

Federal Superannuates National Association

Nanaimo & Area

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October 2006



NEXT MEETING

Thursday 23rd November, 2006



Location: 256 Royal Canadian Legion Branch at 1630 East Wellington Street, which is located between Bowen and Townsite Road. Doors will open at 10 a.m.

This will be our Christmas Luncheon so there will be Roast Turkey with all the trimmings, a fabulous selection of desserts, plus coffee, tea or milk. Cost is \$15 per person, inc tax. Tips at your discretion.

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, 16th November, 2006.

DON'T FORGET YOUR NAME TAG!

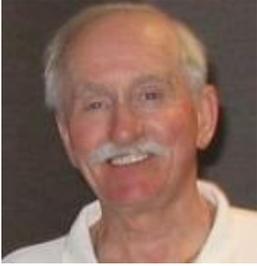


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FROM THE PRESIDENT

From The President



This newsletter should be what I would call a water shed for our branch. This, unfortunately, will be Ron Gladstone's last newsletter as editor. He leaves a publication which, in my opinion, is the finest in the FSNA. In fact, I am willing to bet, it may be one of the best in all of those from the varied service organisations around the country! This brings us to what to do about our newsletter now that Ron has to leave. We really do need someone to step up and become the newsletter editor. It is not all that a daunting task! The software and templates are already there and just have to be manipulated to become that person's newsletter. Give it some thought but barring one of you stepping in I fear that the next newsletter maybe a little light on content and information.

The General Meeting in September went well and the food was excellent as we have come to expect for RCL #256. The attendance was lower than anticipated but it went well. I would like to thank Leonard Krog for his excellent words outlining his thoughts on the future for Vancouver Island. I would like to thank Pat Mason and the Legion Branch #256 for their endeavours on our behalf.

Our next meeting will be our AGM where we will elect our new executive for the coming year. This meeting also serves as our Christmas Meeting and I hear roast turkey is on the menu. Our Regional Director Al Dawber will be visiting us to swear in the new executive and to possibly enlighten us to what may be going on at National. Although many of the present executive will be returning, it is time for the membership to consider being on the executive. One would not have to step into a position right away but could assist members on the executive with the thought of joining us in the near future. What we do here is not rocket science! Even someone like me with limited mental capacity and no social graces can do this so can you. You can assist directors in what they do so you may obtain some of what may be required to eventually join us on the board.

There is special Regional Meeting of the island branches on 18 October to discuss in particular the new proposed Governance Model. Our National President Denis Jackson will be attending to inform us as to what is the impetus is behind the new model and whether it does justify the radical changes in FSNA to required to initiate this model. Marg Mostowy, Bob Stitt and myself will represent our branch and Vic Ashdown will be attending as the islands and the FSNA's WMS guru. Unfortunately Al Heinrich will be away on that date and will be unable to attend. This should be a most enlightening meeting and probably not without some controversy.

It is with some sadness that we note the passing of Rex Guy our immediate Past President. His efforts on behalf of the FSNA will be sorely missed by all of us but especially those who knew him personally. An appropriate card has been sent by the branch to his family expressing our condolences. A void is now present in our organisation that will be hard to fill.

In closing our AGM is usually quite well attended and I hope this will be the case this year. Please consider participating more fully in operating your branch. Come join with us in this endeavour and I hope to see you all there.

Bob Hoogerbrug



Now I shall have Dad all to myself

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Treasurer—Bob Stitt
as at 9/18/2006



ASSETS

		\$	
Cash in Bank		3,462.87	
Petty Cash		100.00	
Accounts receivable			
Rental Facility Deposit	50.00		
National Office 2006	4,758.10	4,808.10	
Floats Due			
General Meeting	325.00		
Membership	100.00	425.00	
Prepaid Expenses			
Equip Reserve and GICs		16,210.48	
DOB Contingency Fund		3,199.81	
Equipment		7,927.47	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		28,206.26	

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities

Per Capita Payable '06	7.11		
“ “ “ '07	2,002.91	2,010.02	
Reserve Funds			
DOB	3,100.81		
Equipment Reserve	2,596.73	5,796.54	
TOTAL LIABILITIES		7,806.58	

EQUITY

Earnings

Retained Earnings	17,392.34		
Current Earnings	3,007.38	20,399.70	

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

\$ 28,206.28



How to Contact Your Executive



President—Bob Hoogerbrug 751-8735

r-choog@shaw.ca

Vice President & Recruiting and Retention— Al Heinrich 738-0192 agh@shaw.ca

Membership Director - Vic Ashdown -
248-2027 ashdown@shaw.ca

Past President—Marg Mostowy 756-1069

fsnananaimo@shaw.ca

Treasurer—Bob Stitt 758-7681 stittar@shaw.ca

Secretary—Cathey Hoogerbrug 751-8735

Membership Secretary - Doris Grieves 716-1952
dgrieves@shaw.ca

Historian, Nominations Committee and Volunteer Coordinator— John Ablett 752-7572

Program Director—Pat Mason 753-6008

Awards/Speakers—Charles Scrivener 758-2240
scrivener@shaw.ca

Registration- Susanne Body 729-9588
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Services & PSHCP/PSDP Liaison—

Leroy Wood 758-0078

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Newsletter— Ron Gladstone 751-2940
gldstone@shaw.ca

Hospital Visiting Nanaimo— Alex Kohuch

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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Nanaimo & Area June Wiebe 756-4873

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Port Alberni, Ucluelet, Tofino

Marg Pierce 723-9791



Warning for Hallowe'en



MEMBERSHIP REPORT – October 19th, 2006 (Newsletter)



MEMBER NUMBER COUNT

As of October 19th, 2006, the Nanaimo and Area Branch had 1605 members comprising 1078 superannuates and 527 spouses. There are 1234 on DDS and 371 pay at Branch. Since the last Newsletter Report (August 17th), the following membership changes have taken place:

NEW OR REINSTATED MEMBERS (3)

Wally & Sue Banning, Nanaimo
Randy Morriss, Parksville

TRANSFERRED IN (2)

Robert & Darlene McCutcheon, Parksville, from MB48 Lakehead

TRANSFERRED OUT (5)

Heather & Eric Clarke, Qualicum Beach, to ?
William Goodyear, Qualicum Beach, to BC14 Sidney & District
Jack & Eleanor Rose, Qualicum Beach, to BC14 Sidney & District

MEMBERSHIP CANCELLATIONS (3)

Joan Haworth, Qualicum Beach
Mel & Aline Wilson, Gabriola

LOST SHEEP IN 2006

Since January 2006, we lost contact with the members listed below (town/city shown is last known residence location). If anyone knows where they are now, please let us know or ask them to get in touch with us. Thanks.
Ernest & Helen Barnes, Parksville

Gary Bingham & France Champeau, Ucluelet
Jon & Judith Graham, Parksville
Claude & Florence Lachance, Nanaimo
Paul & Victoria Lapointe, Nanaimo
John & June Peil, Nanaimo
Rosina Pleasants, Nanaimo
Yvon & Audrey Turgeon, Nanaimo
Kate & Donald Wilson, Nanaimo

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☆☆ **IN MEMORIAM (6)** ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
☆☆ Dorothy Beamish, Nanaimo, survived by husband Les ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
☆☆ Ed Cavanagh, Nanaimo, survived by wife Trudy ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
☆☆ Kenneth Flegel, Nanaimo, survived by wife Dorothy ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
☆☆ Joyce Kromrey, Nanaimo, survived by husband Ralph ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
☆☆ Elinor Olsen, Nanaimo, survived by husband Ivan ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
☆☆ David Snidal, Nanoose Bay, survived by wife ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
☆☆ Myrtle ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
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WEB-BASED MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM (WMS)

The WMS upgrade work continues on schedule. Our Branch will be one of the branches selected to help test the new version during the period October 23rd to November 13th. Full implementation is planned for early January 2007.

2007 DUES

For those paying dues at Branch, invoices (Second Billing) are enclosed. For those receiving email Newsletters, invoices will be mailed separately

QUESTIONNAIRE

About 300 completed 2006 Questionnaires have been received. For those of you who took the time to return yours – Thank You – at least your files are now accurate and up-to-date. Also, a special “Thanks” to those who volunteered for Branch duties, asked to be put on the email Newsletter list, or offered to switch to Dues Deduction at Source (DDS). Your assistance and cooperation will ease the workload of our current volunteers and reduce our administrative costs.

2006 PENSIONERS RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN

Some members inadvertently will receive promotional material for this biennial campaign. No action is required unless you wish to switch to DDS. See Page 8 of your Fall 2006 Edition of “On Guard” for a detailed explanation.

Vic Ashdown



On 17th November, Ralph Wilson will celebrate his 100th birthday!!!! Just think about it. How the world has changed since he was born and what experiences he has had in keeping up with them. We are expecting Ralph to be at our November 23rd meeting when we will all have an opportunity of helping him celebrate this event and prepare himself for the next 100 years.

REX G GUY

It was with great regret that we learned that Rex Guy, or Past National President, had passed away on 15th October last after a long dedicated and distinguished career serving Canada and this Association.

During World War II he served in tankers carrying perilous cargo from North America to North Russia, Murmansk and Archangel. He emigrated to Canada in 1949 and, following a short stint with Canadian National Steamships he joined the Royal Canadian Navy until his retirement with the rank of Captain in 1983, following a distinguished career.

He quickly became active with the FSNA and lobbied against threats to superannuation and indexing. He went on to become the National President from 1998—2004.

He was never reluctant to put all his heart and soul into furthering the interests of Federal Superannuates and should serve as an example to all of us of selfless devotion to his community.

And they ask *why I like retirement...*

Question: How many days in a week?

Answer: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday

Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?

Answer: Three hours after he falls asleep on the couch

Question: How many retirees to change a light bulb?

Answer: Only one, but it might take all day.

Question: Why don't retirees mind being called Seniors?

Answer: The term comes with a 10% percent discount

Question: Among retirees what is considered formal attire?

Answer: Tied shoes. Question: Why do retirees count pennies?

Answer: They are the only ones who have the time.

Question: What is the best way to describe retirement?

Answers: The never ending Coffee Break.

Question: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?

Answer: If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.

Question: Why does a retiree often say he doesn't miss work, but misses the people he used to work with?

Answer: He is too polite to tell the whole truth

Question: What's the biggest gripe of retirees?

Answer: There is not enough time to get everything done.



THE WORD FROM NATIONAL

Recruitment Campaign

Only those who are paying FSNA dues through Dues Deduction at Source (DDS) are excluded from the PWGSC mail-out. The system cannot exclude those members who are paying their dues by cheque and, in certain circumstances, individuals who are receiving a pension from more than one source. Even though this fact is explained quite clearly in the pamphlet, some members still call the National Office or their branch to ask why they received the recruitment material even though they are members. This is a good opportunity to invite them to change their payment method from cheque to convenient monthly DDS.

Many branches participate actively in this campaign by having articles or ads in the local news media. Some branches set up information kiosks at local centres during the campaign.

Many of you know that this bi-annual recruitment drive used to be called "The Insert Campaign". This stems from the fact that the very first time FSNA reached out to potential members in 1982, it was actually by the means of a leaflet enclosed (inserted) with the pension cheques sent to federal pensioners. FSNA's recruitment material is no longer inserted into a government mailing, but it is sent on its own, with the Association paying all costs related to the printing and distribution. This is done directly by the PWGSC, thus protecting the privacy of pensioners.

Income-Splitting

The Conference on Pension Splitting mentioned in the previous Bulletin will take place October 3, 2006 from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. in room 200 of the West Block of the Par-

liament Hill in Ottawa. Pension splitting would give retirees the option of reducing their combined taxes by splitting all registered retirement income as if it were earned equally. More information on how to support this cause can be found at this site:

<http://www.pensionsplitting.ca/>

Year 2007 Membership Cards

Annually, your National Office provides each branch with printed membership cards for those members who pay their dues directly to the branch (cheque-paying members). These cards will be printed for each active cheque-paying member of your branch, including those with whom contact has been lost, and will contain the branch member-contact

information previously provided by branches in the updating of the Branch Year 2007 Membership Cards will be shipped to branches by the end of September. In the past some branches have experienced problems with the receipt of membership cards leading to the requirement to reprint some cards one or more times. For this reason our mailing house will include a "receipt note" with each package of membership cards that will allow us to confirm both package delivery times and branch receipt. Branches can assist in ensuring delivery of these packages by checking branch Post Office boxes on a regular basis.

And now a word from Pat

The September lunch for our meeting was Roast Pork and was scrumpdelicious. Unfortunately 14 members missed it! They reserved and didn't show up, leaving us to pay for their meal. We were doing so well up until then with members phoning either Barbara or myself to cancel. I will be contacting those who did not show.

The November 23rd lunch is our Christmas dinner with delicious turkey with all the bits and pieces and we can't have members not showing because we have limited seating and if you don't show you may deprive someone who wants to come. Please make sure your phoner has the right information for your attendance. AND, to my good friend and pal, Ron—I will sorely miss you and I wish you best of health and happy leisure time.

Pat



Lest We Forget



In Flanders Fields

By: Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae,
MD (1872-1918)
Canadian Army

IN FLANDERS FIELDS the poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



On Remembrance day, 11th November, your branch will be laying wreaths at ceremonies at memorials in nearby communities.

It is hoped that as many of you as possible will be attending since, once again, Canadian troops and members of the R.C.M.P. will be bravely putting themselves in harms way in various locations throughout the world.

While political issues may appear to divide public opinion on the merits of these various operations, we are not divided in our acknowledgement of the fact that there are Canadian women and men who are putting their lives on the line in our name.

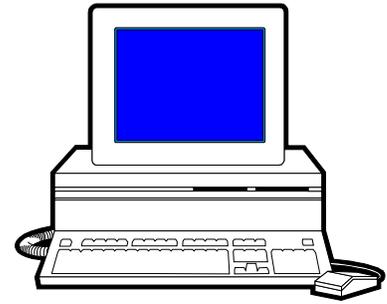
These are not faceless and nameless individuals but the sons and daughters of Canadians, wives and husbands of Canadians, fathers and mothers of Canadians, members of the great Canadian family. They are Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, Taoist yes, and atheists. Their skin colour is everything you can find in this world but the one thing they have in common is that they are all Canadian.

They deserve and need our support and so we ask you to remember them on this Remembrance Day and mentally and emotionally support them and their families and hope fervently for their safe return when their job is done.

We are the Canadians

Seniors On-line

We have just got back from a visit to Ottawa where we went to attend a conference and to visit our son. Now I feel very humble about writing a column on surfing the Web. He is an aerospace consultant with more degrees than a thermometer and his condo is absolutely crammed with high tech devices to help him keep in touch with his world. On our arrival he said—"Answer any calls that come for me if you wish but under no circumstances touch this telephone or that one and if this light blinks—ignore it" He has blackberries, raspberries and, for all I know, gooseberries as well.



One thing I did learn from him is that it is pointless to clutter up the house with telephone books. When I wanted to call an old friend in the Ottawa area I couldn't find a directory! "Well Dad" he said "why didn't you do what I do and go to the search engine on the Web listed under Canadian White and Yellow Pages?" He was right. Not only is it faster than riffling through the pages of a monster of a telephone book it gave you more details of the person you are calling. So I leave you with that thought as my parting shot. Try it—you'll like it! !

The Last Post

Well, here we go, the one article I dreaded putting together. When I started writing this newsletter I didn't realize how big a part of my life it would become. It has been a real pleasure to have you let me into your lives by taking an interest and I want to thank my many correspondents who contacted me with snippets of information and bits and pieces to include.

I also want to thank you for putting up with my bizarre sense of humour and the little jokes and cartoons I have put into all editions. I just hope I didn't offend anybody. I do, most sincerely, hope one of you will find it in their heart to come forward and take my place. As I have said many times before it is a most rewarding task to support our association in this way. Its not a job to be scared of, it is one which you grown into and, remember, it is time for a change of editors anyway. Out of change comes progress. Our branch needs a fresh perspective and, no better place exists for that than in the newsletter. I shall be hanging on to all the bits and pieces I have collected—articles not used, graphics, odd cartoons, templates for editions and so on, which I will be pleased to put on a CD to help out the new editor if he/she wants them. I will also be glad to contribute the odd article if it is wanted. Its just that I can no longer produce the type of newsletter you deserve due to vision problems and a bad case of the 'fumble fingers'.

And so I bid you all a fond farewell and hope to see you at FSNA luncheons for many years to come. Thank you most sincerely for providing me with the opportunity to be of service.

Ron Gladstone



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