

General Membership Meeting and Luncheon

Royal Canadian Naval Association Sarnia

February 21, 2018

Present -

President - Gloria Cayea

Treasurer - Diane Kerr

IT and Web Site Coordinator - Doug Kerr

Director of Membership - Bill Mason

Outreach Coordinator - Pat Mason

Program Coordinator - Mary Ann Burgess

Health Benefits Officer - Earnie MacDougall

Secretary - Vice-President - Bob Jackson

Member at Large - Georgina MacIssac

Member at Large - Murray Lester

Absent -

Member at Large - Diana Wright

Special Guests -

John Baragar - Sarnia Lambton Crime Stoppers

Rosemary Travis - Sarnia Lambton Crime Stoppers

Gloria opened the meeting at noon.

Mary Ann lead the meeting through a moment of silence for departed members followed by Grace. Lunch was then served.

Following lunch Gloria introduced the guest speaker, John Baragar, member of the Sarnia Lambton Crime Stoppers Board.

John Baragar gave an interesting presentation on identity theft, the various forms of fraud, and preventative measures members can use. Some of the frauds covered included home repair scams, credit card skimming, telephone scams, email/internet scams,

and elder financial abuse. Preventative measures were discussed, notably the need to safeguard personal information and the importance of destroying personal and financial records prior to disposing (e.g. shred old financial statements and bills before adding to the trash). The overall message respecting scam prevention is "If it is too good to be true, then it probably isn't."

Earnie thanked our Special Guests following the presentation and gave them a small token of appreciation.

Gloria followed with the President's report. She had two items needing particular attention. In two months the entire Branch Board's terms of office will expire. Three of the positions are up for election at the April AGM - Treasurer, Director of Membership, and Vice-President. The remainder of the Board consists of appointments. In order to keep the Branch operational these positions must be filled. All members are invited and welcome to express their interest in contributing and/or nominating individuals to fill these upcoming vacancies, The second item Gloria raised was the need to increase recruitment and promotion on behalf of NAFR. The recruitment of new members is a national priority for the organization, and all members are asked to contact any member of the Board if they are aware of up-coming retirements of Public Servants, Forces Personnel, RCMP, etc.

Diane gave the Treasurer's Report. Diane noted that while membership fees have increased, the Branch's portion of these fees remains the same. At the AGM in April an audited financial statement will be presented for the year just past, and next year's budget will be tabled. Diane also pointed out the cost of the Wallaceburg meeting venue and meals has increased. Suggestions for different venues in the general Wallaceburg area are sought for future reference.

Bill thanked the members who paid their annual dues and noted the Branch currently has 540 members. Bill reiterated NAFR's

need to recruit new members and requested everyone let him know if they are aware of any eligible person about to retire.

Pat thanked the callers and pledged to send them all available information in advance of our meetings.

Doug noted work continues on updating the website. **Gloria** reminded all members the website is a good resource and thanks to Doug's good work its information is easily accessible and useable.

Mary Ann stated sign-up sheets for the annual June day trip were placed on each table. This year's trip is to the St Jacobs Farmers' Market and includes a ride on the Waterloo Central Railway to Elmira, lunch at the Elmira Golf Club, shopping time in St Jacobs Village and a guided (Step-on Guide) tour of Mennonite Country. For planning purposes Mary Ann will need to know the number of interested members by April's AGM.

Georgina informed the members the 2017 Volunteer of the Year has been chosen by the Board and the individual will be recognized at the April AGM. Members are invited to consider nominating deserving individuals for the 2018 Volunteer of Year. Nominations will be accepted beginning in the Fall. As always, volunteers who volunteer both within the Branch and with external organizations will receive the closest consideration.

The 50/50 and door prize draws were held next. **Gloria** thanked Jim Churcher for making and donating a ticket cutter for the draws.

The meeting adjourned at 2:05pm. Our next scheduled meeting is the April 18 Annual General Meeting being held at Baldoon, Wallaceburg.