ACER-CART

Resolution Nineteen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT STS ask ACER-CART to request the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada to substantially increase penalties for individuals convicted of contacting women and children for the purpose of prostitution.

Unity Chapter

Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Proposed Budget: July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

INCOME	2006 - 2007 ACTUAL	BUDGET 2007 - 2008	6 MONTH ACTUAL	PROPOSED 2008 - 2009
Membership Fees	237,953.00	235,000.00	121,510.00	243,000.00
Admin Commission (Benefits Plan)	129,375.00	130,000.00	65,842.04	135,000.00
Dividend Income				
Interest Income	3,528.00	3,000.00	1,972.53	4,000.00
Other	0.00	8,000.00		8,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$370,856.00	\$376,000.00	\$189,324.57	\$390,000.00
EXPENSES				
Annual General Meeting	60,584.00	75,000.00		68,000.00
Amortization	3,481.00	4,000.00	1,740.35	4,000.00
Chapter Rebates	55,945.00	60,000.00	58,096.00	61,000.00
Executive and Committee Meetings	24,598.00	28,000.00	17,132.20	32,000.00
STS Affiliations	5,491.00	8,000.00	2,351.00	6,000.00
Executive Chapter Travel	6,923.00	10,000.00	3,870.45	8,000.00
Chapter Presidents' Meeting	7,607.00	8,000.00	9,328.38	10,000.00
Communications, Membership Growth, PR	32,239.00	32,000.00	7,868.97	34,000.00
Retirement Life Styles Planning Committee		2,000.00		2,000.00
Support Services Planning Committee	1,000.00	4,000.00		2,000.00
Recreation	1,804.00	4,000.00	649.00	2,000.00
Office Staff	98,136.00	94,000.00	49,198.00	98,000.00
Office Operation	22,878.00	30,000.00	8,325.55	51,000.00
Computer and Programming	8,779.00	12,000.00	3,137.16	8,000.00
McDowell Foundation	1,000.00	1,000.00		1,000.00
Scholarships	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
Bank Service Charge	617.00	500.00	43.42	1,000.00
Management Fees		1,500.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$333,082.00	\$376,000.00	\$162,740.48	\$390,000.00
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	37,774.00			

NOTES:

Note 1: The proposed budget for 2008-2009 is based on an annual fee of \$30.00.

Note 2: A financial statement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008 will be prepared as soon as possible after year-end, audited, and made available to all STS Chapters. Copies of the audited financial statement for 2007-2008 will also be made available to all AGM delegates at the 2009 AGM.

Note 3: The Operations Reserve Fund had a balance of \$195,436.00 as at June 30, 2007. Should a deficit be incurred for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, it would be covered by monies from the Operations Reserve Fund.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. 8200 Members
2. Rebate to Chapters of \$8.00 per member

Nominations

Horst Sawatzki

As per the Policy Handbook, Bylaw 3, Page 5, Number 1: Nominations are called to elect the following Executive (President, Vice-President, Five Councillors, Seven Members-at-Large, and an ACER-CART Representative).

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

Executive Nominations for 2008 – 2009 (Received to date):

President/Councillor

Jim Segó

Vice-President/Councillor

Margaret Martin

Councillors

Calvin Bachmeier

Shirley Dyck

Michael Gorkoff

Mike Kaminski

Peter Wiebe

Members at Large

Elaine Broughton

Doug Haroldson

Kate McCorriston

James Slough

Maxine Stinka

Robert Wuschenny

ACER-CART Representative

Fred Herron

STS Nomination Form – 2008 Executive

Please accept **this** nomination for the _____
(Position)

on the Executive of the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan.

(Candidate's name – Print)

(Candidate's Signature)

Date: _____, 2008

Forward to: Horst Sawatzki, Nominations Chairperson

Box 1167, Moosomin, SK S0G 3N0

Email: h.j.s@sasktel.net

Or contact the STS Office for a nomination form.

Retirement Lifestyles

Shirley Dyck



Left: Presenters at Showcase 2008 Saskatoon

(Back row l to r) Bert Gordon, Shirley Henderson, Calvin Bachmeier
(Front row l to r) Elaine Broughton, George Georget, Shirley Dyck

Below: Presenters at Showcase 2008 Regina

(Back row l to r) Bert Gordon, George Georget, Dianne McLeod
(Front row l to r) Darlene Kidd, Shirley Dyck

The Retirement Lifestyle Planning Committee presented eight sessions to over 450 teachers at Showcase. We were in Saskatoon on February 21 and 22 and in Regina on February 26 and 28. The team of George Georget, STF liaison, Shirley Dyck and Bert Gordon presented at both Showcases. Shirley Henderson, Calvin Bachmeier and Elaine Broughton joined us in Saskatoon. Darlene Kidd and Dianne McLeod assisted in Regina. We were very pleased with the attendance and also the positive responses we received from the evaluations.



Support Services

Calvin Bachmeier

Dalton Tammy reported that a counter has been installed on the Support Services website. It has the capacity to measure many things including the number of hits, the average length of time spent on the page and other important information. This should, over time, give us valuable feedback on our website. Since it has been installed, we have had approximately 200 visits. All areas have been visited but the most popular areas have been health care and finances.

The clearinghouse of topics, for presentations or activities should be

appearing on the website very shortly. It is hoped that Chapters will get some good ideas to enrich local programs. Hopefully, this will lead to a more active and involved membership in the future. It was felt that every effort should be made to ensure that the website be kept up to date. The clearinghouse can be added to as new activities and events are organized by local Chapters.

We appointed a committee to design an application form for local Chapters to apply for a grant announced at the Presidents' Meeting in November, 2007. This

grant should help Chapters organize events which they would not be able to manage by themselves. Co-operation among Chapters will be encouraged.

The personal support part of the website is being reviewed and updated on a regular basis. The committee feels that this is very important. Members may seek information regarding personal matters related to a variety of issues including health, quality of life and safety. The website contains references from which a further search can commence either by mail, telephone, or the internet.

Councillor's Report

Margaret Martin

On February 8, 2008 a Provincial Workshop on the STF Code of Professional Competence which is now available in draft form was held in Saskatoon. The workshop was attended by representatives from all of the Local Associations in the province. The main purpose of the workshop was to share information about the draft Code of Professional Competence in the context of teacher professionalism. This new draft Code of Professional Competence along with the Code of

Ethics and the Code of Conduct Respecting the Collective Interests of Teachers are statements of shared principles about professional identity and what it means to be a teacher in this province. All of these codes were developed by teachers in Saskatchewan for teachers.

It is the hope of the STF that the representatives at the February 8 workshop will provide information to their locals and receive feedback so that Councillors will be able to approve this document at the

Annual Spring Council that will be held on April 23 – 26, 2008 in Saskatoon at the Radisson Hotel. Information regarding Council 2008 has already been sent to all Councillors.

Recreation

Calvin Bachmeier



Upcoming Events

Recreational Activities Participation STS Style . . .

Bowling

(registration form following)

Location: Glencairn Bolodrome,
Regina

Date: **May 1 & 2, 2008**

Contact: David Statt
(306) 761-0824

2009 Bowling: Prince Albert

Golf

(registration form following)

2008 STS Golf

Location: Maple Creek/
Cypress Hills

Date: **June 16 & 17, 2008**

Host: Maple Creek/
Medicine Hat Chapter
Contact: Nancy Dobson
(306) 662-2730

Fishing

2008 Host: Moosomin Chapter

Registration Fee: \$10.00

Location: Bird's Point,
Round Lake

Date: **July 3, 2008**

Pre-registration closes
June 30, 2008

Contact: Horst Sawatzki
(306) 435-2551 or

Mail: Box 1167, Moosomin
S0G 3N0

Kaiser

2008 Host: Prince Albert

Contact: Con Honish
(306) 763-6633

2009 Host: Unity

Bridge

2008 Host: Regina

Date: **October 7 & 8, 2008**

Contact: Amber MacLeod
(306) 586-2785

2009 Host: Saskatoon

Contact: Bill Meger
(306) 249-1329

Curling

2008 Host: Saskatoon

Location: Sutherland Curling
Club, Saskatoon

Date: **Nov 4 & 5, 2008**

Contacts: Bill Meger
(306) 249-1329
Vic Anton
(306) 373-1447

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.

STS 2008 Bowling Registration Form

Glencairn Bolodrome – 1620 – 9th Ave. East, Regina, SK • Thurs. May 1 & Fri. May 2, 2008

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone number: _____

Team Registration:

Team Name: _____

Team members:

1. _____ Phone: _____

2. _____ Phone: _____

3. _____ Phone: _____

4. _____ Phone: _____

5. _____ Phone: _____

Tournament Fees: _____ x \$45.00 = _____ (includes bowling, 1 banquet, 1 luncheon)

Extra Banquet Tickets: _____ x \$17.00 = _____

Extra Luncheon Tickets: _____ x \$7.50 = _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED = _____ * make cheques payable to: STS Regina Chapter

Mail entries to: STS Bowling 2008

David Statt

38 Dale Crescent

Regina SK S4N 5J7

Phone: (306) 761-0824

* registration deadline is April 15, 2008;
limit – 80 bowlers

* register as a full team, a partial team or
as an individual

Hotels

Howard Johnson Inn

110 Victoria Ave. East – (306) 565-0455
(10 rooms for STS Bowling – \$75/night)

Victoria Park Inn

2050 Victoria Ave. East – 1-877-902-1366

Country Inns

3321 Victoria Ave. East – 1-800-456-4000

Holiday Inn

1800 Prince of Wales – 1-866-789-3883

Days Inn

3875 Eastgate Drive – (306) 522-3297

STS Provincial Golfing Tournament

June 16 & 17, 2008 • Maple Creek Golf Course and Cypress Hills Golf Course
(Both courses are 9 holes)



PRE-REGISTER BY MAY 30, 2008

First 72 Paid Golfers Accepted

Cost: \$100.00 Includes 2-18 hole rounds, Monday at Cypress Park Golf Course, Tuesday at Maple Creek Golf Course and a banquet on Monday evening at Cypress Park Resort Inn. (Cart rental is available at each course if you wish.)

Extra banquet tickets are available at \$25.00.

Accommodations: Cypress Park Resort Inn (at the provincial park) (306) 662-4477; Cypress Hills Motor Inn (in Maple Creek) (306) 662-2639; Maple Creek Motor Inn (in Maple Creek) (306) 662-4431; Maple Grove Motel (in Maple Creek) (306) 662-2658; Commercial Hotel (in Maple Creek) (306) 662-2673

(Please note, our block of rooms at the Cypress Park Resort Inn is only on hold until April 20, 2008, so book your room early.)

Camping: Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park Willowbend Campground (in Maple Creek)
Eagle Valley Park Campground (on Highway #1 approx. 12 kms from Maple Creek)

Contact: Nancy Dobson
(306) 662-2730

Return completed registration form and fees to:
Nancy Dobson, Box 344,
Maple Creek, SK S0N 1N0

We hope to see you here in the southwest to join in the fun of the tournament and to enjoy all the area has to offer. Be prepared to stay for a few extra days!

Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Registration Fee – \$100.00

Extra banquet tickets _____ x \$25.00 = \$ _____

Age if in senior division _____ (Must be 70+)

Handicap OR average 18 hole score _____

Cart rental required? Yes _____ No _____

Please make cheques payable to Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Chapter STS.

Spotlight on Members

Orval Ens

This superannuated teacher taught in the one room rural school for a total of 16.5 years. Although none of these schools were in the immediate area of Cut Knife, he did spend 10 years at Ruth School where he became well acquainted with neighbouring districts surrounding Cut Knife. In 1963 he moved to Cut Knife to serve as teacher and principal for the town of Cut Knife and surrounding school districts.

The one-room schools surrounding Cut Knife were approximately 23 in number. The school districts varied in size but usually measured about 5 miles by 5 miles. Seldom did they come in a neat arrangement of a square or a rectangle.

The districts in the area are as follows:

Ada	Alfred
Alada	Baldwinton
Cloan	Cut Knife
Dufferin	Formby
Gallivan	Irene
Madawaska	Mount Ethel
Ovenstown	Riding Hill
Rockhaven	Rosemound
Stringer	Triple Lake
Vance	Wardenville
Weewona	Wilbert
Willowview	

The school buildings varied in size usually built according to demand for space. Most of these buildings comprised of a classroom space plus cloakrooms. Some had full basements. Besides serving as a school, many also served the district as a church. Concerts, political meetings, dances, and a variety of social events all took place in these buildings.

Heating units in some cases consisted of an oil drum converted to a stove. The drum was mounted on steel legs in a horizontal fashion. A door with hinges was located at one end so that firewood could be applied. Of course, there was an outlet with a stovepipe to take the smoke up and into the chimney. Other heating units were factory-built. Those sitting close to the stove were too warm while others were not warm enough. A metal shield was used in some cases to direct the heat away from the students close by. The schools with basements usually had a furnace which, in the earlier days, was fired by wood and coal. Later some were converted to oil firing. Oil units, which were thermostatically controlled, were much better for regulating room temperatures and were also cleaner because there were no ashes to carry out.

Outdoor toilets were the only kind in many early schools. Those with

basements sometimes had indoor pail-type toilets. These had to be emptied often. The more modern was a septic tank-type that would be pumped out annually.

If there was a well, the water was usually stale and not too sanitary. At many schools drinking water was brought daily by one of the older students who came to school by horse and buggy or sleigh. The water was emptied into a fountain with a tap where children could dispense it, usually by means of a personally owned cup. A cistern or rain barrel was often the source that yielded water for a noon-hour wash parade. In winter, it was common to melt a pail of snow on the stove in order to be placed in a hot water boiler. This provided a daily hot lunch.

Lighting was rarely adequate. The long row of big windows tended to be drafty and cold in winter and allowed the blistering sun to scorch the classroom in summer. The bright sun also caused a glare on the chalkboard which made it difficult for students to see. Rural electrification came to many Saskatchewan schools in about 1952. The new artificial lighting was especially helpful on dark dreary winter days.

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE)

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

From The Editor's Desk

Things are now really moving and coming together to have another well planned AGM.

Reminder:

Any change to or cancellation of coverage to the STS Group Benefits must be received in writing by the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan office by the 15th of the preceding month to be effective the 1st of the following month.

The usual question on everyone's mind these days (especially in Saskatchewan) is "will spring ever come?" It does seem like a very long, cold winter but spring has to be just around the corner.

"In a snow-covered garden
The irises awake
To put on their regal display
It won't be long now!
They seemed to shout
Spring is on its way!"

– Richelle Anderson

Shirley

STS Executive 2007-2008

President/Councillor	Siegrid Schergel	Moose Jaw Chapter
Vice-President/Councillor	Jim Segó	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
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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.

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Monday to Friday

8:30 A.M. to 12:00 noon

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STS OFFICE NOTICE:

1. If there will be a change in your delegates' list for the AGM please notify the Office immediately or no later than May 9, 2008.
2. Chapter Reports need to be forwarded to the Office by April 15, 2008.
3. If your Chapter has awarded any Chapter merit awards, please let the Office know the names of the recipients by May 1, 2008.
4. The list of Chapter Officers for 2008 – 2009 should be sent to the Office by June 30, 2008.
5. The STS Office will be closed on May 13, 14 and 15 to enable staff to attend the AGM.

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