



Van-Fraser News

VAN - FRASER HERITAGE CLUB

VOYAGE OF THE VIKINGS A GREAT ADVENTURE

Prior to embarking for their great adventure on *The Voyage of the Vikings*, over 30 members and family from the Van-Fraser and Parkland Chapters met in Boston for a few days. While waiting to board for their 35 day voyage the group enjoyed sightseeing on Boston's historic Freedom Trail, lunching at the Quincy Market and having a drink at the famous Cheers Bar.

Once on board the travelers were blessed with beautiful sunny, if somewhat cool weather, and calm seas as they sailed up the coast of Newfoundland and Labrador. One of the interesting stops was at the tiny community of Red Bay where several of the group took a small craft to Saddle Island where the group



Bob and Judy Broomhall with Fred Danells enjoying a somewhat chilly afternoon on deck.



Cindy and Joe Wong with the Icelandic Ponies in Reykjavik, Iceland

hiked around the Island looking for remains of an old Whaling Station.

The voyage continued on to Greenland and Iceland where the travelers discovered that Greenland is icy and Iceland is green!

Following a stop in Greenland and a visit to a small community where the travelers met with local residents, including many school children, the group sailed on to Reykjavik, Iceland, for a two day stay. While in Iceland the travelers boarded two tour buses for a Grand Circle tour of the Island. The scenery was spectacular and unique with some very interesting stops, including a chance to meet up with some Icelandic Ponies.

(continued on Page 3)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pub Club Emergency Helpers A Letter From Santa	2
Voyage of the Vikings	3
Quarterly Luncheon	4
Salmon Fry Release	5
Honouring Our Own Battle of the Somme	6
Honouring Our Own Battle of the Somme	7
Travel Insurance Zimbabwe	8
Dates to Remember November 10 Ceremony	9
Travel News	10

PUB GROUP BECOMES EMERGENCY MAILERS

Faced with a possible service disruption impacting the Van-Fraser Heritage Club's Annual Banquet Club on September 30th, President Fred Danells recruited the Monday Night Pub Group to help out.

A group of Richmond Van-Fraser members gather each Monday at the Buck and Ear Pub for some socializing and conversation.

To avoid any delays in members receiving and returning Registration Forms for the banquet the group gathered in an afternoon and labelled and stuffed 1800 envelopes. That same evening Fred took them into the Processing Plant for mailing and delivery.



The Monday Night Pub group labels and stuffs 1800 envelopes while enjoying a glass of wine, courtesy of Eugene, Pub Manager.

If you plan on attending the Banquet please complete the form and return it promptly. If you have not received a Banquet Registration Form please contact the office at 604 482-4311.

A LETTER FROM SANTA TO HIS HELPERS



"Ho Ho Ho,

I hope everyone had a lovely summer. As Fall approaches and you think about dates to add to your calendar for Christmas shopping, dinners and baking, please add some big chunks of time to help with all the mail from children around the world.

Circle November 15/16 at 10 AM to come to the Plant at the airport for orientation on all the new letters and procedures for this year. There will be lots of information for both new elves and experienced elves. Call the Heritage Club office to register. Mrs Claus will have some snacks available.

We will begin answering letters on November 28/16 through December 22 /16 and for a few days

between Christmas and New Years, as well as the first week of January/17. Our peak time is from December 5 to 22, so I hope you can reserve those days for the children.

Ho Ho Ho, I can't wait, I just love reading all the letters from the children but need lots and lots of help from all of you."

VOYAGE OF THE VIKINGS (continued from Page 1)

One of the truly magical moments of the voyage occurred as the group stood on the bow of the ship as it transited the Prince Christian Sound for 8 hours (twice, on clear, sunny days) Prince Christian Sound is truly majestic and memorable with huge mountains rising steeply out of the water on either side of the ship. Everyone marveled at the Captain's skill as he maneuvered the ship through the narrow fjord, around icebergs and making hairpin turns.

Norway provided more beautiful fjords, breathtaking scenery and hikes along pastoral trails. The final stop was overnight in Rotterdam where everyone enjoyed the beautiful market, the cube houses and the Maritime Museum. Some of the group went on to Amsterdam to enjoy all sights it had to offer.

On the way back, the tour passed through Ireland, the Isle of Man, then crossing the Arctic Circle to small ports in northern Iceland and again through the spectacular, scenic Prince Christian Sound and a little port in



Bev Wilde (front row centre) celebrated her birthday with 31 fellow travellers.

Greenland. Finally returning to North America there were stops in St. John's NF, Halifax with the cruise reaching its final destination in Boston.

It was an action packed adventure of a lifetime!

Life on board included lots of sightseeing on deck; several dinners in the specialty restaurants with the group; dining together each evening along with adopted members from the Kitchener Heritage Club; happy hours, learning from the guest lecturers; on board entertainment; reading; eating; and a bit of rest every once in a while.

If any members are interested in enjoying voyages such as this check out Page 10 for all the great tours and trips, both long and short, that you might enjoy!



The group visiting one of the many geyser sites in Iceland.

MEMBERS ENJOY QUARTERLY LUNCHEON

On June 28th members of the Van-Fraser Heritage Club gathered for the regular Quarterly Luncheon at the Greek Taverna Restaurant in New Westminster.

This regular event has proven to be very popular with the members with everyone getting the opportunity to see old friends and catch up with happenings and events.

The restaurant was packed with our members enjoying a fabulous selection of Greek food and filling the room with conversation and lots and lots of laughter.



Another lucky prize winner, Lynne Lam, with her winnings.



Stan Wong and Carol Burchett handled MC duties with their usual flair and distributed the raffle prizes and 50/50 draw winnings. Congratulations to all the lucky winners and thank you to all who attended. Watch out for notices regarding the next luncheon. We look forward to seeing you there!

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

**The Annual Banquet
is on Friday,
September 30th
at the
Continental Seafood
Restaurant,
11700 Cambie
Road, Richmond.**



**If you have not yet ordered your tickets,
time is running short, so contact the Van-
Fraser Office immediately at 604 482-4311.**

Don't miss this great event!

Stan and Carol working hard—as they always do!

CHUM SALMON FRY RELEASE

On a warm April morning over 500 volunteers gathered on Eagle Creek in Charles Rummel Park in Burnaby to release 62,800 Chum Salmon Fry.

The release was organized by the Eagle Creek Streamkeepers, an environmental group with Van-Fraser member Nick Kvenich as their President.

The release required considerable coordination with the Fry being provided by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and release platforms built on the creek by volunteers from Scouts Canada, the Croation Fish & Game Club and Rotaractors (youth branch of the Rotary Club). The Scouts and Rotaractors also distributed the plastic bags containing the Fry to attendees for release in Eagle Creek.

The Fry release program is gaining in popularity. Last year the release in Eagle Creek attracted just over 300 volunteers. This year over 500 attended well exceeding the expected attendance. The increased was so large that the Salvation Army, who provide food services at the event, ran out of hot dogs and drinks after only an hour and half. The number of fry released also increased substantially over the 50,000 last year.

Volunteers on the day included students from local schools accompanied by their parents and grandparents. Included in the grandparents were a number of Canada Post retirees.

Eagle Creek is one of the many creeks and rivers that run through the urban areas of the Lower Mainland. All have been impacted by urbanization. Through efforts such as Eagle Creek Streamkeepers these creeks and rivers have slowly been cleaned up and salmon fry released. In 2011 the group installed a fish laer to help returning salmon get past the dam on the east side of Burnaby Lake. This work, along with fry release has resulted in the return of salmon to the area.

If you live in Burnaby and would like to help the Eagle Creek Streamkeepers with their ongoing efforts Nick Kvenich invites you to contact him at nkvenich@telus.net or 604 420-5651.

Congratulations to Nick and his group as they plan to continue their efforts and a release for the Spring of 2017.



A happy and proud young volunteer.



Old and very young turned out to help.

HONOURING OUR OWN– SOMME OFFENSIVE 1916

July 1st this year marked the 100th Anniversary of one of the largest and most, costly in human life, offensives of World War I. A total of 1,200,000 soldiers wounded, killed and missing during the period July 1, 1916 to November 18, 1916. Skirmishes continued in the area for several weeks.

The Canadian Corps was not involved during the initial stages of the Somme Offensive not being moved to that area of the Western Front until September 1916. However, Newfoundland was a colony of Great Britain at the time and they provided a regiment that participated on the first day of the offensive, July 1st. It was a tragic day for the regiment as it was decimated at Beaumont-Hamel. Of the approximately 800 officers and men who took part in the July 1st attack only 68 were available for Roll Call on July 2nd. July 1st remains a Day of Remembrance in Newfoundland.

In late August, as casualties began to mount, the Canadian Corps was moved from its position in Belgium to the Somme Front. On September 15 the Corps took part in their first major action at the Battle of Flers-Courcellette. The Canadian Corps would take part in several battles through the Somme Offensive including; Theipval Ridge, Le Transloy, Ancre Heights (capture of Regina Trench) and The Ancre. The Canadian Corps remained in action till the end of the Somme Offensive with over 24,000 killed, wounded and missing. Canada Post employees from all across the country, serving with their various units, participated in all of the Battles with 21 killed or missing.

The 21 killed and missing are;

Robert Cook, Postal Clerk, Edmonton
Reginald Haggett, Postal Clerk, Calgary
William Hall, Letter Carrier, Peterborough
William Hilton, Letter Carrier, Halifax
Thomas Hughes, Railway Mail Clerk, Kincardine ON
Henry Jackson, Letter Carrier, Vancouver
John Jamieson, Letter Carrier, Vancouver
John Jaques, Postal Clerk, Edmonton
Samuel Jarret, Postal Clerk, Regina
Thomas Kinnaird, Postal Clerk, Edmonton
Harold McKay, Postal Clerk, Hamilton
Claude Manley, Railway Mail Clerk, Peterborough
James Pender, Postal Clerk, Vancouver
Thomas Petley, Postal Clerk, Brandon
Samuel Porter, Letter Carrier, Saskatoon
Thomas Price, Railway Mail Clerk, Toronto
Arthur Prior, Postal Clerk, Toronto
William Thomson, Transfer Agent, Calgary
Stephen Thorson, Railway Mail Clerk, Winnipeg
Frank Whitten, Letter Carrier, St. Catharines
Harry Whittick, Letter Carrier, Regina



Reginald Haggett

A number of Canada Post employees seriously wounded during the Somme Offensive, including;

Frank Allard, Letter Carrier, Winnipeg
 John Atkinson, Postal Clerk, Regina
 William Bannister, Letter Carrier, Prince Albert
 George Blore, Postal Clerk, Regina
 George Curlew, Letter Carrier, Toronto
 William Devall, Letter Carrier, Hamilton
 Frederic Doran, Postal Clerk, Toronto
 James Dudley, Postal Clerk, Ottawa

Lionel Exham, Postal Clerk, Edmonton
 John Forgie, Postal Clerk, Toronto
 James Fyfe, Letter Carrier, Winnipeg
 John Gervais, Postal Clerk, Toronto
 Harold Gregory, Letter Carrier, Brandon
 Clarence Holt, Postal Clerk, Lethbridge
 George Jardine, Letter Carrier, Medicine Hat

HONOURING OUR OWN-SOMME OFFENSIVE 1916 VANCOUVER POST OFFICE

The casualties from the Somme Offensive and skirmishes immediately following the offensive were felt all across Canada including the Vancouver Post Office.

Three Vancouver Post Offices employees, Postal Clerks Henry Harry Jackson and James Pender and Letter Carrier John Jamieson joined the Seaforth Highlanders on September 21, 1915. All three would arrive in France with the 72nd Battalion on August 13, 1916 and all three would be lost during the Somme Offensive.

H.H. Jackson was lost on September 16, 1916 at the Battle of Flers-Courcellette. He is buried in the Kemmel Chateau Military Cemetery and was survived by his parents Joseph and Helen Jackson of Nanaimo.



Henry Harry Jackson in Seaforth Uniform 1915

J. Pender, originally from Nanaimo, died of wounds on November 23, 1916, suffered in the Bozincourt Trench System near Beaumont Hamel. He is buried in the Abbeville Cemetery and was survived by his parents James and Hannah Pender and younger sisters Polly and Ethel, all of Nanaimo.

John Jamieson married Margaret Biggar on February 7, 1916 prior to leaving for Europe on April 23, 1916. He was reported as "killed in action" on November 25, 1916. He has no known grave and his name is listed on the Vimy Memorial along with the names of 11,284 other Canadian soldiers with no known grave. The Menin Gate in Ieper, Belgium lists another 6,094 Canadian soldiers.

Van-Fraser Heritage Club will include these individuals in the Annual Ceremony on November 10th. Details on Page 9.



John Jamieson in 1913 Letter Carrier Uniform

MEDOC TRAVEL INSURANCE

Access to MEDOC Travel Insurance is just one of the many perks of active membership in the Heritage Club. Many members have this insurance and fully appreciate the value of it. It is an annual plan for unlimited number of trips ,up to 40 days at a time, per year. It provides coverage in addition to your Canada Post Extended Health care plan up to\$ 5,000,000.00 and up to \$12,000 trip cancellation and interruption insurance per person, per trip, plus many other benefits for a low annual fee. The renewals were automatically done this August and you will have received confirmation from Johnson of your continued coverage for the forthcoming year. Make sure you have checked your new policy and that all your information is correct.



Just a reminder, as pointed out by Johnson Insurance "if you do not disclose your medical history accurately and in-full as asked on the Health questionnaire, and you have a claim totally unrelated to the undisclosed medical information, your claim will NOT be honoured, it is seen as a misrepresentation of your medical history, therefore putting you in a plan you would not have been eligible for at the time of purchase. The consequence of misrepresentation is your policy will be rendered as null and void and no claim will be honoured, regardless of the claim amount and emergency.

EXAMPLE: You fall, break your leg, your past medical history shows you have a heart problem... but you did not answer yes to the heart question. As a result, any charges relating to your leg will not be covered.

Trip Cancellation: For members who have not yet purchased MEDOC, we recommend that you do so now, if you think you may travel. For a trip to be covered for Trip Cancellation, the insurance coverage must be in place at the time of booking or purchasing your trip. If MEDOC is not in place at the time of booking or purchasing your trip, you must purchase the insurance within 5 business days of booking your trip or prior to any cancellation penalties being applied to that trip.

Contact the Heritage Club office for information and registration form for MEDOC insurance or call Johnson Insurance in Langley ,604-881-8840.

CONTINUING WORK IN ZIMBABWE

Al Miller is continuing his dedicated efforts to make a difference in the unfortunate Children's lives in Zimbabwe, Malawi and Mozambique.

Al is currently in Zimbabwe providing the necessary assistance to so many orphans using the resources we are able to provide to him.

Al will be back home in time to be at our Annual Charity Banquet on Sept 30th and we look forward to hearing from him on his recent trip. We do a fund raising for Al's work at our banquet and receive personal donations throughout the year from our members



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

September 11-16, 2016. U-Drive trip to Yakima. Drive at your own pace to Yakima in Washington State. Enjoy sightseeing, golf, shopping, pool time and BBQs with the group. Call Heritage Club to reserve hotel room.

September 30, 2016, 5:30PM Annual Gala Banquet at the Continental Seafood Restaurant in Richmond. Send your cheque to the Heritage Club Office for individual tickets or for a table of 10. Tickets \$35.00 pp or \$350.00 for a table for 10 people.

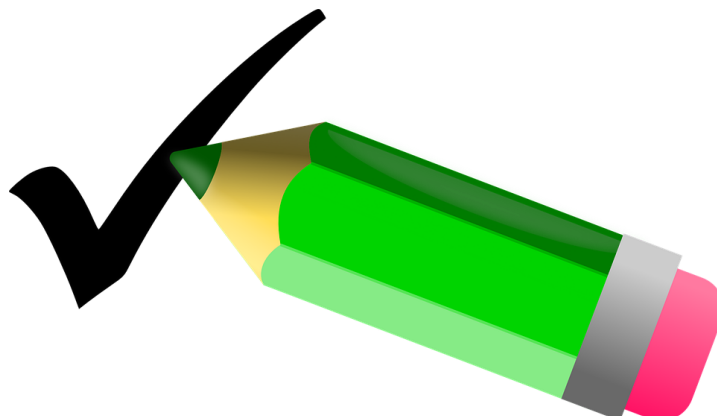
November 15/16 ,2016, 10am Orientation/ training for new and experienced Santa Elves regarding the 2106 program and materials. Call the Heritage Club to register.

November 10, 2016. 10 AM Honouring Our Own Remembrance Ceremony, Richmond PPC (by airport) followed by light lunch

November 23-25 ,2016 Annual 3 day Tulalip Bus trip/ Casino Resort Hotel

November 28, 2016 to January 13, 2017 Santa letter Writing Program

December 6, 2016 Christmas Luncheon, Greenacres Golf Course, Richmond



HONOURING OUR OWN NOVEMBER 10th

The Van-Fraser Heritage will host its Annual Honouring Our Own Ceremony on Thursday, November 10 at 10 am in the Pacific Processing Centre in Richmond, adjacent to the Airport.



The ceremony is very personal and touching as the name and brief history of each of the 23 Canada Post employees from British Columbia lost in World War I and three lost in World War II are read aloud. Volunteers are needed to read the names and history of each individual. A volunteer is also required to read/recite Flanders Fields and another to close the ceremony with the Words of Remembrance.

If you would like to participate in this year's ceremony, or simply attend, please complete and return the attached form. If you have any questions contact us at vanfrasernews@gmail.com or at 604 482-4311.

Light refreshment will be served following the ceremony.

Van-Fraser News

Until is published by the

Van-Fraser Heritage Club
Unit 160 - 5940 Ferguson Road
Richmond BC V7B 0B1
email
vanfrasernews@gmail.com
Phone
604 482-4311

The editor reserves the right
to edit
any/all submissions
in whole or part
for use in this publication

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES CANADA POST HERITAGE CLUB MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

October 9, 2016: 10 Day Cruise to California. Vancouver return on the Star Princess. Visit Los Angeles, Catalina Island, Santa Barbara and 2 days in San Francisco. No flights! This was a high-light for members last year. There are still some cabins available. ***Call the Heritage Club Office for last minute prices!***

November 23-25, 2016: 3 Day Tulalip Bus Trip. Enjoy Black Friday Shopping, casino, spa, sightseeing. \$279.00 CAD pp. Includes bus, resort, accommodation, some meals, taxes and driver's gratuity. Only a few seats left! Call now!

January 10, 2017: 21 Day Cruise to Antarctica on the Zaandam, from Buenos Aires, Argentina to Valparaiso, Chile. Cabins starting \$3899.00 plus taxes \$720.00 CAD pp. (Limited Inventory Sale)

January 31, 2017: 21 Day Cruise to Antarctica on the Zaandam, from Valparaiso, Chile to Buenos Aires, Argentina. Cabins starting at \$3899.00 plus taxes \$633.00 CAD pp.

Note: (1) You can combine these two cruises for more time in South America. Call the Heritage Club for detailed itineraries and information. (2) ***Solo male traveler willing to share with another on January 31/17 segment.*** Call Heritage Club Office if interested.

March 5, 2017: 7 days Western Caribbean on Nieuw Amsterdam. Insides from \$799.00 CAD pp and Balconies from \$1169.00 CAD plus taxes \$176.00.

March 12, 2017: 7 days Eastern Caribbean on the Nieuw Amsterdam starting from \$799.00 CAD pp plus taxes \$183.00

Combine the two cruises for 14 days back to back from Fort Lauderdale. Limited Inventory Sale.

April 9, 2017: 20 Day Panama Canal Cruise on the Nieuw Amsterdam, Fort Lauderdale to Vancouver, starting at \$2339.00 CAD pp plus taxes, \$629.00 CAD pp.

April 29, 2017: 7 Day Alaska Cruise. Vancouver return, on the Nieuw Amsterdam. Visiting Tracy Arm, Juneau, Ketchikan, Skagway and Glacier Bay. Starting at \$909.00 CAD pp plus taxes \$247.00 pp plus taxes \$247.00 pp. You can combine the above cruises for a 27 day trip from Fort Lauderdale to Vancouver/Alaska return Vancouver.

April 15, 2017: 10 Day Las Vegas Bus Trip. Call the Heritage Club to save your seats. Information with price will be sent to you as soon as it is finalized.

October 15, 2017: 80 Day Grand Voyage from San Diego return on the Amsterdam. Visit Dutch Harbor, 5 cities in Japan, South Korea, Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Singapore, Indonesia, Darwin, Cairns, and 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 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 2016 and paid your dues to be covered. Contact the Heritage Club Office for information on MEDOC.

Van Fraser Heritage Club 604 482-4311

