

FSNA Quarterly Newsletter

Nanaimo & Area Branch

March 2009

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Front Row, left to right: Charles Scrivener, Doris Grieves, Barbara Campbell, Susanne Body
Back Row, left to right: Rick Neugebauer, President Al Heinrich, Bob Hoogerbrug, Vic Ashdown, Marg Mostowy, Rene Marchand

Next Meeting

Date/Time: Thursday, 26th March 2009, 11:00 AM.

Location: Royal Canadian Legion Mount Benson Branch No 256, located at 1630 Wellington Road East, Nanaimo.

Directions: The Mount Benson Branch building is on the north side of Wellington Rd between Bowen Rd and Townsite Rd. **Note:** meeting room doors will open at 10:00 AM.

Meeting/Lunch: Following a short business meeting and election of officers, a lunch of roast beef, vegetables and salad plus desserts, tea and coffee will be served. Cost, including tax, will be \$17.00 per person, payable at the door on arrival. Tips are at your discretion; please note that the servers are all volunteers.

Guest Speaker: Since this is our Annual General Meeting that includes Election of Branch Officers for the coming year, there will not be a guest speaker. See the "Elections" item on page 4 for the list of Officers to be elected.

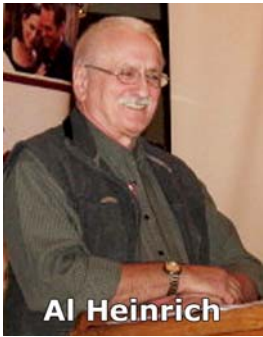
Reservations/Cancellations: Your local FSNA volunteer will phone you to ask whether you plan to attend the lunch. If you confirm your attendance, please be aware of our cancellation policy. The Branch is required to pay for all meals ordered on your behalf; therefore, if you subsequently are unable to attend, you must cancel your reservation to avoid being charged for the meal. To cancel, please call **Pat Mason at (250) 753-6008** (Nanaimo) or **Barb Campbell at (250) 954-0733** (Parksville). The last date for cancellation to avoid billing is Thursday, 19th March.

Don't Forget to Wear

Your NAME Tag

President's Report -2009-02-19.

2009 is here snow and all. I would like to wish you all a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year. As we look forward to 2009 we have three important activities to plan and prepare for;



phoner training, Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Congress 2009. We welcome you to join us at our AGM on March 26,

2009 at the Royal Canadian Legion #256. Your new Executive will be elected at this meeting. We are in desperate need of a secretary. Please help if you can.

Phoner Session. We had an excellent phoner refresher session on February 12, 2009. We try to bring our phoners together once every two years for a refresher and update session. Phoners are an integral and important part of our organization. They make the membership aware of all Branch activities and in the process gather the much needed information we need to keep the Branch records up-to-date. To the phoners, it is extremely important that all questions on the phoners guide sheets are answered. This is the only means we have to gather the necessary Branch information. Thank you phoners.

Annual General Meeting. This year our Annual General meeting will be held at the Legion in Nanaimo on March 26, 2009 at 11:00AM, doors open at 10:00AM. We will hold a short business meeting, elect our new Executive and have lunch. This is an extremely important meeting as we need to elect our new Executive for 2009. In most cases the incumbents have agreed to stand for re-election; however we have been unable to find a candidate for the secretary position. Good news is that we have a candidate for newsletter editor. Ian Williams has

agreed to take over production of our Newsletter for us. Recruitment of a newsletter editor will take a lot of work away from Vic Ashdown and me. Welcome aboard Ian and Thanks Vic for your work with the Newsletter.

Congress 2009. Possibly our most important event as far as the Organization is concerned will be Congress 2009. Congress 2009 will be held in Ottawa on June 20-22, 2009. Our present By-Laws and Administrative Procedures require updating, correction and modification. Bob Hoogerbrug, our Past President, and I attended a meeting in Duncan on January 10, 2009 where we worked all day to re-write our By-Laws and Regulations. This meeting was chaired by our Regional Services Officer (RSO) John Finn. Present were the five Vancouver Island Branch Presidents and five additional Branch representatives. After much deliberation we were able to reach consensus on most items which needed changing in the BY-Laws and Regulations. A principle which was very important to all of us was "ONE BRANCH ONE VOTE". The model we based this concept on is the US senate. We felt it was extremely important that all regions large or small be heard so that everyone's concerns could be addressed and dealt with.

Regional Services Officer (RSO). John Finn sends his regrets that he will not be able to attend our AGM meeting on March 26, 2009; however he will be at our General Meeting in June 2009. At this meeting he will swear in the new Executive for 2009. John would also be prepared to make a presentation to the membership on Wills and Estate Planning. John generally has an article of interest for our quarterly newsletter on current items of concern.

Name Tags. New name tags with our new logo and new colors are now available. Cost of name tag is \$8. New members or anyone

wishing to purchase a new name tag can see Harold Goodman or me.

I would be interested in hearing from you, by phone or email, as to what type of activities, talks, or issues you would like us to pursue on your behalf. Please let me know what changes you would like us to make to your organization. This is your Branch and we are here to accommodate your wishes. Please let me know your thoughts. They are much appreciated. Thank you.

Biography - Al Heinrich, President

Al Heinrich was born in Edmonton, Alberta and raised in the small farm community of Warburg 60 miles west of Edmonton. After High School he went to Edmonton and then Calgary for further education. Al's first and only job was with the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources (EMR) in Calgary, Alberta where he was involved in Inorganic Geochemical Research in the Oil Industry. Al spent thirty one years doing research Geochemistry before retiring at the early age of 53. Al and his wife, Kathy, moved to Winfield, BC after his retirement. During Al's employment in Calgary he held the position of local Union President, the second National Vice President of UEMRE, the first National Vice President of UEMRE and a member of various Public Service Alliance of Canada committees. After thirty years of involvement with the Union movement Al was awarded a Life Membership in the Union of Energy Mines and Resources Employees (UEMRE).

Al and Kathy lived on an acreage in Winfield, BC overlooking Okanagan Lake for five years after Al's retirement in 1997. While in Winfield Al set up the Revenue Canada Volunteer Income Tax program for low income people. During Al's stay in Winfield he was also involved with a group who was setting up an Internet Society for the com-

munity. The purpose of this society was to network community business and to form a community network for communication. Al was also involved in preparation of the Winfield and area OCP (Official Community Plan). While living in the Okanagan Al was part of the Central Okanagan FSNA Branch where he held the positions of Membership Promotion and Second Vice President. After six years in Winfield the Heinrich's moved to Qualicum Beach.

Upon arrival in Qualicum Beach the Heinrich's set up a B & B business. A&K Oceanside Retreat has been in operation for five years. It has been a very rewarding venture. Al became involved with Nanaimo and Area Branch of the FSNA and with the Revenue Canada Volunteer Income Tax program (CVITP). Al's first involvement with the Nanaimo and Area Branch of FSNA was as Membership Recruitment, then as Vice President and now as President. Last July Al attended the National Congress 2008 meeting on behalf of FSNA BC05 Branch. One of the accomplishments at Congress 2008 was the approval of new By-Laws and Regulations. In Al's first year in Qualicum Beach he set up another CVITP program. Al found a need for an Income Tax Program that could kick in and look after people who did not qualify for the CVITP program. This was the beginning of A & K Enterprize which is now doing Income Tax. Heinrich's are a family of five, one son, two daughters and a granddaughter. Al and his wife live in Qualicum Beach.



Annual General Meeting (AGM) – Election of Officers

The March 26 AGM constitutes our annual election of Branch Officers. The following list shows all who may be running and those positions yet to be filled. Although the incumbents have indicated that they are prepared to stay on, members may apply to fill any of the listed positions. Also, volunteers are urgently required for the vacant positions, especially that of Secretary.

List Of Nominees

President
Vice-President
Treasurer

Director Positions

Membership
Newsletter Editor
Awards & Speakers/Historian
Programs
Health & Benefits
Telephones

Vacant Positions

Secretary
Nomination Chair
Director at Large

Al Heinrich
Rene Marchand
Marg Mostowy

Vic Ashdown
Ian Williams
Charles Scrivener
Pat Mason
Rick Neugebauer
Barbara Campbell

Vacant!
Vacant!
Vacant!

If anyone is interested in running for any of the above positions please contact **Bob Hoogerbrug** at (250) 751-8735 or r-choog@shaw.ca. You may also contact Bob's co-chair, **Leo Roberge** at (250) 740-0229 or lee.roberge@shaw.ca. It is vitally important that we fill these positions.



Nanaimo Branch Service Awards

by Charles Scrivener—Director

One of the ways that our Branch shows it's appreciation of Volunteer Service by members is through awarding FSNA Certificates-of-Service. During 2009, Certificates for Five-years of Service will be presented to four Branch members at our A.G.M. on March 26 in Nanaimo, or at either the June or September general meetings.

They are :

Susanne Body - branch executive
Barrie W. Bonfield - phoner
Clifford Walker - phoner, posthumously
June Wiebe - card person, Nanaimo



Financial Report to February 16/09

Marg Mostowy

Balance Sheet

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Cash on Hand | \$ 2,993.74 |
| A/R DDS/Other | 9,516.36 |
| Prepaid Expense | 1,604.71 |
| Investments | 24,798.72 |
| Percapita Payable | - 710.08 |
| DOB Reserve | - 6,480.61 |
| Equity | 31,722.84 |

Income Statement

| Jan 1/09 -Feb 16/09 | | |
|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| | | |
| Income | | \$ 9,718.00 |
| Expenses | | 922.00 |
| Net Income | | 8,796.00 |

Regional Services Officers Report
 by John Finn, Regional Services Officer
 BC Coastal Islands Region

It has been very busy over the last few months for the BC Coastal Island Region. On November 27, thirty members of the executive from the five branches on Vancouver Island attended a one day training session in Duncan. Topics covered included the roles and responsibilities of the National Board of Directors, National Office and the branches; how each level of the organization fits into the policy and decision making process; what are the strategic goals of the FSNA over the next five years; an update on the marketing campaign currently underway; as well as it provided an opportunity for executives to meet and share best practices on a wide range of issues facing their branches. In short, it provided them with the tools they need to better carry out their responsibilities to you, the member.

The Health Benefit Officers for the fifteen branches in BC were also provided much needed training during November. We were fortunate to have Charlotte Roy, from the National Office in Ottawa, provide a one day training session, the first time in over four years, on the Public Service Health Care Plan and the Pensioners Dental Services

Plan. All indications are that this training was very well received and once again it will provide one of the key members of your executive with the knowledge and tools they need to better service you.

The BC Coastal Islands Regions President meeting was held on January 10, 2009 where we discussed and developed resolutions on the FSNA By-laws that will be forwarded to the National Board of Directors for consideration at the 2009 Congress in June. Of particular importance were resolutions put forward on the autonomy of branches and the one branch - one vote verses weighted voting at Congress.

Finally, I had the pleasure of swearing in new boards of directors for the Duncan as well as the Vancouver Island North branches for 2009. These visits also gave me an opportunity to meet and speak too many of the members of the branches at the luncheons. It is hoped that over the next few months when I visit the other branches in the Region that I will meet with many of you.

No longer forward nor behind
 I look in hope and fear;
 But grateful take the good I find,
 The best of now and here.
John G. Whittier

Membership Report - Vic Ashdown, Director



As of February 19th, 2009, the Nanaimo and Area Branch had 1851 members comprising 1242 superannuates and 609 spouses. Of the 1242 retirees, there are 1047 on DDS and 195 pay at Branch. Since the last Report (October 16th), the following changes have taken place:

New or Reinstated Members (102)

Mildred Adams
Alwyn Anderson
Ian & Karen Arklie
Zena Austin
Irwin & Barbara Axness
Patricia & Christopher Baglo
S Bates
Gordon Berry
Bertrand Bouchard
Stephen Bradley
Alice Breaden
Gloria Browne
George & Angelina Burch
Alan & Elizabeth Campbell
Ed & Beatrice Casselton
Sandra Clifford
Bruce & Joyce Craigie
Judith Crichton
Garnet Currie
Timothy & Lorraine Davidson
George & Sandra Davies
Michael & Ginette Descarie
Robert & Marion Doak
Robert & Dorothy Ducharme
Eileen Duthie
Bonita Elias
Roy & Deanne Eppler
Phyllis & Peter Elson
Dale & Jackileen Franklin

John & Gayle Goodman
Donald & Beverley Hagel
Kenneth & Patricia Hall
Jean-Michel Hanssens
Sonja & David Harper
Doug & Elizabeth Hay
C & Marilyn Hume
Robert Hurst
Anna Jones
Sharon & Douglas Krenz
Don Lawseth
Hugh & Helen McBride
Kathleen McClelland
Allan McDonald
Thomas & Sheila McIntyre
Richard & Alina McLean
Mike & Donna Mitchell
Jim Morrison
Robert & Jeanette Nadeau
David & Janice Parfitt
David & Linda Prud'homme
William & Brigitta Randall
R Rasmussen
Stanley Robinson & Grace Brown
Bill & Lynne Ross
L Russell
Grace Rye
Sue Sardachuk
Delores Shaw
Stuart & Pamela Smith
John & Cheryl Stewart
George & Yvonne Toomey
Elved & Torunn Tully
Brian Tutty & Kathryn Stevens
B Wangler

Transferred In (9)

Douglas & Elaine Calder, from ON43 Ottawa
William & Hannah Evans, from BC12 Kamloops
John Fogden, from BC09 Victoria-Fred Whitehouse
Dennis & Carole Walker, from BC09 Victoria-Fred Whitehouse
Dave & Lois Williams, from ON53 Ottawa Valley

Transferred Out (7)

Leslie & Edna Cashman, to BC08 Vancouver
George Cooper, to ON35 Huronia
Bob Ethier, to ON50 Near North
Claude Gagnon, to MB30 Western Manitoba
Barry Grover, to AB20 Medicine Hat & Area
Michael Ilich, to BC09 Victoria
Fred Whitehouse

Membership Cancellations (6)

Dan Bartol
Donald & Janet Bell
Harvey Bolton
Christina Cook
Joan Greenwood

In Memoriam (16)

Kosta Aro
Sonia Birch-Jones, survived by husband Peter
Lauretta Carrie
Robert & Lillian Dun
Aileen Hagen, survived by husband James
John MacDonald, survived by wife Vivien
Gladys Patterson
Don Peterson
Douglas Read
Donald Robertson, survived by wife Jeanne
Cliff Shoop
Robert Tomchick, survived by wife Joan
Larry Tysowski, survived by wife June
Cliff Walker, survived by wife Christine
Maureen Zaleschuk, survived by husband Moe

Lost Sheep (1)

V Carr, Lantzville

2009 Dues

As usual, a few of our members forgot to pay their 2009 dues. Third and final billings are enclosed. Memberships still unpaid on March 31st, 2009 will be cancelled.

National Recruitment Campaign Results

FSNA's 2008 national recruitment campaign attracted some 13,300 new members to FSNA – bringing our total national membership to 168,000. Our Branch gained 75 retirees and 43 spouses, for a total of 118 new members.

Change of Status/Need Info? – Tell Your Phoner Volunteer!

Please let us know if you change your postal address, email address or telephone number. You can do this easily by giving the changes to your Phoner when she/he calls prior to each quarterly Branch General Meeting.

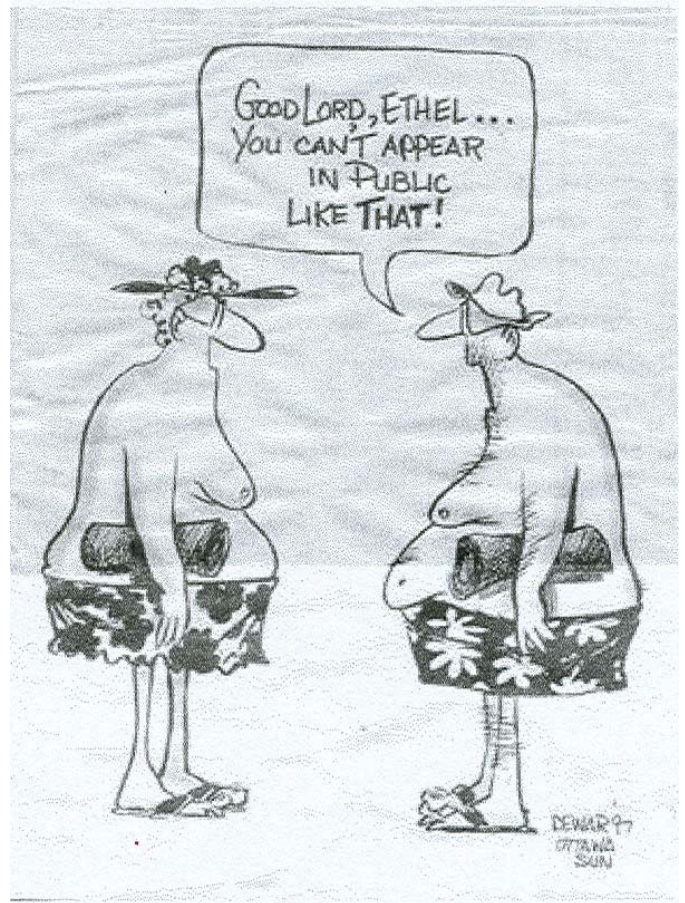
Furthermore, your Phoner will take note of any questions you may have concerning pension benefits, health care (PSHCP), Branch support services, etc., and pass them to the appropriate Branch volunteer. Also, if you have comments (good or otherwise!) about Branch activities/programs or FSNA as a whole, please mention those to your Phoner.

Many FSNA branches do not have a telephone contact program; we are fortunate to have an excellent system in place, staffed by dedicated volunteers. Remember, your Phoner volunteer is your personal contact with FSNA and your feedback will help the Association serve you better – and make sure those services follow you when you move!

Health & Benefit News

FSNA Branches are required to appoint one or more Health & Benefit Officers (HBO).

The overall role of the HBO is to help FSNA members receive all the benefits to which they are entitled under the Public Service Health Care Plan and the Pensioners' Dental Service Plan.



Your HBOs for the Nanaimo Branch are **Al Heinrich** (250 738-0192) and **Rick Neugebauer** (250 752-0952).

To prepare for their responsibilities as an HBO, Al and Rick attended a one day seminar in November of last year to broaden their knowledge about both plans and, most important, to understand the do's and don'ts of an HBO! In addition, we also learned where to seek help in solving problems that fall beyond our level of expertise. We also met very knowledgeable staff from National Office (NO) on whom we can call for assistance. All in all, the seminar was productive and useful.

In addition to meeting the NO staff, there was a useful and productive exchange of information and ideas between the various HBO's from across B.C.

Law of Random Numbers_

If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal and someone always answers.

| Position | Name | Telephone /Email |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Executive Committee | | |
| President | Al Heinrich | 250 738-0192 / agh@shaw.ca |
| Vice-President | Rene Marchand | 250 753-1657 / bendawn@islandnet.com |
| Secretary | Vacant | |
| Treasurer | Marg Mostowy | 250 933-1069 / fsnananaimo@shaw.ca |
| Directors | | |
| Membership Director | Vic Ashdown | 250 248-2027 / ashdown@shaw.ca |
| Membership Secretary | Doris Grieves | 250 716-1952 / dgrieves@shaw.ca |
| Newsletter Editor | Ian Williams | 250 758-0954 / williv@telus.net |
| Awards & Speakers--- Historian | Charles Scrivener | 250 758-2240 / scrivener@shaw.ca |
| Program Director | Pat Mason | 250 753-6008 |
| Health & Benefits , PSHCP & PDSP | Rick Neugebauer | 250 752-0952 / rneugebauer@shaw.ca |
| Health & Benefits , PSHCP & PDSP | Al Heinrich | 250 738-0192 / agh@shaw.ca |
| Registration Director | Susanne Body | 250 729-9588 / sbody@shaw.ca |
| Telephone Director | Barbara Campbell | 250 954-0733 / campbellba@shaw.ca |
| Area Coordinator Qualicum Beach | Sherwood Moore | 250 752-1048 |
| Area Coordinator Tofino/Ucluelet | Sandy Henry | 250 726-7086 / macfunnelcover@telus.net |
| Area Coordinator Parksville | Harold Goodman | 250 248-3269 |
| Area Coordinator Port Alberni | Marg Pierce | 250 723-9791 |