

TORONTO REGION EAST SPELLING BEE BY SUSAN SEIDMAN

The stellar panel of officials included Kappans Irene Manahan as Word Keeper, Stephanie Fetterolf as Judge, Ruth Childs as both Resource and Arbiter, and Susan Seidman and new initiate Simone Scantlebury as MCs. Volunteers Girthya Sitsabeshan and Tenzin Tekan rounded out the picture: Girthya as Name Announcer and Tenzin as Word Announcer.

A crack team of pre-service teachers from OISE handled registration: Heba Saba, Bavani Maniam, Kate Dawson and Salima Jaffer, all recruited from OISE by Simone Scantlebury, .

Preparing for the Bee took months, including weekly coaching sessions held at Charles G. Fraser and Wilkinson Public Schools. Special thanks are owed to Principals Maria Alviani and Tanya Sterioff. The sessions, and the entire process leading to the Bee, benefited from the effort and organizational skills of Toronto East Region Chapter Co-President Carolyn Moras.

In addition to the officials, PDK was represented at the Bee by Pauline Shou and new initiate Connie Lam, who sold tickets and chatted to parents, participants, and OISE students about PDK. Toronto Bathurst Lions member Hewitt Loague and Mall Marketing Director Mary Anne Cogger presented trophies and cash prizes to the top three winners.



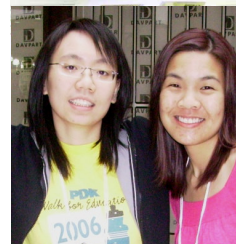
Lion Loague Hewitt presenting to a Toronto East Spelling Bee winner along with Mary Anne Cogger, Marketing Director of Gerrard Square, and MPP, Peter Tabuns.



Susan Seidman Co-President of the Toronto East Spelling Bee introduces the event to the dozens of parents and students at Gerrard Square



Special thanks to all the volunteers who worked to make the Toronto East Spelling Bee a success



WALK FOR EDUCATION SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2007

Co-Chairs Moveta Nanton and Shelley Thomas invite you to mark Saturday, October 27 on your calendar and plan to join us in our laps around Queen's Park.



MEET WALT WINCHELL, INCOMING PRESIDENT

Walt has been active in education and industry for many years and presently involved as a technology consultant for new media collaborative applications in education and industry. He has been a researcher, instructional designer, lecturer, mentor, project manager and administrator. Most recently at the Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, Walt served as a CFI Principal Investigator on a collaborative research project engaging institutions around the globe using Canada's high-speed research internet, Ca*Net 4, and led the implementation of the first Canadian access grid node at Sheridan in conjunction with the University of Toronto. Walt began his work at Sheridan in the faculty in Arts, Animation and Design and innovated the design concept and development of the Sheridan Centre for Animation and Emerging Technologies - SCAET complex. He also developed, managed and mentored students within Sheridan's prototype new media incubator program, providing both internal and external new media development aid to CBC Television, the Stratford Festival and other organizations and later served as project manager for the OnDisC program for the on-line distribution of educational courseware content. Walt has also worked at the Imax Corporation, the CBC, Kodak and Syracuse University, where he joined PDK some 30 years ago as a graduate student in education. He has presented and published several papers in technology and educational research and has served as a member of the executive of PDK-UT for the past 6 years as Technology Advisor the chapter.



MEET STEPHANIE FETTEROLF, PRESIDENT-ELECT

Stephanie Fetterolf started teaching in 1974. Today she is a Vice Principal with the Toronto District School, a position she has held for the past eight years. She has taught at the primary, junior and intermediate levels, and was a consultant in the area of Guidance and Career Education for the Toronto Board and the TDSB. Through ETFO, Stephanie gives workshops on powerful teaching throughout the province. Her particular interests are integration and middle level education. An intense interest in travel has enabled her to explore education in France, Kenya and, thanks to PDK's Gerald Howard Read International Travel Fund, China. She has been a member of PDK for five years and served on the executive as Program Co-Chair for four. At the present time Stephanie is working with other members of the Executive to organize next year's Research Series on Globalization: Looking out to Join in.



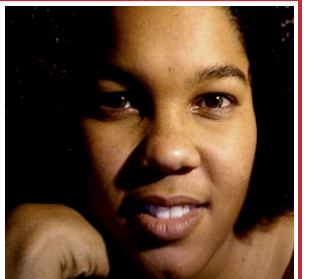
MEET ZENOBIA OMARALI, INITIATE

Zenobia is the Business Studies Instructional Leader for the Program Department at the Toronto District School Board. Her role includes co-ordinating programs, curriculum enhancements for teachers and developing unique experiences and opportunities for students taking Business Studies. Zenobia is Co-president of the Ontario Association of Business Education Co-ordinators (OABEC). Equity and diversity issues are keen interest for Zenobia. In April, she presented the co-curricular Business Studies document she spearheaded, "Entrepreneurs in Toronto: Diversity in Action" at the Celebrating Linguistic Conference that featured Entrepreneurs from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, discussion issues on stereotypes, and media literacy awareness.



MEET SIMONE SCANTLEBURY, INITIATE

Simone Scantlebury is from Barbados. She has taught in secondary schools in Barbados for 2 years, ESL in Japan for a year and was the Course Coordinator for a newly established language school in Barbados for 14 months. As Course Coordinator, she wrote the curriculum for one of the levels. She is one of the Athletic Coordinators on the OISE Student Teacher Union and occasionally volunteers at Heydon Park. Simone is part of the PDK Spelling Bee Team. She is the Communications Coordinator for the Toronto East Region Spelling Bee Chapter.



MEET CONNIE LAM, INITIATE

A total math geek, Connie Lam graduated from the University of Western Ontario with a B. Sc and completed her B.Ed from OISE/UT. Her teachables are Mathematics and Science. Connie has worked at the Ontario Science Centre for many years as a Science Counsellor. She presented at ESL workshops at Western to international students and is doing her secondary ESL AQ course this summer. Connie's practicums were at York Region's Unionville High School and Toronto District School Board's Agincourt C.I. Connie has agreed to take on the role of assistant newsletter editor for our PDK chapter.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Some 75 Kappans and guests attended the AGM on Thursday May 3 at the University of Toronto Faculty Club to celebrate our achievements, honour those who have contributed over the years, welcome new members and begin the work for next year. Sandra Weith, Assistant Executive Director of PDK International and praised work our chapter has done over the past few years. Hank Hedges was honoured for his 50 years of service and reminded us of our long and distinguished history in Ontario.

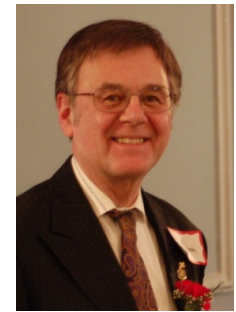
Barrie Bennett from OISE/UT gave a short but powerful presentation as he accepted our Outstanding Educator's Award for 2007. He reminded us with both humour and humility that teachers DO make a difference, especially if they are supported at all levels of the education system. He acknowledged his debt to those who mentored him as we recognize the impact he has had on many of us in the room that evening and untold numbers of teachers beyond.

Congratulations and thanks for all of us as you continue to work for the betterment of students and teachers!

Next on the agenda is our social (elsewhere in this issue). Not only is this a time for us to have some fun but it is remarkable how much productive thinking and planning goes on at such events.

Pictures

L.to R.:Ruth Childs thanking Barrie Bennett for his presentation and giving him a PDK Outstanding Educator Certificate. Susan Seidman was the recipient of a Service Key for leadership and meritorious service. Sandy Weith, Assistant Executive Director, PDK International, Pauline Shou, David Keffer, and John Myers were the readers at the Initiation Ceremony at the AGM. Elizabeth Manker introduced Sandy Weith, Assistant Executive Director, PDK International. Jocelyn Badovinac, coordinator of the Initiation Ceremony, welcoming Simone Scanlebury and Zenobia Omarili to PDK.



HONOURING MEMBERSHIP MILESTONES

Top Left: Henry (Hank) Hedges received a framed certificate to honour 50 years of PDK membership. Lou Wise recalled their working together working in the outdoors, making audio visual materials to illustrate science lessons. Lou presented Hank with a lovely framed photo of a sawhet owl as a memento. Mary Hookey receiving her 20 year pin from Membership Chair, Moveta Nanton. Stephanie Fetterolf received a certificate for 5 years membership. Ed Badovinac received a 15 year membership certificate.

