



## **BLUEWATER Branch Report**

### Spring 2018

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Hello Everyone!

As I sit and write this, we are indeed in the throes of winter. We will definitely have a white Christmas.

This Sage magazine is dedicated to our veterans. I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Bluewater Branch to thank all of our veterans for their service. Without you, we would not have the freedom to enjoy our country, family and friends.

We are once again asking all of our members to contact your Member of Parliament and the Minister of Finance with regard to Bill C-27. It is essential that we inform both the M.P. and the Minister of Finance that we object strenuously to this Bill. If passed it could eventually impact our pensions. We are asking the government to "Honour their promise" that they would not touch our pensions. Remember that you do not have to pay postage to send a letter to the M.P. or any of the Ministers.

Lastly, I would like to commend all those who attend our luncheon meetings throughout the year. We hope that they are informative as well as enjoyable. However, if you commit to attending and find that you cannot attend, please let someone on the executive know. Often we have to pay for the number of people we have told the caterer.

Thank you to all of the Executive and board members for your untiring dedication.

Stay safe and warm this winter.

Gloria Cayea, President

#### **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](http://www.federalretirees.ca/en/branches/ontario/bluewater)

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

My quote for this issue: "You cannot always have Happiness, but you can always give Happiness."

Spring is here, winter just a memory. How time flies!

As always we kept within our budget in 2017. We did raise amounts in some categories as prices keep going up. At our AGM in April a new budget will be presented for approval.

If anyone is interested in taking the position of treasurer contact our President, Gloria, or me for information.

See you at the AGM in April!

Diane, Treasurer

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

I am writing this the second week of December for the spring 2018 Sage magazine. We have just had our first major snow storm in Southwestern Ontario for this upcoming winter. I hope it is as mild as last winter. That way I won't be as jealous of the "Snow Birds" basking in warmer climates.

I hope everyone had a chance last year to take in some of the celebrations for Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Confederation.

Our national membership numbers are 179,452 as reported at the Annual Members Meeting in June. Our Branch membership is 548 members. Down slightly from my last report. Once again I ask that if you know of any Federal retiree or potential retiree please let them know about our Association. You can 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 2018 dues rates have increased slightly. Dues are now \$48.96 for Singles and \$63.60 for Doubles. For those who have their dues deducted at source (DDS) the single rate is \$4.08 per month and for doubles \$5.30 per month.

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 2018. For the "Snow Birds" have a safe trip home to the "Great White North".

Bill Mason, Membership Chairperson

## **HEALTH BENEFITS OFFICER REPORT**

No Report

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

### General meeting updates

- Wednesday, April 18, 2018, 12 noon, at Baldoon Golf Course, Wallaceburg
- Wednesday, June 20, 2018, Tentative Grand River Boat Cruise, more info to follow
- Wednesday, September 19, 2018, 12 noon, at St. Peters Catholic Church, North Street Goderich
- Wednesday, October 17, 2018, 12 noon, at Hessenland, St. Josephs, Highway 21 North of St. Joseph
- Wednesday, November 21, 2018, 12 noon, (location to be announced later)

### Outreach Coordinator

As Outreach Co-Ordinator, my goal is to make sure every member in the Bluewater Branch has been contacted and been given information about our upcoming meetings or social events. If you have not been hearing from us, and would like to be, please contact myself, Pat Mason at 519-869-8872.

## 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](http://www.federalretirees.ca)
- Branch Site: [www.federalretirees.ca/en/Branches/Ontario/Bluewater](http://www.federalretirees.ca/en/Branches/Ontario/Bluewater)

Please check our "Members' Profiles" page featuring profiles of our members. **Your input is essential!** We need profiles so the title of this page can remain "Members' Profiles" (plural). Please pass any suggestions and information you may have, to our President Gloria Cayea.

Our Branch site has contact information on our Branch Executive and Board, upcoming Branch Events, copies of this and past Sage Branch Inserts; Minutes from Branch and Executive meetings, and more.

Current information for the next two Branch Events appear on the right side of our HOME page. More details on specific events can be found by clicking on "More Details". Information on additional planned Branch Events can be retrieved by clicking on "Branch Events" in the Bluewater Branch (ON36) box at the middle bottom of the home page. I try to keep this Events information as current as possible.

I am always looking for web content suggestions and pictures relevant to Branch activities and/or our members. Please forward any suggestions/input to [nafr.bluewater.kerr@cogeco.ca](mailto:nafr.bluewater.kerr@cogeco.ca). Please confirm individuals in pictures are OK with having their pictures published, on our web site, in the public domain.

Doug

## **Bluewater Branch Board**

### **Executive, (Elected)**

**President** - Gloria Cayea, 519-869-6326 | *dcayea@cogeco.ca*

**Vice-President** - Bob Jackson, | *bojack@sympatico.ca*

**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)**

**Program Coordinator** - Mary Ann Burgess, 519-524-6981 |  
*enmacdougall@hurontel.on.ca*

**Outreach Coordinator** - Pat Mason, 519-869-8872 |  
*fsna.bluewater@gmail.com*

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

**Health Benefits Officer** - Earnie MacDougall, 519-524-6981 |  
*enmacdougall@hurontel.on.ca*

**Secretary** – Bob Jackson, | *bojack@sympatico.ca*

**Member at Large** - Murray Lester, 519-481-0385 |  
*mlesham@sympatico.ca*

**Member at Large** - Georgina MacIsaac

**Member at Large** - Diana Wright, 519-786-4738 |  
*dmwilsonwright@gmail.com*