

Federal Superannuates National Association

Nanaimo & Area

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May, 2006



NEXT MEETING Thursday 15th June, 2006 *In Parksville*



Location: At the “Quality Resort” (Bayside), 240 Dogwood Street Parksville, (Dogwood Street is on the North side of the Old Island Highway in Parksville, across from the Travelodge, 424 W. Island Hwy). Doors will open at 10 a.m.

Following a short business meeting, a lunch of Soup of the Day, Chicken Breast a la Swiss, fresh vegetables, roast potatoes and dessert will be served at the table. Cost will be \$15 per person, gratuities included.

Our speaker for this meeting will be Wendy Pratt of the Hospice Society of Nanaimo who will speak to us about Palliative Care Programs and services available in our area, including Home Care.

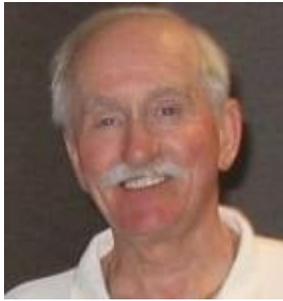
You will be asked by your local telephoner if you plan to attend and reserve your meal and, if you do, you are reminded of our cancellation policy. As we are required to pay for all meals we order, if you find you are unable to attend, you are asked to cancel your reservation to avoid being charged for the meal. To do so, please call **Pat Mason** at 753-6008 or **Barb Campbell** at 954-0733. The last date for cancellation to avoid billing will be Thursday, 8th June, 2006.

DON'T FORGET YOUR NAME TAG!

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you are no doubt aware I attended the Presidents Conference in Toronto last February, but I was unable to have anything available for the March 2006 newsletter. However, by now you all know about the new PSHCP and the improvements to the PSDP, so I will not dwell on those further. Several items were dealt with at the Conference, but three seem to be most important to us. Firstly a decision was made as to the format for the next convention, namely to leave the delegate formula as it is and proceed accordingly. Secondly a procedure was arrived at to elect our Regional Directors etc. This was to have a simple one branch, one vote formula. This item will however, will be referred to convention for ratification and amendment to the National Bylaws. Lastly support for our health care system was confirmed with a slight rewording of our present standing resolution, which also will have to be confirmed at convention next year. The class action lawsuit as to the death benefits was thrown out of court but the plaintiffs have decided to appeal the judge's decision. It appears that this could be going on for some time.

On the agenda for our next meeting will be the setting up of a standing committee for nominations. We have some volunteers for this committee but we are in need of others who can contribute some time. This effort does not require attendance at any executive meetings once it is up and running only the expenditure of some time. Your executive deemed this committee as necessary for the recruitment of new blood for the executive and to maintain a viable branch. To paraphrase the US Marines we are in need of a few good men and women. Ron Gladstone will be outlining some of the duties of the executive over the next couple of newsletters to enable members to see what is involved in serving on the executive. As you can see we really do need new members to serve on the executive. It does not take much time but the rewards are many, so you might consider stepping forward and supporting your branch.

If you did not attend the March meeting you all missed a really good meal and speakers. I would like to thank Legion Branch #256 for the food and service which, as usual was excellent. Our next meeting will be in Parksville on 15 June at the Quality Resort Bayside. We are looking forward to seeing you all there.

In closing I hope we can enjoy the summer. Until the fall, lets all reap the benefits of this wonderful place in which we live.

Bob Hoogerbrug

Nanaimo Branch Service Awards

One of the ways that our Branch shows it's appreciation of Volunteer Service by members is through awarding FSNA Certificates-of-Service. During 2006, Certificates for Five-years of Service will be presented to six Branch members at either the June meeting in Parksville or the September meeting in Nanaimo.

They are :

**Eileen M. Bent
Alexander Henry
G. Dwight Heritage
Ronald E. Gladstone
W. Douglas O'Donnell
Kenneth M. Rowe**



"THESE VIRUS WRITERS CYNICALLY PREY ON PEOPLE'S BASER INSTINCTS.... LIKE THIS NEW ONE CALLED 'BIGGER TAX CUT'...."



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

as at 12 May 2006



ASSETS

Bank Balances	620.93
Petty Cash Balance	100.00
Float Due—Membership	100.00
G.I.C. Investments	16,091.72
Accounts Receivable	759.63
DOB Contingency Fund	3,199.81
Equipment 7,927.47	
Less Depreciation -7,927.47	0.00
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	20,872.09

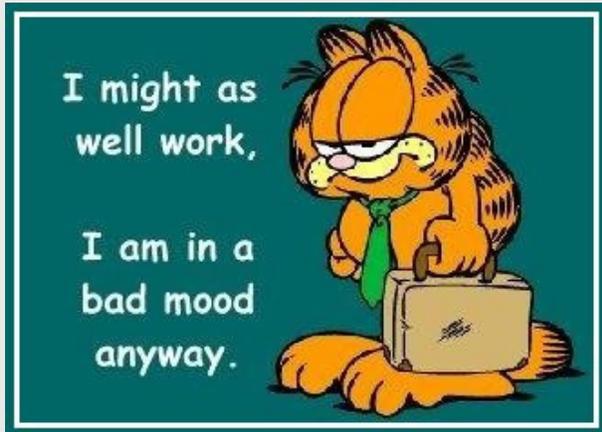
LIABILITIES

Per Capital Payable	98.19
Reserve Funds	5,796.54
TOTAL LIABILITIES	5,894.73

EQUITY

Retained earnings	17,392.34
Current Earnings	(2,414.98)
TOTAL EQUITY	24705.12

\$ 20,872.09
(Liabilities & Equity)



How to Contact Your Executive



President—Bob Hoogerbrug
751-8735

r-choog@shaw.ca

Vice President & Recruiting and Retention— Al Heinrich 738-0192

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Membership Director - Vic Ashdown -
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Past President—Marg Mostowy 756-1069
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Treasurer—Bob Stitt 758-7681
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Secretary—Cathey Hoogerbrug 751-8735

Membership Secretary - Doris Grieves 716-1952
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Historian, Nominations Committee and Volunteer Coordinator— John Ablett 752-7572

Program Director—Pat Mason 753-6008

Awards/Speakers—Charles Scrivener 758-2240
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Registration- Susanne Body 729-9588
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Services & PSHCP/PSDO Liason—
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Newsletter— Ron Gladstone 751-2940
gldstone@shaw.ca

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755-3040

Parksville Harold Goodman 248-3269

Port Alberni—Marg Pierce 723-9791

Phone Chairs & Area Coordinators, etc

Qualicum Beach Sherwood Moore

Parksville Barbara Campbell 954-0733
campbellba@shaw.ca

Ucluelet Sandy Henry 726-7086
macfunnelcover@telus.net

Port Alberni—Marg Pierce 723-9791

Cards

Parksville, Qualicum & Nanoose 468-7706
Freida Mason

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Port Alberni, Ucluelet, Tofino Marg Pierce



MEMBERSHIP REPORT – May 11th, 2006 (Newsletter)



MEMBER NUMBER COUNT

As of May 11th, 2006, the Nanaimo and Area Branch had 1641 members comprising 1094 superannuates and 547 spouses. There are 1265 on DDS and 376 pay at Branch. Since the last Newsletter Report (February 16th), the following membership changes have taken place:

NEW OR REINSTATED MEMBERS (7)

- Steve Ellis, Nanaimo
- Rick Folkmann, Nanaimo
- Colin Houlihan, Nanaimo
- Margaret Rose, Qualicum Beach
- Vernon Rushmer, Nanaimo
- Alan & Irene Thompson, Nanaimo

TRANSFERRED IN (7)

- Lucy Aldridge, Port Alberni, from BC09 Victoria Fred Whitehouse
- Pierre Barre & Charlotte Primrose, Nanaimo, from BC09 Victoria Fred Whitehouse
- Barry Grover, Parksville, from BC11 Okanagan North
- Joe Guinan, Nanoose Bay, from AB17 Edmonton
- John Paul & Donna-Maria Waldron, Errington, from BC15 Prince George

TRANSFERRED OUT (10)

- Donalda Cameron, Nanaimo, to BC14 Sidney & District
- Kay Dalton, Nanoose Bay, to BC09 Victoria Fred Whitehouse
- H Fraser, Denman Island, to BC06 North Vancouver Island
- Susan & Gordon Gauthier, Nanaimo, to ON43 Ottawa

Henk & Clara Slots, Port Alberni, to BC03 Duncan & District
 Nick Small, Gabriola, to BC09 Victoria Fred Whitehouse
 Ken & Betty Smallwood, Nanaimo, to AB18 Southern Alberta

MEMBERSHIP CANCELLATIONS (13)

- Rob Bams, Nanaimo
- Isabelle Foster, Nanaimo
- Annie Hillsden, Qualicum Beach
- Roy & Dora Jardine, Nanaimo
- Pete Kuryluk, Nanaimo
- Robert & Judy Legge, Nanaimo
- Helen Mandin, Qualicum Beach
- Alan & Anne Moore, Nanoose Bay
- Bill & Jean Wacey, Lantzville

IN MEMORIAM (15)

- Stephan Arnason, Qualicum Beach, survived by wife Nancy
- R W Bayley, Qualicum Beach, survived by wife Agnes
Don Brumwell, Parksville
- Albert Clevette, Nanaimo, survived by wife Isabella
Consuelo Cooley, Port Alberni
- Thelma Donaldson, Nanaimo (Ottawa)
- Allan Galloway, Nanaimo, survived by wife Hazel
Joan Gribling, Nanaimo
- Joseph Hardy, Nanaimo
- Beryl Hetherington, Nanaimo, survived by husband Frank
- Adolph Larocque, Nanaimo
- Jane Parker, Nanaimo
- Eileen Russell, Nanaimo
- Hank Seltzer, Nanaimo, survived by wife Shirley
- Donald Silcocks, Nanaimo, survived by wife Fay

NEWLY LOST SHEEP

- William & Jean Crawford, Nanaimo
- Harris Roe, Nanaimo
- Shirley Williamson, Lantzville

WEB-BASED MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM (WMS)

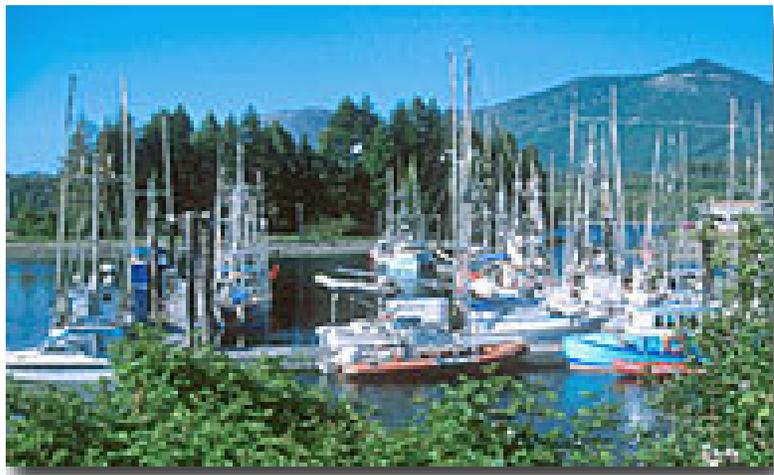
The WMS continues to work fairly well. A new release, incorporating improvements, is due out in late summer 2006. The WMS Ad Hoc Committee is meeting in Ottawa 22-24 May, just prior to the NBOD Meeting. I am a member of this Committee and will be attending.

Vic Ashdown

—oOo—

Subject: You know you're from BC when

1. You know the provincial flower is actually Mildew
2. You feel guilty throwing aluminum cans or paper in the trash.
3. You use the statement "sunny break" and know what it means.
4. You know more than 10 ways to order coffee.
5. You know more people who own boats than air conditioners.
6. You feel overdressed wearing a suit to a nice restaurant.
7. You stand on a deserted road in the rain waiting for the "Walk" signal.
8. You consider that if it has no snow, it is not a real mountain.
9. You can taste the difference between Starbucks and Tim Horton's
10. You know the difference between Chinook, Coho, and Sockeye salmon.
11. You know how to pronounce Squamish, Osoyoos, Nanaimo, and Tsawwassen.
12. You consider swimming an indoor sport.
13. You can tell the difference between Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean and Thai food.
14. In winter, you go to work in the dark and come home in the dark while only working eight-hour days.
15. You never go camping without waterproof matches and a poncho.
16. You are not fazed by "Today's forecast: showers followed by rain," and "Tomorrow's forecast: rain followed by showers."
17. You cannot wait for a day with the forecast "showers and sunny breaks".
18. You have no concept of humidity without precipitation.
19. You know that Dawson Creek is a town, not a TV show.
20. You can point to at least two ski mountains, even if you cannot see through the cloud cover.
21. You remark the mountain is "out" when it is a clear day and you can actually see it.
22. You put on your shorts when the temperature gets above 5, but still wear your hiking boots and parka.
23. You switch to your sandals when it gets about 10, but keep the socks on.
24. You have actually used your mountain bike on a mountain.
25. You think people who use umbrellas are either wimps or tourists
26. You recognize the background shots in your favourite movies & TV shows.
27. You buy new sunglasses every year, because you can't find the old ones after such a long time.
28. You measure distance in hours.
29. You often switch from "heat" to "a/c" in your car in the same day.
30. You use a comforter in the summer.
31. You carry jumper cables in your car and your wife knows how to use them.
32. You design your kid's Halloween costume to fit under a raincoat.
33. You know all the important seasons: Almost Winter, Winter, Still Raining (Spring), Road Construction (Summer) & Raining Again (Fall).
34. You actually understand these jokes .



But its

worth it!



THE WORD FROM NATIONAL

Branch Presidents' Conference

As mentioned in Bulletin 2006-03 (March), the Branch Presidents' Conference held in Toronto February 23-26 was very successful and a draft summary of the Conference was sent to all participants for comments. A few suggestions were received and incorporated in the official summary that is enclosed. Make sure you read the summary of decisions taken and areas of consensus. The NBOD will now decide on the actions to be taken resulting from the Branch Presidents' Conference.

Convention 07 August 16-18, 2007

During the Branch Presidents' Conference, there was much discussion about branch input into resolutions and matters to be discussed at Convention 07. There was a consensus that branches will send their resolutions to the National Office not later than 31 December 2006. It was also clear that branches wanted to be informed about resolutions submitted by other branches and to have an opportunity to review and even comment on these resolutions before Convention. The NBOD Resolutions Committee is developing a process to have this happen. The branch presidents also decided that the current formula to determine the number of delegates for Convention would be unchanged. Branches should start thinking about who their delegate(s) to Convention 07 will be.

Public Service Health Care Plan

Now that the changes to the PSHCP have been announced and implemented, the next step in the negotiations is to develop the governance model. There will be a not-for-profit Corporation, at arms-length from the government, that will be established to replace the current governance model (the PSHCP Trust). This will involve drafting the letters patent and determining the roles and responsibilities of the various elements of the governance model. FSNA will continue to be the organization representing all pensioner plan members and will have the same authority that it currently has under the Trust agreement, that is, it will have one of three votes (the other two belonging to the employer and the bargaining agents). The Trust has been extended until such time as the Corporation is officially established.

MEDOC Travel Health Insurance

The increase in PSHCP out-of-province coverage from \$100,000 to \$500,000 has led to immediate MEDOC improvements. Existing policyholders will benefit from the addition of baggage & personal effects coverage and flight accident and accidental death & dismemberment insurance. All current MEDOC policyholders have been sent the attached letter signed by both Johnson and FSNA and the endorsement to the MEDOC policy/certificate detailing the changes. For additional details or questions on these changes, members are encouraged to contact Johnson Inc. at 1-800-663-9995.

This is to inform you that these publications are available on the Web site....

Guide to Government of Canada Services for Seniors

This is a guide to information, programs and services of interest to seniors and people who are planning for retirement. It is meant to help you find information about services and benefits you may be entitled to.

Guide to Government of Canada Services for People with Disabilities

This guide about Government of Canada services and programs for people with disabilities provides information on everything from employment, accessibility and education, to health, income support and tax benefits. A section tells you how to contact your provincial or territorial government to find out about its programs and services for people with disabilities.

ATTRACTIVE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

From time to time we have mentioned the need to find volunteers to fill positions on the Branch executive. Now we would like to tell you what is involved if you want to become involved, give service to your fellow members and, not least of all, have a good time while doing it. While positions vary in the intensity of effort required, none of them are arduous and we only have four meetings a year with a few executive meetings thrown in so it is not terribly demanding on your time.

Lets deal first with the tougher assignments of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Membership Director which are some times called the "Table Officers". These carry the main responsibility for running the Branch and for these jobs some experience of the association and its structure are required, but not essential.

PRESIDENT

Chairs all meetings, represents the Branch at all Regional and National meetings, speaks for and represents all members to local authorities. It is useful, but not essential, that the incumbent have had experience as Vice President or as a member of the executive. Even so, it is not overly demanding and it is certainly a very interesting and rewarding experience to have been the "Leader of the Pack"

VICE PRESIDENT

Chairs all meetings that the President cannot attend and acts as deputy for that position, when required, for attendance at National and Regional meetings. Has delegate status at some meetings. Conducts special studies for the President, helps with inter-Branch liaison and supports the President in all aspects of Branch activity.

TREASURER

Some knowledge of financial and bookkeeping procedures are required. Nonetheless, our finances are not overly complicated and follow a consistent pattern. The Treasurer is responsible for producing accurate and timely financial statements, preparing budgets and advising the President on financial matters relating to the Branch including inventory status.

SECRETARY

The keeper of the records, including minutes, receiving correspondence and preparing suitable replies at the direction of the President. Compiles and maintains up-to-date contact lists of persons and organizations of interest.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Responsible for keeping membership records updated, ensuring that dues have been collected and preparing lists of members for distribution of the Branch newsletter and other correspondence by both Canada Post and e-mail. Provides Branch input to the Web-based Membership System. Knowledge of computer operations is very desirable for this position.

And now for an outline of some of the directors' positions.

Historian

Compiles the ongoing history of the Branch including pictures of special events, preservation of memorabilia and a library of all publications. A fascinating and most interesting task which is not overly demanding of your time but provides a lot of pleasure for the incumbent.

Program Director

Arranges all services for meetings of the Branch, including menus for food provided, supervises the smooth running of lunches by assigning serving order. Collects all lists of attendees and collates them in order to indicate to caterer the number of meals required. Handles cancellations and reports those who ordered but did not attend. Ensures the billing is accurate and presented to the Treasurer for payment. A very rewarding job with a high profile with members. The incumbent gets a lot of pleasure from interaction with members.

Hospital Visiting

Visitors are assigned to three areas: Nanaimo, Parksville and Port Alberni. When members are sick and in hospital they look forward to visits from their friends in the Branch, and a smiling face will often prove to be better medicine than anything the pharmacy can dish out. Very rewarding positions, they make sure our members are not forgotten when they are under the weather.

—oOo—

That will do for this edition. In the next we will continue to outline the duties of the remaining positions.

As you will have read, we are now forming a Nominations Committee to gather names of those who are willing to serve and it is our hope that this might stimulate some interest and enthusiasm.

Seniors On-line

I still have one or two regular friends and readers who sometimes have difficulty opening the newsletter when in “pdf” or “Adobe” format. It is very difficult for me to know what to advise you since, if you download Adobe (free) from the Web and follow the instructions for installation it should work. Having said all that, I must tell you that, as we speak I am sitting at my brand new HP Pavillion computer and latest version of Publisher which are so clever they try to make up my mind for me as to what I want to do and keep reformatting and changing layouts. To an old IBM PC Jr initiate who once fancied himself the master of IBM DOS and BASIC programming this can be very humiliating. It also helps me to understand your problems dealing with this sometimes too clever technology. I do, however, have an option with this new program of saving the newsletter in Word which leaves out most of the graphics but is at least readable with your word processor, so if you do have difficulty, let me know and I'll send you that version. Mind you, its far, far better to try and get Adobe working so work on that first.....Cheers!



The Last Word

This being my edition for bitching let me tell you that we now have the case of having the biter bitten. Much to my astonishment over \$3000 in electronic gear was ordered from Dell for delivery to another alleged Gladstone at an address in Nanaimo. Luckily I caught it and will not have to pay for any of it. In spite of me shredding all chits and bills from the Bank and keeping my credit card locked in my safe, on one of the rare occasions I used it, somebody obviously took a spare print of it. What astonished me was the way Dell blithely accepted the order to deliver it and MBNA to charge it to me when it was my name but not my address. I was also amused to have the smoke and mirrors of Puralator security exposed when they happily handed over the merchandize to somebody against a fictitious signature but without checking, even superficially, to see that they were the intended recipient. When they deliver to me, of course, I have to give four pieces of identification (two with photo ID), a blood sample; and my DNA and even then, they are reluctant to hand it over. It seems they only enforce regulations with law abiding citizens. It is more than they dare do to give offence to the criminal classes. I feel sorriest for the poor R.C.M.P. who get no support from our judicial system (and often not much more from us). They tell me these crimes are on the increase because the commercial companies would rather absorb the losses (and pass them on to you and me in the form of increased charges) than to go to Court and spend a lot of money trying to recover their losses from the villains. Take a tip from me, Get in the habit of contacting your bank on the Web to update charges to your account as often as possible—this was how I managed to nip this little scam in the bud. Finally, if somebody in our rapidly deteriorating legal system tells you that this poor wretch didn't mean to do it because they were on drugs and asks you not to press charges out of pity for them, just say "Tough. If they can do the crime they can do the time"



“Ron Gladstone

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