MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here we are well into our Autumn activities (although some of this past month has felt more like Winter!) and once again we have completed a full sweep of summer events. Our hiking, gardening and lawn bowling groups, to mention a few, have had another successful season. There have been several BBQ’s along with many campers out enjoying Ware Creek this summer. And farther afield we even had a group of hikers venture out to Newfoundland to hike some of the trails there.

Many of our friends will soon be heading south for the Winter season, in fact some have already gone. So for those of us that are staying what is there to look forward to this next season? There are many activities such as curling, bowling, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, dinner theatre, wine tasting, travelogue and more to take part in. As well as the aforementioned activities there are many varied volunteer opportunities with the Community Care group. With our membership at an all-time high of 1118 I expect there will be no shortage of eager participants.

By the time you read this newsletter you will have received the invitation to register for our premier Fall Event – A Month Before Christmas at Fort Calgary taking place on November 23, 2016. I hope to see many of you there, I’m sure it will be a fun and interesting evening again this year.

As this is the last Newsletter until next year I’d like to take the opportunity to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year.

Wishing you all a wonderful Festive Season.

Luise
ERAC NEWSLETTER  
November 2016  
Page 2

ANNUITANT CONTACTS
To report a change in name, address, telephone number or marital status, 
CONTACT ——>AL DAVIS at 403-254-0489 or membership@essoannuitants.ca

AND CALL the IMPERIAL OIL ANNUITANT HELP LINE - TORONTO
Toll Free at: 1-800-387 0621

For info regarding benefit forms, medical cards, medical/insurance coverage, pensions or any other concerns Call 1 866 769 8524

In addition to calling the Helpline, changes to address and bank accounts may be made by accessing the Managing Your Benefits web portal on www.iolemcbenefits.ca

EXECUTIVE
PRESIDENT  Luise Merk  257 1900
VICE PRESIDENT  Dwain Weckman  239 2394
TREASURER  Dieter Busse  239 6021
SECRETARY  Connie Scruton  202 0320
PAST PRESIDENT  Howard Gallimore  242 8181

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Randy Ottenbreit 251 4104  Al Davis  254 0489
Susan Sawka  239 1930  Ian Walker  258 0912
Gary Scruton  202 0320  Don Schaef  966 6361

STANDING COMMITTEES
Auditor  Peter Ramsay  256 6429
Membership  Al Davis  254 0489
Nominating  Howard Gallimore  242 8181
Newsletter  Barb Lazowski (Editor)  238 2361
Newsletter  Susan Sawka (Publisher)  239 1930
Outreach  Joan Johnston  271 2087
Outreach  Jean Hersak  931 3325
United Way  John Maguire  281 8394
VIP Program  Howard Gallimore  242 8181
Visitation  Dorothy Kaethler  278 9982
Visitation  Cliff Kippen  238 1819
Webmaster  Derek McClure  770 0246
Webmaster  Mel Pollock  453 0878

ACTIVITY COMMITTEES
Arts & Crafts  Angela Wards  282 1486
Bowling  Peter Perry  270 0704
Bridge  Rosemary Kry  259 2951
Community Care  Peter Baltais  n/a
XC/SS Skiing  Dave Varga  n/a
Curling  Dennis Heacock  241 6492
Dinner Theatre  Christa Schaper  281 9699
Fall Social  Luise Merk  257 1900
Garden  Janice Hawkings  278 8059
Garden  Gloria Fleck  251 4214
Golf  Connie Scruton  202 0320
Hiking  Sue Deyell  851 0443
Lawn Bowling  Bruce Stewart  720 8438
Photography  Mike Checkland  276 1806
Spring Lunch/AGM  Luise Merk  257 1900
Spring Lunch/AGM  Dwain Weckman  239 2394
Spring BBQ  Don Schaef  966 6361
Summer BBQ  Ian Walker  258 0912
Technology  Rene Bialek  247 0946
Tent & Trailer  Diane & Nick Weyland  519 5007
Travelogue  Richard Sawka  239 1930
Wine Appreciation  Tim Hawkings  278 8059
Woodworking  Stu Boyer  271 8032

We're on the Web! Visit ERAC’s Web page for more information on each Club’s activity – meeting dates, upcoming activities, images, and more!

www.essoannuitants.ca

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
January 20, 2017 for the February Issue

Email articles and images to:
Barb Lazowski at boomeranger@shaw.ca
Any questions, concerns, or feedback, contact:
Susan Sawka, Publisher, at (403) 239-1930 or slsawka@telus.net
The Esso Resources Annuitant Club extends sympathy to the family and friends of our late colleagues:

**Nick Dornian**  Sympathy extended to wife, Morag, children, David, Paul, Alan, Joan and families.

**Georgina Campbell**  Widow of Murray. 
Sympathy extended to daughter Wendy (Rob) and son-in-law Bill and families.

**Mary Carrigan**  Widow of Del. 
Sympathy extended to son Tim and daughter Noreen and families.

**Deryck Choate**  Sympathy extended to wife, Stella, children, Barbara, Deryck, David, Patricia, Karen and families.

**Bruce Gifford**  Sympathy extended to partner Donna Marshall and daughter Darra; sympathy extended to children Holly & Sean & their mother Anne Valentine and families.

**Ted Connolly**  Sympathy extended to wife Shirley, children Norman, Randy and Cathy and families.

**Beverley Haight**  Widow of Gordon. 
Sympathy extended to daughter Cheryl and son Gordon and families.

**Syd Chilton**  Sympathy extended to wife Mary, children, Ted, Jamie, Elizabeth, Laura and families.

Sympathy was also extended to:

- Peggy Burnett on the death of her brother Bob Tredwell (Chilliwack).
- Ken & Simone MacRae on the death of their grandson, Brett Kilb (in Barcelona).

**Please note….**

The deaths of all Imperial Oil Annuitants who have died during the past year are now recognized by a listing on our Esso Website www.essoannuitants.ca

Log into the ‘For Members’ section and click on the “In Memory” button to access the list.
The 2016/17 cross country ski and snowshoe season kicks off Thursday, November 3, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. with registration and social gathering at the Lakeview Community Hall, 6110 – 34 Street SW. Come out, sign up, and enjoy some winter fun.

Club participants ski or snowshoe on Thursdays as soon as conditions permit. Snowshoeing will likely begin November 10 with cross-country skiing starting shortly thereafter and continue until the conditions are no longer favourable in the spring.

Transportation is by car pool (8:30 am departure) to locations based on conditions (Peter Lougheed Provincial Park, Kananaskis, West Bragg Creek, Banff National Park, etc).

UPCOMING:
There are four overnight trips planned:
- December 4-8 Silverstar (Vernon)
- January 17-19 Lake Louise
- February 13-17 Nipika (near Radium)
- February 28-March 3 William Watson Lodge (Kananaskis)

The club welcomes all cross country skiers and snowshoers (from expert to aspiring). The club has folks aged 55 to ???. Membership costs $10 for ERAC members and $20 for guests.

Join us November 3rd to sign up!
We now have 1118 members, including 1023 annuitants and spouses, 32 associates and spouses, and 63 Lifetime/Honorary members.

Membership is currently $10.00/person, $20/couple for annuitants or $60.00/person, $120/ couple for associates.

There are still about 125 annuitants/associates with an outstanding balance for this year (2016/2017). Your payment soon would be appreciated.

Cheques should be made payable to:
"Esso Resources Annuitant Club"
and mailed to Al Davis at 33 Sun Harbour Way SE, Calgary, T2X 3C6.

You can also pay Al at functions where he is in attendance. People are now using email money transfers which is a very fast and convenient way to pay membership dues.

On September 6th, a group of volunteers met at the Imperial Oil Quarry Park offices to stuff envelopes for our 2016 United Way Campaign. We mailed out 1,089 pledge forms and emailed 497 electronic pledge forms with the option to use the United Way online link.

As of October 13th, Annuitants have donated $123,000. This is a wonderful start to our campaign. The winners of the Early Bird Draw were Andy Strilchuk and Jerry Holden.

Please keep the pledges coming in! There is a great need in the Calgary area this year.
The official United Way Campaign runs until November 4, however we do accept donations until December 31st.

If anyone has any questions about our campaign or if you need a pledge form, please contact John as above. You can also use the online link below, just follow the instructions to make your donation. Thank you very much for your generosity!

https://donation.calgaryunitedway.org/iol (United Way Online Link)
The Annual Community Care Social on August 26 provided an opportunity to re-live and celebrate our accomplishments. Our new initiatives, Time Together at residences for seniors, and recycling eyeglasses at CLERC were deemed successful. Both will be moving to two sessions a month. There were suggestions for new communications of our activities, as well as new initiatives.

For the second year, a 28 member Community Care team marshalled spectators over multiple shifts during the five day Shaw Charity Classic. $5.2 million was raised for youth based charities in Alberta! The very impressive outcome makes the early mornings and tired legs well worthwhile. While one day ended early due to the threat of thunderstorms, the weather was better than forecast. Thanks to John Skowronsiki and Larry Smith for helping to coordinate our participation.

Dave Patterson led a group “promoting indigenous species” at Calgary’s Pearce Estate Park in September. Our members also helped at the Food Bank’s Garden of Eatin’ through the summer. These committed volunteers plan to return to these useful activities next year, “spreading the word” seeking to increase participation.

Our volunteers continue helping at the Food Bank monthly, and the Drop In Centre twice a month. We also stuffed United Way pledge forms in envelopes for Imperial Oil annuitants. We partnered with Imperial Oil’s Days of Caring Group at the Garden of Eatin’ in September and at CLERC in October.

Our Community Care group membership and contributions continue to grow. We are making a difference in our community, and having fun doing it! Interested in joining us? Contact Peter Baltais as above.

The ERAC web page provides more information and photos of our events.
The 2016 hiking season officially ended on Sept. 29th with our annual BBQ and hike up Ware Ridge. We couldn’t have had a nicer day.

Since then a group of about 20 continued hiking on Thursdays to prepare for the start of the cross country and snow shoe season.

Planning is well underway for the 2017 hiking season. The trail planners (Janet Barker, Fraser Croucher, Ken Johnson and Ron Kitt) have already come up with a draft schedule and they are currently fine-tuning it. A group of hikers will be heading off to Germany in June to hike King Ludwig’s Way and a good number of us have signed up to go to Glacier National Park in Montana in July with Bill Evans.

UPCOMING: Our next event will be the annual New Year’s Day hike and it is open to all our members. Like last year there will be a less strenuous hike as well as the traditional one up Prairie Mountain.

Finally, here are the winning and runner up photos from the Animals and Flowers category of our annual hiking club photo contest.
BOWLING
Peter Perry—(403) 270-0704 or peter347g@gmail.com

Our Five Pin Bowling Club started the 2016/17 season in fine style with 56 bowlers.

We are very happy to welcome these new club members:
Laureen & Bruce Dempsey,
Nadine & Howard Gallimore,
Karen & Alex Heron,
Joe Lazowski, Sylvia McGigney,
Diane & Dennis McRae,
Deborah & Al Skitch
and Wayne Wilk.

Happy Bowling!

We now have the opportunity for our Spares (spare bowlers) who wish, to bowl every week that they are available regardless of positions to be filled. The weekly fee is the same: $13.00, and their scores are recorded and free bowling shoes are made available, the same as for our regular bowlers.

This is a great moment for anyone wishing to become involved in bowling, especially those who would like to bowl on a casual basis or wish to give bowling a try. Why not do that? Check-out the “Bowling” activity on the ERAC website and join in the fun.

BRIDGE CLUB
Rosemary Kry - (403) 259-2951 or rosemarykry@mac.com

The Bridge Club has played both social and duplicate bridge games since starting on September 29. The bidding boxes have clicked with precision as players attempt to win those game contracts! Interest is keen, and we have 5 new members.

Social bridge is on a drop in basis. Check the bridge web page for social bridge dates. You are always welcome. Remember to pre-register yourself and your partner for duplicate bridge.

The Beginner Bridge lessons started on October 6. We have 9 people registered for lessons, and they have started to learn the science (art?) of bidding.

Mel Pollock and Derek McClure organized the Bridge Club site (THANKS!). If you are interested in the weekly winners, sign in as a member, click on activity, and then on the small white box at the bottom of the opened screen. If you would like more information regarding the bridge club, please contact me, Rosemary, as per above.
The ERAC Garden Club held its final meeting of the year on September 14th at Christ Church Calgary. It was a gorgeous, warm, sunny day, absolutely perfect for holding an outdoor Plant Exchange event, especially when there was an abundance of perennials and bulbs to display. Our meeting was held outside in the Tranquility Gardens beside the Labyrinth. This was a perfect setting for Angela Wards to tell us all about the origin and designs of labyrinths, and to explain that people of all cultures walk the paths to calm and quiet their minds. Thank you, Angela. Thanks also to Dorothy and Warren Bartnes for setting up the tables and chairs in the garden, and for helping out in the church kitchen. It would not have been easy to manage without you.

Earlier in the summer we held four other very successful events - a visit to Vales Greenhouses in Black Diamond, a day at the Calgary Zoo to view the Dorothy Harvey Botanical Garden, and two garden parties hosted by club members, Joan Myers and Michelle Zipfel. Thank you Joan and Michelle.

Now it’s time to put the garden tools away for another year and start thinking and planning our gardens for next year. We look forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting in May.

The ERAC Garden Club held its final meeting of the year on September 14th at Christ Church Calgary. It was a gorgeous, warm, sunny day, absolutely perfect for holding an outdoor Plant Exchange event, especially when there was an abundance of perennials and bulbs to display. Our meeting was held outside in the Tranquility Gardens beside the Labyrinth. This was a perfect setting for Angela Wards to tell us all about the origin and designs of labyrinths, and to explain that people of all cultures walk the paths to calm and quiet their minds. Thank you, Angela. Thanks also to Dorothy and Warren Bartnes for setting up the tables and chairs in the garden, and for helping out in the church kitchen. It would not have been easy to manage without you.

Earlier in the summer we held four other very successful events - a visit to Vales Greenhouses in Black Diamond, a day at the Calgary Zoo to view the Dorothy Harvey Botanical Garden, and two garden parties hosted by club members, Joan Myers and Michelle Zipfel. Thank you Joan and Michelle.

Now it’s time to put the garden tools away for another year and start thinking and planning our gardens for next year. We look forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting in May.

LAWN BOWLING CLUB

Bruce and Linda Stewart - (403) 720-8438 or stewart481@shaw.ca

The end of a very successful season! We even had 8 keen people come out for the last day on Oct 8th. We had cold hands but a fun morning and the coffee was especially welcome.

Linda and Bruce Stewart will be conveners next year. A huge thanks to Jean Abbott for her dedication and commitment to the club over the past years - through rain or sunshine or snow or floods!

Watch for the notice in the spring newsletter regarding the start of a new year. Talk up lawn bowling over the winter and encourage your friends and acquaintances in the club to come and try this fun game.
I write this on the deadline for newsletter submissions (what else is new?), but also immediately after our group took in the Don Giovanni performance. This, our largest group so far, with some alternates attending as some who had signed up originally had plans change and so couldn’t make the performance. The process is working, some people have fronted me the money to buy tickets and if their plans change, I have a list of alternates I contact who are offered the chance to take in the performance (at the same cost $23 for members this year). Thus we use all the tickets we can and I get money back to the people who’s plans changed beyond their control. If you would like to get added to my “Alternates” list for La Traviata on March 11, 2017, please send me an email to let me know.

The performance itself was amazing. How can one go wrong with music by Mozart? The language sung is foreign, but the subtitles on the screen are unobtrusive and the sound of the voices is powerful. The drama of the piece is almost without peer and this presentation was a newer interpretation of the famous opera. The singer cast as Don Giovanni played the role so well you could see he was truly an unrepentant sociopathic womanizer. He is the original holder of the “Little Black Book” which lists the women he had conquered. The climax, where he is given a last chance to repent and rejects it and is then swallowed up in a flaming hell was one of the most fantastic scenes I have ever seen played on a live stage. A little smoke started, then puffs of flames erupted, and a wall of fire played seemingly around him as the stage opened and he descended, disappearing eventually with the stage suddenly returning to a solid floor with no flames or smoke. Quite the scene. Also during the intermission, his interview by the host seemed to get a bit out of control as he wandered into a little political discourse about the state of the world and the need for multiculturalism and tolerance. Quite the afternoon.

The Met Opera Club now has its own web page on our website where you can see information about the club.

More about the entire Met Opera in HD season can be found at the following website.
http://www.metopera.org/metopera/liveinhd/live-in-hd-2016-17-season

HOTEL AND CAR RENTAL PROGRAM
Annuitants are able to take advantage of Imperial Oil’s negotiated pricing for car rentals and hotels. Imperial Oil has agreements with National Car Rental and several hotel chains that cover rentals in Canada and the US plus a number of other countries.

If anyone would like to use this program, please contact a member of the ERAC Board of Directors and that person will provide you with the details of the program. Or login to ERAC’s web site and click on “For Members”, then on the left, click on “IOL Car & Hotel”.

NEW YORK MET LIVE IN HD
Rick Kry - (403) 259-2951 or webhelper@essoannuitants.ca
TECH CLUB

Our first meeting was held on September 20th to select topics for the year as well as discuss a number of Club improvement ideas.

On Sept 27, Oct 17 and Oct 19 we toured the Calgary 911 Operations Centre. Three separate tours were organized to accommodate the large number of Tech Club members.

On Oct 12 we toured the Art Smith Aero Centre operated by SAIT. This Centre teaches servicing and repair of aircraft and aircraft components.

A number of exciting tours, topics and places for social gatherings are being investigated for the upcoming months. The list includes:

- the new Calgary Airport control tower
- Stars Ambulance
- a net zero energy house
- lunch and a tour at SAIT
- IOL offices at Quarry Park
- a movie set
- the Calgary Zoo
- the Museum of Making (a private museum housing industrial equipment going back to the 17th century and African artifacts)
- a computer seminar

The year will wrap up with a social gathering in April.

WINE APPRECIATION CLUB

The Wine Appreciation Club enjoyed a record attendance at its first event of the year on October 4th. 79 members and guests—Wow.

We had the pleasure, once again, of listening to our resident Guest Sommelier, Marian Tsapraulis as she gave us a presentation entitled Single Wine Varietals. Marian took us through 6 wines from around the World, of which the clear favourite was a Torrontes, from Argentina. Marian’s visits to our Club are always special and this time we especially enjoyed her presentation, as well as the wines that she chose and the food pairings—prepared by our “Chef de Fromage”, Gina Maguire, and her helpers.

UPCOMING

November 1: Wines from South America, presented by our Cellar Master, Al Davis.

December 6: One of our special events of the year—Christmas Cheer.

We have introduced a “Tech Talk” item to our meetings—short presentations on topics of wine interest. We are test driving a new wine rating system and we continue to develop and take advantage of our wine discount arrangement with Highlander Wines.

Thus the Wine Club continues to evolve as a friendly, social and educational club. In fact we are starting to push up against the capacity limits of the Lakeview Hall—important for members to sign up early, for events.
TRAVELOGUE

Richard Sawka - (403) 239-1930 or sawkar@telus.net
Events are held at: The Polish Canadian Cultural Centre, 3015 – 15th Street NE

“Timeless Adventure Travel Destinations – A Collection of Unposted Travel Blogs”
By Bill and Marg Evans

7:15 PM Wednesday November 9, 2016
Registration/Cancellation Deadline is November 4, 2016

Over their years of retirement Bill and Marg Evans, like many annuitants, have travelled the world. This presentation features several travel destinations that began as multi-media travel blogs. They have been combined into travel essays and used for this presentation. So please join Bill and Marg for their adventure travels. You will learn about safaris in Kenya, see the whooping cranes and other birds and animals in the Aransas Coastal Game Reserve of Texas, trek the West Coast Trail on Vancouver Island, explore the souks and deserts of Morocco, visit the Tarahumara Indians in the Barrancas del Cobre of the Sierra Madres, and see photos of Yellowstone in winter. These are just a few adventures to be shared.

“Iran: The door is opening”
By Don West

7:15 PM Wednesday January 11, 2017
Registration/Cancellation Deadline is January 6, 2017

Iran’s history is long and complex, and earlier civilizations have left endless fascinating antiquities for today’s travellers to explore. But equally interesting, present day Iran is a modern, functioning state. Iranians are exceptionally friendly, and travel there is certainly rewarding. Join us on January 11 as Don West describes his and Donna’s trip through this fascinating land.

The invitation from the Travelogue Club will be emailed in December.

TO REGISTER, either click on the link in the emailed invitation from the Travelogue Club and register on the Esso Annuitants website, or contact Richard as per above, or Val Turnbull at 403-243-1722.
If you reserve on an answering machine, please indicate if you are sippers or abstainers, and leave your telephone number for a confirmation call.

Admission
Members  $17  $12
Non Members  $24  $19

As a reminder, the final travelogue of the season will be:
March 8, 2017 – cycling trips through the US and England – presented by Dave Varga.

Watch for specific announcements for this travelogue in the February newsletter.
We have had our last two golf events of the season since the last newsletter. The first one was at the Carstairs Golf Course on August 24th with 31 people attending. Nadine Gallimore had ladies low gross (94) and Rick Wyonch men’s low gross (86). Tim Hortons $25 gift card draw prizes were won by Angus Duffy, Mel Pollock and Ed Borbely.

On September 28th we had our wind up golf event at D’arcy Ranch with 37 people attending. The day was cold and windy when we started but mid-day the wind died down a bit and the sun did peek out occasionally.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bottles of wine were awarded to:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOW GROSS WOMEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anita Strilchuk (95)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy Kaethler (95)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOW GROSS MEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cliff Jerred (85)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRST THREE TEAMS LOW GROSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team #1 · (369)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Dudus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angus Duffy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team #2 · (389)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dale Humeniuk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Henderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Pooke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cliff Jerred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team #3 · (403)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Dillon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Cahill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIRDIES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Dudus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anita Strilchuk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm Cullen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Cahill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOST HONEST PLAYERS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gina Maguire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irene Pollock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dianne Davies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We will be starting a new season of golf next year in May 2017. If you are not on the golf e-mail distribution list, and would like to receive information about each golf event as it comes up, please contact Connie as per above.

Curling season is upon us at the North Hill Curling Club on Tuesdays at 1:30 PM each week.

On October 11th, an instructional session was held for new curlers prior to our first game and satisfactory comments were received from the participants. Both the sliding delivery and the stick delivery were instructed.

The league has managed to reach our goal of 12 teams and six sheets of ice, however, we are still seeking new Esso annuitant members and non-members who would like to play occasionally as spares.

We are always looking for new curlers to the ESSO Annuitants Curling so please contact us as there is always the possibility we can fit you in as a regular or a spare, please contact Dennis Heacock at dwheacock@shaw.ca or by phone at 403-241-6492. If you are interested in being a spare please call John Maguire at jmaguire@shaw.ca.
The Woodworking Club kicked off the season with a tour of the Spray Lakes Sawmill, during the Mill’s annual open house on September 15th. Nine members of the club and one guest made the trek out to Cochran to take part in the tour. We had a very good lunch before the tour at the Cochran Palace Restaurant then proceeded to the Spray Lakes site. We saw some big saws and a lot of lumber being produced and John our tour guide was full of information for our group. A big Thank You to Tim Hawkings who organized the tour.

UPCOMING: Our next meeting will be held on Oct 26th when the club will venture down to Nanton to tour the Bomber Command Museum.

In other news, in November, after 5 years of dedicated service as Club Coordinator, Rick Kruse is stepping down as Co-ordinator of the Woodworking Club. Under Rick's leadership the Club has visited members workshops and woodworking facilities in the City. The Club has built picnic tables and a storage shed at Ware Creek. A special project of Rick's, over the years, has been building wooden toys for the Food Bank. Thanks for everything Rick!

The Club is pleased to announce that Stu Boyer will be taking over as Coordinator, effective immediately. Stu is one of the founding members of the Club, and has some great ideas to lead the club forward.
This fall the photo club has been working on composition and portrait skills, including a hands-on outdoor portrait session, as well as taking evening and night photos.

Two photos from Marion Woodman of everyday items shows a new approach to seeing everyday items. Forks and colored pencils have never appeared so artistic.

A successful outdoor portrait shoot was held in North Glenmore Park, where the clouds parted giving us a sunny day to shoot some excellent portraits. Members portrait skills are on display on the website photo gallery and can be seen below in Hank Hereema’s portrait of Aden and Tim Hawkings portrait of Gary Roberts at North Glenmore Park.

In time for Christmas and the long winter evenings we will be honing our skills on the use of flash photography and reviewing members submissions on long exposure and night photography. Upcoming topics are listed in the Activities page of the website.

If you have an interest in photography, whether you are a beginner or an experienced photographer willing to share your expertise, the Club provides a supportive environment to share your work and grow your skills.
Hello from your web helper.

Some of the text in the images may appear blurred, but go on to the website to see what your invitations look like!

**My Tip for this newsletter is the ‘Invitation’s function on the Member Functions Page.**

When you sign on, chose “Invitations: on the left hand menu list. You are presented with a page that is the summary of all the invitations you have received from the Esso Annuitants Website. It starts out with just the future listing, but you can choose to look at all the invitations you have had in the past as well by clicking the ‘Past’ toggle.

On the right most edge of the page, you can see what your response to the invitation is. I have made an image of my personal invitation page as of the date of writing this. You will of course get only your invitation information summary. It is really very useful to keep track of all the club activities with which you are involved.

The real bonus comes when you select one of the invitations by choosing the ‘Select’ button in the line for that invitation. This opens a window that has an amazing amount of information about your upcoming get together.

You see in an easily accessible location the details for the activity, a reminder of the guests you have invited and intend to take to the activity, and at a glance you can see how many people invited have either signed up, declined, or are wait-listed. There are two further buttons to select even more detailed information. When selected, the ‘Responses Detail’ button lists the people coming in a pop-up window, while the ‘Messages Detail’ button lists the messages various members have submitted. The ‘Messages Detail’ button also allows you to send your own message to the coordinator, with the option to make it private for him, or public if it will help with the activity (for example car pooling possibilities or desired groupings at the event.)

Emails addressed to webhelper@essoannuitants.ca will reach Rick Kry as a contact point if you run into any problems trying to use the website. You can also try to get him by phone as per above. He also will help any of you who don’t have a computer but need to contact someone with the club for any activity or other problem.