



Belleville and District Newsletter

Spring 2025 Edition (May)



Belleville Freight Shed 1950's

photo courtesy Bruno Di Genova

May They Rest In Peace :

<i>Helen Kathleen Barber</i>	<i>6 December 2024</i>
<i>Beverlee Tripp</i>	<i>1 January 2025</i>
<i>Rita Marie Dall</i>	<i>3 January 2025</i>
<i>Marilyn Ann King</i>	<i>6 January 2025</i>
<i>Rosalind “Linda” Dowdall</i>	<i>11 January 2025</i>
<i>Anne Jean Tuck</i>	<i>25 January 2025</i>
<i>Thomas Reuben Rodgers</i>	<i>31 January 2025</i>
<i>Elizabeth Anna McMechan</i>	<i>1 February 2025</i>
<i>Joan Elizabeth Coyea</i>	<i>14 February 2025</i>
<i>Gladys Emily “Peggy” MacGregor</i>	<i>20 February 2025</i>
<i>Mabel Marion White</i>	<i>20 February 2025</i>
<i>John Robert Lamorre</i>	<i>30 March 2025</i>

Did you know?

When a contributing member of our association dies, the surviving spouse is welcomed to our breakfast and/or dinner meetings at no charge for a full year!

IMPORTANT...

When a pensioner moves or dies, **CN Pension and Benefits Administration** must be advised immediately by calling **(1-800-361-0739)**.

A surviving spouse does **not** automatically remain a member of the CN Pensioners Association. To remain a member of the Belleville Council, the surviving spouse must complete a new membership application and arrange their own payment of dues (\$1.00 per month).

Belleville Council (C3)

Please address all correspondence to the President.

Meetings are usually held the 3rd Monday of the month except June, July, August and December.
Directors may choose to hold meetings at any time, virtually, in person, or a combination of both.

President Alt. OPC delegate	Les MacDonald 92 Bay Breeze St. R.R. 7 Belleville, ON K8N 4Z7	(613) 962-7574 <i>jlesmacdonald@gmail.com</i>
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2nd Vice President	Harry Hebbourn	(613) 966-1371 <i>harryhebbourn@sympatico.ca</i>
3rd Vice President	Rick Phillips	(613) 922-6473 <i>phillipsr@xplornet.ca</i>
Secretary Past President OPC Delegate	Roger McDevitt	(705) 632-1012 <i>rogermcdevitt@gmail.com</i>
Treasurer Sick & Visiting Alt. OPC Delegate	Elaine O'Hara	(613) 968-8217 <i>aeohara292@gmail.com</i>
Director	Trul Trulsen	(613) 962-3845
Director Newsletter Editor	John Mueller 148 Cherrywood Parkway Napanee, ON K7R 0C3	(613) 354-5241 <i>jwmueller44@yahoo.ca</i>
Director Calling Committee	Mary Czechowski	(613) 962-8253 <i>jczechowski@cogeco.ca</i>
Director	Bruno Di Genova	(613) 968-6328 <i>colombo44@hotmail.ca</i>
Director	Norm Crawford	(613) 966-7755 <i>norman.crawford@sympatico.ca</i>
Director	Tim Spice	(613) 966-4240 <i>spicesr@yahoo.ca</i>

President's Message

Good Day

Hopefully this message finds you enjoying a healthy life and Lifestyle.

Our Yardman Monument is in its final stages, and we should be looking at the Grand Opening by Mid June. Many Thanks to Dave Simpson for spear heading this project and always been able to raise more funds for this project.

We need more younger retirees for our C3 Committee if we expect to keep operating in years to come. We're lacking new members across Canada.

If anyone needs assistance with their Pension issues you can contact anyone on our C3 Committee, or I can be reached at Email: jlesmacdonald@gmail.com .

For Blue Cross assistance, PLEASE contact Roger McDevitt, Email: rogermcdevitt@gmail.com

We have another CNPA Scholarship season now on from April 15th – August 13, 2025. All instructions can be found on our CNPA website at: www.cnpensioners.org
Please tell the young ones to PLEASE follow the instructions as outlined.

I would like to thank the Staff at the Dugout for all the great meals and service. They are truly easy to work with.

THANKS to All our Calling Ladies who make our jobs much easier, they do a Great Job.

Also, this is C3 Election Year, so the Election Committee will be looking for new members for our committee, please help us out by joining.

On a final note, I would like to thank our CNPA, C3 Committee for their Dedication and Time they put forward in making it a success.

Hopefully we'll see you all back on Sept 15/25 for our next luncheon.
Please take time to Enjoy Your Summer.

Cheers

Les MacDonald C3

*"Some of us are like wheelbarrows -
only useful when pushed and very easily upset.
- Jack Herbert*

Welcome to the CN Pensioners Association:

Marilyn Lamorre

The purpose of the CN Pensioners' Association is to represent the needs of retired CN employees. Our objective is to protect your interests, financial and otherwise, regarding your pension, your benefits and support and enhance your social interests and activities.

*What Programmes and Benefits Do the **CNPA** Manage or Provide?*

Health Care: With the assistance of key partners, our Health Care Committee of volunteer pensioners manages one of the best retirement health care plans in Canada. Our **CNPA** Health Care Plan (93115) for **CN** Pensioners provides coverage for some of the costs not covered by your province.

Scholarships; Children and grandchildren of **CNPA contributing** members get access to our annual **CNPA** Scholarship Programme, which offers 25 scholarships of \$1,500 across Canada, plus additional regional bursaries/scholarships.

Our **National Newsletter** and local communications with members keep you up to date on what is happening, like Family Days, special events, or changes to legislation, policies or programmes. We also provide the annual **CN** Employee Calendar, **CN** Magazine and **CN in the Community** brochure to *contributing* members.

As a *contributing member*, you can attend various events coordinated by the local councils across the country. Most hold regular meetings where current or special issues are discussed, as well as other local activities and events.

While **CN** Pension and Benefits Administration (**1-800-361-0739**) is the primary contact for your specific Pension Plan issues and questions, you or your spouse can also ask your **CNPA** contacts about any issues or **concerns you may have**.

Find out more on our extensive website, **www.cnpensioners.org**.

"When faced with a challenge, look for a way, not a way out."

- David L. Weatherford

May Birthdays

3. Terry Burn
11. Mary Czechowski
18. Robert J. Cousins

7. Les Macdonald
11. *Happy Mother's Day*
20. Kathleen Bronson
27. Dave Muskiluke

11. Nancy Carrol
17. Ann Crabbe
25. Anthia Dwyer

May Anniversaries

1. Doran Jack, Shirley 2. Bellwood Robert, Donna 31. Millerchuk Barry, Barbara

"If you *watch* a game it's fun. If you *play* it, it's recreation.
If you *work* at it, it's golf."

- Bob Hope

June Birthdays

1. James G. Burns
6. Faye Grant
13. Mary Walsh
20. Allan O'Hara

4. Roger McDevitt
7. Geo. Christopher
15. *Happy Father's Day*
21. Kenneth Trolley
25. Deanna Spice

6. Rosemary Quibel
8. Elaine Chipman
16. June Burns
22. Brian Murray

June Anniversaries

5. Crawford Norm, Darlene 6. Di Genova Bruno, Peggy 8. Burns James, June

Golfer 1 : Are you a scratch golfer?

Golfer 2 : I sure am. Every time I hit the ball, I scratch my head
and wonder where it went".



July Birthdays

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Joyce Bowers | 2. Elaine O'Hara | 4. Allen Bushell |
| 8. Robert Duvall | 8. Alice Knox | 8. Irene McGinnis |
| 9. Heather Mueller | 10. Derrick Knott | 11. Mary Wade |
| 13. Bernice Den Hartog | 13. Dale Grant | 13. Ada Schreider |
| 15. Estelle English | 19. Marjorie Smith | 19. Betty Glenn |
| 21. Donald Dafoe | 21. H. Patricia Moore | 22. Virginia Perry |
| 24. Nora Mortimer | 25. Birgit Meers | 26. Joseph Chappelle |
| 27. Rick Phillips | 28. Sandra Smith | 30. Ted Schwager |
| | 31. Dave Schulz | |

July Anniversaries

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 9. Newton Norm & Lyons, Jan. | 12. Den Hartog Bert, Bernice. | 15. Craig Joe, Carmel |
| 19. Birt Gord, Heather | | 27. Hebbourn Harry, Emily |

If I hit it right, it's a slice.
If I hit it left, it's a hook.
If I hit it straight, it's a miracle.

August Birthdays

8. Marg Cousins
17. Marilyn Lamorre
27. Jan Lyons

8. Margaret Haskin
19. Donalene Hebden
29. Larry Hampson
31. Freda Tracey

9. Shirley Doran
21. Clark Coveduck
30. Irene Craig

August Anniversaries

16. Coveduck Clark, Marion

31. Fargey J. Lorne, Olive



"Golf combines two favourite American pastimes: taking long walks and hitting things with a stick."

- P.J. O'Rourke, *Modern Manners*

Newsletters are published each January, May and September.

We would love to have some contributions from you for future newsletters.
How about it? Do you have a story or tale to share with our readers?
Maybe you have a photo or other topic of interest to submit.
Perhaps you could report on an event you attended.

“If everything was given to you, it wouldn’t feel as good when you achieve it.”

- Annika Sorenstam

CN Pensioners’ Association

Benefits of membership:

- *Blue Cross Health Care Plan*
- *National newsletter 3 times per year plus the **CN** calendar*
- *Regional and Local Association newsletters*
- *National Council Scholarship Programme*
- **CNPA** *members discounts*
- *and more!*
- *check out our website cnpensioners.org*

Scholarships 2025

The 2025 Scholarship Program is now open online.

- Application Deadline - August 13, 2025
- Winners Contacted - By the end of the first week of September 2025

Rules, terms, conditions and all other pertinent information is available on our website at cnpensioners.org (click *scholarships*). It is very important to read it all. Every year some applications are rejected due to being incorrectly completed, missing information or the sponsor is not a *contributing member* of the **CNPA**.

I did not miss the putt; the ball just missed the hole.

*Let me tell you something about....**YOU**....CNPA member*

***Your** story is much more interesting than **you** think!*

*How and when did **you** become involved with **CN**?*

*Where did your journey take **you** and what stops did **you** make along the way?*

*We would all like to know a little more about **you**.*

Contact the editor at the CNPA meetings or send an email to jwmueller44@yahoo.ca subject line "CNPA Belleville Newsletter".

*"Golf has never been work for me. You don't **work** golf. You **play** it."*

- Tom Kite

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Find out more on our website, www.cnpensioners.org.

"No matter what accomplishments you make, someone helped you."

- Althea Gibson

Health Care Matters

The Health Care Plan for CN Pensioners brochure is complex; there are lots of pages and it is difficult to find what you need. Even so, it might be helpful to read it if you want to maximize your benefits. The plan brochure is on the **CNPA** national website cnpensioners.org under Healthcare and Blue Cross.

"Don't be in such a hurry.

That little white ball isn't going to run away from you."

- Patty Berg

Do you volunteer in your community?

Railroader in the Community

The *CN Railroader in the Community* programme provides grants to employees, **retirees & spouses** in recognition of time volunteered to registered charities in their communities. It is highly recommended to participate in this programme if you qualify. Not only can your charity benefit from your volunteering, it may also benefit financially! Go to cnpensioners.org click on “**CN Community**” for more information.

“Competitive golf is played mainly on a five-and-a-half-inch course
the space between your ears.”

- Bobby Jones

In the recent past, 2 locals of the **CNPA** have ceased to exist mainly due to an unforeseen and extremely unfortunate circumstance. Peterborough Council (C10) had approximately 150 members. Sarnia Council (C11) had approximately 500 members. Article **5.02** of the **CN Pensioners Association** constitution reads “*Regional / Provincial / Local Councils will consist of a President, Past-President, Vice-President(s), Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Chair. The President and Treasurer positions may never be combined together.*”

Apparently, neither of those locals could find the required number of volunteers (minimum 3) from within their membership to form an executive council.

This is already a major problem at the local level, but, by extension, it also has an effect at the Regional, Provincial and National levels.

The CN Pensioners Association of Belleville and District is searching for volunteers who are ready and willing to help guide their **CN Pensioners Association** into the future.

Current terms end 31 December 2025.

2025 is an election year.

All executive positions are open for nominations.

Voting is scheduled to take place at our October General Meeting.

Secretary Roger McDevitt is heading up the nominating committee.

Please contact him to express your interest or suggestions.

“One thing that golf teaches you is humility.”

- Robert Wagner

[This article by Zach McGibbon taken from “quintenews” 14 April 2025.](#)

“Council approves additional funding for CN Yardmen Memorial Project

Belleville City Council approved amending the 2025 Capital Budget to add \$18,000 in funding for the CN Yardmen Memorial Project.

Money would come from the Asset Management Reserve Fund.

In 2023, council approved a scaled down version of the project from Willowlee Sod Farms, the lone bid for the job, at a cost of \$296,924 plus HST.

Project funds comprised of public fundraising and a contribution of \$150,000 from the city.

The original design of the project included a brass train for the top of the monument, the bronze figures of children and the bronze ground cover but were removed due to the original tender going way over budget. Work on the project began back in 2023 with the previously approved work being completed as of January 2025. Fundraising continued during construction with the former CNR Yardmen Tribute Committee able to raise \$223,500 to date.

Members of the committee requesting that the city reconsider purchasing the bronze train and coal/water car located on the top of the monument. The city received a quote from Campbell Monument for a total of \$48,251 including HST for the additions. Of the \$373,500 for the project, \$24,771 remained. Council approved adding \$18,000 to the 2025 Capital Budget in order to make up the difference.”



From the information I have, in the Spring of 2019 The CN Belleville and District Pensioners' Association formed a committee to plan for a monument to be placed on a site near the entrance of the Quinte Sports & Wellness Centre. Fundraising began shortly thereafter. David Simpson was instrumental in getting this project off the ground and has been leading the way ever since. He has the true and complete history of it since the beginning.