



BLUEWATER Branch Report

Spring 2019

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members:

In 2010, I was nominated and elected to be President of the Bluewater Branch of the Federal Superannuates National Association.

In the eight years I have been President, I have seen many changes in our Association particularly at the National level. Our name became a new brand known as the National Association of Federal Retirees. A new logo was designed and implemented as well as a new lapel pin. A new database was put into place and perfected to make it easier to enter membership data as well as financial reports which moved us into the 21st century. But most importantly, a new National Board was elected and new CEO was appointed. They now work cohesively for the benefit of all retirees. They continue to work daily for the betterment of all seniors.

In April, 2019, a new president will be elected for the Bluewater Branch. So I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported and assisted me over the past eight years. A special thanks to those who have served on our board for their guidance and advice. And especially to the members who continue to support the Bluewater branch. I have made many friends along the way. I will not say I will miss you because I will still be around.

In closing, I wish the new president good luck and enjoy.

Gloria Cayea, President
Bluewater Branch, ON36

Where to find us

Federal Retirees, Bluewater Branch (ON36)

PO Box 263, Sarnia, ON N7T 7H9

Telephone: 519-869-6326; **E-mail:** fsna.bluewater@gmail.com;

Web: www.federalretirees.ca/en/branches/ontario/bluewater

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please be sure to check the “BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS” section of every SAGE issue for information on upcoming events and special announcements. SAGE also has an “IN MEMORIAM” section that you may find informative. These sections are normally located on the last few pages of SAGE.

TREASURER’S REPORT

My quote for this issue: “Some Pursue Happiness Others Create It”.

I am writing this in December for our Spring 2019 Sage Insert. So far the weather has been great, I hope it continues!

In 2019 our membership dues go up but the amount to the Branch remains the same.

We have gone a bit over the Social Meetings part of our budget for 2018. We tried to keep the cost to members attending the General Luncheon Meetings down and the Branch does subsidize part of the costs of these meetings. We will revisit this line item in our next budget. We have done well with the rest of the budget. At our AGM in April a new budget will be presented for approval.

See you at the AGM in April!

Diane Kerr,
Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Our Branch membership is 548 members, the same as this time last year. Once again I ask that if you know of any Federal retiree or potential retiree please let them know about our Association. Please have them contact any member of the Branch executive for further information. Phone numbers and e mail addresses for the executive can be found on the last page of this insert.

The 2019 dues rates have increased slightly. Dues are now \$50.28 for Singles and \$65.16 for Doubles. For those who have their dues deducted at source (DDS) the single rate is \$4.19 per month and for doubles \$5.43 per month. I encourage any member that has not done so already is to have the membership dues Deducted Directly at Source. (DDS)

One other thing to mention is that these dues payments are not tax deductible.

I hope you and your family had a safe and healthy winter and do look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our upcoming meetings in 2019. For the “Snow Birds” have a safe trip home to the “Great (not so) White North”.

Bill Mason,
Membership Chairperson

IN MEMORIAM NOTICES

- Jeannette Wales
- Susan Bennett
- R. L. Campbell

OUTREACH COORDINATOR

I would like to thank Doug, Diane and Chris for thanking the callers, for their dedicated effort in notifying our members about upcoming meetings and social events. Our callers play a very important role in the success of our organization.

If you know of anyone who would like to be notified of upcoming meetings or events please call me at 519-869-8872 or email me at nafmason@gmail.com.

Pat Mason,
Outreach Coordinator

Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement

The Bluewater Branch had an opportunity to recognize the 2018 telephone callers at the Christmas lunch at the Sarnia Legion.

These volunteers provide an important contribution to the workings of the Branch throughout the year.

They keep members informed of upcoming events throughout the year.

Our organization is continually looking for interested Branch members to fulfill various roles in a volunteer basis, so if you can contribute your talents, do not hesitate to contact me.

Chris Hawksworth,
Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement Director

WEB SITE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

Please take a look at our National and Branch Websites. They are full of great information.

- National Site: www.federalretirees.ca
- Branch Site: www.federalretirees.ca/en/Branches/Ontario/Bluewater

Current information for the next two Branch Events appear on the right side of our Branch's HOME page. Information on additional Events can be retrieved by clicking on "Branch Events" in the Bluewater Branch (ON36) box at the middle bottom of the home page.

Doug Kerr
IT and Web Site Coordinator

Bluewater Branch Board

I am no longer listing all email addresses as spamming and phishing have become an annoying problem.

Anyone who wishes to email any Board member can send their email to one of the addresses below. Please include the name of the intended recipient in the Subject Section, and on the first line in the body of the email. It will be forwarded as appropriate:

- fsna.bluewater@gmail.com
- nafr.bluewater.kerr@cogeco.ca

Executive (Elected by Membership)

President - Gloria Cayea, 519-869-6326

Vice-President - Earnie MacDougall, 519-524-6981

Treasurer - Diane Kerr, 519-869-8824 | *nafr.bluewater.kerr@cogeco.ca*

Director of Membership - Bill Mason, 519-869-8872 | *fsna.bluewater@gmail.com*

Board Members (Appointed by Board)

Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement Director - Chris Hawksworth, 519-330-1492

Program Coordinator - Mary Ann Burgess, 519-524-6981

Outreach Coordinator - Pat Mason, 519-869-8872

IT and Web Site Coordinator - Doug Kerr, 519-869-8824 | *nafr.bluewater.kerr@cogeco.ca*

Health Benefits Officer – This position no longer exists

Secretary – Bob Jackson, 519-383-6568

Member at Large - Murray Lester, 519-481-0385

Member at Large - Georgina MacIsaac

Member at Large - Diana Wright, 519-786-4738