

South Interior Power Pioneers

2024

Happy
Halloween

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Spooky Thoughts! – editor



Our Halloween traditions began about 2000 years ago from the Celtic people living where today is Ireland, Scotland and Northern France. Back then the Celts practised the spiritual beliefs of the Druids. They would celebrate the festival of *Samhain* (SOW-in) halfway 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 expected ghosts of the dead would return to haunt the living. To ward off the evil spirits they built huge bonfires and dressed up in frightful costumes.

After the Celts were conquered by the Holy Roman Empire, the Pope decreed the occasion to be *All Hallows Day* to honour important people of the church like saints and martyrs. To appease the pagans the church allowed some Celtic rituals to flourish, thus October 31st became known as *All Hallows Eve* and subsequently *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. Today only some spooky costumes and decorations of the past remain while children dressed in costume go door-to-door gathering colossal amounts of candy to binge on.

October Luncheon

Thirty-five Pioneers attended the October luncheon and were treated to a delicious steak



and pasta entrée. The steak was grilled to perfection. The pasta was augmented with chopped Zucchini and other vegetables all smothered in a delicate cheese sauce. It was plentiful and satisfying, but after the last bite, I was tempted to lick the plate! Oh, so good!

Then came dessert - a rich serving of mango cheesecake. I was in culinary heaven!



...and the winners are:

Ken Delmonico and Dwight Cousins each won \$30.00 in the 50/50 draw.

In the door prize draw, Ken Dalgarno, Stew Wallach, Gerry Reinhardt, Del Gerry, Steve Harrison, Donna Wallach, and Drew Eyre claimed Power Pioneers merchandise valued at \$70.

Congratulations!

November Election – editor

Our annual election of executives and appointment of volunteers takes place during the November luncheon. Now is a good time to remind everyone that the very survival of our organization depends on enthusiastic volunteers - not only for elected positions but various committees as well. Whether you stand for election or just casually volunteer, your help is always needed and appreciated. We have many vacant volunteer positions. Contact an executive member any time to enlist!

Executive positions (elected):

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Volunteer positions:

- Membership Manager (1)
- Luncheon Coordinator (2)
- Phone Committee (5)

- 50/50 Sales (3)
- Literacy Program (1)
- Care Cards (1)
- Election Committee (2)
- CSA Selection Committee (4)
- Caring Crafts (4)
- Events & Activities (4)
- Volunteer Points committee (1)
- Volunteer at large (2)



President's Notes – by Fred Wernicke

- ❖ St. James Choir is confirmed for Dec 3rd to entertain us.
- ❖ This year we anticipate members from Salmon Arm branch to visit our Christmas Party.



Vice President's Report – by Stew Wallach

Christmas is coming fast! Our gala celebration will take place December 3rd in the Emerald Room at the Schubert Centre. Doors will open at 11:00 AM for happy hour. All bar drinks this year will cost \$7.00. A buffet dinner will begin at noon featuring turkey or salmon (or both!) with mashed potatoes, vegetables, salad, dinner buns and all the trimmings.

Donna and I had a meeting with Chef Deep at the Schubert Centre. This year he will prepare in-house all gravies, sauces and dressings, including cranberry sauce, and turkey stuffing. Furthermore, all the produce will be locally sourced where possible. He assured the salmon will be BC wild and not Atlantic farmed. This year we elected to forego roast beef due to the inherent cost and complications in preparation scheduling. The good news is this year we have a price decrease - members pay only \$30, which is \$5 less than last year.

Last year there was an apparent shortage of plum puddings, likely due to some taking more than one. This year the plum puddings will be served to the tables either as individual servings or a shareable sized plate. As an alternative the usual squares and cakes will be available at the self-serve coffee table. Individual fruit plates will be offered to designate members with dietary requirements.

As usual our annual Christmas Gala is a pre-paid affair. Don't miss out - reserve before November 15th.



Membership Report – by Donna Wallach

I just learned that *Veda Arlt* passed away on June 16, 2024.

Murray Smith and *Linda Demelo* moved to Stony Plain, AB, but will remain members of our branch for the future, so they can keep up with our news.

Christmas is rapidly approaching and is a busy time for all of us. Before we know it a new year will be under way. A Christmas Gala reservation form has been sent to all members. Also you will receive three reminders by the Provincial Office to pay your annual membership on line. This adds many months before we receive your dues, therefore, I (and the treasurer) would really appreciate receiving your membership dues directly and, if possible, by the end of November. Why not include it with your Christmas Gala payment? One cheque will take care of both!

Roll Call

149 Regular members
2 Gold/Life Time members
2 Branch Honorary members
3 Donor members
156 Total members



Treasurer's Report – by Forbes Niemi

Our September luncheon was attended by 33 members. Including the 50/50 proceeds and luncheon sales we had an income of \$688.

Expenses including luncheon costs and operating expenses amounted to \$645.03 leaving a modest surplus of \$42.97 and a closing bank balance of \$5107.81.



Literacy Program – by Debbie Raymer

I look forward to receiving your new or gently used children's books or cash donation at the next luncheon.



Caring Crafts – by Donna Wallach

I have a meeting with a potential knitter who is also a former member of Power Pioneers. She is interested in contributing her knitting skills but may be persuaded to renew a full membership.



Care Cards – by Flo Ryan

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

Month of September 2024	
Opening Bank Balance	\$5064.84
Income received	
Luncheon Sales (33)	\$660.00
50/50 net proceeds	\$28.00

Total Income	\$688.00
Expenses	
Luncheon Costs (33)	-\$589.05
Operating Supplies	-\$55.98

Total Expenses	-\$645.03

Net Surplus	\$42.97
Closing Bank Balance	\$5107.81

Editor & Ghost Writer

Suggestions, comments or contributions are welcome.
Please contact:

Forbes Niemi

Email: SIPPTreasurer@pfadventures.com

Voice: 250-307-1980

Publisher

For changes related to distribution, such as change of email address please contact

Donna Wallach.

Email: wallach@telus.net

Voice: 250-542-2097

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