

LiveWire



The CBC Pensioners
National Association
Ontario Region

L'Association nationale
des retraités de la SRC
Région de l'Ontario

June, 2018

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President's Report



Summer has arrived (heat wise) and now we look forward to the many outdoor events that are being planned throughout our region. Please check out the many events listed in this newsletter and plan to attend as many as you can. Remember, you do not have to be a member of that chapter to attend. All members are welcome everywhere.

The Ontario Region Board is planning for the Annual General Meeting which will be held on Wednesday October 31 at 11:00 a.m. We will soon let you know where it will be held and who our guest speaker will be. Please mark that date and set it aside. Yes, it is Halloween but we guarantee you will be home in plenty of time for strange visitors.

The CBCPNA Triennial Convention was held in Gatineau QC. May 15, 16. The Convention was designed to build a three-year strategic plan. A workshop was held over the two days to better define what we can do for our membership and how we can do it. Many great ideas emerged and are now in the planning stage. If you have any suggestions please let a member of the Ontario Region Board know. Names and contact information are available in this Newsletter.

At the Convention a new slate of National Directors was elected. Denis Collette (former Treasurer) is our new President. Dave Jeffrey from the National Capital Region is our new Vice-President Anglophone, Suzanne Aubin is our new Vice-President Francophone and Rejean Labrie is our new Treasurer. All bring enthusiasm and knowledge to the position.

Two retirees were honoured with Life Membership Awards. John McKay, retiring president of the Maritimes Region, and Paul Gaffney, retiring president of the National Board. Congratulations to both men for all they have done for their fellow retirees.



Debra Alves, CEO of the Pension Fund, presented basic background on the fund's operation and the challenges its managers face. Our pension fund is thriving. The full report will be sent to all retirees soon. Debra is retiring herself at the end of September. We welcome her as a retiree but will miss her enthusiasm while working on our Pensions.

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The Supplementary Health Care Plan continues to be in the news. We have received many complaints regarding the cap on Paramedical Services. The National Board continues to monitor this situation and we will be examining it again in October. One particularly interesting point is this: 98% of users of Paramedical Services do not exceed the cap of \$950.00. That is the reason the CBC put the cap in place. The Supplementary Health Care Plan is not the Great West Life Plan. Great West Life is only the Administrator of the Plan. i.e. they pay the claims from the fund collected by the CBC. Morneau Shepell is the CBC's health care plan designer. The CBCPNA (that's us) are advised by the CBC and Morneau Shepell as to what the plan is and what it covers. The plan should be referred to as the CBC Supplementary Health Care Plan.

The latest statistics dated December 31, 2017 show that there are 9831 pensioners. 5093 pensioners are members of the CBCPNA. This shows that 51.8% of pensioners are members. Unfortunately, this is a drop of 0.8% over the previous year. We need your help in finding pensioners who are not members. Please encourage them to join.

Did you ever wonder where all our retiree members are? BC Yukon 414; AB/SK/TNO/NWT 289; Manitoba 229; Ontario 1126; NCR 507; Quebec 1849; Maritimes 476; NL 153

EAP – Employee Assistance Program 1-866-838-2025. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Please consider the Special Assistance Fun for medical expenses above and beyond the norm like hearing aids, wheelchairs, stair lifts etc. Please contact Diane or Suzie in the National Office.

Please have a safe but fun summer whether with family, friends or former colleagues. Please feel free to contact me at gercarhead@gmail.com or 519-250-8516.

Gerry Head, President

TRIENNIAL CONVENTION

As Gerry noted in his president's report, the triennial convention of the National Pensioners Association was held in Gatineau in mid-May. Eight of us from the Ontario Region attended. The President and V.P.'s attendance is automatic and beyond that each region is allowed one delegate per 250 members. The five from our region were: Bob Waller, Golden Horseshoe, Gino Piazza, Windsor, Paul Hoffmann, North Central, Randy Blyth, Durham and Raj Narain, Toronto. Leone Earls attended as an alternate in case one of the official delegates had to cancel last minute. All but Leone's costs were paid for by the National Board. To the right is a photo of all of us at the end of two days of meetings, workshops and socializing with CBC retirees from across the country.



Back: Randy Blyth, Gino Piazza, Raj Narain, Paul Hoffmann, Bob Waller
Front: Leone Earls, Gerry Head, John Dixon



SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO CHAPTER

The winter is gone and summer has finally arrived and with it we are looking forward to another year of events to get our group and friends together. Once again the SWO Board has organized two (2) events for this summer's gathering. Our annual summer BBQ is scheduled for Saturday, July 14; starting at 3:00 pm. As with previous years Gabe and Linda have graciously opened the Menard Villa on the water for our gathering. The address is 799 Valentino Drive, Belle River. As usual we will provide the hamburgers, hotdogs, bottled water, soft drinks, coffee and tea. A dessert or pre-BBQ snack is always a welcomed addition. **NOTE: Please notify us of any dietary restrictions.**

RSVP (by email or telephone) to one of your Board members if you are planning to attend.

Directions From E.C. Row:

Take E.C. Row to the end of Belle River and turn left on #2 and follow the curve to the right and continue to Golf View Dr. and turn left. Drive 150 yds. to the lake and turn left on Valentino Dr. (4th house on right) Parking on left.

Note: To our Associate members who will be attending the BBQ, the 2018 dues of \$25 can be paid then.

This year marks our 4th annual Essex County Wine Tour that will take place on Saturday, August 25, with the Caboto Club Wine Tours. The bus (air-conditioned!) will leave the Caboto Club at 10:15 AM and we will visit 4 wineries in this order: tasting-Pelee Island Winery; tasting & lunch-Muscudere Vineyards; tasting-Cooper's Hawk Vineyards and final tasting-Vivace Estate Winery. There will be 3 to 4 tastings at each winery and we will have raffle prizes drawn on the bus between each winery trip. Returning to the Caboto Club around 5:30pm. At the end of the day, a table has been reserved back at the Caboto Club to accommodate our entire group, should any or all wish to stay for a thin crust pizza dinner.



Cost is \$35/SWO Member Chapter and a guest. Non-Members are \$65/person.

We will follow past practice so 'first booked, first reserved!' Plan to book yourself, spouse and friends early by contacting any of your Board members.

NOTE: FOR OUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS, THE \$25-2018 DUES CAN BE PAID AT THE BBQ!

Looking forward in seeing many of our friends at one or both events and have a wonderful summer!

Gino, Sandy, Jackie, Gerry and Manny.



GOLDEN HORSESHOE CHAPTER

Greetings from the Golden Horseshoe.

Our report for LIVEWIRE will be brief this month.

By the time you read this, we will have either hosted our spring event or about to host more than sixty pensioners and guests at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington.

Our executive, Bob Waller, John Bainbridge, Joan Chilcott and Fred Walker have been working hard to make this event a great occasion.

And, I am sure, based upon previous Golden Horseshoe events, if you didn't sign up, you missed a good day updating your gardening skills with expert coaching from Paul Zammit, Director of Horticulture for the Toronto Botanical Garden, who currently is heard Thursday afternoon on CBC Radio, and catching up with former broadcasting colleagues.

It was also a chance to win one of many door prizes---a copy of Ed Lawrence's book on gardening. The next edition of LIVEWIRE will include a full report, including photos of the day at RBG.

You will have read elsewhere in Livewire about plans for a national membership drive. Do you know a former CBC employee, who is not a member of our association? We need your help to get them to become members... NOW!

Many of our members have never been to a chapter event. If you are one of them, how do we get you to attend our next event?

Please write or telephone me any time with your thoughts or ideas, or questions.

Before you head to the cottage or on a summer trip, just a friendly reminder to note a very important date on your calendar:

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5th.

Our annual Christmas Luncheon is a great opportunity to renew friendships with former colleagues, meet new friends, win fabulous door prizes, enjoy memorable music, and the best Christmas luncheon anywhere, for a most reasonable price.

Great festivities are planned and you don't want to miss out. Details will be forthcoming in early fall. Have a great summer!

On behalf of your Golden Horseshoe Executive

David Knapp L.V.O., President

dknapp7@cogeco.ca | 905-331-5435



DURHAM CHAPTER



We had a fantastic turnout of 27 for our last event at the Mandarin. It was titled the "Almost Free Lunch".

There were no major announcements, just lots of great Mandarin buffet food. We didn't get any complaints.

We still have all positions open in the executive. It is a 3year term for President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. All members are free to step up and keep the Durham Chapter viable.

Our Editor for The Durham Buzz Bette Laderoute is getting back into shape from a fall and health challenges. Bette hopes to be back out to our next event.

Randy Blyth attended the triennial convention and we will have a report in the next Buzz.

The Summer BBQ will be at Ocala again this year. We have been in contact with the new owner and we are booked for Wednesday August 22, 2018. The start time is 12 noon. There will be door prizes and good times.

Cheers

John Bailey, Acting President

NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER

This is a note from the guys up in the North Central Ontario region – We want to inform you of our Bar-B-Que that will be happening this August 16th 2018 starting at 11.00 A.M. PLEASE NOTE -- it is an invitation to anyone who reads this to attend, retiree or not.

Our chapter has been having this event on an annual basis and is held at the estate of a great and generous colleague Bob Burt. It's right on the shore of Lake Couchiching just above Orillia off Highway 11.

There will be sausages, hot dogs, beef burgers and fresh picked corn on the cob; coffee, tea, and various cold drinks.

There will be also a couple or three guys who play guitars for your entertainment. The cost for this event is only \$10.00 per person.

We will have a large tent installed so this will happen rain or shine. Also you must bring your own lawn chairs unless you prefer sitting on the lawn.



Again my name is David Hauraney; phone 705-326-0693, and email is shdh@rogers.com and my home address is 2A Sunset Crescent in Orillia.

Please mark the date on your calendar, let me know you are coming a we look forward to welcoming you to our event.

David Hauraney

TORONTO NOTES

I attended my first PNA convention as the Toronto delegate. Among the workshops were ones, on better communications, a membership drive and gender equity for the board. All very important issues.

The Chowder club continues to meet monthly in the north of Toronto and thanked the Ontario Region for its support for one of its recent luncheons.

The May 23rd Pub Afternoon was a great success. Among those who attended were the President of the Ontario Region Gerry Head and the President of the South Western Ontario Chapter Gino Piazza. For most of us, it was the first really good day of patio weather.

Raj Narain

'I THANK HIM FOR MY OWN LIFE'

SWISS DIPLOMAT USED LEGAL RUSE TO SAVE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF HUNGARIAN JEWS

On May 29th Laura Lynch posted a great article on the CBC website about the Swiss diplomat Carl Lutz, known by some as the Swiss Schindler, who was credited with saving between 40,000 and 60,000 Jews. Lutz was based in Budapest and led a risky operation to save Jews between March 1944 and February 1945.

One of those saved was Andrew Simon, pictured here.

Andrew had a long career at the CBC in both radio and television and has been, since his retirement, a very active member of the Pensioners Association. He would like to see more recognition for the man he believes saved his life.

To read the full article follow the link –

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/holocaust-jews-survivors-1.4622003>



OBITUARIES:

NYBERG, Donald – died on October 25, 2016 in his 83rd year. Donald worked in CBC Radio as a Technician for over 25 years.

BAKKER, Frank – died on July 9, 2017 in his 80th year. Frank started at CBC Toronto in 1960 as a Boom Operator in Studios 1, 2 and 6 and was also a television technician in Master Control for many years.

LOCKERBIE, Doreen – died on January 2, 2018 in her 100th year. Doreen worked in Contract Services in Toronto.

WHITEHEAD, William (Bill) – died on February 1, 2018 at the age of 86. Bill was known for his work at the CBC, where he wrote many seasons of The Nature of Things and collaborated on many radio and TV scripts with Timothy Findley, including the miniseries The National Dream: Building the Impossible Railway.

SHANNON, David – died on February 2, 2018 at the age of 55. David worked at CBC Radio News where he was the producer of The World This Weekend.

KNOWLES, Jack – died on February 4, 2018 at the age of 90. Jack was a boom operator and audio technician working on various shows including The Friendly Giant, Mr. Dress-Up and Country Hoedown.

WILKINSON, Howard E. – died on February 7, 2018 at the age of 80. Howard was the manager of Engineering Services for the CBC.

COTÉ, Nina – died on February 12, 2018 at the age of 80. Nina was the wife of Marc Côté – first president of the Trent Chapter of the Ontario Region of the CBC Pensioners National Association.

LAING, Kenneth (Ken) – died on February 15, 2018. Ken worked in a number of CBC radio stations in Eastern Canada before settling in Windsor where he was an announcer and later took on a current affairs role and became a program host.

CRAWFORD, Douglas – died on February 17, 2018 in his 82nd year. Doug was the Technical Instructor for TV in the late 60's and 70's and went on to become Senior Maintenance Technician.

BLACK, Arthur – died on February 21, 2018 at the age of 74. Arthur first worked for CBC radio as a farm market reporter in Thunder Bay in 1972 and later was known across Canada through his radio program Basic Black which ran from 1983 to 2002.

FRASER, John – died on February 24, 2018 at the age of 92. John was a member of CBC Jazz Unlimited Band on CBC Radio from Toronto in the 1950s and was a regular performer with Holiday Ranch from 1953 to 1958.

BOUCHARD, Arthur (Art) – died on March 6, 2018 at the age of 82. Art started as a stagehand in Toronto and eventually became an Assistant Director, working as a studio floor director for National Television News in Toronto.

VARCOE, Peter – died on March 26, 2018 at the age of 69. Peter worked at the CBC as a lighting technician.

RUMMEDA, Regina - died on March 30, 2018 at the age of 83. Regina was the wife of Rolf Rummeda who is Secretary/Treasurer of the North Central Chapter of the Ontario Region PNA.

WRAITH, GERALYN - died on March 30, 2018 at the age of 63. GERALYN was a make-up artist who helped craft the look of major characters on shows including Kids in the Hall and Kim's Convenience.

KOCH, Eric - died on April 28, 2018 at the age of 98. Eric joined the German section of CBC's International Service and eventually became a producer for CBC radio and television.

HORGAN, Kathryn (Atkinson) – died on May 4 2018 at the age of 64. Kathryn was a Script/Production Assistant for many years in Network TV Sports and maintained a Facebook page to keep CBC retirees updated.

CROSBIE, Douglas (Doug) – died on May 16, 2018 at the age of 54. From 1990 to 2000 Doug worked for CBC in Toronto, Montreal and Moncton as a Radio News reporter, Radio Current Affairs Producer, live music producer, Television Current Affairs and Documentary Producer and Writer and a Studio Producer.

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. 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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