

CN Pensioners' Association of Manitoba

Meetings held at 1:30 p.m. on the 1st Wed of the Month at the Norwood Legion, 134 Marion St., Winnipeg except for the months of July, August and December

Special Points of Interest:

- Margaret Stephen's 100th Birthday
- Harvey Hosfield Bursary Award
- Change of Address
- Meet Albert Delbaere
- Christmas Photos

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Www.cnpensioners.ca



■ March 2015

President's View—Ron Davis



Happy 100th Birthday Margaret Stephen!

On Sunday, November 23rd, Janet Lewis Anderson was delighted to attend a Birthday Tea in celebration of Margaret Stephen's 100th Birthday and to present her with a special plaque and greetings from CN in honor of this special occasion. Over 50 family and friends were in attendance to wish Margaret a Happy Birthday!

Margaret worked for the CN Legal Depart-

ment for 25 years from 1945 to 1970 when she left to marry Andy Stephen. Many of you will also remember Andy, who was Superintendent Transportation and then Liaison Officer between CN and the Canadian Wheat Board before taking an early retirement at age 58. They enjoyed several winter vacations over the years especially in the Florida Gulf. Although Andy passed away several years ago, Margaret feels blessed by the love of family and friends. She continues to enjoy catching up on the Pensioner news! Happy Birthday Margaret and wishing you many more years of Good Health, Happiness and Love!

Harvey Hosfield Bursary Award

On Wednesday, December 3rd at our Annual Christmas Luncheon, Ron Davis announced the naming of our Bursary program in honor of our late Harvey Hosfield. A special plaque was presented to Sonia Hosfield in Harvey's honor. Surrounded by several family members, Sonia made a very gracious acceptance speech. Harvey was a long time member, originally joining the CN



Veterans Association when he retired in 1986. The Veterans Association later merged with a group of U.T.U. members to form the CN Pensioners Association. If you have any grandchildren who might be eligible for our Bursary Award, please have them visit our website at www.cnpensioners.ca for details. Deadline for applications is August 15th.



Executive Council 2013—2014

(Precede all MB numbers with 204)

President

Ron Davis, 204-489 4485 ronvel@mymts.net

Past President

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Webmaster & Editor

Janet L Anderson, 204-275-0482

jelretiredmama@hotmail.com

Member At Large

Albert Delbaere, 204-256-8419; albert1a@mymts.net

National Council Directors & Officers

Linda Schram Janet Lewis Anderson Carson Hull Ron Davis, Past President

Membership Report—Wayne Zaharia

Total paid membership 4000 Pension Cheque deduction 3878 Fees paid by cheque 122

Welcome to the following New Members. Hope to see you out at the meetings. We look forward to your participation in the Association!

Ramjeet, Ralph Callow, Rob Laveau, Maurice Dicolychuk, Audrey Lawson, Iris Reilly, Roberta Dueck, Robert Lund, Wayne Roy, Richard Frith, Danny Markusson, Gail Ryback, Jean Goodfellow, Dale A. McRobb, Winnifred Saydak, Greg Shand, Marlene Henry, Brian Mills. Rav Nemish, Chris Johnston, Blake St. Amant. Louis Kraynyk, Michael Oman, Eric Stewart, Elizabeth Kreger, Larry Opar, Bob Washington, Robert Plaschewsky, Terry Kruger, Valerie Wincheruk, Tom Krywonis, Shirley Porter, Jean Young, Ronald Lamb, Kelvin Pretula, Douglas

First Time Attendees & New Members

A hearty welcome to all new members and an especially warm welcome to those who have attended their first General Meeting where they received a Pensioners' pin. January—Sandor Farkas, February—Raymond Roy and John Delvecchio. Hope to see more new faces at our March meeting!

Following members have moved. If anyone knows where they have moved to please let me know so I can keep our data base up to date. My phone number is 204-694-5133 or you can email me. Thanks.

Armstrong, Olga; Adams, Ellen; Baker, Tina; Beamis, Gerald; Boucher-Tapping, Helen; Dryden, John G.; Marino, Mary; McLaughlin, Hector; Mitchell, Joan; Moore, Mary D.; Smith, Daniel; Spooner, Beverly; Swain, John.

NB: Remember our new mailing address is 301 – 270 Fairhaven Rd., Winnipeg, MB, R3P 0A9.

Note to Those Who Pay Membership by Cheque: Due to increased postage costs, annual membership cards will no longer be mailed out.

Special Events Report—Linda Schram

Our meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at the Norwood Legion on Marion Street and commence at 1:30 p.m. Many arrive earlier to have coffee, donuts and a visit. If you are interested in helping out in any way please contact Linda at 204-255-5636. *Visit our website often at www.cnpensioners.ca for updates, announcements and to view our newsletters.*

The annual Christmas Lunch was once again a great success. Our Executive works very hard to arrange this and kudos go out to them. Check out a sampling of the photos on pages 10 and 11 of the newsletter or visit our website at www.cnpensioners.ca under the photo section to see them all.

Guest Speakers for Upcoming Meetings:

March 4th—Richard Hildebrand of Canadian Footwear will make a presentation on choosing proper footwear for comfort and safety

April 1st—We will have a presentation from Transportation Options Network for Seniors on Driving Safely **May 6th**— Our topic for the day will be Falls Prevention. This will be presented by ALCOA-MB (Active Living Coalition for Older Adults)

June 3rd—Mike Cory, CN Senior Vice-President CN, Western Region

<u>Attention all</u> — Mike Cory, Senior Vice-President Western Region, has graciously accepted our invitation to be our Guest Speaker at our June meeting. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend. Announcements will be made at our upcoming meetings, in the June newsletter and on the website.

Annual Picnic In The Park—Thursday, June 11th, 2015

Once again, we will be having our annual picnic in Assiniboine Park by the White Tent close to the Conservatory. It will be held on Thursday, June 11th from 11:30 to 3:00 and will include our usual lunch, Bocce Tournament and prizes. Tickets remain at \$5.00 per person and will be available at the May and June General Meetings or by calling Linda at 204-255-5636. This is a fun event for all so please mark it on your calendars and come out for a great day (rain or shine).

Annual Golf Tournament

The Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Tuesday, June 23rd at Kingswood Golf & Country Club, La Salle, MB. Cost to play golf, share a cart, and enjoy a BBQ Steak dinner is \$84.25 per person. Please contact Ron Davis at 204-489-4485 to sign up.

Treasurer's Report—Jerry Dunford

A financial audit of the CN Pensioners Assoication of Manitoba has just been completed for the 12 months ending August 31, 2014. Opening Balance on September 1st, 2013 was \$12,427.30; Closing Balance on August 31, 2014 was \$18,280.75.

Auditor's Report:

We have reviewed the financial position of the "CN Pensioners' Association of Manitoba". This review consisted of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussions related to the information supplied to us by the Treasurer. Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements are not in all material respects in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. **Signed: W. M. Lesiuk**

If any member has any questions related to the CNPA's finances, please contact Jerry Dunford at 204-487-7478.

Outreach Chair's Report—Rose Chapman 204-832-1105

(Mail Outreach info to 186 Windham Rd, Wpg, R3J 3B8 or email rchap-man17@shaw.ca)



Outreach Committee

George Lintick	204-254-1032	Mel Rusiecki	204-255-1361
Linda Ksionzek	204-669-8308	Bob Gill	204-256-3897
Albert Delbaere	204-256-8419	Jack Moore	204-224-1019

Please contact any member on the Outreach Committee with information on pensioners who are hospitalized, or ill at home, and on those who have had or will be celebrating special birthdays or milestone anniversaries.

Remember—please keep us informed!

To those previously mentioned on our Sick List, we hope that you are feeling much better. To those who are currently ill or still experiencing health problems, please know you are in our thoughts. The membership joins us in extending Best Wishes for a speedy recovery. We have received reports and updates on the following Pensioners since the last newsletter: (* denotes member).

Sick List:

- John Almdal* is feeling good and has had great results from the new cancer medication he is on. His most recent tests revealed that his PSA level continues to drop. He needs to be extremely careful as his bones have been affected by the cancer. He says hello to all his friends. As of November 2014, his PSA level dropped from 2100 to 255.
- Archie Baron* has been in Victoria Hospital since early November. He is doing fine.
- Ralph Bent* is in St. Boniface Hospital.
- Vincent Cancilla* was in hospital recently. He is recuperating at home.
- Hazel English* was in hospital recently. She is recuperating at home.
- Roy Gorkoff* is in Health Sciences Centre, Ward D5, being treated for leukemia.
- John Kuban's* back surgery has been cancelled as pre-op tests revealed that he has cancer.
- Muriel Myers is now in Concordia Place Personal Care Home.
- Shirley, wife of Tom Radford* is in St. Boniface Hospital.
- Vic Ratte* suffered a heart attack recently. He is recovering at home after heart surgery.
- Tilly Sosiak* was successfully treated for breast cancer and is now being treated for skin cancer.
- Gord Stein* is recuperating at home after suffering a stroke recently.
- Marcel Vannevel* is now home, recovering from cellulitis.

Happy Birthday Wishes To:

- William Baran will celebrate his 82nd birthday on February 20th.
- Ernie Borowski (Honorary Member) who celebrated his 80th birthday on Dec 27th.
- Gord Demke will celebrate his 75th birthday on February 7th.
- Doug MacPherson celebrated his 90th birthday on January 18th.
- Gordon Moore will celebrate his 84th birthday on April 1st.
- Dave Moors celebrated his 90th birthday on January 11th.
- Alice, wife of Ernie Smith, celebrated her 81st birthday on January 15th.
- Ernie Smith celebrated his 84th birthday on December 22nd.
- Tillie Sosiak celebrated her 90th birthday on November 24th.
- Margaret Stephen celebrated her 100th birthday on November 23rd.
- Olga, wife of August Wagner, celebrated her 85th birthday on February 21st.
- Ted Warburton celebrated his 80th birthday on February 14th.

Happy Anniversary To:

- Elwood and Betty Henderson will celebrate their 40th Wedding Anniversary on April 12th.
- Fred and Muriel Myers celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on December 18th.

Birthday of the Month:

January: Bill Cziffra February: William Baran

Door Prizes:

Harold Duncan*
Margaret Edwards*

January: Bert Andrews, Barry Levandoski, Marcel Ratte, Mel Martin February: George Lintick, Carson Hull, Gerrit Vanderklok, Dennis Brown

Obituaries: The following pensioners have passed away since the last report (* denotes member of the Manitoba Pensioners' Association). *The CN Pensioners Association of Manitoba extends our sincere condolences to the family and friends of the deceased.*

Marjory Alexander* Marcel Gaudry* Robert Porter* Mina Ambrose* David Goldhawk* Lena Prasiazniuk Grace Anderson* Dave Guile Michael Prokopchuk* William Badiuk* Opal Radchuk Jacqueline Hargrave, daughter of Kathleen Baker Lorne Yaskiw* Florence Radcliffe Margaret Hall* Margaret Rice* Isaac Balzer Katherine Baraniuk Muriel Hamel Philias Ritchot Peggy Hardy* Clarence Blair* Thomas Edward Rose Edward Bodman* Fred Hill* Helen Rosskoph* Jose Borges* Metro Hryhoryshen* Florence Ruppenthal* Marian Bort* George Johnson* Mike Ryback* Henry Brakel* Frank Kolodka Joseph Saurette* Nelza Braz* Frances Kresky Arnold Sedo* Estelle Kuta* Denise Self* Clarence (Wezer) Bridle* Charles Burnett* Edwin Laurila* Sherrie Shaw* Dorothy Cairns* Louise Lavich* Philip Victor Solylo* Genevieve Caribou Nettie Machnicki John Southall Richard Chody* Knude Markman* Marion Stocki Kathleen Clements George McRobb* Ted Szpak Esther Deezar* Gilbert McVarish* Sadie Thompson* Thelma Donnett* James Merrells Alice Tomac* Edna Merrick Nanie Valentine Norman Dopson Victor Doroschuk* Caroline Minuta* Liliane Van Normand* Christina Dudych* Mary Moszynski* Herta Wach

Pauline Fedoruk* Doris Park* John West
Marty Freundl* Harry Paskaruk* Fran Zack, wife of Bill Zack*
Victor Frykas* Chontle Paterson* Frances Zinnick

Joseph Wasny*

Anna Wencek*

George Gamache*

Chontle Paterson*

Frances Zinnic

Anne Pearce*

Harold Nicolychuk

Stella Panasiuk

Publicity Chair—Jack Moore

Crime Prevention Tips

At the May meeting of the Edmonton Council, a guest speaker from Edmonton Police Service gave good advice about personal safety. Here are some highlights:

- 1. Never keep your social insurance card or your provincial health care card in your wallet. If you feel you need these cards, simply write the numbers down on a slip of paper and put it in your wallet.
- 2. If you receive a suspicious phone call, simply say "Let me call you back. What's your number?"
- 3. Home alarms do not stop break-ins. The crooks know exactly what they are after in your home and will be out of your house in the time it takes for the alarm company to respond. What home alarms do prevent, however, is long stays in your home by people intent on doing damage.
- 4. Take the time to hide your GPS and/or garage door opener in your car. Never leave them exposed.
- 5. When a panhandler approaches you, keep on walking.
- 6. Keep your wits about you when you are walking especially at night. Look behind you.
- 7. If someone is intent on stealing your purse or wallet, throw it as far away as possible and run.
- 8. If you purchase something at a mall and return to your car to put it in the trunk and then re-enter the mall, chances are that a crook has seen you do this. Take the time to go to another parking spot.

The police officer told the meeting that most of us think it is "inconvenient" to take precautions. We should not think this way because it is much more "inconvenient" being a victim. You should also know that email messages from banks, cable companies and even Revenue Canada are likely fraudulent and must never be replied to. The Revenue Canada email is especially dangerous because they offer you a refund and many people think this is wonderful. But what the crooks really want is your Social Insurance Number. Revenue Canada informed us that over 70 Internet scams involving their agency have occurred, and that they never used email to contact people.

CALL 9-1-1 FOR ANY EMERGENCY

Member at Large—Albert Delbaere

Meet our new Member At Large—Albert Delbaere! Albert hired on with CN in 1957 as Carman Apprentice. Throughout his career, Albert was involved with the Union Executive, Training Instructor, Foreman in the yards at Symington. Albert retired in 1992 and has since volunteered as President of The Belgian Club of Winnipeg (St. Boniface). You will recognize his name with the Shooting Star Casino Trips.

Welcome Albert to the Manitoba Executive! We look forward to working with you!



Shooting Star Casino Trip

The next Shooting Star Casino Trip which is March 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 2015 has sold out. Watch for our next trip which will be this fall. For more information, contact Albert Delbaere at 204-256-8419.

Kamloops Website

Congratulations to the CN Pensioners Association Kamloops on the recent launch of their website. Check it out at www.cnpa-kamloops.org.

Tax Facts—Jim Miln

Tax time is just around the corner, so here are some numbers to look for when filing your 2014 Income Tax return:

Federally:

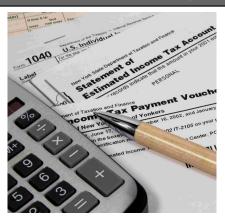
- Basic Personal Amount \$11,138 increased by \$100 from 2013
- Age Amount \$6,919 increased by \$65.00
- Disability Amount \$7,760 increased by \$70.00
- Tax Bracket 2 begins at \$43,953 increased by \$392.00

Provincially:

- Basic Personal Amount \$9,134 increased by \$250.00
- No other changes.

For Tax Year 2015:

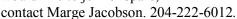
- The basic amount will increase by \$90.00
- The age amount will increase by \$115.00
- The Disability amount will increase by \$130.00
- Tax Bracket 2 will increase by \$748.00



In future issues of the CN Pensioners News, I will keep you abreast of any other changes. In addition to tax preparation, I also specialize in pension income splitting and the disability tax credit and I <u>do not</u> take a percentage of your refund as my fee. If I can be of assistance to you, please contact me at 204-253-0137.

Bowling

CNPA Mixed 5 pin Bowling league meets every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. at Mosienko Lanes. If you would like to join or spare, contact Marge Jacobson, 20





Questions & Answers

Q: Why can't pensioners pay a one-time \$12.00 fee instead of one dollar each month?

A: For every pensioner who would agree to the one-time twelve dollar deduction, there are at least six who would not agree. It is CN policy that all pensioners have the same amount deducted each month.

CN Railroaders in the Community Retiree Program Now Includes Spouses

This program recognizes efforts of retired employees by providing a \$500 cash grant to the community based charitable organization they choose to support through their volunteer efforts. *The program has now been extended to include spouses of CN Pensioners and survivors for an amount of \$250 if they volunteer for a registered charity in their community.* To learn more or to apply, visit http://www.cn.ca/en/delivering-responsibly/community/cn-railroaders-community or the National Council website at www.cnpensioners.org and click on the tab "CN Volunteers". CN wants you to know that you can reapply each year for the same charity or apply for a different one. Please let us know if your volunteer work has resulted in a grant to your charity by emailing us at jelretiredmama@hotmail.com. Please be sure to indicate this in the subject line.

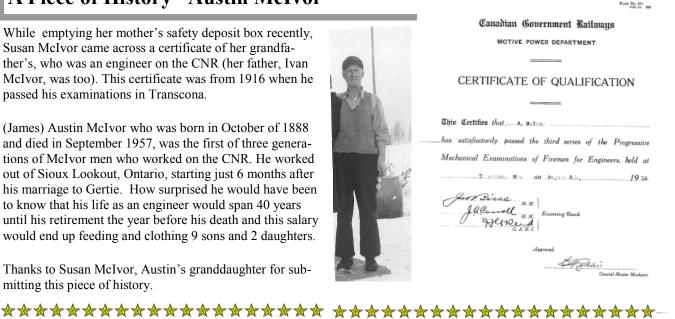
Congratulations to: Bert Andrews for his volunteer work with the Winnipeg Senior Citizens Amateur Radio Club; Gerry Russell for his volunteer work with the Abbotsford Regional Hospital Auxiliary; John Cochrane, William (Bill) Sailor, Dan Trochim, Terry Cousins, Dennis Hruda for their volunteer work for the Transcona Memorial Church Building Fund. Here is a thank you note from their Minister: "What a delight to be in a CN strong community! The Railroaders in the Community Program is a huge benefit to Transcona. CN volunteers provide leadership and support to programs and the upcoming space renovation of Transcona Memorial United Church. As we work toward improving accessibility for the Community Wing of the building, the Railroaders in the Community are playing an important part! Thank you CN!"

A Piece of History –Austin McIvor

While emptying her mother's safety deposit box recently, Susan McIvor came across a certificate of her grandfather's, who was an engineer on the CNR (her father, Ivan McIvor, was too). This certificate was from 1916 when he passed his examinations in Transcona.

(James) Austin McIvor who was born in October of 1888 and died in September 1957, was the first of three generations of McIvor men who worked on the CNR. He worked out of Sioux Lookout, Ontario, starting just 6 months after his marriage to Gertie. How surprised he would have been to know that his life as an engineer would span 40 years until his retirement the year before his death and this salary would end up feeding and clothing 9 sons and 2 daughters.

Thanks to Susan McIvor, Austin's granddaughter for submitting this piece of history.



Laugh for the Day

A good sermon is one that leaves you wondering how the preacher knew all about you!

* ALCOA—Manitoba

Active Living Coalition for Older Adults will be hosting the Manitoba 55 Plus Games in Beausejour, June 16th-18th. For information visit www.alcoamb.org.

The Winnipeg Regional Health Authority—Strategic Plan

The WRHA is updating its strategic plan for the 2016-2021 period. Help us create a plan for the future of health services!

Tell them what you think—participate in their strategic planning survey. Voice your thoughts on what their goals and priorities need to be. What you tell them will shape the organization's strategic plan. To request a copy of the survey, call 204-926-7041. Be entered to win a \$50 gift card when you take the survey at www.strategicplan.ca.



NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING FOR WORKERS KILLED OR INJURED ON THE JOB

The National Day of Mourning, held annually on April 28th, was officially recognized by the federal government in 1991, eight years after the day of remembrance was launched by the Canadian Labour Congress. The Day of Mourning has since spread to about 80 countries around the world. The April 28th Day of Mourning is a time to remember those who have suffered or died through workplace injury and illness. Our thoughts are also with their families, friends and colleagues.

Report From Janet Anderson

Website Report

Redesign and general maintenance continues with our website. As info, the most visited pages on our website are the Membership page and our Photo Section, and speaking of photos, the Christmas luncheon photos have been posted. A sampling of the photos can also be found in this newsletter edition. To see all of the photos taken at the luncheon, please visit our website at www.cnpensioners.ca under our Photo Section.

National Council

At the Annual General Meeting of the CN Pensioners National Council last November, I was voted in as Vice-President of the Prairie Region. I look forward to serving you this coming year in this capacity. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Linda Schram was also welcomed as one of the new Director's for our Region. Carson Hull remains as your Health Care Committee Chair. A summary of the AGM will be posted on the National Council website in the near future. Please visit www.cnpensioners.org.

If anyone is interested in becoming a Director on the National Council or a Representative on either the Health Care Committee or Pension Committee, the application process will be described in the next newsletter. In the meantime, if you wish to see when the terms of office expire for the current National Council Executive and Officers, please visit www.cnpensioners.org then click on "Councils" and then scroll down and click on "National Council".

Newsletter

If you have any stories for our newsletter, please send them to me. We will do our best to include them in upcoming issues. We currently issue 4 newsletters a year "Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter". Each edition is typically available as follows:

Spring Edition—March 1st Summer—June 1st Fall—September 1st Winter—December 1st

Harvey Hosfield Bursary — Re-minder

We want to remind all new applicants as well as those **those who were NOT successful recipients in previous years**, that as long as your application meets all of the Association criteria, you can re-apply for the current year. The application requirements can be found at www.cnpensioners.ca.

At the same time, you can also apply yearly to the National Council of CN Pensioners' Association for one of their Scholarship Awards, as long as you have never been awarded one of the National Association Scholarships and you meet their criteria. Their application can be found at www.cnpensioners.org.

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Manitoba Association Executive 2015—L to R: Patrick McMullin, Albert Delbaere, John Mozol, Wayne Zaharia, Ron Davis, Jerry Dunford, Jack Moore, Gary Davis. Sitting: Rose Chapman, Janet Anderson and Linda Schram (Missing from photo: Carson Hull).

Christmas Luncheon Photos

More photos can be viewed on our website at www.cnpensioners.ca under the photo section.





CN PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA

301—270 Fairhaven Road Winnipeg, MB R3P 0X9

We're on the Web—www.cnpensioners.ca

Frequently Called Numbers

The CN Pensioners Help Line (Morneau Shepell) I 800 361 0739. Always have your PIN to better identify you when making inquiries. If you move, advise the above number. If you are married at the time of retirement, make sure that CN has your spouse's name on file. Changing banks, with direct deposit, never close your old account until the cheque shows up in the new account.

Change of Address I-800-361-0739
Canada Pension & Old Age Security I-800-277-9914
Canada Custom & Revenue Service I-800-959-8281

Blue Cross, contract number 93115 204-775-0161 switchboard

National Claims Direct 204-775-9261 Income Tax Preparation—Jim Miln 204-253-0137

Health Links Info 204-788-8200, or 1-888-315-9257

Phone numbers for International Employees:

U. S. Railroad Retirement—Fargo 1-877-772-5772

CN Pensioners Association of Manitoba 301—270 Fairhaven Winnipeg, MB R3P 0X9