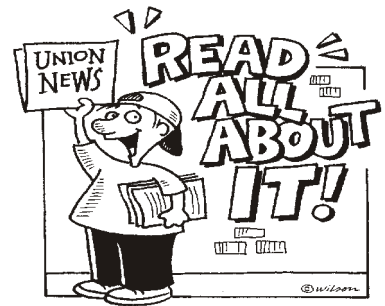


May 2006

“FYI” Update



! The May meeting of the executive committee was held in the Guild office on May 9 and was attended by Lois Kirkup, Nancy Noel, Gord Holder, Debbie Cole, Joanne Schnurr, Nicole Laurin, Tony Cote, Terry Garner, Jordan Juby and Don Smith. Janet Hunter and Claude L'Ecuyer did not attend.

! Mark your calendars for the next ONG general membership meeting – **Wednesday, June 21, 2006**. The meeting starts at 12 noon in the Conference Centre of the Ottawa Citizen.

! The ONG Pay Equity committee members will meet in the Guild office on June 6 to prepare for the joint meeting of the ONG and Citizen Pay Equity review committees with the provincial review officer on June 22, 2006. The Guild still does not have a replacement Reader Sales & Service department representative on the committee. Please contact Debbie Cole in RS&S or the Guild office if you are interested in serving on this committee.

! ONG has renewed its membership for 2006 and donated to the Canadian Journalists for Free Expression. CJFE is a Canadian non-governmental organization supported by Canadian journalists and advocates of free expression. The CJFE website is www.cjfe.org.

! The Guild received notice on April 26, 2006 from the Ottawa Citizen of its intent to enforce the vacation carryover clause of the contract.

Article 10.5 of the Collective Agreement states: "There shall be no carryover of vacations beyond 31 May of the following year unless mutually agreed between the employee and the Company. No employee shall take two years worth of vacation consecutively without the approval of the Company."

Because of substantial vacation carryover from past years, Citizen employees will now be expected to use at least one-fifth of their carried over vacation in each of the next five years. During this five year period, employees who do not use their one-fifth accumulated vacation carryover will be paid out an amount equivalent to one-fifth of the total accumulation, with payment to be made at the end of the departmental vacation year.

In the future, employees will generally be expected to use all of their current vacation entitlement each and every year, though some exceptions may be granted based on mutual agreement and valid reasons for the need to carryover vacation. The Citizen Vacation Policy is posted on the HR bulletin board.

! The ONG still has one vacant Member-at-Large position on the executive roster. Anyone interested in sitting on the executive committee is asked to contact a member of the executive.

! A Citizen member was issued a letter of discipline for vandalism of company property.

! A grievance has been filed concerning a letter of discipline issued to a Citizen/Reader Sales & Service member.

! Check out Guild bulletin boards and the TNG Canada/CWA website (www.tngcanada.org) for information and deadlines on scholarships and awards available to Guild members. Members should note that the deadline for the 2006 OFL Labour Honour Roll Scholarships is May 31, 2006, and the deadline for the Workers Health & Safety Centre 2006 Scholarships is June 23, 2006.

! **"Congratulations" & "Condolences"**

- Basket to Vito (Citizen/Editorial) and Cheryl Pileci - baby boy, Alexander.
- Donation to Bob Harvey (Citizen/Editorial) Lifetime Achievement Silent Auction Fund. Our congratulations go out to Bob Harvey whose career was recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award in Religion Reporting, presented at the Canadian Association of Journalists awards dinner on May 13.
- Flowers to Claude L'Ecuyer's partner (Citizen/P&S) - surgery.
- Our belated congratulations to Citizen photographers Bruno Schlumberger and Rod MacIvor who received awards of excellence in the Society for News Design's annual Best of Newspaper Design Creative Competition that invites entries from general circulation newspapers all around the world. Bruno's winning single news spot photo was taken from an overpass at dusk and captured the enormity of a 52-car train derailment in Prescott last July. Rod's winning single sports category photo was also taken last July in Lake Placid, NY, where he captured the early morning shot of a lake full of triathletes ready to start the Ford Ironman U.S.A. Triathlon.
- Belated congratulations also to Citizen newsroom staffers recognized when the Citizen was honoured for its coverage on mental health. The Citizen had been nominated by the Ottawa Chapter of the Schizophrenia Society of Ontario. The Royal Ottawa Hospital Foundation awarded the Citizen an Inspiration Award in the community category, and in particular recognized Citizen city editor Rob Warner, and reporters Janice Kennedy, Juliet O'Neill and Jake Rupert. The award is given by a committee of physicians and patient advocates for outstanding contribution to the perception and management of mental illness in the community.
- Congratulations to Citizen/Editorial department writer Shelley Page who received special recognition from the Ottawa Professional Firefighters and the International Firefighters Association for her "Falling Heroes" series of stories about local firefighters dying of work-related cancers and their battles for compensation that ran in February.
- A team of Citizen staffers, including Ron Corbett, Wayne Cuddington, Andrew Duffy, Jennifer Green, Jordan Juby, Janice Kennedy, Rod MacIvor, Sue McDonough, Anita Murray, Julie Oliver, Pauline Tam, Bruce Ward, assistant city editor Mike Shahin, and city editor Rob Warner have once again been honoured for their eight-part series "A Revolution in Dying" published in April 2005 that dealt with issues pertaining to palliative care. The Health Care Public Relations Association will present the Joan Hollobon Award to the Citizen at its conference on June 20. The award is given by HCPRA in Canada to honour work that has "contributed significantly to the public's understanding of health care".



May 23, 2006

