



Newsletter, Spring  
April 2015

# PINERIDGE Chapter



## *What's to come at a glance:*

- Summer Luncheons
- Spring Trips to Holland and Ottawa
- Annual Golf Tournament
- Fall Trip to the Laurentians

## *President's Message*

**Dear Members,**

**Finally, after a long and cold winter we are seeing the good weather return to us.**

**This year is shaping up to be a good one as we have a lot of new members and we encourage you to come out and bring your friends, parents, and neighbors to join us in our activities: the more the merrier! The Heritage Club provides a great opportunity to renew old ties with former work colleagues in your retirement years, and make new friends.**

**Check out our schedule of activities for this year: you will find day trips, overnights and luncheons, a bit of everything.**

**If you have any ideas for activities you would like to see, we are open to all suggestions. We also encourage your feedback.**

**Get out there and enjoy!**

**Jean Pierre Leguerrier  
President  
Pineridge Chapter**

## UPCOMING EVENTS for 2015

### **May 1<sup>st</sup> – 10th, 2015: Holland Liberation Celebration 2015**

On May 5, 2015, Holland will enjoy and celebrate 70 years of Liberation. The Dutch people wish to celebrate and commemorate these events with the liberators and families and all their Canadian friends. *Welcome Again Veterans Foundation* will organize a pilgrimage for the Canadians who participated in Holland's liberation. With the support of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #5 (Netherlands) and participation by host towns, there will be a comprehensive and exciting program for the entire event.

Contact **Verstraete Travel & Cruises**, 14845 Yonge St., Suite 300, Aurora, Ontario L4G 6H8. (416) 969-8100. There is now only limited spaces left.

### **May 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015: Ottawa, the Nation's Capital**

The Nation's Capital is always a wonderful place to visit, especially In Spring time when it becomes the 'Tulip Capital of North America'. Also featured: guided Sightseeing in the Capital, plus a Luncheon and Tour at the fabulous Fairmont Chateau Montebello Hotel, "the world's largest log building", an architectural marvel built in 1930. You'll also enjoy a Driving Tour of the fascinating Park Omega, a 1,500 acre park where Canadian Wildlife live and roam freely in this natural habitat. Add to these features a tour of the Canadian War Museum, and a 2 night stay at the 5-star Hilton Lac-Leamy in Ottawa/Gatineau, which is connected to the Casino, plus great Meals and a Taxi pick-up/drop-off at your home, and you have a very enjoyable, great value tour! Just \$579.00 per person, Double Occupancy.

Call **Time of your Life** (416-224-0684) to reserve.

### **May 20th, 2015, noon: Oshawa, One World Buffet**

A new buffet restaurant has opened in Oshawa, and our members, especially those living in Durham, may wish to check it out. They have over 150 international specialties from around the world.

We meet at noon at One World Buffet, located at 200 John St. W. (Midtown Mall). The subsidized cost is a very low \$10 per member, \$13 for non-members. We request that you reserve by mailing in a cheque to our address: Pineridge Heritage Club, 629 Markham Rd., PO Box 90593, Scarborough ON, M1H 3G7.

**NOTE:** we will not be doing a Food Bank collection on this occasion, nor a raffle.

### **Thursday, June 4, 2015, noon: Luncheon Buffet at The Mandarin**

We meet at noon at The Mandarin Restaurant, 1725 Kingston Road, in Pickering, for the 2nd luncheon of 2015 at this location. Register early by sending in your cheque, and don't forget to bring a non-perishable food item for the Food Banks. Seniors, please bring your identification. The cost is \$12 per member, \$15 non-members.

Contact **Jack Vitto** at (416-319-6643) to reserve and mail in your cheque to: Pineridge Heritage Club, 629 Markham Rd., PO Box 90593, Scarborough ON, M1H 3G7.

### **Friday, June 12, 2014, 09:00: Annual Golf Tournament**

The Golf Tournament will be held at the same location as last year, Lakeridge Links/Whispering Ridge Golf Course, located at 1355 Brawley Road, Brooklin. The cost has remained the same now for the last few years: \$70 per member with no cart, \$83 for a Senior member with a cart, and non-seniors \$88 with a cart. The tournament will be followed by a prime rib dinner and many prizes will be awarded. When registering, please advise us if you require a cart, as we need to reserve these as soon as possible.

Contact **Les Kimmerer** to register at (705) 320-9480. Cheques should be made out to Pineridge Heritage Club, 629 Markham Rd., PO Box 90593, Scarborough ON, M1H 3G7. Please indicate what you are paying for. All registrations should be completed by May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Like last year, we are sending out invitations to our friends from the neighbouring Heritage Chapters of Simcoe, Trent-Severn, and Humber to join us.

### **September 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015: Autumn in the Laurentians**

Enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Laurentian Mountains, north of Montreal, along with Fine Dining, Daily Organized Fun Activities, and Nightly Live Entertainment on this delightful start-of-autumn getaway! It awaits your pleasure at the lovely Auberge du Vieux Foyer in the village of Val-David. Includes a taxi pickup, a welcome reception, 3 nights accommodation and 9 meals at the Auberge. Also a guided tour of the area, including a visit to the village of Tremblant and the Casino. Just \$759.00 per person, double occupancy. A \$100 deposit is required, with the balance paid by August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Call **Time of your Life** (416-224-0684) to reserve.

## The LOCAL NEWS

### We received some Thank You Notes:

**The Children's Wish Foundation:** "...Your gift will have a lasting impact on the lives and dreams of numerous wish children and their families..."

**Sick Kids Foundation:** "...Your generous donation will allow us to continue bringing hope, healing and brighter future to children every day..."

**The Salvation Army:** "...Generous friends like you, make it possible for us to reach out and bring hope and dignity to vulnerable people..."

### Welcome and/or Congratulations to our New Members and/or New Retirees

Wing-On Chow, Maurice E. Kelly

### Congratulations

On their wedding anniversaries: Ken Dayal and his spouse, Bernie & Jos Snyder, Debbie & Paul Greenwood. Also, congratulations to Paul Greenwood on his retirement and Debbie on her birthday

### In Memoriam

Jack Fitzpatrick, S.C. Production Control. Jack Aldred, Quality Assurance and long time member of the Royal Canadian Legion. Dave Thurston, Route Measurement

### The End of an Era

The Canadian Postal Employees Curling Classic has been held all across this country since 1967. It began in Winnipeg through the efforts of Manitoba Postal employees. Sadly, it will be discontinued after April of 2015, the 49th Anniversary. This year's event was held at the St. Vital Curling Club April 4 – 10, 2015. Ontario Postal Curling would like to thank all the Heritage Members who helped us over the years by buying tickets for our yearly raffles. The team members representing Ontario in Winnipeg this year are: Wayne Wedow, Lee Miller, and Cleve Long of Owen Sound; Steve Smith (Ajax), and Bernie Joosten (Toronto).

## The “L I F E is G O O D” Section

### Smart Answers

It was mealtime during an airline flight. 'Would you like dinner?', the flight attendant asked John, seated in front. 'What are my choices?' John asked. 'Yes or no,' she replied.

A flight attendant was stationed at the departure gate to check tickets. As a man approached, she extended her hand for the ticket and he opened his trench coat and flashed her. Without missing a beat, she said, 'Sir, I need to see your ticket, not your stub.'

A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store but she couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked a stock boy, 'Do these turkeys get any bigger?' The stock boy replied, 'No ma'am, they're dead...'

The police officer got out of his car as the kid who was stopped for speeding rolled down his window. 'I've been waiting for you all day,' the officer said. The kid replied, 'Yeah, well I got here as fast as I could.' When the cop finally stopped laughing, he sent the kid on his way without a ticket.

A truck driver was driving along on the freeway and noticed a sign that read: Low Bridge Ahead. Before he knows it, the bridge is right in front of him and his truck gets wedged under it. Cars are backed up for miles. Finally a police car comes up. The cop gets out of his car and walks to the truck driver, puts his hands on his hips and says, 'Got stuck, huh?' The truck driver says, 'No, I was delivering this bridge and I ran out of gas.'

A woman is standing, looking at herself in the bedroom mirror. She is not happy with what she sees and says to her husband, 'I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly... I really need you to pay me a compliment.' The husband replies, 'Your eyesight's damn near perfect.'

### Odds and Sods

"There are no strangers here; only friends you haven't yet met."  
- William Butler Yeats

"We don't stop playing because we grow old. We grow old because we stop playing." – George Bernard Shaw

**Value is Relative**

To realize the value of a sister/brother: Ask someone who doesn't have one.

To realize the value of ten years: Ask a newly divorced couple.

To realize the value of four years: Ask a graduate.

To realize the value of one year: Ask a student who has failed a final exam.

To realize the value of nine months: Ask a mother who gave birth to a stillborn.

To realize the value of one month: Ask a mother who has given birth to a premature baby.

To realize the value of one week: Ask an editor of a weekly newspaper.

To realize the value of one minute: Ask a person who has missed the train, bus or plane.

To realize the value of one second: Ask a person who has survived an accident.

Time waits for no one. Treasure every moment you have.  
You will treasure it even more when You can share it with someone special.

To realize the value of a friend or family member: LOSE ONE.

**The Right Doctor makes a Difference**

Two patients limp into two different medical clinics with the same complaint: both have trouble walking and appear to require a hip replacement. The FIRST patient is examined within the hour, is x-rayed the same day and has a time booked for surgery the following week.

The SECOND sees his family doctor after waiting 3 weeks for an appointment, then waits 8 weeks to see a specialist, then gets an x-ray, which isn't reviewed for another week and finally has his surgery scheduled for 6 months from then.

Why the different treatment for the two patients?

The FIRST is a Golden Retriever. The SECOND is a Senior Citizen.

Next time take me to a vet!

### **Never Too Late**

“I said if he can do it, I’m gonna try.” – James Henry Arruda. Taught himself to read at 92 and wrote and published a book at 96.

“Every morning when I wake up I say I’ll never be as young as I am today. Today is the youngest day of the rest of my life. Get up and do something fun.” – Rochelle Ford, 78-year-old metal sculptor.

“As you grow older, if you don’t move, you won’t move.” – Yvonne Dowlen, 88-year-old figure skater.

“Trash self doubt. Dare to be yourself.” - Margaret Hagerty, 91-year-old Guinness World Record Holder and Marathon Runner.

“I never use that word, retire.” – B.B. King, Legendary Musician.

“Why stop doing what you love?” – Ardith Bruce, 84-year-old Bronco Barrel Racer.

“I listen. I love and I live. Your body knows what to do. Your mind gets in the way.” – Phyllis Sues, 91-year-old Yogini, dancer, writer, singer, musician, and trapeze artist.

“We have confused illness with the process of aging, which can be thoroughly healthy. Illness is not a necessary part of aging.” – Dr. Charles Eugster, 94, World Masters Rowing Champion.

“I used to think 50 was old. I was wrong. Not even close.” – Harriet Anderson, 79, the oldest female ever to finish the Ironman World Championship.

“You just don’t let that rocking chair take over. You get up and go even if you don’t want to.” – Constance Reeves, 102-year-old cowgirl.

“I quit drinking at 90 but I have a couple of shots of Jack Daniel’s twice a week for medicinal purposes.” – Jack Weil, 107, and the oldest CEO in America.

“It’s better than sitting around. I meet lovely people.” Dolly Saville, 100, the world’s oldest barmaid.

## PORTRAIT of HEROES

### The Doolittle Raid over Tokyo

Japan bombed Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941, The Doolittle Raid took place only 132 days after. Keep that in consideration when reading the below. Even with the technology available today, not sure we could come close to that achievement.

The "Doolittle Raiders" were once among the most universally admired and revered men in the United States. There were 80 of the Raiders in April 1942, when they carried out one of the most courageous and heart-stirring military operations in that country's history. The mere mention of their unit's name, in those years, would bring tears to the eyes of grateful Americans. Now only four survive.

After Japan's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, with the United States reeling and wounded, something dramatic was needed to turn the war effort around.

Even though there were no friendly airfields close enough to Japan for the United States to launch a retaliation, a daring plan was devised. Sixteen B-25s bombers were modified so that they could take off from the deck of an aircraft carrier. This had never before been tried -- sending such big, heavy aircrafts from a carrier. The 16 five-man crews, under the command of Lt. Col. James Doolittle, who himself flew the lead plane off the USS Hornet, knew that they would not be able to return to the carrier. They would have to hit Japan and then hope to make it to China for a safe landing.

But on the day of the raid, the Japanese military caught wind of the plan. The Raiders were told that they would have to take off from much farther out in the Pacific Ocean than they had counted on. They were told that because of this they would not have enough fuel to make it to safety: those men went anyway. They bombed Tokyo, and then flew as far as they could. Four planes crash-landed; 11 more crews bailed out, and three of the Raiders died. Eight more were captured; three were executed. Another died of starvation in a Japanese prison camp. One crew made it to Russia.

The Doolittle Raid sent a message from the United States to its enemies, and to the rest of the world: We will fight. And, no matter what it takes, We will win. Of the 80 Raiders, 62 survived the war. They were celebrated as national heroes, models of bravery.

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer produced a motion picture based on the raid; "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," starring Spencer Tracy and Van Johnson, a patriotic and



emotional box-office hit, and the phrase became part of the national lexicon. In the movie-theater previews for the film, MGM proclaimed that it was presenting the story "with supreme pride."

Beginning in 1946, the surviving Raiders have held a reunion each April, the anniversary of the mission, to commemorate it. The reunion is in a different city each year. In 1959, the city of Tucson, Arizona, as a gesture of respect and gratitude, presented the Doolittle Raiders with a set of 80 silver goblets. Each goblet was engraved with the name of a Raider.

Every year, a wooden display case bearing all 80 goblets is transported to the reunion city. Each time a Raider passes away, his goblet is turned upside down in the case at the next reunion, as his old friends bear solemn witness. Also in the wooden case is a bottle of 1896 Hennessy Very Special cognac. The year is not happenstance: 1896 was the year that Jimmy Doolittle was born.

There has always been a plan: When there are only two surviving Raiders, they would open the bottle, at last drink from it, and toast their comrades who preceded them in death. As 2013 began, there were five living Raiders; then, in February, Tom Griffin passed away at age 96.

What a man he was. After bailing out of his plane over a mountainous Chinese forest after the Tokyo raid, he became ill with malaria, and almost died. When he recovered, he was sent to Europe to fly more combat missions. He was shot down, captured, and spent 22 months in a German prisoner of war camp.

The selflessness of these men, the sheer guts... there was a passage in the Cincinnati Enquirer obituary for Mr. Griffin that, on the surface, had nothing to do with the war, but that emblemizes the depth of his sense of duty and devotion:

*"When his wife became ill and needed to go into a nursing home, he visited her every day. He walked from his house to the nursing home, fed his wife and at the end of the day brought home her clothes. At night, he washed and ironed her clothes. Then he walked them up to her room the next morning. He did that for three years until her death in 2005."*

So now, out of the original 80, only four Raiders remain: Dick Cole (Doolittle's co-pilot on the Tokyo raid), Robert Hite, Edward Saylor and David Thatcher. All are in their 90's. They have decided that there are too few of them for the public reunions to continue. They have decided to get together once more, informally and in absolute privacy. That is when they will open the bottle of brandy. The years are flowing by too swiftly now; they are not going to wait until there are only two of them. They will fill the four remaining upturned goblets, and raise them in a toast to those who are gone.

**Doolittle Raiders – 71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Photo**



**Pineridge Chapter Financial Report for Year 2014**

|                         |             |                   |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Balance Forward (2013)  | \$4226.01   |                   |             |
| National Office Grant   | \$2,274.00  | Community Serv.   | \$1,570.62  |
| Membership dues         | \$2,200.00  | Travel            | \$ 967.77   |
| Social Activities       | \$3,654.00  | Social Activities | \$8,391.13  |
| Golf Tourn/Fund Raising | \$3,256.50  | Misc.             | \$ 306.44   |
| Cash on Hand            | \$ 73.50    |                   |             |
| Total Revenue           | \$11,458.00 | Total Expend.     | \$11,235.96 |
| Surplus                 | \$222.04    |                   |             |
| Closing Balance         | \$4,448.05  |                   |             |

**John Edward Aiken**

Our condolences to the family and friends of John Aiken, former President of Pineridge Chapter. John passed away on February 24, 2015, age 87; John held many senior positions for Canada Post in Toronto and Ottawa. Pictured in this photo, from left to right: Mary Aiken, John, Margaret Fisher, and Doug, former Treasurer of this Chapter who is also deceased. Photo taken in 2005.

**WorkPerks Employee Discount Program not being renewed**

After careful consideration of the widespread availability of other discounts and the rising costs to Canada Post, the Corporation will not renew its contract with Venngo, WorkPerks external provider.

The program will no longer be available after April 10, 2015. Only existing WorkPerks members will continue to have access to their account and the available offers until that date.

WorkPerks members who had purchased insurance from The Co-operators or a membership with GoodLife Fitness will not see their insurance plan or gym membership change.



A Postman dressed in the Fall clothing issue, 1894. National Archives of Canada.

### **Newsletter Distribution**

This newsletter is produced quarterly and is distributed to every member and associate who has paid the annual dues to the Pineridge Chapter. Also, a general distribution is made once a year to every person currently listed as retired, or has 25 years of service in our Chapter area. Articles of general interest for the newsletter are always welcomed from our members.

### **New Members**

New members will receive our newsletter in the current year of retirement; after that, they need to signify their intent to join by paying dues to the Chapter in order to continue receiving our communications. Our membership year runs from **January to December**.

**Do you have any suggestions for trips or special events you would like to participate in? Are you looking to find like-minded travel partners? Give our V-P Debbie a call: [dagreenwood4@gmail.com](mailto:dagreenwood4@gmail.com), 905-706-5285 or 905-683-5750.** She will research the most economical trip for you and may know of individuals who are interested in the same event.

### **Volunteering**

The motto of the Heritage Club is "**People helping People**"; we would like to know of any activity you are currently participating in that benefits people and/or the community, and how many hours you spend at it per month. This is one of the criteria we are measured on by CPC, and it affects our yearly funding.

### **Life Events**

Have you had any life events you would like the Heritage Club to announce? Marriages, births, special anniversaries (i.e. 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary), deaths, hospitalizations, etc. Let us know so we can pay tribute.

### **Membership Advantages**

In order to benefit from all the advantages and discounts offered by Johnson, MEDOC, and Co-operators insurance companies, you must mention your Heritage Club Membership Number, and you must have paid your membership dues to a Heritage Club Chapter for the current year.

### **Elections**

The constitution of the Heritage Club has a provision that positions on the executive of a chapter are for a two year term, after which they must be posted. Any current paid member of the Club, with over 25 years of service can submit their names for a position. For 2015, the following positions are up for renewal: treasurer and secretary. These positions will be renewed by the incumbents if not contested. For any submissions, please inform the president by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **YOUR EXECUTIVE MEMBERSHIP**

J.P. Leguerrier, Chapter President, Writer-Editor Newsletter,

Membership Database. *Email: jnglor@rogers.com*

Debbie Greenwood, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Trip Co-ordinator/Travel Co. Liaison

Web Master. *Email: dagreenwood4@gmail.com*

Bernie Snyder, Treasurer, Membership Dues

*Email: jbsnyder37@yahoo.ca*

Jack Vitto, Secretary, Mailings, Santa Letter Writing Coordinator

*Email: jackvitto@rogers.com*

Les Kimmerer, Past President, Annual Golf Tournament

*Email: kimmeles@hotmail.com*

Margaret Fisher, Honorary Lifetime Member

Support Staff: H. Welch, K. Dayal, G. Mac Donald, J. Snyder

### **FORMS**

#### ***CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE***

Name:

Old Address:

New Address:

Postal Code:

Phone Number:

#### ***MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL- January to December***

Name:

Address:

Postal Code:

Phone Number:

Renewal for Self?: Couple?:

Email address (optional):

***Reminder: have you enclosed your dues?***

Amount Enclosed:

Send completed forms and/or information to: Pineridge Heritage Club,  
629 Markham Rd., PO Box 90593, Scarborough ON, M1H 3G7. You may also  
phone our Treasurer, Bernie: (416) 439-9505. Cheques for luncheons and  
membership dues should be made out to Pineridge Heritage Club.

For bus trips, make cheques out to Time of Your Life Tours, and send to 500  
Sheppard Ave. East, Suite 203, Toronto ON, M2N 6H7, (416) 224-0684.