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News 'n Views
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER,
2019

SALT SPRING SENIORS SERVICES SOCIETY

SALT SPRING SENIORS CENTRE

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MISSION STATEMENT

**TO PROVIDE THE MEANS BY WHICH SENIORS
MAY JOIN TOGETHER TO ENHANCE THE LIVES
OF THOSE LIVING ON SALT SPRING ISLAND**

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We are looking forward to a full year at Seniors — or as full as we can make it with our limited number of volunteers. We are delighted that Janet still finds time to edit our Newsletter and we are doing our best to bring the Membership List under control in view of the motion at the last AGM to begin in January 2020 to impose a \$5.00 membership fee.

We have recently acquired a PING PONG table which is currently set up in the Pioneer Room. (That's the large room.) Fortunately, it is a folding table so when events happen, it can be put up against the wall. It has all been measured and will fit folded!

Members might play ping pong pretty well any time in the summer but telephone first. In the winter, players will have to work around other events in the Centre. Most days the Centre is free from around 4 onwards—but you will very likely need a key. The table came with a couple of bats and one ball which we are saving —"lose either and you replace" is the rule!

Brian is also currently working away on carts upon which we might load the straight chairs which would then not constitute so much of a hazard leaning against the wall.

A continuation of the Speaker series is currently in the planning stage. We have one at least lined up at the moment—the retiring dean of Science, a microbiologist, from Simon Fraser University has agreed to speak to our group in February.

Fran McInnich is lending a hand now with the series. We are thinking we might try to have one on BC history and a couple from the Speakers Bureau at the University of Victoria. I thought the two we had two years ago speaking on English history in the 17th and 19th centuries were very good speakers and should be re-invited whatever their subjects. (Last winter they were both teaching on Wednesdays.)

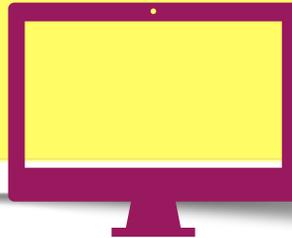
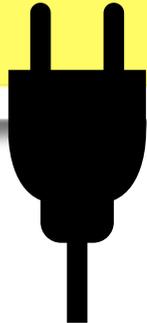
We are also thinking we might try looking at documentaries from the National Film Board and then have a bit of discussion. We expect to be meeting as before on the third Wednesdays in November, December, January, February and March.

Otherwise, I think the fall programmes will look much like last fall and the one before that. The enclosed schedule should give you some ideas! You might notice that we have added a support group particularly for Parkinson's on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Further inquiries should go to Uta Park.

Jean Elder, President.

COMPUTERS, IPADS, IPHONES

We are delighted to receive an offer from Jim Watkins, former computer teacher and current library volunteer, who is willing to help anyone with computer technology. Bring your problems with hand-held or desk top devices--smart phones and/or computers-- to Jim at Seniors Wednesdays from 10 to 11ish! This is not a course but individual problem by problem solving by you with his help.



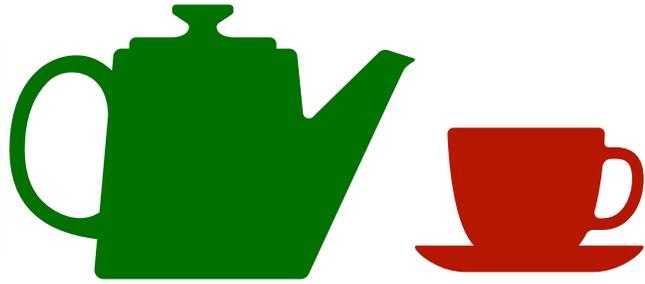
A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.

— *Winston Churchill* —

AZ QUOTES

SOME THINGS ARE JUST BETTER LEFT UNSAID. AND I USUALLY REALIZE IT RIGHT AFTER I SAY THEM.

**YOUR FALL TEA PARTY
OCTOBER 9 AT 3PM**



We are delighted to invite you to our opening **tea party** on Wednesday, October 9th at 3. There will be tea and coffee and even little cookies. All contributions gratefully received —and eaten!



We will sit about, drink tea and tell each other how we spent the summer.

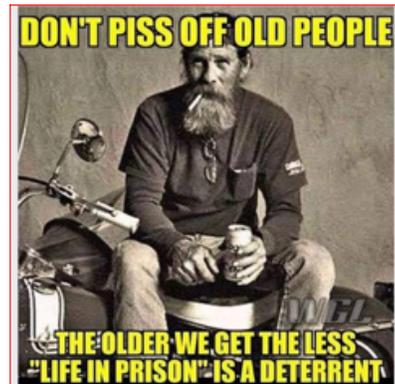
You will be able to renew your memberships for 2020 (on payment of the new \$5.00 membership fee of course).

And we might talk about some of our programmes! And receive suggestions from you!

Jean Elder



**I THOUGHT GETTING OLDER
WOULD TAKE LONGER**





Marg Munro, our valued volunteer and leader of our care-givers group, has recently been appointed to represent our region on the Council of Advisors, advising Isobel Mackenzie, Seniors Advocate. Marg is a holder of the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers, a national award. Last year she was honoured with the VERA (Valued Elder Recognition Award) from the University of Victoria.



I've found that if you tuck one part of your pant legs into your sock, people expect less of you.

An Obituary printed in the London Times.....Absolutely Dead Brilliant!!

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years.

No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- Knowing when to come in out of the rain;
- Why the early bird gets the worm;
- Life isn't always fair;
- And maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death,

- by his parents, Truth and Trust,
- by his wife, Discretion,
- by his daughter, Responsibility,
- and by his son, Reason.

He is survived by his 5 stepchildren;

- I Know My Rights
- I Want It Now
- Someone Else Is To Blame
- I'm A Victim
- Pay me for Doing Nothing

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing

LUNCHES



The lunches will resume again starting September 19th, 2019.

Please remember to phone the desk at Seniors to register your attendance. It helps the volunteer cooks to prepare the right number of servings each week.

Hope to see all in September. Come for coffee at 11 if you wish. Lunch is at 11:45.

Gisela Welsh.

TAX RETURNS FOR SENIORS

Thanks to Jenny, John and Norbert for completing tax returns for seniors this year. Together they completed 177 returns.

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

For what it's worth... it's never too late, or in my case too early, to be whoever you want to be. There's no time limit. Start whenever you want. You can change or stay the same. There are no rules to this thing. We can make the best or the worst of it. I hope you make the best of it. I hope you see things that startle you. I hope you feel things you've never felt before. I hope you meet people who have a different point of view. I hope you live a life you're proud of, and if you're not, I hope you have the courage to start over again.

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