



CN RAILVETS OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA E2  
June 2023 Volume 13 Issue 2

**From the Presidents' Desk:** With the snow and cold gone, at least hopefully gone, it's already time to welcome summer. Not much to say about spring here in Calgary, one day snow and cold, the next is summer weather so my so-called spring bulbs bloomed mostly under the snow! The tulips and daffodils have just finished blooming and now, sadly and nasally, the trees and shrubs are blooming. Those coupled with a generous amount of smoke have made the last couple of weeks hard on the eyes and nose. A bit more rain would settle both situations so I've got my fingers crossed. Due to Senior's Week events at the Kerby, we were asked if another date for the Picnic *IN* the Kerby could be possible. It was possible and we chose Monday June 12, 2023 at 11:30 for this years' version. I do sincerely hope you will call Brian to put your name on our RSVP list as we need to inform the kitchen of our numbers by June 5, 2023. The Regional Council Treasurer, Al Vodden, and perhaps a member or two from the Edmonton council will also be attending so it would be nice if the guests do not outnumber the members! Our next meeting will be in September and I encourage members to attend as the current attendees have dwindled to below eight or less and with advancement of time, I can easily see a time in the near future when some of those people will be unable to attend. Meetings are quick and painless, parking is free and we even feed you at some of the meetings – what more could you ask? For Those of you that garden, happy gardening and digging in the dirt! I hope everyone has a safe and pleasant summer! We'll be back in October with another newsletter.  
Talk to me! Comments? Complaints? Suggestions? Call or email me. Sincerely, Judy Woods, President E2

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Next Meetings:**

**June 12/23 Picnic *IN* the Kerby** Burgers and salads supplied by the Kerby, members free, spouse or guest a small fee.

**No meetings July and August**

**Sept 11/23** first meeting of the 2023/2024 session

\*Please note phone calls will be made on the Sunday prior to the meeting to confirm that specific date especially during inclement weather.

**EXECUTIVE**

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**All published CNPA newsletters can be read at [cnpensioners.org](http://cnpensioners.org).**

**NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE THE FOLLOWING TIMES:  
February, June and October**

**HOW DO YOU GET THIS NEWSLETTER?**

1. by **Canada Post** (most expensive, our least desirable),
2. by accessing it yourself on **[cnpensioners.org](http://cnpensioners.org)**,
3. by receiving it directly in your **email** in-basket from our local council (best choice for us). Please advise Brian Woods at 403-280-9107 or [woodsbj@nucleus.com](mailto:woodsbj@nucleus.com) if this option works for you.

**NEXT MEETING: Monday, June 12, 2023**

MEETING LOCATION: Games Room at the Kerby Centre, 1133-7 Avenue SW (403-705-3248) TIME:11:30.

**The Membership of E2 welcomes our New Members**

- Deborah Lynne Legace

**Happy Birthday wishes to:**

- Edith Nelson (Hynes) May 112, 89 years
- Evelyn Peterson May 21, 91 years
- CN June 6, 104 years
- Bill Smith June 19, 98 years
- George Merik June 23, 86 years
- Bertha Esplen July 26, 97 years
- Linda Engel August 24, 83 years
- Emerson 'Red' Robinson September 23, 90 years!

**Anniversary congratulations to:**

- President and Vice-President Woods June 24, 37 years
- Owen and Karen Boyd September 28, 4 years

**Obituaries:** The Membership of E2 extends their sincerest sympathies to the family and friends of:

- Gladys Robinson March 3/22 98 years
- Raymond Dell March 21/23 ? years
- Beverly Cernak April 01/23 85 years
- Robert Wilson Legace April 10/23 82 years

Want to see your name in print? Call and give us your details and maybe a story as well and we will make that happen. A pseudonym for any nefarious members could be arranged 😊.

**Membership Advantages:** The Scholarship Committee will deny any applications sent by non-contributing members children or grandchildren. **Only** contributing members receive the annual CN calendar, delivered to your home – for only \$1/month. Also added is an association with the travel discount company, Colette Travel, plus the opportunity to join the CNPA Blue Cross plan when you initially retire. If you join the Rail Roaders In The Community program, a \$100 bonus donation is available. Be a promoter of the CNPA and encourage any non-members you know to call Brian Woods 403-280-9107 where, for that mere \$1/month (by PRD), they will become members. Also, they'll receive a copy of this wonderful newsletter! **Please Note:** Membership for a Spouse or survivor is **not automatic**, but they are invited to attend meetings (no voting unless in good standing - paying that is) and special events. **Social memberships** are also available (\$10 paid to us annually), this entitles the member to attend all functions of the local, and vote on local, non-CNPA, matters. Matters of the CNPA may only be voted on by the Pensioner or the surviving spouse per the constitution. **New incentive to join** – There is currently an offer of a two-year FREE membership so let's chat up anyone about to retire!

This is celebrated every June 6 and is an initiative set out by The Company and supported by the CNPA. As part of this 'celebration' the pensioners are suggested to volunteer with one of the sponsored agencies (or let them know your preferred agency) at some point in the year and then registering that volunteered time with the Railroaders in the Community group. Talk to Brian for more information.

**Butch Whiteman**

William (Butch) Whiteman passed away March 19 at the age of 85. Our sincere condolences to his wife, Gail and the family. E2 has/will donate \$100 to the heart and Stroke Foundation of Alberta in his honour. He will be sorely missed as a tireless, dedicated member/volunteer of the CNPA.

**The Usual Insurance Rant**

I have to have something to rant about, and today it's house insurance. My house policy increased by 8% over last year, and what was the justification for that amount of increase? My agent gave me the stock answer, prices are up, but you get \$50 for being claim free...how about just giving us better rates!

But please people do shop around. I always do before I say yes to any renewal. I'm still not happy with what I'm paying, but some of the other quotes came in at 30% to 60% higher!! So don't be content assuming you're getting the best deal because you may not.

**CNPA Scholarships**

**FINAL NOTICE!** Opened for applications in mid-April 2023 and closing August 15, 2023, no forms will be accepted after this date. Go to [cnpensioners.org](http://cnpensioners.org) for details and all the necessary forms. Remember also that the sponsor must be a member of the CNPA.



Aren't they all? Self-explanatory sign in Helena, MT

### CN North America's Railroad

New Grain February Record Set Improved grain industry collaboration leads to shipping record MONTREAL, March 1, 2023 – CN attributes February's performance to increased collaboration between supply chain partners, enabling strong performance through operational challenges, including periods of extreme cold.

"Improved communications between CN, our customers, and supply chain partners have made our grain supply chain a success in February. When each of us has a better understanding of what our partners are dealing with, we can adjust our individual operations to work through disruptions when they occur. That type of collaboration leads to higher levels of performance across the entire supply chain. It also sets a new benchmark for all of us to strive for as we work through the rest of this winter." - Sandra Ellis, Vice-President, Bulk – Rail Centric Supply Chain, CN

"Our team of railroaders has done an excellent job executing our Winter Plan. Their focus on keeping mainline traffic moving, making sure trains run on time and ensuring we have the infrastructure and fleet in place to support that plan continues to pay off. Reduced delays and disruptions put capacity back into our network and support our customers' shipping needs." - Ed Harris, Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer, CN



State Capitol in Helena, MT

### NEW CN PENSIONERS DISCOUNT! – FALL DETECTION - HOLO ALERT\*

Holo Alert is a Canadian owned and operated medical alert systems provider, specializing in mobile fall detection devices for seniors. Holo's alert systems come with automatic fall detection and GPS, allowing you to use the safety device anywhere throughout Canada and the United States. From a neck worn pendant to a modern wristwatch, Holo's fall detection devices bring peace of mind to those at risk of falling. CN Pensioners are entitled to a free device (\$199 savings) as well as a 25% discount on the monthly monitoring service. Get started for only \$44.99 per month (discount included) with your CN Pensioners Discount.

Contact: Matthew Toth, Senior Safety/Security Holo Alert 1-780-686-1352, [mthoth@myholo.ca](mailto:mthoth@myholo.ca), [www.myholo.ca](http://www.myholo.ca)

\*NOTE that I am not endorsing this product, the information was sent to me through the MRRC. Please thoroughly research this, or any other companies offering us deals before spending your hard earned money!



Chief Mountain (Blackfoot: Ninaistako), 9,085 feet, located in Montana on the eastern border of Glacier National Park and the Blackfoot Indian Reservation along the Rocky Mountain Front (a 20-mile long overthrust fault, known as the Lewis Overthrust) in the Lewis Range of the Rocky Mountains.



Lake MacDonald (between the closest peaks) on Going-to-the-Sun Road in Glacier National Park.

## MMRC Regional Zoom Meeting May 5, 2023

Brian was our Representative on this call. 1) discussed and recognized the extensive contribution Butch Whiteman made to this committee, service to the CNPA, Pension Committee and all our members. The Region approved a \$100 donation to a family-suggested Cancer charity. 2) recognized Bruce Peacock, past National Treasurer/Membership Chair, after stepping back after 20+ years supporting the CNPA. The Region approved the gift of a jacket with the CNPA Mountain Region logo. 3) distribution of CN Partnership money will be based on a per capita split in 2023 and potentially an equal split in 2024. 4) Regional finances remain in decent shape. E-transfers for payments will be utilized again this year. 5) National positions up for election – Director (Al Vodden will stand again), Alternate Director (Gordon Wheatley may stand again), HealthCare Committee Representative (Blake Olson will stand again), HealthCare Committee Alternate, Pension Committee Alternate (Mary McLaughlin resigned). 6) Regional Council executive elected for a 2-year term in 2022 so, with no changes, it remains the same. 7) Scholarship Committee and Communications has a new Chair, Mike Englehart, and a new evaluator, John Wiebe. The deadline for 2023 applications is August 15, 2023. 8) New National website and new National Constitution & Bylaws are available for perusal, and everyone is encouraged to look into them. 9) Darlene Cherry, former head of CN Pension & Benefits Administration, has retired after close to 40 years of service, assisting pensioners with any problems they might have and working with the CNPA. We wish her well in her retirement.



How I spent my winter...doing jigsaw puzzles. This one is from the old Red Green TV series and true to form, there were three missing pieces, so I made replacements out of duct tape of course (the handyman's secret weapon). Harold is telling Red that he thinks the giant whiteish goose (made of duct tape) can fly! Haven't I seen this goose somewhere else...?

## 2023 Regional Elections

Resumé forms at <https://cnpamountainregion.wixsite.com/cnpa-mountain-region/documents-and-links>. Only DB Pensioners and contributing CNPA members can apply. Call for applications is from May 1 to September 30. Submit documents to the Regional Chair, Dennis Jensen, and Regional Secretary, Blake Olson, by September 30, 2023. October 1 the Regional Secretary will provide the complete list of candidates for each position to each Regional Representative (for E2, it's the President). Before November 1<sup>st</sup> the E2 President will submit one ballot (for the local) for each available position to the designated Regional Representatives. Those ballots will be tabulated, and the Regional Secretary and Regional Chair will be notified of the results by November 10, 2023. (Note that E2 members will discuss and vote for the applicant of their choice, majority rules apply. Only the President will submit the final choice(s).) Positions available: Alternate Pension Committee Representative, CNPA National Director, Alternate National Director, HealthCare Committee Representative and Alternate HealthCare Committee Representative.



Another indoor hobby of mine, gardening indoors. Above is a yellow and magenta orchid with 3 blossoms and a white/pink/magenta orchid with 25 blossoms. Below is an Apple Blossom amaryllis with 5 flowers, later it bloomed another 3 flowers.

