



CENTRAL YUKOOTOK HERITAGE CLUB

Newsletter #30 August, 2016



Chapter 29 Executive



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1st Vice President- Bill Blair
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Secretary-Wanda Fisher
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President's Message:

Greetings:

I hope you are enjoying your summer so far, regardless of the weather in your particular area. Here in the Vernon area, we have had a wetter, cloudier and cooler July than normal but the hot weather is due to arrive soon.

Wanda and I enjoyed representing Chapter 29 at the AGM and Presidents' Meetings in Windsor, Ontario May 27 – 30. Bluewater Chapter President Bob Emmons and his crew put on a good weekend for all involved. I was disappointed not to be elected again to the National Executive; however this now gives me more time to devote to our own Chapter.

Our short excursion to Whitehorse and Dawson City, Yukon was very enjoyable. We were joined by Merv and Barb Mathers for our five-day whirlwind visit. We all very much enjoyed all the sites but especially were so pleased to meet up with Tom Parlee in Whitehorse and Lambert Curzon in Dawson.

PLEASE, PLEASE sign up for the bi annual **BANQUET WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 16-18 IN PENTICTON!!!** We have a great time lined up and it would be a shame to miss out. If you need any information whatsoever, do not hesitate to contact me immediately.

I look forward to seeing you in September at the annual Camp Out and the Banquet Weekend.

Gary Fisher

COUNCIL NEWS:

Vernon Council:

A BBQ was held on June 22 with 26 members. Everyone enjoyed mingling with drinks on the patio followed by great steaks and all the trimmings. We want to thank Gary Fisher and Bill Blair for the efforts as barbecue chefs.



Once again thank you Gary Fisher and Bill Blair barbecue Master Chefs.

Congratulations to Vic Kazimer who turned 85 on May 22!!

Kelowna Council:

A small group gathered for lunch in West Kelowna in honor of Bill Kolodychuk's milestone with Canada Post. Gary Fisher was proud to present him with his 40 year plaque and pin. Bill has been employed as a Letter Carrier for over 42 years! Congratulations Bill!



South Okanagan Council:



Lucky thirteen attended a great luncheon at Zia's in Summerland on June 22nd. The place was loaded with "white hairs" from the Triumph Car Club that made this their rendezvous point. Other than noisy they seemed to be having a great time. They all had that "windblown" look from the little convertibles. (those that had hair)

Pamela Pfannmueller won the 50/50 draw. (surprise!) We had some good laughs and stories on a hot summer day, great for an outing. We are looking forward to the next luncheon on October 5th at 12:00 in Osoyoos and the place is yet to be determined. Come join us for a good chat.

CHAPTER NEWS:

BANQUET WEEKEND!!! September 16-18, Penticton. This is the event you want to take note of. After all it only happens every second year. As we have said before, this is YOUR banquet. The Meet & Greet, a healthy portion of the dinner, and the entertainment are all paid for by the Chapter. We have some great door prizes too. You can enjoy a ride on the Kettle Valley Train at our group rate, and in your spare time, visit some of the finest wineries in the Okanagan. The Days Inn is fully booked but there are other motels close by you can check for vacancies. So why not take advantage of your membership privileges and come and enjoy a weekend with some old friends. There is still time to get registered, so contact us immediately and don't miss out on this great weekend.

We have had great success with our **Heritage Club Fundraiser Hats**. Our first order has sold out and we have just received our second order. Send in your orders and we can get them out immediately.

Patrick Wilson of Vernon is always happy to receive used eye glasses. These are donated to third world countries. This past year they have donated over 300 pairs. You can bring any used and unwanted glasses to our luncheons along with Campbell Soup labels, foil and pull tabs. It is always amazing to see what can be done with things that seem so worthless.

Sad News: We are sorry to report that Bob 'Pat' Fennessy, one of our founding members, suffered a stroke back in March. Now he is up and around with the aid of a walker and is currently in a care facility in Invermere awaiting a place in a more permanent facility. We wish him all the best.

Gary and Wanda Fisher and Merv and Barb Mathers enjoyed a lovely four-day trip to Whitehorse and Dawson City July 10-14. They enjoyed visiting the many historical sites in the two cities. They especially enjoyed meeting up for dinners with Tom Parlee in Whitehorse and Lambert Curzon in Dawson City. One particular highlight was being given an amazing and private tour through all three floors of the historical Dawson Post Office by a Parks Canada employee. They were treated to areas of the building that are rarely seen by the general public. They would like to publicly thank Lambert Curzon the #1 Dawson City Ambassador who generously drove the four all around Dawson in his little Aztec to see the sites including the #4 Dredge and the Midnight Dome.



Yukon visit:

Left top is Wanda, Gary, Barb and Merv Mathers

Right top: Tom Parlee, Gary, Barb and Merv in Whitehorse

Middle left: Gary, Barb and Merv in front of the historical Dawson City Post Office

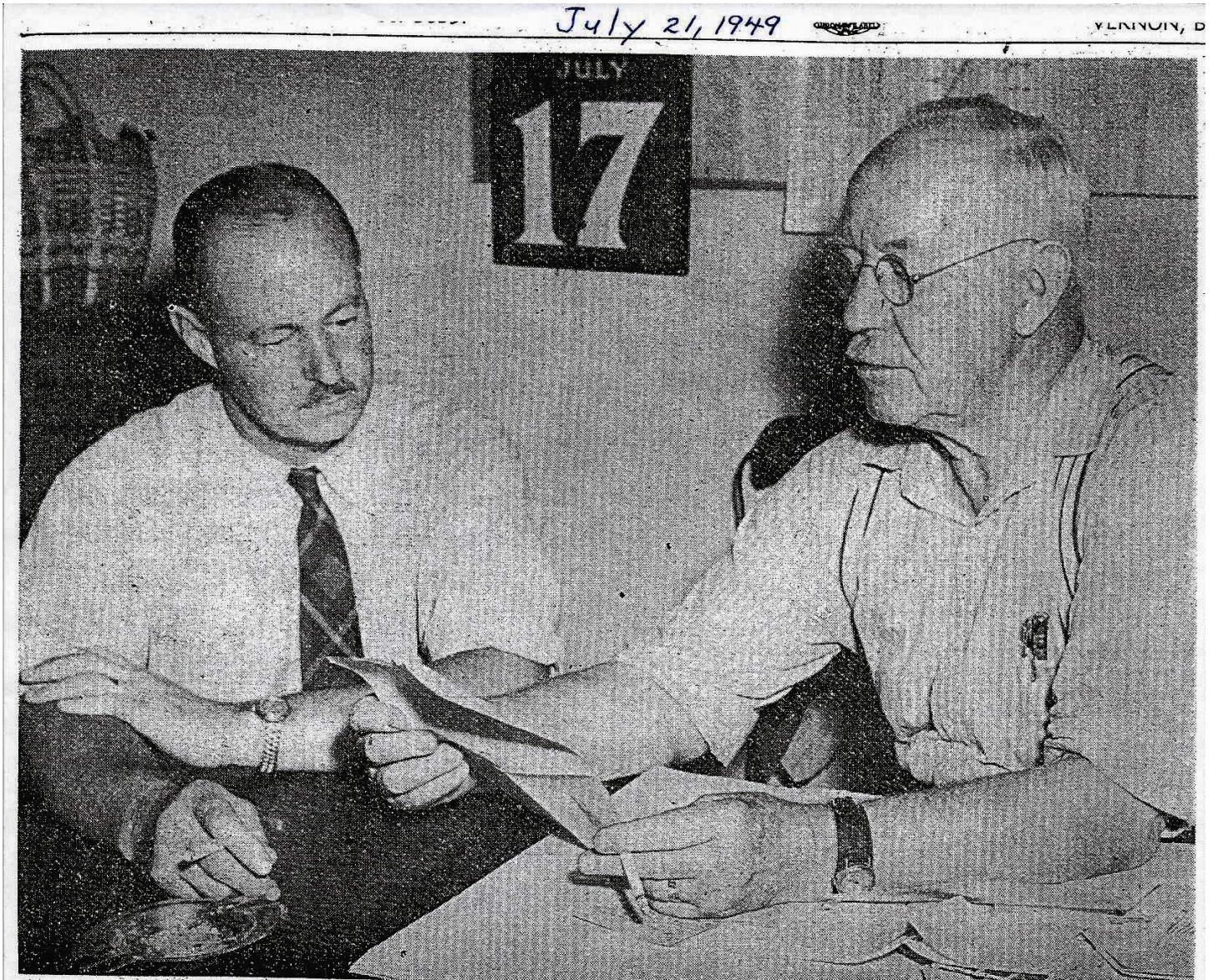


Above: Photo of Gary Fisher as he thanks Lambert Curzon for his hospitality.



Bottom left: Wanda, Lambert Curzon, Gary, Merv and Barb in Dawson City

BLAST FROM THE PAST:



ends 44 Years' Service As Postmaster In the City of Vernon

Photo by LeBlond

For C. B. Lefroy, well known Vernon resident, Sunday marked the official end of his 44 years' service as postmaster in the City of Vernon. Shown above with his son, Arthur, assistant postmaster, "C.B." was one of the oldest acting postmasters in the province. He was retired by the Post Office Department and will receive no pension. Since January, 1948, Mr. Lefroy has contributed to the Civil Service retirement fund and his contribution to this will be repaid in a lump sum plus three percent.

Of Irish ancestry, born in Camden Town, London, on Christmas

Day, 1871, "C.B." took over the Vernon Post Office officially on November 28, 1905. He moved the office into the present building on August 10, seven years later.

He has seen the revenue in the Vernon Post Office increase from approximately \$2,500 in 1905 to some \$98,908 in 1943.

A resident of Vernon since 1895, Mr. Lefroy has been a rancher and in the real estate and insurance business. He is a life member of several city organizations. He organized the B.C. branch of the Canadian Postmasters' Association, being secretary for 20 years.

BEREAVEMENTS:

Our sincere condolences go out to the families of Marcia Brown from Kelowna and Cathie Spence from Vernon.

GET WELL Soon: We have just heard that Sandy Blair has been under the weather for a couple of months now. All of us are wishing you a complete and speedy recovery.

Speedy Service Brings Letters From Coast

A new postal bus service was started between Vernon and Vancouver on February 1.

This service means that letters picked up and processed in Vancouver between 7:30 and 9:45 p.m. will leave the Coast at 11:30 via stage. They will arrive in Penticton and Princeton in time for morning delivery, in Vernon and Kelowna for afternoon delivery.

All mail going to Alberta, according to Postmaster A. E. Lefroy, is now taken to Penticton by truck where it connects with CPA and is flown to Calgary.

Mail for the Eastern provinces, goes to Vancouver where it is put on a flight to Toronto. The reason for this, is that Winnipeg is usually the first stop on trans-Canada flights.

Above: Speedy service newspaper article is from the Vernon News February 7th, 1955.

Change in post office staff

An assistant postmaster (postal officer three) has been transferred from the Trail post office to the Vernon post office.

Ralph Spence succeeds Ron Hubble of Vernon who recently retired after serving with the postal department for 39 years.

Mr. Spence started in the Trail post office in 1936 as a junior postal clerk. He served as a supervisor letter carrier when house-to-house delivery was started there the next year. He returned to the postal clerk section in 1938 and after four years transferred to the railway mail service.

For the next 23 years, Mr. Spence served on railway post offices running out of Nelson, Calgary, Prince George and Vancouver. The railway mail service west of Winnipeg was succeeded by truck highway services and air mail. Mr. Spence assisted the transportation section of the Vancouver district office in its overload of work in the final months before this transition.

He served in the wicker services section in Postal Station D in Vancouver before being transferred as assistant postmaster (postal officer two) at Powell River. He completed a cycle by returning to Trail as assistant postmaster (postal officer three) Jan. 1 this year, then was transferred to Vernon recently in the same capacity.

He is "second in command" under local post-



RALPH SPENCE

master Arthur Lefroy. Mr. Spence is married and has two married daughters.

Above: The story about Ralph Spence is from September 9th, 1967. Ralph Spence passed away in June 16, 2013.

Thanks to Fred Danells in Vancouver for the 1909 photo.

