



THE GOLDEN AGE COMMUNICATOR



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MEMBERSHIP DUES



Members are urged to check their cards and if they read April 30 2010, that person is in arrears and the Membership Chairman would like to receive a cheque (before August 10th) in the amount of Twenty Five Dollars, made out to "NYRFFA". We will be sending out the new Member List in September and only paid up members will be listed. Please send cheques to Ernie Thorn at 234 Newton Drive, North York, Ontario, M2M 2P3.

WARRIORS DAY PARADE



This annual parade will take place on Saturday August 21st 2010. The Toronto Fire Fighters War Veterans Colour Guard and the Toronto Fire Service Pipes and Drums will proudly march again as in past years. Marchers will meet in Gore Park, opposite Fort York Armoury prior to 10.00 a.m. The parade marches off at 10.30 a.m. In past times (not recently) there used to be a good turn out of active and retired fire fighters marching. Lets have a good turn out this year!

ANNUAL BARBECUE



The barbecue will take place on September 11th 2010 at Wes Rowe's Cottage on Balsam Lake. It will be a great affair with good food and good comradeship. Pay John Lemieux (416-225-3323) \$25.00 per person before August 20th or \$30.00 per person after that date. Directions - From the west, take Highway 48 past Kirkfield and Balsam Lake Provincial Park to North Bay Drive (store on corner) and turn right. From Coboconk, take Highway 48 about 4 km's., and turn left at North Bay Drive to the gravel road which is Horseshoe Crescent. Go to Number 6.

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FORTY FIRST SEMI ANNUAL MEETING (20th ANNIVERSARY)



Our Spring Meeting had an attendance of 55 members. Everyone enjoyed themselves, if you go by the level of the chatter from the various groups of persons in the different parts of the room. The meeting took place at 1.30 p.m. after a light lunch. Ernie Thorn and Gene Gillis won the two door prizes which were \$25.00 gift certificates.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

06 03 Mike Whitehouse
08 01 Ernie Thorn
08 02 Cedric Frudd
08 03 Bob Manion
08 03 Jim Smith
08 05 Allan Dowdall
08 05 George Hutchinson
08 05 Barry Sharp
08 06 Frank Purves
08 06 Wayne Hutchinson
08 08 Peter Dodds
08 08 Ron Pleasance
08 10 Ron Cousineau
08 11 Donald Forsey
08 12 Bill Struthers
08 13 Jack Henderson
08 13 Ross Lindsay
08 14 Bill (Buck) Jones
08 14 Claire Norwood
8 14 Larry Burns
08 15 Ken Bray
08 15 Bob Wilson
08 16 John Sehn
08 20 John McIntosh
08 21 Steve Cyr
08 22 Bernie Houston
08 24 Gord Sawyer
08 24 Joe Donofrio
08 24 Don Leslie
08 25 Al Herron
08 28 John Adams
08 29` Doug Wood
08 31 George Taylor
09 01 Carl Boddy
09 03 Gord Hazlett
09 05 Larry Taylor
09 09 Paul Rosati
09 09 John Taylor
09 09 Allan Thompson
09 14 Allan Proctor
09 15 Lance Birch
09 17 Eric Cunliffe
09 17 Earl Scattergood
09 18 Ross Noble

09 18 Rick Parker
09 23 Al Scott
09 24 Rick Strong
09 24 Al Vuyk
09 25 Brian Gill
09 25 Trevor Joyce
09 26 Bruce Brooker
09 27 Ted Saunders
09 27 Irving Stone
09 28 Bob Diack
09 28 Gord Dowell
09 29 Ted Oakley
09 30 Charles Dixon

ADDRESS UPDATES

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Barry McMahon-1153 Pembroke Street .
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1-613-629-7930
Donald Passmore-46 Baden Powell Drive,
Kentville, Nova Scotia, B4N 5P5,
1-902-681-1309

RECRUIT GRADUATION

The Toronto Fire Services graduated forty six recruits in an afternoon service on Thursday May 27th past at the Toronto Fire Academy There were thirty six graduates for the "Combat Division and ten for Fire Prevention. The Toronto Fire Services Pipes and Drums and The Toronto Fire Fighters War Veterans' Colour Guard were front and centre in the opening ceremony and contributed significantly to the event.

A gossip, is one that can give you
all of the details,
without knowing any of the facts

BRENT THOMPSON

Brent passed away at home on Sunday May 30th 2010, (age 64), after a lengthy battle with a blood disorder. A Memorial Service was held at The McKinlay Funeral Home, 141 Park Street, Blenheim, Ontario, (519-676-3451) on Wednesday June 2nd 2010, at 1.30 p.m. Brent retired from the North York Fire Department with the rank of Captain in 1997, due to health reasons.

A SOLDIER LOST

Private Kevin Thomas McKay, age 24, of The 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry', and deployed to Afghanistan, lost his life to enemy action on Thursday May 13th 2010. He was just two days away from returning to Canada. His father is Captain Fred McKay of the Toronto Fire Services, Station 133, North Command. The Toronto Fire Services called for Fire Fighters to turn out to Grenville Street on Sunday May 16th to salute the Funeral Cortege carrying Private McKay's casket to the Coroner's Building. The Toronto Fire Fighters War Veteran's Colour Guard, approximately 200 Fire Fighters, many Police and many members of the public turned out en masse to show their respect for the soldier and his family. Fred McKay was a member of the North York Fire Department prior to amalgamation.

JEANNETTE STRONG

Jeannette, wife of the late Everett Strong, passed away after a brief illness at Southlake Regional Hospital on Monday June 7th 2010 at age 74 years. Cremation took place and at Jeannette's request, there was not a service.

ROBERT GILLIGAN

Robert, brother of Ron Gilligan passed away on June 20th past. A gathering of friends was held at the Minden Curling Club on July 11th past.

SICK LIST

Ron Carson is about the same, still struggling with his melanoma.

*

Bridie Clarke was taken to hospital in early June for emergency surgery, relative to a stomach problem.

*

Doreen Crawford remains in Cummer Lodge and is doing somewhat better, except in the area of physical therapy. .

*

Joanne Farow was in hospital for neck surgery in June. She is at home recovering.

*

Al Holliwell has had kidney problems and is in limbo at this time of writing, as he waits to learn what doctors plan next.

*

Norman Hoskins was in hospital in North Bay on June 29th for an operation on his right knee.

*

Peter Mizzoni was in Southlake Regional Hospital for five days in early May with a heart problem. At last report he was recuperating at home.

*

Ken Stewart was hospitalized with several issues, but is now home recovering.

ONTARIO FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Fifth Annual Fallen Fire Fighters Ceremony will take place in Queen's Park on Sunday October 3rd 2010.

CANADIAN FIRE FIGHTER SERVICE

The Seventh Annual Service will take place on Parliament Hill, Ottawa, on Sunday September 12th 2010 at 11.00 A.M.

"D" DAY REMEMBRANCE



The 66th Anniversary of "D" Day was remembered in a ceremony held at Toronto City Hall on Sunday June 6th past. Prior to the Service, there was singing of the old war time songs that served to boost our morale during some of those worrisome times. The Toronto Fire Fighter War Veterans' Colour Guard, and The Toronto Fire Services Pipes and Drums marched in the parade and ceremony, along with many other groups. In the event that anyone is not aware, "D" Day was the time, (June 6th 1944) when tens of thousands of Allied Troops invaded the shores of Normandy, France; in what has been described as the beginning of the end of World War II in Europe. The Navy took the Army to Normandy and provided covering fire using hundreds of ships and the Air Force provided protection from the skies. Prior to the "Sea Invasion", Parachute and Glider Troops were deployed behind enemy lines to hold and protect key bridges and road junctions vital to the advance of The Armies from the Sea. Thousands of brave men were killed and wounded during that campaign. Lest We Forget!

RITA WROTE

Dear Charlie, It was lovely to have the opportunity to attend the Retired Firefighter's Luncheon last Wednesday. The meal was great, and there was a lot of catching up to do with everyone. Justin Singer, John Oxtoby's Grandson, has been accepted at Humber College for the Firefighter's Training Course starting in the fall. When he worked in

Calgary for a year, he was on the Volunteer Firefighter's Team, and decided Firefighting would be his calling. We're all very proud to see him follow his Grandfather's footsteps. Warmest Regards. Rita Pepin

IT MAY BE TRUE



In England in the 1500's they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme: "Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old". From Bill Hudson

A NOTE FROM TOM

Hi Charlie; Just quick note and an apology for not getting my dues in before now. I was having quite a few tests done at the hospital and missed our meeting where I pay in cash. Having said that , I somehow missed a follow up. Enclosed is my cheque for my membership which should bring me up to date. I also wish to take this opportunity to congratulate you on the new format and the very professional manner in which you produce the letter. The best to you and Ruth and take care now. Tom Adair

What this Country needs, is more leaders who know what this Country needs

FROM THE WALKERS

Hi Ernie; Sorry to be late again with my dues, as we have been busy since arriving home from Florida. Last June we spent two glorious weeks in Aruba at a fabulous resort and had a one bedroom condo. Hope to get back there one of these years for another stay, instead of just visiting for a day on one of those cruises. In December we did a back to back cruise for three weeks, down to the Panama Canal and South America, and then down to the eastern side of Aruba and Barbados. In January we cruised again to Cozumel Mexico, with a stop in the Cayman Islands and met Joe Caputo under the Rolex Watch. He showed us his new hurricane proof house, which is just out of this world. We thank Joe for his time in showing us around. Take care! Joe and Angie

AN E-MAIL FROM ROB

Please find enclosed my payment of Twenty Five Dollars. I am appreciative of the newsletter and the work that goes along with it, to produce and maintain. Thanks very much,

Rob Patterson

HERONGATE BARN THEATRE

It was a great evening of fun and amazing buffet of chicken, fish, pork, prime rib, Yorkshire pudding, salads, soup and dessert. The program Nonsense was hilarious. Firefighters are well known for volunteering and even the retirees step up to the plate.

Special events before the play were John with a few friends singing 'Dirty Lady'. A surprise performance and thank you to Pete Gresser for participating in the tribute to Sonny and Cher! Thanks to John Lemieux. Have a great summer.

Lynn Petersen

LES WROTE;

Hi Bud; Hope all is well with you, Lois and the family. We are not too bad, although Jean has a tough time with her neuropathy, but time moves on so quickly. I'm later than usual with dues, but as I said, time goes by so quickly. Best Regards. Les Boutilier

FROM GEORGE

Hi Bud; Sorry for being tardy with my dues. It seems that things slip my mind far too easily these days. Please find enclosed a cheque for two years. Say hello to all; not only from myself, but from my short, dear friend from Victoria British Columbia; Ken Bray. Remember him? George (not Wayne) Hutchinson

FROM THE FERRIS'S

Hello fellow retirees! Sorry the dues are a bit late. We arrived home from Llano Grande Texas (for the winter) around mid April; yet it seems we have been very busy ever since. We met Liz and Ralph Campbell at our RV Resort in the Rio Grande Valley and they had a wonderful time as well. Please also find enclosed, a cheque for the yearly BBQ. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Rick and Sandy

BARRY HAS RETURNED

Hi Charlie: I have returned from my 9 month sabbatical in Castlegar British Columbia and I am once more residing in Pembroke Ontario. The reason that I left Pembroke was that there were no wheelchair accessible apartments available so it seemed that the house in BC would be a better choice. As it turned out, it was not. Before I left Pembroke I put my name in at a seniors complex called Saint Josephs Community Living, and as I turned 65 while away I got a call informing me that a wheelchair accessible apartment had become available so I asked them to hold it for me. A friend flew out to Castlegar, And drove me back to Ontario. I'm now settled in and am looking forward to becoming a grandfather for the first time this October 15th as my daughter Colleen is, so they say, with child. Take care.

Barry McMahon

FIRE CHIEF OF THE YEAR

Toronto Fire Chief William Stewart has been named Fire Chief of the Year by the Metropolitan "Metro" Fire Chiefs Association, a section of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the National Fire Protection Association. The award was announced at the closing of the recent annual conference of fire chiefs that was held in Memphis, Tennessee.

OXYGEN MASKS FOR PETS

The Toronto Fire Services was the recipient of sixteen oxygen masks for animals on April 29th past. The presentation was made by The Veterinary Emergency Clinic Toronto and The Invisible Fence GTA to Toronto Fire's North Command Platoon Chief, Roy Law, at Fire Station 134 (Montgomery Avenue & Yonge Street). This will permit one Oxygen mask to be put in each of the sixteen District Chiefs Vans across the City.

FROM THE WEST

Hi there, all of you people in the east, this is Bob Demers relating the happenings out here. As you may know we have a small contingent of retirees out here. We have Gord Skrepnek, John (toby) Taylor, Ken Bray, Ken Bushey and yours truly Bob Demers. We recently got together for a social day at Gord & Bunny's beautiful house in downtown Chemainus. John Taylor was absent and missed out on this day for health reasons. Ken Bray also was absent due to a recent hernia operation, so his social calendar was all balled up. Ken Bushey and Janice Bushey made it, even as his wife is recovering from Mad Cow. they were attending an agricultural fair and while walking through a barn area a cow got excited and trampled poor Janice, breaking her hip and multiple leg bones. While I myself have had a few health problems, I am recovering very nicely. May 20th was a social event with a small but friendly group. I have never met such a beautiful host and hostess as Gord and Bunny; as we wanted for nothing and their home is paradise. This was not the first get together, and I sincerely hope not the last. Before I forget, everybody in this group looks forward to the next newsletter.

Fireman Bob

FROM THE NYSTROM'S

I want to let you know the results of our Walk to Cure Diabetes on June 13. The day was perfect for the walk, and we managed to raise just over \$2500. This result was made possible by your donation and contribution to this cause. The next time you hear of a new development in the field of diabetes, you can take some pride in the knowledge that your donation had a part to play in that research. Our hope is that we Can rid the world of this terrible disease before too long. Thanks again for your support. We couldn't do this without people like you.

Gary & Pat

RETIREMENT DINNER

A retirement dinner was held for Bill Sullivan on June 3rd past at the Boardwalk Cafe (Coxwell & Lakeshore). Bill commenced his service with the North York Fire Department on November 14th 1977. He retired from the Toronto Fire Services, Training Division with the rank of District Chief, on April 30th 2010.

RETIREMENT PARTY

Gary Davies retired from The Toronto Fire Services, North Command, with the rank of Platoon Chief. A retirement party was held for him at "Jack Astors" in Newmarket, on June 16th past.

RETIREMENT PARTY

A retirement party was held for Jim Shelton at the Rameses Shrine Temple, 3100 Keele Street, on Thursday June 17th 2010. Those present saw a number of presentations made and enjoyed a first rate buffet dinner. Jim started with the North York Fire Department on March 23rd 1970 and retired from The Toronto Fire Services on June 30th 2010 with the rank of Deputy Chief.

HELP ERNIE THORN

Ernie has spent considerable time in the past few years compiling a "Memorial Roster" of our departed brethren, but his information is incomplete. He requires the dates of death for the following

former North York Fire Fighters. James Allen, Phil Andrews, William Ballantyne, William Fitzgerald, David Gardner, James Gibb, Frank Palmer, Thomas Peschkoff, Patrick Riordan, Randy Rudge, John Sanderson, Jerry Stuckless, Robert Whitaker, Norman Whitten,. He requires the date and cause of death for John Tasch. You can contact Ernie Thorn at 416-221-8696 efthorn@sympatico.ca or at 234 Newton Drive, North York, Ontario, M2M 2P3.

MURPHY'S LAWS ON LIFE...PART 1

---The chance of a piece of bread falling with the buttered side down is directly proportional to the cost of the carpet
---No matter how long and hard you shop for an item, after you have bought it, it will be on sale cheaper somewhere
---The other line always moves faster
---If it jams...force it. If it breaks, it needed replacing anyway
---A tool dropped while repairing a car will roll underneath to the exact centre
---You will remember that you forgot to take out the trash when the garbage truck is 2 doors away
---There's never time to do it right, but there's always time to do it over
---Never play leapfrog with a unicorn
---If more than one person is responsible for a miscalculation, no one will be at fault
---When a broken appliance is demonstrated for the repairman, it will work perfectly --Gary Nystrom

Some men wake up and find themselves famous --
others stay up all night and become notorious.

TORONTO FALLEN FIRE FIGHTER CEREMONY

This annual ceremony was held on June 13th past at Fire Station 334 at 339 Queen's Quay West. Five new names were added to the monument this year. The Service, while not as well attended as in the past, provided a fitting tribute to our fallen fire fighters. The Toronto Fire Fighters War Veterans' Association Colour Guard, the Toronto Fire Services Pipes and Drums and other Civic Units participated in the Parade and Service.

FROM DOUG FARROW

Hello to all: It's been a crazy, difficult couple of days- almost a week! Joanne had surgery on her neck to clean an artery and she came through that okay. The next day (Thursday) the neck was swelling up and by Friday she couldn't breath. The Doctors and Nurses thought it was an anxiety attack caused by medication. At one point she quit breathing, thus getting the attention of medical staff who put her on a ventilator. On Saturday they performed an EKG and determined that she had a post operative heart attack. An Angiogram was performed and it was decided to do a balloon stint in the clavicle artery which is 90% blocked above the by-pass that Joanne had done eighteen years ago. The balloon procedure was carried out on Thursday June 24th 2010. As of June 26th Joanne was home and recovering.

Doug Farrow and kids and Molly dog.

BELATED HAPPY CANADA DAY IN 1907 SIR WILFRED LAURIER SAID

'In the first place, we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes a Canadian and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin. But this is predicated upon the person's becoming in every facet a

Canadian, and nothing but a Canadian...There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is a Canadian, but something else also, isn't a Canadian at all. We have room for but one flag, the Canadian flag... We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language. And we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the Canadian People". Wilfrid Laurier 1907
Editor's Note : *Canada today, has evolved and has two official founding languages - English and French.*

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Items for the next newsletter should be in the hands of the Editor prior to August 31st 2010.

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We must try to cut down fewer trees
Roy Emmerson

