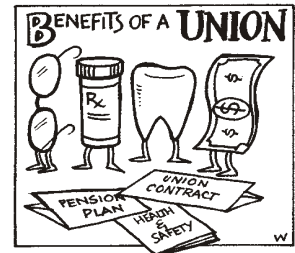


April 2009 F Y I



The April meeting of the executive committee was held in the Guild office on April 14 and was attended by Debbie Cole, Blair Crawford, Terry Garner, Gord Holder, Lois Kirkup, Jacquie Miller, Julie Oliver, David Reevely, Jake Rupert, Joanne Schnurr and Andrea Sirman. Randall Denley and DLR and Delta reps did not attend.

The next ONG General Membership meeting will be held in the Guild office on **Tuesday, June 9, 2009**, starting at 12 noon. The Guild office is located in Unit 7B, 1050 Baxter Road (a short walk down the road from the Citizen building, upstairs over Carrier/Totaline).

Report from CWA/SCA Canada Spring National Representative Spring Council meeting in Ottawa The message from the April 18-19 meeting of CWA/SCA Canada locals was that we're all in this unsettled economic situation, and we must hang together to help protect the workers at all units and locals. Staffing reductions are widespread, with the best situations being those where numbers have been relatively stable. One delegate suggested that a key would be making sure that readers and viewers knew about the impact that staffing reductions have had on the quality and quantity of local news coverage. Another point often heard was that unions should make clear to employers that they, too, have companies' best interests at heart and that working co-operatively with union members leads to better results. As well, all locals represented at the National Representative Council meeting reported feeling the financial strains of reduced memberships, as did CWA/SCA Canada, so it will be necessary to ensure that local resources are used to the members' benefit in the most efficient way possible.

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Building Services a member has received a couple of letters from a management supervisor concerning sick leave and attendance issues and Guild reps and management have been discussing these issues. Member received a one-day suspension for reasons of lateness and extra-long break periods during his shift.

Scheduling on the night desk ONG President and Secretary requested a meeting with new Citizen editor-in-chief concerning scheduling, staffing levels, etc.

The ONG/Citizen bylines arbitration hearing is scheduled for May 1, 2009.

Canwest was granted another extension by the banks in early April. Our national union, CWA/SCA Canada, will advise Guild locals if and when updated member financial information is needed, in which case the ONG would send another information request form to members for completion.

2009 OFL Labour Honour Roll Scholarships The Ontario Federation of Labour will award two scholarships worth \$2,000 each to a member or the child of a member of a local union affiliated to the OFL. Scholarship recipients must be entering, in September 2009, the first year of a full-time course of study at a public Ontario community college or the first year of an undergraduate program at a publicly-funded Ontario university. Application forms are available from the Guild office. The deadline for receipt of completed applications by the OFL is June 30, 2009.

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2009 Workers Health & Safety Centre Scholarships Up to eight \$1,000 scholarships are to be awarded by the Workers Health & Safety Centre for 2009. Any student residing in Ontario

and beginning, in fall 2009, their first year in full-time or part-time studies leading to a diploma, certificate or degree from any publicly-funded Ontario college or university is eligible to apply. Visit the WH&SC website for details and a copy of the application form:
<http://www.whsc.on.ca/yw/scholar.cfm>

Congratulations & Condolences

Basket to Dave Rogers (Citizen/Editorial) - surgery.

Basket to Don Smith (Citizen/Building Services) - took voluntary buyout effective Dec. 31/08 and retired April 1/09.

Basket to Matt Jay (Citizen/Editorial) & Grace - baby boy, George.

Basket to Carolan Lesaux (CTV Ottawa) - sick leave.

Congratulations to Pauline Tam, Citizen health writer, who is the winner of an award for excellence in health-care reporting from the *Registered Nurses Association of Ontario*. Pauline earned the honour for her story published last September about how the Queensway Carleton Hospital reduced wait times for hip and knee surgery.

Congratulations to Citizen writers David Pugliese, Robert Sibley and Vito Pilioci, finalists for the *Canadian Association of Journalists 2008 Awards*. David is nominated in the open newspaper/wire service category for his 4,500-word investigative report, *Sovereignty for Sale*, published in March 2008. Robert is nominated in the faith and spirituality category for his 3,500-word essay, *One nation under God*, published in September 2008. Vito is nominated in the scoop category for a front-page story in May 2008 reporting that the federal government was secretly negotiating an agreement to revamp international copyright laws. The awards will be presented May 23 in Vancouver.

Two Guild members received honours in the *2008 Northern Lights Awards*, an international travel-writing competition. Congratulations to Citizen Travel editor Laura Robin and senior writer Don Butler who received awards in the newspaper category. Laura won for her May 17 story, *Tastes like Canada*, about how traveling to eat locally is the latest tourism trend. Don won for his story, *The Canal by Canoe*, published August 30, recounting his canoe trip last summer along the Rideau Canal waterway from Ottawa to Kingston.

Congratulations are in order for former ONG member, Bob Ferguson, who will be inducted into the *Ottawa Sports Hall of Fame* at Scotiabank Place on May 5, 2009. Plaques of OSHF inductees are exhibited on a wall of honour on the second concourse level at the arena. Bob retired from his Citizen sports writer position in 1996.

April 28, 2009

