



**President:** Bill Tajer 494-8590

**Newsletter Editor:** Mary Noylander 485-9895

**November 1998**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Greetings to all!

It's my sincere wish that you are enjoying this fabulous fall! Last November many of our members walked alongside teachers in support of a better education system than what Bill 160 offered. It appears that collective agreements are being settled and schools are returning to a "normal" routine.

However, future challenges lie ahead and hopefully each will do whatever one can to preserve the legacy of commitment and hard work that made Ontario's education system the envy of many.

At the Annual Meeting in October at the Royal York it was refreshing to learn that in spite of the recent turmoil in the stock market the Teachers' Pension Plan is well positioned to withstand such downward trends in the market. Claude Lamoureux, Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Teachers' Pension Plan confirmed that in his estimate the plan will suffer a minimal loss of 1-2% over the year -- an enviable track record in comparison to other funds.

This Fall's Senate Meeting will include a one-day workshop on "Political Action". In order to preserve what RTO/ERO members have earned over the years and especially in trying to obtain a stronger voice in regard to our pension plan, it is necessary that RTO/ERO becomes united and more involved at both the local and provincial levels.

District 16 has approved two new committees to be chaired by Pat Carson, Past President -- A Political Action Committee and a Millennium Committee. More news about these initiatives to follow.

This will be the last free newsletter for newly retired colleagues who have not joined RTO/ERO Provincial. We urge you to join our association and become active in our District's activities as well as enjoy the benefits RTO/ERO offers. To become a member, contact the RTO/ERO Provincial Office at (416) 962-9463 or 1-800-361-9888.

Members of District 16 now include all Provincial Members of RTO/ERO in this area. There is no longer an additional, annual, District membership fee. All our membership lists and labels come from Provincial RTO/ERO. If you move, change apartment number, etc., please contact the Provincial RTO/ERO Office and the Teachers' Pension Plan Board and our District 16 Membership Co-chair Val Fiedler at (416) 510-1861.

This fall, RTO/ERO membership increased to over 40,000. By the year 2010, it is predicted that there will be more retired than active teachers in Ontario.

Recently, Provincial RTO/ERO purchased a building in the Spadina/Bloor area. The central location, increased space and opportunity to lease space to partner organizations, should benefit RTO/ERO.

Bill Tajer, President

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Tuesday, Dec. 7, 1998**

**Thursday, Jan. 14, 1998**

**Thursday, Jan. 21, 1998**

**Club 16 - The Toronto Choristers**

**Executive Meeting**

**Mailing**

**PLEASE KEEP FOR FUTURE REFERENCE**

**DISTRICT 16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY 1998-1999**

Past President	Pat Carson	626-5995
President	Bill Tajer	494-8590
1st VP	Ron Halford	214-1368
2nd VP	Jenny Birrell	762-7061
3rd VP	Bob Neal	264-4013
Treasurer	Bob Putnam	249-9214(a.m. & fax)
		(519) 843-5765
Recording Secretary	Rhena Petch	(905) 770-0747

**Committee Chairs and Committee Members**

Club Sixteen	Val Fiedler	510-1861
Health & Insurance	Bill Shaver	222-3845
Membership	Chuck Carr	491-2921
	Val Fiedler	510-1861
Recruitment	Arlene Freeman	630-3672
Hospitality	Anne Fraser	224-1482
Mailing	Art Bussey	(905) 426-7722
	Arlene Freeman	630-3672
Goodwill & Personal Concerns	Torry Henderson	742-1697
Newsletter	Mary Noylander	485-9895
	Ian Baird	491-8906
	Dennis Fiedler	510-1861
	Paul Rowney	424-1298
Travel	Jack DeGroot	691-3046
Archives	Laura Warren	922-9612
Pension Concerns	Bill Tajer	494-8590

**Members-at-Large**

George Hayes	422-0112
Kay Jeffery	767-8179
Susan Booker	267-2418
Shirley Simons	972-0449
Phyllis Edmondson (905)	279-6695
Bill Menagh	488-3372

RTO/ERO Travel	Carl Naumoff	488-9340
Constitution Committee	Arlene Freeman	630-3672

**R.T.O./E.R.O. Provincial Committee**

Executive Director	Pascal LaRouche	962-9463
Asst Executive Director	Colette Cunningham	962-9463

## CLUB SIXTEEN

All functions take place at St. Margaret's Anglican Church at the corner of Avenue Road and Burnaby Boulevard, one block north of Eglinton Avenue West.

### NOVEMBER 1998

**CRAFTS** Nov. 24 - Tuesday - 1:30 p.m. Convenor: Nell Godfrey - 695-3408  
**TRAVEL** Nov. 25 - Wednesday - 1:30 p.m. Convenor: Val Fiedler - 510-1861  
"Cruising to Alaska" presented by **Harold Bricks**.  
and  
"Visiting the South Eastern U.S.A. and the Western Caribbean"  
presented by **Val & Dennis Fiedler**.

### DECEMBER 1998

**BRIDGE** Dec. 1, 15 - Tuesdays - 1:15 pm Convenor: John Lane - 486-0697  
**CHRISTMAS SOCIAL** Dec. 7 - Monday - 1:30 pm  
"The Toronto Choristers" - directed by **Jim Maben** - accompanied by **Marg Deeth**

### JANUARY 1999

**BRIDGE** Jan. 5, 19 - Tuesdays - 1:15 pm Convenor: John Lane - 486-0697  
**CRAFTS** Jan. 26 - Tuesday - 1:30 p.m. Convenor: Nell Godfrey - 695-3408  
**TRAVEL** Jan. 27 - Wednesday - 1:30 p.m. Convenor: Val Fiedler - 510-1861  
A "Russian" Odyssey  
Landscape and Architecture of the former Soviet Union  
presented by **Richard Baine**

### BOOK CLUB

We opened the season on October 7 at the home of Lyda Dymtriv with a discussion of the best seller "**She's Come Undone**" by **Wally Lamb**. All seven persons contributed to the discussion and agreed it was an excellent first choice. **Future selections are:**

**"Tales of Passion - Tales of Woe" by Sandra Gulland**

**"Beloved" by T. Morrison**

**"The Drum King" by R. Kosar**

Selections are a variety of novels, travelogues and biography.

Meetings are the first Monday of each month.

Please call Joan Johnston at 691-5368.

### Bridge at St. Margaret's

The **Bridge Group** of Club Sixteen is looking for more members. We play a friendly game, NOT duplicate bridge. It is progressive (changing partners every four hands). Some of us have played for years; others started from zero with us. We play on the first, third and fifth Tuesday afternoon of the month. Limited parking is available. **If you are interested, please give a call to John Lane at (416) 486-0697, or just come.** We would be very pleased to welcome you.

## TRAVEL

The day trips for 1998 have been very successful and plans are underway for the next season. Watch your January Newsletter for details.

## MEMBERSHIP

*As over 2500 Newsletters are sent out, it is very important for us to have your correct address. Please inform US and RTO/ERO if you move.  
(V. Fiedler 510-1861)*

*We are trying to locate the following former members in order to update our records:*

*Mayme Bateman, Jean Butterill, Marie Cockburn, Marjorie M. Fraser, Marie Edwards, Robert Dixon, Douglas W. Knott, Garry McBride, Grace Macdonald, Patricia Moran, Betty Perrow, Cheryl Puk, Sarah Anne Robbins, Marjorie Wilson.*

**Please call Val Fiedler, Membership Co-Chair, at (416) 510-1861.**

## TO SURVIVING SPOUSE'S OF FORMER TEACHERS

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING A GROUP TO DISCUSS OUR PARTICULAR PENSION CONCERNS, PLEASE CALL ME, MARGO BURNS (416) 481-0458

### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

#### KIWANIS CLUB

The **Kiwanis Music Festival of Greater Toronto** is looking for persons interested in assisting at the **Annual Competitions** which will be held from **February 6 to February 20, 1999.**

If you would like more information please call **Jack DeGroot at (416) 691-3046.**

#### WILKINSON PUBLIC SCHOOL

**Reading partners for our Grade 1 and 2 students.** Our Book Bin Reading program needs adults to listen to children read and select books from sequenced bins to share at home. Our high percentage of E.S.L. students makes this support crucial to ensure academic success.

**Wilkinson School (Donlands Subway) (416) 393-9575**

## POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

District 16 has established a **Political Action Committee, Chaired by Pat Carson.**

We are looking for members who would be willing to become involved in such work. In order to communicate with all our component groups, we are very interested in having former members from each of the five teacher affiliates, i.e., A.E.F.O., F.W.T.A.O., O.E.C.T.A., O.P.S.T.F., O.S.S.T.F. If you are willing to serve or know of anyone who might be interested in serving, **please call Pat Carson at (416) 626-5995.** We are anxious to begin soon.

**“SCREW THE BELL” GOLF TOURNAMENT**

The “SCREW the BELL” golf tournament is an annual event held the day after Labour Day for retired Board of Education employees.

The bell(?) sounded at 10:00 a.m. sharp and 105 retired “schoolies” teed-off in the 4th Annual “Screw the Bell” Golf Tournament. The weatherman co-operated for most of the day and only a minor rain delay briefly interrupted a great day on the links at Harbourview Golf Club.

The beer and burgers were well appreciated at the conclusion of play and even a bottle of champagne was popped by a celebrating four-some.

When the dust had settled and the scoring team of Hancock and Pickering (+ assistants) provided the results, the following winners were announced:

Men	Low Gross	-	Steve Petrov
Women	Low Gross	-	Noreen Baker
		-	Annalynn Faulkner
Men	Low Net	-	Bill Doyle
Women	Low Net	-	Bev Judson

All participants were able to take home at least one prize thanks to donations from Molson’s, Nike, the Raptors, Canadian Tire and other individual donors.

The happiest prize recipient is probably Jim Wilkinson who won a pair of golf shoes. (He will have to remove the spikes however, in order to use them for curling.)

We anticipate an even better time next year, so, come next May/June, be sure to register early for the 1999 tournament.

**Jim Christie (905) 624-9575**

**John Degraaf (416) 481-9475**

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**NEW HOME FOR AN A.J. CASSON**

The time was June, 1970; the place -- Thornhill Golf and Country Club; the occasion -- an assembly of the Toronto Public School Principals’ Association, to bid a formal farewell to **Mr. N.A. Sweetman**, highly esteemed Associate Director for the Toronto Board of Education. Silver-tongued orator, Lloyd Hall, outlined eloquently Mr. Sweetman’s contributions to education from 1923 to 1970. Lloyd also unveiled a painting, “Britt from Byng Inlet 1947” by noted Canadian artist, A.J. Casson.

Mr. Sweetman no longer has space for all his personal art collection, and disposal has become necessary. After consultation with his family and with several members of the now-defunct T.P.S.P.A. Al offered his Casson painting to the McMichael Canadian Art Collection in Kleinburg, Ontario. Naturally, the Board of Trustees of that organization was happy to accept the painting, so appropriate for its own objectives. A suitable inscription describing the donation process has been designed.

Members of RTO/ERO District 16 may find it convenient to pay a visit to McMichael’s “Britt from Byng Inlet” is scheduled to be on display November 7, 1998 to February 2, 1999.

**Thanks, Al Sweetman, for your thoughtful and generous action.**

**John Pipher, President  
T.P.S.P.A. 1969-70**

**FROM YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE REPRESENTATIVE -- Bill Shaver**

**BENEFIT CHANGES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1999**

**New Benefit Under Semi-Private Hospital Plan:**

A **Convalescent Care** benefit will be added under the Semi-Private Hospital Plan to cover some of the costs of home care upon hospital discharge. This new benefit will be effective January 1, 1999. The Semi-Private Hospital Plan will reimburse 80% of eligible expenses up to a maximum payment of \$50 per day for up to 5 days following a minimum hospital admission of 24 hours.

Convalescent Care may be rendered by persons without professional skills or training, working under the supervision of a Home Care Agency or a Home Health Care Agency. The level of care includes assisting with or in:

- (a) activities of daily living (eating, toileting, transferring positions, bathing and dressing);
- (b) ambulation and exercise;
- (c) self-administered medications;
- (d) homemaker services or home health aide services; and
- (e) services needed to maintain or improve the patient's functional ability.

Reimbursement will be made upon written recommendation of a physician and completion of a Johnson Incorporated authorization form. The home caretaker must not ordinarily reside in the home of the participant or any of the participant's dependents and must not be related to the participant by blood or marriage.

**New Benefit Under Dental Plan:**

**Partial Dentures** will be covered effective January 1, 1999 under the dental benefit for Major Restorative services. Charges will be reimbursed at 50% of eligible expenses. Payments will be included in the annual maximum of \$700 for Fixed Bridges.

Replacement of an existing partial denture will be covered if:

- (a) necessitated by the extraction, loss or fracture of an additional natural tooth while covered under this plan;
- (b) the existing denture is at least five years old and cannot be made serviceable; or
- (c) the existing denture is temporary and is replaced by a permanent denture within 12 months of its installation.

Replacement of lost or stolen dentures or the duplication of dentures will not be covered.

**Rate Guarantee Extended!**

Monthly Rates under the Extended Health Care, Semi-Private Hospital and Dental Plans will remain unchanged until January 1, 2000:

<b>Monthly Rates</b>	<b>Single</b>	<b>Couple</b>	<b>Family</b>
Extended Health Care	\$32.81	\$65.62	\$78.75
Semi-Private Hospital	\$19.21	\$38.39	\$45.10
Dental	\$32.71	\$64.50	\$80.43

Retail Sales Tax will be added to the monthly rates, where required by law.

**Questions?**

If you have any questions or require any further information, please contact the RTO/ERO Health Plan Administrator, Johnson Incorporated at (905) 764-4884 (Toronto area) or 1-800-461-4597 (toll free in North America).

## 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY NUN'S PRAYER

**L**ORD Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends at the end.

**K**EEP my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing, and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains, but help me to endure them with patience.

**I** dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessing cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

**K**EEP me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a Saint - some of them are so hard to live with - but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And, give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so. **AMEN**

The Title of this Prayer is Traditional, although the source is Unknown

### SENIORS BEWARE.....

The following warning has been forwarded by the Citizenship and Immigration Services. It concerns a scam that could be very costly.

Some seniors have received telephone calls from an individual who identifies himself as an AT&T service technician conducting a test, the senior is asked to touch nine(9), zero(0), the pound sign(#) and then hang up. By complying with the caller the senior has given full access to their telephone line to the caller. This allows the caller to place long distance calls which are then billed to the senior's home phone number. It has been verified that this scam has been originating from many of the local jails and prisons!

**Bottom line -- DO NOT press 90# for anyone!**

**IN MEMORIAM**

**RTO/ERO District 16 extends condolences to families, friends and colleagues of those deceased. May we, together, share in the mourning of the loss and in the celebration of service rendered.**

**Don Chambers**

**Bernard Kelly**

**Robert Arthur Cook**

**Greg Peters**

**Mary Kathryn Curtis**

**Gerald W. Phillips**

**Leonard Dunelyk**

**Judith Caroline Pollock**

**Mary Fanning**

**H. Jean Strong**

**Shirley "Anne" Foster**

**Frederick J. Wildish**

**Isabella M. Gordon**

**William Whitehouse**

**Nina M. Jacobs**



SEPTEMBER 1998

MEMO

TO: Members, The Retired Teachers of Ontario, District 16 (TORONTO) and 1997-8 Retirees.

FROM: Pat Carson, President of R.T.O. District 16, Toronto.

RE: An opportunity to attend a special LUNCHEON to recognize and welcome new retirees.

PLACE: TORONTO COLONY HOTEL- Terrace Room  
( Downtown City Hall, 89 Chestnut Street, Toronto)

TIME: 11:30 a.m. Cash Bar 12:15- 3:00 p.m. Luncheon and  
Annual General Meeting  
of District 16

DATE: Wednesday, October 7th, 1998

COST: \$ 30.00

Note: There is easy accessibility via T.T.C. or underground parking at the hotel or nearby.

Entree choice of Poached Filet of Salmon or Roast Breast of Chicken

\*\* Since space is limited, please complete the appropriate form below, and send it as soon as possible with your cheque.

We will acknowledge your registration at the door.

CHEQUES ARE MADE PAYABLE TO: District 16, R.T.O.

\* If unable to attend after mailing your response, please call V. Fiedler at (416) 510-1861

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