
Federal Superannuates National Association

Nanaimo & Area

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2008/05/23

NEXT MEETING – THURSDAY 19 JUNE 2008

Location: Meeting Room Quality Resort Bayside, 240 Dogwood Street, Parksville (Corner of Dogwood Street and Highway 19A) across the street from the Travelodge. The Meeting will commence at 11:00AM. Parking is not a problem and the first four spaces are reserved for those with a handicapped decal.

The cost for Lunch is \$15.00, including GST and Gratuity.

Menu: Chicken Breast a la Swiss, fresh vegetables, roasted potatoes and desert.

Our Guest Speaker for this meeting will be Ms. Darcy O’Toole, Pharmacist at the Memorial Compounding Medicine Centre in Qualicum Beach. Her presentation will address drugs and travel habits, interactions among vitamins, herbal medicines and prescription drugs and keeping track of our prescriptions.

Your local FSNA Representative will telephone you to ask whether you plan to attend the lunch and, if you confirm your attendance, you are reminded of the Associations cancellation policy. The Association is required to pay for all meals that are ordered on your behalf; therefore if you subsequently find that you cannot attend, you must cancel your reservation to avoid being charged for the meal. Please call PAT MASON at 753-6008 or BARB CAMPBELL at 954-0733. The last date to cancel to avoid being charged for your meal is Thursday, June 12th.

Following a short business meeting and the presentation by the Guest Speaker, we shall move to Heron’s Restaurant for lunch (table service). Very Important. Please ensure that you pay for your lunch prior to the commencement of the meeting. Registration tables will be set up inside the side entrance, located next to the cold beer and wine store.

Please remember to wear your name tag.

President Al Heinrich's Report to the Membership

Hello to the New and Goodbye to the Old. Welcome to the new volunteers. We look forward to your input and the energy you bring to our organization. New ideas are always welcome and needed.

Thank you to the people leaving their positions. We will miss you. I would like to extend a special thanks to all. Bob Hoogerbrug, our outgoing President, you have done our Organization proud. Your hard work and dedication is duly noted and much appreciated. John Ablett and Leroy Woods, you will be missed. John, you did a fine job creating an Archive of our Historical documents. Great job, well done. Leroy, your knowledge and service to the members is irreplaceable. We will always look to you for advice and input. Great job, well done. Cathey Hoogerbrug, your pleasant personality and dedicated work as secretary are really going to be missed. Thank you for this special service. We are happy that you will continue to do some of the administrative services you have done in the past. Thank you all.

Welcome to our new volunteers, Rene Marchand, Rick Neugebauer and Harold Hodes. We look forward to using your skills and talents to serve our membership. Thanks to all returning volunteers, your expertise and help are much needed and appreciated.

My commitment, as your new President, is to try and look after the needs and wants of you, the membership, to the best of my ability. I will try to carry on the past traditions, give new ideas and direction and try to get more events for you the membership to participate in. Ideas of what you would like to participate in and what you would like us to do for you would be much appreciated. You can email your comments to me at agh@shaw.ca or phone 250 738-0192. An email or phone call is always most welcome.

I have ideas that I would like to implement and will present these in subsequent Newsletters and at Executive Meetings. My goal is to get more membership participation, both at the Board of Directors level and in the area of social events. More Inter-Branch activity is also needed. I believe we all need to work together to achieve more benefits and services for our members. Dialogue is a good place to start.

The Government recognizes us as the spokesperson for Seniors and as such we need to lead, act and behave as leaders. We need to advance Seniors' concerns, promote their ideas and improve their quality of life. We look forward to your participation. Volunteers would be most welcome.

Al Heinrich

Financial Report to May 12/08

Balance Sheet

Cash on Hand	\$4,755.43
A/R DDS/Other	7,166.60
Prepaid Expenses	54.04
Investments	22,898.92
Per capita Payable -	648.76
DOB Reserve	- 6,297.59
Equity	-27,928.64

Income Statement

Jan 01/08 – May 12/08

Income	\$9,941.23
Expenses	1,942.47
Net Income	7,998.76

Report from the Regional Services officer – John Finn

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, John Finn, to FSNA members living on Vancouver Island and the surrounding area. As part of the new governance model adopted by the FSNA, I have been recently elected by the branch Presidents in the role of Regional Services Officer (RSO) for the BC Coastal Islands. This area includes the branches in Victoria, Sidney, Duncan, Nanaimo and Vancouver Island North, which together have a combined membership of approximately 9,000.

My primary responsibility will be to provide administrative support to branches in the region. More specifically, my role will be to conduct orientation programs, assist branches in training their executives, meet with all presidents and represent their interests and that of the branches at the National Office as well as to the National Director for British Columbia, Julie Spencer. In addition, as RSO I will provide support to branches, where required, on the benefit programs most important to FSNA members such as their Pension Plans, Health Care and Dental Plans. Although not all-inclusive the foregoing will give you an idea of what the role of RSO will be. I must also hasten to say that this is not a paid but a voluntary position.

Let me tell you a little about myself. As a Logistics Officer for twenty-seven years in the Canadian Forces I spent a good portion of my career in the field of compensation, benefits and pensions administration. In addition, I was fortunate to be seconded to the Treasury Board Secretariat where my responsibilities included dealing with all aspects of compensation and benefits on behalf of RCMP members. On retirement from the Canadian Forces I continued my work in compensation and benefits as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Canadian Forces Personnel Support Agency where amongst other responsibilities I chaired the Non Public Funds (NPF) Pension and Benefits Board.

In the position of RSO, I would like to use the experience and knowledge I have gained over a thirty-five year career for the betterment of FSNA members of the BC Coastal Islands. During my three year term as your RSO I hope to meet and speak with many of you as I visit branches throughout the region.

ORDER OF CANADA

We were all delighted to hear that our own Bob Kabata was the recipient of the Order of Canada. Mr. Kabata, a member of the Nanaimo and Area Branch since 1994, received the honour at an investiture on April eleventh from the Hon. Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada. Mr. Kabata is an internationally renowned authority on the biology of marine parasites. His research, spanning more than five decades, has improved the understanding of marine ecology and has had a worldwide impact on the management of commercial fisheries. Mr. Kabata was the long-standing Head of parasitology research at Nanaimo's Pacific Biological Station at Departure Bay.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT – VIC ASHDOWN

Member Number Count

As of May 15 2008, the Nanaimo and Area Branch has 1755 members comprising 1181 superannuates and 574 spouses. There are 1362 on DDS and 393 pay at Branch. Changes since April 17th are:

New or Reinstated Members

Donald & Janet Bell, Nanaimo
Brian Brack, Nanaimo
Douglas & Sharon McKay, Nanaimo
Peggy Ward, Qualicum Beach
Jean & James Wyman, Nanaimo

Transferred In (4)

George & Helene Champagne, Nanaimo
(from ON43 Ottawa)
Otto & Phyllis Hrad, Parksville
(from AB17 Edmonton)

Transferred Out (0)

Membership Cancellations (15)

Bertram & Jean Beaven, Nanaimo
Maureen Potts, Port Alberni
Norman Bunnin, Nanaimo
Garnet Currie, Nanaimo
Alan Francis, New Westminster
Kathleen Hall, Qualicum Beach
John Harvey, Nanaimo
Elena Kasteel, Nanaimo
Otto Bartkowski, Nanaimo
Irene McCord, Nanaimo
Barbara Miller, Nanaimo
John Mills, Nanaimo
Joan Nott, Nanaimo
Myrle Weston, Nanaimo

The 15 membership cancellations above are all because of non-payment of 2008 dues. I have sent each member a letter informing him/her of the cancellation.

In Memoriam

George Adams, Qualicum Beach, survived by wife Mildred
Wesley Jackson, Nanaimo, survived by wife Patricia
John Mackesy, Parksville, survived by wife Beatrice
John Milburn, Parksville, survived by wife Florence
Douglas Smith, Qualicum Beach, survived by wife Gloria

Lost Contact (1)

Audrey McPhail, Nanaimo

WED-BASED MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM (WMS)

The process of re-developing the DDS import/export process in WMS is now completed. This re-development will help maintain the accuracy of DDS records in the data base. Branch users should begin to see proper “Paid Through” dates associated with DDS records in the coming months. These dates will then be incremented monthly in the system. (In our Branch, of the 896 Superannuates who pay via DDS, only 40 still have incorrect “Paid Through” dates so the correction process is well underway).

FSNA NANAIMO EXECUTIVE, DIRECTORS AND VOLUNTEERS – BC05

POSITION	NAME	TELEPHONE & EMAIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE		
President	Al Heinrich	738-0192 agh@shaw.ca
Vice-President	Vacant	
Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer	Marg Mostowy	933-1069 fsnananaimo@shaw.ca
DIRECTORS		
Membership Director	Vic Ashdown	248-2027 ashdown@shaw.ca
Membership Director	Doris Grieves	716-1952 dgrieves@shaw.ca
Newsletter Editor	Peter Hann	248-3165 phann@shaw.ca
Awards & Speakers (Chapter Historian)	Charles Scrivener	758-2240 scrivener@shaw.ca
Programme Director	Pat Mason	753-6008 No Email
Health & Benefits (PSHCP & PDSP)	Al McWhinnie	756-2732 alanmcw@shaw.ca
AREA COMMITTEE COORDINATORS		
Qualicum Beach	Sherwood Moore	752-1048 No Email
Tofino/Ucluelet	Sandy Henry	726-7086 macfunnelcover@telus.net
Parksville	Barbara Campbell	954-0733 campbellba@shaw.ca
Port Alberni	Marg Pierce	723-9791 No Email

A Note from President Al Heinrich:

We are still looking for Volunteers for the position of Secretary and Vice-President. Should you be interested in supporting your organization with some of your time we would be pleased to welcome you to the Executive. Being part of the group and helping your fellow members can be very satisfying and rewarding. If you wish to help in some other capacity while you familiarize yourself with our Branch operations, please call any of our Executive. Feel free to call me and talk about how you can help out. My telephone number is 738-0192.

More Notes:

At the meeting on June 19th, Five-year Service Awards will be presented to Katherine Garbutt, Mary Stoner and Anne Thomas (if they are in attendance). Awards were presented to six Branch members at an earlier meeting this year. Their contributions to the Branch are sincerely appreciated.

Garden Notes from your Editor

To Deer Proof Plants: Add two egg yolks to a litre of water and a teaspoon of baking powder or baking soda (to make the yolks stick). Mix in a blender and pour into a spray bottle. Spray flowers and plants as required, especially after rain. Keep the mixture in the refrigerator when not in use. It really works!

Do you have a problem with aphids on your plants? Don't use a chemical spray; rather use nature's choice "lady bugs". Lady Bugs love to eat aphids. They are available in the refrigerator at selected garden centres. Why in the refrigerator? Because when it's cold they hibernate; take them out for thirty minutes and the colony springs to life. They are available pre-packaged, with instructions for use.

Finally, how observant are you? Did you notice that the first page used a different type than page 2 and that pages 3 through 6 used another type? The first page was typed in Times New Roman while page 2 was in the same type but in a smaller font while the remaining pages were typed in Georgia (no, not the country nor the US state). Do you, as a reader, have a preference? Georgia uses a darker type and uses a little less space than Times Roman. Send your comments to phann@shaw.ca.

Points to Ponder:

It's hard to understand how a cemetery can raise its burial rates for the dead and then blame the increase on the cost of Living.

Why do people go to a supermarket and pay \$2.00 for a bottle of Evian water from Paris, France? Spelled in reverse: Evian is Naïve! So now you know.