



# The Quebec Association of Retired Teachers

*September 2009*



**QART Newsletter,**  
**Editor:** Stefanie Derewecka Castelino  
1412 St. Louis  
Montreal, QC, H4L 2P3

## **President's Message**

Welcome back from an all too short and rather strange summer. The flora and fauna certainly flourished during our seesaw from a cool, wet July to a hot, humid August; but we humans were deprived of the customary summer we so eagerly anticipated in the spring. Let's pray that we will be compensated with a long, warm, dry autumn.

Since we have quite a few events coming up this fall, I am going to touch upon a variety of topics in my message rather than spread out the information in separate articles throughout the newsletter as I usually do.

### **Regular Meeting - September 23**

Our regular September meeting will be held in Room 1254 at St. Pius X on September 23 at 1:30 p.m. I will update you on happenings since our AGM in May and discuss our fall calendar. We decided not to invite a guest speaker to our first meeting so that we could have more time to enjoy one another's company and to catch up on one another's news over lunch.

### **Rally in Quebec City re Indexation of Our Pensions - September 30**

At our AGM in May, Ed Zegray reported that in the 2010 round of negotiations the CSQ, along with its common front allies, has placed pensions as its top priority. They are demanding that those who worked during 1982-1999 get their pensions indexed to at least 50% of the cost of living. This is the same formula that applies for the years of service since 2000.

On September 30, AREQ (Association des retraitées/retraités de l'éducation et des autres services publics du Québec) will hold a rally in Quebec City and march on the offices of Mme Monique Gagnon-Tremblay, Chair of the Conseil du trésor. Our objective is to pressure the government to honour its word to establish a permanent working group whose task would be to make long-term recommendations to halt the continuing impoverishment of retirees. Ed Zegray will have more news for us at our September 23 meeting regarding these on-going discussions with the government.

To make the trip more convenient, the organizers have set up various departure points from Montreal, the South Shore, Laval, and the Laurentians. So far AREQ has reserved only coach-class buses (not yellow school buses), and they feel 99% confident that they will continue to do so. However, we must remember that the end of September is "Leaf-Peeping" season, and our organizers also have coaches on reserve for tourists.

Participation in this rally is a full-day commitment from approximately 08:00 to approximately 17:00. Your attendance and support will be for a worthwhile cause – an increase in the contents of your pocketbook. The walk will be approximately 1 kilometre long, so wear comfortable shoes. Buses will be available at rest stops along the route, and AREQ has arranged to rent portable toilets as well. Box lunches will be provided. If you require snacks or water, please bring your own. The actual rally will be from 11:30 to 13:00. Buses should begin their trek home by 14:00.

Your Executive strongly encourages you to join us on September 30 in order to remind the government of the promises it made to us during the last election campaign. If we do not fight for what is rightfully ours, no one else will. As Ed reminds us, "The squeaky wheel gets the grease."

If you plan to attend the rally, please contact Ed Zegray asap ([edzegray@yahoo.ca](mailto:edzegray@yahoo.ca) or 514-254-3806). If you plan to go with a colleague, Ed will accommodate your friend as well.

### **Autumn Foliage/Mont Tremblant Casino Day Trip - October 14**

On October 14 we will visit the new casino in Mont Tremblant, enjoy a scenic bus ride through the Laurentians, and stop for a short visit in St. Sauveur. If you would like to join us, please send your cheque, payable to QART, to Steve Dursa, 291 av. du Parc, L'Ile-Perrot, J7V 9Z5. The cost is \$35 for members and \$37 for non-members. Reserve your place ASAP. Tickets are going very fast.

We will try our luck at the tables and slot machines in the hopes of winning a jackpot. If Lady Luck eludes us, we will console ourselves by delighting in the vivid colours and beauty of the autumn foliage and in one another's company.

For more information, please call me at 514-322-7988 or email me at [flociv@gmail.com](mailto:flociv@gmail.com).

### **Oktoberfest Luncheon - October 21**

Come celebrate Oktoberfest with us on Wednesday, October 21, at the St. Pius X Culinary Institute, at 11:30 a.m. The menu will include traditional Oktoberfest dishes. The cost is \$20. This includes one glass of wine, tax, and tip. The deadline for payment is Wednesday, October 14. Make your cheque payable to QART and mail it to Steve Dursa, 291 av. du Parc, L'Ile-Perrot, J7V 9Z5

### **Memorial Mass - November 11**

Our annual Remembrance Mass in honour of those members and family members who have passed away will be held on November 11 at 11 a.m. at Transfiguration of Our Lord Church (11775 Filion, corner of Dudemaine, and west of l'Acadie, south of De Salaberry, east of O'Brien). There is a large parking area behind the church. Bertha Bonaparte and her small but outstanding choir will once again sing Bertha's *Consolation Mass*. If you wish to join the choir, please call Bertha (514-352-8775) or email her ([berthapitt@yahoo.ca](mailto:berthapitt@yahoo.ca)). Rehearsals will be held at St. Pius X on September 23 at 12:30 one hour before our regular meeting and again at St. Pius X on October 21 at 10:30 one hour before our Oktoberfest Luncheon.

We have made reservations at *Au Vieux Duluth* (1997 Marcel Laurin in St. Laurent, 514-745-4525) for those of us who wish to have lunch together after Mass. There is an SAQ outlet very close to the restaurant in case you forget to bring wine from home. The cost is \$11.95 plus tax and tip. Individual bills will be given. The set menu includes soup, a choice of your main course (Supreme Salad, Salmon Filet, Chicken Pita, Souvlaki, Hamburger Steak, 5 Jumbo Butterfly Shrimp, or Chicken Breast), house salad, rice, Greek potatoes, baklava or crème caramel, and coffee or tea. If you wish to join us, please contact Maureen Goulet ([maureen.goulet@sympatico.ca](mailto:maureen.goulet@sympatico.ca) or 514-334-1592) by October 31 so that we could reserve the required number of places.

If you know of a member who is ill or who has passed away, please contact any member of the Executive, Christina Zarebski-Gasior, or Gerry Carroll.

### **Regular Meeting - November 18**

Our regular November meeting will be held in Room 1254 at St. Pius X on November 18 at 1:30 p.m. **Melissa Noel** from QPAT will be our guest speaker. She will outline the pros and cons of remaining with Industrial Alliance versus switching to RAMQ for drug coverage at age 65.

### **QPAT Convention - November 19-20**

QPAT has invited the teacher members of QART to attend this year's Teachers' Convention on November 19-20 at no cost, provided I send them beforehand the names, addresses, and phone numbers of those teachers who would like to attend. If you are interested, please call me (514-322-7988) or email me ([flociv@gmail.com](mailto:flociv@gmail.com)) by November 5.

## **Christmas Luncheon - December 9**

We will have our Christmas Luncheon at Buffet Crystal (5285 Henri Bourassa West, 514-337-8160) on December 9 at 12 noon. No matter what foul weather Mother Nature sends our way, we will have lots of parking space in a snow- and ice-free area. We are certain you will appreciate the festive ambience and excellent cuisine for which **Buffet Crystal** is known. The cost is **\$38** including one glass of wine, tax, and tip.

## **Newsletter and Website**

As I mentioned in the June newsletter, QART needs generous volunteers to take over the management of the newsletter and website. Stefanie Derewecka has been working on both for the past five years and deserves a break. She has generously agreed to teach any volunteer the ropes and to help that person throughout the transition period. The tasks are not daunting. They do not include composition or mailing. You would collect and put together articles that others have contributed. None of us wants to lose either of these channels of communication. Please think about it seriously and let me know ASAP if you are willing to take on either of these tasks. We would all be extremely grateful.

Also, if you are now able to receive the newsletter by email rather than by regular mail, please let me know at 514-322-7988 or [flociv@gmail.com](mailto:flociv@gmail.com). You would be saving QART money while doing your bit to save the environment.

## **Continuity Officer**

**Mary Zenaitis** has generously accepted to replace Jim Tetu as QART's "*Continuity Officer*". She knows QART's history so well and has a wealth of information at her fingertips. The Executive Committee is indeed grateful to be able to continue to receive her advice.

## **Membership Dues**

Just a reminder that according to our Bylaws, membership dues must be paid before November 30, 2009.

We are looking forward to another great year together and to seeing as many of you as possible at the various events. Keep well and keep in touch. We are always happy to receive your comments and suggestions. They help us plan meetings and activities for you that are enjoyable as well as informative.

## **Flo Civitarese President**

### **Montreal Executive 2009-2010**

President	<b>Flo Civitarese</b>	514-322-7988	<a href="mailto:flociv@gmail.com">flociv@gmail.com</a>
1st Vice President	<b>Catherine Barrowcliffe</b>	514-457-2854	<a href="mailto:cathybarrow32@yahoo.com">cathybarrow32@yahoo.com</a>
2nd Vice President	<b>Maureen Goulet</b>	514-334-1592	<a href="mailto:maureen.goulet@sympatico.ca">maureen.goulet@sympatico.ca</a>
Treasurer	<b>Steve Dursa</b>	514-991-0393	<a href="mailto:stevedur80@gmail.com">stevedur80@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	<b>Annie Schaffhauser</b>	514-374-1549	<a href="mailto:anne710scribe@aol.com">anne710scribe@aol.com</a>
Secretary	<b>Cynthia Tyler</b>	514-722-4462	<a href="mailto:tylercynthia@hotmail.com">tylercynthia@hotmail.com</a>
Past President	<b>Stefanie Derewecka</b>	514-747-5493	<a href="mailto:dereweck@sympatico.ca">dereweck@sympatico.ca</a>
Continuity Officer	<b>Mary Zenaitis</b>	514-256-8118	<a href="mailto:gzenaitis@videotron.ca">gzenaitis@videotron.ca</a>

## QART Meetings, Luncheons, and Activities September 2009 - May 2010

<b>Wednesday, September 9, 2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b></li> <li>▪ St. Pius X</li> <li>▪ 10 a.m.</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, September 23, 2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Regular Meeting</b></li> <li>▪ St. Pius X - Room 1254</li> <li>▪ 1:30 p.m.</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, September 30, 2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Rally in Quebec City</b></li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, October 14, 2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Mont Tremblant Casino Trip</b></li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, October 21, 2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Octoberfest Luncheon</b></li> <li>▪ St. Pius X Culinary Institute</li> <li>▪ 11:30 a.m.</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, November 4, 2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b></li> <li>▪ St. Pius X</li> <li>▪ 10 a.m.</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, November 11, 2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Annual Memorial Mass</b></li> <li>▪ Transfiguration of Our Lord Church</li> <li>▪ 11 a.m.</li> <li>▪ Luncheon at Au Vieux Duluth</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, November 18, 2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Regular Meeting</b></li> <li>▪ St. Pius X - Room 1254</li> <li>▪ 1:30 p.m.</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, December 9, 2009</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Christmas Luncheon</b></li> <li>▪ Buffet Crystal</li> <li>▪ 12 noon</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, February 3, 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b></li> <li>▪ St. Pius X</li> <li>▪ 10 a.m.</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, February 17, 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Regular Meeting</b></li> <li>▪ St. Pius X - Room 1254</li> <li>▪ 1:30 p.m.</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, March 17, 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>St. Patrick's Day Luncheon</b></li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, April 21, 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Spring Luncheon</b></li> <li>▪ St. Pius X Culinary Institute</li> <li>▪ 11:30 a.m.</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, May 5, 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b></li> <li>▪ St. Pius X</li> <li>▪ 10 a.m.</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, May 19, 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>AGM</b></li> <li>▪ St. Pius X - Room 1254</li> <li>▪ 1:30 p.m.</li> </ul>

## **Ed Zegray and Diane Susak's Report on the ACER/CART AGM June 5-6, 2009**

The Annual General Assembly of ACER-CART was held during the weekend of June 5-6, 2009. Representatives from 13 of the 14 member organizations in Canada gathered at the Canadian Teachers Federation office in Ottawa. QART was represented by its delegate, Ed Zegray. He was accompanied by Diane Susak (Outaouais Chapter) who attended as an observer. During the meeting Ed was elected to the Executive Committee as Quebec Regional Representative.

ACER-CART was founded in 1991 as a bilingual association to bring together retired teachers' associations of Canada. The list of members ranges from QART, with 321 members, to the provincial Ontario and Quebec associations, each with more than 50 000 members and growing. There is a sliding membership fee schedule, based on the number of regular members per association. A notable characteristic of this association is that when the Executive Committee issues a position paper (for example, to Education or Finance Ministers), it speaks on behalf of well over 160 000 people of common interest, with a significant buying and voting power.

The meeting began with the usual committee and delegate reports, business arising from last year's minutes, new motions presented for consideration, and so on. Considerable time was devoted to discussing events and issues of the member associations. It's fascinating how much retired teachers from very different provinces and territories have in common, even after taking into consideration the language difficulties. As could be expected, the fact of trying to function as a bilingual association is awkward and costly, but the people involved are doing their best to make it work. Simultaneous translation at meetings is not yet available.

Lori MacDonald-Blundon from Johnson In. insurance brokers gave a presentation on "Out of Province/Out of Canada Travel". She explained travel insurance needed, limitations to insurance coverage and pitfalls to avoid. She emphasized the need to be aware of ever-changing insurance provisions and common client misunderstandings. Her presentation provoked many questions on travel issues.

Motions were passed at the 2009 AGM directing the Executive Committee to:

1. Apply to join the Canadian Teachers' Federation as an Associate Member.
2. Work to improve its communication in both official languages and to communicate with francophone members in French.
3. Request a meeting with the federal Minister responsible for health and with Opposition critics, to provide them with the position of ACER-ART as outlined in our Policy on Health Care in Canada and to solicit similar support of MPs from our member associations.
4. Lobby the Government of Canada and opposition parties to:
  - A. establish a national Securities Regulator through legislation that enhances the rights of investors and to seek support of other national seniors' organizations
  - B. implement the Canadian Health Coalition Report (2008) recommendations for a universal *pharmacare* plan with a national formulary.
  - C. phase in a national prescription drug strategy which would begin with coverage for key catastrophic drug costs.
  - D. advocate for adequate financial support for Radio Canada and CBC in all parts of Canada.
  - E. explore and schedule, if feasible, a presentation at the 2010 AGM on how to lobby government.

As you can see, the interests of retired teachers in Canada are well represented by this association and it has no lack of topics to address.

## **In Memoriam**

**Annie** (Allion School) and **Bob Schaffhauser's** (Sir Wilfrid Laurier High School), mother and mother-in-law  
**Father Maurice Boucher**, chaplain at McGee  
**Anna Mariani**, Qart member, mother passed away.

## **Outaouais Sector**

What a Summer! With all the rain and dull days, hibernation, for some, may have started a little early this year. It was great weather to curl up with a good book, watch a few taped programs or just chit chat with good friends and neighbours. Gardens were iffy for some, but, good for others... my herb garden flourished.

It's that time again! With many back from holidays it will be good to see everyone and catch up on all the news. Our first luncheon will take place at "Dinty's" (in front of the police station at the corner of Vanier and the Upper Aylmer Road) on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11:30 am. Again a special menu will be provided to ensure good service. The price of \$19.15 will include a soup, tea/coffee/soda and all gratuities and taxes.

At this time we'll introduce your new executive members. Please come to welcome them as they will be your representatives for the next two years. This is a very informative meeting as we announce the rest of the year's luncheons and special social dates as well as the newsletter distribution schedule. Collecting the new membership fees at this meeting is very important as well. Even though we have until mid November to pay up, the quicker we can update our files the easier it is on your executive members as there is much work behind the scenes. Updated files ensure prompt newsletter delivery and accurate phone lists for good communication.

Please mark this date (**Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**) on your calendar and join us!

### **In Memoriam**

"May I honour - and trust - the processes of grief and of healing, knowing that, in time, a new day will come."

Martha Whitmore Hickman

**Since our last newsletter a few of our members experienced the passing of a loved one. Our sympathies are extended to:**

**Kay Ranger, Lorraine Hearty, & Grace McGuire** on the loss of their brother, Richard: **Sullivan Florence Leguerier** on the loss of her brother, Henry Trudeau

### **New Executive 2009-2010**

President:	<b>Judy Kavanagh</b>	819-684-8635	<a href="mailto:jmkavanagh@hotmail.com">jmkavanagh@hotmail.com</a>
1st Vice:	<b>Carol Kavanagh,</b>	819-648-2251	
2nd Vice:	<b>Colleen Donlan</b>	819-684-3050	<a href="mailto:ddonlan@sympatico.ca">ddonlan@sympatico.ca</a>
Treasurer:	<b>Trudy Drummond</b>	819-684-3852	<a href="mailto:dan.drummond@sympatico.ca">dan.drummond@sympatico.ca</a>
Secretary:	<b>Ann Beriau</b>	819-682-9150	

## **SOUTH SHORE CHAPTER**

I sincerely trust that all the members of our Chapter had a safe, enjoyable and fun filled summer, and we now look forward to the resumption of our regular meetings .But most importantly, we look forward to your presence at the regular general meetings as well as to your participation in the events that are organized by the Chapter in the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Our Chapter was very busy during the summer with several kinds of events which were organized by the respective coordinators. During the summer, the Green Thumbs Club and the Dining Out Club respectively held successful events. On the 7th of August, Ken and Patty welcomed us on a tour of their beautiful floral garden. The myriads of types of flowers were in full bloom. Our hosts treated us to a lesson in horticultural pursuits..

The garden tour was combined with a delightful and sumptuous Pot Luck Luncheon. The group gathered at 11.00am, and departed 6.00 pm. It was an event for relaxation and socialization among garden lovers and members in general. Thank you, Ken and Patty for a lovely day.

On August 13th, some of our members visited a private garden, Halte dans la Jarden, in old La Prairie on the South Shore. This trip was also an educational experience in floral gardening.

Thank you, Marilyn for organizing the event.

On June 29th, the Out Lunch Club dined at the Fourquet Fourchette restaurant situated near Fort Chambly, in Chambly. Thank you, again Marilyn for an enjoyable event.

On June 17th, I presented the Chapter Bursary to Genevieve Leduc, at the Convocation of Champlain College. This is the 12th consecutive year in which our Chapter has been awarding a bursary to a Champlain student .Once again, I wish to thank all our members for their generous financial contribution to the Bursary Fund.

Bernie Praw the coordinator of the Travel Club is organizing a tour to Eastern Europe in the Spring. He will give us all the pertinent details about the trip at our next meeting.

We extend sincere condolences to **Cathy Palmer-Lister** our former Secretary whose mother died in August. May she rest in peace.

We also extend our very best wishes to **Heather Anderson** who is ill. Heather please get well soon.

Now, on a brighter note, Bob and his wife Monique seem bent in reversing the trend of zero population growth in the Province of Quebec. They are now the proud grand parents of twins, a boy and a girl, who were born on the 9th day of the 9th month in the 9th year at Cite de la Sante hospital in Laval. They are now the proud grand parents of four. We sincerely trust that mother and babies are doing fine.

### **Local Trips**

The Montreal Chapter has invited us to join them on a bus tour to a Casino in Mt Tremblant, on October 14th. The cost for the coach tour is \$37.00. Non members \$39.00.Please call Steve at 514: 322-7988 for reservations. But please hurry as seats are nearly gone.

At our first regular meeting on June 17th, the Educational Coordinator of the Montreal Alzheimer's Society will be the guest speaker. She will speak on all the various aspects of Alzheimer disease. The symptoms, diagnosis, treatment and care that is needed for patients who are suffering from this debilitating disease. Please do not miss this important address.

Our members are also invited to take part in a Demonstration Rally in Quebec City on September 30th. The Rally is organized to get the Government to address the Indexation of our Pensions. Participating groups will include QART, AAESQ, ACRA, and QPARS. The coach ride to Quebec City is free, and a box lunch will be provided for the participants. Please phone Ed Zegray at 514:254-3806 for your reservation.

The Executive members join me in wishing you and yours a happy Indian Summer and may the rest of the season be filled with sunshine.

Strike a smile: A woman went into a small town post office and asked the clerk for five dollars in stamps. "What denomination?" asked the clerk. "Well", came the angry reply. I didn't know it would come to this. But if the government people have to know, I'm a Baptist".

### **Dates of meetings for 2009-2010**

Third Thursday **September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
 Second Thursday **November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
 Second Thursday **December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009** Christmas Luncheon  
 Second Thursday **February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010**  
 Second Thursday **April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010**  
 Second Thursday **May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010**, AGM and Pot luck Luncheon.

### **Members of the Executive 2009-2010**

Present:	<b>Ivan Harding</b>	450-672-8560	<a href="mailto:ivan-harding@hotmail.com">ivan-harding@hotmail.com</a>
Vice President:	<b>Peter Yaworski</b>	450-656-7722	<a href="mailto:yaworski-jp@sympatico.ca">yaworski-jp@sympatico.ca</a>
Secretary:	<b>Ken Robertson</b>	450-678-7653	<a href="mailto:ken.Robertson@videotron.ca">ken.Robertson@videotron.ca</a>
Treasurer:	<b>Ardele Warr</b>	450-653-5157	<a href="mailto:ardelewarr@videotron.ca">ardelewarr@videotron.ca</a>
Past President:	<b>Bob Tomkinson</b>	450-658-7281	<a href="mailto:tomkyr@sympatico.ca">tomkyr@sympatico.ca</a>

**Dr Ivan D.Harding**  
**President South Shore**

QART/membership/2009-10



## QART Membership Form 2009 – 2010

Last Name
First Name
Street
City
Province
Postal Code
Telephone
E-mail
Chapter

**Honorary Member** A member who has belonged to PACRT, known as QART for 25 years or more (no charge) – PACRT before 1981

**Regular Member** A member who attends meetings and/or socials (\$25)

**Associate Member Wife or husband** of regular members (\$5)

**Member at Large** A member who attends neither meetings nor socials, but wishes to be informed through the newsletter (\$12)

**Amount Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Mail to:**

**QART**  
**c/o; QART Treasurer**  
**291 Avenue du Parc**  
**L'île Perrot, QC**  
**J7V 9Z5**