

MARCH 2023

BOSWYK BYTES

Monthly News from Boswyk Seniors Activity Centre

Our events are amazing!

The Boswyk has hosted many exciting and entertaining events over this past year. Recently, The Valentine's Dance was just such one of these! The light lunch was delicious, the decorations lovely in pinks and reds, and "Wylie and the Other Guy" provided their singular witty songs and music.

We have a fun, talented crew that arrange and manage these events, and their names are worthy of mention, along with congratulations and a thank-you message: **Sonja Archer**, event coordinator; **Jane Boyd**, desserts and cookies; **Peg Adley** and her Arts & Crafts Team for the florals and quirky gnomes; "**Over the Top Catering**" for an excellent light lunch...

This event was another example of the value of our dedicated volunteers! There are 40 in total including the 9 members of the Board of Directors. Our association would not exist without these special folks...if you have a few hours a week to spare, please consider completing a volunteer form, and we will welcome you with open arms!

Despite a miserably cold and wet winter, **SPRING** will begin very soon, so watch for those little green shoots and buds, the return of the migratory birds, and rejoice in the continuing positive signs of warmer days ahead. Those of us with bird feeders need to ensure we can help the little feathered creatures, butterflies, and insects that rely on our gardens to survive. Even a balcony can have a feeder (if allowed) and a water source plus a planter or two with brightly coloured flowers! Enjoy the sun, walk briskly, feel the rays on your head as you absorb some Vitamin D....and flourish!

Iris Todd-Lewis, editor



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B I N G O ... as good as chocolate?

Astrid has led BINGO for at least a century. She obviously loves to call the numbers, even turning up when she was ill! You can recognize her in her bright, sparkly outfits, usually holding a microphone. Her following is huge, and sometimes the prizes are not bad either. This is one of our best-attended activities. BINGO is currently scheduled for Mondays and Wednesdays, 11 am til 3 pm in the Community Hall. Newbies always welcome!

It is amazing how many cards some of these folks can track...



The OAPO Lounge

Remember to stop by the Lounge that OAPO so generously donated to The Boswyk Centre. As well as many fiction and non-fiction books, there are jigsaw puzzles and board games you can use in the lounge, borrow or take home! This quiet space is proving to be a haven free from stress, and quietly cared for by Carol and Chris.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am fortunate in that I have an inspiring group of Director's with whom I work. They quietly perform assigned tasks/actions, attend extra meetings, provide timely and pertinent feedback, and do it with a smile (most of the time!) This intelligent bunch are making my position much easier that I expected, so I publicly thank them for their endurance as we continue to move the Association forward. THANKS everyone!

Iris Todd-Lewis, President



Saint Patrick....



Saint Patrick was a 5th-century Romano-British Christian missionary and Bishop in Ireland. Much of what is known about Saint Patrick comes from the Declaration, which was allegedly written by Patrick himself. It is believed that he was born in Roman Britain in the fourth century, into a wealthy Romano-British family. His father was a deacon, and his grandfather was a priest in the Christian church. According to the Declaration, at the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken as a slave to Gaelic Ireland.[18] It says that he spent six years there working as a shepherd and that during this time he found God. The Declaration says that God told Patrick to flee to the coast, where a ship would be waiting to take him home. After making his way home, Patrick went on to become a priest.

According to tradition, Patrick returned to Ireland to convert the pagan Irish to Christianity. The Declaration says that he spent many years evangelising in the northern half of Ireland and converted thousands. Patrick's efforts were eventually turned into an allegory in which he drove "snakes" out of Ireland, even though snakes were not known to inhabit the region.

Tradition holds that he died on 17 March and was buried at Downpatrick. Over the following centuries, many legends grew up around Patrick and he became Ireland's foremost saint. According to legend, Saint Patrick used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to Irish pagans.



Dates to Remember

March 2: **General membership meeting** in the Community Hall, 10 to 11:30 am. Speaker TBA.

Note: this event may be delayed to a later date.

March 17: **St Patrick's Dance** with "Sweetwater" offering the music. Tickets include lunch at \$7.00 and are available from March 1.

April : **Presentation re Road Safety.** Watch for further info

May 6: **Celebration of Life** for **Jenny Stevens** who died in 2022. The ceremony takes place at Fraser River Heritage Park from 1-3pm. Jenny advocated for The Boswyk Centre and was a supporter.

You are not past your "sell by" date.

Think about it. . . you can now fill your life with the things you **want** to do rather than those you used to **have** to do!

St. Brigid's Blessing

May Brigid bless the house
wherein you dwell.
Bless every fireside,
every wall and door.
Bless every heart
that beats beneath its roof.
Bless every hand
that toils to bring it joy.
Bless every foot
that walks its portals through.
May Brigid bless the house
that shelters you.

BSAC is managed by Mission Seniors Centre Association

7682 Grand Street, Mission V2V 0J1 | 604-814-2188

missionseniors@gmail.com

www.missionseniorscentre.com