

# Livewire



The CBC Pensioners  
National Association

Ontario Region

L'Association nationale  
des retraités de la SRC

Région de l'Ontario

April, 2019

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## President's Report

As I write this item winter is waning, spring is in the air. I am enjoying warmth and sunshine in Florida and I am hoping to experience no more snow and freezing rain on my return. Our doctor prescribed a sun lamp for my wife Carolyn in January as she was lacking the helpful rays of the sun. Our time in Florida has truly been a benefit for her health.



This edition of Livewire contains reports and photos from the Holiday season just past and notices of Spring events quickly approaching. As members of the PNA you are welcome to enjoy any or all of them.

As President of the Ontario Region along with our Vice President John Dixon, I will be attending the next National Board meeting being held in Victoria B.C. In May. A newly revised set of bylaws will be finalized at this meeting. The bylaws needed to be revised due to changes in the Not-For-Profit Association Act of Canada. Our National Association website is being reviewed and will become even more user friendly later this year. Many Chapters have or are creating Facebook pages that are of interest to all CBC retirees. All Regions and Chapters newsletters are available for reading on the National website.

In the matter of "targeted versus defined pensions", we continue to monitor the Federal Government action on this issue. This is an election year in Canada and I believe that it would be political suicide for the Government to try and introduce it now. A sub-committee of the National Board is working to convince the CBC to change the Pension plan to allow spouses who married CBC employees after the employee retired to collect surviving spouse benefits. This provision would apply to all co-habitation situations.

Every three years the Members of the Ontario Region must hold an election for the position of President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. This will happen at the Annual General Meeting to be held October 30th. I encourage everyone to seriously consider becoming involved. You will receive great satisfaction knowing that you are contributing to the welfare of your peers.

I always welcome your input and suggestions. I can be reached by email at gercarhead@gmail.com or by phone at 1-519-250-8516.

Please have a great spring and summer, enjoying everything that nature provides.

*Gerry Head, President*



## NOTES FROM THE PNA WEBSITE

Our revised by-laws will be presented at the Association's Annual General Meeting in May for ratification. You can see the draft by clicking on About Us and selecting Constitution and By-laws. If you have comments or queries send them to [cbcpensioners@on.aibn.com](mailto:cbcpensioners@on.aibn.com) by April 25th.

In the newest edition of Contact, there is a great piece on Ensuring Reimbursement of Travel Insurance Claims. Problems rarely occur, but there are things you can do to ensure resolution of claims.

Under Publications, on the home page of our website, "The Little Black Book of Scams" from the Competition Bureau of Canada. It includes all the scams, how they work and tips on how to protect ourselves.



And finally, from the National Capital Region's latest newsletter "Work in Retirement", the whys plus practical financial and medical issues to consider.

## ONTARIO REGION ELECTIONS, OCTOBER 30TH, 2019

As Gerry noted in his President's report, elections will be held for the Region's four executive positions at the October AGM. If you have recently retired, getting involved is a great way to ease into your retirement.

The coveted position of editor of "Livewire" will also be up for grabs in the fall. The current editor will be retiring after the AGM but is certainly happy to assist the new editor ease into his/her role. Do you like to write, search for pieces of interest to retirees, share people's stories and are handy with PDF software or other user-friendly publishing tools? Then this is the job for you...and honestly given what many of us did at the CBC there have to a few of you out there!! Email me [learls@rogers.com](mailto:learls@rogers.com) if you want more info.

## SUPPLEMENTARY HEALTH CARE PLAN CHANGES/ IMPORTANT INFORMATION RE DRUG PLAN AND \$100 DEDUCTIBLE

In December 2017, the CBC mailed out a pamphlet to all retirees providing a summary of the changes to the SHCP. On page 3, it stated that the \$100.00 deductible required by the Ontario Drug Benefit plan would be fully covered by our plan. Several of us discovered quite quickly that it is not covered 100%. Discussions took place with GWL and the CBC and the Ontario Region Board was provided clarification.



With the new plan the co-pay (\$4.11) was put into the cost of the prescription as well as the \$100.00 deductible for the ODB. Here is the official statement received by the Ontario Region:

Essentially, the \$100 provincial deductible is the same as for the per prescription dispensing fee ... the retiree will share in the total drug cost so the \$100 retiree-paid deductible will be reimbursed by GWL at the reimbursement level of 75% (so 25% of it is paid by the retiree, just like the per prescription dispensing fee). So in effect, Great-West Life is picking up 75% of the cost of the drug as well as 75% of the provincial deductible and the prescription fee. (In other words, you will no longer be responsible for the whole payment of the \$100.00 provincial deductible – only 25% of it). And once it's met, that will no longer show up on your invoice.





## ONTARIO REGION CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

was once again held at the Duke of Devon Pub. Everybody enjoyed the excellent turkey dinner and scrumptious dessert. Throughout the dinner we had draws for the 27 door prizes which were given out by John Dixon. As usual, these were a great success. It was good to see so many old colleagues getting together and chatting over old times. Many thanks to Tom Bilenkey for the photo montage below..

*Irene Robinson, Director*





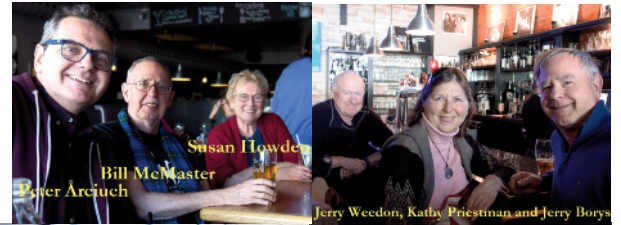


## PUB AFTERNOON

Our first Pub Afternoon at Factory Girl on the Danforth was on March 27th, the first almost Spring day in Toronto. It was a great turnout ...CBCers filled the restaurant with lots of laughter and chat. The next Pub Afternoon will be in May so do stay tuned.

To find out some of the goings on in Toronto, sign up for the CBC Toronto Retirees newsletter.

Send an email to [cbctorontoretirees@gmx.com](mailto:cbctorontoretirees@gmx.com)



## SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO CHAPTER

Our 2018 end of the year Christmas party was once again a great success! Although the many door prizes, 50/50 raffle and surprise mystery draw were highlights for all, the biggest surprise was the welcoming of those members who made a first-time appearance. Co-workers and friends once again gathered, listened and retold stories of the past and discussed issues that surround the CBC today. Many thanks go out to Dan Kennedy, Michael Fitzsimmons and Ed Everaert for the wonderful memories during the slide presentation. Our Chapter is truly blessed.



To view the collection of photos from all of our events on Facebook, copy or paste this link:  
[https://www.facebook.com/SWOChapterCBCPensioners/?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](https://www.facebook.com/SWOChapterCBCPensioners/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel)



We are planning two events this summer to once again bring our friends and co-workers together.

Starting with our summer BBQ gathering scheduled for Saturday, July 27, 2019. Gabe and Linda Menard have once again graciously offered to host this the event at their new home. Full details to follow in our Spring/Summer newsletter, but save the date!



Our annual Essex County Wine Tour will be held on Saturday, August 24, 2019. This, as in the past, is a full day event. We will visit 4 wineries, enjoy a minimum of 3 tastings at each, and sit down to a wonderful mid-day lunch all while travelling in an air-conditioned bus. Tickets are \$50.00/person for Chapter members and their guest and \$75.00 for non-members. Tickets are very limited so first reserved – first booked!

**Also - Save The Date: Our end of the year Christmas Party, Saturday, December 7, 2019**

Looking forward to seeing many of you at our events!

*On behalf of the SWO Chapter, Gino, Sandy, Jackie, Gerry and Manny!*



# BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Gardening expert Paul Zammit wowed us last year at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington. The Director of Horticulture at the Toronto Botanical Garden returns on **Wed., May 29** to once again speak to the **Golden Horseshoe Chapter** of the CBC PNA.

**Tickets cost \$20 each and must be paid for in advance by CBC PNA members. The cut-off date is Wed., May 15.** Tickets will be given out when you arrive at Room 1-2 on the 2nd Level Mezzanine in RBG Centre at 680 Plains Rd W. in Burlington. There'll be signs to guide everyone in from the (free) parking lot. RBG Centre is fully accessible.

**Easy Pay** – [payghchapter@gmail.com](mailto:payghchapter@gmail.com)

**Mail** – Make out your cheque to John Bainbridge, the GHC Secretary -Treasurer, and send it to 77 Arcade Cres., Hamilton, Ont. L9C 3J1

Doors open at 11 am. Deli buffet lunch starts at 1145. Paul's presentation begins at 1245, followed by his Q&A which ends at 2 pm.



## Big turnout for Golden Horseshoe Christmas luncheon



Rebecca Lee won the grand prize donated by Peter Mansbridge: two platinum tickets to a Leafs game.

One hundred and sixteen CBC pensioners and guests packed Victory Hall in the Burlington Legion on Wed., Dec. 5, 2018 for the Golden Horseshoe Chapter's annual Christmas luncheon. They shared good food and 46 door prizes - a record number!



Ontario president Gerry Head talked about the chance of a pension fund surplus payout.





## THE “BUZZ” FROM DURHAM

### *From Past President John Bailey, pre-Christmas lunch at the Ocala Winery November 2018 –*

The last four years have flown by quickly. We’ve had many fantastic get-togethers. I would like to thank my Vice President (Randy Blyth) and Treasurer (Mike Abate) for all their support. Randy always had great input for all events. Mike kept the books, so we were always on a solid financial base. And kudos to Janet Abate for her ingenuity and perseverance in the door prize department. As always, Bette Laderoute kept us informed with the BUZZ. I would like to thank the incoming Executive for stepping up to the task for the next three years. Barbara Saxberg is Durham Chapter’s new President, Bruce Rogers (R) is Vice President, and Founding President Bob Ross (L) is the new Secretary-Treasurer.

### *And from new President Barbara Saxberg --*

We have welcomed four new volunteer Directors at Large: Maureen Brosnahan, Dan Karpenchuk, Bette Laderoute Sampson and Mac Skelton.

In January, we launched a membership survey and the response was excellent. Thirty-seven members completed it. That’s 49% of our total membership, a very respectable response rate. Key findings revolved around issues and services of most importance to members, types of events members would be interested in attending and community organizations members would like to support.

In February, we launched our Facebook page – CBC PNA Durham Chapter – where we’re posting news, information about events, and articles of interest to complement our updated newsletter “The Buzz”. The more we can let retirees know about the CBC Pensioners National Association, the better the chances of increasing our membership.

Also, in February, the Executive went through our membership list, contacting as many by phone as we could and have done a number of updates of contact information.

Coming up this month are two events – a spring luncheon at the Kedrons Golf Course on April 10th with door prizes and guest speaker Dan McTeague of Gasbuddy.com and on the afternoon of April 24th a Spouses/Life Partners Wine and Cheese social.





## OBITUARIES:

**BALCH, Nicki** – died on July 11, 2018 at the age of 96. Nicki worked as a make-up artist in Toronto which included 5 years working on Nightcap.

**WILLIAMS, Don S.** – died on October 28, 2019 at the age of 80. Don wrote, directed and eventually became the executive producer on the Beachcombers. He was involved in many other CBC productions including Doctor Bundolo comedy series.



**CHVOSTEK, Milo** – died on November 8, 2018 at the age of 86. Milo was a producer with The Nature of Things.

**WRAITE, Toni** – died on November 22, 2018 at the age of 80. Toni was the post-production co-ordinator for TV Dramatic programming in Toronto.

**MEGGS, Peter** – died on December 2, 2018 at the age of 93. Besides his involvement in programs like Concern and Open House ( a forerunner of Tapestry), he was national director of English Radio, co-authoring the report that led to what became “the radio revolution”.

**MCCAW, Ross** - died on December 2, 2018 in his 86th year. Ross was a Senior Television MCR Technician, TV Technical Services in Toronto.

**SERVICE, Robert (Bob)** – died on December 7, 2018 at the age of 84. Bob retired as Manager, TV Network Operations, Toronto, in 1992.

**PARKS, Penny** – died on December 14, 2018 at the age of 65. Penny was producer and then senior producer of Quirks and Quarks for 13 years.

**MACLEAR, Michael** – died on December 25, 2018 at the age of 89. Michael was a foreign correspondent for CBC News from 1961-71, reporting over his long career from over 80 countries.

**CRORY, Neil** – died on January 10, 2019 at the age of 68. Neil was Senior Music Producer in CBC Radio Music, recording some of Canada’s finest classical musicians and singers.

**CLARIDGE, Jeannie** – died on January 12, 2019. Jeannie was an AD (script assistant) on various programs including Take 30 and Adrienne Clarkson and also worked in both sports and news.

**MESS, Suzanne** – died on January 22, 2019 at the age of 90. Suzanne was a Costume Designer in the CBC Design Department in Toronto, one of her first creations being the costumes worn by Uncle Chichimus and Hollyhock on the inaugural broadcast of CBC’s English television network.

**LYNTWYN, Bill** - died on January 28, 2019 at the age of 69. Bill was one of CBC’s first ENG cameramen.

**EVENDEN, Ron** - died on January 29, 2019 in his 90th year. Ron was a lighting director in Toronto.

**FORD, Patrick** – died on January 31, 2019 at the age of 94. Patrick was a Unit Manager of TV Sports.

**SCHLESINGER, Joe** – died on February 11, 2019 at the age of 90. Joe was a television journalist and author most renowned for his work as a foreign correspondent for CBC TV.

**DE NIVERVILLE, Louis** – died on February 11, 2019 at the age of 85. Louis was a well-known artist who early in his long career worked as a graphic artist in the CBC Design Department from 1957 to 1963.

**MYERS, Toni** - died on February 18, 2019 at the age of 75. Toni started at CBC as an assistant editor on episodes of Telescope and this eventually led to work on This Hour has Seven Days. She is best known for her many IMAX documentaries.

**FAIRE, Sandra** – died on February 27, 2019. Sandra during her early CBC career worked as a Producer of Variety/Light Entertainment programs and later produced a number of award winning programs for the network including Rita and Friends and Anne Murray’s Family Christmas.

**SMITH, David (Dave)** - died on March 1, 2019 in his 57th year. Dave was an editor on The National for a number of years.

**CROSSLEY, Douglas** – died on March 22, 2019 at the age of 83. Doug began his television career in the late 50s singing on CBC’s Country Club, Holiday Ranch, Swing Easy and The Canadian Hit Parade.

**REMINDER:** When you move, change your phone or email, PLEASE let the Ontario Region and the National Office in Ottawa know. TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-877-361-9242, email at [cbcpensioners@on.aibn.com](mailto:cbcpensioners@on.aibn.com). We have had quite a bit of mail returned recently as there is no forwarding address. Also, we would appreciate it, if those with email could arrange to receive LIVEWIRE, CONTACT and all other communications by email to help us reduce our mailing costs.



## YOUR ONTARIO REGION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Direct all pension inquiries to the Pension Administration Centre 1-888-604-9258**

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