



January 1994

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to a New Year, and we hope, one that will prove to be pleasant, prosperous, and fulfilling for each of you!

For retirees, one way to feel needed and useful, is to become a volunteer. Our STO District 16 needs lots of volunteers, especially at the Newsletter production and mailing time. For the two hour mailing "production line" of our November, 1993, Newsletter, we were pleased to see some new volunteers. Thank you to those helpers and to our small group of regulars.

How are the rest of you needed? Newsletters always require extra volunteers since many retirees travel and some find that inclement weather and/or health conditions make travel to St. Margaret's Church difficult.

April's Newsletter Mailing date is Thursday, April 7, 1994 at 9:30 a.m.

**Lloyd Targett**, assisted by **Art Bussey** and several 'telephoners' organize our mailing activities.

Other volunteering opportunities include:

- 1) The Toronto Board of Education's Sesquicentennial Museum, located behind the Education Centre, which requires help for the myriad activities associated with the museum.
- 2) The Sesqui Museum is collecting Oral Histories about Toronto and Toronto Schools for its archives. Volunteers are required to conduct and/or tape record the oral histories.

Contact me for further information.

### Did you know?

**Donald Cooper** keeps us on track financially.

**Bill Shaver** continues to provide us with up-to-date Health and Insurance Plan information.

**Ian Baird, Dennis Fiedler, Mary Noylander and Ruth Lindsay** co-ordinate these Newsletters.

And, **Anne Fraser** is our "hostess with the mostest" for Mailing days, Executive meetings and Club 16.

Sincerely,  
**Shirley Simons**

### Please record these Calendar Dates

- \* Wednesday, March 2, 1994 - STO's District 16 Winter Meeting
- \* Thursday, April 7, 1994 - Newsletter envelope stuffing
- \* Wednesday, May 4, 1994 - Annual Spring Luncheon

## **REPORT FROM YOUR DISTRICT HEALTH INSURANCE REPRESENTATIVE**

### **From the Ontario Ministry of Health regarding:**

- 1) An important reminder for Ontario residents, especially seniors, who spend time outside Canada.
- 2) Changes to the Ministry of Health's out-of-country payment policies came into effect on Friday, October 1, 1993.

### **What's Changing?**

Ontario residents travelling outside Canada will continue to be covered by OHIP for emergency health services. People who leave Canada for elective services - medical care that is available in Ontario, and that can be planned ahead of time - will no longer be covered.

An emergency is defined as an acute, unexpected condition, illness, disease or injury that arises outside Canada, and that requires immediate attention.

For people who need renal dialysis treatments when they travel, there is an increase in the amount OHIP will pay for dialysis outside Canada -- from \$200 to \$293 (Cdn).

### **What's staying the same?**

Seniors with chronic conditions need not be concerned that OHIP will cut off payments for necessary care when they are wintering in the United States. The Ministry of Health will continue to pay for necessary care for people who spend long periods outside Canada.

Ontario residents can still spend up to 182 days a year outside the country without jeopardizing their OHIP eligibility.

The rates paid by OHIP for emergency out-of-country remain the same as they have been since October 1991 -- up to \$400 (Cdn) a day for in-patient treatment in eligible hospitals. Care given by physicians will continue to be paid at Ontario rates.

The need for extra travel insurance is as important as ever, whether you cross the border for an hour or leave Canada for several months. Accidents can happen to anyone, and medical care in other countries is often very expensive. Travellers are personally responsible for any costs over the rates Ontario pays.

### **Please note**

STO members who have the Extended Health Care Benefits Plan are covered for costs above the Ontario rates outside Ontario. You also have coverage for trips up to 60 days at a time outside the province and you can purchase more if you need it. For information phone: Johnson Insurance - 764-4884.

### **Did you know that**

A toll-free information number (1-800-387-4456) operated by The Ontario Office for Disability Issues will refer callers to accessible court accommodations across the province.

This commitment by the Ministry of the Attorney General in co-operation with the Ministry of Government Services to provide barrier-free courts to people with disabilities is in recognition of their rights under the Ontario Human Rights Code.

**CLUB SIXTEEN BULLETIN**

All events detailed below are held at St. Margaret's Anglican Church, Burnaby Avenue at Avenue Road, 1 street north of Eglinton Avenue West.

**FEBRUARY 1994**

**MONTHLY SOCIAL**

**Monday - February 6 - 1:30 p.m.** Information: David Clee 483-6379  
**Izzy Gang** will enlighten us about the restoration of the **Elgin-Wintergarden Theatres** in downtown Toronto. This was a unique and mammoth project, and one of interest especially to Ontarians.

**BRIDGE Tuesdays - Feb. 1 & 15 - 1:30 p.m.** Information: Lillian Gang 783-3586  
or : Thelma Schlifer 787-3550

**CRAFTS Tuesday - Feb. 22 - 1:30 p.m.** Information: Nell Godfrey 624-8689

**MARCH 1994**

**MONTHLY SOCIAL**

**Monday - March 7 - 1:30 p.m.** Information: David Clee 483-6379  
District 16 Past President, **Dennis Fiedler**, will tell us "**All about STO**".

**BRIDGE Tuesdays - Mar. 1, 15 & 29 - 1:30 p.m.** Information: Lillian Gang 783-3586  
This month there will be three sessions. or: Thelma Schlifer 787-3550

**CRAFTS Tuesday - March 22 - 1:30 p.m.** Information: Nell Godfrey 624-8689

**APRIL 1994**

**MONTHLY SOCIAL**

**Monday - April 4 - 1:30 p.m.** Information: David Clee 483-6379  
**John Rutherford** will give a slide presentation on "**Sheet Music - They Worked for a Song**".

**BRIDGE Tuesdays - April 5 & 9 - 1:30 p.m.** Information: Lillian Gang 783-3586  
or: Thelma Schlifer 787-3550

**CRAFTS Tuesday - April 26 - 1:30 p.m.** information: Neli Godfrey 624-8689

**MAY 1994**

**MONTHLY SOCIAL**

**Monday - May 2 - 1:30 p.m.** Information: David Clee 483-6379  
To be announced

**BRIDGE Tuesdays - May 3, 17 & 31 - 1:30 p.m.** Information: Lillian Gang 783-3586  
This month there will be 3 sessions. or: Thelma Schlifer 787-3550

**CRAFTS Tuesday - May 24 - 1:30 p.m.** Information: Nell Godfrey 624-8689

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

Many of you have probably missed the TRAVEL programs. Louise Griffith headed up this activity for many years, and earned a well deserved retirement. Unfortunately, nobody volunteered to take over this year's programming. We need a co-ordinator for the Travel program for 1994-1995. We are also interested in adding to our list of speakers. If you are a new retiree, we would welcome your participation and interest. Please contact our President, John Terry at 444-9656.

## STO DISTRICT 16 - TORONTO

(The following article, on the history of District 16, should have been included in the November Newsletter to help commemorate the 25th Anniversary of STO/ERO. However, since space was limited, we are printing it in the January Newsletter. Our apologies to the author, Mary Thomas.)

1993 marks the 25th Anniversary of STO/ERO. Superannuated teachers have good reason to celebrate the foresight and initiative of those who pioneered the founding and growth of our provincial and local district associations.

Toronto is proud to report that the founder and first provincial president of STO was one of ours, Art McAdam. Mr. McAdam died this spring, but he never lost interest in STO and was a delegate and, later, honoured guest at many Senate meetings. Art McAdam fought and won the battle for indexed pensions for us all.

Our District 16 (\*Toronto) is one of 43 districts. Our first district executive met on Wednesday, October 10, 1973, 20 years ago. We are indebted to those leaders who organized District 16 for Toronto teachers. The first local President was Murdoch McIvor and he had a first-rate executive consisting of Allen Sweetman, Vicki McNabb and John Ball, Margaret Kennedy, Ted Stubbs, Bill Darbyshire and Harold Tufts. The annual fee was set at \$2.00. There was no newsletter, but notices were mailed to members. In 1973, our first membership was 540. Today, our membership is well over 1000.

For twenty years we have enjoyed entertaining speakers, travelogues, retiree luncheons, trips to various places in Ontario, and a special May breakfast/luncheon.

Through the years, many fine people have served as leaders of District 16. The Presidents from 1973 to 1993 were Murdoch McIvor, Allen Sweetman, Archie Milloy, Harold Whitley, Dr. Harry Barrett, Laura Schissler, Cecil Longmuir, Walter Reid, Mary Moore, Sidney Coles, Harold Dean, Mary Thomas, Al Robb, Margaret Smith, Mitchell Lennox, Bernice McGinn, George Hayes, Charlotte Hardie, Ruth Lindsay and Dennis Fiedler.

District 16 has been very active and involved in decision-making at the provincial level. Several members have served and chaired provincial committees. Toronto District 16 has drafted several motions regarding health plans and pensions and steered them through the Senate to acceptance. The newsletter, "Facts and Impressions", originated in Toronto. District 16 has a social arm called Club Sixteen, formed in 1975. At that time, there were eight activity groups - bridge, travel, historical research, photography, local history, knitting and needlecraft and lively arts. Today we have many of the same groups but, perhaps, we should revive the lively arts?

Club Sixteen has flourished over the years under the leadership of Bea Machin, Jean McEachern, Jean Watson, Doug Sparks and John Terry.

In 1993, District 16 acknowledged the contribution of 14 members who had served on the executive for six or more years. The two longest-serving members were Margaret Smith, 15 years; and Anne Fraser, 13 years, a great due. Others are Hank Condie, Bernice McGinn, Charlotte Hardie, George Hayes, Don Cooper, Doug Sparks, Cecilia Dineen, Mary Thomas and Betty Chandorkar. All were awarded Certificates of Merit. Seven of these dedicated members still serve on the executive. No wonder District 16 has been a great success!

The STO motto is "**Service to Others**". This principle is the aim of all the dedicated volunteer members of District 16.

### **JUST REMINISCING**

On a very hot summer day my daughter, my granddaughter and I drove to Morrisburg to visit Upper Canada Village. After spending a delightful afternoon in the various buildings depicting early pioneer life, we came upon the little red schoolhouse. There we were met by the 'schoolmarm' garbed in a long gown (circa 1850). She very pleasantly greeted us all-gawking tourists dressed in various multicoloured costumes (circa 1992). She invited us to enter and to sit down -- the boys on one side, the girls on the other. My daughter and I sat with the boys, my granddaughter did what she was told. The teacher then proceeded to speak to one of the "boys" (red cap and red shorts to match), "Did your mother not teach you to remove your cap when you enter the school? Tomorrow I want you to borrow your older brother's long pants and long-sleeved shirt so that you will be properly attired."

We did not escape her wrath, "silly little girls, sitting with the boys. Were we trying to impress them?" She reminded us that the girls were coming to school to learn to read, write and sew. Not too much was expected of us, as we would probably marry very early. She took the boy in the red shorts to task, since he was the youngest of the family he would have to go to the big city to earn his keep. "So pay attention!" To the boy seated nearest to the door, she pointed to the pail and said "at noon you will go to the well and bring back water so that we may all have a drink at lunchtime."

A lesson in calligraphy was next and out came the quill, the jet-black ink and the strap! We were to practise on our slates and no one was to write with his left hand -- she would certainly use the strap on all sinister pupils. There couldn't be any smudges in the exercise books for the "inspector would consider her a poor teacher" and that she would not have! It was at this point that I was suddenly lost in a flood of memories. How many times, as a child, had I been slapped because I was left-handed! How many times was I forced to change hands in order to write "properly"!

In closing, she announced that a school board meeting was to take place the following afternoon. She was such a wonderful actress and a charming person that one was tempted to stay over. Unfortunately, we had to move on, but as we were leaving the grounds my daughter said to me, "Mom, you're very quiet. Are you not feeling well?" Of course I was fine. I was just reminiscing.

*Ruth Lindsay*

### **Taken from the book of Limericks by STO/ERO Members**

We were so much better back then  
We taught them to write with straight pen  
To obey each command  
Or get hit on the hand  
Without a who, what, why or when.

*Nina Robinson*

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

If you are a member of STO and are contemplating a move; if you are a relative or a friend of a member who is deceased, please forward this information to:

- a) Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board Phone: (416) 226-2700  
5650 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M2M 4H5
- b) Superannuated Teachers of Ontario (STO Provincial) Phone: (416) 962-9463  
1260 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario M5R 2B5
- c) STO District 16, Charlotte Hardy Phone: (416) 425-3643  
61 Chilton Road, Toronto, Ontario M4J 3C7

**IN MEMORIAM**

Joanne Boyd  
Gertrude Davis  
Hilda Dorse  
Sam Ellison  
Edith Lee  
Esther Lunny

Jean McDonald  
Mildred Orviss  
Kenneth Pauli  
Sister Catherine Myers  
Helen Richmond  
Ina Roberts

**MUSINGS FROM MEMBERSHIP**

This rainy day frees up the time  
To up-date all the listings  
Of Superannuated names  
Who are in 16th District.

It's great to type the names of friends  
And take time to remember  
Anne, Mary, Dolly, Bob and Ron,  
What fun we had together!

We thank you for the time you spend  
To send us little notes  
Of where you are and what you do,  
This contact helps us cope.

With meetings, workshops, letters, too  
We work on your behalf  
To make sure you are kept informed  
Of all retirement facts.

Hello B.C. and to the East  
To members far and near  
We think of you and wish you well  
For all the coming years.

*Betty Chandorkar*  
*(Membership Chairman - District 16)*