Monarchy Matters

NEWSLETTER

South Saskatchewan Branch
Monarchist League of Canada

April, 2009

NEWS AND NOTES

Queen's Birthday Luncheon

Saturday, May 16, 2009
12:00 noon

Hotel Saskatchewan, Regina

Varied Program of Royal Music
By harpist Glenna **Stewart**

Plan to come – Bring a friend for this royal occasion

Tickets - $22.50 a person
Special rates for children
Deadline for tickets – **May 13** (6:00 pm.)
No tickets will be sold after the deadline.

Tickets can be obtained from:

Miss Isabel Bailey
207 – 2050 College Ave. Regina, SK
S4P 4M3. Tel: 306-586-8975

Mr. Blake Rintoul
802-2001 Cornwall St. Regina, SK
S4P 3X9 Tel: 306-525-0204

Make cheques out to South Saskatchewan Branch, M. L. C.

Please indicate if several are coming together so seating arrangements can be made.

Did you know...

Social events at royal courts often included musical entertainment. A number of composers were involved with composing and performing music for such royal occasions.

You will be able to sample such an occasion at the Queen's Birthday Luncheon this year when you come to enjoy a social time, luncheon, and musical entertainment.

Other Coming Events

General Meeting of the South Saskatchewan Branch

Friday, October 16, 2009, 7:30 pm.
St. Mary's Anglican Church, Regina.
Work of the Prince of Wales

Coming Meetings of the Board of Directors

June 26, and September 25, 2009
Ideas and suggestions are welcome.

Bring and Buy Sale

The South Saskatchewan Branch of the Monarchist League will be holding a **Bring and Buy Sale** at the branch meeting on October 16 at St. Mary's Anglican Church in Regina. The money that is raised will help with our expenses including the rental of meeting place, printing, postage, stationery, and the like. At this time we do not receive any money from the membership fee as this goes directly to the Dominion Office.

To make this a successful fund raising event, we ask that you all bring something to sell (in good condition) and be willing to purchase something as well. Some suggestions for items for the sale include, craft items, plants, jewelry, preserves, baking, knick-knacks, and the like.

To date, there have been no plans for a garage sale for the branch. Thus we need ideas for fund-raising. The Bring and Buy Sale was one idea that was given. Other ideas will be welcome.

You are reminded that the sale of used stamps continues to be a fund-raiser for the branch. You can help by bringing your used stamps to the meetings.

Annual Meeting of the South Saskatchewan Branch

The Annual General Meeting of the South Saskatchewan Branch took place on January 23, 2009 at St. Mary's Anglican Church in Regina. Since the Chairman, Bruce Farrer, was unable to be at the meeting, it was chaired by the Past Chairman, the Rev. Derek Nicholls. The meeting started with a pot-luck supper and was followed by the business meeting. During the meeting the annual reports were presented and reviewed, a budget was adopted, and officers and members of the Board of Directors were chosen.

Officers and Board Members for the South Saskatchewan Branch

Chairman: Bruce Farrer
Vice-Chairman: Vacant
Secretary: Raymond Mynett
Treasurer: Blake Rintoul
Past Chairman: Derek Nicholls
(Also Membership)
Other Board Members:
Jason Dearborn
Scott Hazelwood
(Communications)
Margaret Morrey
John Morris
Mildred Morrison
Jeannette Mynett
(Newsletter with R. Mynett)

Branch Finances

The Treasurer's Annual Report showed the following:

- Income for 2008 $2690.01
- Expenses – 2008 2338.14
- Balance $1863.14

It was noted that the garage sale had given an income of $595.82. The branch will need fund raising projects to replace the garage sale. The income from the sale of tickets for the Queen's Birthday luncheon was a little higher that the expenses. The biggest other expenses was related to the cost of the newsletter. The annual meeting adopted a budget of $755.00 not counting the Queen's Birthday Luncheon.

Chairman's Report to the Annual Meeting

I first wish to express my thanks for the loyal support that has been given by our Branch members who attend our functions and support the League financially, and in particular to our Executive, whose efficiency and hard work have enabled us to be one of the most active branches in all of Canada

In this my first year as your Chairman, I attempted to contact all other Branches across our country to glean ideas from them for our meetings, projects and money raising schemes. While it was disappointing to hear that many branches are much less active than we are, it was encouraging to know that the enthusiasm that pervades our group has enabled us to accomplish more than many of the other branches.

I had the opportunity to have a private meeting with His Honour, Dr. Barnhart early in 2008, and my wife and I have received a number of invitations from his office to attend various events. Unfortunately, we have not been able to accept many of those invitations due to work commitments, conflicts in time or the cost involved. The July 1 garden party was well attended by nearby Saskatchewanites, including ourselves and our family. I understand that some branch members were able to be present at the New Year's Levee.

The Executive still meets in St. Luke's Church, but we have changed the times of these meetings to at least a week before the regular meetings. As well, we cancelled one meeting as there was little to discuss, and with the high cost of travel, it seemed pointless to have a meeting just because it was scheduled to be held.

I have tried to introduce a few new aspects to our regular meetings. I realize that not everything that we do will appeal to all our members, but I think we always need to search for some variety in format and activities rather than just opening, speaker, closing and lunch.

I am unable to be with you tonight due to a business conflict. My thanks to Derek Nicholls for conducting the meeting.

Bruce Farrer

Membership

It is encouraging to report that membership of our South Saskatchewan Branch has shown signs of mild growth since the report given at our Annual Meeting this past January. At present there are 97 members which includes 5 new members who have joined in recent months. They are Jean Alexander & Family (Regina), Dennis Glover (Regina), Craig Johnston (Regina), Garth Neel (Kendal), Jeremy Rempel (Moosomin), and Pauline Sesula (Regina). We bid each of them welcome into our Branch and its activities. It is encouraging to note that membership renewals are being upheld, and I encourage members whose renewal is due to send their fees to the Dominion Secretary when you receive your renewal notice. Finally, the best kind of membership is that which is encouraged by members asking family and friends to join. If you need help with that, please let me know by contacting me in either of the following ways: address: 5336 Dewdney Ave. Regina, SK., S4T 1C3; Phone: 306-949-8690; email: dereknicholls@sasktel.net

Derek Nicholls

Meetings of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors for the South Saskatchewan Branch has met twice since the beginning of the year. Those at these meetings made final plans for the annual meeting of the branch, discussed plans for the Queen's Birthday Luncheon, reviewed the budget for 2009, and discussed other aspects of the work of the branch. Also, there was consideration given to the work of the Monarchist League on the national level. It had been hoped that the Dominion Chairman, Robert Finch, would be able to visit the South Saskatchewan Branch, but circumstances prevent him from doing this at this time. One matter of concern was CBC's apparent lack of publicity on the time of the broadcast of the Queen's Christmas message; it was felt CBC should be encouraged to give that broadcast better publicity.

Nominations Committee

The need to establish a Nominations Committee early in the year has been discussed at general meetings of the branch and at the board meetings. The general meeting of the branch on March 20 passed a motion to establish a Nominations Committee, the chairman of which would not be an elected member of the board. The committee was given the responsibility of presenting a slate for board elections at the annual meeting. The committee is to receive nominations, find out which board members will let their names stand for election and solicit further nominations. Nominations can be received from the floor at the annual meeting. The chairman of the Nominations Committee will chair the elections at the annual meeting.

The Nominations Committee and the chairman of that committee has not been named at this time. If you are interested in helping with this, or know someone who might accept the position of Chairman of the Nominations Committee, please contact a member of the Board of Directors.

Meeting of the South Saskatchewan Branch

The first general meeting of the South Saskatchewan Branch of the League took place on Friday, March 20, at St. Mary's Anglican Church in Regina. During the meeting arrangements for the Queen's Birthday Luncheon were reviewed and consideration was given to possible fund raising projects.

Two motions were passed by the meeting. One established the Nominations Committee. The other proposed that a small percentage of the membership fee sent to the Dominion Office be rebated to the branches.

The program for the meeting was a talk by retired Brigadier-General Cliff Walker. He spoke on being in the service of the Queen in the military. He started his presentation with a moment of silence in memory of fallen soldiers. Isabel Bailey introduced General Walker, and Derek Nicholls expressed the thanks of the branch for his talk.

Notes of Talk by Brigadier-General Cliff Walker on In the Queen's Service

Given at the Branch meeting on March 20, 2009

General Walker, who has served in the military for thirty-five years, spoke of his contacts with members of the Royal Family. He met Prince Philip several times, including at the sod-turning for the war memorial; he sent the prince some pictures of that event. He spoke warmly of his meetings with Princess Ann, especially at the unveiling of the new plaque on the War Memorial at which time the princess took time to meet with families of fallen soldiers. General Walker was very impressed with how Princess Ann carried out her commitments.

People join the military for various reasons, including the wish for adventure, the desire to challenge oneself, a sense of wanting to be part of a team, and an aim to fulfill the ideal to serve the country. The military receives various assignments, many of which are not true peace keeping. Peace keeping is maintaining a peace between groups who were at war, but want the fighting to stop. What the Canadians did in Cyprus was peace keeping. Many assignments involve peace enforcing of a peace that really does not exist, and peace making which is more of an un-declared war of police action. The involvement in Korea was one such action taken to make peace. Now the action in Afghanistan is a de-facto war.

The Canadian military was involved in the Balkans when Yugoslavia was breaking up as a nation and three groups, the Serbs, the Croats, and the Bosnians, where fighting among each other. The groups hated each other, and all were involved in atrocities. The Canadian forces were told to enforce a peace, but were given no clear mandate on dealing with attacks. In time lessons learned from this experience led to greatly strengthened mandates and directives in dealing with attacks and combat situations. Thus actions in Kuwait and Kossovo were carried out with very few casualties due to a greatly increased use of modern warfare.

In 2002 Canadian forces went to Afghanistan, but the objective and the nature of the enemy are somewhat unclear. Those in the insurgency will not fight in open engagement which they know they cannot win, so they aim to blow up the enemy one by one until they become exhausted and leave. Thus there seems to be no end to the fighting.

General Walker commented on what he thought could be future developments which he said he hoped would not happen. He saw the real possibility of an atomic detonation in the U.S. which could lead to an attack that would partially destroy Pakistan. This could provoke World War III in which Muslim countries would declare a holy war which they would lose. World War III would be a surgical war with agreements not to use weapons of mass destruction, but would shape the world.

Service in the military is being involved in the Queen's service. The problem of this service is with politicians who do not listen and seem not to understand what is involved in effective military operations.

Queen and Commonwealth

The Queen's Commonwealth Message, March 9, 2009

This year the Commonwealth commemorates its foundation sixty years ago. The London Declaration of 1949 was the start of a new era in which our member countries committed themselves to work together in partnership and as equals towards a shared future.

We can rightly celebrate the fact that the founding members' vision of the future has become a reality. The Commonwealth has evolved out of all recognition from its beginning. It has helped give birth to modern nations, and the eight original countries have become fifty-three... Across continents and oceans, we have come to represent all the rich diversity of humankind.

Yet despite its size and scale, the Commonwealth to me has been sustained during all this change by the continuity of our mutual values and goals. Our beliefs in freedom, democracy and human rights; development and prosperity mean as much today as they did more than a half a century ago.

These values come from a common responsibility exercised by our governments and peoples. It is this which makes the Commonwealth a family of nations and peoples, at ease with being together. As a result, I believe we are inspired to do our best to meet people's most pressing needs, and to develop a truly global perspective. That is why the modern Commonwealth has stood the test of time.

But as we reflect upon our long association, we should recognize the challenges that lie ahead. Nearly one billion people of today's Commonwealth are under 25 years of age... It is they who can help shape the Commonwealth of today and whose children will inherit the Commonwealth of tomorrow...

The call that brought the Commonwealth together in 1949 remains the same today. Then we joined together in a collective spirit-built on last principles, wisdom, energy and creativity-to meet the great tasks of our times. As the Commonwealth celebrates its sixtieth birthday, its governments, communities and we as individuals should welcome that achievement. Together, we should continue to work hard to deal with today's challenges so that the young people of today's Commonwealth can realize their aspirations. In that way, we can look to the future with confidence.

Commonwealth Society

The Royal Commonwealth Society exists to bring together members of Commonwealth of Nations across the world. The honorary Patron is H.M. Queen Elizabeth II whose devotion and support for this family of nations has been a priority commitment of Her Majesty since she was crowned Queen 56 years ago this coming June 2. Recently Dr. Michael Jackson became Chairman of the Regina Branch, and Mr. Keith Inches continued as Secretary. Both are members of the Monarchist League. There is a process taking place of rebuilding the Regina Branch and seeking new members in the province. Membership is $25.00 a year and can be sent to Keith Inches, 2857 Garnet Street, Regina, SK, S4S 1X1. This is a worthy organization for Monarchist League members. Cheques are payable to *Royal Commonwealth Society, Regina Branch.*