

# Livewire



The CBC Pensioners  
National Association  
Ontario Region

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

March, 2020

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## President's Report

Spring is coming. Yes, it really is. Our Chapters are busy planning their spring/summer events.

This edition of Livewire contains highlights of the Christmas season events. I hope that you were able to attend one or two of these gatherings and had a great time renewing friendships with colleagues.

The Ontario Board has set its budget for this fiscal year and the emphasis is on serving the membership. We are always grateful for your input and comments, because we are here to serve you.

At our January Board meeting we thanked four of our members for their contributions to the Board's work. Tom Bilenkey sets up and operates the sound system at our Annual General Meeting. We thank Tom for doing this. It ensures that everyone can hear what is being said and allows Tom to record the meeting to aid our Secretary in getting the minutes correct. David Knapp, John Dixon and Irene Robinson have retired from the Board. They were recognized for their invaluable contributions over the years.

The next edition of Contact will update you on the Memorandum of Agreement review that began last fall. Please do not readily accept any rumours or stories that you may hear about this review. Only accept credible facts that are forwarded by the ad-hoc committee and our CBC Pensioners National Board President Denis Collette. If you have concerns, please contact our National Office or myself.

*continued on page 2*





## **WANTED**

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### **One Livewire Editor**

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For more details and questions answered contact

**Leone Earls,**  
416-463-0314 or  
learls@rogers.com



The CBC Pensioners National Board will be meeting in Toronto on May 20 and 21. On May 21 you are cordially invited to attend the Ontario Region Board meeting followed by the National Board Meeting followed by a presentation by the CEO of the CBC Pension Board followed by a wine and cheese reception. These events are scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m. and will be held at the Intercontinental Hotel on Front Street (across the street from the CBC). The meetings are short and the Pension presentation is well worth attending. There will be a chance to ask questions after the presentation. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this event.

The Ontario Region Board is looking for someone to edit our Newsletter “Livewire”. It is not an onerous job. It is a rewarding job knowing that you are helping to keep our membership informed. The job is assembling the material sent to you by our various Chapters and others, putting it together and sending it to our printer. If someone wants to be totally creative and put it together using a computer program we would love to hear from you. You do not have to print, stuff envelopes, stamp and mail the newsletter. Leone would love to explain the job to you.

As always, I appreciate your comments and suggestions.

*Gerry Head, President*

## **AGM**

**A date to remember** ... Pensioners National Association (PNA) Annual General Meeting On May 21st, the Annual General Meeting of our Association will be held in Toronto at the InterContinental Hotel, 225 Front Street West, just across the street from The Broadcast Centre.

As Gerry notes in his report, all members are invited to attend. Starting at 1:30 P.M., there will be a short Ontario Region AGM, followed by the National Board meeting and a report from Duncan Burrill, Managing Director and CEO of the CBC Pension Board. This is your opportunity to hear first hand about the activities of the National Board and the performance of our Pension Plan. It is also a great chance to meet Denis Collette, David Jeffrey, the rest of the Board and Duncan Burrill, ask questions and provide your own thoughts and ideas. A wine and cheese reception will follow and not to be missed!

## **ONTARIO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Your 2020 Ontario Region Board – While attending our January board meeting, we were able pose for a group shot. It’s difficult to get everyone together and despite our best efforts we are missing Barb Saxburg, President of the Durham Region and David Hauraney, President of the North Central Region. In place of Barb is the Chapter’s Secretary, Glenn Gray.



***Back left to right***  
*Barrie Burhoe, Glenn Gray,  
Bob Waller, Mary Depoe, Nancy Flynn,  
Gail Carducci*

***Front left to right***  
*Steve Athey, Gino Piazza,  
Gerry Head, Raj Narain, Leone Earls*



## TORONTO HAPPENINGS

Over 40 people attended a pre-holiday pub get-together at Factory Girl Restaurant on November 27th. There were lots of good nibblies, conversation and a 50/50 draw. Half of the money was donated to Sounds of the Season, CBC's annual fund raiser to support local food banks. The lucky winner was Patrick Russell shown here with his winnings!



**Coming up...** On Wednesday, March 18th there will be a "looking forward to spring" pub afternoon at Factory Girl, 193 Danforth Avenue, from 1 p.m. onward. Nibblies will be provided; you pay for the beverage of your choice. If you are planning on coming you will need to RSVP to [cbctorontoretirees@gmx.com](mailto:cbctorontoretirees@gmx.com)

In early May, the Toronto directors are planning a tour of the MZTV Museum of Television at 64 Jefferson Avenue. The Museum's mandate is to exhibit the world's most comprehensive collection of North American television receivers for the formative 50-year period from the 1920s to the 1970s. The MZTV Museum also aims to tell the story of the medium and to contribute to the understanding of the impact of television on the people who watch it.



Jefferson is West of Strachan and south of King and more information will be sent out by the Toronto CBC Retirees Newsletter with details of the event. Want to get the newsletter? Send an email to [cbctorontoretirees@gmx.com](mailto:cbctorontoretirees@gmx.com) to add your name to the mailing list.

## TORONTO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Your new Toronto Directors:** Wonder what they look like? Here you go. You can learn more about them by referring back to the previous edition of Livewire.



Mary Depoe

Steve Athey

Gail Carducci





# ONTARIO REGION CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



Lother Bahr & Mimi Paige

Leone Earls

Gail Carducci



George McAfee

Gail Carducci

Mike Bennett



Raj Narain

Andrew Simon

Tom Farquarson

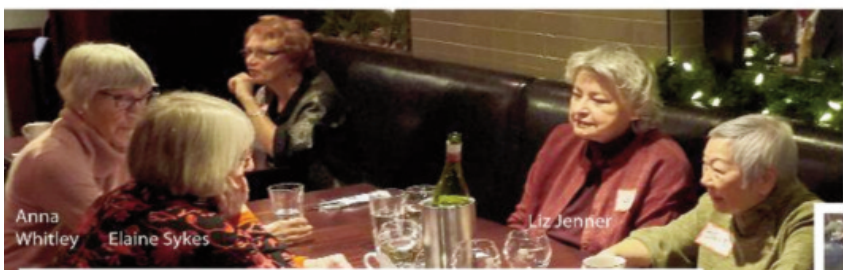


Kay Nagao

John Dixon



Dave Brown



Anna Whitley

Elaine Sykes

Liz Jenner

Jade Mah



Peter Sinclair

Cindy Simpson

Howard Simpson



Bruce Lumsden

Don Burgess

Gord Glynn

Susan Glynn

Ed Vincent

Kerr Lumsden



## WINDSOR REUNION

This year's party was exceptional and special! We celebrated our end of the year event with not only a Christmas Party, but also a reunion (spearheaded by Phil Peck) with the 25th anniversary of the Windsor Experiment group that included the return of the Windsor News. The Reunion/Chapter group had many events over Friday and Saturday from tours of the old Security building (under renovations), walkthroughs at the CBC station, and get-togethers at MacKenzie Hall and the Rock Bottom Pub. Completing the weekend with the SWO Christmas Party Saturday Night at the Giovanni Caboto Club.



This was not only our Christmas event it was also our yearly AGM where the Board for the next three years were introduced: Gino Piazza (President) Sandy Tymczak (Vice-President), Jackie Kervoelen-Cheslea (Sec-Treasurer), Gerry Goulet and Manny Pacheco (Directors). We also went through our Financial statement for the 2019 fiscal year. Santa was great once again with a total of 39 door raffles, a 50/50 draw and a special prize donated by LaSalle Travel. Our Chapter also took the opportunity to speak to many about becoming either a Member of CBC-PNA or joining our Chapter as Associates.



Our Ontario Regional President Gerald Head attended and gave an update on National and Regional issues. A total of 123 attended our party including some special guests who flew in for the event from across the country such as Carole MacNeil, Tara Weber and David Kyle. They came in from Calgary, Regina, Toronto, Ottawa, Halifax and others from Boston and Savannah, Georgia.



A special guest who flew in from Ottawa was Tony Manera. Tony was President of the CBC when big changes were made at CBC Windsor in 1994 - CBE and CBEF moved into the CBET building and local CBC TV news returned to Windsor. Tony attended the Reunion to mark the 25th anniversary of the Windsor Experiment. He talked about how it was one the best things he did while he was President. Many attendees expressed their gratitude to Tony for making it happen. While proud of his role, Tony humbly shared credit for its success with the unions, the managers and the employees of CBC Windsor.



It was an incredible mix of retirees, current CBC Windsor employees and other former CBC Windsor Radio and TV staffers. So many acquaintances renewed, photos taken and memories shared. And the Reunion created a new set of memories too. Many are already planning on attending this year's Christmas party!

***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)





# GOLDEN HORSESHOE CHRISTMAS



## A Merry Christmas in the Golden Horseshoe

One hundred and ten pensioners and guests celebrated at the Golden Horseshoe Chapter's Christmas Luncheon and Annual General Meeting held on Dec. 4, 2019 at the Burlington Legion. They also shared more than 40 door prizes and elected a new Executive: Bob Waller, President; Marie Clarke-Davies, Vice-President; John Bainbridge, Secretary-Treasurer; Joan Chilcott and Cindy Beatty, Directors. Joan died of cancer 10 days later and Don Reynolds agreed to serve out her term. David Knapp becomes Immediate Past President.



1. Elizabeth Chilcott presents a signed Connor McDavid jersey to Elaine Lake 2. Edith Hawboldt won the 50/50 Raffle 3. Gerry Head, Ontario Region President 4. Sue Heddle donated 2 Keg dining certificates 5. Jay Mowat presents a bottle of his maple syrup to Marie Andre Bowes 6. Our Legion hosts 7. Bob Waller, David and Judy Knapp 8. Annabella and Victor Ghose



Photos by Fred Walker



## TRENT CHAPTER

On November 28 we had our Christmas Luncheon at Baxter Creek Golf Club with attendance of 20 pensioners and spouses. We had guests from the Durham Chapter and saw some new faces as well as the more familiar. Everyone enjoyed themselves catching up on old times.

At the luncheon, our newly elected Ontario Region Vice-president, Raj Narain spoke about keeping in contact with those who are not able to get out to our functions. Marc Coté our birthday caller makes contact once a year. With his help, we are going try to make calls more often. If you know of anyone who isn't able to get out and would like a call, please let us know. I want to thank Marc for making those birthday calls for a number of years now.

We are planning our annual Liftlock Cruise on the Trent-Severn Waterway. This will happen sometime in July 2020. We will give lots of notice of the date.



## DURHAM CHAPTER

Our annual Holiday Luncheon was attended by 38 members and guests who sat down to a fabulous lunch of roast turkey with all the trimmings. Kedron Dells Golf Course provided a great meal and beautiful holiday ambience right down to comfy chairs by the fire!



More photos can be found on our Facebook page at **CBC PNA Durham.**





# Gardening for Life in a Changing Climate

Love gardening but worried about climate change?

**Barbara McKean has a plan for you:**

"The impacts of climate change are becoming more tangible with each passing year. Figuring out how to take action is a daunting task, but a meaningful form of climate change action that lays right by your doorstep. Find out how creating a healthy, sustainable landscape can contribute to overall community resilience and adaptation. Changing your garden will change your carbon footprint and play a role in reducing the impacts of climate change. Are you up for the challenge?"



The **Golden Horseshoe Chapter of the CBC PNA** presents Barbara McKean, Head of Education at the **Royal Botanical Gardens, on Wed., May 27.** She will talk about **Gardening for Life in a Changing Climate.** A ticket costs **\$20.** It must be paid for in **advance** by CBC PNA members. **The cut-off date is Wed., May 13.** The event is in Room 1-2 in RBG Centre, 680 Plains Rd. W., Burlington. **Free parking. Fully accessible.**

**Easy Pay** -- [payghchapter@gmail.com](mailto:payghchapter@gmail.com). **Mail** -- John Bainbridge, 77 Arcade Cres., Hamilton, Ont. L9C 3J1 (Make cheques out to Golden Horseshoe Chapter CBC PNA.) Doors open 11. Buffet lunch 1145. Door prizes 1230. Presentation 1245. Ends at 2.

## YOUR GOVERNMENT AND YOU

### The Feds –

Durham President, Barbara Saxberg has a nice summary of the new Minister for Seniors mandate letter that touches on several core issues important to seniors. You can read it by signing in to our new and improved website at [www.cbcpensioners.ca](http://www.cbcpensioners.ca), selecting News>>Newsletters and choosing Buzz Newsletter – January 2020.



### The Province –

OHIP has revised its Out-of-Country services. As of December 31, 2019 Ontario residents will no longer be covered for either the \$400-per-day out-of-country inpatient treatments or for the additional \$50-per-day for emergency outpatient and doctor services. According to Health Minister Christine Elliott the program was scrapped because it was inefficient and an irresponsible use of taxpayer's money. The Canadian Snowbird Association has launched a legal challenge stating the change is a violation of the portability requirement of the Canadian Health Act.

Whatever the outcome, it is worth your while, while travelling outside Canada, to get in touch with Johnson's Insurance/Medoc Travel Insurance, one of our Association's Affinity Programs. Go to the Association website, choose Programs and select Affinity Programs.





## ABOUT THIS EVENT

Join us on **Monday, May 4th, 2020** for a Tribute to the legend that was Margaret Lyons – fierce advocate, champion of new ideas, producer, program director, the first Vice President of CBC Radio and the woman who helped reshape and save public radio.

Margaret Lyons passed away last October, having led an extraordinary life that wound through almost 100 years of our country’s history and broke through a lot of ceilings. Her work and extraordinary leadership through the 1960s, 70s, and 80s gave CBC Radio the foundations for its success today.

We celebrate Margaret with an hourlong tribute featuring musical performances and insights from industry guests into the woman and what she gave us.

## The Radio Revolution


*A Tribute to Margaret Lyons is hosted by CBC Radio Sunday Edition’s Michael Enright.*

**Doors – 5:00 pm**

**Tribute Show – 6:00 pm**

**Reception - 730**

Tickets are required for entrance, please print your tickets or download them on your phone to scan at the door.  
Seating is first come, first served.



**The Radio Revolution**  
 A Tribute to Margaret Lyons

Join us on **Monday, May 4th, 2020** for an evening of music, stories and memories to celebrate Margaret Lyons and her contribution to CBC Radio and Canadian culture.

**Location:** Glenn Gould Studio (Studio Entrance)  
 250 Front St. W., Toronto, ON M5V 3G5

**Doors:** 5pm | **Show:** 6pm | **Reception:** 7:30pm

Tickets are required for entrance, to register please visit:  
<http://tiny.cc/mlyontribute>

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Tickets are required for entrance, to register please visit:  
<http://tiny.cc/mlyontribute>



## HOME ALONE?

Want to stay in your home and be safe? You have your smart phone and your support network, but sometimes they are not at hand when you need them most.



Another option to consider is a medical alert system. The market for these systems is now estimated to be worth 6.5 billion US, with a rise to 9.6 billion US in 2025 (Markets and Markets Report, February 2020).

Not one size fits all, however, and there are a number of questions/requirements that you need to consider.

Consumer Reports in its online News and Articles section has a very good piece on the questions you should ask.

1. Do you want a home-based or mobile system? Besides the traditional base unit that is located in your home there are now mobile options that operate over cellular networks and incorporate GPS technology. If you get lost or require help, the monitoring service can find you.
2. Should you buy a monitored system? With a monitored system you are connected to a 24/7 dispatch centre. If your system is not monitored, the device will call someone on your programmed emergency call list. The difference between the two is cost. With the former there will be a monthly fee.
3. Should you add a fall-detection feature? The device will automatically sense a fall, even if the call button has not been pressed.

And from an article in my condo newsletter - Two more considerations --

**The Equipment** – Do you want a pendant or a bracelet? How far away from the home base can you be and still be in range? Do you want it to be waterproof? How often does the battery need recharging? If technology changes, how do you get updates?



**The Cost** – There can be complicated pricing plans and fees – especially for monitored systems where there can be activation fees, minimum commitments, cancellations fees etc.

*Leone Earls*

## OBITUARIES:

**STAPLETON, Allan (Al)** – died on November 1, 2019 in his 100th year. Al worked at the CBC as a technician and engineering supervisor from 1946 to 1982.

**PEARS, Joyce** – died on November 3, 2019 at the age of 85. Joyce was a television production assistant in both Toronto and Vancouver.

**UNGER, Bill** – died on November 16, 2019 at the age of 65. Bill worked as a Transmitter Technician in Toronto.

**KASTNER, John** – died on November 21, 2019 at the age of 73. John was a four-time Emmy Award-winning Canadian documentary filmmaker, including his 1978 film *Four Women*, a look at breast cancer for the CBC-TV investigative news series *The Fifth Estate*.



**COLTON, Michael** – died on November 26, 2019 in his 67th year. Michael had a successful career in broadcast journalism as a CBC Radio Technician, Journalist, Senior Producer in the Business Unit and CBC Radio's Washington correspondent.

**TERRY, Bill** – died on December 3, 2019 at the age of 84. Besides enjoying many years as a radio current affairs producer in Winnipeg, Vancouver and Ottawa, Bill was head of CBC Television in Manitoba, then head of Radio Drama and Features in Toronto and finally Deputy Head of the English Radio Networks.

**ANIDO, Jane** – died on December 4, 2019 at the age of 70. From the early nineties, Jane worked for the CBC, eventually becoming the Director of CBC News and Centres Programming at CBC headquarters in Toronto and then Managing Director of CBC in Ottawa.

**COLE, Leon** – died on December 5, 2019 at the age of 79. Leon was host of RSVP, the classical music request program broadcast on CBC Radio 2 from 1985 to 1995.

**MCKINNEY, Malcolm** – died on December 8, 2019 at the age of 84. Malcolm worked in the radio technical department and later became an Operations Officer.

**CHILCOTT, Joan** – died on December 14, 2019 at the age of 87. Joan became the first woman television sports producer in Canada, was the wife of Ernie Chilcott who had a 40 year career at the CBC in Sports Broadcasting and became a director of the Golden Horseshoe Chapter of the Ontario Region of the CBC Pensioners National Association in 2016.

**TREMAINE, Don** – died on December 15, 2019 at the age of 91. Don had an illustrious career with CBC Halifax and is remembered in other parts of the country for hosting Sing Along Jubilee through the 60s and early 70s.

**BROWN, Don** – died on December 18, 2019 at the age of 84. Don produced or directed, mostly for CBC, seven Summer Olympics, five Winter Olympics, seven Commonwealth Games and two Pan Am Games, along with 17 seasons of Hockey Night in Canada and seven seasons of the Montreal Expos.

**WILLSON, Bob** - died on December 27, 2019 at the age of 91. Bob was a long-time radio announcer in both Winnipeg and Toronto.

**THOMPSON, Rick** – died on December 30 at the age of 80. Rick was an AD/PA in Toronto and worked on many programs in Variety, Drama and Music.

**BROWNE, Cecil (Cec)** – died on January 2, 2020 at the age of 90. Cec was a highly successful TV sports producer and director with the CBC, producing and directing CFL football games including many Grey Cups, Hockey Night in Canada telecasts, curling, Major League Baseball (Montreal Expos' games), track and field, skiing, plus 8 Olympic broadcasts.

**JACKSON, George** – died on January 10, 2020 at the age of 84. George worked as a technician in CBC Toronto.

**RIGELHOF, Richard (Rick)** – died on January 12, 2020 at the age of 84. Rick was a graphic designer and manager of media production at CBC Toronto and was a pioneer of several forms of digital media.

**CRAWFORD, Marilyn** – died on February 17, 2020. Marilyn was a Senior Clerk, Radio Networks, CBC Toronto, the wife of Douglas Crawford, Senior Maintenance Technician, TV Services, Toronto and a regular attendee at Ontario Region events.

**HURL, Thomas (Tom)** – died on February 18, 2020 at the age of 79. Tom worked in Finance in CBC Toronto.

**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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