

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Being somewhat overwhelmed by the many letters of good wishes, I find I can only take this simple means of expressing my sincerest thankyou's to all who have extended kind words and support for this Society year. Following capably in the footsteps of Past President Marg Phillips, who excelled in a difficult year, will not be an easy task. It is comforting to know, however, that we again have an excellent executive to work on your behalf in our many and varied recreation endeavours.

Some of our newer members have remarked that they wish to be "challenged" for the future — not restrained through historical "reference". The SDMRO, as a recognized body of professionals, is challenged constantly to provide for now and to prepare for the future in rapidly changing living conditions and social environment. Individuals may take up these challenges in their own employment

1967-68 New Officers

Standing: Wendell Brewster, Executive Secretary; Allan Goldenberg, Member at large; Blayne Rennick, Treasurer; Gerry Gellette, Secretary Seated: Marg Phillips, Past President; Laurie Branch, President; Tom Riley, Vice President



but may also contribute to and find much education and satisfaction in Society committee work and special appointments. Our history is equally important and development processes must not be forgotten.

The extension of current and new Society services will be more evident with the appointment of our executive secretary which took place at the recent annual meeting. This is a milestone in our development and combined with the other constitution and by-law changes will provide us with a sound base for the future. This staff appointment, although on a part-time basis, will extend the role formerly filled by the registrar and is bound to increase the work load in Wendell Brewster's Oshawa office. The full-time Society office establishment must be actively pursued by your new executive.

Other matters to pursue and services to develop:

- membership extension
- national organization development
- advisory services to hiring authorities
- the effects of, and our role in, regional government
- development of our new Council of Fellows
- university and college training programs
- public relations and publications
- areas and methods for research
- guides to adequate personnel practices, conditions and benefits
- improved liaison with related agencies and organizations particularly Community Programs of the Department of Education
- resource services

These and many more require extensive contribution of effort and time by many Society members. The executive welcomes your suggestions, your participation and your criticisms for satisfying development of our profession and for the provision of worthwhile recreation for people.

TRAINING INSTITUTE - Bob Davidson

The 1967 Training Institute of the Society of Directors of Municipal Recreation of Ontario was held at the Muskoka Sands Inn at Gravenhurst, on November 9th and 10th. More than 125 delegates, including the second year students from the Recreation Course at Centennial College, examined the question of recreation services being provided by a municipal council or a school authority.

Speakers included Mr. C.H. Emigh, Assistant Superintendent in charge of municipal recreation and adult education for the board of education in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Mr. D.L. Minshall, Supervisor of Professional Training, Community Programs, Ontario Department of Education; and Professor A.F. Affleck, Director of Recreation Administration Professional Program, University of Alberta.

In the opening session, Mr. Emigh and Mr. Minshall discussed the merits of the council-controlled organization, as opposed to a school-oriented structure. This was discussed in terms of philosophy, community relationships, programs, facilities, staff, and finance. Following this presentation, a series of discussion groups considered each of the areas in turn. After the last discussion the participants had the opportunity to question the panelists in a plenary. This session was led by Mr. W.J. Hare, Commissioner of Recreation and Parks, township of Toronto.



Several members presented new ideas and techniques in a session entitled "What's New", under the chairmanship of Mr. J.G. Maxwell, Director of Recreation, Sault Ste. Marie. At the closing banquet, Professor Affleck presented a critique of the institute, and left the delegates with a challenge to consider the problem as it applies to their own situation, and in the light of the points established at the institute.

SIMCOE COUNTY - P. Cavill & G. Coulson

A tri-service district workshop for municipal recreation committee members is being planned for Simcoe county in February of 1968. The tri-service team includes Mr. David Parker, Representative of the district for Community Programs, Mr. Peter Cavill, District Representative of the SDMRO, and Mrs. Helen Lisk, District Representative OMRA.

The conference is being planned to help recreation committees become more aware of their responsibilities and to foster a better understanding by committee members of community needs. It is the intention of the planning group that this conference will be one of many to be held on the local and regional levels in future.

We are endeavouring to develop closer school board recreation relationships in the county. The film "To Touch a Child" is proving very helpful for this purpose. Time alone will tell as to its effectiveness.

SAULT STE. MARIE

The Parks and Recreation Department is branching out into the agricultural field.

The beautiful Sinclair Farm was purchased by the city of Sault Ste. Marie for \$1 and turned over to the Parks and Recreation Department to maintain and program. The 200 acres of fully-equipped prime farmland is to be utilized for educational and recreational purposes. Farming anyone?

A new agreement has been reached between the Community Services Board and the school boards (separate and public) making it possible for rinks to be erected on all school properties.

The Parks and Recreation Department supplies each school with the necessary equipment — 200 feet of $1\frac{1}{4}$ " hose, rink boards (120'x60'x4'), shovels and scrapers, plus \$100 towards rink maintenance. The schools in turn are responsible for erection and supervision during the winter months and storage of the boards during the summer.

This new agreement brings the total number of outdoor rinks to 63 — 54 school rinks and nine parks and recreation rinks.

All we need now is a cold snow-free winter to keep everybody happy!

Our experiment with the 4-week "How To" courses is surpassing all expectations. "How to Decorate Your Home" was well received by 22 women, while the "How to Invest Your Money" attracted 16 participants. These programs are worth consideration. We will be most happy to provide any information we can.

The vacancy of Director of Parks and Recreation for the city of Sault Ste. Marie has been filled. Mr. H.A. Brain, former Commissioner of Parks and Recreation in Port Arthur began his new duties December 1, 1967. Welcome Mr. Brain, we are looking forward to future progress as a result of your arrival.

GALT - M. Dymond

Work has just begun on our new outdoor swimming pool which we expect to open for the 1968 season. It is being built in conjunction with our local Kinsmen Club and will give Galt a much needed second pool.

We will be expanding into program considerably next summer and fall and are preparing now for negotiations with the Board of Education for the use of schools. With the anticipated use of schools, it will be necessary for our department to consider the possibility of hiring another person to establish and coordinate all programs.

OSHAWA

Mr. Pat McGarrity of the Oshawa staff has left to join the staff of Community Programs — as a "Field Representative" working out of the Kitchener-Waterloo office.

A replacement for Pat is now being sought — a person to work primarily in the sports and physical program area.

Oshawa's new centennial pool and recreation centre has now been in operation for about two months. This recreation feature presents "phase two" of a major development that will be one of the most complete outdoor and indoor major recreation complexes in the province when completed.

HAMILTON

The Sir Winston Churchill Recreation Centre opened last month. It is a new recreation school complex, the fourth of its kind in Hamilton. The centre consists of a pool, craft room and an activity room attached to a high school.

A new YWCA is now under construction in the downtown area, and will be a definite asset to the city.

KENORA - Margaret Phillips

Society members who expressed concern about the implications to recreation of regional government may be interested to learn that a "Seminar on Government at the Local Level" will be held at the Quetico Centre February 2 - 5.

The purpose of the seminar is to discuss the Smith Report and its implications (or Northwestern Ontario, and regional government — services and boundaries). The seminar, which is sponsored by the N.W.O. Municipal Association, the Ontario Department of Municipal Affairs, Community Programs and the Quetico Centre will involve municipal authorities and officials including municipal councils, school boards, library boards, planning boards, recreation committees and conservation authorities.

TOWNSHIP OF TORONTO

The contract has just been let for the new Malton Arena to be constructed in a beautiful 71-acre park in the northeast section of the township. The \$318,000 project should be completed by June 1, 1968.

Huron Park Recreation Centre - R.J. Lucas

Huron Park swim pool program is well under way. Attendance for both lessons and public swimming is better than expected.

The Huron Park pool will host a Royal Life Saving Instructors Course December 27, 28, and 29, 1967. Then to start out the new year, we will host a Red Cross

Instructors Course January 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, and 28, 1968. Also, from January to March, a Red Cross Leader Patrol Course and a Royal Life Saving "Distinction" course will be conducted in conjunction with the regular program. If any aquatic staff people in the area are interested in participating please contact Bob Lucas, Swim Pool Supervisor, Huron Park Pool, 2460 Stavebank Road, Cooksville, 279-8200.

PETERBOROUGH - C. M. Bud Bitton

The Peterborough Recreation Committee has begun a city-wide study of recreation services, facilities and programs, with the assistance of the local Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Pre-survey planning and investigation has been carried out in recent months by Recreation Director Ken Robinson, Deputy Director Bud Bitton, and Program Supervisor Dan Shannon. The J. C. 's have now moved in to conduct much of the actual survey by telephone and by personal visits.

All existing program and program opportunities will be recorded along with pertinent data relating to age groups, sexes, nature of the activity, frequency, when available, and to whom. All facilities that are being used or have a potential use for recreational activities are being catalogued, along with the characteristics of the facility and its availability for use.

Community Programs will assist in assessing the existing programs and facilities after the survey is completed and the findings recorded. A Mayor's Conference on Leisure is tentatively planned for early spring. The information gleaned from the survey will provide the main resource for the conference and will hopefully assist the Peterborough Recreation Committee and other community organizations in laying future plans.

A catalogue of recreational opportunities will also be developed around the study and will, with annual up-dating, provide a continuous service to the community.

OWEN SOUND - J. R. Gillespie

Weather permitting, the Owen Sound Recreation Department will sponsor a Learn to Ski School for beginners "young and old" and for intermediate skiers commencing January 13, 1968. The course is taught by qualified ski instructors. We are hoping for a large turnout again this year.

The Owen Sound and District Approved Basketball Officials Association with J. R. Gillespie, Director of Recreation, as convenor held several meetings prior to the basketball season.

All the officials had to attend a minimum of two of the first four meetings, attend a floor demonstration, write both examinations on the required dates and obtain a passing mark, plus take a floor test when requested. In this way we are upgrading the standard of officiating in the area.

The Owen Sound Recreation Department is sponsoring a 10-week interior design class taught by Mr. Jon Austin, one of five interior decorators in Canada chosen to attend the World Design Clinic in Philadelphia. The class includes furniture finishing, antiquing, drape stylings, accents on wallpaper, furniture arrangement, etc.

The Owen Sound Recreation Department together with the YM-YWCA sponsored a Youth Conference on November 26, 1967. This conference was held at the new YM-YWCA which was opened officially in early December.

The theme of this conference was "Youth in Our Society — Today and Tomorrow". The speaker — Mr. Dick Capling.

After Mr. Capling's address there were adult and youth discussion groups followed by an integrated discussion group. Although the turnout was disappointing, the enthusiasm of the participants was very encouraging.

ILLINOIS - Earle Zeigler

Hi! "Enjoy yourself; it's later than you think" are some words that "the old perfesser" is beginning to take to heart. As of August, 1968, I plan to be an ex-administrator and a full-time graduate professor instead. Why this has occurred is a long story, but let it suffice to say that I discovered that I wasn't indestructible. In fact, after a recent visit to the hospital, I am now completely "mortified and rectified".

Had a great evening with Ted Storey and John Pearson while you folks were having your annual meeting. I hope the telegram reached you.

Two weeks ago I spent a day at the rapidly developing University of Windsor with Professor Pat Galasso, his staff, and the students there. It is really a going concern.

Last week I had a wonderful time at the APPERA Convention in Truro, Nova Scotia. On Saturday evening I spoke at a banquet with 275 students and professionals present. They are really moving down there. Ken Gowie was Co-conference Chairman; he is Athletic Director at Dalhousie University. A highlight of this visit for me was the opportunity to relate to the newly formed Atlantic Provinces Municipal Parks and Recreation Directors' Federation (Don Lynch, President). They are a fine group and were most anxious to discuss their development. I told them about your work in Ontario and suggested that they relate to you at the first opportunity. I was so pleased when they presented me with a crest at the evening banquet as a gesture for the afternoon spent with them. My best to all of you.

FEATURE

OTTAWA REPLIES - N. Osborne

After the inaccurate picture of the Ottawa situation given to members at the training institute, perhaps I should note just a few items which indicate a different story.

We now have twenty high schools operating under the Collegiate Institute Board. Over a period of ten years there have been 5 community councils established in our schools. Quite recently, we established a sixth, and there is the possibility of a seventh in the new year. Our newest school has been designed for use by community groups in a wide range of activities. Already 1,600 adults are taking part in educational activities there and several community organizations are making use of the facilities for club or society programs.

All our schools are used for recreational purposes in varying degrees.

Our next high school (still on the drawing board) is earmarked for community use, with specific areas designed for this purpose. This was developed in cooperation with the municipal recreation department in relation to their complex adjacent to the school.

Our school program committee is starting negotiations with municipal authorities in the new year with a view to pin-pointing the long range implications of community council and civic recreation department activities.

Municipal courses for playground staff have long been open to collegiate staff and considerable assistance has been given us by municipal recreation personnel.

A unique school opens on January 3, 1968 when pupils will begin attending the first school recreation complex designed through the combined efforts of the Ottawa Public School Board and the municipal recreation department.

We have more than 14,000 adults currently enrolled in evening school programs in 11 of our high schools. Many of these courses are both educational and recreational.

In September 1966, the Collegiate Board created the position for a Liaison Officer on staff. The duty of this individual is to encourage and coordinate the efforts of the various communities concerned with the recreational opportunities that may or may not exist in their areas, with particular emphasis on community use of its high schools.

Principals are showing concern for the overall health and welfare of their students and the parents of these students. Interest is developing throughout our educational system around the community school concept.

Dialogue is developing between university, high school, public school, separate school, civil service, and municipal authorities.

In Ottawa, the opportunities are good and the future is bright.

SARNIA - Ted Wood

Fall and winter programs are in full swing with the perennial favourites receiving the best attendance in their history. Some of them being Saturday morning activities club (children 7 to 12), junior square dancing (children in grades 6, 7, and 8), learn-to-skate classes (children 4 to 13), millinery classes (women), ceramics (women), ladies painting (women), archery (men, women and children).

Sarnia is making an attempt at organizing a Community Youth Congress which will coordinate, plan and design recreation activities for teenagers. The purpose of this group is to act as the liaison between all youth agencies in the community; aid them in coordinating activities to help cut down on the over-lap and to run more parallel programs. The congress will be the result of more than a year of planning for the First Youth Conference ever held in the city. The 6,000 teen population of the city will elect the twenty-five member congress while attending the conference.

A new program, started this year, proved most successful. This was a coffee house for teenagers operated for the summer only. It was housed in an old frame building about the size of a 5-room house, previously used as an office by the Sifto Salt plant. The young people redecorated it themselves both inside and out. The effects were somewhat "way out" but not unpleasing, although public pressure



forced us to do the outside over again in a less wild style. Attendance on a busy night exceeded 250 with the overflow being accommodated on the porch and parking lot. Program was instituted by the participants with advice and assistance of department staff.

The Sarnia Parks and Recreation Department is pleased to welcome aboard their new Commissioner, Mr. Bob Harrison. Mr. Harrison used to be with our department but he moved to North York, he finally discovered that Sarnia was truly the valley of green and he came back. Welcome home Bob.

RECREATION NEWS FROM HANOVER - Don Gravett

After a brief rest (on orders by the doctor who looked in worse shape than yours truly) I have come to the conclusion that there is only one thing wrong with this stimulating field of recreation. And that is, that the good Lord only allows us 24 hours a day to work at it! With so many important avenues to explore, one would think that an hour or two extra might be found, but believe me, there isn't. I've tried!

Centennial Year — 1967 — has certainly turned out to be a memorable one for Hanover and district residents. After submitting a 12-page brief and showing the widely talked about film "To Touch a Child" the South West Grey Board of Education (governing body for elementary and secondary schools) opened its doors in Hanover, Durham and Ayton to recreation programs. Cooperation has been most pleasing. Advancement has been made to the extent that night school classes are being coordinated by both the high school and recreation department.

Another pleasing note has taken place here in minor hockey. All-star clubs are taboo! Main emphasis is finally being placed on the average boy for weekly recreation. The minor hockey association has doubled its ice time for the average participant in house league action.

BOROUGH OF EAST YORK - D. Wadlow

A new swimming pool was built by the Borough of East York in cooperation with the East York Board of Education adjoining the St. Clair Junior High School at a cost to the municipality of \$465,000.

This new facility opened in September. It consists of a level deck pool 28' x 75', change and shower rooms, checkrooms, and instructor rooms. The cashier's office links with the school's large gymnasium to provide the school and community with a modern community centre.

This new centre is used by the community each day after school, evenings, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays with the East York Recreation Advisory Board

providing such programs as public swimming, learn to swim programs for all ages and levels, gymnastics, judo, ladies and men's gym and swim classes, and a Saturday Fun Club (gym, crafts, movie, swim). The program staff is hired by the recreation department for after school and weekend supervision.

A twenty-year agreement was entered into by the Borough of East York and the East York Board of Education with provisions for the sharing of time and the operation and maintenance of the building.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS - R. E. Secord

On behalf of all of the staff of Community Programs I send Greetings and Best Wishes for 1968 to all of the members of the Society. I have already met with the new Society executive and action has been taken on several matters of mutual interest. We in Community Programs look forward to continuing this close relationship and have great expectations for 1968 in the achievement of common objectives.

Members of the Society will be interested to know that Miss Margaret Phillips will join our staff in the Port Arthur office on April 1, 1968 as a district consultant. We are pleased that Margaret has accepted the position and know that her competence in recreation will be valuable to those communities in northwestern Ontario with which she will work.

A significant meeting was held in Toronto on November 15, 1967 at which a Sports Federation was proposed to representatives of Ontario's sports-governing bodies. Jack Eilbeck, Physical Recreation Coordinator, has sent complete details to all recreation departments.

Representatives of all Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology were invited to Toronto in November to discuss the expansion of the present Diploma program to other colleges. It is possible that members of the Society will become involved on local advisory committees to investigate the need for the program in their college area. Further information on this subject is available from Lloyd Minshall.

WANT ADMINISTRATIVE TRAINING? - L. M. Minshall

An executive development program is being jointly sponsored by the Department of Recreation and Park Administration of Indiana University and the National Recreation and Park Association. It is an intensive course designed for recreation and park executives with general management responsibilities. Emphasis throughout the training is on increasing knowledge and understanding of human behaviour in the work environment, with continual focus on skills and application.

The year-long course begins with a five-day session in residence at Indiana

University from March 17 to 22, 1968. Individual study follows at home for the next year. The program ends with a second five-day session in residence during March, 1969.

Tuition for the 1968 conference is \$215. This includes books, double-room occupancy housing, meals and other basic expenses.

Enrollment is limited to 50 participants. It is expected several times this number will apply. Selection will be made on the basis of previous experience and training, present position and capacity for advancement. Efforts will be made to balance representation from all parts of United States and Canada.

For additional information and an application form, write to Director, Executive Development Program, Department of Recreation and Park Administration, A.P.E.R. Building, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, 47401.