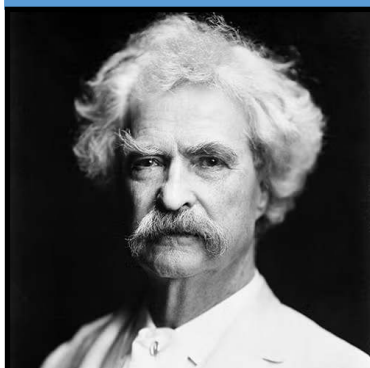




## Inside This Issue:

President's Message .....	1
Mr. Vena.....	2
Retirement Party .....	2
Northwest Seniors .....	3
Flower Fund .....	3
Big Thank You .....	3
Events Calendar .....	4
Railway Terms .....	4
Walter Arseniuk .....	4
Electronic Newsletter .....	4
Lydia Jan .....	5
Natalie Carley .....	5
Scholarship Report .....	5
In Memoriam .....	6
Milestones .....	7
Christmas Party .....	7
New Members .....	7
Summer Picnic .....	8



**Age is an issue of mind  
over matter.  
If you don't mind, it  
doesn't matter.**

**Mark Twain**

Greetings everyone.

Hope everyone has been enjoying our hot, dry summer; things are about to change.

We are back in full swing after our July-August time off; our first meeting was held a couple of weeks ago with 52 members in attendance. Our next meeting is a luncheon on October 15th. Please note this will be the last ten-dollar event as next year, starting in February, cost will be \$15.00.

We are looking for ideas, suggestions and articles for both our meetings and newsletter which is issued three times a year.

Our membership is declining as there are fewer new pensioners and more deaths. We encourage you to add your spouse or partner; simply advise Peter Treloar, our Membership Secretary, your PIN and spouse's name... you won't even miss the extra one dollar per month taken off your cheque!

We are also looking for help with arranging for guest speakers and, towards the end of 2026, will be looking for a new treasurer and someone to arrange for the delivery of flowers to those members celebrating special events. We have brief job descriptions of each role so if you or your spouse are interested or know of someone to help please reach out to anyone on our executive. John has agreed to help with this transition. If we cannot fill some of these roles we may need to cut back or eliminate some of our regular activities.

Lots of positive things are happening or have happened. Our annual picnic had 109 people in attendance, and the CN Family Day held in early September was attended by over one thousand people - over 400 more than last year - and had a few pensioners volunteering with this event.

There are lots of updates, new discounts and more news on our national website [cnpensioners.org](http://cnpensioners.org). National council is planning to have an electronic version of their full-colour newsletter next spring; to sign up go to [E-newsletter@cnpensioners.org](mailto:E-newsletter@cnpensioners.org) to give your name, PIN, and email address.

Because of sufficient funds in the escalation account, the Pension Board has authorized an increase for 2026; the minimum amount for pensioners will be \$9.00 and \$4.50 for survivors with the maximum increase being \$44.85 per month.

We will be having a Christmas luncheon on December 17th and tickets will go on sale at our October and November meetings. Maximum number of tickets sold will be 200 so first come, first served! Details of this event are mentioned in this newsletter.

Take care,

*Al Vodden*

## President's Message

## Your Executive

### President

Al Vodden, 780-489-7027  
[alvodden@gmail.com](mailto:alvodden@gmail.com)

### Vice President

Cliff Gervais

### Recording Secretary

Mary Jean Strachan  
[maryjeanstrachan@shaw.ca](mailto:maryjeanstrachan@shaw.ca)

### Treasurer

John Wiebe 780-460-9202  
[jjwiebe2@gmail.com](mailto:jjwiebe2@gmail.com)

### Membership Secretary

Peter Treloar 587-338-6014  
[peteretre76@gmail.com](mailto:peteretre76@gmail.com)

### Directors at Large

Antoni (Tony) Andrzejewski  
 780-487-3964

[andrzej@telus.net](mailto:andrzej@telus.net)

Bruce Macdonald

Andy Novak 780-456-7289

[a.d.novak@shaw.ca](mailto:a.d.novak@shaw.ca)

Diana Novak 780-456-7289

[a.d.novak@shaw.ca](mailto:a.d.novak@shaw.ca)

### National Council's Co-Chair, Memberships

Peter Moloney 780-418-0443  
[peter.moloney14@gmail.com](mailto:peter.moloney14@gmail.com)

### Auditor

Joe English 780-458-7691  
[jefco@telusplanet.net](mailto:jefco@telusplanet.net)

Any of the Executive can be reached through our group box

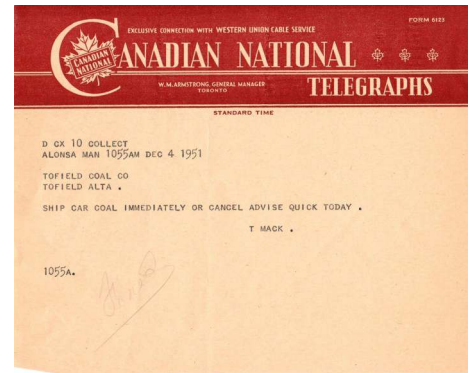
[cnpaedmrailvets@gmail.com](mailto:cnpaedmrailvets@gmail.com)

Meetings held at:  
 13920 Yellowhead Trail,

**CHATEAU  
NOVA**

Edmonton, AB T5L 3C2

I wonder what material firefighters use to protect their hoses from a train



Do any of you remember the "High Tech" communications with our customers?

It is amazing what some people hang on to.

## RailVets is your organization and we would like to hear from you!

What would you like to see happen; what do you like or dislike about what is being done now; what should be changed, added or done differently; what suggestions and/or ideas do you have to make you want to come to our meetings and social events? Please feel free to contribute; let us hear from you - simply advise one of the executive members.

## Mr. Vena Goes to Washington



There was an article on the website of Railway Age about the visit of a certain CEO of Union Pacific to the White House.

Jim was promoting the merger with Norfolk Southern to create a transcontinental railroad.

If the deal does not go through, UP shareholders are on the hook for \$2.5 billion.



## Retirement Party

The son of Gerry Fox has been sharing some of his pictures. Does anyone else have any group pictures we could share to jog the memory?

## CN Pensioners' Help Line



For questions regarding your pension or rail pass and to report contact information including change of address, power of attorney or death involving a CN pensioner, please call CN Pension Administration at 1-800-361-0739. Have your CN PIN (SRB) number handy. As Pensions Administration does not pass along pensioner information to the RailVets please also advise Peter Treloar at 587-338-6014 of any changes.



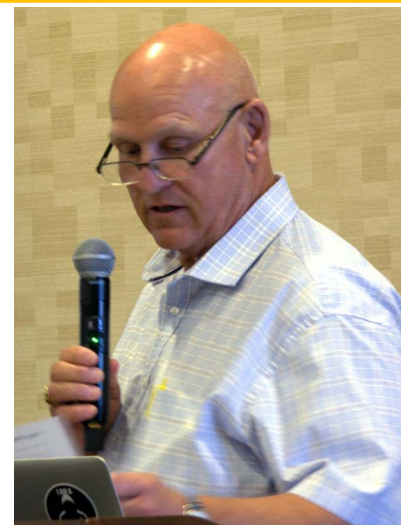
### Northwest Seniors Association



Kenn Culbertson, who retired in 2006 as a locomotive engineer, was introduced as our guest speaker for our September meeting.

His video presentation was about the Northwest Seniors Association showing pictures of the centre along with explaining the activities offered, social events held, entertainment, monthly birthday parties, bazaars, etc. A handout of their regular program and a copy of their newsletter were provided. His very informative talk concluded with a short clip taken from the cab of locomotive going through a derailment.

Cliff Gervais reinforced Ken's suggestion to join such a centre saying one of seniors' foremost concerns is loneliness.



### Flower Fund Report

The Edmonton RailVets' will acknowledge members' milestone Birthdays and Anniversaries; we would like to send you flowers/gift card on your 85th, 90th, 95th, and 100th birthday and also on your 50th, 60th and 70th Wedding Anniversary. In the event you were not contacted when you experienced one of these milestone events, contact John Wiebe –email [jjwiebe2@gmail.com](mailto:jjwiebe2@gmail.com) or phone 780-460-9202 so we can correct this situation.

Between the months of May and August 2025, the Flower Fund had flowers/gift cards delivered as follows:

Month	Flowers	Gift Cards	Unable to Contact	Birthdays	Get-Well or Anniversary
May	11	4	2	10	5
June	10	2	5	7	5
July	8	0	3	7	1
August	11	3	2	7	7



Note:

Recipients, unable to contact – due to (not answering their phone, not responding to voicemail message, phone no longer in service, on vacation, contact information out of date, moved.)

Recipients, outside of the Edmonton area, will be sent a Gift Card in lieu of flowers, after their current address has been verified.

We cannot recognize your significant event unless we have the event data and either your current address, your phone number or your current email address, please keep us informed – email Peter Treloar at [petertre@gmail.com](mailto:petertre@gmail.com) or phone 587-338-6014 to update your information.

### A Big Thank You to Lewis Estates Tim Hortons!



We'd like to thank Amol Richardson and the Lewis Estates Tim Hortons for their generous monthly donation of three \$10 gift cards. These gift cards have become a tradition in our door prize giveaways.

Their ongoing support is truly appreciated, and contributions like these make our events more enjoyable for everyone. A big thank you again for their kindness and generosity!

# CNPA YEARLY EVENTS CALENDAR 2025

<b>JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup></b>  General Meeting 1:30PM Guest Speaker: Dr. Kelly Polzin Amplified Wellness	<b>FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup></b>  CNPA LUNCHEON 11:45AM	<b>MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup></b>  General Meeting 1:30PM Guest Speaker: Brenda Barr Stars Air Ambulance
<b>APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup></b>  CNPA LUNCHEON 11:45AM	<b>MAY 21<sup>ST</sup></b>  General Meeting 1:30PM Guest Speaker: David Aaron Photography	<b>JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup></b>  ROUND TABLE 10:30AM
<b>JULY</b>  NO MEETING Summer Breakfast	<b>AUGUST</b>  NO MEETING Summer Breakfast	<b>SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup></b>  General Meeting 1:30PM Guest Speaker: North West Edmonton Seniors Center
<b>OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup></b> 11AM CNPA LUNCHEON \$10 	<b>NOVEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup></b> General Meeting 1:30PM Guest Speaker: Fire Rescue Services & Fire Prevention	<b>DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup></b>  CHRISTMAS LUNCH 11 AM

## Railway Terms

I saw a post about thousand miler the other day and was wondering how many terms would be unknown or foreign to today's railroaders.

- Thousand Miler
- 19Y or 19R
- Watch card
- PK
- OS
- Superior train
- Friction bearing
- Grain door
- Flax Liner
- Operator
- Closing up at stations
- 92B
- Call boy
- LCL
- Hoop
- Train order signal
- Passenger flagman
- Train register
- Register ticket

*Timothy Urbanovitch*

## Walter Arseniuk



Walter Arseniuk celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday June 1<sup>st</sup>. Walter worked for CN for over 29 years, hired on 22 March 1956 and retired from his position as Yard Foreman on 30 November 1985. He worked his entire career at CN in the Edmonton area. When presented with the Crystal Train, he put on his new CN hat and said, "Book me on, I'm ready to go to work."



## Electronic National Newsletter

There was an article in the summer edition of the national newsletter and a post on the national website that introduces an electronic version of the national newsletter scheduled for the spring 2026 edition.

There are benefits to this format, such as being environmentally friendly, timeliness of delivery with no mail disruptions and available in full colour. There is also the cost benefit of not printing and mailing copies and the "return to sender" rejects due to incorrect mailing addresses.

There will be another promotion of this product in the December edition of the national newsletter. To sign up for an electronic version simply send an email to [e-newsletter@cnpensioners.org](mailto:e-newsletter@cnpensioners.org) and include your PIN number; you will get a return confirmation email thanking you for signing up.

### Lydia Jan

Lydia Jan celebrated her 100th birthday on July 11, 2025, at the Aspen House in Morinville with family and friends.

Lydia was born on July 14th, 1925. She was one of ten children raised on a farm near Fox Valley, Saskatchewan.

While working in Jasper, Alberta she met and married David Jan, who worked as a machinist at CN.

David Jan's employment at CN took him to Wainwright, Edmonton, Vermillion and finally back to Edmonton where he retired in 1982.



As a homemaker, Lydia raised four children and later went to work as a retail salesclerk until her retirement in 1985.



*Dennis Jan - Son*

### Natalie Carley



Natalie Carley celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with friends and family on July 5<sup>th</sup> at the Dunluce Community League Centre in Edmonton. Natalie was born on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1925.

Natalie wrote "It is a heartwarming gesture of the CNPA Railvets to honor those who reach 100 years of age. The unique gift (crystal train set) of the "train lamp" will invoke many fond memories of my "Railroading Family". Thank You for such a meaningful gift."

She also thanked us for the flowers we presented stating that having the RailVet group present on the July 5<sup>th</sup> brought some extra joy to the occasion.

Sincerely

*Natie Carley*



### CNPA Scholarship Report

The CNPA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM is sponsored by the CNPA National. Its purpose is to financially assist the educational pursuit and career development of families of the CN Pensioners Association Contributing Members. Eligible applicants must be children/grandchildren/great-grandchildren that were sponsored by CONTRIBUTING CNPA members.

The 2025 Scholarship (\$1,500.00 each) Winners have been awarded, the winners are:

**Eliot Avery Scott** – Vancouver, BC sponsored by her grandfather Gerald Scott of the Edmonton Council.

**Kalli Cooper** – Hanna, AB sponsored by her grandmother Linda Campion of the Calgary Council.

**Lauren Kemp** – Surrey, BC sponsored by her grandfather Gerald Spence of the White Rock Council.

**Abigail Lawes** – St. Albert, AB sponsored by her grandfather Reed Kowalchuk of the Edmonton Council.

**Jonathan Dydzuk** – Abbotsford, BC sponsored by his grandmother Jeanette Dydzuk of the Prince George Council.

This year, the scholarship committee received 49 applications from the Mountain Region (AB & BC) for the 5 scholarships awarded, unfortunately 12 applications had to be rejected due to not meeting the required application criteria as outlined in our website [cnpensioners.org/scholarships](http://cnpensioners.org/scholarships). (7 applicants were disqualified because they failed to include a resume with their application and 5 applicants were disqualified because their sponsor was not a contributing member of the CNPA)

Congratulations to the winners and to all the applicants; you all achieved great marks.







<b>Anne Amero</b>	Bulletin Clerk OSC, Calder	<b>Albano Horta</b>	Operator, Edmonton
<b>Irene Bezruki</b>	Widow of Mike, Claims Adjuster, Edmonton	<b>Bruce Johnson</b>	Conductor, Jasper
<b>Robert Bishop</b>	Classified Labourer, Edmonton	<b>James Karpluk</b>	Locomotive Engineer, Jasper
<b>Barbara Blacklaw</b>	Widow of Frank, Work Equipment Supervisor	<b>Douglas Kluthe</b>	Conductor, Edson
<b>Michel Boucher</b>	Vice-President	<b>Daisy Lahaie-Schoen</b>	Widow of Fred, Boiler Inspector - CN Tower
<b>Bernice Cable</b>	Widow of Thomas	<b>John Leslie</b>	Telegraph Operator, Edmonton
<b>Angel Cala</b>	Labourer, Edmonton	<b>Manuel Lima</b>	Track Maintainer, Edmonton
<b>Rory Calhoun</b>	Motive Power Officer - Fleet Planning, Edmonton	<b>Nancy Lischuk</b>	Widow of Fred, Conductor, Edmonton
<b>Laverne M. Campbell</b>	Maintenance, West Wing, CN Tower, Edmonton	<b>Janett E. Longpre</b>	Widow of Bert Belcourt, Carman, Edmonton
<b>Helen Carson</b>	Widow of James, Computer Office Clerk, Edmonton	<b>Anne Maze Andrushch</b>	Widow of Bill Maze, Maintenance Supervisor, Edmonton
<b>Elizabeth Courteau</b>	Widow of Frank, Claims Agent, Edmonton	<b>Denis T. McGettigan</b>	Locomotive Engineer, Edmonton
<b>Michael J. Davis</b>	Conductor, Jasper	<b>James McGreevey</b>	Car Management, CN Tower
<b>Mary Derksen</b>	Widow of John, Supervisor Signals, Prairie Region	<b>Betty McQuarrie</b>	Widow of Jim, Superintendent, Edmonton
<b>Paul Dhaliwal</b>	Senior Fleet Officer, Edmonton	<b>Almanzar Michaud</b>	Track Maintenance Foreman, McLennan
<b>Edward Didow</b>	Conductor, Edmonton	<b>William (Andy) Morris</b>	Train Dispatcher, Edmonton
<b>Alice Drabot</b>		<b>Lorrie Olenik</b>	Track Forman, Edmonton
<b>Maria Fabro</b>	Widow of Angelo, Electrician, Calder Diesel Shop	<b>Bert Oplanich</b>	Fork Lift Operator, Edmonton
<b>Yolanda Flett</b>	Signals & Communications, Edmonton	<b>Shirley O'Reilly</b>	
<b>Joanne Fode</b>	Widow of David, Yard Forman, Edmonton	<b>Josephine Soetaert</b>	Widow of Jules, Carman, Edmonton
<b>Walter Footz</b>	Transportation Planning Officer, Edmonton	<b>Clifford Soucie</b>	
<b>Shirley Furniss</b>	Widow of Leonard John, Signal Maintainer, Camrose	<b>Gerald Stotz</b>	Bridgeman, B&B, Edmonton
<b>Steve Hand</b>	Advisor Mechanic, Edmonton	<b>Noe Tavares</b>	Track Maintainer, Edmonton
<b>Graham Hayward</b>	Senior Clerk, Edmonton	<b>Cecile Thibeault</b>	Widow of John, Agent, Grande Prairie
<b>Stan Horodyski</b>	Carman, Port Mann		

Our condolences go out to **Tarlochan Gill** on the death of his wife **Gurshinder** and **Bill Stayko** on the death of his wife **Sylvia**.

## MILESTONES November 2025-February 2026

### 85 Years Old

Richard Buckland	Nov 7
Eleanor Thimer	Nov 9
Josie Craplewe	Nov 29
Ruth Ragnitz	Dec 1
Sandra Borysuk	Dec 21
Herman Ryksen	Dec 22
Pauline Roberge	Jan 2
Larry W. Forbes	Jan 3
Marianne Fallowfield	Jan 5
Edward Tchir	Jan 6
John McGill	Jan 16
Denise Domsy	Jan 24

### 90 Years Old

Carol Ann Zahara	Nov 9
Robert Ewers	Nov 15
Lyall C. Kortzman	Nov 18
Robert K. MacDonald	Nov 19
John O. Stokalko	Nov 19
John (Jack) McLeod	Nov 21
Ida Osadchuk	Dec 7

Benito Leggio
Florence Rusnak
William Turin
Barry A. Biglow
Mary Smith
Gilbert J. Frontain
Grace Beloglowka
Erwin F. Lischewski
Doris M. Small
Lloyd G. Bodette

### 95 Years Old

Alice Goebel
Mary McManus
William J Didow
Maria R. Scott
Thomas C. Howard
Harold F. Sacher
A. Greg Thompson

### 100 Years Old

Colleen Guthrie
-----------------

Dec 28

Jan 6

Jan 8

Jan 23

Feb 4

Feb 17

Feb 17

Feb 20

Feb 23

Feb 27

Nov 22

Dec 10

Jan 20

Jan 28

Feb 9

Feb 12

Feb 24

Feb 11

### 50 Years Married

Richard & Susanna Tougas	Nov 7
George & Lillian Emmons	Nov 20
Rick & Robyn Maze	Dec 5
Edward & Jean Posyniak	Dec 6
John & Odette Haines	Jan 2
Laurie & Mary Bronson	Jan 9

### 60 Years Married

John & Anita Brunetta	Nov 13
Dennis F. & Marlene Noyes	Nov 20
Anthony & Marie Rossi	Nov 27
Roy & Cecile Schneider	Dec 18
Herbert & Edith McDonough	Jan 28
Allan H. & Margaret Ann Bentz	Feb 5
Kenneth M. & Debbie McLean	Feb 25

### 70 Years Married

Melvin O. & Valerie Hauer	Nov 3
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## Christmas Party

**Mark your calendars and save the date!** The RailVet annual Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Chateau Nova Yellowhead – Grizzly Room on Wednesday December 17<sup>th</sup> commencing at 11:00AM. A short meeting will be conducted prior to the buffet style meal.

Tickets will be available at our General Meeting in October and November, cost \$25 per person. Tickets will also be available from the following Executive Members: Al Vodden, Diana & Andy Novak, Mary Jean Strachan and John Wiebe – Members wishing to purchase tickets by e-transfer, use email [jjwiebe2@gmail.com](mailto:jjwiebe2@gmail.com), advising name.

This event is open to all RAILVET MEMBERS plus spouse or one guest. Due to capacity limits, our ticket sale limit is 200. We hope to see you there!

## New Members

Phyllis Culbertson  
Peter Fougere  
Antonio Gatmaytan

Bruce Lamarre  
Ann Peet  
Sheila Perdue

Greg Pilot  
Anna Raposo  
Ricardo Raposo

Marvin Senz  
Colleen Thomas Calhoun



## Annual Summer Picnic

The 2025 Annual Picnic in the Park event, hosted at the Rundle Family Centre on June 18<sup>th</sup> was attended by 109 pensioners and their guests. It was a wonderful success! Members and their guests came together for a day filled with laughter, friendship and plenty of fun.

The main event, the meal, was nothing short of incredible. The caterer, Smokehouse BBQ, went the extra mile and served us our dinner inside as they were unable to park in a convenient location due to ongoing construction. Thank You guys! Our meal – the Smokehouse BBQ Deluxe Party Pack – Southern Fried Chicken and St. Louis BBQ Ribs along with Double Stuffed Baked Potato Salad and Caesar Salad. It was a feast enjoyed by all! I received a lot of positive feedback from attendees.



To make this event even more special, fellow pensioner Wanda Johnson and her husband Evan, on their own initiative, gathered 20

awesome door prizes for our attendees. They solicited donors for all the give-away items; they delivered them to the site and were instrumental in the door prize draw process. **THIS IS HUGE**, but then Wanda and Evan also provided “Dessert Pastries” for all in attendance. **THANK YOU**, Wanda and Evan, your kindness and organizational skills, you made our event an exceptional event and added so much excitement for all those in attendance.

And of course, a special thank-you to the RailVet members who volunteered their time and efforts to organize the BBQ and ensure everything ran smoothly.

From the food – to the prizes, to the laughter, the day was about enjoying good company and having fun. The atmosphere was lively, the weather was on our side, and it all came together for a fantastic day.



If you missed it this year, be sure to join us next summer!

