



Parkland News

May 2019

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President's Message

Hello Parkland members,

I see spring is trying it's best to show up, but it can't seem to warm things up as well as we would hope. Even though right now we are experiencing lower temperatures I have talked to some landscapers in the area and they tell me they are about two weeks ahead of where we were last year at this time. I do however thank God that we in Parkland are not experiencing some of the disasters that are happening in other parts of the country. Our hearts go out to our Heritage Club members in those areas.

Our next big event is our upcoming Spring BBQ, details of which are included in this issue. I hope that as many of you as possible will show up for a good meal and camaraderie with friends.

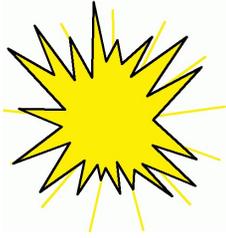
As mentioned in our previous newsletter this is the 30th year that the Heritage Club has been in existence. It was set up for you and me and all long term and retired members of Canada Post to keep active in our communities and enjoy the many activities and perks that come along with your membership. I ask all members new and old to come together and make this club something to be proud of for the next 30 years.

I wish everyone good health and a fantastic summer and look forward to seeing many of you at our events throughout the year.

Lloyd Rogowski
President Parkland Chapter 28

WE'RE ON-LINE: Check out our website

Check out the latest Parkland Chapter news and activities and other chapters at: www.heritageclub.ca



Spring BBQ

Join us for our Annual Spring Barbeque

We have once again booked this year's BBQ at the Devon Lions Park gazebo.

The date for the BBQ is:

Date: Thursday, June 6, 2019

Time: Noon to 4:00 (lunch at 1:00 PM)

Location: Devon Lions Park Gazebo
Devon AB

The park is located in the river valley right next to the Devon Golf Course.

See the map at the back of this newsletter for directions to the park.

Feel free to bring a bottle of wine, or other refreshment. This is a private park, so we do not have the same restrictions on alcohol as we do with public parks.

This BBQ is a fun event and is very well attended.

The event goes "Rain or Shine" – the gazebo provides excellent shelter if it rains.

Please complete the BBQ Attendance Registration form enclosed with this newsletter and send it along with your payment to the Heritage Club office, at the address indicated.

Quarterly Luncheons

Wow! Spring has finally sprung, and members are starting to think about spring and summer activities. Why not make one of those activities a lunch out with old and new friends. Find out what other members have been up to over the winter, and what their plans are in the upcoming months.

We are planning for 2 quarterly luncheons over the next couple of months - Wednesday May 15 and Thursday July 11 - both at 11:30 AM at the Buffet Royale on Fort Road.



Cost of the BBQ is:

- \$10.00 per person for paid up members and spouses.
- \$ 15.00 per person for non-members.

NEW THIS YEAR!!

Are you unable to attend because you are babysitting grandchildren?

This year we are introducing "Bring your Kids to the BBQ" We will be providing Hot Dogs and Chips for any children attending. Just make sure to let us know if any children are attending so we can ensure we have sufficient items.

If you would like to attend, but require a ride, or need additional directions to the park, please contact any of the executive (see the list of club executive members at the back of this newsletter).

Wednesday May 15, 2019

And

Thursday July 11, 2019

11:30 AM

Buffet Royale
12866 Fort Rd NW
Edmonton, AB

**PLEASE NOTE THE
NEW LOCATION**

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.

*Please Mark
your Calendar*

Fall Banquet:

We're trying something a little different this year. The Parkland Chapter Fall Banquet will be held:

Sunday

September 22, 2019

4:00 PM

Continental Inn

16625 Stony Plain Rd.

Edmonton, Alberta

We are hearing from some of our members that they don't like driving at night so we are going to try a Sunday late afternoon banquet, allowing those that want to leave while it is still daylight a chance to enjoy a full early evening of fun and still be home to watch the news.

The Annual Fall Banquet is one of the

SEPTEMBER 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

club's very popular events. It is a chance to dress up a bit and get out for a great evening featuring a great meal at a terrific price, along with a few hours of entertainment.

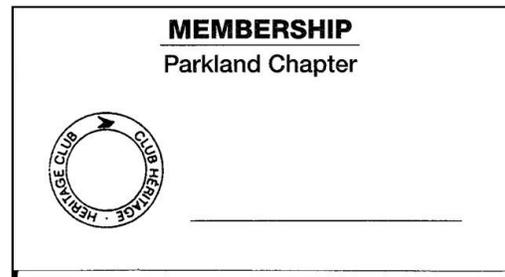
We will be sending out another Newsletter in late summer that will contain more information, but for now please reserve Sunday September 22, 2019.

Membership

The 2019 membership campaign is well underway.

If you have already paid your 2019 membership, you will find your 2019 membership card enclosed with this newsletter. If instead your newsletter contains a membership renewal form, then we have not yet received your annual renewal, and we would ask that you please take a moment and complete the membership form enclosed.

Please remember that our Heritage Club chapter receives only a portion of our funding from the national office, and membership fees are necessary for the chapter to offer a range of activities and to keep everyone informed via newsletters and bulletins.



The annual dues in Parkland Chapter are still one of the lowest in the country at \$10.00 per member and \$10.00 for a spouse.

If you have any questions regarding your membership status, or if you are aware of a member that does not receive this newsletter, please have them contact Judy Broomhall at 780-481-8627 to confirm their membership status.

*Show me a guy with braces on his teeth
and I'll show you a guy who puts his money where his mouth is*



Change of Address

Have you moved recently???

If you have recently moved or are planning a move, please let us know so that we can update our mailing list.

Please let us know by email at parklandheritageclub@gmail.com, or by mail at The Heritage Club, 12135 – 149 St. Edmonton AB. T5L5H2. You can also contact our membership coordinator Judy Broomhall at 780-481-8627, or by contacting any of the executive – contact information on the back page

Golf Group:



Time to get those clubs out!

Our golf group will be up and running again this year. We will be organizing a golf outing each month, weather permitting, for interested members.

There are no serious golfers here..... Just a bunch of retirees out for some fun on the links. So, clean up those golf clubs, and get ready to once again get out with some postie friends for a few rounds of golf.

The golf group meets the 2 nd Wednesday morning of each month.

We attempt to go to a different course each month. (Subject to being able to obtain tee times). If you are interested in joining us, please call Bob Broomhall at (780) 481-8627, or email; parklandheritageclub@gmail.com

Interested members should let us know at least a week in advance so sufficient tee times can be arranged.

If you have any suggestions on courses you would like to play, let us know as well.

The first outing this year will be Wednesday May 8, (time and location TBD).

Edmonton Food Bank



Parkland Chapter continues to assist the Edmonton Food

Bank with regular shifts, normally the third Thursday of the month.

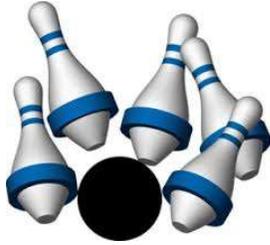
Paul Otto has kindly taken on the challenge of organizing this group. He is always looking for more members to add to his roster. If you are interested in joining our group helping at the Food Bank, then please contact Paul Otto at; protto@shaw.ca or phone 780-484-8636 (leave message) sorry no cell or text.



Our April 18 crew at the Edmonton Food Bank. Look at those nifty new shirts that help keep everyone nice and clean. Thanks to Paul Otto for obtaining these shirts.

*I shoot Golf in the 70's
When it gets colder than that, I quit.*

Bowling:



Several members are coming out once per month for a fun afternoon of bowling.

We are organizing a bowling outing on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, at 1:00 PM at:

The Bronx Bowling Centre
12940 – 127 Street, Edmonton.

There will be bowling on Tuesday May 14, and Tuesday June 11.

If you would like to join us, please let us know by calling Lloyd Rogowski at 780-458-8936 or by email at: l62strat@gmail.com

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:

Leila Thill
Joseph De Lorey

Marjorie Marshall
Phil Sontag

Wanda Szwender
Joseph Gerry Anderson

If you are aware of a member or a spouse 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:

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

Harvinder Rao - Edmonton
Greg High - Edmonton
Douglas Dirksing - Edmonton

Eric Watts - Spruce Grove
Mike Wright - Edmonton
Geraldine Straka - Edmonton

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).

Bret Bell - Lacombe
George Bolkowy - Grimshaw
Daryl Byington - Carvel
Kenneth Dalphond - Edmonton
Joseph Delhez - Edmonton
Olivia Dixon - Edmonton
Ronald Duncan - St. Albert
Rhonda Flynn - Edmonton
Lorne Fox - Wetaskiwin

Jean Gilbert - Rochon Sands
Anna Kniel - Grande Prairie
Clara Olsson - Edmonton
Lit Wang Sat - Edmonton
M. Semotiuk - Vegreville
Evelyn Stanley - Worsley
John Turner - Edmonton
Lloyd Young - Sexsmith

*Some words of wisdom:
Never take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.*

Railway Mail Service – a bygone era

The first railway post offices appeared on Canadian railways in 1854 and were the first to be used in North America. Trains were first used to transport sealed mail bags in 1840, just a few years after the first steam trains in Canada were introduced in 1836. But railway post offices were what marked the beginning of the golden age of the railway mail service. Starting in 1854, mail was transported and sorted by employees in little travelling post offices. Railway post offices revolutionized traditional mail transportation by increasing processing and delivery speeds and reaching remote and isolated communities.

The travelling post offices became known as Railway Post Offices (RPO.) and were part of the Railway Mail Service. Sorting of mail enroute saved time, and a network of these "travelling post offices" soon covered all of Canada. Railway Mail Clerks were the elite of the postal service, their training, knowledge and dexterity, all in cramped quarters that moved beneath their feet, set them apart from all others. Mail was sorted to towns on route and connections to other trains, a very complex matter. Busy R.P.O. runs involved men sorting one piece of mail every 2 seconds! The annual test involved a rigorous 1000 pieces in one hour! 90% accuracy was demanded.

All classes of mail were handled by the Railway Mail Service, but not all of it was in R.P.O.'s, much was carried as "through" mail in closed cars, especially parcels.



Notice the mail clerk kicking the outgoing bag onto the ground as he snares the incoming bag from the catchpost.

Mail was picked up on the fly from smaller towns along the way by using a catch arm on the side of the car swung out by a Railway Mail Clerk who at the same time kicked off a sack of mail for that place. This was a tricky maneuver especially at night or in bad weather and with high speed. Although the engineer was supposed to slow down for each pickup, if the train was running late and he was making up time, then that seldom happened.

The engineer was to alert the Mail Car of an approaching pickup point. That was likely the normal one long blast at one mile when approaching a station. Not much warning, (less than a minute at 60 mph). One thing's for sure, if the catch was missed, the train didn't stop!

Mail Cars on the heaviest main line runs had 72-foot interiors staffed by up to 10 men, while others had a 60-foot interior, worked by 5 men. Secondary runs involved a Mail & Express car with a 30-foot mail section staffed by 3 men, the other 30 feet being for Express. The men lived on these cars for long runs and thus they were equipped with stoves, toilet, sink, cooking facilities etc.

The system grew until 1950, at which time there were 192 R.P.O.'s staffed by 1,385 men, covering some 40,000 miles of route and 834 "through" cars.

A national rail strike in 1950 (the first ever), gave way to trucks hauling the mail and the Post Office saw the flexibility that permitted. It was all down hill from there. The last R.P.O. ended its run April 24, 1971. Some mail was still carried by rail until 1987, when it was finally turned over entirely to trucks and planes.

A very efficient system of delivering mail was lost with the ending of the Railway Mail Service and the R.P.O.



The interior of a typical RPO (Railway Post Office) Car
This car has been restored by a team of Canada Post Heritage Club volunteers from the Van-Fraser Chapter in Vancouver BC

I've reached an age where my train of thought often leaves the station without me...

Heritage Club Travel:



TRAVEL OPPORTUNITES FOR 2019

CANADA POST HERITAGE CLUB MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

June 20, 2019 – 10-day Alaska Cruise, Cunard Cruise Line, on the elegant and traditional Queen Elizabeth, - Vancouver Return. A great opportunity for all who have had a Cunard Cruise on the bucket list but didn't want the flight or transatlantic cruise trip to Europe. The Queen E. will depart and return to Vancouver visiting on route Ketchikan, Tracy Arm, Juneau, Skagway, Icy Strait Point, Sitka and Victoria. A few cabins left at time of writing. Call for current price.

June 30, 2019 – 7-night Alaska cruise, Vancouver to Anchorage on the Westerdam. Visit Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway and Glacier Bay. With this trip, you can fly home from Anchorage or continue on a land tour to Denali, etc. before flying home, or you can stay on the ship and cruise 7 days, back to Vancouver with a full day in Seward for salmon/ halibut fishing or to explore the Kenai Fjords. Call the Heritage Club for information on all these options and for some great last-minute pricing for this cruise.

August 28, 2019 - 7-night Alaska cruise, Vancouver Return, on the Volendam. Visiting Tracy Arm, Glacier Bay, Juneau, Skagway and Ketchikan. Window cabins from \$1350.00 CAD including taxes and ship board credit.

October 6, 2019 - 14-day Eastern Canada/New England Cruise (including a port in Newfoundland), on the Norwegian Dawn. Cruise from Quebec City to New York, visiting Quebec City (overnight), Saguenay, Corner Brook, Charlottetown, Sydney, Halifax, Saint John, Portland (Maine), Newport (RI), New York (overnight on ship). Inside cabins start at \$1270.00 plus tax. Call for details and latest promotions.

January 9, 2020 and January 31, 2020, - 22-day Antarctica cruise on the Zaandam departing on January 9/20 from San Antonio Chile to Buenos Aries and January 31/20, the reverse 22-day cruise, from Buenos Aries to San Antonio, Chile. Both segments include 4 full days cruising through Antarctica, viewing the spectacular scenery and wildlife. Inside Cabins start at \$4999.00 Cad plus taxes per person, per segment. Airfare is extra. Call the Heritage Club for brochures with itinerary and pricing.

October 23, 2020 – 14-day River Cruise on the Viking Longship, Mimir. Visiting Amsterdam, Kinderdijk, Cologne, Koblenz, Wertheim, Wurzburg, Bamberg, Nuremberg, Regensburg, Passau, Melk, Vienna and Budapest Hungary. Contact the Heritage Club Office for an information sheet.

REMINDER: Be sure you have 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 Travel Insurance, ensure you have renewed your Heritage Club Membership for 2019 and paid your dues to be covered. Contact the Heritage Club office for info on MEDOC and for more information on any trips.

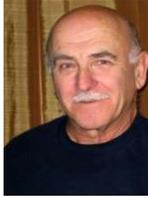
Van Fraser Heritage Club: 604 482-4311 or email: vanfrasernews@gmail.com

Why were the early days of history called the dark ages?

Because there were so many knights.

Heritage Club - Parkland Chapter 28

2019 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

Committee Members:

Bill Chrapko

Helen Chrapko

Doreen Rogowski

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.

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

A Reminder ...

HERITAGE CLUB SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - 2019

The Heritage Club will be awarding up to three (3) scholarships to children or grand-children of all dues paying members of the Heritage Club. The scholarships are valued at \$1,000 each for university or college studies. The scholarships will be awarded to students starting, for the first time, their first year of full-time studies.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Dependent children, including adopted children and stepchildren, grandchildren, wards in legal guardianship of all active members (dues paying member for the last 2 years) of a Heritage Club Chapter. Applicants who have previously received a Heritage Club scholarship are not eligible.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Submissions must be postmarked on or before June 28, 2019

HOW TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION PACKAGE:

Please contact Lloyd Rogowski, Parkland Chapter President at: parklandheritageclub@gmail.com