

OUTREACH



To The Superannuated Teachers
of Saskatchewan

President's Report – Robert Wuschenny

While Old Man Winter gave parts of our province a taste of what is to come weather wise, this did not deter our STS Executive from attending our second set of meetings for 2012-13, on October 25, and 26, 2012. Most of our Chapter Presidents were able to attend Presidents' Day on October 27, 2012, as roads, particularly in the west and north of the province, improved. Our Okanagan Valley Chapter President, John Ryder, did venture over to "this side" to attend Presidents' Day, but I noticed he was anxious to hurry back to enjoy the warmer weather in British Columbia.

Our STS auditor, Deloitte, reported to the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee on October 25, 2012, that the STS had another clean audit for the year ending June 30, 2012. Thank you to Executive Secretary, Fred Herron, Office Manager, Colleen Bailey, and Assistant Office Manager, Heather Hase, for their good work in ensuring that our financial records are accurately managed.

We received our SPDU Strategic Planning Facilitator Report on October 25, 2012. The Executive plans to analyze the report at our January meetings. The Saskatchewan Blue Cross satisfaction survey is

moving forward and it is anticipated that the survey will be conducted in the coming weeks.

Another successful Presidents' Day was held on October 27, 2012. This was a good opportunity for Chapter Presidents to meet to exchange ideas, discuss common issues, and to get to know one another. The Saskatchewan Blue Cross presentation on the travel portion of our Extended Health and Dental Plan was most timely as many superannuates plan a winter getaway. Chapter Presidents had an opportunity to ask many important questions concerning out of country coverage, what to do in case of emergency while travelling out of the country as well as how pre-existing conditions are handled, top up coverage beyond 65 days, etc.

The STS AGM Planning Committee has been working to ensure that our 40th AGM to be held May 14-16, 2013 at the Travelodge Hotel in Saskatoon will again be successful. This AGM will be special as we celebrate our 40th year as an organization. Again, we invite Chapters interested in helping with AGM registration and/or the McDowell Foundation Raffle to submit their names to the office. Should any Chapter wish to donate

a prize for the raffle, please contact the STS Office as well.

Our Recreation Committee continues to seek host Chapters for provincial recreation events. If your Chapter is interested in hosting or co-hosting a provincial event, please contact the STS Office. Also, in an attempt to keep our membership up to date on issues, events, etc., our Support Services Committee has instituted a "What's New" section on the website. It is hoped that monthly updates will enhance communications.

A change in direction for our Retirement Lifestyles Committee is in the works. A Retirement Lifestyles Planning Seminar is planned for Saskatoon on March 9, 2013. Please watch for details in the STF Bulletin, on the STF and STS websites, and in *Outreach*. If you know of teachers who are planning to retire soon, please inform them of the upcoming Retirement Lifestyles Planning Seminar.

My autumn has been enriched with wonderful visits to local Chapters. I welcome invitations from other local Chapters who would like me to visit. Please contact me at 306-545-2512 or at r.wuschenny@sasktel.net if you would like me to visit your Chapter.

Annual General Meeting

Elaine Broughton and Jerry Mamer

The 40th Annual General Meeting of the STS will be held on May 14-16, 2013, at the Travelodge Hotel in Saskatoon.

Entertainment

The names of "No Hurry" and "Roberta Nichol" appeared repeatedly on evaluation forms, so we have both of them booked to entertain this year.

Interest Sessions

Again we will have five Interest Sessions for delegates to choose from.

Chapter Presidents

Information about the AGM will be sent out early in February. Please

have your delegate list into the STS Office by April 1, 2013. The formula for determining the number delegates remains the same as last year. "Two delegates for the first 60 paid members or portion thereof and one delegate for each additional 60 paid members or portion thereof." For delegates attending the AGM, the STS pays for two nights' accommodation – breakfast and lunch on Wednesday and Thursday and the banquet on Wednesday evening. When delegates receive their information, we request that they return a form to the STS Office to indicate if they wish to have these meals. This is necessary for the AGM Planning Committee and the catering service at the hotel.

ACER-CART – George Georget

ACER-CART and its member organizations are focusing attention on revising and strengthening advocacy work Canada-wide. The Western Region members – the Yukon, B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba held a special meeting to examine strategies to coordinate advocacy work in their respective territory/provinces. The

Western Regional members of ACER-CART also met with the Advocacy Committee of British Columbia Retired Teachers Association who has developed a process that has guided their work for the past three years. The Western Region is in the process of deciding what will be the focus of its coordinated advocacy work.

Budget, Finance and Audit – Doug Haroldson

Deloitte provided the audited report of the STS Financial Statements for the Operating Fund, the Extended Health Fund and the Contingency Fund as of June 30, 2012. We received a clean audit.

As per Guideline 9 – *Financial Affairs of the Policy Handbook* \$58,610 will be transferred from the Operating Fund to the Contingency Fund.

Group Benefits

Robert Wuschenny
(for Margaret Martin)

The claims experience for the Health and Dental Plan was reviewed by Saskatchewan Blue Cross representative, Bob Wilhelms. Both plans are doing well in the first months of a three-year contract with Saskatchewan Blue Cross.

A reminder that the fiscal year of our Plan has been changed and will be from July 1 to June 30 which means that our contract with Saskatchewan Blue Cross has been extended to June 30, 2015.

A meeting was held with Saskatchewan Blue Cross to discuss a forthcoming survey regarding the level of satisfaction with the Extended Health and Dental Plan.

The phone survey is scheduled to take place during the month of November.

Attention Chapter Presidents

Nominations for Honorary Life Memberships must be submitted to the STS Office by February 1, 2013. If you have worthy candidates for these awards, ensure that the nominations are submitted well before that deadline. Please check the Policy Handbook pages 32 and 33 for the required information and for the correct format of the nomination.

If you have any questions or require additional information please contact Kate McCorriston at 306-862-3627 or email mccomr@sasktel.net

The Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation for Research Into Teaching is in its twenty-first year of operation. This year the Foundation is proud to allocate close to \$84,000 in funding to nine Saskatchewan teacher-led research teams and three developmental grants to refine research ideas for next year's application process.

Research results from completed projects will be shared at the Learning From Practice exchange being held on November 24, 2012 at the STF building. The keynote presentation by Linda Wason-Ellam will be followed by five structured presentations, two round table presentations and a Family Literacy Panel Discussion.

The McDowell Foundation is seeking one teacher and two members of the business community to join the

Board. The Board will meet on November 23. One Board member, Elaine Broughton, has been appointed to the Investment Services Committee. The purpose of the STF Investment Services Committee is to coordinate information, analysis and policies regarding investments and any other matter in which there may be alignment among other Federation funds.

Retirement Lifestyles Planning

Shirley Henderson

The Committee plans to hold a retirement lifestyles presentation on March 9, 2013, in Saskatoon. Please let any active teachers contemplating retirement know of this presentation.

Resolutions

Mike Kaminski

The **deadline** for resolutions is March 1, 2013. The Resolutions Committee encourages resolutions from Chapters and the membership. It is NEVER too early to formulate and submit a resolution; however, resolutions submitted after April 30, 2013, will be deemed as late resolutions.

Nominations

Margaret Martin
and Fred Herron

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

The candidates are requested to present a three minute speech on Tuesday evening of the AGM.

Check out our
website at
www.sts.sk.ca



Congratulations

April Sampson
Nominated under the heading
Heritage & Culture for SSM
awards.

Mabel McTavish
Nominated under the heading
Centenarian for the SSM awards.

Elizabeth Goertzen
STS 10,000th member.



Elizabeth Goertzen



Upcoming Events

Recreational Activities Participation STS Style . . .

Bowling

Date: May 1-2, 2013
 Host: Regina Chapter
 Place: Glencairn Bolodrome

Bridge

Host needed for 2013

Curling

2013 Host: Carrot River Valley Chapter (Melfort & District)

Fishing

Host needed for 2013

Golf

Date: June 10-11, 2013
 (please note corrected date)
 Host: Northwest Chapter
 Location: Goodsoil Northern Meadows Golf Course
 Host needed for 2014

Kaiser

Host needed for 2013

Stitch 'N Quilt

Host needed for 2013

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 (scrabble, pickleball, scrapbooking, slo-pitch).

Provincial Kaiser Tournament

The STS Kaiser Tournament was held in North Battleford on October 18, 2012. This event was hosted by the Battlefords and District Chapter and there were sixteen participants in attendance.



Stella Ewanchuk presenting High Gent Plaque to winner Dick Semeniuk



Stella Ewanchuk presenting High Lady Plaque to winner Ruby Rafuse with Treasurer Gwen Laughlin.

Stitch 'N Quilt Retreat

The Stitch 'N Quilt Retreat was held in Wolseley on October 16-18, 2012, and was hosted by the Mainline Chapter. There were fifteen participants and three teachers.



Bargello Bag



Fabulous Fractures



Examples of Layer by Layer



Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism – Maxine Stinka

The SSM Board met in Regina on October 10, 2012. The Elder Abuse Prevention and Response Network is developing a protocol for responding to phone calls about possible elder abuse. Another group is looking into the introduction of a 211 telephone number that would have access to a database with all sorts of services and activities provided by government and non-profit groups throughout the province. The plan is to have the website available by the spring of 2013 and the phone portion up and running by 2014. The phone service would be available 24/7 and trained operators would be able to point the caller in the right direction. More information will be sent out to member organizations as it becomes available.

Celebrating Seniors was a very successful event. All winners of the various categories are reported in the latest edition of *Gray Matters*. Nomination packages are already available for next year. The forums on Health Care and Pensions have taken place in six communities. Health Regions are interested in participating and advertising if SSM does this again next year. Applications from member organizations for SPRA grants for 2013-14 are due by Friday, November 16. A

committee has been formed to develop some selection guidelines for future requests.

SSM President, Betty Pickering, and Executive Director, Holly Schick, had an excellent meeting with two people from Saskatchewan Health and have scheduled quarterly meetings for the future. The SSM

Christmas party is planned for December 6 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. It will be held at the SSM headquarters in Regina and everyone is welcome. The SSM member organization consultation will be held in Regina on Friday, November 30, 2012. Three people from each organization have been invited plus the SSM Board and Staff.

STF Councillors Report – Robert Wuschenny

Six STS Councillors and two substitute Councillors attended the STF Councillor Conference, October 18-20, 2012.

The conference opened on Thursday evening, October 18, 2012 with Councillors having the opportunity to attend one of two sessions on Writing Effective Resolutions or Advocacy. Friday, October 19 was devoted to governance. There was an opportunity to discuss and provide feedback and input on four policies: Social Justice and Equity, Advocacy, Affiliation, and Services to Students Beyond Teaching Duties in preparation for the 2013 Annual Meeting of Council. Councillors were also apprised of the content of the annual STF Brief to the Minister and were introduced to the advocacy campaign titled, This is the Classroom.

Councillors were then joined by Members of the Legislature and Councillors and MLAs engaged in lively conversation over mutual education concerns. These fruitful conversations continued over lunch.

A special session was scheduled to set the context for bargaining on

Friday evening when Councillors had the opportunity to hear James Clancy discuss current social, political and economic trends with respect to Public Sector Workers. With the use of an effective visual, Clancy also explained the "All Together Now Campaign," currently espoused to ward off income inequality.

At the session on Saturday, October 20, 2012, Councillors reviewed the context for collective bargaining, examined various bargaining models, and adopted a set of overarching principles to guide the bargaining process. In the coming weeks, local association meetings will be held to obtain member input. These meetings will be followed by a Special Meeting of Council on December 8, 2012, at which time principles for bargaining will be selected and priorities will be set.

Thank you to our Councillors and the substitutes for their presence and their input at the Councillor Conference. Also, I wish to remind our Executive of the confidential nature of the provincial collective bargaining portion of this report.



Spotlight on Superannuates



Erma (Jordan) Rabourn



Erma (Jordan) Rabourn of Eastend had a teaching career spanning three decades in country schools around Morse, Log Valley, Mimosa and Schoental, north of Melfort, east to Halbright, south to Glenworth and Frontier and west to Medicine Hat.

Erma received her degree in General Studies from the Athabasca University in Edmonton. Most courses were taken either by summer school or correspondence. She was perhaps the oldest to convocate, being well into her 70's.

Her greatest accomplishment may be her writing ability. She has

published books – *The Rhubarb Cookbook*, *Hurry Up with the Music* and a book of poetry. Her short stories have been published in the *Winnipeg Free Press*, the *Western Producer*, *Folklore*, the *Saskatchewan Senior and Woman's Day*. The book *Hurry Up With the Music* was published when she was 94 years old.

Erma's stories are based on real life events. She talks about relationships among ordinary people.

She is a founding member of the Medicine Hat Writers Club.

Chapter Presidents' Meeting

On Saturday, October 27, 2012, the annual Chapter Presidents' Meeting was held in the Eamer Auditorium. Presidents from thirty-three Chapters were in attendance. A session on travel benefits was presented by Michelle Fleming from Saskatchewan Blue Cross.

Superannuates Make a Difference

Weyburn Chapter

The members of the Weyburn Chapter donate money to a local charity at each of their four meetings:

- October – Alzheimer's Society
- December – Salvation Army – money along with food & toys
- February – Big Brother/Big Sister
- April – Canadian Mental Health Association (Weyburn)

Members of each charity come to the Chapter meetings to speak about their work.

Members are also encouraged to donate to the Education Scholarship fund.

Nipawin Chapter

The Nipawin and District Chapter of the STS is supporting its communities in several ways. Members deliver meals on wheels for three weeks every year. Two scholarships are awarded at the Nipawin Music Festival each year. Every Christmas hampers and cash donations are provided to the Nipawin and Carrot River Food Banks.



Chapter Presidents



Michelle Fleming
(Saskatchewan
Blue Cross)



Left to Right: Robert Wuschenny (STS President)
John Ryder (Okanagan Valley Chapter)
Doug Haroldson (STS Vice-President)

STS Recreation Activities Summary Chart

– Chapter Hosted Events

Date	Bowling	Bridge	Curling	Fishing	Golf	Horseshoes	Kaiser	Quilting	Tennis
1979					Humboldt				
1980					Assiniboine				
1981					Estevan				
1982	Saskatoon		Carrot River		Prince Albert				
1983	Humboldt		Last Mountain		Regina				
1984	Moose Jaw		Assiniboine		Carrot River				
1985	Yorkton		N. Battleford		Midlakes	Saskatoon			
1986	Regina		Saskatoon		Prince Albert	Saskatoon			
1987	Tisdale		Carrot River		N. Battleford	N. Battleford			
1988	Prince Albert		Swift Current		Yorkton	N. Battleford			Saskatoon
1989	Kindersley		Regina		Shamrock	Moose Jaw			
1990	Lloydminster		Saskatoon		South Central	Moose Jaw			
1991	Shamrock		Yorkton		Assiniboine	Saskatoon			
1992	Assiniboine	Moose Jaw	Prince Albert		Swift Current	N. Battleford			
1993	Melville	Swift Current	Weyburn		Carrot River	Moose Jaw			
1994	Moose Jaw	Regina	Nipawin		Regina	Saskatoon			
1995	Yorkton	Swift Current	Mainline		Nipawin	N. Battleford			
1996	Saskatoon	Prince Albert	Prince Albert		Moosomin	Moose Jaw			
1997	Regina	Moose Jaw	Saskatoon		Shamrock	Saskatoon			
1998	Moosomin	Regina	Rosetown		Red Deer River Valley	N. Battleford			
1999	Swift Current	Saskatoon	Melville		N. Battleford	Moose Jaw			
2000	Humboldt	Swift Current	Carrot River		Estevan	Saskatoon			
2001	Yorkton	Moose Jaw	Weyburn	Moosomin / Mainline	Swift Current	N. Battleford	N. Battleford		
2002	Prince Albert	Regina	N. Battleford	Moosomin / Mainline	Yorkton		Nipawin		
2003	Regina	Swift Current	Assiniboine	Moosomin / Mainline	Saskatoon		Humboldt		
2004	Moose Jaw	Saskatoon	Prince Albert		Regina		N. Battleford	Moose Jaw	
2005	Saskatoon	Moose Jaw	Moosomin		Nipawin		Unity	Souris Moose Mtn	
2006	Esterhazy	Swift Current	Outlook		Weyburn		Prince Albert	Humboldt	
2007	Yorkton	Saskatoon	Melville	Moosomin / Mainline	Carrot River		N. Battleford		
2008	Regina	Regina	Saskatoon		Maple Creek-Medicine Hat		Prince Albert	South Central	
2009	Prince Albert	Saskatoon	South Central		Midlakes		Unity	Mainline	
2010	Moose Jaw	Moose Jaw	Parkland	Nipawin	Souris Moose Mountain		Battlefords	Weyburn	
2011	Saskatoon	Saskatoon	Swift Current		Assiniboine		Unity	Moosomin	
2012	Yorkton	Regina/Mainline	Saskatoon	Nipawin	Moose Jaw		Battlefords	Mainline	
2013	Regina		Carrot River		Northwest				

From The Editor's Desk

Another successful Chapter Presidents' Meeting has been completed. In spite of the uncertain weather many presidents attended.

I would like to share with you some of the things a person needs to think about and decisions to be made before an emergency happens so that the emergency is less traumatic.

Over the past few years, I suddenly found myself the sole caregiver for my husband. This can be a very busy, trying, scary and lonely time. I was so glad that we had put into place many years before a power of attorney and a living will for each of us.

I had to make use of this to be able to take care of him. Something as simple as being able to access his bank account to help pay for his care. All I had to do was take a notarized copy of the power of attorney to the bank, show it to them and then I had signing power for his account.

When the person passes, the power of attorney is immediately null and void.

Next time I would like to share the "paper" one needs to have on hand in the event of a person's passing.

Until then, to each and everyone of you and your family the best of the season and the New Year.

Shirley

STS Executive 2012-13

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



Notice:

The STS Office will be closed for the Christmas holidays from **December 21 at noon and re-opening January 7 at 8:30 a.m.**

Reminder Seniors' Drug Plan

If you are the primary plan holder of the STS Group Benefits Plan and are eligible for the Seniors' Drug Plan, please send a copy of the confirmation letter to the STS Office in order to have your monthly Extended Health premium reduced.

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

Phone: 373-3879
Email: sts@stf.sk.ca
Fax: 242-2538

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

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