

Spring 2011

## MINISTER SHARES A HAPPY MOMENT WITH SENIORS



Ontario Minister Responsible for Seniors, Sophia Aggelonitis, at the Ancaster Senior Achievement Centre Fair with Shirley Glauser (left), and Al and Aldine Gordon.

## OACAO MEETS WITH MINISTER SOPHIA AGGELONITIS IN MARCH

OACAO President Debbie Wilson, President Elect Shirley Glauser and Executive Director Lawrie Bloom enjoyed a very successful and exciting meeting with Minister Aggelonitis on March 30.

After thanking the OACAO for its commitment to provide the highest quality of programs for seniors, Minister Aggelonitis presented a letter stating the OACAO will receive funding of \$100,000 toward a series of Seniors Information and Active Living Fairs from April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012. The OACAO committed to the coordination and operation of 25 Fairs during

that time period. The Minister also said that she will work toward providing continuous funding for the Fairs project.

For a number of years, the OACAO has discussed becoming a member of the Ontario Seniors' Secretariat Advisory Committee. Minister Aggelonitis committed to make this happen. We now await word as to when the OACAO will officially become part of this important advisory committee.

We also discussed support to implement a permanent Cabinet Minister for Seniors and a Ministry for Seniors. Part of the role of this Ministry would be to bring all of the functions related to Seniors under one roof, including funding of centres through the Elderly Persons Centres Act. This issue has been explored for a number of years and is, at present, being further investigated.

The OACAO presented the Minister with a copy of our DVD, *Senior Centres Bring it Together*, a copy of the *Building Bridges to Tomorrow* report; the OACAO general information brochure; and a few other OACAO documents.

At meeting close, we thanked the Minister for her time and her commitment to the seniors of Ontario and reiterated our own commitment to support the work of the Ontario Seniors' Secretariat.

### **Operation Legacy carries on the work of the War Amps**

Members of The War Amps Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program make up Operation Legacy to teach Canada's younger generation the importance of remembering the sacrifice of our fallen soldiers and of our veterans. This independent and dedicated group of young Canadians is committed to commemorating and preserving Canada's military history. They attend wreath-laying ceremonies, give presentations to schools, retirement homes and community groups, and donate documentaries from The War Amps internationally award-winning Military Heritage Series to libraries. Their message is "it was their war, it is our legacy."

Founded in 1918, The War Amps is a Canadian registered charitable organization funded solely through donations from the public to its Key Tag and Address Label Service. The Association receives no government grants. The Key Tag service has returned over a million sets of keys across Canada, and is more important than ever with the extremely high replacement cost of keys and remote devices. Public support enables The War Amps to operate its many programs and services, including Operation Legacy.

If you are interested in a representative coming to speak at your centre about the many programs and services the organization provides, please contact:

***The War Amps at: (416) 297-2660 Ext. 269 or toll free at 1-800-267-7487 or james@waramps.ca***

## **Congratulations to the Bradley's!**

Kim Bradley (OACAO 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President) and her husband Mike welcomed a baby girl into their family April 5 at 10:19 am. The little one's name is Hannah Grace Bradley and she weighs 6 lbs 13 oz and is 20 inches long. Mike says that mom and baby are doing great!

**Congratulations also** to the Centre for Seniors Windsor. Members begin celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary commencing Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> with special dinner and Annual General Meeting.

## **OACAO at the OGA (Ontario Gerontology Association) 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

The OACAO agreed to participate in the World Café session on Wednesday, May 4. We are sending five representatives from centres and the OACAO Board— including Shirley Glauser and John Coffey. As seniors, their role is to participate in the small group discussions. They will be given a question related to seniors' priorities (health care, for example) and asked to discuss this with the three other people at the table. This will be done three times in rotation.

After the World Café, the OGA will present its Positive Aging Award to Hazel McCallion and this will be followed by a reception.

Sounds like a wonderful evening and a great way to maintain the growing relationship between the OACAO and the OGA.

## **Ontario's Tax Credit System - Are your seniors getting money back?**

The Ontario Tax Credit Calculator

The Ontario Ministry of Revenue has established a web page for seniors to visit to determine if they are eligible for the following Tax Credits:

- Ontario Energy and Property Tax Credit
- Ontario Sales Tax Credit
- Ontario Sales Tax Transition Benefit

<http://www.rev.gov.on.ca/en/taxcredits/calculatorquestions.asp>

## **OACAO Conference 2011**

**Together – Ensemble**

**The OACAO Annual Education and Tradeshow**

**October 23, 24, 25**

**Southway Hotel and Conference Centre – Ottawa**

Hold the dates! Information to follow shortly!

## Board of Directors 2010-2011

### Executive

President	Debbie Wilson	905-668-1424	<a href="mailto:wilsond@whitby.ca">wilsond@whitby.ca</a>
Past President	Ellen Hope	519-972-9369	<a href="mailto:ellenhope@cogeco.ca">ellenhope@cogeco.ca</a>
President Elect	Shirley Glauser	905-648-1023	<a href="mailto:sglauser@oacao.org">sglauser@oacao.org</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Sue Hesjedahl	905-615-3905	<a href="mailto:suehesjedahl@rogers.com">suehesjedahl@rogers.com</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Kim Bradley	905-420-4660	<a href="mailto:kbradley@cityofpickering.com">kbradley@cityofpickering.com</a>
Treasurer	Marilyn Latham	416-251-5600	<a href="mailto:marilynlatham@rogers.com">marilynlatham@rogers.com</a>
Secretary	Debra Prescott	905-576-6712	<a href="mailto:dprescott@oshawa.ca">dprescott@oshawa.ca</a>
Executive Director	Lawrie Bloom	905-497-8122	<a href="mailto:lbloom@oacao.org">lbloom@oacao.org</a>

### Regional Representatives

Central- Staff	Kathleen Willins	905-953-0893	<a href="mailto:kwillins@newmarket.ca">kwillins@newmarket.ca</a>
-Senior	Anastasia Erland	905-885-0257	<a href="mailto:aderland@sympatico.ca">aderland@sympatico.ca</a>
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-Senior	Betty Eadie	613-824-0893	<a href="mailto:bets.jim@sympatico.ca">bets.jim@sympatico.ca</a>
G. Horseshoe-Staff	Sharon Bee	905-815-5960	<a href="mailto:sbee@oakville.ca">sbee@oakville.ca</a>
-Senior	Al Gordon	905-648-7574	<a href="mailto:agordontriag@sympatico.ca">agordontriag@sympatico.ca</a>
Grand River- Staff	Tara Evershed	519-653-5719	<a href="mailto:tevershed@fairviewmennonitehomes.com">tevershed@fairviewmennonitehomes.com</a>
-Senior	Vacant		
Metro -Staff	Maggie Knap	416-245-4395	<a href="mailto:maggie@yorkwestactivelivingcentre.ca">maggie@yorkwestactivelivingcentre.ca</a>
-Staff	Wendy Caceres-Speakman	416-744-6312	<a href="mailto:wendy.caceres-speakman@rexdalechc.com">wendy.caceres-speakman@rexdalechc.com</a>
-Senior	Don Cameron	416-675-9489	<a href="mailto:dcameron@glendalememorial.ca">dcameron@glendalememorial.ca</a>
N.West – Staff	Vacant		
-Senior	Don Pawlett	807-767-8334	<a href="mailto:donpawlett@gmail.com">donpawlett@gmail.com</a>
-Senior	Joan Clark	807-825-2801	<a href="mailto:jmclark@bellnet.ca">jmclark@bellnet.ca</a>
N. Central – Staff	Vacant		
-Senior	Vacant		
S. West – Staff	Calvin Little	519-254-1108	<a href="mailto:clittle@centresforseniors.ca">clittle@centresforseniors.ca</a>

### Committee Chairs

Advocacy	John Coffey	905-623-5246	<a href="mailto:coffeyj2004@rogers.com">coffeyj2004@rogers.com</a>
Awards	Shelley Wesseling	905-728-2358	<a href="mailto:shelleyw2008@hotmail.com">shelleyw2008@hotmail.com</a>
Bus. Partners	Office	905-497-8122	<a href="mailto:lbloom@oacao.org">lbloom@oacao.org</a>
Resource Dev't	Ross McKee	519-747-3439	<a href="mailto:ross.mar@sympatico.ca">ross.mar@sympatico.ca</a>
Conference 2011	Leo Lavergne	613-741-0562	<a href="mailto:leo@centrepaulinecharron.ca">leo@centrepaulinecharron.ca</a>
OASSIS Liaison	Bill Krever	416-443-7999	<a href="mailto:krever@betterlivinghealth.org">krever@betterlivinghealth.org</a>
OASSIS Alternate	Candace Thomson	416-733-4111	<a href="mailto:cthompson@nyseniors.org">cthompson@nyseniors.org</a>
Membership	Wendy Krever	519-853-5961	<a href="mailto:wendyk@haltonhills.ca">wendyk@haltonhills.ca</a>
Finance	Ross McKee		
Marketing	Vacant		
Newsletter	Vacant		
Web Site	Office		
Nominations	Ellen Hope	519-972-9369	<a href="mailto:ellenhope@cogeco.ca">ellenhope@cogeco.ca</a>

## **2011- 2012 Membership Renewals**

Membership Renewal Forms were sent out in early March. Please remember to insert the Renewal Form when you send in your membership fees for 2011-2012. Return to the OACAO Office at the address below.

30 Amberhill Trail  
Brampton, Ontario  
L6R 2R7

## **Seniors Information and Active Living Fairs 2011-2012**

The Application to Host a Fair was distributed via the list serve on April 11th. If you did not receive an application and want to host a Fair, please contact Lawrie Bloom at the office to have an application sent via email. The application deadline is April 30.

The OACAO has contracted with the Ontario Seniors' Secretariat to host 25 Fairs over this fiscal year. A maximum of \$3,000 will be awarded to the successful applicants.

Our thanks to the OSS and Minister Aggelonitis for continued support of this very important project.

## **OACAO Happenings!!!**

It has been a very busy time since the conclusion of the 2010 Conference.

- The OACAO was invited to participate in roundtable discussions with both the New Democratic and Progressive Conservative parties as they prepare their platforms for the Provincial election in October. The OACAO prepared a document and provided both parties with information about the OACAO as well as a copy of our DVD. The response to our involvement was very positive and a good experience.
- With the leadership of Ron Purcell of Management Advisory Services, the Board has been hard at working on the development of a Strategic Plan for the association that will provide direction through the next five years. A draft of the Strategic Plan will be presented at the President's Forum at Conference 2011.
- A grant application was submitted to the Ontario Trillium Foundation at the end of February as a follow up to the *Building Bridges to Tomorrow* project. However, the application was withdrawn as Trillium advised the OACAO that we were required to submit an audited financial statement—which we have not done for the past few years. The grant will be re-submitted for the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline assuming that our accountants can complete the audit within the next couple of months. If the project is approved, the OACAO will be hiring a Marketing & Development Coordinator.
- At the February Board meeting, with the approval of the 2011-2012 Budget, funds were approved to hire an Administrative Assistant to work 24 hours per week to provide support to the Executive Director and the Marketing & Development Coordinator, once this person is in place.

## Support our Business Partners

Accessible Travel Support – Linking People and Places	<a href="http://www.accessibletrav.com">www.accessibletrav.com</a>
Bayshore Home Health	<a href="http://www.bayshore.ca">www.bayshore.ca</a>
Comfort Life	<a href="http://www.comfortlife.ca">www.comfortlife.ca</a>
Copper County Foods	<a href="http://www.coppercountyfoods.ca">www.coppercountyfoods.ca</a>
Holiday Retirement Residences	<a href="http://www.holidaytouch.com">www.holidaytouch.com</a>
Johnson Insurance	<a href="http://www.johnson.ca">www.johnson.ca</a>
Keen Marketing Associates	<a href="http://www.keenmarketingassociates.com">www.keenmarketingassociates.com</a>
Leed Solutions	<a href="http://www.leedsolutions.ca">www.leedsolutions.ca</a>
Listen Up! Canada	<a href="http://www.listenupcanada.com">www.listenupcanada.com</a>
NHI – Nursing and Homemakers Inc	<a href="http://www.nhihealthcare.com">www.nhihealthcare.com</a>
OASSIS	<a href="http://www.oassisplan.ca">www.oassisplan.ca</a>
Revera	<a href="http://www.reveraliving.com">www.reveraliving.com</a>
Senioropolis	<a href="http://www.senioropolis.com">www.senioropolis.com</a>
Silver and Gold Magazine	<a href="http://www.sngmagazine.com">www.sngmagazine.com</a>
The Care Guide	<a href="http://www.thecareguide.com">www.thecareguide.com</a>
VIVA Retirement Living Corporation	<a href="http://www.vivalife.ca">www.vivalife.ca</a>

# Wanted: Newsletter Editor

The OACAO is in need of a highly motivated individual to take on the unique challenge (but not a difficult one) of coordinating the production of the OACAO newsletter which is published 3 times per year – Winter, Spring, late Summer.

Please contact Lawrie Bloom at the OACAO office at  
[lbloom@oacao.org](mailto:lbloom@oacao.org) or 905-497-8122