



Parkland News

January 2017

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President's Message:

Hello Parkland members.

As we usher in 2017 we take a quick look back at the previous year and I would like to thank all members who have participated in the various activities that Parkland Chapter has offered. We take a moment to express our condolences to the families of members who have passed away in 2016. I would also like to welcome all new members who have joined in the past year. Finally, one very huge thank you to all the many participants who took part in the Santa Letter program this year. Your efforts have made the lives of the children involved very happy.

2017 marks another important happening in our chapter. The executive of the chapter is busy preparing for the National Chapter

President's meeting which will be hosted in Edmonton at the end of May. This 3-day event is hosted by a different chapter each year and consists of the Chapter President's from across the country meeting with the national executive along with Canada Post representatives and representatives of other organizations including our major travel insurance provider Johnson's Insurance.

Please take note of all the further announcements in this issue of the newsletter related to upcoming events.

I wish you all a memorable 2017.

Lloyd Rogowski
President Parkland Chapter



WE'RE ON-LINE:

Our website; www.heritageclub.ca has undergone a facelift. Log on and have a look



MEMBERSHIP:

The 2017 membership drive is now underway. Please complete the enclosed membership form, and submit your 2017 membership dues by mailing the form, and your cheque to the address shown on the form, by February 15, 2017.

Please remember that our Heritage Club chapter receives only a portion of our funding through the national office, (from Canada Post Corporation, and other club sponsors), and that your membership dues represent a large portion of our chapter's annual income.

We are updating our membership database with email addresses for those that have them. **We encourage you to provide an email address, if you have one,** as it is a quick and cost effective way of quickly informing members of news items and upcoming events between issues of the newsletter.



Members will receive a card similar to the one shown above as acknowledgement of payment

If at any time you are unsure of the status of your membership dues, or have any other questions regarding membership, please feel free to contact your membership representative, Judy Broomhall at (780)481-8627 or parklandheritageclub@gmail.com.

Reporting Volunteer Hours:

Each year our chapter President submits a report of all volunteer hours worked by members of the chapter. These hours include not only volunteer hours with the Heritage Club, but also time worked in community events such as; fundraising activities, work done with religious or seniors organizations, or working with children groups, example coaching. Anything relating to volunteering counts in the report.

The Heritage Club National Community Service Award is awarded each year to a chapter demonstrating that they are actively meeting our club's motto of "people helping

people". Parkland Chapter has won this award in the past in large part because of the number of volunteer hours reported by our members.

Please help us demonstrate that we are one of the most active chapters. There is a Volunteer Hours reporting form on the bottom of the Membership Renewal form. This form should be used to report volunteer hours worked by members of Parkland Chapter for the betterment of the community. Please specify if the time worked is per week, month, or year,

Annual General Meeting:

The 2016 Annual General Meeting was held October 13, 2016, at Buffet Royale - South, in conjunction with the October quarterly luncheon.

At this meeting, the positions of 1ST. Vice President and Secretary were up for election. Rene Plouffe was re-elected as 1ST. Vice President and Bob Broomhall was re-elected as Secretary.

Congratulations to the above members, and thank you for allowing your name to stand. Our thanks also to the Nominating Committee.

A date was set for the 2017 Annual General Meeting. The 2017 AGM will be held on October 12, 2017 again in conjunction with the October quarterly luncheon.

Did you Know ?

Building Canada's transcontinental railway took more than 12,000 workers, 5,000 horses and 300 dogsled teams. It was completed in 1886

February Luncheon

In 2017, Parkland Chapter will once again be hosting quarterly luncheons and social get togethers. As we have done in the last couple of years, we will be moving the location, this time to the west end of the city.

Our first event for 2017 will be on:

**Thursday February 2, 2017
11:30 AM**

Buffet Royale
17202 – 95 Ave
Edmonton, AB

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW LOCATION

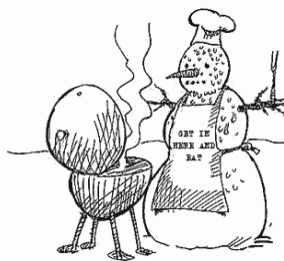
This is the Buffet Royale in the West End of Edmonton



Come and enjoy a great lunch at a great price, and share some good times with old and new friends.

Please call Rene Plouffe 780-476-7230 or Lloyd Rogowski 780-458-8936 to confirm attendance.

Spring BBQ



It's January..... We're now more than halfway through winter, and we can start thinking about SPRING

With the more-than-welcome season change, BBQ days will soon be here again.

Your club executive is already busy planning the 2017 Spring BBQ.

Mark your calendar. The 2017 BBQ will take place on Thursday June 8 at the Devon Lions Park.

We will be sending out another Newsletter later in the spring that will contain complete information about this popular event, as well as the usual registration form.

Plan to come on out for some BBQ fun.

2016 Fall Banquet:

Parkland Chapter's 2016 Annual Fall Banquet was held Saturday September 10, at the Continental Inn on Stony Plain Road.

Everyone in attendance had a great time. As usual the meal was excellent. This year we were very fortunate to have a Parkland member provide the entertainment for the evening. Larry Kruger, a former entertainer, has once again taken to the stage, and he entertained us with a variety of great music. The banquet is also a great time to meet up with old and new friends and co-workers, and catch up on everyone's summer activities.

The raffle of several donated items resulted in a donation of \$300 to Ronald MacDonald House.

Mark your calendars now for the 2017 banquet which will be held September 23, 2017 at the Continental Inn. This is



an excellent opportunity to meet old friends, and you can't beat the price, for a great night out.

Santa Letter Writing Program 2016



It's an annual tradition, writing a letter to Santa. December is a busy blizzard of letters and toys at the North Pole and the North Pole Post Office is especially busy! Every letter received at the North Pole (over 1.5 million of them) is read and answered.

But even before the flurry of activity in December, the Northern Alberta Postal Elves are already busy.

Edmonton Santa Claus Parade – November 19, 2016

The first activity of the season was participation in Edmonton's Downtown Santa Claus parade. A group of 20 Canada Post employees and Heritage Club members braved the cold to participate in the parade. Our entry included a specially decorated postal van, an appearance from Postie Bear, our own little postal elf, and our own specially outfitted Canada Post pooch. Our contingent picked up close to 500 letters to Santa Claus along the parade route.



Edmonton Festival of Trees – November 24 - 27

More than 35,000 people per year visit the annual Festival of Trees, which supports the University of Alberta Hospital Foundation. For many, many years, Canada Post and the Heritage Club have run a booth at the festival where postal elves assist children to write their letter to Santa Claus and post it right there in a special mailbox. We received close to 4,000 letters at the festival this year



Canadian Railway Mail Clerks' Federation

On March 1, 1967, the Post Office Component, whose origin goes back to the convention meeting of the Railway Mail Clerks in Ottawa in November 1966, joined the Public Service Alliance of Canada. This makes the component and the PSAC the successors to the Canadian Railway Mail Clerks Federation founded in 1889 and the oldest union at Canada Post.

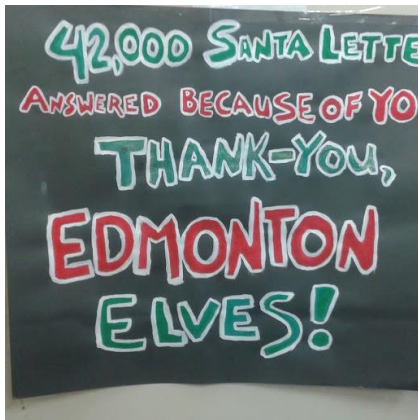
Santa's Workshop



With so many letters to handle, Santa divides the workload by region. The Northern Alberta Postal Elves handled well over 50,000 letters in a 3-week period. The Edmonton workshop handled just over 43,000 letters, and the Parkland Chapter Heritage Club members, answered an amazing 30,000 of those letters. What more can we say. **THANK YOU - WELL DONE!!!**

Santa sends a special thank-you to all those amazing people that help keep the spirit of Christmas alive for families. Receiving a letter from Santa brings so much joy to so many children, and even a few adults, especially here in Alberta where for many, 2016 was not a pleasant year.

Santa also wishes each of his special postal elves a happy, healthy and prosperous new year, and hopes that each of you, and hopefully some additional new elves, will again assist him with his monumental task next year.



OBITUARIES:

It is always with a heavy heart that we hear of the passing of some of our members. We have been made aware that the following people have passed away:

Donald Foster
Violette McNamara
Duncan Brooks

Kathleen Colahan
Dolores Beaulieu
Win Bachman

John Gallupe

If you are aware of a member's passing, can you please contact one of the executive, and let us know the name, date, and any information that you may be aware of, as to their career with Canada Post.

New Members:

The Parkland Chapter of the Canada Post Heritage Club is pleased to welcome the following new members of the Parkland Chapter:

Shirley Dool - Thorsby
Bonnie Evans - Sherwood Park
Kevin Steadman - Edmonton
Barbara Ellis - Hay Lakes
Jo-Anne Graff - Edmonton
Linda Guse - Coronation
Terilyn O'Neill - Millet
John Turner - Edmonton
Cindie Smith - Edmonton

Cecilia Mondoux - Edmonton
Ursula Webber - Edmonton
Maureen Thirlwell - Camrose
Shawn Thirlwell - Camrose
Keith Larson - Sherwood Park
Rick Self - Edmonton
Steven Marcoux - Edmonton
Randa El-Sharkawi - St. Albert

*What happened to the man that took the 5 o'clock train home?
He had to give it back*

Do You Know Where These People Are?

We have had mail returned for the following people. We suspect many of them may have moved, but we do not know their forwarding address. If you know the whereabouts of any of the following people, can you please contact Judy Broomhall at parklandheritageclub@gmail.com , or 780-481-8627, or any of the executive (contact info on last page).

Darleen Balfour - Grimshaw
Kaireen Bartlett - Edmonton
Bret Bell - Lacombe
Cecil Brown - St. Albert
Charles Coops - Edmonton
Jennie Croken - Grande Prairie
Joseph Delhez - Edmonton
Linda Fawcett - St. Albert
Jean Gilbert - Rochon Sands
Stephania Hawiuk - St. Paul

Arthur Johnston - Red Deer
Myrtle Lehman - New Sarepta
Rob Matthew - Camrose
William Mchendry - Edmonton
Ken Robb - Edmonton
M. Semotiuk - Vegreville
Douglas Shrimpton - Sherwood Park
Leila Thill - Rimbey
Teresa Williams - Edmonton

Indexation

On January 1, 2017 your pension increases by a percentage that reflects the increase in the average of the Consumer Price Index for the previous 12-month period, calculated from October to September. This increase is known as indexing.

The indexing rate effective January 1, 2017, is 1.3%. If you have been retired less than one full year on January 1, you get a fraction of the increase equal to

the complete months you've been retired. For example, if you retired on September 20, 2016, your first increase, on January 1, 2017, would be 3/12 (October to December) of the total indexation percentage.

Indexing also applies to survivor benefits paid monthly to your survivor.

COAST TO COAST HERITAGE CLUB HOSPITALITY

Heritage Club hospitality was evident as Eldred Holmes, President of the St. John's Heritage Club and his wife Barb, met a group of BC and Alberta Heritage Club members while the MS Rotterdam was in port for the day. The stop was part of the Voyage of the Vikings cruise.

Eldred and Barb took the group for a visit to Signal Hill and Cape Spear before arriving at the quaint Petty Harbour for a lunch that included the best ever fish and chips and lobster rolls.

From there it was a stop at Eldred's home for refreshments before returning to the ship.

Heritage Club Hospitality from one coast to another!



(Article courtesy Van-Fraser October newsletter)

Eldred and Barb Holmes (left) with Heritage Club visitors at their home

*How can you tell a train just went by?
You can see it's tracks*

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES 2017



March 5/17 – 14-day - Eastern and Western Caribbean on the Nieuw Amsterdam. Inside cabins from \$1990.00 CAD per person including taxes. Round trip from Fort Lauderdale. - Airfare extra. - Visit Half Moon Cays, Bahamas; Cayman Islands; Cozumel, Mexico; Key West, Florida; Grand Turks and Caicos; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Saint Marten.

April 9/17 – 20-day - Panama Canal Cruise on the Nieuw Amsterdam. This is a repositioning cruise from Fort Lauderdale to Vancouver, starting at \$2469.00 CAD pp - plus taxes of \$620.00 CAD pp. Visit Half Moon Cays, Cartagena, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Puerto Chiapas, Huatulco, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, San Diego, Victoria.

April 29 / 17 – 7-day - Alaska cruise, Vancouver return, on the Nieuw Amsterdam. Visit Tracy Arm, Juneau, Ketchikan, Skagway and Glacier Bay starting at \$1195.00 CAD pp plus taxes of \$247.00 pp. You can combine the above repositioning cruise for a 27-day trip from Fort Lauderdale to Vancouver/Alaska return Vancouver.

April 16/17 - 11-day Spring bus trip. You will have to hurry on this one. This is a very popular trip and sells out early. Airfare Edmonton - Vancouver return is extra. Visit Las Vegas for three nights, Laughlin for two nights and Wendover for 2 Nights. \$829.00 CAD pp based on double occupancy or \$1275.00 for single occupancy. Price includes bus, all hotels, some meals and driver gratuities.

August 14/17 – 14-day Alaska cruise on the Norwegian Sun from Vancouver return. Inside cabins from \$2530.00 CAD pp including all taxes.

October 8/17 - 10-day Pacific Coast cruise on the Star Princess - Vancouver return. Visiting Santa Barbara, Catalina Island, Los Angeles and overnight in San Francisco. Inside cabins start at \$1484.00 CAD pp plus taxes of \$263.00. This promo includes shipboard credit and reduced deposit.

October 1/17 - 80-day Grand Voyage from San Diego return on the Amsterdam. Visit Dutch Harbour, five cities in Japan, South Korea, Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Singapore, Indonesia, Darwin, Cairns, Sydney, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Samoa and Honolulu. Call the Heritage Club Office for detailed itinerary and prices. This cruise can also be done in 53 days from San Diego to Sydney Australia.



REMINDER: Be sure you have current out of country travel insurance for any trip you book and that it is active before any cancellation penalty fees are in effect for your trip.

For those with MEDOC, ensure you have renewed your Heritage Club Membership for 2017 and paid your dues to be covered.

Contact the Heritage Club office for info on MEDOC and a registration package.

HERITAGE CLUB Travel Contact Information:

PHONE: 604 482 4311

WEB SITE:

www.vancouverheritageclub.com

Heritage Club members and friends
Voyage of the Vikings Cruise July / August 2016

Heritage Club - Parkland Chapter 28

2017 Executive



President

Lloyd Rogowski
(780) 458-8936



Secretary:

Bob Broomhall
(780) 481-8627



1st Vice President:

Rene Plouffe
(780) 476-7230



Treasurer:

Bill Kubitowich
(780) 476-8265



2nd Vice President:

Paul Otto
(780) 484-8636

Past President:

Committee Members:

Bill Chrapko

Helen Chrapko

Doreen Rogowski

You can also contact us via our email address. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to let us know by sending us an email at parklandheritageclub@gmail.com

The executive will do their best to serve the members of the Parkland Chapter in every way possible. Please do not hesitate to call any one of us to answer any of your questions.

Did you Know ?

Sir Sandford Fleming, a Canadian engineer of Scottish birth, is known as the chief engineer of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and for designing Canada's first postage stamp, but he is also the inventor of worldwide standard time,

Fleming advocated for dividing the world into 24 time zones beginning at the Greenwich Meridian and spaced at 15 degree intervals. His proposal gave way to the International Prime Meridian Conference which convened in 1884 and was attended by 25 nations. It was here that Fleming's system of international standard time was adopted.