



CENTRAL YUKOOTOK HERITAGE CLUB Newsletter # 59 October 2024



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Celebrating 35 years

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President's Message October 2024

As you have seen in other articles in this Newsletter, there has been a change in the Executive of the Central Yukootok Chapter.

Gary Fischer, Wanda Fischer, and Ed Ewanchuk have stepped down from their roles that they have held for many years. Their dedication and service to the chapter have kept it functioning very well over the years, putting in countless hours of their own time along with copious amounts of effort. I had asked Gary and Wanda to give me some of their history, so I could include it in this message, in recognition of their incredible contributions. When I received the report, I decided that it belonged in the newsletter as a separate article, coming from them, and sharing their hearts with the whole chapter.

Gary and Wanda are not saying farewell, they will be active in running the Vernon Council, and providing the new chapter executive with advice and help as needed.

Ed has been involved with the chapter for just as many years and has been the treasurer for a great part of the time. He has also helped Gary and Wanda in the running of the chapter immensely. On behalf of the new Executive and the entire chapter I want to extend our most sincere appreciation for the fantastic jobs they have done.

Our new team have very large shoes to fill, to keep the chapter viable. The Central Yukootok chapter covers a very large geographical area, encompassing the Yukon and all of BC except for the lower mainland (Van Fraser chapter) and Vancouver Island (Van Isle chapter). This obviously makes it very difficult to hold activities that are easily accessible to all of us. For that reason, we have been partitioned to several local councils, and we need volunteers to be contacts in these local areas. The roles of these contacts would include phoning members in the area on our behalf as well as arranging local get togethers such as luncheons occasionally. If you are interested in helping us out, please reach out to any of the executive by phone, or email us at centrallyukootokheritageclub29@gmail.com.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find requests for your dues for next year along with a form asking for your volunteer hours. Canada Post provides seed money to the Heritage Club and one of the metrics used is the number of volunteer hours that our members offer in the community, regardless of where they volunteer. Volunteer work does not have to be under the banner of the Heritage Club. Your input would be greatly appreciated. Due to the late change in the Executive, banking changes have not yet been completed. If you wish to pay your dues by e-transfer, please continue to remit as last year until notified otherwise. Send e-transfers to Gary Fisher cpheritageclub29@shaw.ca.

Finally, on behalf of the Executive, I wish you all a safe and wonderful holiday season,
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

John



Gary and Wanda's story:



Our association with the Heritage Club began in 1991 when I received an invitation to attend the Heritage Club convention to take place in Kelowna. We had just moved to Vernon from Ontario following my retirement from Canada Post after 32 years of service. We thoroughly enjoyed the weekend-long convention and instantly made friends with Heritage Club members. As well as chapter members, we also met some Vernon members.

We began attending the Vernon Council luncheons and made more friends. After a few years, I was elected President of the Vernon Council and Wanda was elected Secretary. In addition, beginning in 2003, I attended the President's Meetings on behalf of Fred Hallett, who could not attend due to poor health. One of Wanda's favourite things to do was to organize the bi-annual banquets, which in the good old days included a golf tournament, Meet & Greet, general meeting, banquet and unique things such as the Postie Bears Reunion and a contest for furthest traveller and more. The highlight was the organization of the Presidents' Meetings which were held in Vernon in 2015 and brought all the Presidents from across Canada to enjoy the beautiful Okanagan.

In 2008 I took over as President of the chapter after Fred Hallett stepped down due to poor health. As President, myself and Wanda attended the other Presidents' Meetings every year and consequently made more friends. I enjoyed attending the meetings and Wanda enjoyed meeting and getting to know all the other spouses that attended. Wanda even organized some extra spouse's outings on her own at a few of the meetings. Between 2003 and 2008 as well as attending the President's meetings, I was elected to the National Executive. Over the years, another favourite thing was to organize road trips throughout the province and set up coffee get togethers, lunches and dinners with members in each town or city that was on a particular route. We have made road trips to the north to Prince Rupert, to the west and east Kootenays and west to Hope and also Richmond where we attended a couple of Fred Danell's luncheons. Then in 2016 we travelled with a Vernon couple, Merv and Barb Mathers, by plane to the Yukon to Whitehorse and Dawson City to meet with members there. And of course, the more we travelled, the more friends we made. That was one of the reasons we encouraged people to join the Heritage Club—to meet people.

We would like to thank many people who over all these years offered much appreciated help and support namely Ed Ewanchuk, Bill Blair (posthumously), Willard Turner, Bob Otway (posthumously), Gil Summerell, Fred Jarvis, Chris Kronbauer (posthumously), Fred & Janet Stoll, Pat Rogers, Nancy Wilson and Pam Dyrda. We also thank the many members who over time, sent us notes and cards of appreciation. It could be said that we have poured our hearts and souls into the running of this chapter, but do not regret a single minute of the time we have spent. Rather, we feel that the experience and effort has enriched our lives.

Stepping down from our positions does not mean that we are abandoning the chapter. We will continue to be active and involved members and maintain our friendships with all of those we have met.



CP HERITAGE CLUB CHAPTER 29 EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

Executive meetings were held on September 16 and September 30 2024. Present was John Barrowclough, Gary Fisher, Ed Ewanchuk and Wanda Fisher.

John stated that he was interested in keeping the chapter going and is prepared to take over as interim President until elections are held. As well, he has pulled together a new interim executive as follows: Fred Jarvis, Vice President; Willard Turner, Treasurer and Pam Dyrda, Secretary.

Due to the cancellation of the General Meeting which was to be held in Prince George, a general meeting will be organized and held in the spring of 2025 so that elections and discussions on monetary donations can be voted upon. Gary will arrange to have an audit completed by Mark Oakley immediately. Gary and Ed will sign off at the Vantage One Credit Union in Vernon to make way for John, Fred and Willard to sign on.

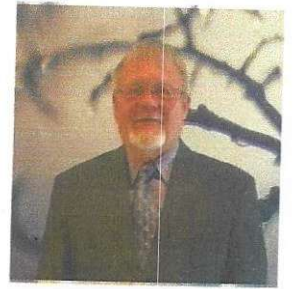
A handover of all chapter records and items from Gary Fisher to John Barrowclough will take place in the next few days. John stated that following conversations with Pam, that a newsletter will be sent out in mid- October before Pam leaves for Mexico for the winter. Gary and Wanda Fisher stated that they will volunteer to pick up the printed newsletters from Get Colour Copies so that everyone can come to stuff the envelopes for mailing.

Prepared by Wanda Fisher

Meet the New Interim Team

John Barrowclough

John retired from Canada Post after 37 years, at the end of August 2007. He spent the last 12 years of his career at the APOC National Office, six years each as National Vice-President and six years as National President.

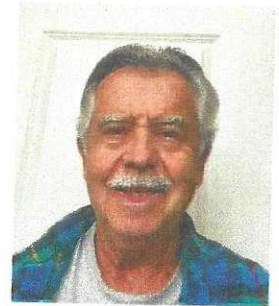


John first worked for the Post Office in Surrey BC as a Christmas helper on the night shift in December 1969. He returned in the fall of 1970, first as a casual MSC clearing Street Letter Boxes, and then as a casual letter carrier. He became a full-time letter carrier in May of 1971, and was promoted to Supervisor in 1976. In 1977 he became a Fleet Safety Officer in Vancouver, and then returned to Operations the following year as a LC Coordinator in Delta BC. He moved to Vernon in 1982 as LC Coordinator there, and the following year went to Coquitlam as Station Manager. In 1985 he became the Assistant Postmaster in White Rock, and in 1986 he became the Mail Processing Plant Manager in Langley. While working in Langley, he also took on the role of Divisional; Vice-President for APOC, representing the members in the Pacific Division. In 1992 he returned to Surrey as the Superintendent of Surrey Depot 2, a position he held until the summer of 1995 when he was elected to the position of National Vice-President for APOC, which required moving to Ottawa.

Upon retirement, John moved to Lumby BC where he continues to reside. After discovering the existence of the Central Yukootok Chapter in 2019, John attended a couple of functions, and met Gary and Wanda, who did not take long to hook him into wanting to be a contributing part of the chapter.

Fred Jarvis

I was elected President of the Kelowna Heritage Club over 10 years ago. We had elections at various times over the years and we actually did elect a new President, but he/she gave it up and it fell back on me. Since then, I've been the unofficial President of the club as no one wants to take the job on. Over the years we've had events like bowling; lawn bowling; bocci; but our favorite events are luncheons, as it seems retirees like to eat, which we hold a couple of times a year and we try for a Christmas luncheon now as the Christmas supper was too late for our members. Also, it was dark at 4:00 PM and no one wanted to drive in the evening. We hold 50/50 draws at our luncheons and donate the money once a year to a charity which we pick during our Christmas Luncheon. Everyone who attends the luncheons, and we usually have about 20 people, have a good time socializing so it is worth it. I thank our members who still come out as we seem to only see others during funerals. Hopefully more retirees will be joining our luncheons so we can catch up on what everyone is doing. Tks. Fred Jarvis



Willard Turner

Willard actually just said write whatever I wanted, so here it goes.

Willard retired 22 years ago at the age of 55 from being a Letter Carrier in Vernon. For a man who is so outgoing and cheerful and friendly—it was slim pick ins trying to get information!! Him and Diane love people and family and travel and just returned from Europe where they toured extensively. They are very active and always on the go and so much fun.



Pamela Dyrda



I was certified full time in 1971 in Cache Creek after several years as Christmas help and Casual Ashcroft and Cache Creek. Postmaster of Pouce Coupe, Lone Butte, Lumby and retired as Postmaster Armstrong in 2013 after 42 years. Retirement is the best job I've ever had. I have traveled extensively and enjoy winters in the sunny climates.

Council News

Vernon Council News:

Our annual BBQ was held on June 20 at the Army Navy Club with 22 members attending. The ladies put on a fabulous spread of smokies or chicken burgers and delicious salads. There was a 35 anniversary cake for all to enjoy.

Our next luncheon will be held at the Hot Spot on 6 on October 29 at 12:00 noon.



Prince George News

We like many of you were disappointed with the cancellation of the AGM this past September, however, we will wait further word from Vernon regarding our chapter.

Our summer barbecue was held on July 7 th, hosted once again at the home of our interim President Gary Schmidt. The weather cooperated and we enjoyed beautiful sunshine, mid 30 degrees, under large shade trees and manicured flower beds. A perfect setting to spend an afternoon, meeting up with fellow heritage members. As in past socials, there were members we haven't seen for some time, or the first social they have attended. We had a surprise, when Maureen Arthurs arrived bringing Evelyn Short who was visiting her. Evelyn worked for Canada Post here in Prince George for many years later transferring to Victoria some 20 years ago. A perfect opportunity for Evelyn to see some of her past co-workers.

There was more than enough tasty snacks, appetizers, not to mention a table laden with a variety of salads & condiments to go with the scrumptious burgers off the grill.

In house draw was won by Pat Kinsley. Another wonderful day with many expressing when the next social event will happen.

As we settle into our gorgeous fall season, we've now have had our Thanksgiving dinner, we then look ahead to the winter season that will arrive in our area soon. It's time to look into seasonal activities offered and there are many that fill almost every need, both indoor and out doors.

Volunteers are always in need; the shut- ins that need that extra visit, or help that they are unable to get or afford. If you have that extra hour to give the rewards are great. Remember to document those volunteer hours.

Submitted by Patricia Rogers

Prince George July BBQ



Kelowna Council:

We usually try to have a couple of luncheons each year. Our last one was in June & we had 20 people in attendance. Unfortunately August; September & October it has been too busy to organize one.

I'm trying to find a venue to host a Christmas Luncheon with turkey & all the trimmings but that may not be an option again this year as The Legion is not in their new building yet.

If we can't find something I'll book a luncheon at a restaurant in December & let people know via email.

Tks. Fred Jarvis.

Luncheon at The Old Spaghetti Factory in Kelowna



CHAPTER NEWS

Chapter News: Thanks to the Meyers from Valemont for a whopping 85 lbs. and Doreen Johnson of Vernon with an amazing 65 lbs. and other donations, we donated 155 lbs. of aluminum and pull tabs to the Royal Purple for their charity The Speech and Hearing Clinic.

This will be our last collection, so please do not save aluminum or pull tabs any longer. The Royal Purple would like to thank everyone who has collected over the last many years.

Condolences:

To the family of Darryl Anderson of Kelowna who passed away earlier in the summer and also to Kay Ladoucer and family for the passing of Larry Piercy who passed away earlier this summer.

As a paid member you are entitled to the following benefits:

- Hearing Life Discounts
- Special rates for Johnson's Medoc

Travel Insurance are available to Chapter members in good standing and includes Covid-related coverage.

- Discounts up to 35% for home and auto insurance from belair direct (formerly Johnson) Home and Car Insurance.
- Membership at Good Life Fitness at approximately 50% off the regular club access rates and Goodlife promotions
- Travel discounts with Collette Tours
- Special scholarships for your children and grandchildren of \$2,000. See page 5 for 2024 winners.
- The knowledge that a portion of your dues support local families and charities

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*Offer is subject to change without notice. Offer is limited to new purchases only. Offer is not available for hearing aids purchased from other retailers. Offer is not available for hearing aids purchased from other retailers. Offer is not available for hearing aids purchased from other retailers.

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