



# BRANCH 127 NEWSLETTER

## (Special Edition)



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- *Wayne Fisher*

Last year the Branch was unable to fill the Vice President's position for about half the year. When elections were coming up for 2011, there was

little hope of being able to fill all the executive positions. This could possibly lead to Provincial Command appointing an Administrator to oversee and run the branch. This would no doubt lead to the closing of the Branch.

In order to take matters into our own hands, Gail Hanson would stay on as Secretary/Treasurer if I would run for President on the conditions outlined below. In conversations with Mel Smith and Jack Thame, they agreed to run as Vice President and Past President. All of the other 4 Executive members agreed to stand for re-election.

If the members of Branch 127 wish to continue to have the branch remain open after the end of 2011, they have until 01 March 2011 to present to the new executive a full slate of officers to take over the Branch on or before 06 December 2011. Failing that, the elected Executive have the authority to:

- Return the Branch Charter and close the Branch on 31 December 2011;
- Dispose of all physical assets on or before the 31 December 2011; and
- Dispense all Branch funds by 31 January 2012.

These conditions were approved at the December General Meeting.

However, all branch functions will continue as normal through the spring and summer. No expenditure of funds will be spent without membership approval, other than funds for housing, sports, entertainment, and social.

It is my sincere hope that this is a wakeup call to the membership and people will step forward and keep the branch open.

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## 2011 EXECUTIVE

President - Wayne Fisher - [wgf4214@gmail.com](mailto:wgf4214@gmail.com)  
Vice President - Mel Smith - [Mel-Smith@shaw.ca](mailto:Mel-Smith@shaw.ca)  
Secretary/Treasurer - Gail Hanson - [thehansonfamily@shaw.ca](mailto:thehansonfamily@shaw.ca)  
Past President - Jack Thame - [thameris@shaw.ca](mailto:thameris@shaw.ca)  
Membership - Jenny Fossum - [jennyfossum@shaw.ca](mailto:jennyfossum@shaw.ca)  
Newslettter/Web Site - Bal Sekha - [bsekha@shaw.ca](mailto:bsekha@shaw.ca)  
Poppy/Remembrance - Bill Ozard - [doggydoo9@hotmail.com](mailto:doggydoo9@hotmail.com)  
Sgt-at-Arms - Gerry Gerrard - [evgerry@telus.net](mailto:evgerry@telus.net)  
Sports - Len Anderson - [andersonsl@shaw.ca](mailto:andersonsl@shaw.ca)  
Sick and Visiting - Connie Meadmore



## REGULAR UPCOMING EVENTS

Executive Meetings	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, <b>6:30 pm</b> unless advised otherwise (March 1, April 5, May 3, June 7)
General Meetings	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, <b>7:30 pm</b> unless advised otherwise (March 1, April 5, May 3, June 7)
Bowling	1st Wednesday of each month, 3:30 pm at Miracle Lanes, Sidney (March 2, April 6), confirm with Len Anderson (250 658-4749)
Socials	to be announced via email; check web site or bulletin board
Steaks Nights/Special	to be announced via email and posted on the bulletin board but usually on the fourth Saturday of month, weather permitting,



## MEMBERSHIP

- Jenny Fossum

Currently Branch membership stands at approximately 120 members

It gives us great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to new members, Claude and Kim Fortin, Heidi Hall, Cheryl Fossum, Machaela Fortin and Jessica Fortin.

## LAST POST

We are saddened to have lost Jack Weber since our last newsletter.

WEBER, Harry John (Jack) Our wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather, Jack Weber, passed away peacefully on Friday, January 14, 2011 with his family at his side. Jack was born in Prince Rupert on February 9, 1925 to Harry and Clara Weber, and moved to



Victoria in 1930. He loved his life, friends, and especially his family, of which he was very proud. He will be greatly missed and is survived by his beloved wife, of 62 years, Marg, children Mike and Cheryl Weber, Sue and Steve Henry, Wayne and Wendy Weber, and grandchildren Danny and Jacky Weber, Rishelle and Paul Camson, Justin and Amber Weber, Krystal Weber, Adam Henry, Erin Henry, and great grandchildren Brooklyn and Ethan Weber, and relatives Doreen York and family, Carol and Gary Rowe and family, Violet and Doug Cole and family, and Victor and Lydia Weber and family. He will be missed by his many friends throughout the Square Dancing, Legion, and greater Victoria community. Jack grew up in James Bay, and attended Victoria High School, and in 1942 at the end of his graduating year, he left school to make his contribution to the war effort; converting the Queen Elizabeth Cruise ship to a troop carrier. He worked and lived in Esquimalt for almost seventy years. During his entire 43 year career he worked as an electrician for Yarrows Shipyard. Jack and Marg's love was Square Dancing, and they recently celebrated a fifty year milestone of calling for the Promenader's Square Dance Club. Jack and Marg's caring and generous dedication to their community volunteering was recognized by the Governor General of Canada when they were awarded the

Caring Canadian Award in 2000. Jack always had a smile and kind word for everyone he met. A Celebration of Jack's Life will be held on Friday, January 21, 2011 at the Esquimalt Legion, 622 Admirals Rd, Victoria, BC from 11:30 am 3:00 pm. We wish to commend and thank the staff of the Neurosciences Ward of the Victoria General Hospital for their excellent and compassionate care given to Jack. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to the Queen Alexandra Foundation for Children, Jenece Place or the charity of your choice. Until we meet again our Love. Published in the Victoria Times-Colonist on 1/18/2011

“We will remember them.”



Please keep us informed if you, or anyone you know, need our attention (visit, phone calls, assistance, etc). Our Sick & Visiting Committee Chair is Connie Meadmore who can be reached at (250) 383-0491.

## SPORTS

- Len Anderson

15 members and guests participated in the bowling program from January to April and October to December at Miracle Lanes. Others joined after for the meal at various restaurants/pubs. Bowling is on the first Wednesday of the month and costs \$10 for 2 games plus \$2 for shoes.

Golf season was from May to September and up to 17 members and guests participated at Royal Oak, Cowichan, Mt. Brenton, Ardmore and Mt. Doug Golf courses. A weekly group went to Mt Doug on Tuesdays as well. Golf usually starts at 11:30 on the third Thursday of month; coupons are often used for 2 for 1 green fees and/or meal discounts. The schedule should be similar in 2011.

Please call Len Anderson (250 658-4749) or Bert Soutar (250 477-8818) to get on the sports list or sign up on the list on the sports board. Please check out the sports board for various sports events being held or sponsored by other branches or organizations.



## REMEMBRANCE/POPPY CAMPAIGN

- *Bill Ozard*

The 2010 campaign in the Greater Victoria area did very well this year with money continuing to trickle in -- \$182,000-\$184,000 in early 2011.

## ENTERTAINMENT

- *Bal Sekha*

Although there wasn't an Entertainment Chair in 2010, there were 3 themed dinner events in the summer months - a Canada Day theme for the end of June barbecue, a tacky tourist barbecue in July and Western night with hamburgers.

The branch also hosted a reception after the Remembrance Day Cenotaph ceremony. Many thanks to the following members for their contributions in making this another successful Remembrance Day reception: Wendy Adams, Ray and Donna Brunette, Claude and Kim Fortin, Jenny Fossum, Gail Hanson, Margot Matthews, Bert and Myrna Soutar. Thirty-seven members and guests attended the Christmas brunch at Samuel's Restaurant. Thanks also to Ray and Donna Brunette, Kim and Claude Fortin, and Vic Marshall for decorating our hall for Christmas and "undecorating" the same in January.

These or similar events will continue this year so please try to join us if at all possible.

## COCKRELL HOUSE

This much needed transitional housing for homeless veterans opened in Colwood in May 2009, thanks to the tireless efforts of Lionel Jack Cockrell, legendary for his undertakings of behalf of veterans.

The mission of Cockrell House is "Provision of transitional safe housing with health and social services for homeless ex-military personnel who require assistance integrating back into society."

An in-depth article, with photos, will be devoted to Cockrell House in the next issue but in the meantime, here are a few things Cockrell House offers homeless veterans to help them get on their feet: 2 year transitional residence, health and social services, counseling, courses in life skills, and access to transportation. There are 11 units in this multiplex residence.

For more information on Cockrell House and other veteran housing, please contact Angus Stanfield, Director of South Mid Vancouver Island Zone Housing Society at [angusstanfield@shaw.ca](mailto:angusstanfield@shaw.ca)

## BRANCH SUPPORTED CHARITIES

Gaming funds provided by the Provincial Government last year were considerably reduced from previous years and some of our previous charities were not eligible according to Gaming Regulations. Donations were made to the following charities from the gaming funds provided by the Provincial Government in 2010:

89 Pacific Air Cadet Squadron  
 Broadmead Care Foundation  
 Jack Cockell House  
 James Bay Community Care Project  
 Mustard Seed Food Bank  
 Our Place Society Food Bank  
 Rotunda Service  
 St. Andrews Catholic Church, 9-10 Club  
 St. Andrews Presbyterian Christmas Fund  
 Salvation Army Christmas Fund  
 SMVIZ Legion Housing  
 Times-Colonist Christmas Find  
 Veteran Canine Connection Inc  
 Veterans' Health Centre  
 Victoria Women's Transition House

### NOTE:

THIS IS A SPECIAL NEWSLETTER ISSUED TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO THE LACK OF MEMBERS WISHING TO SERVE AS TABLE OFFICERS ON THE EXECUTIVE. AND THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THIS BRANCH.

IF YOU HAVE SOME SOLUTIONS, IDEAS OR WOULD LIKE TO THROW YOUR HAT INTO THE RING, PLEASE CONTACT GAIL HANSON AT "[THEHANSONFAMILY@SHAW.CA](mailto:THEHANSONFAMILY@SHAW.CA)" OR WAYNE FISHER AT "[WGF4214@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WGF4214@GMAIL.COM)"

YOUR RESPONSE IS URGENTLY NEEDED AND WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

- BRANCH 127 EXECUTIVE