



Newsletter, Winter
February 2018

PINERIDGE Chapter

What's to come at a glance:

- Mandarin buffet group luncheons
- Spring and Fall bus tours
- Annual Golf Tournament
- Check out our Web Site: heritageclub.ca, then select Pineridge Chapter

President's Message

Dear Members,

Welcome to the New Year 2018, the year of the dog, an auspicious animal which the Chinese zodiac says if one happens to come to your door, it symbolizes the coming of fortune: unleash the hounds!

We look forward to seeing you out to some of our events, as we have a bit of everything in the offering this year, from group luncheons and travel, and our annual golf tournament.

We also have great discounts on GoodLife Fitness gym memberships, Johnson Insurance vehicle and home, and Medoc travel insurance. You merely have to be a paid member of the club to apply.

I wish you all a good year ahead and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our future events.

J.P.

**Jean Pierre Leguerrier
President, Pineridge Chapter**

UPCOMING EVENTS for 2018

Thursday, March 22, 2018, noon: Luncheon Buffet at The Mandarin

We meet at noon at The Mandarin Restaurant, 1725 Kingston Road, in Pickering, for our first group luncheon of 2018. 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 \$14 per member, and a **new price** for non-members, \$20.00.

Contact **Bernie** at (416-439-9505) to confirm your attendance and reserve by mailing in your cheque to: Pineridge Heritage Club, 629 Markham Rd., PO Box 90593, Scarborough ON, M1H 3G7. Anyone needing a ride to go to the restaurant, let us know.

The Best Deal in Town!

Come dine with us at our Mandarin Restaurant group luncheons: it is the best deal in town. The cost for a luncheon, with a drink, tax and 15% tip for a Senior is \$23.61 (Dec. 2017). Our subsidized price for you: \$14.00!

Thursday, May 3rd, 2018: A Spring Cruise on the Chi-Cheemaun

Travel to Owen Sound with Time of Your Life Tours to board the Chi-Cheemaun Ferry for its spring positioning" cruise as it leaves its winter berth here for its summer dock in Tobermory. Until late autumn it will operate the daily round trip ferry service from Tobermory to South Baymouth on Manitoulin Island. On this annual fun cruise (noon – 4:30 p.m.) you'll enjoy a buffet luncheon and live entertainment as you cruise your way up the Bruce Peninsula from Owen Sound to Tobermory. Following the cruise, your tour coach will be waiting at the Tobermory dock to return you home. Enroute back, we'll make a stop in Orangeville for a snack or light supper on your own.

Just \$126.00 per person (members), includes motorcoach transport, lunch cruise and entertainment, all taxes and meal tip. \$136.00 for non-members.

Contact **Time of Your Life Tours** at 416-224-0684.

Thursday, June 8, 2018, noon: Luncheon Buffet at The Mandarin

Our second group luncheon will be held at The Mandarin Restaurant, 1725 Kingston Road, in Pickering. 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 \$14 per member, \$20 for non-members.

Contact **Bernie** at (416-439-9505) to confirm your attendance and reserve by mailing in your cheque to: Pineridge Heritage Club, 629 Markham Rd., PO Box 90593, Scarborough ON, M1H 3G7. Anyone needing a ride to go to the restaurant, let us know.

The 2018 Mystery Tour: Sometime in June, Somewhere in Eastern Canada

Back by popular demand is the 2018 Annual “*Mystery*” Tour. Last year, everyone who went on this tour raved about it. We never have a lot of details (obviously!), all we know is that it will be great food, accommodations and entertainment, and crossing an international border is not involved. As always, you will have a great driver and escort team to look after you, plus you will be picked up at your home by limo and return you there after the tour. Cost was approx. \$900 per person last year. The cost and dates have not been announced yet, so stay tuned to our next newsletter, or check our web site.

Contact **Debbie** (905) 706-5285 for more up to date information as it becomes available.

Friday, June 22, 2018: 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 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.

Sunday, September 9th to Thursday, September 13th, 2018: Quebec City

Quebec City is one of the most beautiful cities in Canada, with a European look and unique charm of its own. It holds an imposing and picturesque location overlooking the majestic St. Lawrence River, and it offers incredible dining choices, shopping and museums, plus a delightful Old Town area with cobblestone streets and charming historic shops and buildings. We've chosen the impressive Hotel Le Concorde for your 3 night stay in Quebec City, a 26 floor property with an excellent downtown locations overlooking the historic 'Heights of Abraham.' It offers the renowned Le Ciel revolving Restaurant and Bistro Bar at the top of the hotel, where you can dine or enjoy a drink while taking in a breathtaking 360° panoramic view over the city and St. Lawrence River. The hotel is also within steps of wonderful Dining from a multi-choice of sidewalk restaurants and cafes on the famous 'Grande Allée,' We've included Sightseeing Tours for you in Quebec City, along with Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré and Montmorency Falls, plus an overnight stay and Sightseeing Tour in Montreal enroute to Quebec City. Come join Time of Your Life Tours for a delightful trip and an opportunity to see more of our great country!

Just \$1,155.00 per person, double occupancy, \$1,539.00 for single occupancy. Includes limousine pickup and drop off at your home, motorcoach transportation, accommodations, meals, all taxes, and tips. A deposit of \$100 per person is required, and a balance of payment due by August 9th.

Contact **Time of Your Life Tours** at 416-224-0684.

Postal Trivia

What is the oldest, continuously operating Post Office in Canada? Carcross, Yukon, constructed in 1905 to house the Post Office, and has operated ever since.

In the News

The Liberals announce plans to scrap the remaining community mail box conversions, but won't restore door-to-door, as vaguely promised during the election. The move by the federal Liberals means Canada Post won't realize savings it estimated at \$350 million annually from converting the remaining 4.2 million addresses across the country that still get mail dropped at their doorstep.

THE LOCAL NEWS

Email copies of the Newsletter

In last year's newsletters, we announced the possibility of getting your newsletter by "soft" copy, instead of a paper edition. Less than 1% of the members expressed interest in this option, so it is not practical to pursue.

Elections

There were no nominations put forward, so the incumbent is re-elected to the position of President: J.P. Leguerrier.

Associate Membership

In the last newsletter, I mentioned new criteria for Associate Membership to the Heritage Club. Unfortunately, we were not successful in getting this approved, so we cannot proceed with the proposal. However, spouses of the member, and in some cases the children, can still benefit from some of the discounts from GoodLife Fitness, Johnson and Medoc Travel Insurance by mentioning their affiliation to the member. As always, the spouse of a deceased heritage club member continue to be welcomed as associate members.

New Scholarship Program for Members

Check our website, heritageclub.ca, under "links", for information on the new scholarships available for members' kids, grandkids, for the upcoming year.

Welcome to New Members/Retirees and/or 25-year service veterans

Shirley Wu, Burna Rea, Donna Yerya, Cheryl Leith, Gail D Hawes, S. Kalledeen, Ina Patel, Kelly-Jo Wellings, Susanne Smith, Alana Goodman, Mark Banyard

Congratulations

Some memorable anniversaries to celebrate: Bernie Snyder & wife Jos are celebrating 55 years of marriage in April. Past president Les Kimmerer & wife Phyllis, 40 years. Belleville Postal Retirees Association President Bob Wludyka & wife Diane, 50 years. Happy Birthday to John MacLeod: 95 years young!

In Memoriam

Rakies Khan, Martin Futerman, Donal Jensen, Arthur O'Connor, Milka Brijeski, Cathy Payne, Jim Sandall, Past President, Heritage Club Thames Chapter

We Need You!

We are always looking for good people to help out: if you are interested in joining, let us know.

Cruise Anyone?

Anyone interested in a cruise next year, possibly in the Caribbean, please let Debbie know. If there is enough interest, we might be able to get a group rate.

The “L I F E is G O O D” Section

Wife: 'What are you doing?'

Husband: 'Nothing.'

Wife: 'Nothing? You've been reading our marriage certificate for an hour.'

Husband: 'I was looking for the expiration date.'

Wife: 'Do you want dinner?'

Husband: 'Sure! What are my choices?'

Wife: 'Yes or no.'

Last year I replaced all the windows in my house with those expensive, double-pane, energy-efficient kind.

Today, I got a call from Home Depot who installed them. The caller complained that the work had been completed a year ago and I still hadn't paid for them.

Helloooo,.... just because I'm a Senior Citizen doesn't mean that I am automatically mentally challenged.

So, I told him just what his fast-talking sales guy told me last year --that these windows would pay for themselves in a year —

Hellooooo? It's been a year, so they're paid for, I told him.

There was only silence at the other end of the line, so I hung up.

He never called back. I bet he felt like an idiot.

Survey Results

The National Association of Federal Retirees did a survey of 180,000 members last year, which produced some interesting results, based on a 26% response rate.

For the question, “what do you like to do for fun?” The top 5 hobbies were: 62% reading, 53% travel, 46% exercise, 33% online activities, and 26% volunteer work.

For the question, “how do you connect with people?” The response was: 94% email, 29% website, 23% mail, 21% phone, 5% social media, 5% online chat.

CANADA POST CEO DEEPAK CHOPRA STEPPING DOWN

The head of Canada's postal service has announced he plans to step down next spring, nearly three years before his contract was set to expire.

Canada Post says Deepak Chopra has advised the Crown corporation's board of directors that he intends leave his position on March 31, 2018.

Chopra's signaled departure comes as the federal Liberal government ruminates about whether to restore door-to-door mail delivery to tens of thousands of homes.

The former Pitney Bowes Canada executive joined the agency in 2011 as it faced a dramatic shift in revenue streams, from declining mail volumes to a growing parcel delivery business.

The previous Conservative government had renewed his contract prior to the 2015 election, effective Feb. 2016, despite criticisms of Canada Post's cost-cutting moves, including the phase-out of door-to-door delivery.

The move to community mailboxes became a hot topic during the 2015 campaign, with the Liberals winning power under a platform that included a promise to review the home delivery decision.

Once in office, the Liberals placed a moratorium on any future conversions of home delivery to community mailboxes.

A spokesperson for Public Services and Procurement Minister Judy Foote, who has been on leave from her cabinet post, said a decision on the future of home delivery was expected some time before the end of 2017.

Chopra was among dozens of people appointed to plum patronage posts in the dying days of Stephen Harper's Conservative government who were asked, once the Liberals took power, to voluntarily step down. Chopra, who was reportedly paid an estimated \$500,000 annually, declined to do so.

In a statement, Canada Post said Chopra has left an enduring legacy that has positioned the corporation as the country's leader in e-commerce delivery in the face of declining mail deliveries, noting that the agency delivered two billion fewer pieces of mail last year than at its peak in 2006.

The agency said Chopra had also co-operated with the government as it reviewed the mandate of Canada Post.

THE POST HORN



A POSTAL SERVICE STORY

Albert Jackson: Toronto city's first black postman in 1882.

This is a story originally written by **LAURA HOWELLS**, STAFF REPORTER, Toronto Star, Fri., July 21, 2017, and re-edited in time for February, which is celebrated as **Black History month** in Ontario.

A new Heritage Toronto plaque celebrating the life of Albert Jackson — an escaped slave who overcame racial discrimination to become the city's first Black letter carrier in 1882 — was unveiled last year.

"Today we have Black judges and lawyers and doctors . . . there always has to be a beginning," said Lawrence Jackson, Albert's last surviving grandchild. "He did cross the colour barrier. And that made us so very, very proud."

The plaque was two years in the making, said Shawne Jackson-Troiano, Albert's great-granddaughter. She worked with several family members and supporters to make it a reality.

Last summer, several members of Jackson's family gathered for the official unveiling, near Yonge and Richmond. The plaque stands at the former site of the Toronto General Post Office — 26 Lombard St. — where Jackson would have picked up the mail before starting his route.

After getting approval, family and friends raised the \$6,500 required — Heritage Toronto is a charitable agency, and doesn't receive core funding for plaques. For Jackson's family, coming up with the funds and helping develop the plaque was a labour of love.

Jackson's story shows that "if people stick together and fight injustice, anything is possible," said Jackson-Troiano, who says **Albert's struggle against racial discrimination** remains relevant today. "We need to be reminded constantly that basically we're all the same."

Albert Jackson was born into slavery in Delaware in the 1850s. When he was a toddler, his mother fled to Canada with seven of her children through the

Underground Railroad. She made the long and treacherous journey after her oldest two sons were sold away from her and her husband had died.

The family settled in Toronto, where Jackson was raised and educated. In May 1882, he was appointed as a letter carrier, which outraged white postal workers. It caused them “intense disgust,” wrote *The Evening Telegram* at the time. They refused to show him the rounds on his first day of work and Jackson was assigned a lower position as a hall porter.

While local newspapers vigorously debated the story, Toronto’s Black community rallied behind Jackson. They organized a public meeting, formed an advocacy committee, and went to then-prime minister John A. Macdonald, demanding that Jackson be allowed to deliver the mail. Being an election year, Macdonald listened — and intervened. By early June, Jackson was out on his mail route delivering letters — a job that he did for 36 years until his death in 1918.

“It’s important to remember that our past was diverse,” said Camille Bégin, historical plaques coordinator with Heritage Toronto. There was an established Black community in 19th century Toronto, Bégin said, but that doesn’t mean it was an inclusive city. “This is a story about racism . . . We cannot build on the absence of memory. We need to know our history to move forward.”

Lawrence Jackson, 83, said Albert’s story has been a tremendous inspiration to his family. But until recent years, it was little known. As a child, Lawrence said his family wouldn’t talk much about Albert, and when he went to school there was hardly any mention of Black Canadians’ contributions.

In 2007, Karolyn Smardz Frost published a book, *I’ve Got a Home in Glory Land: A Lost Tale of the Underground Railroad*, which mentions Albert’s story.

By coincidence, the book’s publisher learned he was living in a house Albert once owned, and pushed to have a neighbourhood laneway named after him.

After learning of Jackson’s story in the *Toronto Star*, the Canadian Union of Postal Workers honoured him with a commemorative poster in 2013 and David Ferry of Appledore Productions, produced a play about him in 2015.

Nikki Clarke, president of the Ontario Black History Society, says Jackson leaves “a legacy of true dedication and heroism, above all odds.”

She said the plaque not only recognizes Jackson’s strength and perseverance, but also the community that rallied behind him.

“Behind a great man is a great family, and great supporters.”

Who we are

Pineridge Chapter is one of 26 Chapters across the country; it covers an area of the Greater Toronto Area which is mainly east of the Don Valley (eastern York County), encompassing Scarborough, and areas within Ontario, Durham and Northumberland Counties.

Have you checked our national web site?: heritageclub.ca
Select **Pineridge Chapter**.

What we do

The Pineridge Chapter organizes subsidized luncheons, bus travel, annual banquet and golf tournament for its' members. Also, we collect and donate food for the food banks, as well as donations to various charities throughout the year. In December, we hold a Holiday banquet for our members and we participate in the Santa Letter writing campaign.

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 like-minded individuals who are interested in the same event.

Why Join? – The Membership Advantages

Johnson Home and Car Insurance: discounts of up to 35%

Discounts for you and who travels with you with **MEDOC Travel Insurance**

GoodLife Fitness: discounts up to 50% off the regular all club access rates.

Choice Hotels: discounts of up to 20% at 325 locations in Canada, and 6,300 worldwide. Also, **Telus Mobility** discounts.

IMPORTANT: In order to benefit from these discounts, you must mention your Heritage Club membership number, and you must have paid your membership dues to the Pineridge Chapter for the current year, otherwise coverage could be denied or terminated.

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), special awards, deaths, hospitalizations, etc. Let us know so we can pay tribute.

Newsletter Distribution

This newsletter is produced quarterly and is distributed to every member and associate who has paid their annual dues to the Chapter. Also, a general distribution is made once a year to every person who have applied for general membership to the Heritage Club in our Chapter area. Articles of general interest for the newsletter are always welcomed.

YOUR EXECUTIVE MEMBERSHIP

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

Web Master, Membership Database. *Email: jnglor@rogers.com*

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

Email: dagreenwood4@gmail.com

Bernie Snyder, Treasurer, Membership Dues

Email: jobernsnyder@gmail.com

Les Kimmerer, Past President, Annual Golf Tournament

Email: kimmeles@hotmail.com

Margaret Fisher, Honorary Lifetime Member

Support Staff: G. Mac Donald, J. Snyder, K. Dayal, J. Vitto, M. Fisher, S. Leith

CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE FORM

Name:

Old Address:

New Address:

Postal Code:

Phone Number:

MEMBERSHIP

Membership dues for the following year are due with the last newsletter of the year, in **October**. Remember: annual dues paid by our members are instrumental in keeping our chapter active.

New members to the Heritage Club will receive our Chapter's newsletters in the current year of their retirement or having achieved 25 years of service; after that, they need to signify their intent to join our Chapter by paying dues to the Pineridge Chapter, in order to continue receiving our communications.

Our membership year runs from **January to December** and costs only \$10 per member, or \$20 per couple. If you are no longer mobile, but still want to keep in touch by receiving only the newsletter, the cost is \$5.

MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL SLIP

Name:	Name of Spouse:
Address:	
City:	Postal Code:
Phone Number:	
Email (optional):	
Renewal for Self: _____ Couple: _____	Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
Is this a Renewal: _____ or _____	a New Membership: _____
We would like to find out about yourself (optional)	
Do you do Volunteer Work: _____	Hours per month: _____
Name of Organization: _____	

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 your community, such as fund raisers, work with health, religious or seniors’ organizations, coaching children groups, etc., and the 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. You can report these hours on your dues renewal form.

There are many examples of volunteering, ways you can help your community and fellow man, and feel good about yourself: church, organizations, knitting groups, literacy and schools, Santa letters, heritage club, library and museums, hospital and seniors’ homes, soup kitchens, food banks, meal on wheels, shut in programs, income tax prep, fund raisers, Christmas hamper programs, etc.

Send the completed above form 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. Mention you are a Pineridge Chapter Heritage Club member for any applicable discount.