



## *June / July 2006 “FYI” Update*

- The ONG general membership meeting was held on June 21 at noon hour in the Conference Centre of the Ottawa Citizen. President Lois Kirkup reported on local and executive activity since the last membership meeting, and Treasurer Gord Holder presented the financial report to May 31, 2006. The fall general membership meeting is planned for 12 noon on Wednesday, September 13 in the Citizen Conference Centre.
  
- The June meeting of the executive committee was held in the Guild office on June 21 and was attended by Lois Kirkup, Janet Hunter, Nancy Noel, Gord Holder, Joanne Schnurr, Marc Laurin, Tony Cote, Terry Garner, Claude L'Ecuyer and Don Smith. Debbie Cole and Jordan Juby did not attend. The July executive meeting was cancelled and the next regular meeting of the executive committee will be held on August 15.
  
- **Grievance update:**
  - The Citizen/RS&S discipline letter grievance is proceeding to standing committee and the Guild is working on revisions to the letter.
  - The grievance filed by the Guild concerning no posting of the Good Morning Canada host position by CTV Ottawa (CJOH) remains unresolved. The company is maintaining its stand that the GMC host job is an assignment and not a position, and the CJOH unit members want to proceed to arbitration on the grievance. This could be an issue to be addressed at the next round of contract bargaining. The current collective agreement ends December 31.
  
- A joint meeting of the ONG and Citizen Pay Equity Review committee members, along with the provincial review officer, was held on June 22. The joint committees will meet again with the review officer on September 22.
  
- In early June, TNG Canada staff rep David Wilson and DLR unit leader Marc Laurin met with the company and received updated contract revisions proposed by the company. The Guild executive committee discussed the contract proposals extensively at its June meeting and expressed concern at the many new issues introduced at this stage of bargaining. The Guild executive continues to stress the importance of not removing or weakening contract clauses that are currently in place to protect the members. A meeting with DLR has been arranged for mid-August with Lois Kirkup, Claude L'Ecuyer, Marc Laurin and Dave Wilson attending for the Guild.
  
- The Guild executive committee has recently contracted the work for the development of a website for the Ottawa Newspaper Guild. The plan is to have the website in operation by this fall.
  
- Lois Kirkup and Tony Cote attended the TNG Sector Conference July 7-8 and the CWA Convention July 10-11 in Las Vegas as ONG delegates. At the TNG conference, Lois Kirkup was elected to the position of Canada East Vice-President for TNG Canada/CWA. TNG Canada issued a July 17 news release outlining the new Canadian Region agreement reached with CWA. The agreement is subject to ratification by Canadian members. See the full story at [www.tngcanada.org](http://www.tngcanada.org).

□ The Ottawa & District Labour Council Labour Day March & Picnic will be held on Monday, September 4, 2006. As in past years, the picnic is at McNabb Park, located at Bronson and Gladstone. The day starts with a march from Ottawa City Hall to McNabb Park at approximately 12 noon. The fun and activities continue at McNabb Park with a barbecue, live music, pony rides, children's games, face painting, clowns, etc., all provided free of charge. It's a great family fun day.

□ The TNG Canada/CWA fall National Representative Council meeting will be held in Ottawa September 30 - October 1, 2006. TNG Canada is also looking at arranging a one-day or two-day school for locals prior to the rep council meeting. The executive will be seeking local volunteers to assist the ONG with hosting of a hospitality suite on the Friday and Saturday evenings (September 29 & 30).

□ ***“Congratulations” & “Condolences”***

- Donation to TVOntario in memory of Joan Riley-Clarke, mother of Susan Riley (Citizen/ Editorial).
- Donation to The Perley & Rideau Foundation in memory of Peggy Endemann, grandmother of Kirsten Endemann (Citizen/Editorial).
- Flowers for the late Johnson Bowers, aunt of Kurt Johnson (Citizen/Editorial).
- Basket to Don Smith (Citizen/Building Services) - surgery.
- Donation to Heart & Stroke Foundation of Ontario in memory of Margaret Laura White, grandmother of Linda Denley (Citizen/Editorial).
- Basket to Mart (Citizen/RS&S) & Tammy Munk - baby boy, Kyle Todd.
- Congratulations Again! It's another honour for the Citizen/Editorial team for its series *A Revolution in Dying*, awarded the National Newspaper Award in the Special Projects category in Halifax at the end of May. The project team included 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.
- Congratulations to Bob Harvey (Citizen/Editorial) who received awards in three separate categories at the Word Guild Writing Awards in June. Bob was nominated in the long feature article category for his story *“Inside the Locked Doors of the Sistine”* published in the Citizen in April 2005. Bob's story *“Ottawa's Meditative Power is Something to Contemplate”*, published in the Citizen in June 2005, was nominated in the news article category, and his third nomination was in the profile/human interest category for his article *“Ex-Tech Worker Now Tends God's Garden”*. Bob also received added recognition at the awards by receiving the *Leslie K. Tarr Award* for career achievement.
- Congratulations go out to Tom Spears (Citizen/Editorial) who won the *L'Oreal Canada Excellence in Science Journalism* honour for his June 2005 article *“Now They Can See Exactly What's On My Mind”* about a functional MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) scan that shows which parts of a brain are in use during the scan. This award is administered by The Canadian Science Writers' Association.
- Congratulations to Jennifer Green (Citizen/Editorial), awarded a fellowship as part of the 2006 Gralla Fellows Program for Religion Journalists at Brandeis University in New England. Jennifer is the only Canadian journalist among a total of 17 fellows this year. Through this fellowship, Jennifer traveled to the private university's campus in Massachusetts from July 16-20 for a series of lectures, seminars and workshops lead by scholars, journalists and community leaders.
- Congratulations to reporter Pauline Tam (Citizen/Editorial) who has been invited to attend the 2006 Age Boom Academy in New York City from September 24-29. This annual event brings together experts on the field of demographics to discuss the problems of aging societies. The program is funded by The New York Times Company Foundation, the Mount Sinai School of Medicine and the International Longevity Center-U.S.A. Fifteen journalists have been invited to take part in this year's event and Pauline is only the third Canadian journalist selected to participate in the program since its inception in 1999. Pauline will learn about population aging and longevity for an upcoming special project she is working on to be published in the Citizen in the coming months.

*We ask ONG members to remember to advise an executive committee member, or e-mail or call the Guild office, if you know of a member in your department or workplace that should be acknowledged with our 'congratulations' or 'condolences'. Thank you for your assistance in keeping us informed.*

