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Servas Canada Board:
Penny Pattison - National Secretary
Benny Beattie - Asst National Secretary
Elizabeth Sebestyen - Treasurer
Sandy Yudin - Host List Coordinator
Lesley Regnier - Peace Secretary
Julie Dotsch - Youth Coordinator
Michael Johnson - past National Secretary
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For years, Servas International has been trying to build its programs for youth. Servas hosts are gradually aging, and traveler numbers are down. The urgency of ensuring that Servas continues to thrive and grow makes building initiatives for youth vital to the organization. In many European countries, there are Servas youth work camps, cycling trips, forums and projects. Servas Canada is looking for youth interested in developing some projects and ways to connect with other youth both inside Canada and abroad.

Servas Canada and Servas Germany are initiating a special program to allow youth who are 14 - 17 years of age to travel unaccompanied by adults and stay in Servas homes. Negotiations are underway with Spain, France, Austria, and the USA. In the near future, the program may be extended to other countries.

All unaccompanied youth will need to be interviewed and oriented separately as travelers to determine suitability and ensure safety. Parents of youth are responsible for arranging contact with every host that their child will stay with, for arranging a schedule of host visits and for being available by phone or e-mail during the entire time of the youth's travel. They also must sign a liability waiver for Servas and the hosting family. The hosting family must agree to take care to know the whereabouts of their Servas youth visitor at all times, to have a schedule of the youth's visits for the entire trip and to take every safety precaution reasonably possible. This is an exciting opportunity for youth to be in safe environments learning about other cultures including languages, ways of life, beliefs and customs.

Servas Germany has agreed to all the requirements laid out. Servas Canada hosts are asked to consider accepting a youth into their home, and to encourage their children to visit Servas homes. It is anticipated that youth would stay in hosts for longer visits.

For more information about this exciting initiative, contact your local interviewer, National
7. Obituary for Tom Brigham, long time Servas Canada host list editor

Tom Brigham, the Canadian National Host List Co-coordinator for many years, passed away this past summer in a single person auto accident. Many hosts knew him as the man who sent us little pieces of paper each year, as part of his host list updating process.

David Ross, Host Coordinator in New Brunswick wrote: "He seemed to single-handedly do the national list each year."

Michael Johnson, past National Secretary added: "Sorry to hear of Tom's passing. He DID keep all the Servas Canada host data for several years. He would always send me a copy of the list on disk so we were never stuck in case his computer crashed, etc. Tom never complained, nor did he ever fail to get the list done on time. He took over from [the former list editor who had provided] corrupted [computer] data, so Tom had to re-enter the entire list. He was always willing to sort the data, and make labels for me for mailings to specific groups, such as all the interviewers, and he would make mailing labels for host coordinators too. We recognized Tom and published a photo in the Canada news a few year ago, of him receiving a gift from Servas, presented by a nearby host."

8. Servas International Newsletter Editor Needed

As stated in the last SI News, the job of editor will be handed over to a new enthusiastic Servas member at the international conference in Spain. This challenging position requires dedication and hard work, offering in exchange much satisfaction.

Servas International News appears once a year. The tasks of the editor are:

- Collecting, selecting and editing copy and illustrations
- Layout in a form a commercial printer can work with
- Contacting and working with the printer
- Sending of SI News to the member countries
- Correspondence with readers and contributors

Requirements are a good command of the English language and ability to use a layout program. The present team has two editors and a layout person. The new editor is free to change the style of the newsletter. The majority of the work is from the deadline, December 15th, to February or March when SI News is put into the post. Office and travel costs are compensated.
Hello everyone! On behalf of the contributors and translators, I thank you for taking some time out from your day to read the latest news and views from your fellow Servas members in Canada.

I was introduced to Servas in 1991 when one of my neighbours learned that I would be visiting the UK and France with my community band. He and his family had hosted many Servas families over the years, which explained the constant stream of visitors to his house every summer who stayed just a few days before leaving!

I have many fond memories meeting Servas hosts and their families, including a bright lad in Wales who demonstrated to me how to melt aluminium in his homemade furnace, a host in France for whom I was the initial Servas visitor, and a wide-eyed student in the ESL class taught by my Hong Kong host. I have enjoyed welcoming to my home Servas members from France, Italy, Switzerland, Holland and Hungary.

Feel free to send me questions and comments related to the newsletter. I certainly welcome submissions for future newsletters!

10. How to contact Servas Canada

Web site: www.canada.servas.org
Email: canada@servas.org

Servas Canada Board:
Penny Pattison - National Secretary
Benny Beattie - Asst National Secretary
Elizabeth Sebestyen - Treasurer
Sandy Yudin - Host List Coordinator
Lesley Regnier - Peace Secretary
Julie Dotsch - Youth Coordinator
Michael Johnson - past National Secretary
Sylvia Krogh - past Asst National Secretary

Carole Bayard - Francophone Liaison
Robert Dar-Woon - Newsletter Editor