



NANAIMO/MID ISLAND BRANCH #600 SPRING NEWSLETTER 2023



CHAIR'S REPORT Lawrence Johnson

Here we are, after what seemed to be a long winter and a cold wet spring, at the end of April and it looks like summer isn't too far away. Let's hope that it won't be too hot.

The Branch has resumed its regular monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at the Unitarian Hall at 595 Townsite Road here in Central Nanaimo. I hope that every member will be able to attend a meeting at least once or, better still, on a regular basis.

We have interesting speakers and it is always nice to see old colleagues and make new friends. At our meeting on April 11th the Branch provided a light lunch for all attendees to enjoy. We will continue to provide a light lunch at some of our meetings on an "Ad Hoc" basis so read the meeting notices when they appear in your e-mail "inbox".

We are selling tickets for our June 13th luncheon at the May 9th membership meeting at a cost of \$10.00 for members and \$25.00 for non members. If you are unable to attend the May meeting you can contact Branch Treasurer Gloria Johnson at 250-616-3827 or via email: gloria.johnson.321@gmail.com for tickets.



CHAIR'S REPORT Lawrence Johnson cont'd

The B.C.G.R.E.A. "Extraordinary General Meeting" was held in Tsawwassen on April 25th, 2023, the annual "Directors Meeting" was held on April 25th and 26th. Our Branch was represented by myself as Branch Chair, along with Branch Director Mary McDaid, and Roz Kennedy and member Barry Zacharias. The extraordinary meeting was held specifically to make changes to the Association's Constitution and Bylaws. This was done after discussion and debate, stay tuned for the actual changes to the wording. It was reported that the recruitment drive was so successful that the association is moving to a new database and email manager software to be able to provide information to over 11,000 members. We had a workshop where we discussed development of procedures on how to form a new branch and how to close a branch. We also discussed charitable donations and the election of Association Officers and the election of our Trustee to the B.C. Public Service Pension Plan. It was decided that officers will be elected for a two year terms and the Trustee will be elected for a three year term. These were a busy two days and I look forward to these workshop discussions being converted to policy and procedures at the Association's Annual General Meeting in October.

Hope to see you at the May 9th membership meeting and the June 13th Luncheon

In the meantime stay safe and be kind to yourself.

****PLEASE GET INVOLVED!****





1st Vice & Membership Director Lea Campbell

Spring Greetings to all our Branch 600 Members. As the 2023 spring season shines lets all enjoy the promise of warmth and newness. Beautiful sunny, warm days to enjoy, even when those Spring showers appear.

I continue to participate as a 1st vice, and meet the new challenges of hosting meetings in Lawrence's absence. I am looking forward to passing on the duties of the Membership Director to Warren McCormick.

While the covid mandates have been lifted in most public places, I have noticed a continued absence of previous common practices. The physical touch has been replaced with greetings and nods of heads and most people are still respecting the physical distancing while waiting in lines. With the arrival of spring I hope to notice more smiles and happy greetings as mask are put aside and the sun shines warm.

Once the snow has left Mount Benson and not returned for a week, it will be time to plant the gardens. I, like many, am considering planting vegetables as well as flowers this year to help stretch the grocery budget. Dreams of summer harvest and fresh bouquets!

**Buddy Callers/ Telephone Committee****Mary McDaid**

The role of the Telephone Committee Coordinator in the Executive is to gather the information for the upcoming meeting to pass on to the Committee members. As the people we contact do not receive email notifications, we also relay other important information such as changes to benefits or specials from partner companies.

I like to garden, read a good mystery or spend time with friends.

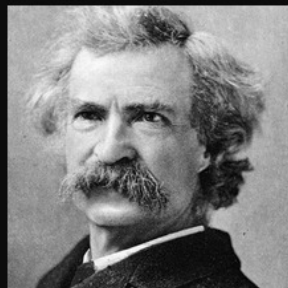
If you would like to receive calls from a member of our group, please contact me at

mamcdaid@shaw.ca or 250-390-0747



Roz Kennedy

In my role as a Director I am interested in member feedback as to what kind of speakers or presenters the membership would like to hear at our monthly meetings. Be it political, health related, senior service or hobbies and if you or someone you know has an interesting presentation please let me know.



In the Spring, I have counted
136 different kinds of weather
inside of 24 hours.

~ Mark Twain

AZ QUOTES



Special Events

Maria Noel

I began working for the BC Government in the Accommodation and Real Estate Services (ARES). It was amalgamated with the Ministry of Citizens' Services while I was there. My Accommodations Department has since changed its name a few times since I retired.

I am the new Special Events Director on the Board. I have enjoyed the special lunches and dinners that our organization has so graciously organized and subsidized each year since I joined Branch 600. I enjoy organizing events, so I thought I could contribute and help out this way.

I enjoy a variety of sports, outings, travel, dancing and socializing. I am interested in natural health and healing products for people and pets and I am a Brand Ambassador for both Lifewave and PetClub247. I also believe in affordable Legal Services, that include legal advice and consultations when you need it with our legal firm, and affordable full scope wills prepared by lawyers. We offer both affordable personal and business services. I became a Legal Shield Independent Associate a few years ago with the intention of helping others. I have personally enjoyed and benefited from using their services since then.

I look forward to organizing some memorable events for our members to enjoy and getting to know more of our members.



Benefits and Reasons to be a BCGREA Member:

****Keep informed of what is happening with our pension issues through discussion and newsletters.****

****Socialize, meet new friends and former colleagues.****

****Have a voice in our organization.****

*****PLEASE GET INVOLVED!*****

Membership Meetings

The 2nd Tuesday of Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May == Sep, Oct, Nov
at

The Unitarian Fellowship Hall – 395 Townsite Road
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Chair – Lawrence Johnson	250-816-0113	
1 st Vice– Lea Campbell	250-756-2587	
Secretary – Kathy Torhjem	250-753-5778	
Treasurer – Gloria Johnson	250-616-3827	
Membership – Warren McCormick	250-390-1068	
Director of Special Events – Maria Noel	778-268-4514	
Director – Mary McDaid	250-390-0747	Director of Good and Welfare - Vacant
Director – Roz Kennedy	250-682–5820	Drector Social Activities - Vacant



Kathy Torhjelm – Secretary

Fruit Pizza

Crust

½ cup margarine ¼ cup icing sugar 1 cup flour

Mix together until like shortbread. Press onto a pizza pan in a thin layer. Bake in a 350° F. oven for 8 to 10 minutes. Cool.

Custard

250 gram package cream cheese ½ cup sugar 1 tsp. vanilla

Whip together until smooth. Spread evenly over crust.

Topping

Generously cover with fresh fruit (I used strawberries and kiwi)

Glaze

2 Tbsp. cornstarch

1 cup pineapple juice (I used mixed citrus fruit)

½ cup sugar

1 tsp. lemon juice

Cook together until mixture has boiled and is thick and smooth.

Cool. Pour over fruit. Refrigerate until serving time.



*****BCGREA SPRING LUNCH*****
Tuesday, June 13, 2023

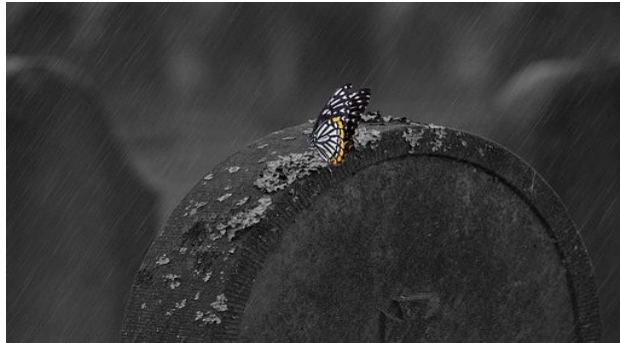
Branch 256 Legion on Bowen/Townsite Road

Doors open at 12:00 with lunch served at 12:30

Members of BCGREA Branch 600 **\$10**
Non-members **\$25**

Contact Gloria Johnson at [250-616-3827](tel:250-616-3827) or
gloria.johnson.321@gmail.com

Deadline for purchasing Lunch tickets is **Wednesday, June 7th 2023**



IN MEMORY

Lorne Harold Cochrane

Winfred A Foster

W Bruce Holloway

Wilfried J E Kain

William Frederick Marshall

Elizabeth L Neill

Gloria A Peachey

Margaree J Porteous

Trevor James Price

Leo John Puff

Geraldine Margaret Raines

Gerry Stalling

Arnold G Stone

Arthur Frederick Vanidour

Ralph S White