

Chimo

The Newsjournal of the Canadian Association for
Commonwealth Literature and Language studies

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Conferences, Announcements, & Calls for Papers

1999 Congress, Université de Sherbrooke

News of Members

From the President

The spring 1998 issue of *Chimo* illustrates in striking fashion the folly of prediction or of assumptions about the future. In it, the President speaks of plans to elect a new Executive at the COSSH meetings in Ottawa and bids a nostalgic farewell to the membership, depicting himself and the Secretary-Treasurer in a wistful simian pose on one of the closing pages.

As those who attended the Annual General Meeting in Ottawa know, however, no potential pair of candidates for the roles of President/Secretary-Treasurer emerged from discussions before the meetings or during the Annual General Meeting itself. The current duo agreed to stay on for a year (a vote was taken to confirm that decision), and there was a hope expressed that one of the institutions approached to provide the next Executive home of the organisation would be able to take on the task in 1999, although unable to do so in 1998. As a further consequence, it was agreed to delay the elections for regional representatives for one more year, to preserve the current executive membership until the Association knew from what region the President and Secretary-Treasurer would come (the Constitution provides for a regional representative from every region except that from which the President and Secretary-Treasurer come). What is not recorded in this historical narrative is the diplomatic brilliance of the President in persuading both the Secretary-Treasurer and Roza Cunningham, the behind-the-scenes work horse and linchpin, that the national interest required them to overcome their reluctance to carry on in tasks which, although rewarding and interesting, entail an inordinate amount of work.

So much for history. The latest news is even more disturbing. The two members who were thought-of as future office-bearers (from Saskatchewan—which would have provided a judicious regional relocation of the Executive) have indicated that, for perfectly valid personal reasons, they are not available as candidates for the roles of President and Secretary-Treasurer in 1999.

We must find a new Executive home for CACLALS by the time of the next Annual General Meeting. I urge all members to think of potential office-bearers and suggest them to me or Gary—or any other members of the Executive—as soon as possible so that we can prepare a slate for the next Annual General Meeting.

CACLALS is a viable and vibrant Learned Society. It cannot be allowed to founder. It is essential that an appropriate new team be elected to direct it during the three years after the Sherbrooke/Lennoxville meetings.

In this issue we call for paper proposals for those meetings in Sherbrooke and for suggestions for member-organised panels. Member-organised panels have been very successful in the past, and I urge members to make suggestions of panels on a specific topic, usually involving three speakers and organised by the member, subject to the approval of the conference organisers. Please remember that we consider proposals only from paid-up members. A membership cheque accompanying the proposal means being paid-up. Membership is for the calendar year.

In Ottawa, the session on pedagogy, organised by Craig Tapping, was so successful that he has been ordered to manage another in Sherbrooke next year. In addition, there was a suggestion at the Annual General Meeting that CACLALS should discuss formally what grounds there are for accepting or rejecting a national offer to host one of the ACLALS triennials. This arose from the saga of the withdrawal of the acceptance of the bid from the West African ACLALS, based in Nigeria, to host the triennial this year, and the redeployment of that conference to Kuala Lumpur in December 1998. Some members questioned whether Malaysia itself was an appropriate venue. Recent events in that country have disturbed others. Our Secretary-Treasurer, for instance, has cancelled his plans to attend the meetings in Kuala Lumpur. I think it is a good idea to discuss the issue of where ACLALS meets and what criteria CACLALS should apply when its President enters into discussions on the ACLALS Executive about future venues. Australia has already served notice that it wishes to host the triennial in 2001, the centenary of federation.

I think the Ottawa meetings of CACLALS were a success. The sessions organised by the Association itself were lively, and the social events were, once again, pleasant examples of the family atmosphere that prevails among CACLALS members. The "theme" sessions, organised to provide cross-disciplinary connection, and involving several societies, met with mixed reaction. Although there was general approval of the concept, and some sessions were found to be moving, reservations were expressed about the passivity of attending large lectures, given in many cases by distinguished speakers, at which the level of discussion was too general to be stimulating.

The call for paper proposals is out. Please respond vigorously by the deadline. Please help us find a President and Secretary-Treasurer for the association.

Rowland Smith

October 1998

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1997-98 Executive Committee:

AGM Minutes
Reports, & Financial Statement

MINUTES OF THE
CACLALS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Held at University of Ottawa
on May 30, 1998, 6:00 p.m.

Present: Guy Beauregard, Gary Boire, Lily Cho, Sujaya Dhanvantari, Renate Eigenbrod, Margery Fee, Cinda Gault, Terry Goldie, Douglas Ivison, David Leahy, Karen Macfarlane, Claudia Marquis, Ashok Mathur, Carol Morrell, Laura Moss, Victor Ramraj, Mary Rimmer, Rowland Smith, Heather Smyth, Sue Spearey, Craig Tapping, Joanne Tompkins

1. *Motion* (Tapping/Fee): That the minutes of the CACLALS AGM held at Memorial on June 2, 1997, be approved.

Carried.

2. *Matters Arising:*

It was agreed by enthusiastic and vaguely tumultuous consensus that the pedagogy session was a great success. There was anxious debate about making this an annual event. After considerable deliberation it was agreed by acclamation that Craig Tapping would again organize a session on pedagogy for the Sherbrooke COSSH in 1999.

3. *Constitutional Amendments*

(a) *Motion* (Fee/Mathur): That the Constitution be amended to include officially a representative on the Executive from the B.C. University Colleges.

Carried.

Considerable discussion followed in which Craig Tapping pointed out that the motion should be amended to read "College" representative (not necessarily from B.C.) in order to open up the position to members across Canada.

(b) *Motion* (Beauregard/Goldie): That the word "BC" and "Community College" be removed and that a new motion read: that the constitution be amended to include officially a representative on the Executive from one

College in Canada.

Carried.

(Note: We will post the amended Constitution under separate cover in Spring 1999 along with *Chimo 38*.)

(c) *Motion* (Smyth/Moss): That nominations for the positions of Graduate Representatives be accepted at the annual AGM if no previous nominations have appeared in *Chimo*.

Carried.

4. *Treasurer's Report*

The Secretary-Treasurer was in an ebullient mood, given the financial health of the Association. He proudly referred the meeting to his report on page 69 of *Chimo 36* and mentioned that approximately \$3,000 should be subtracted to account for members' travels to Ottawa and another \$600 for the printing and postage of *Chimo 36*. He then quipped wittily that CACLALS was well-positioned to face the millenium.

Victor Ramraj dourly pointed out that in future exact figures would be appreciated. The Secretary-Treasurer apologized for his dilatoriness, promising exactitude in the future.

Discussion then followed in which the meeting asked for the precise number of members in CACLALS currently in good standing as of June 15, 1998.

Regular Members	114
Grad Students/Unwaged	77
Retired Members	1
Total Membership	192

Suggestions were made that more use be made of the CACLALS ListServe; and that the Postcolonial list at Virginia be deployed to announce CACLALS activities. Questions arose as to why the Executive decided against providing free coffee at the paper sessions; the meeting seemed satisfied when the Secretary-Treasurer waspishly pointed out that it would have cost upwards of \$300.

The Treasurer concluded his remarks by expressing his gratitude to Roza Cunningham without whom he would undoubtedly have floundered.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted by consensus.

5. *The President's Report*

Rowland Smith directed the meeting to his Report on pages 4-6 in *Chimo 36*. He then made a number of announcements:

(a) That Wilfrid Laurier University Press has agreed to consider the Proceedings of the Commonwealth-in-Canada Conference held at WLU in November 1997. The President noted that a subsidy would probably be needed given the number of non-Canadian contributors to the volume.

(b) That the triennial ACLALS Conference was going ahead in Kuala Lumpur and that the meetings would be held December 1-6, 1998. A very thoughtful and serious discussion followed in which a number of members pointed out Malaysia's human rights record with regard to Gay and Jewish people. Craig Tapping asked if ACLALS had a floating moral code given its decision to withdraw from Nigeria but accept Malaysia. Considerable discussion followed and it was suggested that members consider the possibility of dedicating a session of CACLALS at Sherbrooke in 1999 to issues of morality and academic associations.

(c) That the current CACLALS executive has failed miserably in finding a replacement for itself beginning in September 1998. The President noted his rigorous pursuit of likely replacements and observed ruefully that he was painfully rebuffed by all those approached.

He noted that it was a possibility that Carol Morrell and Susan Gingell at Saskatchewan might be able to take over in September 1999, but that this was dependent on a number of variable factors within the Saskatchewan group. In effect, we are faced with the end of one executive's mandate with no successor.

After a muted pause the meeting unanimously accepted the President's reluctant offer to continue with the present Executive for one more year. To make it official the suggestion was brought to a Motion; viz.,

Motion (Goldie/Spearey): That the current Executive, based at WLU, continue its mandate for one more year—until September 1999. Both the President and Secretary-Treasurer nobly accepted the directive of the meeting and are currently accepting all suggestions and/or nominations for the next Executive.

6. *Graduate Representative Elections*

Given that the Graduate Representatives are exempt from the Special one year extension, elections were held for two new members whose office begins September 1, 1998.

Nomination (Moss/Smyth): That Lily Cho be elected to serve a two year term.

Carried unanimously.

Nomination (Beauregard/Smyth): That Sujaya Dhanvantari be elected to serve a one year term.
Carried unanimously.

7. Other Business

(a) The President noted that every effort will be made to schedule CACLALS sessions in Sherbrooke as close as possible to the ACCUTE sessions. He also reiterated the importance of having a local representative at the early planning stages.

(b) Both the President and Secretary-Treasurer thanked Heather Smyth and Laura Moss for their hard work as Graduate Representatives.

(c) Roza Cunningham was again praised by both the President and Secretary-Treasurer and thanked, in absentia, for her hard work.

(d) The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m. and eighteen members set off to a feast at the Royal Thai Restaurant.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Boire
Secretary-Treasurer

Treasurer's Report
TREASURER'S INTERIM REPORT
October 18, 1998

BALANCE FORWARD, April 1, 1998 \$14819.90

INCOME

ACLALS Grant	\$2,434.06
Membership Fees (April, 1998 - October 1, 1998)	\$2,105.81
SSHRCC Travel Grant	\$1,397.00
WLU Aid-to-Conference Grant	\$2,000.00

TOTAL INCOME \$7,936.87

BALANCE \$22,756.77

EXPENDITURES

Travel Grants (Members attending Ottawa COSSH)	\$2,925.00
Rebate to Invited Speaker (Ottawa)	\$251.93
<i>Chimo 36</i> (Spring 1998):	
Printing	\$350.00
Postage	\$150.00
	\$450.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$3626.93

BALANCE, OCTOBER 19, 1998 \$19,129.84

The figures provided in the statement above agree with the recorded transactions with the Bank of Montreal in every respect.

GARY BOIRE, SECRETARY-TREASURER
Wilfrid Laurier University

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CACLALS

THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE STUDIES

A membership form for 1999 is inserted in this issue of *Chimo*. Please send it in with your membership fee (which covers the calendar year of 1999) as soon as possible. If you are a paid-up member, please pass on the form and the membership invitation letter to a colleague.

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Conferences, Announcements, & Calls for Papers

CACLALS

THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE STUDIES

Calls for Papers CACLALS AT COSSH

Université de Sherbrooke (June 3 to June 5, 1999)

We plan a varied program consisting of members' papers on current research; some joint sessions with ACCUTE and ACQL; special sessions organized by members, a graduate student session or sessions.

Those wishing to participate in the Graduate Student Session should see the separate Call for Papers on page 14.

Those wishing to read papers in other sessions should submit either the completed paper or an abstract (200 to 500 words) to the Secretary-Treasurer by January 31, 1999. Please indicate on your proposal, now, your a/v equipment needs. Those wishing to organize a special session should also write by the same date, describing the session, listing the proposed participants, and offering abstracts of the papers to be read or of the topic to be discussed.

This information should be sent to: Gary Boire, Secretary-Treasurer, CACLALS, Dept. of English, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON, N2L 3C5, Canada.
Tel:(519) 884-1970, Fax: (519)746-2472,
E-mail: gboire@mach1.wlu.ca.

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CACLALS

THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE STUDIES

CALL FOR GRADUATE STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

Title: Proposing a Field of Race Studies for the New Millennium

Call for Graduate Student Submissions for a panel discussion on the topic of race and the university classroom. Papers will address the following questions: How might a field of race studies be established in graduate programmes, either together with or outside of already existing postcolonial fields of study? What role can postcolonial studies play in the politicization of race inside and outside of graduate course work? Can the current engagements of postcolonial courses draw connections between the political reality of racism (and sexism and homophobia in relation to the politics of race) and the study of race in the graduate classroom? Finally, what might a curriculum focussing on the topic of race attempt to accomplish? How might theory and practice be brought together in future academic work in Canadian institutions?

Proposals should be approximately one page in length, and are due on January 31, 1999.

Send proposals to: Lily Cho (lcho@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca),
Sujaya Dhanvantari (sujaya@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca).

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CACLALS

THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE STUDIES

CALL FOR A SPECIAL SESSION ON Politics/Place/Academic Conferences

We are especially interested to hear from members who wish either to chair a session or give a paper that addresses the political and moral implications of 'siting' academic conferences. Why Malaysia and not Nigeria? Papers or proposals dealing with any aspect of this issue are invited and should, in the first instance, be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer by January 31, 1999. All submissions for this session will then be forwarded to the designated chair.

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CACLALS

THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE STUDIES

**CALL FOR A
SPECIAL SESSION ON POSTCOLONIAL PEDAGOGY**

Papers could focus on some of the following parameters:

1. Establishing the authority of a text grounded in personal experience;
2. Theory in the dialogic classroom;
3. Moving discussion beyond thematics to the politics of language and the geographies of post-colonialism;
4. Dealing with liberal guilt in the post-colonial classroom;
5. Any other issues concerning classroom strategies, techniques, dilemmas.

Abstracts, proposals and complete papers should be sent by January 31, 1999 to:

Dr. Craig Tapping
Department of English
Malaspina University-College
Nanaimo, British Columbia
CANADA V9R 5S5
Telephone: (250) 753-3245; Fax: (250) 741-2667
E-Mail: tapping@mala.bc.ca

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Announcement of Publication
A SPECIAL ISSUE OF
Studies in Canadian Literature/Études en littérature canadienne
“WRITING CANADIAN SPACE/ÉCRIRE L’ESPACE CANADIEN”
Co-edited by John Clement Ball, Robert Viau, and Linda Warley

“‘Space’ is very much on the agenda these days.” - Doreen Massey

Canadian Literary critics have always, in one way or another, put space on the agenda. Many concepts that recur in Canadian literature and Canadian literary criticism have a distinctly spatial character: wilderness, garrison, north, region, border, city, home. Interdisciplinary models emerging from cultural geography, post-colonial and feminist studies, as well as literary studies, are opening up new ways of theorizing spaces. Critics are asking provocative questions about the politics and poetics of space, and the production, representation, and occupation of space.

SCL/ÉLC is proud to announce the publication of a special issue devoted to space and spatiality in anglophone and francophone Canadian literature. “Writing Canadian Space/Écrire l’espace canadien” is our biggest issue ever, featuring 15 articles and over 260 pages. The resulting assortment reflects not only the methodological variety of research on Canadian literary space, but also the spatial variety of Canada itself. From Hearne’s Arctic Fort to Lowry’s Dollarton to Roberts’s Tantramar Marshes, we move from coast to coast to coast; moreover, with stops along the way in such locales as Grove’s snowbound prairie, Callaghan’s Toronto, and Scott’s post-Massacre Montreal, this collection engages with a mixture of wilderness, rural, and urban spaces, and covers a broad temporal range. Most importantly, perhaps, the 15 articles attend not only to physical spaces - natural and built - but also to the symbolic spaces, imaginary spaces, and spaces of desire that may reveal the most about what Canadian writers make of their world.

For information about subscriptions, single-copy sales, or submission guidelines, please contact us at:

e-mail: scl@unb.ca
tel: (506) 453-3501
mail: Studies in Canadian Literature, University of New Brunswick,
P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton, NB E3B 5A3
web: <http://ultratext.hil.unb.ca/Texts/SCL/generalinfo.htm>

Table of Contents: Writing Canadian Space: Écrire l’espace canadien

Introduction: Mapping the Ground - Linda Warley, John Clement Ball, Robert Viau
Mapping Culture onto Geography: “Distance from the Fort” in Samuel Hearne’s Journal - Kathleen Venema
“Lords of the World”: Writing Gender and Imperialism on Northern Space in C.C. Vyvyan’s Arctic Adventure - Heather Smyth
A Geography of “Snow”: Reading Notes - W. H. New
(Re)Writing Home: Daphne Marlatt’s Ghost Works - Michele Gunderson
Literary Sites and Cultural Properties in Canadian Poetry - D.M.R. Bentley
Rendre l’espace lisible: le récit de voyage au XIXe siècle - Pierre Rajotte
Du rivage au terroir: L’expulsion de la mer de la littérature canadienne au XIXe siècle - Alessandra Ferraro
Overcoming the Two Solitudes of Canadian Literary Regionalism - Lisa Chalykoff
Iconicity, Space, and the Place of Sharon Butala’s “The Prize” - Ian Adam
Kamouraska et la métaphore toponymique - Luc Bonenfant
Espace national et espace littéraire dans l’oeuvre de Victor-Livy Beaulieu - Jean Morency

Strange Fugitive, Strange City: Reading Urban Space in Morely Callaghan's Toronto - Justin D. Edwards
Landscape's Narrative: Doing the Malcolm Lowry Walk - Norman Ravvin

"A Reader's Guide to the Intersection of Time and Space": Urban Spatialization in Hugh Hood's Around the Mountain - Douglas Ivison
Urban Space and Barstool fibnerie in Gail Scott's Main Brides - Ellen Servinis

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News of Members

We regret to inform the membership of the passing of **Clem Wyke** (University of Winnipeg) who was a long time member of CACLALS.

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CACLALS

THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE STUDIES

Send us your news for inclusion in the next Chimo!

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Late Submission

CACLALS

THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE STUDIES

Writing to Teach/Reading to Learn? Education through Literature in a "Post-Colonial" Context

(A joint session of ACCUTE and CACLALS)

Topics for papers in this session on education and literature might include: implications for choice of genre; the postcolonial Bildungsroman in its function of teaching the reader; the audience(s) to be taught: "writing back" and/or "writing home"; the teaching model in relation to reader-response theories; teaching through humour; the writer's construction of knowledge and the critic's deconstruction of the claim of truth-telling; themes of lessons, schooling, formal education, informal learning; narrative devices which invite learning rather than consuming.

Please send 3 copies of proposals (300-500 words) or papers (12-13 pages double-spaced), 100 word abstracts, and 50-word bio-bibliographical sketches by January 15, 1999 to:

Renate Eigenbrod, Department of English, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 5E1 e-mail: geigenbr@flash.leakeheadu.ca (e-mail submissions are welcome, but hard copy must follow)

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The Canadian Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies

The Canadian Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (CACLALS) is the only association in Canada that concentrates on the burgeoning field of Commonwealth literature (or, in its recent manifestations, International English literature, Anglophone literature, New Literature in English, World Literature Written in English, and Postcolonial literature).

CACLALS brings together critics, scholars, teachers, students, and writers who share a common interest in the Commonwealth and Postcolonial literatures and the versions of the English language they employ. And it provides members with an international context for studying Canadian literature, introducing a deeper understanding of other cultures and of Canada's multicultural tradition.

The association organizes each year a three-day conference at the Learned Societies. Members, including graduate students, share their research in sessions that feature papers, panel discussions, readings, and workshops. It regularly sponsors joint sessions with other societies such as ACCUTE and ACQL in areas of common interest. At the annual conference, members and guests have opportunities to meet each other informally. The wine-and-cheese reception and the informal dinner (that often features Commonwealth fare) are both lively occasions.

CACLALS organizes triennially a major international conference at the current headquarters of the association. These conferences attract writers and academics from all over the world. They have been held in Montreal, Winnipeg, Wolfville, Guelph, and Waterloo.

CACLALS, which celebrated its twentieth year in 1993, is a member of the Humanities and Social Science Federation of Canada (HSSFC) and an affiliate of the international Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (ACLALS). Members of CACLALS automatically acquire membership in the international body, ACLALS.

CACLALS publishes a newsjournal, Chimo (the Inuit world for "greetings"), twice a year. It is distributed free of charge to members. In addition to brief articles and reviews, calls for papers, news of members, and executive committee

reports, Chimo provides information on CACLALS and other affiliated associations: EACLALS (Europe), IACLALS (India), MACLALS (Malaysia), SAACLALS (Southern Africa), SACLALS (Singapore), SPACLALS (South Pacific), WAACLALS (West Africa), and WACLALS (West Indies). Chimo also carries reports on undergraduate and graduate course offerings in Canadian universities, on visiting Commonwealth writers and CACLALS publishes a newsjournal, *Chimo* (the Inuit word for "greetings"), twice a year. It is distributed free of charge to members. In addition to brief articles and reviews, calls for papers, news of members, and executive committee reports, *Chimo* provides information on CACLALS and other affiliated associations: EACLALS (Europe), IACLALS (India), MACLALS (Malaysia), SAACLALS (Southern Africa), SACLALS (Singapore), SPACLALS (South Pacific), WAACLALS (West Africa), and WACLALS (West Indies). *Chimo* also carries reports on undergraduate and graduate course offerings in Canadian universities, on visiting Commonwealth writers and academics, and on national and international conferences, such as the recent EACLALS Triennial Conference in Graz, Austria.

Please consider renewing or taking out membership in CACLALS. A membership form is inserted in this issue of *Chimo*.

CACLALS

THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE STUDIES

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Chimo

The Newsjournal of the Canadian Association for
Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies

Editors

Gary Boire & Rowland Smith
Production & Editorial Assistant
Roza Cunningham

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rsmith@mach2.wlu.ca or gboire@mach1.wlu.ca of July/04 gary.boire@lakeheadu.ca

The Editors appreciate receiving all extended submissions in manuscript and diskette forms (WordPerfect 6.0 format, if possible). The Editors reserve the right to amend phrasing and punctuation in items accepted for publication in Chimo.

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CACLALS Annual Membership Fee

Regular \$35.00 Student or Unwaged \$20.00
Please address all membership correspondence to Gary Boire, Secretary-Treasurer.
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