

" THE WARM OUTLET "
ARM CHAPTER 22 NEWSLETTER
Autumn/Winter 2019-20 VOL. 23 NO.1

ARM 22 EXECUTIVE

| | | | |
|---|----------------|--------------|--|
| PRES. | Ray Marshall | 905 354-8106 | rmarshall23@gmail.com |
| SEC/TRES. | Rosemary Hanes | 905 735-0493 | r.hanes@sympatico.ca |
| AUD/VIS. | George Hanes | 905 871-5795 | george.hanes044@sympatico.ca |
| SOC/CONV. | Garry Lemon | 905 295-4228 | garryl01@yahoo.com |
| EDITOR | Jim Collacott | 905 295-6831 | collasr@cogeco.ca |
| District 22 Website (follow the links to ARM) | | | www.d22.osstf.ca |
| ARM Council Website: | | | www.armcouncil.org |

MONTHLY BREAKFASTS, 9:30 a.m. 'w'ARM up to us on Wednesdays

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Nov. 13 th | NOTL Golf Club, 143 Front St., NOTL |
| Dec. 11 th | Doc Magilligans, 6400 Lundy's Lane Niagara Falls LUNCH 12:00 noon RSVP to Ray (rmarshall23@gmail.com)/(905)354-8106) by December 4 th |
| Jan. 8 th | Angel's Diner, Henley Square, 394 Ontario Street, St. Catharines |
| Feb. 12 th | Blue Line Diner, 4424 Montrose Rd., Niagara Falls |
| Mar. 11 th | Black Sheep Lounge, 64 Niagara St., Welland |
| Apr. 8 th | Relay Truck Stop, 4673 Ontario St., Beamsville |
| May 13 th | Tammy's Breck'n'Ridge, 3551 Garrison Rd., Ridgeway/Fort Erie |

OTHER EVENTS:

| | |
|----------|---|
| April 22 | GARDEN ParTAY Come & arouse our Memory Garden!! |
| June 10 | Tentative Chapter 22 AGM (Place to be determined) |

FUTURE EVENTS ... FYI

Take in some of the local events around Niagara. They are all very good.

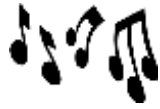
CH'ARM'ING BITS ... More senior T shirt sayings

- I had a lot of stuff to do to-day, now I have a lot of stuff to do tomorrow.
- RETIRED, I worked all my life for this shirt.
- I hate it when people accuse me of 'LOLLYGAGGING'
When it is quite clear I am 'DILLYDALLYING'
- In my defense, I was left unsupervised.

From our friends at OTIP: How to protect your family from deadly, invisible gases
Radon and carbon monoxide are poisonous gases that are odourless, colourless, and tasteless, making them threats to the safety of your home. Exposure to high levels of radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers, causing over 3,200 Canadian deaths each year. Carbon monoxide is the leading cause of fatal poisonings in North America. By following the steps below and taking the proper precautions, you can help protect your home and family from these deadly gases.

To learn more, click here: www.otipinsurance.com/article51





“Presidential”

November, 2019

Dear ARMites of Chapter 22,

Into the 3rd of the “brr” months now. Where do the years go? It is difficult to believe that I’ve been out of the classroom for fifteen years. I also can’t believe that it has been thirty years since the Ecole Polytechnique massacre, but I do believe that some of my brain cells are still functioning. When I’m at District Council meetings, the items discussed really seem to be very similar to when I was one of those active Members; now I’m just an active retired member. You probably have heard /read of the contract negotiations that are ongoing (or not) and the “strike” votes that are being taken. We really need to understand that what is being done is a confidence vote on the Federation’s position in negotiations. The word “strike” is imposed by legislation. OSSTF & OECTA are planning to announce their provincial counts on or about November 15. Personally, I would doubt that they will exceed ETFO’s number of 98%. All three have applied for or got “no Board” reports. Interesting times we live in. Watch your twitter feed, your facebook posts, or just listen to the radio, watch the news on television, or perhaps, read a newspaper. Whatever comes, please support our members in the classrooms as they do what we did each and every day – inculcate the next generation with high moral values.

Last week, the CCPA (Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives) released a study on how Ford’s proposed cuts to education will impact teachers in every board across the Province. According to the study, OSSTF D22 will have 173 fewer teachers within the next 3 years if the cuts are to continue. That is approximately 20% of our membership. OSSTF/FEESO District 22 is hosting a rally to pressure the government to engage in bargaining on the substantive issues, and to prevent the cut of 1 in 5 high school teachers in the DSBN.

No Cuts to Education Rally
Thursday, November 14
3-5pm
Outside of MPP Sam Oosterhoff’s Office
(4961 King St, Beamsville, ON L0R 1B0)

Please join members of District 22 OSSTF/FEESO and show your support in preventing these cuts and preserving public education in Ontario.

ARM Council is working on the program for our Biennial next May. The new CEO of OTPP has been invited as have OTIP and the OSSTF President. We next meet at the end of November and then in January & April to finalize the speaker list. Stay tuned.

The District is hosting their 16th Annual Children’s Christmas Party on Sunday December 1 at the DSBN Academy. You are invited to register your (grand)children (12 and under), email Bonnie (officemgr@d22.osstf.ca) with the child’s/children’s age, name, gender and the total number attending. For more details, see the District website at <http://www.d22osstf.ca>.

Some sad news to report. As I reviewed the list of our members for mailing, I noticed the passing of Ian Donaldson. Ian retired in June of 1997, joining ARM later that year. I’m sure we all want to express our sympathies to his family. His obituary can be viewed at <https://www.morseandson.com/memorials/ian-donaldson/3923744/obituary.php>

OSSTF continues moving toward a paperless society. Both Forum (<http://education-forum.ca/>) and Update (<http://osstfupdate.ca/>) are principally available electronically. Print editions are just too costly and slow in the world of today. Plan to visit each of these sites. I believe you can sign up for email reminders of new publications. Chapter 22 continues to mail our newsletters to those of you who want printed copies, but some of our Active Chapters (and all of the newest chapters) are only emailing copies. At this point, we have every intention of continuing to snail mail our copies. If you would like to receive your newsletter via email (as well or only), please email me and I’ll add you to my growing list. (rmarshall23@gmail.com) I always give Bonnie a copy and she posts it on the ARM section of D22’s website (<http://www.d22osstf.ca/active-retired-members-arm>). You do have to scroll to the bottom of the page to find it. Sorry about all that extra work.

In my seemingly never-ending quest to provide you with trivia, did you know that November 5 is the anniversary of the National Research Council’s official time signal broadcast on CBC radio? It was on that date in 1939 that we first heard “the beginning of the long dash”. I do hope to see you at one of our events soon,

wARMly, *Ray*

Want us to try a new breakfast location or re-visit a favourite? Email me and I'll put it on our list.

Peter Beens sent me the article below on scams that we need to be aware of. Thanks Peter,

Don't Get Scammed!

The scammers are getting quite ingenious lately. There are many accounts of phone callers informing you that you will be arrested if you do not immediately pay Revenue Canada for tax arrears. The crazy thing is they want you to pay using gift cards or bitcoin. The sad thing is, many people (especially the elderly) fall for this. If you get a phone call like this, just hang up and then block the number.

Here is another scam. This one is a text message supposedly from Bell, wanting to reimburse me for being overcharged. There are two telltale signs that this is a scam. 1, most written scams have spelling mistakes in them, although this one is pretty good. The telltale sign here is the trailing dollar sign, a good indication the message originated in a foreign country. And 2, the link given is an IP address, not a proper web address. This means the originator of the scam hasn't even created a domain name, they are just trying to get me to access a webpage on a server somewhere where they attempt to get my credit card number, bank PIN, or other personal information they can use to scam me out of my money.

If you're ever in doubt about a message you've received, just call the company involved to determine if it's true. The company will likely tell you to ignore the message. If you've fallen victim to a scam like this, contact your bank right away and the RCMP Fraud Unit, via their website:

<http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/scams-fraudes/index-eng.htm>



Let's be careful out there!

CPAC November 2019 - Peter Beens' Notes

I attended the CPAC regional conference on behalf of ARM District 22 in Toronto November 1-2. The regional meetings were also held in Ottawa, Thunder Bay, Sudbury, and London. Toronto's conference was emceed by Gary Fenn (@fengarr on Twitter). Shannon Smith and David Harrington also represented D22.

Much time was spent discussing the successful political action campaigns that have been run in the past year, including No Cuts to Education; Better Schools, Better Economy; and Here for Students (<https://www.hereforstudents.ca>). Over 90,000 No Cuts to Education buttons were distributed. If we want to make more buttons or shirts, the graphics files are available via OSSTF.

From The Conference Board of Canada, Each dollar of public education spending generates \$1.30 in total economic benefits to Ontario. At the same time, the inverse holds true for each dollar taken from public education. (<http://bit.ly/34BpGsF>)

The Here for Students videos are very popular, with over 48 million impressions. There were almost 400,000 visits to the website, and over 250,000 letters sent to MPPs and the Minister of Education about this.

There was time time spent discussing OSSTF's strategy for transparent bargaining (<https://bargainingforeducation.ca>). This is proving to be a successful strategy and is popular with the public.

Initiatives such as these are working and the public and the media are now generally on our side, more so than the government's.

To help, share OSSTF's message, however you can. Follow them on social media. Their Facebook page is most popular, followed by Instagram, and then by Twitter.

OSSTF's infographics are worth sharing (<http://bit.ly/2C9rzAy>).

A surprise to me that is that each school can have an OSSTF School Council rep. This is useful in communicating OSSTF's concerns to parents and being there for parents to discuss any concerns they have with a teacher.

There was lots of discussion about being proactive when it comes to communicating with the public. Think of new ways of being involved, like the school council idea mentioned above or participating in community initiatives such as as climate strikes.

If you do not already follow OSSTF D22 on social media, please do so.

There is money available for any CPAC initiatives. Just ask.

Overall I found attending the CPAC regional very beneficial. There were only four ARM reps there, so I'm happy that D22 was represented.

