

South Interior Power Pioneers

Happy
Halloween



Halloween traditions...

Many of our Halloween traditions began about 2000 years ago from the Celtic people living in what today is Ireland, Scotland and Northern France. Back then the Celts practised spiritual beliefs of the Druids. They would celebrate the festival of **Samhain** (SOW-in) on the midpoint between the fall equinox and the winter solstice, which is November 1st by today's calendar. The festival marked the end of summer harvest and the beginning of the dark half of the year. On the evening of the festival they believed ghosts of the dead would return to haunt the living. To ward off the evil spirits they built huge bonfires and dressed up in costumes.

After the Celts were conquered by the Holy Roman Empire, the Pope declared the occasion as **All Hallows Day** to honour important people of the church like saints and martyrs. To appease the pagans the church allowed Celtic rituals to flourish thus October 31st became known as **All Hallows Eve** and later **Halloween** where both Christians and Druids celebrated the dead, each in their own way.

Eventually Halloween migrated to North America, however, the ancient spiritual and superstitious rituals soon faded to obscurity. Commercialism took over and today only spooky decorations of the past remain while children gather colossal amounts of candy to binge on.

October Luncheon

We were reduced to twenty-two members attending the October luncheon. Illness and vacations took their toll leaving a skeleton crew of volunteers doing triple duty to organize the event.



To start, we were served a fresh spinach salad with a strawberry vinaigrette dressing. Salad was followed by – what is that? – a perogy casserole! Visually not impressive but astonishingly tasty and satisfying. We finished with a delicious date-apple square for dessert.

...and the winners are!

Door prize draw: John Zucco won a Tim Horton's gift certificate
50/50 draw: Debbie Raymer and Judy Hoffman each won \$17.00.



Harrison Hi Jinks Jamboree 2022 – by Flo Ryan

Hosted By: The Power Pioneers Fraser Valley Branch September 27 – 29, 2022



The Jamboree was held at the beautiful Harrison Hot Springs Resort. One hundred and sixteen Power Pioneers attended.

Tuesday evening the welcome dinner theme was the Great Outdoors with the Sasquatch motif. Appetizers were served before the smorgasbord dinner. A lady from the Kilby Historic Site gave a presentation on how women dressed in the 1890's.

Wednesday's activities included a morning walk with Phil and Terry, golf, a scenic cruise on Harrison Lake, Bean Bag Baseball, a Bocce Tournament, Bingo and soaking in the hot pools.

Thursday we went to the Kilby Historical Site for lunch and a tour. The store there is similar to the one at O'Keefe Ranch but is built up fifteen feet from the ground as the nearby Fraser River floods every year at that time. The area was called Harrison Mills and at one time over 400 workers were employed in the sawmill.

The evening dinner in the Copper Room had a black and white theme. I was lucky to win one of the door prizes – a beautiful gift basket.

I had a lot of fun and met many Power Pioneers from the different branches in BC.



President's Report – by Fred Wernicke

I was pleased to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held this year at Harrison Hot Springs Resort on Sept 26 & 27. Here are a few highlights:

- Lois Earl (Upper Island Branch) was elected Provincial Vice President.
- Congratulations offered to very successful Volunteer Hours Program participants, especially the S.I. Branch.
- Diminishing membership and recruitment programs were discussed.
 - ✓ Impending dissolution of Kootenay & Kamloops branches.
 - ✓ 6000 retirees expected by end of year (fiscal or calendar?).
 - ✓ To solicit retirees we should hold a PP BBQ at BC Hydro Vernon Office.
- Next jamboree is 2024 Alaska cruise. Details pending.
- Pallet loads of history books are now available including the new *Voices from Bridge River*.
 - ✓ We could use our PP Store credit to buy copies for promotional prizes.
- Safety Rodeo to be held in Burnaby next year.



Vice President's Report – by Stew Wallach

Stew & Donna are away on holidays, reportedly gallivanting around Vancouver Island, which is why this edition of SIPP News is late getting published. -editor



Membership Report – by Donna Wallach

(away on holidays – no changes from September)

- 162 Regular members
- 3 Gold/Lifetime members
- 3 Branch Honorary members
- 1 Donor member



Treasurer's Report – by Forbes Niemi

Luncheon surplus calculation (Jan - Sep)

Received for 142 meal	\$2840.00
Paid out for 149 meals*	-\$2533.00
Net Surplus	\$307.00

* Occasionally we pay for meals for which we collect no money such as for VIP guests, for promos and for *no-show* members.

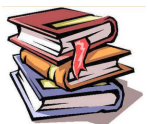
Because the cost paid for luncheon meals does not include any gratuity, the plan is to distribute the accumulated surplus as a cash gratuity to the catering staff at the November luncheon. The gratuity is projected to be equivalent to 12%



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Financial statement for month of SEPTEMBER

Opening Bank Balance		\$3328.10
Income received		
Membership dues from HO	\$220.00	
Luncheon Sales	\$560.00	
50/50 net proceeds	\$18.00	
Total Income		\$798.00
Expenses		
Luncheon Costs	-\$476.00	
Operating expenses	-\$25.66	
Total Expenses		-\$501.66
Net Income		\$296.34
Closing Bank Balance		\$3624.44



Literacy Program – by Debbie Raymer

I bought some more books with the money donated at the September luncheon. Thank you. Also a resident at Parker Cove who was giving away books had some that were suitable for teens.



Care Cards – by Flo Ryan

Thinking of You card sent 29 September to Peg Balfour diagnosed with lung cancer.

Cards signed by membership at October luncheon:

Get Well Soon for Peg Balfour (lung cancer)

Get Well Soon for Dan Houston (hip replacement)

Get Well Soon for Hank Hildebrand (hip replacement pending)

If you know of someone deserving a *Care Card* please contact Flo Ryan at 250-542-6919 or email fvryan@shaw.ca



Volunteers make it happen!

Volunteers work diligently to make our luncheon a success. L->R Pauline Niemi, Rita Wernicke, Sonja Laschuk

Editor

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