August 2006 "F Y I" Update



∀ The August meeting of the ONG executive committee was held in the Guild office on August 15 and was attended by Lois Kirkup, Janet Hunter, Nancy Noel, Gord Holder, Debbie Cole, Joanne Schnurr, Tony Cote, Terry Garner and Claude L'Ecuyer. Jordan Juby, Marc Laurin and Don Smith did not attend.

∀ The next General Membership meeting of the ONG will be held **Wednesday, September 13**, at noon hour in the Advertising Boardroom of the Ottawa Citizen. Some agenda items include: 2006/2007 budget; appointment of financial auditors; presentation of 25-year TNG pins; executive committee - one vacant member-at-large position.

∀ Grievance Update

- •A discipline letter issued to a Citizen/RS&S member has been revised as requested by the Guild
- •The ONG is not proceeding to arbitration on the CJOH grievance filed concerning the lack of a posting by the company of the Good Morning Canada host position. The Guild and the employer failed to reach agreement on the issue and this is a matter that is likely to be discussed further at contract bargaining. The ONG/CJOH collective agreement expires December 31, 2006.
- •The Guild filed a grievance letter concerning discipline assessed a CJOH unit member.

∀ The 2.5% contract salary increase for Citizen unit members became effective Friday, July 21, 2006. The increase, however, was not implemented on the Friday, and we believe that not all employees received a "pay adjustment" on their Aug. 4 or Aug. 11 pay to cover the increase in pay for Friday/Saturday (July 21/22). Guild members are asked to review their pay stubs accordingly and advise Human Resources if they did not receive the adjustment in pay.

∀ The ONG Pay Equity Review committee members will meet in the Guild office on September 8 to prepare for the next joint committee meeting with the Citizen Pay Equity Review committee and the provincial review officer on September 22.

∀ The ONG has sent a donation to the Ottawa & District Labour Council for the Labour Day March & Picnic being held on Monday afternoon, September 4/06. The ODLC picnic takes place at McNabb Park, located at Bronson and Gladstone. Events include a barbecue and live music, pony rides, children's games, face painting, and more, all free of charge. Details are posted on Guild bulletin boards.

∀ Contract negotiations continue with DLR International. The latest bargaining session was held in mid-August. Additional meetings will be needed to settle on a new contract, but no further bargaining dates have been scheduled yet.

∀ Check out the TNG Canada website at www.tngcanada.org for the latest information and links to stories of interest to Guild members. New items include a copy of the Ethics Code adopted in July 2006 by TNG-CWA. The Newspaper Guild-CWA adopted the new statement of principles, wishing to promote a vision for the future of journalism and the news business.

∀ TNG Canada will be running a two-day school, "How To Run Your Local Better", on September 28 & 29 in Ottawa, prior to the fall National Representative Council meeting at the Minto Suites Hotel on September 30 & October 1. The ONG intends to send a couple of people to the school. ONG delegates to the NRC meeting are Lois Kirkup, Gord Holder, Debbie Cole, Tony Cote and Janet Hunter. The executive will be looking for member volunteers to assist the ONG with hosting of a hospitality suite on the Friday and Saturday evenings (Sept. 29 & 30).

∀ *ONG Local Website update*: the ONG domain name has been registered and development of the website continues. Plans are to have the site launched some time in September. We'll keep you posted.

∀ "Congratulations" & "Condolences"

- •Donation to Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Support Programs in memory of Patrick Hadden, son of Janet Wilson (Citizen/Editorial) & David Hadden.
- Basket to Martti Lahtinen (Citizen/Editorial) sick leave.
- Basket to Louisa Taylor (Citizen/Editorial) & Carl Neustaedter baby girl.
- •Congratulations again to Guild member Robert Sibley (Citizen/Editorial) who received another honour for his series, *The Way of the Shikoku*, that appeared in the Citizen in April 2005. The American Academy of Religion named Robert as runner-up in the 2006 awards for best indepth reporting on religion for his 11-part series about walking Japan's famous Buddhist pilgrimage route, the Shikoku no Michi.



Aug. 30, 2006

