



# OSSTF DISTRICT 26



## 07-08 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The District, TBU, OTBU, and PSSP recently held their Annual General Meeting. Approximately 120 OSSTF District 26 members and special guests attended the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Special guests included Rhonda Kimberley-Young, Secretary Treasurer Ontario Teachers' Federation and past president of Provincial OSSTF; Susan Rab, Provincial OSSTF Executive Officer; and Norm Uhrig, Provincial OSSTF Executive Assistant. The evening commenced with three separate bargaining unit meetings, TBU, OTBU and PSSP followed by the District meeting. The business of our three separate Bargaining Units and that of the District was addressed. After the meetings everyone enjoyed a great buffet meal and socialized with colleagues. Many fabulous door prizes were given including OSSTF T-shirts to first time AGM participants and to new members of OSSTF District 26.

Special mention and thanks was given to our retired occasional teacher, Brent McLaren, who chaired both the Teacher and District Meetings and to our Branch Stewards for their daily work and contributions ensuring that our members in worksites are well served and represented.

The members recognized our District Office Administrator, Susan Tierney, the heart and pulse of the District Office and the primary person responsible in organizing the AGM. Susan spends countless hours each year in booking the location and choosing the menus, ordering posters and invitations, organizing each site's attendance and transportation, compiling each meeting's packages, creating the scripts, and ensuring all goes as planned on the evening of the AGM.

The District Executive and Bargaining Unit Executives were selected. Congratulations to the following members who will take office effective July 1, 2008:

District Executive	
<b>President</b>	Heather Wells
<b>Vice-President</b>	Jim Neill
<b>District Officer</b>	Carson Kilpatrick*
<b>Secretary</b>	Adrienne McEwen
<b>Treasurer</b>	Chantal Seguin
<b>Provincial Councillor</b>	Rick Zeilstra
<b>Status of Women / Human Rights Officer</b>	Alison Buchanan
<b>Educational Services Officer</b>	Brent Brown
<b>District Health &amp; Safety Officer</b>	Carson Kilpatrick
<b>Communications / PAC Officer</b>	Gale Does

Exec's	TBU	OTBU	PSSP
<b>President</b>	Danny Thomas*	John McAllister	Guy Bergeron
<b>Vice-President</b>	Brent Brown	Dina van den Hanenberg	TBA
<b>Secretary</b>	Adrienne McEwen	John Bouwers	Marsha Sylvia
<b>Treasurer</b>	Chantal Seguin	Nancy McIntosh	Carrie White
<b>Chief Negotiator</b>	Rob Shaheen*	John McAllister	Donna McShane
<b>Grievance Officer</b>	Rob Shaheen	John McAllister	Kim Matte

PSSP Executive includes: Penny McClintock (REC), Kyla Latreille (SLEC), Ann Hess (CYW) as area representatives.

\* denotes full-time release positions

Special mention was made of those who have **25 years of membership with OSSTF**. OSSTF pins were sent to the work sites to be presented to these members. Congratulations to William Treusch, James Scott Earle, Rita Kilpatrick, Jennifer Palmer, William MacDonald, Brenda Baxter, Pamela McKenzie-Snyder, Janet Munroe-Carpenter, Patricia Reddick, Borden Curtis, Catherine Rivoire, and James Palmer.

The AGM also congratulated our 07-08 **Retirees**: Pat Larry, Brenda Ethier, Susan Gilchrist, Susan Alguire, John Peters, Carol Smith, Linda Groulx, Kristen Whitney, Lynda Garneau, Geoffrey Mason, Carolee Mason, Christine Wilson, Annette Angus, Maura Ann Hazen, Gord Riviere, John Greenhorn, Pam Swinden, Elaine MacDonald, Doug Helmer, Barbara Reid, Robert Viola, and Paul Toupin.

Each year, OSSTF recognizes members for their individual achievements by presenting them with either a Provincial OSSTF award or with a local District 26 award or plaque. Congratulations to the following recipients for their contributions:

Awards & Descriptions	Recipients
<p>A provincial <b>Award of Merit</b> is conferred by the Provincial Executive upon a member, who, in the opinion of a provincial district executive or the Provincial Executive, has rendered meritorious and outstanding service to the OSSTF at the provincial district/bargaining unit level, or at both the provincial district/bargaining unit and provincial levels.</p>	<p><b>Danny Thomas</b></p> <p><b>Rick Zeilstra</b></p>
<p>The local <b>Gordie Award</b> is presented annually in memory of Gord Higgins and Gord Mallette, both of whom were long serving federation activists in the old District 21 (SD&amp;G). Gord Higgins was the first president of the new District 21 in 1968 and a Chief Negotiator. Gord Mallette is remembered as an indomitable Chief Negotiator, who passed away while on Federation business. This award is presented to a member for his/her outstanding contribution to the District.</p>	<p><b>Brent Brown</b></p>
<p><b>Marjorie Laphen</b> was a history teacher at Smith Falls District Collegiate Institute; her husband was a Federation and community activist. They were both active in the community, trying to provide a sound foundation for youth through church and other social organizations. Her husband instituted this award to honour her memory, but it is also a tribute to them both. This local award is presented to a member for his/her invaluable contribution to the teaching profession and outstanding service to the community.</p>	<p><b>Brian Tackaberry</b></p>
<p>The local <b>Branch Representative Award</b> recognizes outstanding performance by our on-site Federation representatives and stewards, in dealing with questions and crises, sometimes outrageous amounts of paperwork, and communication and recruitment. This is awarded to one of our serving Stewards or Area Representatives who demonstrates a personal commitment to education, represents members effectively, informs members effectively of local, district and provincial business, and is proactive in defending the interests of the membership.</p>	<p><b>Elaine Warner-Laxton</b></p>
<p>Bylaw 2.1.4 enables the Provincial Executive to confer <b>Honorary Membership</b>: Honorary Members shall include members who have retired and on whom Honorary Membership has been conferred by the Provincial Executive on the recommendation of a district/bargaining unit. Memberships are awarded on request from the district/bargaining unit to retiring members who have at least fifteen years of continuous membership in the Federation, an active interest in its affairs.</p>	<p><b>John Peters</b></p>
<p><b>Rhonda Kimberley-Young</b> was an active federation member in the old Lanark District 42, in Upper Canada District 26 and at a Provincial level. Her many achievements include serving as CBC Chief Negotiator, District Officer, Provincial Executive Officer, Vice President and President of OSSTF. Rhonda's primary focus has always been to maintain and to improve the delivery and quality of education within the District and the Province. An advocate for all education workers, Rhonda has led initiatives to improve their working conditions.</p> <p>This local award is presented annually in recognition of a District 26 member's contributions and accomplishments, and who has demonstrated the qualities of fairness and enthusiasm in local federation leadership. He/she has been a motivator of other federation members and has applied the highest level of ethics to all their initiatives.</p>	<p><b>Heather Wells</b></p>
<p>The District 26 <b>New Member Award</b> is to be presented at the Annual General Meeting to a new member of District 26 (0-5 years) in recognition of their service to OSSTF.</p>	<p><b>Elpis Law</b></p>