Informed opinion and active co-operation on the part of the public are of the utmost importance in the improvement of the health of the people (WHO, Basic Documents, 47th Edition, 2009)

The new Executive Committee (Nov.2012-Nov 2014)

From left to right, foreground: Maria Dweggah, Yves Beigbeder, Sue Block Tyrrell; Behind: Dev Ray, Roberto Masironi, Laura Ciaffei, Jean-Paul Menu, Ann Van Hulle, Pascale Gilbert-Miguet, Anne Yamada, David Cohen, Roger Fontana, Samy Kossovsky.

The Executive Committee wishes to all our members a happy New Year 2013
Our annual reception took place on Thursday 6 December; it was successful as usual. Below are photos taken by Samy Kossovsky. Try to recognise the participants!
EDITORIAL – A message from the President

Dear Friends,

We have just heard the news at the end of 2012. Your representatives on the two new health insurance committees have been elected. All the retirees who are SHI participants will be represented on the Global Oversight Committee by Ann Van Hulle (alternate member Clas Sandström) and on the Global Standing Committee by Marjory Dam and myself (alternate members Carol Collado and Françoise Hery-Persin). We are pleased to note that three of us have served or are serving on the AFSM Executive Committee. Carol Collado is a member of our sister association, AFSM/PAHO-WHO, and currently represents retirees on the PAHO Regional Surveillance Committee. The other two are life members of the AFSM. Collectively, your representatives therefore have good experience both concerning health insurance and the needs of retirees. The fact that there were so many good candidates is an indication of our interest in our health insurance. We believe that the connections of those elected with associations of retirees will prove very useful in effectively representing retirees in discussions with the WHO administration. It goes without saying that we have a responsibility for all retirees and their dependents, whether they are members or not of our associations!

I believe I can speak on behalf of my colleagues in assuring you that we will keep you informed of any new developments concerning our Staff Health Insurance, in close collaboration with the Administration.

Turning to the activities of the AFSM, we would like to thank all those who made the effort to vote for the election of the new Executive Committee. We will continue to do our best to deserve your confidence and to improve our services to members. Finally, we hope that those of you who came to our annual reception enjoyed this occasion to get together again. The members of the Committee were delighted to see you.

All members of the Executive Committee join me in wishing you all a happy, healthy and prosperous 2013.

Jean-Paul Menu

--------------------------

Editorial Team

Editing and layout: David Cohen

Editorial Board

Yves Beigbeder,
Sue Block Tyrrell,
Maria Dweggah,
Samy Kossovsky,
Jean-Paul Menu, Dev Ray,
Michel Thuriaux,
Rosemary Villars.

Translation and articles: all the Editorial Board

----------------------------------------

We pay special tribute to the Printing, Distribution and Mailing Services.

The opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Editorial Board.

Send your contributions to:
David Cohen:
dacohen@sunrise.ch

content

Editorial opposite
New Committee 4, 5
Afraid of medicines? 6
Alexandre Yersin 7
UNJSPB 8
News from WHO 9
Journey of Art 10
Ageing at home 11
Congratulations ;
Pension seminar 12
New members
Safe drive on snowy roads 13
Sister associations 14
Visit to Panama 15
Astronomy; Solidarity Fair; 16
Coffee Mornings in Nyon Rousseau ; 17, 18
Book review
Flu Vaccination;
Enquiry on WHO;
In memoriam
On the lighter side 20

Content

Editorial

January 2013

CONTENTS

Pages
Editorial opposite
New Committee 4, 5
Afraid of medicines? 6
Alexandre Yersin 7
UNJSPB 8
News from WHO 9
Journey of Art 10
Ageing at home 11
Congratulations ;
Pension seminar 12
New members
Safe drive on snowy roads 13
Sister associations 14
Visit to Panama 15
Astronomy; Solidarity Fair; 16
Coffee Mornings in Nyon Rousseau ; 17, 18
Book review
Flu Vaccination;
Enquiry on WHO;
In memoriam
On the lighter side 20

--------------------------

Editorial Team

Editing and layout: David Cohen

Editorial Board

Yves Beigbeder,
Sue Block Tyrrell,
Maria Dweggah,
Samy Kossovsky,
Jean-Paul Menu, Dev Ray,
Michel Thuriaux,
Rosemary Villars.

Translation and articles: all the Editorial Board

----------------------------------------

We pay special tribute to the Printing, Distribution and Mailing Services.

The opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Editorial Board.

Send your contributions to:
David Cohen:
dacohen@sunrise.ch

Important contacts
AFSM: see on page 1
Health Insurance (SHI): +41(0)22 791 18 18; in case of absence, please leave a message: someone will cal back,
Or email to: insurance@who.int
Pensions: +41(0)22 928 88 00;
Email: unjspf.gva@unjspf.org for Geneva
Or +1 212 963 6931 and unjspf@un.org for New York
AFSM office covered on Tuesday and Wednesday From 9:30 to 12:00
Otherwise, please leave a message: someone will call back.

3
The New Committee (2012-214)

There were 13 candidates for the 12 vacancies

Those elected (in order of decreasing number of votes obtained):
Ann VAN HULLE 369, Dev RAY 355, Jean-Paul MENU 353, David COHEN 351, Sue BLOCK TYRRELL 342,
Yves BEIGBEDER 330, Pascale GILBERT-MIGUET 311, Jean-Jacques GUILBERT 304, Anne YAMADA 303,
Roberto MASIRONI 295, Samy KOSSOVSKY294, Maria DWEGGAH 238, élus.              Laura CIAFFEI 144.
Immediately after he was elected, JJ Guilbert resigned. Laura CIAFFEI, who came after, was therefore declared elected.
At its first meeting on 13 November, the new Committee designated Jean-Paul Menu as President.

Designation of the bureau and allocation of the different functions:

President : Jean-Paul MENU
Vice-presidents : Sue BLOCK TYRRELL and Dev RAY
Treasurer : Anne YAMADA
Vice-eeeee-treasurer: Maria Dweggah
Administrator : Roberto Masironi

The different functions and responsibilities were later assigned:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AAFI/AFICS</th>
<th>WHO Pensions Committee and pensions issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Liaison with AFICS and UNJSPF, including recording of deaths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dev Ray, Pascale Gilbert-Miguet (alternate)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Health Insurance
Representatives of retirees to the HQ Surveillance Committee (until the establishment of the Global Standing Committee):
David Cohen, Ann Van Hulle (alternate)

Public relations

| Relations with City and State of Geneva        | Roger Fontana and Dev Ray                                                                               |
| Relations with organizations of seniors (including the Plate-forme) |                                                                                       |
| Relations with Regions                         | Ann Van Hulle and Pascale Gilbert-Miguet                                                             |
| Relations with administrative services         | Bureau                                                                                                   |
| Relations with Staff Association and staff counsellor | President and Bureau                                                                                     |
| Relations with WHO Ageing and Life Course programme | President and Bureau                                                                                     |
| Working group on relations with FAFICS         | Dev Ray, Pascale Gilbert-Miguet, Sue Block Tyrell, Maria Dweggah                                      |
| Pre-retirement seminars                        | Sue Block Tyrell and Dev Ray                                                                             |
| Member on duty (Permanences)                   | Tuesdays 9:30 - 12:00 : Alphabetical roster                                                            |
|                                               | Wednesdays 9:30 - 12:00 : Roger Fontana                                                               |
| Handling and distribution of incoming emails and mail | Roberto Masironi                                                                                         |
| Welcoming letters to new members               | Sue Block Tyrell                                                                                           |
| Preparation of circular letters and messages including AOMS-INFO-AFSM | Bureau ;Usually Sue Block Tyrell in coordination with the person responsible with the subject matter and Anne Yamada |
### Functions (Cont'd)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Functions</th>
<th>Responsible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responses to enquiries from members</td>
<td>ExCom member on duty and responsible person for enquiry issue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports, agendas, etc.</td>
<td>Bureau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Anne Yamada and Sue Block Tyrrell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synergy accounts for ExCom members</td>
<td>Anne Yamada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of members’ database and preparation of directory</td>
<td>Anne Yamada with Sue Block Tyrrell as back-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Updating functions/responsibilities list</td>
<td>President and Bureau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minute taking at meetings</td>
<td>To be taken from a roster of volunteers: Sue Block Tyrrell, Laura Ciaffei, Maria Dweggah, Pascale Gilbert-Miguet, Dev Ray, Ann Van Hulle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning and booking of meeting rooms, Permanences and absences</td>
<td>Roberto Masironi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation of General Assembly</td>
<td>Bureau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual reception</td>
<td>Bureau, Roberto Masironi, Roger Fontana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relations with WHO Health and Medical Service including flu vaccination sessions</td>
<td>David Cohen, Pascale Gilbert-Miguet, Roger Fontana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation of elections</td>
<td>Bureau, Roger Fontana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QNT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editor in chief and layout</td>
<td>David Cohen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Editorial committee</strong></td>
<td>Yves Beigbeder, Sue Block Tyrrell, Laura Ciaffei, Maria Dweggah, Samy Kossovsky, Jean-Paul Menu, Dev Ray, Michel Thuriaux, Rosemary Villars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social support to members, Including support to placement in EMS, relations with AIFCS social worker</td>
<td>Sue Block Tyrrell, Roger Fontana, Pascale Gilbert-Miguet, Anne Yamada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisation of trips</td>
<td>David Cohen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization of social activities</td>
<td>Sue Block Tyrrell, Laura Ciaffei, Maria Dweggah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization of health seminars</td>
<td>David Cohen to coordinate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal issues and statutes</td>
<td>Yves Beigbeder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advice and support to students and researchers preparing theses on WHO</td>
<td>Yves Beigbeder to coordinate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposals on ways and means to attract new members, and new candidates for the Executive Committee</td>
<td>Dev Ray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral History/Remembering the Past</td>
<td>Activities put in abeyance until further notice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our health

Should we be afraid of medicines?

The recent book by Professors Bernard Debré and Philippe Even1 “The Guide to the 4000 useful, useless or dangerous medicines” (ed. Cherche Midi) stirred up a big controversy in France in medical circles. Two years after the Mediator scandal2, this book shows the need for independent expertise of drugs. We have to remember that the consumption of medicines by inhabitants in France is the highest in the world (for example, a French person consumes on average about Euros 532 worth of medication a year, as compared to Euros 335 in United Kingdom).

According to Bruno Toussaint, of the journal “Prescrire”3 (Prescribe) “this book is like a stone in a pond and is useful for opening the debate”. The book requires careful examination, particularly when it suggests that the main effect of all the medicines, even those whose activity has been scientifically demonstrated is, in fact, subjective, namely “placebo”. That opinion seems to be shared by Professor François Chast4.

According to the two authors, if useless and dangerous drugs were withdrawn from the market, the Social Security would economise as much as Euros 10 billion a year, 20 000 deaths would be avoided, and the number of hospital admissions would drop by 100 000! Among the useless drugs are statins, widely used to lower cholesterol; as regards the 58 drugs declared dangerous, they include inter alia, anti inflammatories, drugs for cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, and osteoporosis, contraceptives and others.

This book opened up a big debate: physicians complain that patients discuss their prescriptions and are reluctant to take the drugs prescribed for them.

Not surprisingly, the French Federation of Health Industries (Féfis) denounced the position taken as full of confusions and approximations. “This book is irresponsible and dangerous...we should not forget that the State exercises strict controls on drugs”.

In an interview in the Guardian5, Professor Even accuses the pharmaceutical industry of exerting pressure on physicians to prescribe their products. “The pharmaceutical industry is the most lucrative, the most cynical, and the least ethical of all the industries...” “It is like an octopus whose tentacles have infiltrated all the decision-making bodies, the world health organisations, the governments, parliaments, the senior health administrations, the hospitals and the medical profession...with the connivance and sometimes the corruption of the medical profession. It is now the pharmaceutical industry which defines the entire medical landscape in our country...Few new things have been discovered over the last 30 years; production has increased thanks to illusions and lies.”

“Unfortunately no one is interested in the manufacture of drugs for rare illnesses nor for diseases rife in poor countries because the market is not large enough...nor for conditions such as Alzheimer’s or Parkinson’s because it is too difficult and not profitable in the short term. On Wall Street the pharmaceutical industry is the third after petrol and banking...” “During the last 40 years patients have been told that drugs are necessary, so they ask for them”.

In conclusion, what advice for our readers?

Of course, we cannot do without drugs which are irreplaceable in cases of serious illness: observe undesirable side effects, follow the advice of the prescribing physician; but above all do not insist that he prescribes medicine - a healthy lifestyle and a balanced and healthy diet are often sufficient. In this regard, there is an interesting experiment in Strasbourg: physical exercise (swimming, bicycling) prescribed by the physician, particularly after a heart attack, is reimbursed if supervised by a “coach”.

David Cohen

1. Urologist, member of Parliament; Director of the Institute Necker;
2. Anti diabetic drug used as appetite suppressor which provoked heart attacks and several deaths: remember also Vioxx and Celebrex, withdrawn from the market after numerous undesirable side effects and deaths (cf QNT 60)
3. Independent monthly review, with no links with any organization, with no publicity, receiving no subventions, which tests every drug on the market www.prescrire.org
4. Hospital pharmacist, former President of the National Academy of Pharmacy
Plague and cholera

Patrick Deville’s work «Plague and Cholera» attracted considerable attention on publication. His biographical novel of the life of Alexandre Yersin was praised by the media. I read the last lines two or three weeks ago. The book had delighted me.

I had already mentally prepared my text when the latest issue of the Swiss Medical Review arrived yesterday. In the summary I noted an article by Jean-Yves Nau, regular medical reporter of Le Monde, the Swiss Medical Review and other publications. The title caught my eye “Let us save the written memory of Dr Yersin”.

Alexandre Yersin was born on the banks of Lac Leman at Aubonne in 1863. His father, science teacher and director of the office of explosives died prematurely just before Alexander’s birth. His mother moved to Morges where she opened a guest house for young ladies. Alexander, bachelor of 19 is studying medicine. After a detour via Marburg in Germany he reaches l’Hôtel-Dieu in Paris where he becomes friendly with Emile Roux. A decisive encounter: Emile Roux leads him to the recently created Institut Pasteur. Alexander Yersin distinguishes himself by his remarkable work on tuberculosis, for which Robert Koch has just discovered the responsible agent. He discovers the diphtheria exotoxin, follows the teaching of Koch in Berlin. Through his stubborn persistence he acquires French nationality, continues his work in and teaches microbiology.

However, he is attracted by the sea, the wide open sea. He becomes doctor on board the boats of the Messageries Maritimes, which take him to Indochina that France has just conquered and which he falls in love with. He establishes himself at Nha Trang. He leads various dangerous and perilous expeditions across the peninsula, reaches the Mekong in Laos by crossing the jungle, picks up a mass of information on the nature, the geography, and the people he meets. His reports arouse worldwide interest bringing him the praises of Louis Pasteur in person. Later, in Indochina he cultivates quinquina, and hevea, which supplies Michelin with rubber, and makes a large amount of money which he uses to develop research. He founds the second Institut Pasteur in Saigon, develops the city of Dalat which becomes a hill resort in Indochina.

In 1894 an epidemic of the plague breaks out in Mongolia and spreads rapidly to China. The origins of the disease are as yet unknown. Yersin goes to Hong Kong. A Japanese team, led by Shibasaburo Kitasato is already on the spot with means far more important than those available to Alexander Yersin. The Japanese are able to procure the dead bodies of the diseased far more easily than Yersin. Yersin learns that they are purchasing them. With help, in particular financial support, from a French monk, he plunges his syringe in the buboes of a dead English soldier, and, being without an incubator, makes a culture of the sample at room temperature, a stroke of luck since it emerges that relatively low temperatures favour the growth of Yersinia pestis more than the temperature of the human body, at which the Japanese work with their stoves. Yersin thus discovers the plague bacillus to which his name is given. Paul-Louis Simond, another pasteurian, demonstrates four years later that the flea is the vector which transmits the rat’s germ to man. Yersin continues his activities as doctor, researcher, agronomist, until his death on 28 February 1943, at Nha Trang, during the Japanese occupation. An immense crowd accompanies his coffin to its tomb, overlooking Nha Trang which he loved from the moment he discovered it. He is much more famous in Vietnam than in France or Switzerland. He was ignored by the Nobel Committee.

But to come back to Jean-Yves Nau. Reading his article I learnt that Patrick Deville had happily plagiarized/stolen from, including errors of transcription, the work of Professor Henri Mollaret and Jacquelin Brossollet who had carefully indexed the abundant correspondence of Alexander Yersin consisting of over a thousand handwritten letters to his Mother and his sisters, who had remained in Morges. Taken up by the descendants of Mollaret and Jacqueline under the title “Alexander Yersin or the conqueror of the plague” in 1985, they can be found, without reference to their origin, in the attractive work of Patrick Deville. His book was mentioned for the Goncourt, he obtained the Prix Femina. The publisher Seuil exercised pressure on the authors of the 1985 work so that they remained silent before the meetings of the juries of the literary prizes. A grandson of Prof. Mollaret stirred the ashes.

Samy Kossovsky
The report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board session held in Paris from 2 to 11 July 2012 is now available on the website of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund. Below are some of the highlights of the report.

The actuarial valuation of the Fund, as at 31 December 2011, revealed a deficit of 1.87 per cent of pensionable remuneration. This was the Fund’s second deficit reported in the last eight actuarial valuations and it compared with a deficit of 0.38 per cent in 2009. This increase in the deficit was mainly due to a lower than expected return on investment. It is worth noting that the Committee of Actuaries recommends an actuarial surplus of 1 to 2 per cent of pensionable remuneration as a minimum safety margin. Consequently, the actuarial deficit will have to be closely monitored with the goal of correcting the current situation.

With these considerations in mind and in order to address the actuarial deficit, the Board established a working group to explore possible measures to ensure the Fund’s long-term sustainability. Rather than focusing on cost-cutting measures, the Working Group will concentrate on long-term sustainability, including governance, investment management and asset liability management.

With regard to the operations of the Fund for the biennium ended 31 December 2011, the number of participants in the Fund increased from 117,580 to 120,774, or by 2.7 per cent; the number of periodic benefits in award increased from 61,841 to 65,387, or by 5.7 per cent.

The Fund’s overall investment performance for the calendar year ended 31 December 2011 was -3.9 per cent and for the year ended 31 December 2010 it was 10.3 per cent, as compared to the Fund’s performance benchmarks for the same periods of -1.4 per cent and 10.9 per cent, respectively.

Total income over the period amounted to USD7 billion (of which investment income represented USD2.7 billion and contributions and other income accounted for the balance of USD 4.3 billion). This compares with a total income of USD6.4 billion for the prior two-year period.

The Fund’s market value as at 31 December 2011 was USD39.7 billion, down from USD41.4 billion the prior year, which represented a decrease of USD1.7 billion, or 4.1 per cent. The Fund reflected the wide swings experienced in 2011 in the financial markets. Amid deepening concern over the European debt crisis, deleveraging in the financial sector, soft patches in the developed markets and inflationary pressures in the emerging markets, global economic growth was subdued. It should be noted however that by 14 September 2012, the market value had reached a high of USD44.5 billion.

The year 2011 was challenging for the Fund’s performance not only in absolute terms, but also in relative terms against the benchmarks. The Fund had benefitted from the sharp recovery in the global equity markets during 2009 and 2010. However, the asset allocation effect was negative for the year 2011 due to the sharp decline in the equity markets which started in July 2011. It was a year in which the preservation of capital and the avoidance of capital losses became more important than seeking high returns.

The Board acknowledged that both the Fund’s consulting actuary and the Committee of Actuaries have determined that, given the serious impact that increased longevity has had on the actuarial situation of the Fund, raising the Fund’s normal age of retirement to 65 would improve the actuarial situation. Accordingly, the Board is ready to decide to increase the normal age of retirement for new participants in the Fund with effect from no later than 1 January 2014. The Board considered that this is the priority action among various other actions that could be taken by the Board to ensure long-term sustainability. The Board therefore urges ICSC and the member organizations of the Fund to immediately raise the mandatory age of separation to 65 for new staff of the Fund’s member organizations.

Due to the forthcoming retirement of the current CEO/Secretary of the Board (Mr. Bernard Cocheme), the Board decided by acclamation to reappoint Sergio Arvizú (currently Deputy CEO) as CEO of the Fund and Secretary of the Board, with effect from 1 January 2013 for a fixed term of five years.

Highlights of events over the past few months

- The Sustainable Waste Management Initiative for a Healthier Tomorrow (SWIFT), implemented by WHO in Serbia, won first prize in the “greening” category at the UN21 Awards presented by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 18 September.
- On 19 September, Dr Carissa Etienne, Assistant Director-General, Health Systems and Services at WHO/HQ, was elected as the new Director of the Pan American Health Organization with effect from 1 February 2013, succeeding Dr Mirta Roses Periago.
- 29 September was World Heart Day. The campaign “Protect your Heart” called for people to eat a healthy diet, take regular physical activity and avoid tobacco use. People were also encouraged to know their blood pressure, blood sugar and blood lipids levels.
- On 1 October, on the occasion of the International Day of Older Persons, the UN Secretary-General called for a pledge to ensure the well-being of older persons and to enlist their meaningful participation in society so that all can benefit from their knowledge and ability. On this day, WHO welcomed Kolkata, India, as the 105th member of its Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities – the first city to join from the WHO Region for South-East Asia.
- The October issue of the WHO Bulletin published a study demonstrating that governments could add thousands of millions of dollars to the global economy simply by investing in eye examinations and the provision of glasses for some 703 million people who need them.
- On World Mental Health Day on 10 October, WHO called for an end to the stigmatization of depression (which affects over 350 million people globally) and other mental disorders and for better access to treatment for all people who need it.
- On 17 October, a consultation was held in Geneva with nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to express their views about the content of the new WHO policy for engagement with NGOs. Interested NGOs from other locations around the world were invited to connect through a new on-line Webex platform.
- World Polio Day was celebrated on 24 October. In 2012, fewer children (171) have been paralysed by polio and in fewer parts of the world than ever before. Polio now only survives in the most marginalized communities in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan.
- On 29 October, WHO and the World Meteorological Organization published an Atlas of health and climate which draws attention to challenges and gives practical examples of how the use of weather and climate information can protect public health.
- In the first week of November, the first-ever global monitoring framework to combat several of the world’s biggest killers was agreed by WHO Member States. Global targets and indicators were set to prevent and control diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, chronic lung disease and other noncommunicable diseases.
- On 12 November in Seoul, delegates of more than 140 Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control adopted a new international Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products.
- On 16 November, on the occasion of European Antibiotic Awareness Day, WHO advised the public to use antibiotics only when and as prescribed by a doctor, as self-prescription of antibiotics boosts superbug epidemics in the European region.
- 1 December is World AIDS Day. Between 2011-2015, the theme focuses on “Getting to zero: zero new HIV infections. Zero discrimination. Zero AIDS related deaths.” Governments are called upon to act now to provide greater access to treatment for all.

Sue Block Tyrrell

Further information and documentation can be found on the WHO web site – www.who.int
Journey of Art

Theresa Rope Miller has brought back from around the world a magnificent collection of art representing the diverse cultures of the universe.

In order to share her universal vision, Theresa has donated her collection to the Iowa Western Community College, Clarinda Campus, in the hope that through the exploration of artistic creations of unfamiliar peoples around the world, students will discover the existence of diverse cultures and this will help them to open their minds.

Theresa Rope Miller was born into a loving family in 1935 in a farm in Iowa. Before the age of 10 years, she had travelled the countryside and gone to school on horseback; she also drove tractors and accompanied her neighbours to their school. Through such experiences and with the help of her family, from an early age she learned how to get to know people and to take on responsibilities.

As a nurse, she began her career with her husband, a theologian, in the Indian reserves of Navajo and Hopi where she became familiar with traditional cultures.

She then joined WHO and as a trainer of nurses she travelled around the world to many countries (it is impossible to cite all the places): Kenya, China, Guyana, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Cambodia, Laos, Viet Nam, Bolivia, Philippines, Indonesia, South Pacific, the Caribbean and more. She accompanied officials into the most remote areas in order to identify places with insufficient health care.

From her travels across the world, Theresa brought back a magnificent collection of paintings and artefacts: pearl necklaces from Kenya, materials and copper trays from India, leather and wooden dolls from Indonesia, knives from Nepal, a decorated ostrich egg from Somalia, pearly belts from Oaxaca, Mexico, and many more beautiful treasures.

Each exhibition piece is accompanied by the story of who made it and the society in which they live. The book « Journey of Art » contains the pictures of the different works of art and leads you with Theresa to the discovery of their culture of origin.

David Cohen

Two examples, among many others.

Wayang Golek (Wooden Puppets in Java)
**AAFI/AFICS Seminar « Ageing at Home »**

This Seminar, organized by AAFI/AFICS (Association of International Civil Servants) was held on 25 September 2012 in the ILO Governance Room in Geneva. Open to all retirees and friends from UN organizations, this large conference room was full. After an introduction by Gilbert Ferrari, President of AAFI/AFICS, Dr John Beard, WHO Director, Department of Ageing and Life Course, recalled that between 2000 and 2050, the proportion of the world’s population over 60 years will double from about 11% to 22%. Good health throughout life can help older men and women lead full and productive lives and be a resource for their families and communities.

Topics common to several speakers were the need for solidarity between generations, the value of the experience and knowledge of seniors to society and younger generations. Another trend is to promote “ageing at home” in preference to placement in an institution, unless the individual’s health does not allow it any longer. Besides its benefits for the individual, home care is less expensive to the State than institution costs.

Professor Hermann-Michel Hagmann, founder of the University Institute “Ages and Generations”, a demographer and author of « Vieillir chez soi, c’est possible: un choix de vie, un choix de société » (Saint Augustin, 2008) spoke on “Ageing at home, it is possible – a choice of life, a choice of society”. Ms M. Da Roxa, General Director of the Geneva Services of assistance and care at home (FSASD) described the extensive services available in the Geneva Canton. She also stressed the support given to family members and other helpers. Mr Cyrus Mechkat, an architect and president of the “Fondation pour la Formation des Aînés de Genève”, advised on the need to ensure that aged persons are lodged in the city together with the other generations and raised the questions related to the adaptation of one’s own lodging to ageing conditions.

Yves Beigbeder (AFICS, AFSM) spoke briefly about his recent falls and warned against everyday's dangers at home or outside.

Other interventions included Mr André Cotting, Pro Senectute, Fribourg, Advisor on Information Technology and Third Age, who spoke on “Aged persons and data processing”, - Mr P. Goergen, on the insurance schemes of UN organizations. -Mr. Frédéric Budan, Director, FSASD, Onex, - Ms Murielle Berthet, Official of the Vaud Medical-Social Centre in Terre-Sainte, Mies, Vaud Canton, Ms Sarah Quayle, Coordinator of CLIC (Centres locaux d'information et de coordination gerontologique) in Pays of Gex, Ain (France), - the Coordinator for Haute-Savoie (France), Mr. Hans-Peter Graf, Secretary of the “Plateforme des associations d’aînés à Genève”, Ms Nicole Yersin, AAFI/AFICS Social Counsellor.

AAFI/AFICS has issued a publication on “Ageing at home- bien vieillir chez soi” giving information on services available in the Geneva and nearby French departments, which may be obtained from the AOMS/AFSM Office in WHO on request. **Yves Beigbeder**

## Acknowledgements

The AFSM Executive Committee would like to thank the following colleagues for their help to the Committee before their recent retirement/departure from WHO. We are very pleased that they have all become members of the AFSM:

- Mr Jacques Deville who helped us with the printing of our documents, especially the Quarterly News;
- Dr Pascale Gilbert-Miguet who assisted us with the organization of the influenza vaccination sessions and other medical matters, and we are delighted that she has been elected as a member of our Committee;
- Mr Marc Giovannini who helped us with the distribution of our documents;
- Mme Ruth Maillefer-Moreira who assisted many of our members with their health insurance matters; and
- Dr Anne-Marie Worning who helped to ensure our good collaboration with the Office of the Director-General. We trust that we have not inadvertently omitted anyone but please let us know if this is the case.

**The Executive Committee**
Pensions: Seminar for the retirees

The Geneva Office of the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund and AAFI-AFICS\(^1\) are jointly organizing the First Seminar for Retirees on 5 February 2013 at 09.30 hours at the ILO, in the Board Room, level R3

Come and follow the "discussion of a retiree with our Pension Fund"

All your questions will be answered on:

- The quarterly pension statement
- The annual Certificate of Entitlement
- The double track: why is it useful, how does it work and how to apply for it
- The survivor’s entitlements: who can benefit, how much do they get and what do they have to do to get the entitlement

And also on the steps to be taken and forms required in case of:

- Change of address
- Change of country of residence
- Change of pension currency

And all your other questions will be answered.

In addition, in the first part of the seminar, you will be informed about the content and implications of the December 2012 Resolution of the UN General Assembly, taken on the basis of recommendations made during the July 2012 session of the Joint Committee of the Pension Fund.

Please come: this concerns you, and your spouse is welcome to join you

Please register, either in writing to AAFI-AFICS, or by email aafi-afics@unog.ch

\(^1\) Association of Former International Civil Servants, Office A.265, Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10

New members

We have pleasure in welcoming to the large AFSM family the following new members and we congratulate them on their decision.

**Life Members**

Susan ALLENBY, Meena CABRAL de MELLO, Catherine D’ARCANGUES, Deborah KIOY, Yvonne-Amor LEE, Marie-Andrée ROMISCH-DIOUF, Brígida SAPPEY, Eliisabeth SACCO,

Anne Marie WORNING

**Conversion to Life Member:**

Mary COUPER,

**Annual Members:**

Janos ANNUS, Donna CATLIOTA, Anthea CROSBY
Stay safe on snowy roads

For those readers who need to drive in cold winters, below are some suggestions made by the WHO Security Department. Driving in the snow can be challenging and so the best advice for driving in bad winter weather is not to drive at all if you can avoid it, and take public transport. If you must drive, make sure that your car is prepared, and that you know how to handle icy road conditions.

Driving in snow and ice
- Don’t go out until the snowploughs and sanding/salting trucks have had a chance to do their work, and allow extra time to reach your destination.
- Practise winter driving techniques in a snowy, open parking lot, so that you are familiar with how your car handles situations. Consult your owner’s manual for tips specific to your vehicle.

Driving safely on icy roads
- Remove thick coats and jackets before you start driving as this will help you better sense the car’s movement if it starts to slip and slide. Also, if you have to get out of the car for any reason, you will feel the benefit of an extra layer when you put your jacket back on.
- Decrease your speed and leave yourself plenty of room to stop. Allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.
- Brake gently to avoid skidding. If the wheels start to lock, ease off the brake.
- Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.
- Keep your lights and windscreen clean.
- Use low gears to keep traction, especially on hills.
- Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently travelled roads, which will freeze first. Even at temperatures above freezing, if the conditions are wet, you might encounter ice in shady areas or on exposed roadways like bridges.
- Don’t pass snowploughs and sanding/salting trucks. The drivers have limited visibility and you are likely to find the road in front of them worse than the road behind.
- Don’t assume your vehicle can handle all conditions. Even four-wheel and front-wheel drive vehicles can encounter trouble on winter roads.

If you get stuck
- Do not spin your wheels. This will only dig you in deeper.
- Turn your wheels from side to side a few times to push snow out of the way.
- Use a light touch on the accelerator to ease your car out.
- Use a shovel to clear snow away from the wheels and the underside of the car.
- Pour sand, cat litter, gravel or salt in the path of the wheels, to help get traction.

Necessary equipment
- Be prepared for an emergency situation. Make sure your car has been serviced, you have a full tank of petrol and fresh anti-freeze.
- Carry the following items in your car:
  - Properly inflated spare tyre, wheel wrench and tripod-type jack
  - Shovel
  - Jump leads
  - Snow chains – try them on your car at home first
  - Bag of salt or cat litter
  - Tool kit
  - Working flashlight and extra batteries
  - Reflective triangles and brightly-coloured cloth
  - First aid kit
  - Exterior windscreen cleaner
  - Ice scraper and snow brush
- In addition, if you are driving long distances under cold, snowy and icy conditions, you should also carry supplies to keep you warm such as snow boots, thick coat, gloves, socks, a hat and blankets.

Sue Block Tyrrell, based on information from the WHO Security Department
Strengthening family ties with sister associations

Members of your Executive Committee do their best to keep in touch with our sister associations.

You will find on page 15 an article by the AFSM President, Jean-Paul Menu, on his recent visit to Panama, whilst on personal travel, to take part in the fifth annual meeting of the Association of Former PAHO/WHO Staff Members from 15-18 October. This follows his earlier private visit to Washington DC in September, during which he attended a lunch meeting of the PAHO/WHO Association – see the article in QNT 89. Anyone retiring to the American Region may be interested in joining this Association. Their website is https://sites.paho.org/afsm or contact their President Nancy Berinstein – berinstein@verizon.net. Closer collaboration between the two associations is under discussion.

Indeed, we are very grateful to our colleagues in the regions for the excellent collaboration we have enjoyed over the past two years. The importance of close ties with our regional colleagues and associations became particularly evident during the discussions on reform of the Staff Health Insurance (SHI). Our SHI representatives on the Executive Committee worked in close contact with the staff and former staff representatives of the regions. In particular, views were exchanged on the various important topics with the PAHO/WHO Association (including with the SHI former staff representatives), the EMRO SHI former staff representative, the President of the SEARO former staff Association1 as well as with EURO and WPRO former staff. This has brought our AFSM closer to its sister associations and former staff representatives. Undoubtedly, communication is facilitated through email, as well as video/teleconference facilities.

Although the problems encountered by former staff in matters related to social security and other daily living problems vary from one region of the world to another, we share a lot of similar problems and concerns. As most of us participate in the same Staff Health Insurance and in the same Pension Fund (UNJSPF), it is in our interest to interact on these matters.

We are not aware of associations of former WHO staff in other regions, but we have excellent contacts with associations of former international civil servants (AFICS), particularly in Argentina and Israel, and we would welcome news on any new developments. A list of national AFICS associations can be found on the FAFICS (Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants) website – www.fafics.org. Jill Conway-Fell, an AFSM member in Denmark, is active in sharing information with and assisting WHO and UN retirees in Nordic and other European countries.

People moving to the United Kingdom may wish to consider joining the British Association of Former United Nations Civil Servants (BAFUNCS). BAFUNCS is active on a regional basis and holds an annual general assembly and reunion – the next one is scheduled to take place in London from 10-12 May 2013. Information can be found on their web site www.bafuncs.org. WHO retirees are well represented on BAFUNCS and Sue Block Tyrrell tries to attend the annual meetings.

With regard to contacts with associations of retirees of other international organizations and the UN itself based in Geneva, this is done mainly through the meetings of the AFICS Geneva Committee, to which representatives of WHO and other agencies are invited. The AFSM Executive Committee President is ex officio a full member of the AFICS Committee and four members of the AFSM Executive Committee are elected members of the AFICS Committee – Yves Beigbeder, David Cohen, Samy Kossovsky and Dev Ray. In addition, AFSM Honorary President Roger Fontana is an Honorary Member of the AFICS Committee. It is of course to everyone’s benefit to discuss areas of common concern and to join forces where necessary. It is good still to take an active part in the UN family.

Sue Block Tyrrell with input from Jean-Paul Menu and Ann Van Hulle

1Anyone interested in joining the SEARO Association of former staff should contact Mr R. L. Rai,exstaffwho@yahoo.com
Visit to Panama

During my visit to Washington in September (see Quarterly News 89), the President of the Association of Former PAHO/WHO Staff Members (AFSM/Washington), Nancy Berinstein, had suggested that I participate in their fifth annual meeting to be held in Panama City from 15-18 October and introduce the participants to our own Association. She was kind enough to offer to cover the hotel costs for the duration of the meeting. So, my wife and I thought it would be a good idea to go on a private visit to Panama and spend part of the time attending the meeting.

Each year, AFSM/Washington organizes these get-togethers in a country of the Americas. The selection of the location and all the arrangements are made jointly by Washington and the members living in the chosen country.

In contrast with the famous cruises and trips organized by our friend David Cohen, AFSM/Washington meetings have a strong “business” component which combines conferences on the social, cultural and health situation of the host country with presentations/discussions on administrative issues relevant to retirees. About 50 participants attended, including retirees resident in Panama and in other countries of the Americas. Senior staff from Washington and the PAHO/WHO Country Office, as well as representatives from the Staff Association, participated and made presentations. Dr Mirta Roses Periago, outgoing Regional Director, sent a very interesting and friendly video message.

The participants showed a keen interest in getting to know about our Association and in trying to find ways to increase contacts. The idea of joint membership was even mentioned.

Panama is well worth a visit. This small country at the southern end of Central America has many attractive features both for visits as a tourist or for retirement. Its people are warm and friendly. Apart from the Canal, visitors will be impressed by the beautiful scenery which combines rain forests with beach and island resorts both on the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Its history is rich and dramatic, including the sacking of the first city of Panama by the English pirate, Admiral Sir Henry Morgan in 1671!

*JP Menu*
The astronomer's Corner: Night sky for January - March 2013

At this time of year the skies are glittering with stars, some of which have noticeable colours. You can actually pick out stars at various stages of their lifetimes. And this year, the planet Jupiter acts as a guide to finding one of them.

Jupiter is the very bright object high in the northern hemisphere sky, though rather low down from below the equator. Just south of it is Aldebaran, in Taurus, the Bull. You can see that Aldebaran is slightly orange, and it is in fact a red giant star. This is nearing the end of its lifetime, when it has expanded and cooled down, with a temperature of about 4000K. Compare this with an incandescent light bulb at around 3000K and you'll realise that 'red' is a relative term – a light bulb is much redder.

But look southeast and you will see Orion, the Hunter, with its three stars in a line and Rigel to their southwest. Rigel is a blue giant star, and has a temperature of 12,000K so it looks noticeably blue compared with Aldebaran. It is a young and massive star, using its hydrogen fuel at a prodigious rate. By comparison, our own Sun at 5800K appears white, though we can only see this at the same time as the stars by reflection from Jupiter.

If you want a map of the whole sky for each month, go to the SPA website at www.popastro.com/youngstargazers/skyguide.

18th Solidarity Fair at WHO Headquarters

The 18th Fair was held on 12 December to help replenish the Solidarity Fund, set up in 1995, to help staff members who lose their jobs at WHO and find themselves in financial difficulty. Since that time, thousands of francs have been distributed either as grants or interest-free loans to our colleagues and to other charitable causes. This year, Venezuela was highlighted and more particularly the Fundadown – a non-profit association dedicated to improve the health of children, youths and adults affected by Down's syndrome.

As last year, two AFSM Executive Committee members – Maria Dweggah and Sue Block Tyrrell - organized tombola, with two prizes – a Christmas hamper of edible delicacies and a basket of toiletries.

The lucky winners were two staff members - Jeanne Ryan and Aba Ankrah. The proceeds of the tombola – CHF 450 – will be donated to the Solidarity Fund. In addition to showing the AFSM's solidarity with this charitable event, the tombola stall gave publicity to our Association. Several people asked for information on the AFSM or picked up the flyer and one new life member signed up. We were pleased too that quite a number of local AFSM members came along to participate in the Fair, together with various members of the Executive Committee. Until next year …

Maria Dweggah and Sue Block Tyrrell

Coffee mornings in Nyon

Do come and join these coffee mornings for all retired UN system staff. They take place from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the café “Les Saveurs d'El Medina” which is situated about 300 metres from the Nyon train station and is accessed by following the rue de la Gare towards the lake and, at the small market square, going down on the right to no. 11 rue de la Combe. There is a shop called “Anouk” on the corner. The dates for the first half of 2013 are:

Tuesdays: 15 January, 16 July
Wednesdays: 20 February, 17 April (exceptionally not Tuesday), 22 May,
Thursdays: 21 March, 20 June
The tri-centennial of a self taught genius – J.-J. Rousseau

What is most amazing about Jean-Jacques Rousseau (for whom Geneva celebrates his tri-centennial) is his self taught genius.

He was born on 28 June 1712, in the middle of the old town of Geneva, in a family of French origin. His mother, Suzanne Bernard, died nine days later. It is his father, Isaac Rousseau, who raised him until he was ten. This father is one of those watchmakers “with his head buried in books” who, at the time so surprised foreign visitors. In a whimsical move he decided to go to Istanbul where he stayed for six years. It is he who introduced his son to the ancient writers, such as Plutarch. But following a brawl, he had to flee and entrusted the young Jean-Jacques to the Pastor Lambercier in Bossey, near Geneva. Two years later, Rousseau started an apprenticeship as a watchmaker. In 1728, he leaves Geneva, converts to Catholicism and meets the Baroness Louise de Warens who initiates him in the ways of the world, in all senses of the word. So begins a life of a vagabond that will bring him to many European cities and during which he will live mostly thanks to his pen and his music. There too, without formal studies, he will invent a new system of musical notation and will compose an opera, The Village Soothsayer, performed in front of Louis XV in 1752. For all that, Jean-Jacques does not stop writing. In 1750, glory finally smiles on him when the Academy of Dijon awards him the first prize for Discourse on the Arts and Sciences. Three years later, he goes on to write The Discourse on the Origin and Basis of Inequality Among Men, a success that will ensure his celebrity, but also create many enemies. His most famous masterpieces follow: The New Héloise (1761); Emile, or on Education and The Social Contract (1762). Confessions and The Discourses that he begins in 1772. He died in Ermenonville, 2 July 1778, a few weeks after Voltaire.

Thus, without having gone to school, on his own, through his travels, observing and reflecting, arguing with the finest minds of his time (Diderot, d’Alembert, Hume, Grimm) Rousseau devised a philosophy and a surprisingly modern political science in a language as simple as it is perfect and that has not aged. Few thinkers have exercised so much influence on the evolution of society. Everything interested him and he questioned everything. Self taught, he quickly excelled in everything he undertook, be it botany, music, religion, education or the dramatic arts. Rousseau doesn’t stop surprising us and continues to inspire us. As Gauthier Ambrus and Alain Grosrichard, curators of the exhibit Dead or Alive, he will always worry them, write» if he no longer worries people, Rousseau still watches over us."
Rousseau and England

Although Voltaire knows English well (and translates Shakespeare), stays in England a long time from 1726 and even discovers his vocation as a political thinker there, Rousseau has no contact with the Anglophone world. His tumultuous friendship with David Hume is the only exception. About the same age as Rousseau, Hume, born in 1711, preceded him in his career. Gifted, he has already produced a considerable body of work that is in line with that of the French Encyclopedists to whom he is very close. After the condemnation of Emile in France, and his banishment from Geneva in 1762, Rousseau leads the life of a vagabond that takes him eventually to Yverdon, Motiers, Ile Sainte-Pierre. Tormented, chased and even stoned, he dreams of exile. Will he go to the Netherlands? Prussia? or even to England? On the insistence of the Duchesses de Boufflers, he accepts the invitation of David Hume and accompanies him to England in January of 1766. Hume very much admires Rousseau, “the one that I revere the most since the death of Montesquieu” he declares. He works towards obtaining a commission from King George III, but disagreement quickly sets in between the two men. Rousseau suspects Hume of being an accomplice in a hoax (a forged letter to him from Frederick II) played on him by Horace Walpole in the salon of Madame Joffrin. Then, Rousseau refuses the 100£ commission that Hume had obtained for him from the king. At last, it’s the final break and Rousseau drafts a 55 page memoire recaptulating all his grievances against Hume. As with many suspicious minds, Rousseau strikes against those that want to help him. Between the two thinkers, there is no ideological debate other than childish squabbles which Hume recounts in his “Short exposé of the dispute between M. Hume and M. Rousseau” recently re-edited.

Readers of the Geneva area (or those who are visiting) will visit with great interest the multimedia exhibition NotaBene. Music with Rousseau, which runs until March 2, 2013 at the Espace Ami Lullin, Geneva Library Promenade des Bastions, Geneva. Free entry and all information on the site: www.rousseau-notabene.ch

Jean-Michel Leclercq, ex-TRA

Book review

Lee Jong-wook, A Life in Health and Politics, Desmond Avery (2012), Orient Blackswan/WHO

On 21 May 2003, Dr Lee Jong-wook was elected by the World Health Assembly as Director-General for a five-year term. He died on 22 May 2006 of a sudden illness at the age of 61. This book, published by WHO, describes Dr Lee’s life and his role as the sixth Director-General of the Organization and the first Korean appointed to this position. He began his WHO career in 1983 as a leprosy consultant in the South Pacific, and a year later was appointed team leader for a leprosy control project in the same region. In 1986 he moved to the Western Pacific Regional Office in Manila, initially in the Regional Leprosy Control Programme and later as Regional Adviser on Chronic Diseases. In 1994, Dr Lee moved to WHO headquarters as Director of the WHO Global Programme for Vaccines and Immunization, and was appointed Director of the Stop TB Department in 2000. Shortly after his appointment as Director-General, he launched with UNAIDS the 3 by 5 Initiative, with the goal of providing three million people living with HIV/AIDS in low- and middle-income countries with antiretroviral drugs by the end of 2005.

An Annex to the book contains a selection of Lee Jong-wook’s speeches.

Unrelated to the book, we should mention that Dr Lee has been an active supporter of our Association.

Yves Beigbeder
Vaccination against Influenza

As in the past several years, we organized, in partnership with the Staff Health Insurance and the Medical Service, two days of vaccination (18 and 23 October) against flu for WHO retirees living in Geneva and surrounding areas. 246 persons were vaccinated this year. We will never repeat often enough that this vaccination is very important for elderly persons, because the flu continues to cause numerous deaths among fragile persons, notably because of pulmonary complications.

It is also an occasion for our retirees to meet, chat and possibly have a coffee together. See you next year!

David Cohen

A Perception Survey of UN organizations: How relevant is WHO?

In a “2012 Global Perceptions Survey” on the UN Development System, initiated by the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies in New York, WHO and UNICEF were perceived as the most relevant UN system organizations. WHO was highly ranked by all occupational categories of respondents – UN staff, the academic community, national governments, non-UN intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, private sector. WHO was thus strongly identified with general perceptions of the UN’s development mission.

Other organizations surveyed were the other UN specialized agencies, the UN funds and Programmes, UNAIDS and the UN Regional Commissions. The Survey had 3,345 respondents from all regions. It was designed and conducted by a Copenhagen-based public opinion consultancy.

More information is available on “How Relevant is the Development UN ?”, Extracts from the 2012 Global Perceptions Survey” Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies, The CUNY Graduate Center, Stephen Browne and Thomas G. Weiss,
http://web.gc.cuny.edu/dept/rbins/projects/projects_FUNDS.html

Yves Beigbeder

In memoriam

Sylvia Grant-Christensen

Our wonderful former colleague and irreplaceable friend, is no longer with us. Sylvia died after a long illness on Monday, 15 October 2012 at Sankt Lukas Stiftelsen. Sylvia’s courage and sheer guts, her sense of humour and irony when facing the worst possible adversary, even joking and laughing, were typical characteristics. None of her friends ever heard Sylvia grumbling or complaining. We will miss her kindness and generous warmth towards all those with whom she came into contact. Sylvia was loved by everyone which says everything.

Jill Conway-Fell

Hamly McKay

It is sad that once again I have to inform you of the demise of one of our former colleagues, whom many of you will remember as a pleasant and friendly person who was involved in various church charities. Hamly’s son-in-law informed HRS-EURO that Hamly had died recently. Our condolences go to Hamly’s family.

Jill Conway-Fell

Ivan Tolstoy

With an immense feeling of loss it is announced that Ivan has been given peace from pains and illness. Ivan is once again with Alice.
Ivan passed quietly away at Herlev hospital.

Romain Lanier recently deceased.
Paraprosdokians (Winston Churchill loved them) are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected; frequently humorous.

- The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on my list.
- Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
- In filling out an application, where it says, 'In case of emergency, Notify:' I put 'DOCTOR'.
- Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.
- I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.
- Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a mechanic.
- You're never too old to learn something stupid.
  - I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

----------------------------------

One to remember for a few years time...

With my ailing memory, I'm thinking of changing my password to "incorrect"
That way, when I log in with the wrong password, the computer will tell me...
"Your password is incorrect"

Brilliant! ... Why didn't I think of that! ...