



Van-Fraser News

VAN - FRASER HERITAGE CLUB

MEMBERS ENJOY 28th ANNUAL BANQUET

The Continental Seafood Restaurant was packed on the evening of September 15/17 when over 185 Van-Fraser members, family and friends filled 19 tables for an evening of fun, conversation and delicious food.

The 11 course dinner included an appetizer platter filled with BBQ pork, ribs, salmon and tofu, crab claws, butterflied prawns, seafood soup, crispy skin chicken, satay beef, beef and greens, mushroom and veggies, noodles, wild rice, and pudding followed by Anniversary cake.

Special guests included Lisa Hanson of Johnson Insurance; Al Miller, a member, speaking on his work with orphans in Zimbabwe; Jedd Derry, a member from Villa Star Resort in Mexico, who donated a 6 night package at his resort with proceeds going to Vancouver Children's Hospital; Kevin Wong from Curtis Fitness who provides the orientation classes for the CPC Fitness Center our Heritage Club manages for the employees of the PPC; and Bobby Singh, BC Lions Alumnae, who brings his three rings from Grey Cup, Super Bowl and XFL championships for photos in support of the Zimbabwe fund.

Thank You to several individuals who contributed to make this a very successful and enjoyable evening. Linda Briand and Alice Lee for selling 50/50 tickets throughout the evening, raising \$269.00 for the Zimbabwe Fund. Alan Sung and Betty Coles for selling tickets for our raffle raising almost \$300.00, also for Zimbabwe. Thanks to the executive and other members who sold tickets for the Mexican Holiday raising \$1600.00 for Children's Hospital. Special thanks to Jedd Derry for his generous donation and to members who donated prizes for the raffle. Thanks to Lisa and Johnson Insurance for the prize and handouts.

Congratulations to Susan Wilson, winner of the 6 night Resort package, Dennis Lam, winner of the 50/50 draw and to the over 50 raffle prize winners.
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50/50 Draw Winner Dennis Lam receives his winnings from (left to right) Carol Burchette, Jim Stevenson and Rene Brissette

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SUN SHINES ON THE ANNUAL YAKIMA U-DRIVE

Participants in the Annual 5 Day U-Drive were once again greeted by brilliant sunshine as they arrived in Yakima, Washington.

This is always a leisurely trip as people drive or car pool at their own pace to arrive in Yakima. Some stopped at Leavenworth WA for lunch along the way while others enjoyed the Canyon Drive following Yakima River Valley.

The golfers took advantage of the courses in the area and played a different course each day with the beautiful Apple Tree Course being the highlight of the trip. Golfers and non golfers met one day at the River Ridge Course for a tournament and *Happy Hour* on the patio.

Shoppers in the group had fun seeking out the best deals at Walmart and Ross Dress for Less. A visit to Cabella's gave everyone a look at the newest in outdoor and sports equipment.



Golf Tournament winners (left to right) Gord Young, Carol Burchett and Brent Arnett.

Several travelers found interest exhibits at the Yakima Museum including the story of Japanese families who settled in the Yakima area following their Internment in World War II. The exhibit chronicles their forced resettlement to Heart Mountain, Wyoming, in 1942 and their efforts to rebuild and re-emergence as a community in the Yakima Valley. Also of great interest was the Pioneer Home and the old fashioned Soda Fountain complete with an array of sundaes, floats, sodas and hot dogs. Henry Wong discovered the 18 mile trail along the river only realizing, after his hike he had a lot more walking to do on the golf course! Next year Henry plans to bring his mountain bike to explore more of the trails in the area.



Happy Hour on the patio at River Ridge Golf Course.

As always the price was right with the hotel, complete with pool, hot tub, sun deck and a full breakfast at only \$55 per night. Gourmet meals, at only \$6 per person, were served on the patio each night featuring a wide selection of food for everyone's taste.

Special thanks to Ken and Carol who organize the trip and ensure every detail is covered.

Mark your calendars the 2018 trip, September 9–14.

ANNUAL BANQUET (Continued from Page 1)

Everyone arrived early, visited with old colleagues and friends, and talked non stop through the dinner. Many stayed to dance the evening away while others enjoyed watching those who are so very good at ballroom dancing. The evening went by so very quickly, but all agreed it was a wonderful time with great company along with a chance to donate to two worthy charities through our fund raising efforts.

Alan Sung sums it up in his letter following the banquet, *"You and your team did a fantastic job again. Events like this hold up the Corporate spirit and make us family. It is always wonderful to see people we worked with again. Hats off to Al Miller for his important mission-----had a great time. BIG thanks!"*



Janice Whiting, Daryl Whiting, Pat Medforth, Diane Conklin, Aline Caron, Don Pao, Charles Li and Darrel Ezra enjoyed catching up with



Judy Sakiyama and Angie McHugh check their tickets for the next prize after having won a book (above).



Stan Wong hosts his table (above)



Mike Williams discussing insurance with Lisa Hanson of Johnson Insurance. (left)

Executive members, Fred Danells, Stan Wong, Carol Burchett, Rene Brissette, Taka Nukina and Jim Stevenson ready to cut the 28th Anniversary cake (right)



PREMIER PORTLAND TRIP A GREAT SUCCESS

The Premier Three Day Portland Bus Trip, September 21-23, was a resounding success! So successful a large number of requests have been made to add one more day to the trip next year.

After arriving in downtown Portland people scattered to several destinations. Some headed for the shops, some the water park walking trail, others explored the historic buildings area buying donuts at the famous Voodoo Donut Shop. Some checked out the four block area of food trucks with its wide variety of foods.



Happy Hour at the Monarch Hotel.

After touring downtown the group moved on to Clackamas, a suburb of Portland, to check into the Monarch Hotel for two nights.

This was an ideal location with a nice pool and deck area, restaurant, and a lounge- a great Happy Hour meeting place. Several restaurants, a shopping mall and plaza were within walking distance.



Carol and Butch Ritnosick, Joan Hamade and Aline Caron (left to right) visiting the Japanese Gardens.

Each morning a complimentary full breakfast was served and was a good starting point to connect with everyone in the group. Following breakfast everyone boarded the bus for some scenic touring and a visit to Oregon City. The group moved on to two view points at Willamette Falls, a very scenic and historic area. The volume passing over the Falls is second only to Niagara. It was fun walking around the view points and driving through the quaint little town.

Next stop was Washington Park where half the group chose to spend the day sightseeing and visiting the Oregon Zoo, Japanese Garden, the most authentic Japanese Garden outside of Japan, the Rose Garden and other venues in the large park.. The tour was made all that easier with a free shuttle running through the area.

The rest of the group chose to travel to the Woodburn Factory Outlets for a few hours of tax free shopping. Before returning to the hotel for the evening , a stop was made at the huge Fry's electronics store and the bus was loaded with items including TVs laptops, small appliances, toys, printer ink and more---all at bargain prices!

PORTLAND BUS TRIP (Continued from Page 4)

Once again, the evening provided lots of time for comradery over happy hours in the lounge, restaurants and a few even managed some late night shopping at the mall.

Finally, the return trip with a stop at the Tualip Casino Resort. Once again people scattered to their choice of Walmart, Cabella's, the casino, Premium Factory Outlets or restaurants.

For our first Portland visit it was a great success and we have lots of suggestions for next time! Nick and Margaret commented, *"Thanks again for putting together a great 3 day jaunt to the Portland area! We enjoyed the sight-seeing and shopping stops, and our Happy Hour / Dinner get-togethers. Hope this trip becomes a recurring Heritage Club bus trip event."*



Pauline and Robert McLean with William and Laura Dickson having lunch at the Oregon Zoo (left to right)



Successful Van-Fraser shoppers waiting to re-board the bus in downtown Portland.

WONDEROUS WEST COAST GET AWAY

On September 25th a group of Heritage Club members along with family members left Vancouver aboard the beautiful MS Oosterdam for a cruise down the West Coast to San Diego.

Touring along the West Coast always provides a great variety of scenery and wildlife. Highlights on this trip included sea lions in Astoria, Oregon and whales along side the ship.



Dining aboard the Oosterdam. Back Row (left to right) Peter Kozakevich, Eric Rossicci, Eileen Axford. Front Row (left to right) Donna Kozakevich, Agnes and William Pang.

After a day enjoying the highlights of San Diego part of the group boarded the Oosterdam for seven days cruising to Mexico. The remainder boarded the MS Amsterday to begin a 30 day cruise to Hong Kong and for some an 80 day Grand Voyage through the Orient. Bon Voyage!



Eric Rossicci and Eileen Axford searching for whatles.

Check out the Travel Opportunities on Page 10 to see what other adventures are available for members, family and friends.



Heritage Club Happy Hour aboard the Oosterdam.

DELIVERING THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS TO EVERY CHILD —EVERYWHERE!

Santa's Mail is already arriving in the North Pole from children in communities worldwide. Thanks to all of Santa's extraordinary elves at Canada Post, each child who writes a letter to Santa will receive a special, personal reply bringing excitement and delight into their home.



Our 2017 SANTA Letter Writing Program will begin on November 14/17 at 10 am, with the Santa Elf orientation and training session in the PPC (Pacific Region's SANTA Workshop) in Richmond. A light lunch is included.

We hope you will volunteer to help Santa with his mail by calling our office at 604 482 4311.

We plan to have Santa workshops at the following locations where both current and retired employees can come daily to help with Santa's mail.

AREA VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Chilliwack Area	William Loveday
Tri Cities Area	David Good
Abbotsford area	Gary Chapple
Langley area	Don Campbell
Surrey Depot 2	John Anderson
North Shore	Jim Ball
Ladner Area	Anne Dobrilla
Cloverdale Area	Linda Fisher
Pacific Processing Centre & Richmond—Vancouver	Peter Kozakevich

Letter Carrier Depot Distribution Locations

In addition, in some locations, volunteer elves drop by a letter carrier depot in their local area and pick up trays of mail to take home to prepare the replies or to distribute to other elves and then drop the completed mail back at the depot on a regular schedule through December and January.

Home group and individual locations

Some of our volunteers receive trays of mail that is delivered to their home address which they process and return the completed replies back to Santa's Workshop on a regular schedule.

If you are interested and would like more information, join us at the orientation session on November 14/17 or call 604 482-4311.

Santa really needs your help!



HONOURING OUR OWN ANNUAL CEREMONY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2017
10:00 am
PACIFIC MAIL
PROCESSING CENTRE

Each year members of the Van-Fraser Heritage Club and employees of the Pacific Mail Processing Centre host a brief ceremony honouring the Post Office employees from British Columbia who were lost in WWI and WWII.

This is an opportunity to remember and honour our fallen colleagues.

During the Ceremony the names of each of the 23 employees lost in World War I and three from World War II are read aloud. It is the reading of the names and identification of individuals that makes this a truly unique Ceremony and experience.

Volunteers are required to read a name and if you are willing to undertake this honour please contact us at vanfrasernews@gmail.com or phone the office at 604 482-4311. We also require an individual to recite Flanders Fields and read the Act of Remembrance.

Through its research Van-Fraser has been able to identify 105 Vancouver Post Office employees, 20 New Westminster Post Office employees, 45 Victoria Post Office employees, 26 BC Railway Mail Service employees, and 16 employees from other BC Offices who served in WWI. These employees served in the Canadian Army, British Army, Royal Canadian Navy, Royal Navy, the Royal Flying Corps which in 1918 became the Royal Air Force. They were present in all theatres of War from Europe to Africa.

We have also located some of their families and obtained photos of these individuals. Current and historical information regarding these individuals will be on display as well as a number of antique uniforms and other memorabilia.

A light lunch will be served following the Ceremony and if you are planning to attend please let us know by contacting the office. Also, if you wish to bring family and friends, they are most welcome.



DATES TO REMEMBER

November 10/17: Honouring Our Own Ceremony, 10 am at the PPC in Richmond. Join fellow members and employees for a brief Remembrance Service for posties who were lost during the World Wars. Light Lunch provided. No charge. Just call the Heritage Club to advise us you will be attending. Bring other members if you can. Open to all members, family and friends.

November 14/17: Orientation for Santa's Elves at the PPC in Richmond. A short overview of the Santa Letter Writing Program and the changes/materials that will be in place this year. This is a good session for both new and experienced elves. Light lunch. Call the Heritage Club to register.

November 19/17: Annual Bus Trip to Tulalip. This year's trip has been expanded to three nights/four days.

November 27/17 to January 10/18: Santa Letter Writing Program. Daily/7 days a week at Santa's Workshop at the PPC in Richmond and Satellite Offices throughout the Lower Mainland. Please mark your calendar now for as many days as you can spare to help Santa respond to letters from children and other tasks that need to be done each day. We especially need extra help during the peak period December 10 to 29. New elves needed! Call the Heritage Club to register for the Orientation Session and learn about how you can help Santa.

December 6/17 (Wednesday), 12 noon: Christmas and Santa Luncheon. Green Acres Golf Course, Richmond. All members, family and friends welcome. This is always a beautiful meal with many choices including turkey, seafood pastas, salads and multiple deserts served in the banquet room overlooking the golf course. Bring an unwrapped toy for children 1-14 years old or a cash/gift card for our CPC family hamper program and the Salvation Army.

December 28/17: Annual Planning Meeting for the Heritage Club Executive. Let your Executive know of any suggestions or ideas you have for activities in 2018/19 so we can include them in the plans.



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Van-Fraser Heritage Club is pleased to announce the 2017-2018 Scholarship Program.

We will providing scholarships in 2018 for the School September 2017—June 2018, Grades 8-12, for children and grandchildren of currently active Van-Fraser members. Final date for application will be June 30, 2018.



The purpose of this scholarship is to support the development of future Canadian leaders. Participation in programs that foster leadership skills, personal character development, teamwork, academic, individual, and community achievement are required to be eligible.

For more information, detailed criteria and an Application Form, contact the office at 604 482-4311,

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**TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES
CANADA POST HERITAGE CLUB MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

November 19-22/17: Tulalip Resort and Casino Bus Trip 3 nights (4 days) (*Wait List*)

February 4/18: 21 Day Caribbean Cruise on the Rotterdam. Tampa return, visiting Key West Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Maya Mexico, Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, Antigua, Saint Lucia, Curacao, Aruba, Cayman Islands. Inside cabins from \$2352.00 plus taxes \$408.00 pp. Ocean View from \$2573.00 plus taxes CAD pp.

April 9/18: 14 Day Spring Bus Trip, visiting, Salt Lake City, Wendover, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Grand Canyon and Las Vegas. Details when pricing available. Contact the Van-Fraser Office to pre-register.

April 18/18: 19 day Panama Canal Repositioning Cruise on the Eurodam. Fort Lauderdale to VancoInside cabins from \$2989.00, Oceanview from \$3119.00, Balconies from \$4419.00 plus CAD plus over. Visiting Cartagena, Panama Canal, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Huatalco Mexico, Manzanillo, Puerto Vallarta, San Francisco. Inside cabins starting \$2079.00 plus taxes \$656.00 CAD pp.

April 25/18: 10 day Pacific Coastal Cruise, Vancouver to Vancouver, on the Star Princess. Visit Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, Monterey, San Francisco (overnight). Inside cabins from \$1429.00 plus taxes \$241.00 CAD pp. Balconies \$1595.00 plus taxes CAD pp.

April 13/18: 24 day Sydney, Australia to Vancouver Repositioning Cruise on the Noordam. Visit Sydney (fly in a few days early), New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji, American Samoa, Hawaii. Inside cabins from \$2989.00, Oceanview from \$3119.00 and Balconies from \$4119.00 CAD plus taxes \$356.00 pp.

April 28/18: 8 Day Repositioning Cruise Honolulu to Vancouver on the Noordam. Visit Honolulu (fly in a few days early), Maui and Kuau. Inside cabins from \$1169.00, Oceanview from \$1299.00 and balconies from \$1685.00 plus taxes \$115.00 CAD pp.

May 6/18: 7 day/6night Alaska Cruise, Vancouver to Vancouver on the Noordam. Visiting Tracy Arm (or Endicott), Juneau (overnight) and Ketchikan. Inside cabin **Limited Special** \$779.00 plus \$214.00 CAD taxes pp. Windows from \$909.00 and Balconies from \$1299.00 CAD pp. These rates will go quickly!

Note: You can combine the above 3 cruises for more and days and experiences. Eg. 30 Days Sydney to Alaska and return Vancouver or 15 days Honolulu to Alaska and return Vancouver.

June 11/18: 7 Night Cruise from Vancouver to Seward, Alaska or 14 Night Cruise from Vancouver to Vancouver on the Norwegian Jewel. Visit the Inside Passage, Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan, Icy Straight (Hoonah). Prices for 7 days northbound from \$1177.00 plus taxes CAD pp. Prices for 14 days return from \$2175.00 plus taxes CAD pp.

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 2017 and paid to your dues to be covered. Contact the Heritage Club office for information on MEDOC and for additional trips. Van-Fraser Heritage Club- 604 482-4311 or vanfrasernews@gmail.com.

