

# OUTREACH



To The Superannuated Teachers  
of Saskatchewan

## President's Report

Margaret Martin

As our Saskatchewan summer of 2011 turns into autumn I believe that this has been one of the best summers that I remember. Our thoughts now will turn from golf courses, cottages, summer reading and gardens to football, hockey, curling, winterizing our homes, or vacations to a warmer climate. It is also an opportunity to welcome Judy Buzowetsky, Laura Dubois, and Joyce Hoffman to our STS Provincial Executive. As well, I would like to welcome our many new members of Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan who have most recently joined our growing organization. We now have 9722 members in our 43 Chapters!

Our first STS Provincial Executive meeting was held in Saskatoon on September 14 and 15, 2011. Each of our Committees met to review their goals for this year and to receive new information as the work of the STS Provincial Executive and its Committees continues during this 2011-2012 year. The Executive Committee (Past President, President, Vice President, and Executive Secretary) are beginning the bargaining process with Saskatchewan Blue Cross to seek another three year agreement to be the carrier of our Extended Health,

Travel, and Dental Plans. The current premiums are in place until January 31, 2012. This is our STS Plan. This means that we collect all of the premiums from our eligible members of these plans and pay Saskatchewan Blue Cross to make payments for the claims that have been submitted by these eligible members. Our objectives for our STS Benefit Plans have been to continue to provide affordable safety net Extended Health, Travel, and Dental Plans to eligible STS members; to maximize the use of premium dollars for payment of claims; to keep administrative costs as low as possible; to encourage our plan participants to take ownership for the benefit plans; to encourage plan participants to question physicians regarding the most cost effective use of prescription drugs; and, to promote a healthy lifestyle for all plan participants and all STS members. As we negotiate we will be taking into consideration the resolutions that have been passed by delegates at our AGM and the financial reports of our plans during these past three years.

Our eight STS Councillors have again been invited by the STF to be participants at the STF Councillors' Conference on October 13 to 15,

2011 in Saskatoon. We have the opportunity at that time to be updated on educational issues in the province and to take part in all discussions.

Many recreational activities are being hosted by our local Chapters and supported by STS for this coming year. Please check out the Recreation report in this issue. I look forward to meeting many of you at these events.

It is never too early to take note of any resolutions from you or any of your Chapter members. Resolutions can be submitted to the STS Office at any time of the year and will be dealt with by our Resolutions Committee prior to our annual STS AGM in May 2012.

Please note the reports written for inclusion in this issue of *Outreach* by the STS Committee Chairpersons. They will provide updated information on the STS Executive and Committee work.

I have been contacted by many Chapters to be a part of their fall meetings. I welcome these opportunities to meet with you. Please call me at 306-373-4433 or send me an e-mail [bill.marg@sasktel.net](mailto:bill.marg@sasktel.net) if you would like me to visit your Chapter. I also look forward to meeting with all of our Chapter Presidents at our annual Presidents' Meeting on Friday, October 28, 2011. The agenda has been finalized, and Chapter Presidents will be receiving information from the STS Office as soon as possible.

# Group Benefits Report – Shirley Henderson

1. The Committee has set the following goals for 2011–2012:
  - To closely monitor the visions of the Group Benefits Plan and the financial status of the Plan.
  - To continue to promote and provide information about the Group Benefits Plan to new superannuates and to emphasize that we have a self-funded plan.
  - To review the Policies and Procedures of the Group Benefits Plan as set out in the *STS Policy Handbook*.
2. The membership in the Group Benefit Plan continues to increase.

3. Negotiations with Saskatchewan Blue Cross are well underway and it is hoped that a tentative agreement will be presented at the October meeting.

Some reminders to note for our members:

- If you have a child who is over 21 years of age and a full-time student please notify the STS Office.
- Once your child has left school the STS Office needs to be notified or you will continue paying for his/her coverage.
- If you are a family of high prescription use, please apply for the Saskatchewan Special

Support Program for assistance in coverage. Forms can be obtained at your pharmacy.

- If you are the primary plan-holder of the STS Group Benefits Plan, are over 65 years of age and live in Saskatchewan, you can apply for the Seniors' Drug Plan offered by the Saskatchewan Government. If you are eligible for the Seniors' Drug Plan please send a copy of the confirmation letter to the STS Office. Once the confirmation is received by the STS Office you will receive a reduced rate for your monthly Extended Health premium.

## AGM Report

Doug Haroldson  
and Elaine Broughton

The 39th Annual General Meeting of the STS will be held on May 8-10, 2012 in Saskatoon at the Travelodge Hotel.

## Recreation Report

Calvin Bachmeier

### Goals for 2011-12

1. To continue to seek local Chapters to host Provincial recreation events as needed.
2. To promote an active and healthy lifestyle for all STS members.
3. To continue to be open to new activities that can be supported by STS.

## Budget, Finance and Audit Report

Robert Wuschenny

Membership is at 9722 as of September 15, 2011.

The following Committee goals were set for 2011-12:

1. To assist with the creation of the 2012-13 budget.
2. To continue to monitor the 2011-12 budget.
3. To provide information to members regarding the pension plans.
4. To improve STS members' knowledge base regarding the Health and Dental Plans.
5. To be sensitive to new members' expectations through information given and received at liaison Chapter visits, pre-retirement seminars, *Outreach*, and Spotlight on Superannuates in *STF Bulletin*.

## Nominations Report

Jim Segó and Fred Herron

If you know someone who is interested in running for the Provincial Executive, please have him/her submit their name to the STS Office.

# Resolutions Report – Robert Wuschenny

All resolutions from AGM 2011 have been submitted to their intended recipients. Disposition of resolutions will be posted on the website shortly. Updates will be included as they are received.

Resolutions directed to the STF concerning indexing of superannuation allowances were forwarded to the STF Executive and will be considered in STF strategic planning in the coming year.

Resolutions to the STS are either “in progress” or have been incorporated in STS policy.

The resolution recommending that Chapters continue their efforts to persuade CIDA to restore funding to CTF is complete.

Resolutions pertaining to fees and Chapter rebates are in effect.

The resolution directed to ACER-CART to lobby the Government to implement 10 year passports passed at the ACER-CART Annual Meeting. The resolution to allow tax deductions for fees associated with seniors’ physical activity programs was included in another resolution that is a little more extensive. The resolution passed at the ACER-CART annual meeting.

A resolution to convey STS support to the STF in its attempt to negotiate a teacher contract was completed. The resolution to increase the recreation events’ grant is now in effect.

It has been said often that, “Resolutions drive our organization”. The Resolutions Committee reminds members of the STS that it is NOT too early to begin to develop resolutions for AGM 2012. The deadline for resolutions is February 14, 2012.

The following goals for 2011-12 were adopted:

1. To inform members as to the Disposition of Resolutions.
2. To continue to update Disposition of Resolutions on the website.
3. To encourage resolutions that address members’ needs.
4. To receive and prepare resolutions for AGM.
5. Seek background information on resolutions.

# ACER-CART Report – George Georget

ACER-CART – Lobbying Agenda for the Coming Year

The 20th Annual General Meeting of ACER-CART will be busy lobbying the Canadian Federal Government to eliminate the tax on the CPP/QPP Death Benefits, to make Canadian adult passports effective for ten years, to extend tax credits to include registration costs for wellness and/or recreation programs to seniors, and to urge the federal government to act, in conjunction with the provinces, to establish a national formulary as well as a national drug plan.

ACER-CART is a member of the Congress of National Seniors Organizations which furthers lobbying efforts and vital communications with the Government of Canada. Last year lobbying efforts included increasing CPP/QPP, OAS and GIS benefits, as well as extending support of Bill C-516 on the automatic inclusion of eligible pensioners for GIS benefits. ACER-

CART’s Pension and Retirement Income Committee will continue to monitor the progress of Bill C-516 this year.

The AGM focused its attention on the beginnings of an Organizational Review. ACER-CART will continue its work with this review by examining its organizational structure, its programs, expenditures and membership fees.

The Health Services and Insurance Committee of ACER-CART encourages a continuation and expansion of contacting MPs and MLAs by its provincial affiliate member organizations concerning health care matters.

For a complete report on ACER-CART and its AGM please visit its website: [www.acer-cart.org](http://www.acer-cart.org). Feel free, also, to contact the STS Office, members of the Provincial Executive including George Georget, at [wordsworth@sasktel.net](mailto:wordsworth@sasktel.net).

## Support Services Report

Calvin Bachmeier

### Goals for 2011-12

1. To maintain and monitor existing programs.
2. To strengthen the relationship between STS liaison persons and the local chapters.
3. To monitor the STS website.
4. To keep the STS website current.
5. To be responsive to the needs of our membership.
6. To continue to be open to Chapter Support Program applications.

# Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism Report

Robert Wuschenny

An eclectic group of speakers presented much food for thought at the SSM 21st Conference and AGM in Humboldt on May, 17, 18, 2011. The theme "Aging in Place" was in sync with many of the presenters' views as they described their vision of a continuum of living for seniors.

Keynote, Dr. Michael Rachlis, who formerly practised family medicine in Toronto and who is now a private consultant in health policy, set the stage by dismissing the myth that Canadian health care costs are out of control and that seniors are to blame for the spiraling costs. Prior to 1990, health care costs were at 6 per cent of the overall economy and since then have risen to 8 per cent. "Thus", asserted Rachlis, "the impact of aging on health care costs is rather minor. We are living long, but in greater health," he pointed out. In addition, Rachlis referred to some of the inefficiencies in the Canadian health care system, comparing our system with Germany, Sweden, Denmark and Great Britain. Also, he pointed out that Denmark has developed a community based health care system for the elderly that emphasizes housing, transportation, and a more home-like system of community support.

Presenter Roger Carriere, Executive Director Saskatchewan Health Community Care Branch, outlined considerations and strategies for developing community care for seniors: support for independent living, affordability, quality, programming and capacity for geriatric assessment. Likewise, the Hon. Laura Ross, based on a study she conducted, listed five areas to consider with respect to health care for seniors: accessibility, home-care supports, falls prevention, abuse of older adults and the feasibility of a Seniors' Secretariat.

Shan Landry, Vice-President Community Services, Saskatoon Health Region, emphasized the continuum in practical terms of home care, supportive housing and long-term care. She also emphasized: funding, quality, affordability, governance and choice. "One size does not fit all", she stressed.

SSM Board Member, Betty Pickering, spoke on the Patient First Review and a vision for Primary Health Care. As well, the Hon. Judy Junor, NDP Health Critic, expressed her views and concerns and Humboldt City Councillor, Marilyn Scott, pointed out key strategies taken by the Humboldt Task Force on Housing, particularly the Caleb and Amacus projects.

In summation, Dr. Rachlis noted that the current health system could be improved by de-emphasizing the continuum of care and emphasizing a continuum of living.

The SSM Annual General Meeting followed the Conference. SSM Executive Director, Holly Schick, delivered the Program Reports as well as her own Executive Director's Report. Some of the highlights are:

- Bylaws and Policy updates
- Town Hall Meeting on governance
- Advocacy – various Government agencies
- Participation in various workshops, meetings, tradeshow
- Publication of *Gray Matters*
- Tenth year of partnership with Lifeline
- *Precious Memories of Prairie War Heroes* publication
- Web-site and Seniors' Information Line
- Office renovations
- Reports of member organizations
- Treasurer, Alan Stamler, presented the Finance Committee, Audit and Grants reports. He noted that SSM

is in good financial standing and that the organization received a clean audit.

Les Lye was re-elected as President of SSM.

The following resolutions were passed:

- That SSM lobby the Saskatchewan Government to implement legislation to protect retirees from loss of pension income due to termination of Defined Benefit Pension Plans.
- That SSM adopt the Principles of Dimension of Quality and the National Framework on Health Quality.
- With respect to election of Board Members and Officers, Version 2, whereby all officers and members-at-large shall be elected for a two-year term with provision for a "drop down process" during elections was carried.
- An "Enabling Clause" for the election of one-half the Board to a one-year term and one-half the Board to a two-year term, for the first year, is also part of the Bylaws that were accepted.

## Attention Chapter Presidents

Nominations for Honorary Life Memberships must be submitted to the STS Office by February 14, 2012. 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 require additional information please contact Kate McCorrison at 306-862-3627 or email [m.mccorrison@sasktel.net](mailto:m.mccorrison@sasktel.net)





## STS Executive 2011-2012

Back row: (from left) George Georget (ACER-CART Representative), Maxine Stinka, Judy Buzowetsky, Joyce Hoffman, Shirley Henderson, Mike Kaminski, Elaine Broughton, Kate McCorrison, Doug Haroldson.

Front row: (from left) Fred Herron (Executive Secretary), Laura Dubois, Roger Marchand, Margaret Martin (President), Jim Sego (Past-President), Robert Wuschenny (Vice-President), Calvin Bachmeier, Gerald Mamer

## Recreation – Calvin Bachmeier



### Upcoming Events

Recreational Activities Participation STS Style . . .

#### Bowling

**2012 Host: Regina Chapter**  
(information to follow in next issue)

#### Bridge

Host needed for 2012

#### Curling

**2011 Host: Swift Current Chapter**  
Place: Swift Current Curling  
Club - iPlex  
Date: November 7-9, 2011  
Contact: Ross Orth  
Phone: 306-773-1055

#### Fishing

**Host: Nipawin Chapter**  
Place: Tobin Lake  
Date: June 2012  
Contact: Info to follow

#### Golf

**2012 Host: Moose Jaw Chapter**  
Place: Lynbrook Golf &  
Country Club  
Date: June 11-12, 2012  
Contacts:  
Sandra Towriss – 306-692-2562  
Adele Owatz – 306-693-0578

#### Stitch 'N Quilt

**2011 Host: Moosomin Chapter**  
Date: October 24-26, 2011  
Contact: Ann Norgan  
Phone: 306-435-3139  
Email: r.a.norgan@sasktel.net  
Website: www.stitch-n quilt2011.com

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 Provincial Golf Tournament 2011 Report

The STS Provincial Golf Tournament was held at Madge Lake, June 13 & 14, 2011 hosted by the Assiniboine Chapter. Sixty-two golfers registered for the tournament. Participants were given a "goodie" bag that included a Madge Lake golf ball, a water bottle, a pin and numerous other donated articles.

## Stroke Play

### Women's

**Senior Women's Trophy:** Shirley Krone

**Women's trophy:** Sylvie Francoeur

**Championship Flight:** Shirley Krone,  
Sylvie Francoeur, Lin Rigg

**Second Flight:** Connie Asmundson, Sheila Senga,  
Joyce McLean

### Senior Men's

**Senior Men's Trophy:** Ernie Gabora

**Championship Flight:** Ernie Gabora,  
Walter Popenia, Doug Lyon

**Second Flight:** Don Ottman, Germaine Dauk,  
Al Makowsky

### Men's

**Championship Flight:** Ray Field, Stan Tysowski  
Ken Shabatoski

**Second Flight:** Nick Asmundson, Tom Jordens,  
Wayne Guenther

### Scramble

**Best Score:** Sylvie Francoeur, Stan Tysowski,  
Rick Wakeman



Arnold Makowsky presenting the Sr. Men's championship trophy to Ernie Gabora of Canora.



Arnold Makowsky presenting the Women's championship trophy to Sylvie Francoeur of Vanscoy



Arnold Makowsky presenting the Senior Women's championship trophy to Shirley Krone of Nipawin.



Arnold Makowsky presenting the Men's championship trophy to Ray Field of Saskatoon.

## Attention Superannuated Teachers

If you withdrew teaching services during a legal strike over the course of your career and as a consequence were required to delay your superannuation in order to accumulate additional contributory service, you may be entitled to a benefit from the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation. Applications will be received until October 28, 2011.

For information, please request an information package from:

Martha Galenzoski, Administration/Governance  
Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation  
2317 Arlington Ave  
Saskatoon SK S7J 2H8  
Ph: 306-373-1660; 1-800-667-7762

## Congratulations

Anna Gertrude Ingham (author of *The Blended Sound-Sight Program of Learning*) upon her 100th birthday.

Check out our  
website at  
[www.sts.sk.ca](http://www.sts.sk.ca)

# Spotlight on Superannuates

## Regina Chapter



December 9, 2011, marks the 40th anniversary of the Regina Chapter, Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan. On that date in 1971, twenty superannuated teachers decided to organize in order to obtain larger pensions for all superannuates. At the first meeting of the Chapter in January, 1972, 60 superannuated teachers joined, paying a \$2 membership fee. In order to have a greater voice regarding pension increases, our Provincial STS was formed in 1973, with Avery McDowell of Regina as president.

Today, the Regina Chapter has 1650 members, and the Chapter still works to increase pensions by supporting Provincial resolutions to raise the cost of living allowances.

Since its beginning, the Regina Chapter has initiated a number of

projects. An apartment for retired teachers was completed in 1982. Some members knit toques for the neo-natal ward of the hospital, and we encourage members to collect soup labels, used prescription glasses, drink can tabs, and wool which are given to various charities. Our communications committee phones or emails members prior to each meeting, our *Outreach* chair sends cards to members as needed, and our Visitation committee visits shut-in members.

We have made donations to the Stirling McDowell Foundation for a number of years and support the Alex Youck School Museum with yearly grants. Each May one or two members are selected for the Award of Merit, to recognize members who make significant contributions to

the Chapter. Our Chapter also subsidizes the Christmas banquet and the "Out to Lunch" activity on the first day of school in the fall.

In addition to monthly assembly meetings, Regina Chapter has a number of activities for superannuates, including a bowling league, a choir, golf tournament, mini curling bonspiel, High Tea, as well as two potluck luncheons during the year.

A decision was made in 2010 to provide a \$1,000 scholarship to a student enrolled in the Bachelor of Education program at the University of Regina, and the same amount to a student enrolled in the Early Childhood Education program at SIAST. The plan is to offer these scholarships for three years.

# McDowell Foundation

Please join us in celebrating the

*20th Anniversary*

of the Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research Into Teaching.



The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Eamer Auditorium with a wine and cheese reception to follow. The McDowell Foundation Award winner this year is the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan



A donation to the Foundation would be gratefully appreciated and can be mailed to the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation in care of the McDowell Foundation.

### Where:

Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation  
2317 Arlington Avenue  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

### When:

November 18, 2011. Please reply by October 28 to Karen Williams at [mservices@stf.sk.ca](mailto:mservices@stf.sk.ca) or by phone at 306-373-1660

DR. STIRLING MCDOWELL  
*Foundation*  
FOR  
RESEARCH INTO TEACHING

## From The Editor's Desk

Welcome to all the new superannuates. May your retirement be fulfilling, productive and fun.

The fall colors are starting to be quite spectacular. Here on the prairies we have had a great hot summer. And it looks like this may even continue into the fall.

Notification will soon be sent to each Chapter President about the upcoming Chapter Presidents' meeting on Friday, October 28, 2011. We hope to see a representative from your Chapter at this meeting.

One day this email came across my screen. HOW TO STAY YOUNG MY FRIEND:

1. Try everything twice. On one woman's tombstone she said she wanted this epitaph:  
"Tried everything twice.  
Loved it both times!"
2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down. (Keep this in mind if you are one of those grouches!)

Shirley



## STS Executive 2011-12

<b>President/Councillor</b>	Margaret Martin, Saskatoon Chapter
<b>Vice-President/Councillor</b>	Robert Wuschenny, Regina Chapter
<b>Past-President/Councillor</b>	Jim Segó, Unity Chapter
<b>Executive Secretary</b>	Fred Herron, Saskatoon Chapter
<b>ACER-CART Representative</b>	George Georget, Saskatoon Chapter
<b>Councillors:</b>	
Calvin Bachmeier	Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Chapter
Doug Haroldson	Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Chapter
Joyce Hoffman	Swift Current Chapter
Mike Kaminski	Assiniboine Chapter
Maxine Stinka	Assiniboine Chapter
<b>Members-At-Large:</b>	
Elaine Broughton	Saskatoon Chapter
Judy Buzowetsky	Weyburn Chapter
Laura Dubois	Regina Chapter
Shirley Henderson	Prince Albert Chapter
Gerald Mamer	Saskatoon Chapter
Roger Marchand	South Central Chapter
Kate McCorriston	Nipawin Chapter

### Job Opportunity

Canadian Red Cross  
RespectED Coordinator for  
North/Central Saskatchewan  
Region.

Contact: Norm Jakubowski,  
443 – 2nd Ave, Saskatoon.  
Phone: 306-721-1611  
Email: norm.jakubowski  
@redcross.ca

**Volunteers needed for  
presentations for the  
Saskatchewan History  
and Folklore Society.**

Contact Hugh Henry at  
306-778-2531 or email  
h.henry@sasktel.net

## 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 email the STS Office if  
you wish to receive notification  
when it is posted on the website  
instead of receiving a hard copy.**

**website: [www.sts.sk.ca](http://www.sts.sk.ca)**

Phone: 373-3879  
Fax: 374-1122  
Email: [sts@stf.sk.ca](mailto:sts@stf.sk.ca)

2317 Arlington Avenue  
Saskatoon SK S7J 2H8  
Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon

Publications Mail Agreement No.40017216  
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:  
STS Office  
2317 Arlington Avenue  
Saskatoon SK S7J 2H8