

The Transmitter

Volume 18 | Issue 1
March 01, 2019



Tanzania... Not your usual holiday

President's Report, 1-2

Road Apples, 2-3

Renovation Tale, 3-4

Here Comes the Sun, 5-6

Chapters Roundup, 6-9

In Memoriam, 10-11

Survey, 12



Photo: Courtesy Aldo Columpsi, CBC PNA, Regina, SK

Aldo Columpsi likes to travel the world with his wife Donna. In August 2018, they took a safari in Serengeti National Park in northern Tanzania.

President's Report

Bob Forrow, CBC PNA Regional President, Edmonton, AB

Many of us visited with former colleagues at PNA and EAP/CBC events at around Christmas and at the start of the New Year. I was happy to help PNA members to support the CBC Turkey Drive in aid of the Edmonton Food Bank. Through raffles and draws before PNA social events in Edmonton we raised \$120.00 for the Turkey Drive. I also enjoyed seeing PNA members at the Valentine Dinner at the Faculty Club of the University of Alberta on February 19. I am looking forward to visiting members in Calgary, Saskatoon and Regina in the next few months and am reaching out to CBC PNA members in the Northwest Territories.

(Continued Next Page)



Photo: Bob Forrow, President of the Alberta, Saskatchewan and Northwest Territories Region (Edmonton, AB)

I became President of the Alberta, Saskatchewan and Northwest Territories Region of the CBC Pensioners National Association (PNA) last September. In October I attended a meeting of the directors of the national PNA in Ottawa. One topic of interest was the pension surplus sharing agreement with the CBC's English and French Unions and the CBC. The agreement sets out the rules for pension surplus sharing and is up for review this year as of last month.

The agreement was designed to ensure both the stability of the plan and a fair distribution of funds when the plan is in surplus. This review comes at a time when the CBC Pension Plan is performing particularly well. The CBC PNA has established a committee through the PNA National Board of Directors. The committee will be responsible for representing retirees at this review and I will keep you informed as discussions progress.

If you would like to get in touch with me to discuss anything about the PNA, please call 780-437-5074 or 780-983-2838, or send an email to sforrow@telusplanet.net

Road Apples

Paul Grant & Laurie Dickson



Photo: Laurie Dickson & Paul Grant

Laurie Dickson worked at CBC Radio and Television in Moose Jaw, Regina and Vancouver. Paul Grant worked with CBC in Charlottetown, Regina and Vancouver. They met in Regina, then headed to Vancouver. One son, three dogs and 35 years later, they now have the time and curiosity to spend a year exploring Saskatchewan. Their blog is called Road Apples at <https://saskwatchers2019.blogspot.com/>

We arrived in late September, just as the harvest was ending. Thousands of tundra swans and snow geese feasted on spilled grain as they rested up on their journey. A family of deer grazed in Crescent Park, a few blocks from our home base in Moose Jaw. We were enchanted.



Deer in Moose Jaw

(Continued Next Page)



Photo: Pizza in Ogema

Marg Meikle called it *bumbering*, from the German *bum-meln* - to stroll or take it easy. We have no deadlines, no editors, no preconceived ideas of what a story might be or even if there is one. We take the side roads we always meant to take, talk with people we meet and often find something we weren't even looking for.



Photo: Colours of the prairie fields and sky



Photo: Taking the road less travelled

When we told a friend we were going to spend a year exploring Saskatchewan, she said: "But there's nothing there!"

Au contraire. We're finding that there's quite a lot. You can follow our travels here:

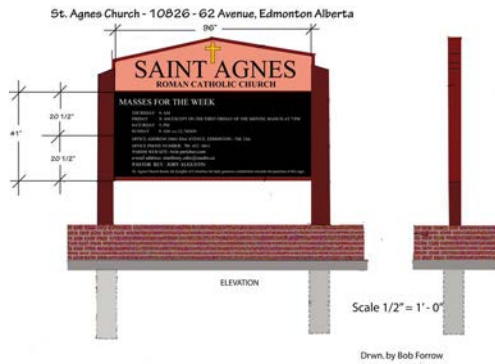
<https://saskwatchers2019.blogspot.com/>

Inside and Outside – A Tale of Renovation

Bob Forrow, CBC PNA, Edmonton, AB

I volunteer my time on the Building Committee of my church in Edmonton. Usually I help with simple tasks such as clearing snow, changing light bulbs and general maintenance. Then I was asked to design a new sign for the outside of the church because it needed repairs, changeable lettering and protection from the weather. After the new design was approved, it was sent to a sign fabricating company. We thought we could then install the sign but we found out we had more work to do. The company told me that the homeowners in the neighbourhood needed to be advised about the change in the sign in front of the church. By the time we followed the City of Edmonton's notification process and installed the new sign, a year-and-a-half passed by.

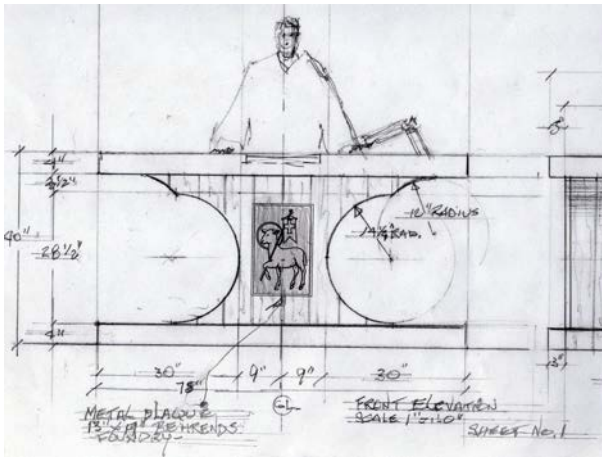
(Continued Next Page)



Drawing by Bob Forrow of signage elevation.

We also had a problem inside the church. There was no centre aisle and when you entered at the front you saw a wall and behind the wall was an altar. It was a difficult space to hold weddings and especially hard to hold funeral processions. We hired an architect who was also a parishioner. He was tasked with turning around the orientation of the Church. The architect conferred with a Liturgical Consultant to ensure that all liturgical aspects would be respected. He also consulted the Building Committee regularly to keep the design moving forward.

I was asked to design a new altar. I gave three proposals and one was chosen.



Drawing by Bob Forrow of the altar elevation



Photo by Bob Forrow of the finished altar

The church was gutted, asbestos removed, and windows were opened up that had been hidden for years. We added a new chapel as well as tinted windows, and bought pews that were curved to match the new curved nave. Many of the internal workings of the building were replaced including the heating system and boiler, ductwork, electrical fixtures (now LED) and the sound system. We have a new soundboard to accommodate audiovisual presentations as well as new carpet and a family room for children and adults.

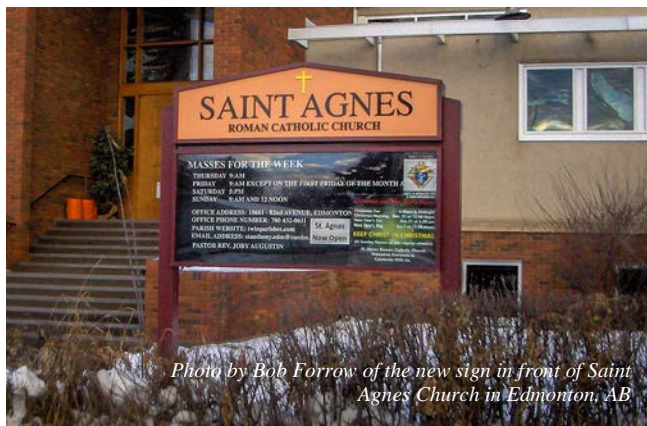


Photo by Bob Forrow of the new sign in front of Saint Agnes Church in Edmonton, AB

The design work started in 2015 and construction in 2018 was completed in seven months. Why so short a time compared to building and installing a new exterior sign? The work was on the interior and did not need the approval of the neighbourhood. The Church reopened in early December and we were very happy to start enjoying the results of so much work by many parishioners and other people.

Here Comes the Sun

Sean Prpick, CBC PNA, Regina, SK

Photos courtesy of Sean Prpick



Photo: Installation of solar panels on the roof of David Kyle's home

David Kyle's CBC career as a journalist and then as a media executive may be behind him. But his eyes are firmly fixed on the future of energy production, beginning with the power plant anchored to the top of his home.

This CBC PNA member has a state-of-the-art solar array laid out on the roof of his south Regina home. It is controlled by a sophisticated computer in his basement, and he monitors it in real time through his smart phone. Kyle's system has been running for just under a year now and it has worked flawlessly.

"We did the installation in April and, so far, it's generated about six-and-a-half megawatts of power," Kyle told me just after Christmas (2018). The afternoon I visited, the days were still short and the sun was still low in the lightly overcast sky. That meant the panels on Kyle's roof were not operating at peak generating efficiency. But the more than generous sunshine in his hometown over the spring, summer and fall – with only 46 cloudy days a year, on average, Regina is one of sunniest places on Earth – meant that overall most of the power needs for Kyle, his spouse and two young children have been met since installation.



Photo: David Kyle with the computer in his basement that controls the solar panels on his roof

Along with significant decreases in the family's energy bills came an increased sense of wellbeing and accomplishment for the entire clan. "We're a young family that wants to do something about the sustainability of our planet," Kyle told me. "It's good for the Earth, and it also makes good economic sense. Our solar panels will likely pay for themselves over the course of 10 years, especially as energy prices look set to steadily increase."

As the overall trend for commercial energy prices is ever upward, the cost of clean, green solar continues to drop. Kyle encourages other CBC retirees to join him on this new technological frontier, noting that these days the average cost of a solar installation runs \$10,000 to \$12,000 – about the cost of a good used car.

(Continued Next Page)



Photo: David Kyle in his backyard with his SaskPower net meter. It monitors both energy consumption and production.

“I think CBC people by their very nature are early adopters,” said Kyle. “They’re really interested in technology and a bit of gadgetry. And it’s fun using solar, which draws attention to how much energy you’re using, and that tends to cause your power consumption to come down.”

As we looked together at the dark glass panels on his roof silently soaking up the sun and then up at the sky, he said, “You know, the future of this technology is unlimited.”

Chapters Roundup

Calgary: Our annual general meeting will be held on April 3 at our usual spot, the Kerby Centre (1133-7th Avenue SW) in Calgary. Members of the Southern Alberta Chapter met there for lunch on February 6, and for their annual Christmas Turkey Lunch on November 28. Many thanks go out to Norma Hunchak for bringing all the table decorations for the special gathering and to Donna Lepard and others for helping set up the room. The meal was fine, the conversation interesting and a good time was had by all.



Left to right in the back row: Derek Kemp, Jeff Collins, George White, Jerry Clairmont, Darrel Suddaby, Donna Giroux, Bob Shiel, Jill Down, Russ Down

Left to right in the front row: Ken McCreath, Cheryl Herperger, Joyce McCreath, Bonnie White, Donna Lepard, Joanne McAdam, Norma Hunchak, Eleanor Suddaby, Orvil Miskew (sitting)

The door prizes were enjoyed by those who received them. The folks were pleased to hear that the Pension Fund is now over 7 billion dollars and that there may be a surplus to be shared at some time in the future.

A few of us had to drive past the old CBC building to get to lunch and couldn’t miss the steel fences surrounding the place, along with the heavy equipment in the parking lot as the old building is destroyed so that someone can put up a bunch of condos. A couple of people managed to convince a construction worker to get them a brick or two from the old building. For more information on the AGM and the Southern Alberta Chapter call Ken McCreath at 403-949-2392 or kenmccreath@rogers.com

(Continued Next Page)

Edmonton: PNA members in Edmonton continue to meet for breakfast on the second Tuesday of each month at International House of Pancakes (IHOP 3921 Calgary Trail NW) in Edmonton. The upcoming breakfasts will be on March 12, April 9, May 14 and June 11.



Photo: Courtesy of Bob Forrow, CBC PNA Edmonton, AB
 Left to right: Sylvia Kuziw, Bill Kuziw, Don Heichert, Bob Woodcock, Julia Sargeant, Jim Gerlock, Bruce Cowan, Dave Smiley, Doreen Williams, Ralph Williams

We also enjoyed a Christmas Luncheon in December at the Faculty Club at the University of Alberta. We returned there for our Valentine Dinner on February 19. For more information on PNA events in Edmonton contact Bob Forrow at 780-437-5074 or 780-983-2838 or srforrow@telusplanet.net.



Photo: Courtesy of Sylvia Forrow.

Left to right: Ralph Williams, Doreen Williams and Iris (Chris) Mcrae guessing the number of candies in the glass urn to try to win the prize.



Saskatoon: On December 3, 2018 some of the Saskatoon members of the Saskatchewan Chapter of the CBC PNA met for a Christmas lunch at Milestones restaurant. I hope that more members will be available for our next get-together on May 27th. Call me for more information about the time and place. Saskatoon Vice-President Ellen Armstrong at 306-880-4732 or cbcdellen@hotmail.com

Photo: Courtesy Ellen Armstrong, CBC PNA, Saskatoon

Left to right: Vi Atwell, Gary Crippen, Ellen Armstrong, Nick Denesyk and Ron Gareau

Regina: We continue to hold our monthly Come & Go coffees and they are well attended. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at Theo Bill's Restaurant in Regina but we take a break in June, July, and August. We partnered with the local CBC 20 Year Association to organize two events in Regina, the annual Christmas party in December and the upcoming Spring Fling. The Saskatchewan Chapter subsidized PNA members' meals at the Christmas Party. The PNA Region will subsidize the Spring Fling and we are grateful for its contribution. Our Chapter also subsidized two luncheons in Saskatoon organized by our Saskatoon VP Ellen Armstrong. **The spring fling in Regina will be held on May 4th. Details to follow later.**

(Continued Next Page)

*Nous continuons à tenir nos café-rencontres mensuels qui demeurent populaire auprès de nos membres. Nous nous rencontrons le premier mercredi du mois au restaurant Theo's Bill à Regina. Nous faisons une pause en juin, juillet et en août. Nous nous sommes liés avec l'association locale « **CBC 20 Year** » pour organiser deux évènements à Regina: le « party » de Noël annuel en décembre et le « Spring Fling » printanier. La section régionale de l'Association des retraité/es de CBC/SRC offre un subside pour le repas de Noël aux membres présents. La section régionale de l'Association des retraité/es va aider à défrayer les coûts du « Spring Fling » et nous sommes reconnaissant de cette contribution. Notre section locale a aussi offert des subsides pour deux lunchs organisés par notre VP de Saskatoon. Le « **Spring Fling** » à Regina aura lieu le 4 mai. Les détails sont à suivre.*



Photo: Courtesy of Dan Moynihan, CBC PNA, Regina, SK



Photo: Courtesy of Dan Moynihan, CBC PNA, Regina, SK

Left to right: Joanne Skidmore, Secretary for the ABSKNT Region of CBC PNA; Ellen Armstrong, Saskatoon Vice-President of the Sask. Chapter; Marcel Bolen, Secretary-Treasurer of the Sask. Chapter; Hartland Jessome, President of the Sask. Chapter

Back row left to right: Jeff Nenson, Gerry Jones, Marcel Bolen, John Menzies

Middle row left to right: Joanne Skidmore, Connie Martin-Doeg, Debbie Carpentier, Gary Seib, Richard Slowski, Hartland Jessome, Lionel Bonneville

Front row: Susan Graham, Bonnie Austring-Winter, Monique Nenson, Ellen Armstrong, Neil Cochrane, Charlie Schell

In November 2018, nineteen members and some of their partners took the time to come out to Classic Buffet for our annual general meeting and luncheon. The lunch was subsidized by \$10.00 for each member present.

En novembre 2018, 19 membres et quelques conjoints/es ont participé à notre assemblée générale annuelle (AGA). La section régionale de l'Association a donné 10\$ à chaque membre présent pour le lunch.



Photo: Courtesy of Dan Moynihan, CBC PNA, Regina, SK

Left to right: Hartland Jessome, President of the Sask. Chapter; Ellen Armstrong, Saskatoon Vice-President of the Sask. Chapter; Joanne Skidmore, Secretary for the ABSKNT Region of CBC PNA; Marcel Bolen, Secretary-Treasurer of the Sask. Chapter

This was an election year and your new Chapter executive is your old Chapter executive. Since there were no nominations, we all decided to remain in our positions for another three-year term. Marcel Bolen is the Secretary-Treasurer, Lutz Walsh is the V-P of the Regina section, Ellen Armstrong is the V-P for the Saskatoon

section, and I, Hartland Jessome, continue as President.

(Continued Next Page)

2018 était une année électorale et le nouvel exécutif local est demeuré inchangé puisqu'il n'y a eu aucune mise en nomination, nous avons décidé de demeurer à nos poste pour les 3 prochaines années. Marcel Bolen est notre secrétaire-trésorier, Lutz Walsh est le VP pour Regina, Ellen Armstrong demeure VP pour la sous-section de Saskatoon et moi, Hartland Jessome, maintient la présidence.

During the meeting a question arose about the participation percentage of CBC Saskatchewan retirees in our PNA chapter. I stated we had about 52 percent of local CBC retirees as members of the Saskatchewan Chapter but discovered later I was wrong. When I returned home, I recalculated the percentage and our Chapter actually has as members 72 percent of the CBC retirees in this province. During 2018, we added three members to our Chapter.

Au cours de la rencontre, une question a été soulevé au sujet du taux de participation des retraité/es de la CBC/SRC de la Saskatchewan à la section régionale de l'Association. J'ai mentionné que le taux était d'environ 52% mais par la suite je me suis aperçu que j'avais fait erreur. Une fois à la maison, j'ai fait un recalcule pour m'apercevoir que 72% des membres sont des retraité/es de CBC/SRC Saskatchewan. Au cours de la dernière année, 2018, nous avons acquis 3 nouveaux membres.

Also at our AGM, the members present collected \$90.00 for Street Culture Project for kids in Regina. The money was collected in memory of Nathan Thomas White, the late son of our former CBC colleague, Sheila Coles.

*Également lors de notre AGA, les membres présents ont amassés 90\$ qui ont été donnés au groupe pour jeunes de Regina « **Street Culture Project**. » L'argent a été collecté à la mémoire de feu Nathan Thomas White, le fils de Sheila Coles, notre ancienne collègue de CBC.*

In March 2018 we held our second bowling night. This event seems popular since more people participated. The local chapter paid for the lanes and shoe rental. Another bowling night will be held this year sometime in March or early April.

En mars dernier, nous avons tenu notre seconde soirée de quilles. La section régionale a défrayé les coûts de location des pistes de jeu et des souliers. Une autre soirée de quilles aura lieu en mars ou en avril.



Photo: Courtesy Debbie Breeze
CBC 20-Year Association Christmas Party

September 2019 will mark the 50th anniversary of CBC Television in Saskatchewan. CBKT started out in Moose Jaw and there is talk of an event there to mark the occasion. Keep an eye on your email for further developments.

Il y aura 50 ans, en septembre 2019, que la télévision de CBC est en Saskatchewan. CBKT était diffusé à partir de Moose Jaw et il y a des rumeurs qui veulent que l'évènement soit marqué de façon spéciale. Garder un œil sur vos courriels pour des développements futurs.

In Memoriam: We Remember

This is the information we've received about CBC colleagues and PNA members who have died since the publication of the last newsletter.

Mary Adams (October 30, 2018) Widow of Dave Adams, CBC Edmonton News Director, Member CBC Host Broadcaster Team, 1994 Victoria Commonwealth Games

Nicki Balch (July 11, 2018) CBC Toronto Makeup Artist

Caroline Brown (June 2018) CBC Regina Researcher; Journalist and Author

Pierre Chevier (December 2018) Radio-Canada Winnipeg

Len Chapple (January 2, 2019) CBC Vancouver Radio and Television Producer and Executive Producer

Milan (Milo) Chvostek (November 8, 2018) CBC Toronto Producer, *Nature of Things* in the 1970s

Neil Crory (January 13, 2019) CBC Toronto Senior Radio Music Producer

Alice Dumaine (January 17, 2019) Widow of Paul Dumaine, former Regional Director of French Services for Alberta

Ron Evenden (January 23, 2019) CBC Toronto Lighting Director (e.g. *CBC News*, *The Friendly Giant*, *Mr. Dressup*, *Fraggle Rock*)

Helen Frayne (née Sawatzky) (December 3, 2018) CBO Ottawa *Radio Morning* and *Radio Noon*, national documentaries for CBC

Jeffrey Edward Fry (November 6, 2018) CBC Toronto Newsroom (1960s), CTV News and Current Affairs Producer

Myrtle Fowler Gallup (November 2018) CBC Montreal *Radio Noon* Contributor

Vern Glass (January 9, 2019) CBC Winnipeg Co-ordinating Producer

Elizabeth (Beth) Hale (October 4, 2018) CBC Toronto Administrative Supervisor of Design Administration

Barbara Horton (née Davies) (November 26, 2018) CBC Toronto Secretary

Tom Houston (January 22, 2019) CBC Montreal EHQ Technician, CBC Vancouver Senior Maintenance Technician

Margaret (Marg) Jessup (December 25, 2018) Widow of former CBC British Columbia Public Relations Manager Reg Jessup

Alex Jupp (November 23, 2018) CBC Regina Television Writer, Producer and Host

Roy Luckow (October 13, 2018) CBC Vancouver Cameraman, Director of Photography

Bill Lytwyn (January 28, 2019) CBC ENG Cameraman

(Continued Next Page)

Michael Maclear (December 25, 2018) CBC and CTV Foreign Correspondent, Documentary Writer-Producer

Mary McFarland (February 2, 2019) wife of Ian McFarland, CBC Broadcaster and Host-Writer of Radio-Canada International's English Language Service

Peter Meggs (December 2, 2028) CBC Toronto Program Host and Writer, CBC Ottawa National Director of English Radio, Vice-President of Audience Relations

Suzanne Mess (January 22, 2019) CBC Toronto Costume Designer

Laurie Mills (February 2, 2019) CBC Calgary Announcer, Producer, Host

Louis de Niverville (February 11, 2019) CBC Toronto Graphic Designer

Cindy Packer (December 18, 2018) Wife of Former CBC Vancouver Radio 3 Manager Mike Packer

Penny Park (December 14, 2018) CBC New Brunswick and CBC Northern Ontario Reporter, CBC Toronto Network Radio Producer and Senior Producer *Quirks & Quarks*, and *Daily Planet* at Discovery Channel

Robert Patry (December 23, 2018) CBC Toronto Radio Segment Producer and Associate Producer

Bob Picken (January 30, 2019) CBC Winnipeg Sportscaster

Alan "Raffles" Raphael (October 22, 2018) Field Hockey Commentator for CBC During 1976 Montreal Olympics

Drew Schemenauer (September 25, 2018) CBC British Columbia Senior Remote Area Transmitter Technologist, Prince George

Joe Schlesinger (February 11, 2019) CBC Television Foreign Correspondent

Bob Service (December 14, 2018) CBC Vancouver TV Production Manager, Director of Television; CBC Toronto Plant Manager and Manager, TV Network Operations

Michael Sinclair (December 2018) Winnipeg Radio-Canada and RCI

Merv Terhoch (January 19, 2019) CBC Winnipeg Regional Director, Director of Television, Executive Producer *24 Hours*, and Head of CBC Television Network Variety

Dan Tohill (October 27, 2018) CBC Vancouver Key Grip *Beachcombers*, Studio Production Assistant, Assistant Director

Jeannette Touchette Walsh (December 15, 2018) CBC Ottawa Film Department

Ernie Tucker (January 2019) CBC Montreal, the first black journalist hired by CBC

Peter Watts (January 18, 2019) CBC Edmonton Sportscaster, TSN Commentator

Don S. Williams (October 28, 2018) CBC Winnipeg and Vancouver, Director (*The Beachcombers*), Producer, Actor (*The X-Files*), Choreographer (Royal Winnipeg Ballet), Freelance Writer and Director

Henry "Harry" Williams (February 7, 2019) CBC Toronto VTR Technician



*Photo: Courtesy of Aldo Columpsi, CBC PNA, Regina, SK
Serengeti National Park in northern Tanzania*

We are keen to know what matters to you about the newsletter for your region of the CBC Pensioners National Association.

1. What is the reason you read *The Transmitter*?
2. Which type of content interests you?
 - a) reports about the business of the association
 - b) articles about what members are doing in their post-CBC years
 - c) Chapters Roundup: activities of the members
 - d) In Memoriam: list of deaths of CBC colleagues
 - e) Other: do tell us
3. Do you receive a paper copy of the newsletter? If yes:
 - a) what is the reason you chose a paper copy instead of reading it online?
 - b) If we stopped printing the paper copy and you could read the newsletter only online, how would that affect you?
4. What changes in content or design could improve *The Transmitter*?

Please reply by Monday, April 1, 2019.

Call 1-306-581-4415

Email

Monique Nenson: mnenson@gmail.com

Joanne Skidmore: joanne.skidmore09@gmail.com

The Transmitter is your newsletter. Thanks for taking an interest in it.