



Newsletter, Spring
May 2016

PINERIDGE Chapter



What's to come at a glance:

- Next luncheon: June 16
- A Mystery Tour in June
- Annual Golf Tourney
- Fall Bus Tour

President's Message

Dear Members,

We're off to a good start with an early Spring and lots of new activities planned for our Club. The only thing that might be missing is your participation, so do join in the fun.

As always, we welcome all suggestions for activities and events you might want us to set up for you: this is your Club, tell us what you want and we will attempt to deliver.

Our luncheons are always well attended with +60 members showing up, and the upcoming golf tournament will be a great opportunity to stretch your legs.

Here's wishing you continued good health and a great summer of activities and fun.

Hope to see you soon!

J.P.

**Jean Pierre Leguerrier
President
Pineridge Chapter**

UPCOMING EVENTS for 2016

June 8th to June 10th, 2016: 13th Annual Mystery Tour

Head off to “*destination unknown!*” As always with Mystery Tours, you won’t know where you are going, but here’s what we can tell you: we are not crossing the border into the US, so you do not need a passport. You’ll enjoy a 2-night stay at one hotel. You’ll enjoy great sightseeing, great live entertainment, great (7) meals, and shopping time too! Limousine pick-up and drop off at your home (metro Toronto). The team of Tour Escort Carroll Ann Girard and Driver Michael Alexander will be your hosts.

The price is \$749.00 per person, double occupancy, and includes all taxes, luggage handling and meal tips. Contact Time of Your Life Tours (416-224-0684) to reserve.

Thursday, June 16, 2016, noon: Luncheon Buffet at The Mandarin

We meet at noon at The Mandarin Restaurant, 1725 Kingston Road, in Pickering, for the second luncheon of 2016. Register early, and don’t forget to bring a non-perishable food item for the Food Banks. Seniors, please bring your ID. The cost remains a low \$12 per member, \$15 for non-members.

Contact **Bernie** at (416-439-9505) to reserve and mail in your cheque to: Pineridge Heritage Club, 629 Markham Rd., PO Box 90593, Scarborough ON, M1H 3G7.

Friday, June 24, 2016: Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Calling all golfers in the Pineridge, Humber, Simcoe and Trent-Severn Chapters: The annual golf tournament and dinner 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 a non-senior \$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 registration should be completed by May 31st.

Sept. 17th to Sept. 20th, 2016: Agawa Canyon and Northern Ontario

This enjoyable Northern Ontario circle tour is highlighted by the famous Algoma Central Train Excursion from Sault Ste. Marie into the wilderness beauty of the Agawa Canyon. Further highlights of this wonderful September getaway include the 30,000 Islands Cruise out of Parry Sound, a visit to Science North in Sudbury, and a Return Cruise from Manitoulin Island to Tobermory aboard the Chi-Cheemaun Ferry. Top-notch Accommodation, 9 Included Meals and Limo Service to your front door add to your enjoyment of this delightful all-Canadian Tour!

Just \$969.00 per person, double occupancy, \$1,159.00 for Single Occupancy. \$909.00 Per Person for Triple Occupancy.

Call Time of Your Life Tours to reserve (416) 224-0684.

Monday, Nov. 28th, 2016: Port Dover and the Panorama of lights in Simcoe

A delicious Dinner at the popular Erie Beach Hotel in Port Dover followed by a Guided Tour of the “Panorama of Lights” in Simcoe is a festive season treat, looked forward to by many of our customers. We are pleased to once again present it for your pleasure! This year’s trip starts o with a visit to **Merry Farms** (formerly Will’s Farms) in Lynden, near Brantford. You’ll have time here (2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.) to browse their lovely Christmas Village store, take a 20 minute Guided Tour of the Christmas Tree Farm (in an enclosed wagon) and enjoy a hot coffee and fresh muffin. From Lynden, we motor south to the charming lakeside town of Port Dover on the shores of Lake Erie. At the **Erie Beach Hotel** here you’ll enjoy a **Full Course Dinner of Roast Turkey and Lake Erie Perch** served ‘family-style’ (4:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.) Following dinner, we head over to Simcoe where we’ll enjoy a **Guided Tour** of their wonderful ‘**River of Lights**’ (7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.), featuring 65 displays and over 130,000 lights! At the end of the tour, complimentary cookies and hot drinks are enjoyed before we head for home.

Our subsidized price for this event is \$85 per person. Call Time of Your Life Tours (416) 224-0684 and identify yourself as an Heritage Club member.

TIP:

To find a list of our current activities 24/7 and contact info:
Go to: www.heritageclub.ca, and select “Pineridge” Chapter.

The LOCAL NEWS

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

Anne Pillar, Nancy Deveau, Susan Monier, Al Crevier

Our sympathies to the friends and family:

Raymond Clark Jeffery, husband of Lois. Vince Raeli, Scarborough Driver. Tom Ferguson, Scarborough Mail Handler. Byron Wilcox, SCLPP Supervisor.

Pension Issue Update

As you remember from last year, CPC pensioners were confronted with worrisome news from Canada Post that it was having financial difficulties, and at that time, the former Conservative government gave CPC the option to stop funding our Pension Plan for the next few years until it could get it's house in order.

It was also at that time that the former Minister of Finance, Joe Oliver, started brandishing the idea of changing Defined Benefits Pension, which we have, and guarantees us the same amount of lifetime pension amount every month (with yearly increase due to inflation), and switching that over to a Targeted Benefits Pension, which is a system that varies the amount of pension payout depending on how well the economy is doing.

Unclear at that time was whether the government intended to apply this new system retroactively to people who were already on pension or not.

It was also last year that CPC set up a Pension Advisory Committee, made up of management and union officials, to discuss the financial issues, and keep us posted on options. But then came along an election, a change in government, and no news to speak of.

I now understand that the PAC has finally met last November, and this April. Delays were encountered with the late election of some union members and their availability to meet. Also, there was an understandable delay relating to the federal election and some exploration was needed of the new government's attitude towards the kind of pension reform the Conservatives were seeming to support.

During the election, there appeared to be some indication that a new Liberal government would be inclined to respect the value of earned years of service in regards to any pension reform. What is needed is a greater confirmation that this will extend to CPC, and the pressure it felt it was under to push for pension

concessions. It is my feeling, as well as a lot of other people, that the government of Canada is legally liable for any shortfall in our Plan, and that there is no reason for retirees to agree to anything that would damage the value of our acquired years of service.

The latest news I have is that there will be some updates soon on the cpcpension.com website. Stay tuned.

Some Stats from 2012:

Number of Retirees: 26,236

Average Age: 63.2

Number of Active Members: 57,533

Average Age: 48.5

What to do when a Plan member dies?

We get asked this question occasionally, so here is a recap of what to do.

Who do I contact about the Canada Post Pension Plan?

Contact the Pension Centre at 1-877-480-9220. Outside North America, 1-613-683-5908. For Executive employees, 1-866-275-9810.

What information is required?

The member employee's name, identification number (if available), date of death, and marital status at death. Name of spouse or common-law partner, name of executor, eligible children, and beneficiaries, with their dates of birth, addresses and telephone numbers. An original death certificate and a copy of the will and proof of the appointment of the executor will be required.

A Pension Centre representative will be there to answer your questions and guide you through each step of the process.

Some other helpful phone numbers:

Great-West Life Assurance Co.	1-866-716-1313
Sun-Life Insurance Co.	1-888-757-7427
Canada Pension Plan	1-800-277-9914
Superannuation, Supplementary Death Benefits	1-800-561-7930

The "LIFE is GOOD" Section

Great Wisdom Gained Over The Years

My Great Wisdom Gained Over The Years....

As I was lying around, pondering the problems of the world,

I realized that at my age I don't really give a rat's ass anymore.

.. If walking is good for your health, the postman would be immortal.

A whale swims all day, only eats fish, drinks water, but is still fat.

.. A rabbit runs and hops and only lives 15 years, while

.. A tortoise doesn't run and does mostly nothing, yet it lives for 150 years.

And you tell me to exercise?? I don't think so.

Just grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked,

the good fortune to remember the ones I do,

and the eyesight to tell the difference.

NOW THAT I'M OLDER HERE'S WHAT I'VE DISCOVERED:

1. I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.
2. My wild oats are mostly enjoyed with prunes and all-bran.
3. I finally got my head together, and now my body is falling apart.
4. Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.
5. Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.
6. If all is not lost, then where the heck is it ?
7. It was a whole lot easier to get older, than to get wiser.
8. Some days, you're the top dog; some days you're the hydrant.
9. I wish the buck really did stop here; I sure could use a few of them.
10. Kids in the back seat cause accidents.
11. Accidents in the back seat cause kids.
12. It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.
13. The world only beats a path to your door when you're in the bathroom.
14. If God wanted me to touch my toes, he'd have put them on my knees.
15. When I'm finally holding all the right cards, everyone wants to play chess.
16. It's not hard to meet expenses . . . they're everywhere.
17. The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.
18. These days, I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter . . .
I go somewhere to get something, and then wonder what I'm "here after".
19. Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.

Lessons we learned from our parents

1. **My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE.**
"If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."
2. **My mother taught me RELIGION.**
"You better pray that will come out of the carpet."
3. **My father taught me about TIME TRAVEL.**
"If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
4. **My father taught me LOGIC.**
" Because I said so, that's why."
5. **My mother taught me MORE LOGIC.**
"If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."
6. **My mother taught me FORESIGHT.**
"Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."
7. **My father taught me IRONY.**
"Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."
8. **My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS.**
"Shut your mouth and eat your supper."
9. **My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM.**
"Just you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"
10. **My mother taught me about STAMINA.**
"You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."
11. **My mother taught me about WEATHER.**
"This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."
12. **My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY.**
"If I told you once, I've told you a million times, don't exaggerate!"
13. **My father taught me the CIRCLE OF LIFE.**
"I brought you into this world, and I can take you out..."

14. **My mother taught me about BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION .**

"Stop acting like your father!"

15. **My mother taught me about ENVY.**

"There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do."

16. **My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION.**

"Just wait until we get home."

17. **My mother taught me about RECEIVING.**

"You are going to get it from your father when you get home!"

18 . **My mother taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE.**

"If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way."

19. **My mother taught me ESP.**

"Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"

20. **My father taught me HUMOR.**

"When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."

21. **My mother taught me HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT.**

"If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."

22. **My mother taught me GENETICS.**

"You're just like your father."

23. **My mother taught me about my ROOTS.**

"Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"

24. **My mother taught me WISDOM.**

"When you get to be my age, you'll understand."

25. **My father taught me about JUSTICE.**

"One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you!"

"Success does not consist in never making mistakes but in never making the same one a second time". – George Bernard Shaw

PORTRAIT of HEROES

On a quiet side street in Oshawa, stands a street sign, Beurling Avenue. It is named after the most successful Canadian fighter pilot of the Second World War: George Frederick "Buzz" Beurling, 1921-1948. He was recognized as Canada's most famous hero of WWII, nicknamed "The Falcon of Malta", having shot down 27 Axis aircraft in just 14 days over the besieged Mediterranean island. Before the war ended, his official count climbed to 31.

Lacking academic qualifications and his parents permission, he was rejected by the Royal Canadian Air Force, forcing him to sail to England to join the Royal Air Force.

Serving first in England, he acquired his first two kills over France, before he was re-assigned to Malta, where he acquired his legendary reputation as a fierce fighter pilot.

A committed Christian, teetotaler, and non-smoker, while his counterparts patronized the local bars every night, Beurling dedicated himself totally to the art of aerial combat. Tending to be a loner on the ground and in the air, Beurling angered his commanders with his disdain for teamwork.

His relentless concentration on aerial fighting led Beurling to develop a marked skill at deflection shooting and together with his "situational awareness", he was soon recognised as a deadly fighter pilot.

Like many successful Spitfire pilots, Beurling developed the habit of only engaging enemy aircraft at 250 yards or less — a range at which many other pilots would be breaking away. Beurling owed his spectacular success to remarkably good eyesight and the ability to "toss his Spitfire" into violent combat manoeuvres. If jumped from behind, he would pull back on the stick of his Mk VC Spitfire so hard that the aircraft would enter a violent stall, flick over and spin. This was a hard, sudden and very dangerous act for the enemy fighter on his tail to follow.

Beurling would also ram both ailerons and rudder into a sudden and violent turn, causing his Spitfire to flip over and drop like a stone. Only a very experienced (or crazy) pilot would pull such stunts more than once or twice. Beurling made them a matter of habit. He knew that the Spitfire could be nursed out of such self-induced trouble and get him home safely.

Shot down four times over Malta, suffering a leg wound, and with the enervation of daily combat combined with the effects of the poor rations and dysentery took their toll. He was bedridden for a few months, and then sent back to the England.

After landing back in Britain, Beurling was then sent to Canada to join a Victory Loan Drive, selling war bonds which he did not enjoy. Also, he often said things that embarrassed the RCAF, such as that he enjoyed killing people. He completed his promotional work in mid-1943.

On 1 September 1943, Beurling transferred back to the Royal Canadian Air Force, and was posted to an operational squadron, flying the new Spitfire IX.

Disciplinary problems plagued his entire career. However, his stunting of a de Havilland Tiger Moth at zero feet over his airfield eventually led to his Wing Commander, Hugh Godefroy DFC, threatening him with a court martial. Finally, he was grounded for stunting and his lack of teamwork.

Beurling returned to Canada in April 1944. He was given an honourable discharge in October and, despite an attempt to join the United States Army Air Forces, his wartime flying was over. He ended his career as a Squadron Leader with 31 and one shared official kills, nine claimed damaged, along with a DSO, DFC and a DFM and bar.

Beurling's marriage ended in March 1945. He survived the war only to find himself unable to adjust to civilian life.

In 1948, Beurling was recruited to fly P-51 Mustangs for the Israeli Air Force. En route to Israel, after a test flight, Beurling was killed in a crash in 1948. He was interred with full military honors in Israel.



George Beurling, Distinguished Flying Cross, Distinguished Service Order, Distinguished Flying Medal & Bar, Royal Air Force, Royal Canadian Air Force, Israel Defense Forces

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, as well as any feedback, suggestions, etc.

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** and costs only \$10 per person.

Membership dues for the following year are due with the last newsletter of the year, in October.

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*, 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. 50th 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 travel insurance, 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.

