

South Interior Power Pioneers

News Update

June 2024

June Luncheon - editor



Thirty-seven members plus three guests attended the June luncheon, the last one before September. The meal was a simple taco salad with cheesecake or white cake for dessert. The highlight of the event was the presentation of the Community Service Award. Then Dwight Cousins introduced members to Horseshoe pitching.

50/50 Draw Winners

Len Cebuliak and Debbie Raymer each won \$28.00.

Door Prizes

Seven door prizes were drawn worth \$96.00 at the Power Pioneer's Gear Store.

The winners are:

- Ruth Davies*
- Herb Klumpp*
- Debbie Raymer*
- Forbes Niemi*
- Coralee Coe*
- Mike Valuck*
- Gordon Prentice*



Community Service Award (CSA) – by Stew Wallach



V.P. Stew Wallach

Each year BC Hydro Power Pioneers awards qualifying youth with \$500 in recognition of their excellent community service. There are up to twenty \$500 awards available throughout British Columbia. Local branch CSA committees are responsible for choosing a deserving recipient for their area. Applicants are required to include:

- 500 word essay of voluntary contributions made to their community.
- Reference letter(s) from community organization(s) worked with.
- Reference letter from a teacher, counsellor or principal at their school.
- Confirmation of a passing grade and pending High School graduation.

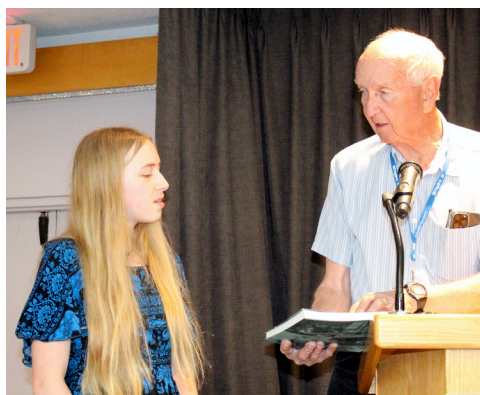
For the South Interior branch, our selection committee is Dennis Duncan, Stew Wallach, and Donna Wallach. We carefully reviewed the four applications received and unanimously chose Elissa Coe as the deserving recipient. Elissa and her parents were invited to our June luncheon where I presented her with a certificate and cheque for \$500 as well as a hard cover copy of *Voices from Bridge River*.

Today is a special day. With all the strife going on in the world today it's nice to have something positive to talk about. Every year I have the task of going through applicants for the Community Service Award from graduating students that take pride in the community and volunteer for many services that provide service for the needy.

To see what the kids are up to these days gives me great hope for the future. Every year one of these applicants rises to the top and today it gives me great pleasure to award the \$500 prize to Elissa Coe. - Stew



V.P. Stew Wallach presents Community Service Award certificate to Elissa Coe.



*Elissa, here is your personal copy of **Voices From Bridge River**. This is one of a series the Power Pioneers have produced, which tells the history of BC Hydro*



*Finally I have a cheque for \$500 with no strings attached. Spend it as you see fit.***



Elissa Coe

Hello everyone, my name is Elissa. I started volunteering when I was pretty young. My first memories of volunteering took place at five years old. My parents took me to invasive ivy removal from a local park. I had a great time: however, little me wasn't so interested in the actual work, but the decadent flavours of granola bars available to the volunteers. While my parents pulled ivy, I sampled fudge brownie granola bars. Fortunately, I got a little better at volunteering as time went on. I remember going to the fisheries with my parents to release baby salmon into the river, painting yellow fish by storm drains in our neighbourhood, and garbage clean-up walks in the forest. My parents made it a priority to show me how important it was to take care of our community.

As I got a bit older, I started to take initiative to volunteer on my own accord. When I was ten, my mom and I applied to be volunteers at the Vancouver Aquarium. We got in and it was an amazing opportunity. Around the same time I started volunteering with CanSkate, a learn-to-skate program with the North Surrey Skating club. After I had some experience, my coaches asked me to volunteer with the Special Olympics skating program. I met passionate and hard working skaters, and I looked forward to teaching them every week. I got to work with first time skaters up to competitive skaters. Throughout those experiences I discovered I had a passion for volunteering with kids, so I volunteered with the preschool room at my church and at Soaring Eagle Nature School - a kid's day camp to explore and learn about nature.

– cont'd

Eventually I moved away from the Lower Mainland, but it was not long before I found myself volunteering in my new community. With my new figure skating club, I volunteered with CanSkate and took on a bigger role leading a station. During the pandemic, when communities were locked down, I started volunteering online with the Canadian Association for Girls In Science as a Teen Ambassador. I became a role model for girls interested in STEM and I continued to volunteer with the organisation after the pandemic. As things opened up I volunteered at the Okanagan Science Center to continue my involvement with STEM based volunteer opportunities.*

About a year and a half ago I stepped into a leadership role with the youth band at Vernon Alliance Church. Every week I lead practices and help the band grow as a team as we lead worship for our youth group. In my community I also jump at one time opportunities such as when I played Christmas carols for seniors with early dementia, or when I volunteered for the BC Winter Games.

I can't imagine what my life would look like now if my parents hadn't shown me volunteering is more than free snacks: it is a way of contributing to the well being of my community. Since I started tracking, I have completed over 700 hours of volunteer work. Volunteering brings me fond memories of being outside with my family, big smiles of skaters mastering new skills, the power to inspire others to explore STEM and our world, and a strong connection to my community. It's something I plan to continue doing for the rest of my life.

Thank you so much for this award.

– by Elissa Coe

* STEM is a common acronym for four closely connected areas of study: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. These fields are often associated due to the similarities that they share both in theory and practice. -editor

** Elissa is planning to use the \$500 towards attending UBCO Bachelor of Health and Exercise Science Program. -editor



VIP Guests - the Coe family: Alan, Coralee and Elissa

The next luncheon is scheduled for
Tuesday 10th of September.
Have a safe and healthy summer!

Vernon Horseshoe Club invites you to try out – by Dwight Cousins

Power Pioneers are invited to try out Horseshoe Pitching at 1:00 PM on Wednesday 19th of June at the Vernon Horseshoe Club located at 3951 Alexis Park Drive just north of 39th Avenue. We will furnish the necessary equipment and explain the rules etc. of the game. There is no cost involved.

We currently have 6 people who have indicated an interest and plan on attending. However, others just need to show up at the Clubhouse at the scheduled time and we will accommodate. Also, if you are unable to come at that time, we play twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00-8:00 PM. You just drop in at that time and we'll set you up and teach you the game. Anyone who does come to play must sign a waiver before playing since our Insurance does not cover non-members. The only necessity is that anyone playing must wear proper footwear – i.e. NO SANDALS OR OPEN TOED SHOES.

If you decide to join our Club, we accept players from age 8 to 80+. The annual fee is \$45 but youngsters don't have to pay until they are over 18. We are the cheapest sport in town and you can play as many games as you want without any additional fees. Our club has existed for over 42 years and is one of six Clubs in the BC Interior with about another 12 Clubs on the coast and Vancouver Island. Many Tournaments are held throughout the year and members can participate in pretty much all of them. After you develop a handicap, you compete as individuals, much like bowling.

I hope to see you out to enjoy pitching a few shoes, have a cup of coffee and just socialize with some new people.

For details contact Dwight Cousins or point your browser to: <https://www.bchorseshoe.com/clubs/vernon.html>



VERNON HORSESHOE CLUB

COURT LOCATION

3951 Alexis Park Dr.
Vernon BC

CONTACT

Dwight Cousins
250-545-2798



Membership Report – by Donna Wallach

The Kendricks have now joined Upper Island branch, so their membership is no longer included with SIPP.

Gold/life members:

Harold Austrom
Tom Flensburg

Branch honorary members:

Bernice Mills
Grethe Field

Roll Call

145 Regular members
2 Gold/Life Time members
2 Branch Honorary members
3 Donor members
152 Total members



Caring Crafts – by Donna Wallach

Thank you to **Lynn Rutter** and **Margaret Abramzik** for these baby bonnets! This completes my *planned arrivals* for this reporting period ending in June. Without our *knitting crew* our branch would not have a Caring Craft program, so thanks to all of you! According to my connections at the Hospital Auxiliary approximately 600 babies are born annually at VJH. We have done an amazing job of making hats.... check out my Annual Report next page.



Caring Craft Annual Report July 1, 2023 To June 30, 2024 - by Donna Wallach



It was a record year for our *Flying Fingers Crew*. We donated 364 baby hats to Vernon Jubilee Hospital for their *Every Baby Born At VJH Receives A Baby Hat* campaign. We make our hat donations via the hospital auxiliary who sort and organize all the hats by size, colour etc and then pass them to the hospital coordinator for gifting. According to our branch records, this is the largest donation we have ever made!

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR "CREW"

VIVIAN KENDRICK

BARB NICHOLS

JANIS HALL

LYNN RUTTER

MARGARET ABRAMZIK

DONNA WALLACH



Treasurer's Report – by Forbes Niemi

Provincial HQ sent a payment of \$2180 for Volunteer Points earned by our branch plus \$400 Membership Dues received by credit card. This income bump will be offset by Volunteer Hours donations to these local charities:

Salvation Army	\$200
Upper Room Mission	\$200
Mackie Lake House	\$200
Okanagan Humane Society	\$380
North Okanagan Hospice	\$400
Sleep In Heavenly Peace	\$300
Vernon Search and Rescue	\$500

Month of May 2024	
Opening Bank Balance	\$4742.31
Income received	
Volunteer Points Earned	2180.00
Membership dues	\$400.00
Luncheon Sales (30)	\$600.00
50/50 net proceeds	\$24.00

Total Income	\$3204.00
Expenses	
Luncheon Costs (30)	-\$535.50

Total Expenses	-\$535.50

Net Income	\$2668.50
Closing Bank Balance	\$7510.81



Literacy Program – by Debbie Raymer

I went to the library book sale in May and bought 20 books for kids for \$20. I still have a \$10 coupon at the bookstore and I notice there is money in the donation jar. Please keep you eye open for suitable books at garage sales. Thank you and enjoy your summer. I look forward to receiving your new or gently used children's books or cash donation at the next luncheon in September.



Care Cards – by Flo Ryan

Get Well card sent to Holly Ross recovering from her stroke

If you know of someone deserving a Get Well, Condolence or Congratulations Card please contact Flo Ryan at 250-542-6919 or email fvryan@shaw.ca

The End!

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