

# THE BUZZ



## YOUR PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Comrades and Associates:

Merry Christmas to all my Unit #68 members from your 2013 President.

Although this is my 6th consecutive term, the word "*complacency*" is not in my dictionary. In fact, I am excited that the prospect of our two units amalgamating is finally in the hands of our members.

Unit #26 is currently holding a mail-in vote and my Unit #68 will vote at our A.G.M. meeting in January 2013.

This is all the more reason to re-new your 2013 membership as we will be deciding not only our future but also where to go temporarily during construction of our new club.

A big "**THANK YOU**" to all my comrades and friends who joined us on November 24th for my wife's **60th Birthday Bash**.

I was with Rose when she turned 20 in 1972 and we just celebrated our 40th Wedding Anniversary in September.

Now my goal is to see her 80th birthday in 2032 at which time I will be 87 but still younger than Ronnie Robinson is today, and what a beautiful card Ron made for my Rosie. Thanks Ron and Lilian.

As this year ends I must take a moment to remember all our departed Unit #68 comrades who have passed away. They will not be forgotten and we miss them all equally -- Marg, Roy, Shirley, Rudy, Sharon, Joan, Dorothy, John, Elaine, and just recently, Ralph Johansen. These comrades were the core of our unit and it is our honoured duty to continue our service to our Veterans on their behalf.  
**"LEST WE FORGET!"**

Please join us all at our **Christmas Turkey Dinner** on December 16th from 4:30 to 5:30 pm for both clubs. The cost for members is only \$5.00.

Tickets are \$8.00 for guests and \$10.00 same day ( tickets at the Bar )



Fraternally,  
Bob Rietveld  
President A.N.A.F. Unit #68

## GREETINGS FROM UNIT #26



November 11<sup>th</sup> is always first and foremost in our minds – always has been and always will be. But this year will live on for many years to come. It was the last November 11<sup>th</sup> celebration to be

held in Unit 26 as it has been known for many years. We entertained many of our old time members and guests as they heard that we were going to be redeveloping and they wanted to visit for the last time. They were sitting around the tables reminiscing of the “good old days”. Veterans from Brock Fahrni visited us in the afternoon for some homemade stew and entertainment provided by Bob Marlow. We also had two long time members, George Muirhead who now resides at George Derby Centre, and Ernie Allan who now resides at Bamfield Pavilion, visit the Unit and enjoyed seeing all their old friends. Bobby and Edith Wood’s grandsons entertained us with the bagpipes and drums during the afternoon festivities. The RCMP and the RCL Branch 83 New Westminster Pipe Band visited the Unit and stirred up many emotions. They have played a major role in our November 11<sup>th</sup> celebrations for many years. They walked in and raised the roof as always! During the evening everyone danced to the sounds of Nasty Habits. A good time was had by all. A big thank you goes out to all the volunteers – the base of our organization. We could not exist without your thoughtfulness.

As we approach the end of 2012 we have some exciting events coming up. On **Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>** we will be hosting our annual **Christmas Turkey Dinner served** from 4:30-5:30pm. Music

will be provided by **CHEEK TO CHEEK** from 3-7pm.

Tickets: members \$5.00 and guests \$8.00. I’M HOPING

Santa is paying attention as I

would like him to stop by and pay a visit!

On **Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup>** our Ladies

Auxiliary will be hosting their **Annual**

**Christmas Bake Sale** starting at 3pm in

the history room. Come early or be

disappointed!!! Their goodies go fast and

furious. If you snooze you lose! We have

some of the best bakers in the lower

mainland so do not miss out on this

opportunity to support our LA and also to

purchase some Christmas goodies! See

you in the lineup!!!



**Monday, December 31<sup>st</sup>** is our **New**

**Years Eve Dinner Dance.** Club will

open at 6pm, dinner served from 7-8pm

and dance to sounds of the **LONE**

**STRANGERS** starting at 7:30pm. Tickets:

members \$20.00 and guests \$25.00. This

is a ticket only event. This is our last New

Year’s celebration in the old clubrooms so

plan on spending it with us.

We are in the midst of making plans for

our **LAST HURRAH Party** for the Unit.

We know for sure that it will be on

**Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>** and that it will be

a very special event. Music, dinner,

entertainment and much much more.

Please watch for posters and more

information to come.

Our last business day will be **Super Bowl**

**Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013.** So plan to

come and party with us.

2013 membership cards are now available

for \$35.00. Please renew at the bar or with

Ruby in the office. As per amended

resolution #20 passed at the Dominion

Convention held in September in

Winnipeg, “All Associate members now

have both voice and vote immediately upon being sworn into the Unit. All existing Associate members in your Unit now have both voice and vote."

If you have been thinking about becoming a member, now is the time. Your membership will help mold the future of our Unit. For those renewing, please make sure that we have your current address, phone number and email address. This information will be helpful when communicating with members during reconstruction.

Season's Greetings to all of you and your loved ones.

**Janice Graham  
Unit #26 President**

## PROVINCIAL COLOUR GUARD REPORT

Comrades:

This year has ended with mixed emotions for myself as Colour Sergeant. Colour Guard participation has been low all year with the required 10 participants being the norm, although I am pleased that we signed 4 new members in 2012. The commitment by our members is still disheartening and I feel the responsibility must fall on the Colour Sergeant's shoulders.

Along with this fact was my article in October about the Diamond Jubilee medal awards at our Dominion Convention. I guess my article was not well received by our Dominion Command and an e-mail to me said that I was "*Divisive*".

Well maybe it is time for me to step down and give the position to someone who better represents our organization. But before I go I think my comrades should know just how divisive I have been.

Unit # 68 President--- 5 consecutive years  
Unit # 68 Executive--- 10 years  
B.C. Command Colour Guard executive --- 8 years  
Colour sergeant--- 3 years  
Director A.N.A.F. Seniors Housing--5 years  
International Memorial Society--6 years  
Hands across the Border Committee--- 6 years  
South Vancouver Veterans Council ----8 years  
Director Poppy Fund---2 years  
Membership representative for B.C. Command---3 years  
Conventions Protocol officer for B.C. Command---2 Conventions

Last but not least I personally take the time each month to send by post over 25 Buzz magazines all over Canada, and as far away as England. I have been doing this for over 5 years, along with writing three articles per month.

I do not want any praise or a pat on the back because I do it for my father who was a veteran and all those heroes who served our country. People who know me say I wear my pride on my face so being called 'divisive' was totally undeserved, so I leave my future in the hands of my Colour Guard comrades.

**Fraternally,  
Bob Rietveld  
Color Sergeant**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all of our Unit #68 December Celebrants!

Shirley Aldridge	Gordon Allen
Philip R. Dupuis	Charlie Lee
Melvin Roemer	John Stiles
Gordon Woodrow	

**Happy Birthday  
Everyone!**



## VETERAN'S AFFAIRS REPORT

*A review and excerpts from the **Helmets to Hardhats Program . . .***

Veterans Affairs Minister Steven Blaney Reaffirms Harper Government's Support for Helmets to Hardhats in Canada

WOODBRIIDGE, ONTARIO—(Marketwire – May 24, 2012)

The Helmets to Hardhats program, led by Canada's Building Trade Unions, will help connect Veterans, Canadian Armed Forces members and reservists to a range of careers within the construction industry, including apprenticeships in various building trades.

*"Our Government is ensuring our Veterans successfully transition from military to civilian life,"* said Minister Blaney. *"That's why we recently announced that our Government is contributing \$150,000 to support Helmets to Hardhats in Canada to help facilitate jobs and training opportunities for our Veterans and Canadian Armed Forces members who are interested in a career in the construction industry."*

*"Our Government is committed to providing our brave men and women in uniform with the tools they need to do the jobs we ask of them,"* said Associate Minister Fantino. *"I am pleased to support initiatives such as Helmets to Hardhats that help ensure our Veterans have the tools to continue to build a strong and prosperous Canada."*

Over the course of their careers, members of the Canadian Armed Forces develop highly transferable skills. Helmets to Hardhats will, through its Web site, help Veterans match the skills they acquired in the military with employment opportunities in the construction industry. The Web site will also provide employers and local

unions with access to a talented labour pool to fill positions from engineering posts to trade employment contracts and apprenticeship opportunities. Helmets to Hardhats will be a fully bilingual service that can be accessed by telephone or online.

Respectfully submitted in honour of Roy Blair

Bob Rietveld

## SHUFF N' STUFF

### SHUFFLEBOARD

The **12th Annual Memorial Tournament** was played November 17, 2012 at ANAF Unit 26. An excellent turn out of 48 players composed 16 teams with payouts going to the top 3 teams in this very popular A-B-C event.

The top three finishers are:

**1st Place** - Elaine Hill, Doug Moore and Dan Nendick in memory of Roberta Larson

**2nd Place** - Marty Atkinson, Sam Bruni and Dan Elias in memory of Roy Blair

**3rd Place** - Joe Burry, Gordie Woodrow and Jerry Broadbent in memory of David Broadbent

Thank you to all entrants for making this a most memorable tournament.

### SNOOKER

The **Annual Provincial Command Snooker Tournament** was played November 24, 2012 at Unit 284 in Steveston. We had no representation at this event.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

**Dick Moore**  
**Director - Sports**

**ANAVETS AFFAIRS**

AFFORDABLE RENTAL  
HOUSING FOR SENIORS

**ANAVET HOUSING**

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Call 874-8105 or email

[bcnavets@telus.net](mailto:bcnavets@telus.net) for more information

New Chelsea Society  
#300 - 3640 Victoria Drive,  
Vancouver, B. C. V5N  
Patrick Buchannon, Executive Director  
Telephone: (604) 874-6255 for Information

VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA  
MEDALS & SERVICE RECORDS

P.O. Box 7700 Charlestown, P.E.I. C1A 8M9

VETERANS AFFAIRS ENQUIRIES  
Suite 1000 - 605 Robson Street,  
Vancouver, B.C. Toll-Free Telephone: 1-  
866-522-2122

HEALTH & WELFARE CANADA  
PENSION PLAN

Inquiries: 1 - 800 - 277-9914

DID YOU KNOW... that you may be eligible  
for Death Benefits of up to \$ 3,500.00?

LAST POST FUND INC.  
British Columbia Branch #520  
7337 - 137<sup>th</sup> St. Surrey, BC V3W 1A4  
For information regarding financial assistance  
for the burial of your loved ones, please  
contact 572-3242 or 1 - 800 - 268-0248.

**UNIT 26 LADIES AUXILIARY  
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE  
Friday, Dec.21<sup>st</sup> starting at 3 pm**  
**Come Early so you Don't Miss Out  
on these Fabulous Goodies! These  
Ladies are the Best in the West!**

**DECEMBER 2012 at our  
Units #26 & #68**

**CHRISTMAS TURKEY DINNER**

Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>  
Unit 26 & 68 Members \$5 / Non-members \$8

**NEW YEARS EVE DINNER & DANCE**

Monday, December 31<sup>st</sup>  
Unit 26&68 Members \$20 / Non-members \$25

**Dancing to Great Bands all month. . .**

Friday & Saturday Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> - 7:30

*True Country*

Friday & Saturday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> - 7:30

*Cheek to Cheek*

Friday & Saturday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> - 7:30

*The Road Crew*

Friday & Saturday Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> - 7:30

*Diehards*

Monday Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> - 7:30

*Lone Strangers*

**TUESDAY IS TRIPLE T DAY!!**

**Tuesday, Trivia, & Tacos**

Free Pool 4 p.m. - closing

Trivia with Danny Stetski at 7 pm

**TEXAS HOLD'EM**

Every Wednesday and Friday evenings -  
Registration 6:30 pm

**DROP-IN EUCHRE** Thursday at 7 pm

**MEAT DRAWS every week**

Fridays at 4:00 p.m. NOW 2 tickets for \$1  
Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. NOW 2 tickets for \$1

**MEMBERSHIP DRAW** - every Saturday  
during Meat Draw . . . Must be Here to Win!

**THE JOKER DRAW**

Play during the Fri. & Sat. Meat Draw

Office Hours: December & January

Monday 8:30 am - 4 pm

Friday 8:30 am - 4 pm

Please check Page 17  
for Holiday Club Hours

**JOIN US & ENJOY**

**Remember: [anavets26.ca](http://anavets26.ca)**

## REMINISCING WITH RON 'ANDY CAPP' ROBINSON



I notice on my calendar that Christmas is only a matter of short days away, so that means my readers would be expecting Christmas stories.

Last Christmas I wrote about our most famous and dearly loved South Hill resident, Sam Browne. He and his wife Mildred lived in a small house a short block off of Fraser and 49<sup>th</sup> on Fredrick Street almost all their adult lives. Sam was Vancouver's most famous Santa Claus.

Now I ask a question: "*Where did all our Christmases go?*"

I compare today's Christmases with Christmas celebrations of my childhood around Fraser.

The Christmas Season always opened with a Santa Claus Parade down Fraser Street with Santa and the local bands playing all the Christmas music plus marching bands from all our local schools.

Fraser Street was decorated with real Christmas trees and loads of ornaments.

On Sunday before Christmas the Fraser Theatre was open for a children's Christmas Party. (Theatres were not allowed to open on Sunday during those years, but were given permission for this one day!)

Besides lots of cartoons and a visit from Santa, every child received a brown bag full of cookies, candy, nuts and a small gift all donated by the two Veteran's Clubs in our neighbourhood: The Army, Navy and Air Force, and the Royal Canadian Legion., as well as the Fraser Street merchants.

For South Vancouver kids the Christmas Season never really began until your Mother took you on the old Number 7 Streetcar for a visit to Woodward's Department store to see those wonderful Christmas displays in the large windows on Hastings Street.

Then following that it was a trip up to the fifth floor to see the wonderful toy department, and then a visit to Santa and an Elf handing you a wonderful candy cane!

As I asked at the beginning of my column, "***Where did our Christmases go??***"

On behalf of myself and Lilian and my entire family I wish you all a very nice Christmas!!!!



**EDITORS NOTE:** Ronnie, I remember those wonderful *Woodward's* windows at Christmastime!!! They were amazing! Then *The Bay* started doing that also – you just don't see great Holiday displays like that anymore. Everything is way too commercial now!!

As always, Christmas would not be Christmas Ronnie without your wonderful stories of your life experiences!!!!!!

And this month's cover is **FABULOUS!!!!!!**  
Thanks to *Rudolph Robinson!*

And we want to wish you, Lilian and your wonderful family a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with memories to cherish for many more years to come.



### **VODKA!!! WHO KNEW???**

1. To remove a bandage painlessly, saturate the bandage with **vodka**. The stuff dissolves adhesive.
2. To clean the caulking around bathtubs and showers, fill a trigger-spray bottle with **vodka**, spray the caulking, let set five minutes and wash clean. The alcohol in the vodka kills mould and mildew without the dangers and fumes of chlorine.
3. To clean your eyeglasses, simply wipe the lenses with a soft, clean cloth dampened with **vodka**. The alcohol in the vodka cleans the glass and kills germs.
4. Prolong the life of razors by filling a cup with **vodka** and letting your safety razor blade soak in the alcohol after shaving. The vodka disinfects the blade and prevents rusting.
5. Spray **vodka** on wine stains, scrub with a brush, and then blot dry.
6. Using a cotton ball, apply **vodka** to your face as an astringent to cleanse the skin and tighten pores.
7. Add a jigger of **vodka** to a 12-ounce bottle of shampoo. The alcohol cleanses the scalp, removes toxins from hair, and stimulates the growth of healthy hair.
8. Fill a sixteen-ounce trigger-spray bottle with **vodka** and spray bees or wasps to kill them.
- 9 Pour one-half cup **vodka** and one-half cup water into a Ziploc freezer bag and freeze for a slushy, refreshing ice pack for aches, pain or black eyes.
10. Fill a clean, used mayonnaise jar with freshly packed lavender flowers, fill the jar

with **vodka**, seal the lid tightly and set in the sun for three days. Strain liquid through a coffee filter, then apply the tincture to aches and pains.

11. To relieve a fever, use a washcloth to rub **vodka** on your chest and back as a liniment.

12. To cure foot odour, wash your feet with **vodka**.

13 **Vodka** will disinfect and alleviate a jellyfish sting.

14. Pour **vodka** over an area affected with poison ivy to remove the urushiol oil from your skin.

15. Swish a shot of **vodka** over an aching tooth. Allow your gums to absorb some of the alcohol to numb the pain.

**And silly me! I used to drink the sh#t !**



### **AND FOR THE 'WINOS' AMONG US**



## VITAMIN F . . .

Why do I have a variety of friends who are all so different in character? How can I get along with them all? I think that each one helps to bring out a "different" part of me.

With one of them I am polite.  
With another, I joke.

I sit down and talk about serious matters with one.  
With another I laugh a lot.

I listen to one friend's problems.  
Then I listen to another one's advice for me.

My friends are like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle.  
When completed, they form a treasure box.  
A treasure of friends!

They are my friends who understand me better than I understand myself.

They're friends who support me through good days and bad.

We all pray together and for each other.  
Real Age doctors tell us that friends are good for our health.

Dr. Oz calls them Vitamin F (for Friends) and counts the benefits of friends as essential to our well being.

Research shows that people in strong social circles have less risk of depression and terminal strokes.

If you enjoy Vitamin F constantly you can be up to 30 years younger than your real age.

The warmth of friendship stops stress and even in your most intense moments, it

decreases the chance of a cardiac arrest or stroke by 50%.

I'm so happy that I have a stock of Vitamin F!

In summary, we should value our friends and keep in touch with them.

We should try to see the funny side of things and laugh together and pray for each other in the tough moments.

Thank you for being one of my Vitamins!



Friends like you  
are special hugs from God

## Senior Humour . . .

There was a bit of confusion at Canadian Tire this morning.

When I was ready to pay for my purchases of gun powder and bullets the cashier said, "*Strip down, facing me.*"

Making a mental note to complain to Harper about the gun registry people running amok, I did just as she had instructed.

When the hysterical shrieking and alarms finally subsided, I found out that she was referring to my credit card.

I have been asked to shop elsewhere in the future.

They need to make their instructions to us seniors a little clearer!

**DATING ADS FOR SENIORS:**

You can say what you want about Florida, but you never hear of anyone retiring and moving north.

**Ads seen in "The Villages" Florida newspaper.** (*Who says seniors don't have a sense of humour?*) ....

**FOXY LADY:**

Sexy, fashion-conscious blue-haired beauty, 80's, slim, 5'4' (used to be 5'6'), searching for sharp-looking, sharp-dressing companion. Matching white shoes and belt a plus.

**LONG-TERM COMMITMENT:**

Recent widow who has just buried fourth husband, looking for someone to round out a six-unit plot. Dizziness, fainting, shortness of breath not a problem.

**SERENITY NOW:**

I am into solitude, long walks, sunrises, the ocean, yoga and meditation. If you are the silent type, let's get together, take our hearing aids out and enjoy quiet times.

**WINNING SMILE:**

Active grandmother with original teeth seeking a dedicated flosser to share rare steaks, corn on the cob and caramel candy.

**BEATLES OR STONES?**

I still like to rock, still like to cruise in my Camaro on Saturday nights and still like to play the guitar. If you were a groovy chick, or are now a groovy hen, let's get together and listen to my eight-track tapes.

**MEMORIES:**

I can usually remember Monday through Thursday. If you can remember Friday, Saturday and Sunday, let's put our two heads together.

And lastly....

**MINT CONDITION:**

Male, 1932 model, high mileage, good condition, some hair, many new parts including hip, knee, cornea, valves. Not in running condition, but walks well.

**A MECHANICAL TALE . . .**

Maxine took her car to her mechanic. She told him *"Every time I take any of my friends out in my car, after a while there is this terrible smell!! It never happens when I am on my own."*

This quite intrigued the mechanic so he said, *"OK, lets go for a spin and see what the problem is"*.

Off they went. She drove down a one-way street in the wrong direction at 60 MPH, swerving, hitting the curb on both sides of the street, narrowly missed three pedestrians in pedestrian crossings, ran several red lights, and just missed a policeman on street traffic duty. They returned to the shop and she said, *"There it is now; there's that terrible; smell. Can you smell it?"*

*"Smell it? H##l lady, I'm sitting in it".*

## CHRISTMAS IS COMING.....

This message is meant for all the husbands out there - better not pull this one on your wives!!!

**Editor's Note:** I know I'm quite emotional anyway, so this story especially touched me...

A couple was Christmas shopping on Christmas Eve and the whole place was heaving, packed with other last-minute shoppers.

Walking through the shopping centre, the surprised wife looked up from a window display and noticed her husband was nowhere to be seen. She knew they had lots still to do and she became very upset.

She rummaged in her handbag and found her cell phone and then used it to call her husband to ask him where he was.

The husband in a calm voice replied: *"Darling, you remember the jewellery shop we went into five years ago, where you fell in love with that diamond necklace that we could not afford and I told you that one day I would get it for you...?"*

His wife's eyes filled with tears of emotion and she began to cry softly and stifling a sob she whispered:

*"Yes, I remember that jewellery shop..."*

*"Well," he said, "I'm in the pub next door to it."*

*DON'T YOU JUST LOVE THIS GUY????*



## BEWARE ALL COMPUTER USERS . . . .

### The Third "Nile" virus is coming!

I thought you would want to know about this e-mail virus. Even the most advanced programs from Norton or McAfee cannot take care of this one. It appears to affect those who were born prior to 1965...

#### **SYMPTOMS:**

1. Causes you to send the same e-mail twice. Done that!



2. Causes you to send a blank e-mail! That too!

3. Causes you to send e-mail to the wrong person. Yep!

4. Causes you to send it back to the person who sent it to you. Aha!

5. Causes you to forget to attach the attachment. Well darn!

6. Causes you to hit "SEND" before you've finished. Oh, no not again!

7. Causes you to hit "DELETE" instead of "SEND." And I just hate that!

8. Causes you to hit "SEND" when you should "DELETE." Oh No!



#### **IT IS CALLED THE "C-NILE VIRUS."**

There were computers in Biblical times. Eve had an Apple.

## **GOLF ON CHRISTMAS DAY**

Four old timers were playing their weekly game of golf, one remarked how nice it would be to wake up on Christmas morning, roll out of bed and without an argument go directly to the golf course, meet his buddies and play a round.

His buddies all chimed in said, "Let's do it! We'll make it a priority; figure out a way and meet here early, Christmas morning."

Months later, that special morning arrives, and there they are on the golf course. The first guy says, "*Boy this game cost me a fortune! I bought my wife a diamond ring that she can't take her eyes off it.*"

The second guy says, "*I spent a ton too. My wife is at home planning the cruise I gave her. She was up to her eyeballs in brochures.*"

The third guy says "*Well my wife is at home admiring her new car, reading the manual.*"

They all turned to the last guy in the group who is staring at them like they have lost their minds.

*"I can't believe you all went to such expense for this golf game. I slapped my wife on the butt and said, 'Well babe, Merry Christmas! It's a great morning -- intercourse or golf course --'*

She said, "*Don't forget your sweater*



## **GENTLE THOUGHTS FOR TODAY . . . Many are 'Repeats' but well worth it!!**

Birds of a feather flock together . . . . and then crap on your car..

The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement .

Did you ever notice: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL.'

There's always a lot to be thankful for if you take time to look for it. For example I am sitting here thinking how nice it is that wrinkles don't hurt.

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know 'why' I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young. Ah, being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

First you forget names, then you forget faces. Then you forget to pull up your zipper. It's worse when you forget to pull it down.

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today, it's called golf.

## **CHRISTMAS 2012 -- BIRTH OF A NEW TRADITION . . .**

As the holidays approach, the giant overseas factories are kicking into high gear to provide Canadians with monstrous piles of cheaply produced goods -- merchandise that has been produced at the expense of Canadian labour.

This year will be different. This year Canadians will give the gift of genuine concern for other Canadians. There is no longer an excuse that, at gift giving time, nothing can be found that is produced by Canadian hands. Yes there is!

It's time to think outside the box, people. Who says a gift needs to fit in a shirt box, wrapped in foreign produced wrapping paper?

Everyone -- yes EVERYONE gets their hair cut. How about gift certificates from your local Canadian hair salon or barber?

A Gym membership? It's appropriate for all ages who are thinking about some health improvement.

Who wouldn't appreciate getting their car detailed? Small, Canadian owned detail shops and car washes would love to sell you a gift certificate or a book of gift certificates.

Are you one of those extravagant givers who think nothing of plonking down the dollars on a foreign made flat-screen? Perhaps that grateful gift receiver would like his driveway sealed, or lawn mowed for the summer, or driveway ploughed all winter, or games at the local golf course.

There are a bazillion owner-run restaurants -- all offering gift certificates. And, if your intended isn't the fancy eatery sort, what

about a half dozen breakfasts at the local breakfast joint. Remember, folks this isn't about big National chains -- this is about supporting your home town Canadian with their financial lives on the line to keep their doors open.

How many people couldn't use an oil change for their car, truck or motorcycle, done at a shop run by the Canadian working person?

Thinking about a heartfelt gift for mom? Mom would LOVE the services of a local cleaning lady for a day or a treatment at the local spa.

My computer could use a tune-up, and I KNOW I can find some young guy who is struggling to get his repair business up and running.

OK, you were looking for something more personal. Local crafts people spin their own wool and knit them into scarves. They make jewellery, and pottery and beautiful wooden boxes.

Plan your holiday outings at local, owner operated restaurants and leave your server a nice tip. And, how about going out to see a play or ballet at your hometown theatre.

Musicians need love too, so find a venue showcasing local bands.

Honestly, people, do you REALLY need to buy another ten thousand foreign made lights for the house? When you buy a five dollar string of lights, about fifty cents stays in the community. If you have those kinds of bucks to burn, leave the mailman, trash guy or babysitter a nice BIG tip.

You see, Christmas is no longer about draining Canadian pockets so that some other country can build another glittering city.

Christmas is now about caring about us, encouraging Canadian small businesses to keep plugging away to follow their dreams.

And, when we care about other Canadians, we care about our communities, and the benefits come back to us in ways we couldn't imagine.

Forward this message on to all of your friends and comrades. This is a revolution of caring about each other, and isn't that what Christmas is about?

**BUY CANADIAN - BE CANADIAN** - The job you save might be your own, your family members or your friends.

### ADVICE FOR AN OLD GUY...

I was working out at the gym when I spotted a sweet young thing walking in.

I asked the trainer standing next to me, *"Which machine should I use to impress that lady over there?"*

The trainer looked me over and said; *"I would recommend the ATM in the lobby."*



### What Do We Love About Christmas?

What do we love about Christmas;  
Does our delight reside in things?

Or are the feelings in our hearts  
The real gift that Christmas brings.

It's seeing those we love,

And sending Christmas cards, too,  
Appreciating people who bring us joy  
Special people just like you.

*By Joanna Fuchs*

### A PHARMACIST'S EXPERT ADVICE...

My wife found out that our dog (a Schnauzer) could hardly hear, so she took it to the veterinarian.

The vet found that the problem was hair in the dog's ears. He cleaned both ears, and the dog could then hear fine.

The vet then proceeded to tell Andrea that, if she wanted to keep this from recurring, she should go to the store and get some "Nair" hair remover and rub it in the dog's ears once a month.

Andrea went to the store and bought some "Nair" hair remover.

At the register, the pharmacist told her, *"If you're going to use this under your arms, don't use deodorant for a few days."*

Andrea said, *"I'm not using it under my arms."*

The pharmacist said, *"If you're using it on your legs, don't use body lotion for a couple of days."*



Andrea replied, *"I'm not using it on my legs either. If you really must know, I'm using it on my Schnauzer."*

The pharmacist then says, *"Well, stay off your bicycle for about a week".*

*"What contemptible scoundrel has stolen the cork to my lunch?"*

- W.C. Fields

**HUMOUROUS GEMS from our  
Special Friend Elsie Fraser of ANAF  
Assiniboia Unit 283 in Winnipeg, Manitoba**

### **TEQUILA CHRISTMAS CAKE**

Once again this year, I've had requests for my Tequila Christmas Cake recipe so here goes. Please keep in your files as I am beginning to get tired of typing this up every year! (Made mine this morning!!!!)

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

1 cup sugar, 1 tsp. baking powder, 1 cup water, 1 tsp. salt, 1 cup brown sugar, Lemon juice, 4 large eggs, Nuts, 1 bottle tequila, 2 cups dried fruit.

#### **METHOD:**

Sample a cup of tequila to check quality. Take a large bowl, check the tequila again to be sure it is of the highest quality then Repeat.

Turn on the electric mixer. Beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl.

Add 1 teaspoon of sugar. Beat again.

At this point, it is best to make sure the tequila is still OK. Try another cup just in case.

Turn off the mixerer thingy. Break 2 eegs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit. Pick the fruit up off the floor, wash it and put it in the bowl a piece at a time trying to count it.

Mix on the turner. If the fried druit getas stuck in the beaterers, just pry it loose with a drewscraver Sample the tequila to test for tonsisticity.

Next, sift 2 cups of salt, or something. Check the tequila. Now shift the lemon juice and strain your nuts.

Add one table. Add a spoon of sugar, or somefink. Whatever you can find.

Greash the oven. Turn the cake tin 360 degrees and try not to fall over.

Don't forget to beat off the turner.

Finally, throw the bowl through the window. Finish the tequila and wipe the counter with cat. — . — . — . —

The teacher gave her fifth grade class an assignment: Get their parents to tell them a story with a moral at the end of it. The next day, the kids came back and, one by one, began to tell their stories.

There were all the regular types of stuff: Spilled milk and pennies saved. But then the teacher realized, much to her dismay, that only Janie was left.

"Janie, do you have a story to share?"



'Yes ma'am. My daddy told me a story about my Mommy. She was an air force pilot, and her plane got hit. She had to bail out over enemy territory, and all she had was a flask of whiskey, a pistol, and a survival knife.

She drank the whiskey on the way down so the bottle wouldn't break, and then she parachuted right into the middle of 20 enemy troops. She shot 15 of them with the pistol, until she ran out of bullets, killed four more with the knife, till the blade broke, and then she killed the last Iraqi with her bare hands."

"Good Heavens," said the horrified teacher. "What did your Daddy tell you was the moral to this horrible story?"

"Don't mess with Mommy when she's been drinking."

I love these touching stories!

### **RETIRED HUSBAND . . .**

After I retired, my wife insisted that I accompany her on her trips to Walmart.

Unfortunately, like most men, I found shopping boring and preferred to get in and get out. Equally unfortunate, my wife is like most women - she loves to browse.

Yesterday my dear wife received the following letter from the local Walmart:

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Over the past six months, your husband has caused quite a commotion in our store. We cannot tolerate this behavior and have been forced to ban both of you from the store. Our complaints against your husband, Mr. Harris, are listed below and are "documented by our video surveillance cameras":

1. June 15: He took 24 boxes of condoms and randomly put them in other people's carts when they weren't looking.
2. July 2: Set all the alarm clocks in Housewares to go off at 5-minute intervals.
3. July 7: He made a trail of tomato juice on the floor leading to the women's restroom.
4. July 19: Walked up to an employee and told her in an official voice, '*Code 3 in Housewares. Get on it right away.*' This caused the employee to leave her assigned station and receive a reprimand from her Supervisor that in turn resulted with a union grievance, causing management to lose time and costing the company money.
5. August 4: Went to the Service Desk and tried to put a bag of M&Ms on layaway.
6. August 14: Moved a 'CAUTION - WET FLOOR' sign to a carpeted area.
7. August 15: Set up a tent in the camping department and told the children shoppers they could come in if they would bring pillows and blankets from the bedding department to which twenty children obliged.
8. August 23: When a clerk asked if they could help him he began crying and screamed, '*Why can't you people just leave*

*me alone?'* EMTs were called.  
9. September 4: Looked right into the security camera and used it as a mirror while he picked his nose.

10. September 10: While handling guns in the hunting department, he asked the clerk where the antidepressants were.

11. October 3: Darted around the Store suspiciously while loudly humming the 'Mission Impossible' theme.

12. October 6: In the auto department, he practiced his 'Madonna look' by using different sizes of funnels.

13. October 18: Hid in a clothing rack and when people browsed through, yelled '*PICK ME! PICK ME!*'

14. October 22: When an announcement came over the loud speaker, he assumed the fetal position and screamed '*OHNO! IT'S THOSE VOICES AGAIN!*'

15. Took a box of condoms to the checkout clerk and asked where is the fitting room?

And last, but not least:

16. October 23: Went into a fitting room, shut the door, waited awhile, and then yelled very loudly, '*Hey! There's no toilet paper in here.*' One of the clerks passed out.

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A lady inserted an ad in the classifieds: '*Husband Wanted.*'

The next day she received a hundred letters. They all said the same thing: '*You can have mine.*'

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When a woman steals your husband, there is no better revenge than to let her keep him.

## THE SACK LUNCHES

I put my carry-on in the luggage compartment and sat down in my assigned seat. It was going to be a long flight. *'I'm glad I have a good book to read Perhaps I will get a short nap,'* I thought.

Just before take-off, a line of soldiers came down the aisle and filled all the vacant seats, totally surrounding me. I decided to start a conversation. *'Where are you headed?'* I asked the soldier seated nearest to me.

*'Petawawa. We'll be there for two weeks for special training, and then we're being deployed to Afghanistan.'*

After flying for about an hour, an announcement was made that sack lunches were available for five dollars. It would be several hours before we reached the east, and I quickly decided a lunch would help pass the time.

As I reached for my wallet, I overheard a soldier ask his buddy if he planned to buy lunch. *'No, that seems like a lot of money for just a sack lunch. Probably wouldn't be worth five bucks. I'll wait till we get to base'*

His friend agreed.

I looked around at the other soldiers. None were buying lunch. I walked to the back of the plane and handed the flight attendant a fifty dollar bill. *'Take a lunch to all those soldiers.'* She grabbed my arms and squeezed tightly. Her eyes wet with tears, she thanked me. *'My son was a soldier in Iraq; it's almost like you are doing it for him.'*

Picking up ten sacks, she headed up the aisle to where the soldiers were seated. She stopped at my seat and asked, *'Which do you like best - beef or chicken?'*

*'Chicken,'* I replied, wondering why she asked. She turned and went to the front of the plane, returning a minute later with a dinner plate from first class. *'This is your thanks.'*

After we finished eating, I went again to the back of the plane, heading for the rest room. A man stopped me. *'I saw what you did. I want to be part of it. Here, take this.'* He handed me twenty-five dollars.

Soon after I returned to my seat, I saw the Flight Captain coming down the aisle, looking at the aisle numbers as he walked, I hoped he was not looking for me, but noticed he was looking at the numbers only on my side of the plane. When he got to my row he stopped, smiled, held out his hand, and said, *'I want to shake your hand.'*

Quickly unfastening my seatbelt I stood and took the Captain's hand. With a booming voice he said, *'I was a soldier and I was a military pilot. Once, someone bought me a lunch. It was an act of kindness I never forgot.'* I was embarrassed when applause was heard from all of the passengers.

Later I walked to the front of the plane so I could stretch my legs. A man who was seated about six rows in front of me reached out his hand, wanting to shake mine. He left another twenty-five dollars in my palm.

When we landed I gathered my belongings and started to deplane. Waiting just inside the airplane door was a man who stopped me, put something in my shirt pocket, turned, and walked away without saying a word. Another twenty-five dollars!

Upon entering the terminal, I saw the soldiers gathering for their trip to the base. I walked over to them and handed them seventy-five dollars. *'It will take you*

*some time to reach the base. It will be just about time for a sandwich. God Bless You.'*

Ten young men left that flight feeling the love and respect of their fellow travelers. As I walked briskly to my car, I whispered a prayer for their safe return. These soldiers were giving their all for our country. I could only give them a couple of meals.

It seemed so little...

A veteran is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to 'Canada' for an amount of 'up to and including my life.'

That is Honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand it.'

### REMEMBER . . .



*Christmas is not in tinsel  
and lights and  
outward show.*

*The secret lies in an  
inner glow.*

*It's lighting a fire  
inside the heart.*

*Good will and joy  
a vital part.*

*Its higher thought and a greater plan.  
Its glorious dream in the soul of man.*

*~ Wilfred A. Peterson*

### BRRR-R-R-R . . . .

The Farmer's Almanac is predicting a very cold winter.



It must be true because the  
squirrels are gathering  
NUTS.

Three of our Comrades  
have disappeared.  
Are you O.K.?

## AND FROM OUR UNIT #68 BUZZ RECIPE CORNER . . .

### 'LEFT-OVERS' CASSEROLE



#### INGREDIENTS:

Leftover turkey  
Leftover stuffing  
Leftover gravy  
Cranberry sauce  
Veggies (chopped)  
Potatoes (cooked and mashed)

#### METHOD:

Layer casserole as follows:

- layer of chopped turkey
- layer of stuffing
- layer of cranberry sauce
- layer of chopped veggies

Pour left over gravy on top of layers; and  
Spread all over with mashed potatoes

Cook in pre-heated 350 degree oven until  
bubbly and light brown in colour -

#### ENJOY!

Editor's Note: this recipe is from my dear  
friend Elaine Donahue - R.I.P. Elaine

### HOLIDAY SEASON HOURS . .

Christmas Eve - 12 noon - 5 pm

Christmas Day - CLOSED

Boxing Day - 12 noon to 7 pm

New Years Eve - 7 pm to 1:30 am

New Years Day - 12 noon to 7 pm

OLD is good in some things:

Old songs, Old movies,

And best of all, OLD FRIENDS!!

**HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!!**

## WE ARE INVITED . . . .

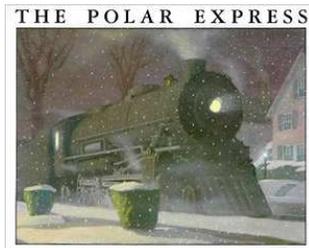


To support our ANAVETS Units and a local charity this Holiday Season. The local charity is the **National Railway Historical Society -**

**BC Chapter**, which restores old railway carriages so that people can once again enjoy the "Golden Age of Railroading."

This is a perfect outing for the grand kids and grand parents, even the whole family. Step into the pages of the story, 'The Polar Express' (book and movie starring Tom Hanks) and watch a Magic Show on a real train (in restored carriages) at the VIA Rail Station at 1150 Station Street in Vancouver. This event recreates the scene where the children are served hot chocolate in a very entertaining manner. The entertainer is a magician, Matthew Johnson, who has amazed adults and children alike.

This event takes place on Thursday evening and all day each Saturday and Sunday right up until Christmas.



The NRHS – BC Chapter are very pleased to offer a rebate to the ANAVETS Units in the amount of 10% of all ticket sales attributed to persons affiliated with our Units. Watch the bulletin board in the clubrooms for rebate particulars.

Rip Peterman, President of the BC Chapter, wishes to thank us for helping to make this event a success; for families, our ANAF Units, and for the NRHS-BC.

The ticket site is:  
[www.VancouverNorthPoleExpress.com](http://www.VancouverNorthPoleExpress.com)

## FROM YOUR EDITORS . . .

**The Holiday Season** is here once again (where did the year go!!!) and we are looking forward to welcoming the



**New Year 2013!!** May this year 2013 be a Successful Year for both of our Units - Unit #26 and Unit #68!! Even though we must vacate this building (so full of wonderful memories) may we continue to go forward into our future 'Shoulder to Shoulder'!!!

**A Very Happy Birthday** to our Buzz newsletter as it turns 16 years old this month!! It has always been a joy putting this newsletter together each month – the research is always informative, and we appreciate all of our wonderful contributors – all in all - we learn so much, and certainly enjoy a giggle or two each and every day! Therefore, as we have mentioned many times before, we hope our Comrades keep enjoying reading our monthly Buzz!

**Special Thanks** as always to our **Ronnie Robinson** for his fabulous covers and his fun and informative column each month! We couldn't do it without you, Ronnie!!! Keep them coming!!! Don't even think about retiring!!!

**Special Thanks to our Special Friend Elsie Fraser** of the *Assiniboia Unit 283 in Winnipeg, Manitoba* for her wonderful 'Jokes and Gems' each month!!!

***In closing we would like to wish all of our Comrades and Friends a Very Joyous and Merry Holiday Season! May the New Year of 2013 bring All of Us Joy and Memories to Cherish!! ENJOY! ENJOY!***

**Your Editors, Mardi & Fred**