

President's Report-Change to our luncheon venue is coming soon!

Our luncheon on October 17 will be the last one being held at the Scandinavian Centre. Our luncheons in the future, beginning on December 5, will be in the banquet room at the Burnaby Mountain Golf Course.

The Executive, for the past few years, has been looking for a new luncheon venue. There were two reasons for needing to change our venue. The first reason was price. Prices at the Scandinavian Centre were steadily increasing. Because of this, the Executive had to constantly grapple with how much to charge. We were concerned that increasing prices would deter members from attending luncheons. We receive some limited funding from the BCRTA and as such we are able to subsidize our luncheons. Unfortunately, prices at the Centre were getting to a point that went beyond our ability to subsidize. A second reason was requests by members. Over the past few years, we have been asked by many members to consider a new venue.

Criteria for a new venue included location, available parking, appropriate size, menus, price, and privacy. We looked for a location that was easy to get to and had ample parking. We wanted a room that could handle at least 100 people and that we did not need to share with others. We looked for venues that included audio and visual equipment. Last but not least we reviewed menu options and prices.

Trying to find a new venue turned out to be somewhat difficult. In the end, after some negotiation, we were able to gain a contract with the people at the Burnaby Golf Course.



Hurry, do something! Your robot vac is going after the cat again.

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS-November 21(2019) February 6, (2020), April 9, (2020)

LUNCHEON MEETINGS-Oct. 17, Scandinavian Centre, December 5-(Christmas Luncheon) Burnaby Golf Course, Feb. 20, (2020) April 23 (2020)

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Editor-Dave Carter. **Production**-Elizabeth Beer **Distribution**-Ilse Armanini, Marguerite Henderson

Hello members: It's time for our fall luncheon. It will be the last one held at the Scandinavian Centre, so we hope that many of you can come. Starting with our Christmas luncheon, we will be meeting at the Burnaby Mountain Clubhouse in the banquet hall. There will be more information in the next newsletter and from me.

DATE/TIME/PLACE: Thursday, Oct. 17, 2019 at the Scandinavian Centre at 12:00 noon, doors open at 11:30

MENU: roasted herb quarter chicken, mashed potatoes, bistro vegetables, dessert squares. Coffee, tea, punch. If you have a special dietary request, please let me know.

ACTIVITIES: Dave's Trivia Contest

PRICE: \$25, payment at the door. Remember the lunch must be preordered and is a commitment.

Please let me know by Saturday, Oct. 12, if you'd like to attend. Please note: In future, you may be receiving emails from either of my 2 addresses, depending on where I am. You can always reply to either, as I will monitor both.

Thanks, Ilse Please note: In future, you may be receiving emails from either of my 2 addresses, depending on where I am. You can always reply to either, as I will monitor both.

ilse_armanini@telus.net zoepoodle3878@gmail.com

BRTA TREASURER'S REPORT-September 30th, 2019-Marguerite Henderson

Credits-April Luncheon-\$775.00 Interest-\$2.24 Membership-\$10.00 Heritage Grant-\$1,500.00

Debits-Scandinavian Centre-\$351.75 Catering-\$1,160.41 Newsletter-Printing-\$126.29 and Postage-\$181.13

Gift Certificates-\$75.00 Down Payment-Burnaby Mountain Golf Club-\$1,050.00

Heritage Grant (Janet White)

Balance as of September 30th \$4,816.11

WITH SADNESS-no longer with us-Darlene James, Sarah McManus, Dan Carswell, Harvey Wolfson, Rebecca Loss, Kenneth Lochhead, Bill Mentis, Kathleen Dulmage, Loretta Harris and Elaine Fryer.

ANOTHER READ "Being Mortal"-Atul Gawande-Anchor Canada-2017

"The Accidental Further Adventures of the Hundred Year Old Man" -Jonas Jonasson-4th Estate-London-2018 --

R.R. SMITH-R.R. Smith held its annual meeting on Saturday, October 5th at the Hilton Vancouver Airport Hotel in Richmond. Delegates from around the province attended.

Delegates elected 8 members for a one-year term to the Board of Directors. They are Steve Bailey (Sunshine Coast), Dave Carter (Burnaby), Gail Chaddock Costello (Langley), Andy Hattrick (Vancouver), Sarah Joyce (Burnaby), Karen Kilbride (Surrey), Barb Mikulec (Vancouver) and Sheila Pither (Vancouver). The Budget for 2019-2020 was approved and the Financial Statement for 2019 was also approved.

Door prizes were donated by Johnsons, the Holiday Inn, the B.C.R.T.A., the Hilton and the late Glen Pinch. Delegates made generous donations to the R.R. Smith Memorial Fund Foundation.

Judy DeVries (President of R.R. Smith for the last 8 years) and Bev Anderson (Vice-President) retired from the Committee and were acknowledged for their years of service. It won't be the same without them!

Special Fall Holidays

October 24th-National Bologna Day

November 12th-World Pneumonia Day

October 27th-National Mother-In-Law Day

November 18th-Mickey Mouse's Birthday

November 1st-World Vegan Day

November 24th-National Silliness Day

November 2nd-National Deviled Egg Day

November 27th-Tie One On Day

November 5th-National Doughnut Day

November 30th-Stay Home Because You're Well Day

BURNABY SCHOOL BOARD - At an awards ceremony in Victoria, Burnaby Schools educators Scott Stefanek and Wendel Williams came out on top in their categories for the Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education. We're proud that four of the 30 finalists for this year's awards were from Burnaby Schools, including Bryan Gidinski and Sabha Ghani. Williams is a Safe School Specialist at Alpha Secondary and won the "Outstanding Support – School Community Award." A teacher at École Brantford Elementary last year, and currently at Montecito Elementary, Stefanek won the "Extracurricular Leadership Award."

Winners receive a \$3,000 personal bursary for professional learning, a \$2,000 contribution to their school community, and a commemorative work of art. Runners-up receive a certificate of recognition signed by the Premier and Minister of Education.

A new art display will greet all who enter the Canada Way Learning Centre. Students created it under the guidance of Indigenous artist Trenton Pierre – also known as slóməx^w – from the Katzie First Nation. His work blends graffiti techniques with traditional Coast Salish design. Pierre shared his own personal story and journey toward becoming an artist. Brandon Curr, Director of Instruction and lead for Indigenous Education in Burnaby Schools, says it was Pierre's approach that made the difference:

He really resonated with the students. The teacher shared that after he spoke, every hand shot up when they were asked who wanted to participate in the project. It was a real confidence builder for some of our kids who struggle to see success in school."

The group of 24 students – who are from our Royal Oak and Take a Hike Learning Pathways Programs – worked together with Pierre to come up with the theme. They then worked in smaller groups over two days to create their own piece that would come together with the others to form the whole. While adopting the authentic and unique style of their project leader, the students used their own personal journeys to drive their designs. Curr couldn't be happier with the results.

Five-hundred Grade 4 and 5 students are participating in the first-ever Indigenous Week of Learning (Oct 7-11), which is being put on in partnership by the City of Burnaby and the School District. The program is a chance for students to learn directly from Coast Salish elders and knowledge-keepers, who will guide students in gaining a deeper appreciation and understanding of local First Nations history.

Director of Instruction responsible for Indigenous Education, Brandon Curr: "This is a wonderful opportunity for both our Indigenous and non-Indigenous learners. Students love to learn about different cultures and to see their own recognized. It makes them feel proud, enriches our school community, and reflects where we live." A deep commitment to reconciliation is a key part of our new strategic plan. The Indigenous Week of Learning is one of the many things happening in our District to celebrate local First Nations traditions and culture, and to build understanding of our shared history as Canadians.

Learn about how Burnaby Schools mark Orange Shirt Day

Watch this powerful performance: "A step towards Truth and Reconciliation" by Burnaby Mountain Secondary's Dance Company

Learn about some of the Indigenous art projects in Burnaby Schools

Letter to the Editor: I have always lived by the motto, “If at first you don’t succeed, QUIT!” This has applied to everything in my life except my musical career. Because I was raised in abject poverty, my beginning forays into this magical world were inexpensive and modest. They included singing in the shower, belly-slapping, sucking ice-cubes in four-four time, paper and comb, spoons, washboard, jug, axilla, water glasses, kazoo and ocarina. My first “real” instrument was a guitar that I bought from a guy in an alley on Cordova Street. I thought I heard him say it was a “baroque” guitar, but he must have said “broke” because it was suffering from worn joints in the neck. I tried to learn to play it, but because I was experiencing anxiety attacks, I gave it up because of too much fretting. I also couldn’t deal with the term “plucking” as it reminded me of the summer I worked in the chicken factory.

I considered taking up the bagpipes, except I knew I would be expected to wear a kilt, but as a result of being born a “preemie”, my legs don’t go all the way up so there was no future in it. I would have continued with the banjo, but I ended up busting my G-string. For those of you who haven’t experienced the trauma of a fragmented G-string, I can only tell you that it can be life-altering. I also dabbled with the sousaphone and glockenspiel, but they were too heavy to carry, and I couldn’t remember how to spell them. For a brief while, I tried my luck as an organ grinder, but couldn’t put up with all the monkey business.

Two adverse experiences almost side-tracked my quest for some satisfaction in the world of music. While I was on staff at Edmonds, Gail MacDonald, with the best of intentions, asked me to join her choir. After the first practice, in reply to a query from another choir member as to why I was there, I heard her respond, “What was I thinking?” She soon moved me from singing, to humming and then to whispering. Finally, I was reduced to playing a pot with a wooden spoon which had such a negative effect on me, that I have never since been able to help out in the kitchen at home. Many years later I experienced a similar embarrassment when pressured into playing the gut bucket for the Andante Choir. Upon arriving home, I commented to my First Wife that I couldn’t understand why I was chosen to play this instrument. Her reply was, “I can”.

Undaunted, I have now joined a Seniors’ only orchestra called SHAG (Sup Hose and Geritol) which practices in the basement of CTD (Circling the Drain) Manor in South Burnaby. Our Conductor is none other than Johann Sebastian Bok-Choy (his mother was German and his father was Chinese). Rather than use terms such as largo, adagio, allegro etc. which old geezers don’t understand, he has replaced them with a more relatable nomenclature. “Dementia”-to be played repeatedly. “Lumbago”-slow and painful. “Potato”-to be played in a ‘mashed fashion’. “In Continence”-quickly with a sense of urgency. “Tinnitus”-with a ringing quality. “Asthmatic”-sounds like wheezing, huffing and puffing. Because of the sanctions imposed by Donald Trump on imports to Canada of rosin (identified as a WMD), our string section have been forced to use cerumen as a substitute. A most sticky situation!

We are presently working on a haunting refrain called “Passing Wind” by the famous composer Offen Franck with an uplifting arrangement by Violet Aggra entitled, “Rise Up”. The Third Movement is especially difficult as it is played “laxative” which is very loose and unrestrictive and has a series of runs. I was to play a solo on the nose whistle called “Gesundheit” but suffered from a bout of sternutation and almost impaled Jim Lauck sitting a few chairs away behind his timpani, caroming over to Charlie Hou and almost crushing his clackers, just missing Fred Lepkin and his flugelhorn and coming to rest beside Rennie Maierle who was off tootling in the corner. I am now back to playing a pot with a spoon!

The incredible success I have experienced in this field has been despite being tone deaf and having no sense of rhythm. (This might partially explain the birth of our five children). I would encourage all of you to soldier on in those areas where you have no interest and no talent. You will feel an overwhelming sense of satisfaction at having mastered something that will never be an important part of your life.

“If music be the food of love, I’m starving to death”. Todo Liszt

Is It Luck or Good Planning?-Marion Hartley

Two years ago I was on the first day of my trip in Morocco and tripped and fell. I narrowly missed hitting my head on a bathroom fixture AKA toilet. That was luck – no concussion. However, I did a lot of damage to my right elbow and broke my left wrist. It was an interesting experience to be treated in a local hospital in a small Moroccan town. The doctors spoke only Arabic and French. Despite taking many years of French in school my vocabulary did not include medical terms. Somehow between my friend and our bus driver, we realized that someone had to be sent out to purchase an X-ray plate. They used the same plate for my right elbow and left wrist which required a bit of contorting my limbs. This was to save money. There was a lot of discussion between the doctors and they seemed to be telling me to go home. My friend had to go to a local pharmacy to purchase supplies but it took some time as the pharmacy was closed during the call to prayer. The doctors put on a heavy plaster splint and gave me some medication with Arabic only instructions and sent me on my way. I didn't take the medication. I had to change my flight home and because it was last minute the cost was very high for a one way ticket. For an extra \$500 I could fly first class which I did. I was well looked after on my flights and during the seven hour layover in Frankfurt. Because I had travel insurance, I paid only the extra \$500 for my first class ticket and \$38 for the visit to the hospital, X-ray plate, supplies for the cast and medications. My mistake was not getting permission for the hospital visit ahead of time from the travel insurance company and as a result the \$38 was not covered. I had phoned regarding my interrupted travel and need to fly home early but not about my trip to the hospital.

I learned my lesson. This summer I was at a harmony singing workshop in North Carolina. On the shortcut to the concert venue, I tripped on a tree root and down I went, breaking my left wrist again. It was at the end of my trip so I only missed the concert. This time I made sure that I phoned the travel insurance company before I did anything else. I ended up in Mission Hospital in Asheville, NC. They took many, many X-rays, set my wrist, gave me pain killers and a sling. I paid nothing for my treatment. I have no idea what the cost would be but I suspect that it would have been very high. The travel insurance covered everything.

It was quite a different experience from Morocco. In both cases I was treated well but the facilities were completely different.

So was it luck that I had travel insurance? Many people suggested that I was lucky I had travel insurance.

Was it good planning? Absolutely!

I have always had travel insurance and those two instances were the only times I used it. Was it worth the cost? Absolutely! The cost of my interrupted trip and last minute flight home from Morocco alone probably put me in the black for many years of travel insurance payments. Had I had to pay the cost of my treatment in Asheville it would probably have prevented me from a number of future trips.

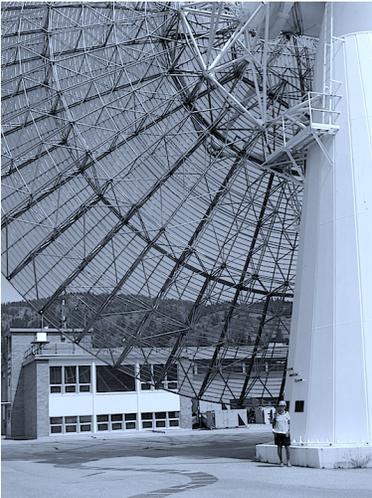
The BCRTA had Johnsons and Medoc Travel Insurance as Advantage Partners. My insurance was with them and I believe it was worth every dime I spent.

I am not crying the blues about my injuries. Many of you had much worse situations. What I am encouraging you to do is to get travel insurance for your next trip if you haven't already. And if you have to use it while you are away, make sure you phone the toll free number before you get medical attention.

Well worth a visit – You don't need to be a scientist!

Internationally renowned and Canada's largest, the **Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory** (DRAO) is located in the South Okanagan, west off highway 97, on White Lakes Road, between the towns of Okanagan Falls and Kaleden. Look it up on the internet for a full description.

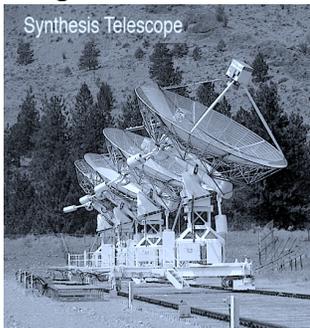
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominion_Radio_Astrophysical_Observatory



On the site - four radio telescopes:

1. John A. Galt Telescope, a 26 m. diameter, prime focus, equatorially mounted telescope. *(photo to left)*
2. Synthesis Telescope which is a 7 element array of 9 m telescopes. It studies the gas and plasma that lies between the stars. *(photo below, left)*
3. Solar Radio Flux Monitoring. It is an automated solar weather monitoring facility that provides space weather data for scientific, commercial, industrial, and government world-wide activities.
4. Canadian Hydrogen Intensity Mapping Experiment (CHIME) which is Canada's largest radio telescope. It will survey atomic hydrogen from the largest volume of the Universe to date.

It is composed of four 100 metre by 20 metre cylinders with an array of 128 radio receivers along each focus. It will map the whole sky visible every day. *(photo below)*



The site is open for self-guided tours each weekday. The visitor's centre has interesting displays and informative take-away material. For tours inside buildings and talks by the DRAO engineers call ahead for times, phone 250-497-2300.

As a side trip from the DRAO, follow White Lakes Road as it rolls through the scenic countryside and soon terminates at highway 3A. Or, another option is to turn left as you are going south onto Fairview White Lakes Road shortly past the DRAO site. This road continues to Oliver. Another option for a scenic drive from the bench down to the Okanagan River, turn left at the Green Lake Road junction to Okanagan Falls and highway 97. This section provides an excellent view of the Okanagan valley. Maps of the area are available at the tourist bureau. (www.okfalls.ca)



View of Okanagan River valley from Green lake Road.

BASES Family Thrift Store-7825 Edmonds Street, Burnaby

BASES (Burnaby Association for the South East Side) is supporting children attending public schools and their families by funding after-school programs, breakfast programs, summer camps and sports and music programs in the culturally rich and diverse area of Burnaby. The proceeds from the thrift store go directly back into the vibrant Edmonds community through the six schools.

Calling all Volunteers

Our thrift store operates using the generosity and skills of our volunteers. Contribute to your community, share your expertise or gain work experience. Volunteer in a great environment where we work hard and have fun! We have a wide variety of volunteer positions available, including restocking displays, sorting donations, assisting customers, cashiering, and pricing new items.

Come to the store for a visit, during store hours, speak with Victoria and fill in an application form.

Store hours are Monday-Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday from 12 noon to 5:00 p.m.

4-hour shifts are preferred and a 3 month commitment is encouraged. (High school students can choose 2-hour afterschool shifts)

For information, call Isabel Barros at basesvolunteers@gmail.com

Tanis Anderson-Literacy Program Consultant-K-12

The beginning of the school year has been a flurry of activity throughout all Burnaby schools! Students have been settling into their classrooms, and teachers have been working hard to make learning environments welcoming and engaging for all learners.

Many schools participated in Orange Shirt Day on September 30. This is a day we honour the Indigenous children who were sent to residential schools in Canada. Maywood Elementary students and staff gathered in the gym for a special assembly and learned some songs to honour the day. South Slope and BCSD students and staff viewed a performance by Kwhlii Gibaygum Nisga'a Dance Group. Students from Morley Elementary wrote letters to Phyllis Webstad, reflecting on residential schools and their impact on Indigenous families.

Thank you to the thoughtful Burnaby teachers for their creativity, passion, and dedication, making this day a truly remarkable learning experience for so many students.



Burnaby South 40 Year Reunion -It was a wonderful night on September 14, where 175 - 1979 Burnaby South Secondary School Graduates, classmates and guests came together at the Metrotown Hilton to celebrate 40 years since high school. The evening was filled with hugs, laughter, memories and lots of dancing. Joining the grads were Mr. Fred Lepkin, Mr. Steve Bailey and Miss Patti Jukes. A great time was had by all... now the 79'ers are heading towards 50 years - YIKES!

The reunion committee - Heather McCutcheon, Colleen Gamble, Joel Grigg, Denelda Williams, Cher Peacock, Mary-Ann Moysiuk, Dianne Ross and Sandra Wade are currently calculating the expenses related to the reunion and agreed unanimously that any excess monies will be donated to the Burnaby Retired Teachers' Scholarship and Bursary Foundation.



Burnaby North 50 Year Reunion-On Thursday, August 15th, over 200 graduates of the BN Class of 1979 rocked to the tunes of Brian "Bittersweet" Fisher and Robbie "Unlimited Soul" Buchanan all MC'd by Barry Walker. Svend Robinson (a '79 graduate) gave a toast to the teachers. Two teachers attended and spoke. Dave Carter said a few words and Hal Stedham (below) talked about the school and paid tribute to his wife, Barb, who died a few years ago. Special commemorative pens were created to honour the event.



A poem by Gudjon Stefanson-father of retired Burnaby teacher-Dianne Braun

Peace is no more a whispered word

It rings out clearly to be heard.

Peace is adored by each true heart

Let it never from this world depart.

This we demand, and what is more,

We here declare: To hell with war!

So: Ring out the old

Ring in the new!

Ring out the false

Ring in the true!

Ring out all war talk;

In lasting Peace!

Sink the Devil's Bombs

In the deep blue seas!

This we demand of the rulers here,

The rulers there, and everywhere

This we demand and underscore:

Forever and ever: To hell with war!

_My dad was born in Iceland in 1894 and came to Canada in 1901 with his father and stepmother. The school where my six older siblings and I were educated opened in 1908, so he had very little, if any, English language training. He carried a very small English pocket dictionary with him as he worked and tried to learn a word a day. He went far beyond survival English to writing poems in English. He devoted a lot of time and energy in helping to establish the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, the Elfros Credit Union, the Elfros Co-op and the C.C.F.. He was concerned with all programs and ideas that would help better the lives of his fellow farmers and countrymen. I remember sitting in our living room listening to my dad and several other farmers discussing issues of importance. I also remember hearing my dad read to my mom from an English newspaper and from an Icelandic one, both of which he had subscriptions for. He was a businessman farmer, a scholar, an activist, a warm and loving man. There is so much more. I am so proud of him. Dianne Braun