



# Clarion September 2024 Clarion

## UNIT EXECUTIVE

Don Hinse	Past President/House & Grounds
Don Love	President
Johanna Emerick	1st Vice/Entertainment
Sally Nalleweg	2nd Vice/Finance
Dale McPherson	Secretary & Bylaws
Holly McKay	Publicity
Don Fisher	Membership
Don Hinse	House & Grounds
Debbie Moore	Special Events
Michael Doucet	Sports
Dave Gibbons	Canteen
Ray Moore	Meat Draw

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Clarion September 2024 Clarion

*The Clarion*  
A.N.A.F Unit 302  
Sidney, BC

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Dominion Convention Pictures	Johanna Emerick

Please note that all reports in the *Clarion* are pre-General Meeting and therefore are for information only. They are open for discussion and must be ratified by the membership at the General Meeting.

Any reference to Meat Draws, Raffles, Poker, Bingo or any gaming event is covered under licence from BC Gaming Events and are renewed every year on their respective expiry dates. Know Your Limit, Play Within It.

If you wish to be included in the e-mail list for activities within the Club, fill out the small form and place in the box just inside the main entrance.

The *Clarion* is published for the information of all members of ANAF Sidney Unit 302. There are a limited number of copies, so members are encouraged to share a copy with another member. You can also find the *Clarion* in full colour on the <http://www.unit302.ca/clarionarchives.htm> page of the Unit [www.unit302.ca](http://www.unit302.ca) website.

Any suggestions and/or material for future issues can be submitted and left in the *Clarion* box next to the Manager's office or, you can use the e-mail address below. Please ensure your name and telephone number is clearly marked on all material for any follow-up or clarification purposes.

Web Page: "www.unit302.ca"  
<https://www.facebook.com/ArmyNavyAirForceUnit302>

The Executive can be reached at "info@unit302.ca"

September Issue 2024

# President's Report



Comrades

Hope everyone had a great summer.

The property taxes are still with the city. Should be passed early September for ten-year exemption.

We have started to have the plane repaired by 443 Squadron. Should be completed in a couple of weeks.

Our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary was a great success. Mayor McNeil-Smith attended with two councillors, Terri O'Keeffe and Scott Garnett. Big thanks to all executive and volunteers for a great job. Also, Isham and Rania for having the kitchen open and providing a special menu.

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August we had another successful "members only" meat draw. Thank you to all vol-

unteers.

We will be repairing the fence and gates later this month. Thanks to all volunteers who offered to help.

I would like to give a special thank you to Glen of Van Isle Painting for painting the exterior of our building and, the tank, for free. Great job.

If it wasn't for volunteers, we would have a hard time keeping up on everything. New volunteers are always welcome.

Don Love  
President.

Special Announcement: At the Executive meeting on September 3rd. The town of Sidney has waived our taxes for the next 10 years. Ed.

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## Finance Report



Good day Comrades,

I hope everyone had a great summer, but alas, fall is already sneaking in on us. Because we have been away to the Dominion Convention, this report is to July 31<sup>st</sup>. 2024. My next report will be up to date.

The bar is doing very well, Averaging around \$1,260.00 per day.

General chequing account is \$142,462.74.

Gaming account is \$58,298.47.

G.I.C.s are \$102,735.85.

Sally Nalleweg  
Finance – 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vice

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## Entertainment Report



Comrades

All is well with entertainment so far this year.

We had Johnny Cash and June Carter come and do a show in June. Everyone had great fun, very well attended.

This month, September 14th we will have a Diva show, this is a one woman show

It is a great show. Tickets are on sale behind the

bar.

Unfortunately we had a hiccup in August, the band Shenanigans had an emergency and had to cancel the show on August 23rd. The band sends their deepest apology as I do

I did try to replace the band but they only gave one Days notice. Not enough time to find someone.

Again we are very sorry.

Johanna Emerick  
Entertainment chair

# Meat Draw Report



Summer is coming to a close & we had a good time with all the meat draws & 50/50 sales.

It was a typical summer with sales down from the Spring but still up from last years totals.

Awesome turnout for our Members Only Draws & for the 75th Anniversary as well,

looking forward to the fall.

Very special thank you to all the volunteers who make this possible.

Yours in Service  
Ray Moore  
Meat Draw Executive

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## Special Events Report



We had a great summer for events.

Fathers Day dinner in June, 75th Anniversary in July & Members Only dinner & meat draws in August. We had lots of great comments from everyone about the food & the way it was done.

Unfortunately, we did have a little trouble with running out of food even though I made double this year. It is my first year, and I do apologize to the people who did not get food. Next year

should run much better.

A special thank you to all the volunteers who helped me with all that was involved with putting on these functions. Without you it would not be possible. Again, a very special thank you to Terry and Sally who are always stepping up when needed.

Thank you all very much  
Debbie Moore  
Special Events Executive

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### The following were some comments made in 1957, in the good old days:

"If they raise the minimum wage to \$1, nobody will be able to hire outside help at the store."

"When I first started driving, who would have thought gas would someday cost 29 cents a gallon. Guess we'd be better off leaving the car in the garage,"

"Kids today are impossible. Those ducktail hair cuts make it impossible to stay groomed. Next thing you know, boys will be wearing their hair as long as the girls

# Publicity Report



I hope you all had a wonderful summer! As always, it went by way too quickly.

The great news is we have placed #1 in the Saanich Peninsula News Readers' Choice Awards for Favourite Place for Cocktails. Numero Uno!! That's quite an honour so good on everybody who voted for us!!

Word of mouth is the best advertising.

On that note, we are looking into the possibility of advertising at the Star Cinema and I will have more news on that front in my next report.

The Club received a very nice letter from a teacher who used our webpage as a resource for one of her classes. Following is an excerpt from her message:

*"We found your webpage very valuable in our curriculum, which focuses on social and moral development in society, particularly supporting veteran sen-*

*iors. I just wanted to thank you for your resources.*

*One of our students, Amelia, uncovered an article about Veteran's Health while researching for extra credits.*

*We were wondering if you could consider adding this resource to your website, even if temporarily. It would greatly motivate our class to see our outreach efforts making a positive impact. Please let me know if this is possible, so I can share the exciting news with the group! I really appreciate your help."*

Don Fisher has placed the link to the article on our webpage.

As always, I'd like to thank Don for all his work in creating and publishing posters & pamphlets etc., and also Randy Evans for his ongoing maintenance of our Facebook page.

Holly McKay  
Publicity

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## Sidney ANAVETS Celebrates 75 years



A.N.A&F. (ANAVETS ) Sidney Museum Unit is celebrating 75 years in Sidney. Before WWII Sidney was still a small town of a few hundred people. The population grew after the war, in part by veterans from across Canada who had visited or served in the area. Early in 1949 several ex-service friends met in private homes to discuss the formation of a mutually beneficial organization and agreed that Canada's oldest service group, the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada would fulfil their aims. On March 3, 1949 a Dominion Charter was granted to Sidney Unit 302 with 26 Charter members.

Today, membership in Sidney Unit 302 has exceeded 1000 members on this 75th anniversary. With many activities like dancing, various live entertainment, big screen TV, meat draws, sports activities like bowling, bocce ball, horseshoes, games room darts, pool, shuffleboard, card games, kitchen and simply, a casual social atmosphere awaits daily. Mark your calendar for monthly happenings as events are posted to the <http://www.unit302.ca/events.htm> page of the [www.unit302.ca](http://www.unit302.ca) website during the last week of the month highlighting the following month.

Don Fisher



# Membership Report



Good Morning, Comrades

On August 18th we held a members only Special meat draw and free spaghetti dinner that was extremely well attended.. Extra special meats were ordered thanks to Ray Moore our meat draw chair and, a special dinner of spaghetti and meat sauce was catered by Special Events chair Debbie Moore. It was a very successful Sunday afternoon as we took in new members, had overwhelming ticket sales, 50/50 draw and bar sales. Thanks also to Terry Parent who gathered the volunteer ticket sellers. Thank you all for a very successful members on-

ly event. It was your day.

Our membership today has reached a phenomenal height of 1024 members. The highest since the mid 1990s. Congratulations to the new members and thank you to the long term members who have renewed. Coming up in October, the early bird 2025 membership renewal and applications will be available. Unfortunately we couldn't hold the rates for another year as Commands take more share from us. Dues will go up by \$5.00. across the board. Watch for posters with details.

Fraternally  
Don Fisher  
Membership Chair

## Initiations



Don Fisher Membership Chair presented Marsha McGruer and Ben Van Ek with their Association pins as they are initiated at the General Meeting May 26th, 2024. Unit President Don Love looks on.

Once initiated at ANAVETS Sidney Unit 302 at the general meeting, members receive their Association pin and, have a voice and a vote at general and special meetings.

## American Legion Canadian Friendship Award

Unit President Don Love presents the American Legion Canadian Friendship Award to membership chair Don Fisher. This award was received through ANAVETS Dominion Command from the National Commander of The American Legion in "recognition and sincere appreciation of outstanding service in the field of veterans affairs and contributions toward the development and preservation of the spirit of cooperation which exists between the American Legion and the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada."





## Sports - Golf



On July 6th, 2024 a nine hole “FUN” golf tournament was held at Ardmore in North Saanich. 20 golfers from the Unit played 9 holes with another 4 members playing 18 holes. Longest drive women, went to Patti Blower and for the men, Wally Norbury. Closest to the pin women was won by Jen B. and for the men it was David Marks. Low score for the women was Jen B capturing the honours and for the men it was Shane Holwell. All returned to the Unit for lunch and beverage. Don Fisher ed.

## Sports - Bocce Ball



On 17 August 2024, 12 players descended on Iroquois park for a fun afternoon of Bocce Ball. In order of finish, Shane & Karen 1st, Ron & Keith, Tom & Bambi, Pat & Dave, Dana & Harold, Randy & Cas warming up the rear. Don Fisher ed.



## Recognition with a Thank You



Brian Archer, Citadel Canine Society President. Sally Nalleweg, 2nd vice, Jason Gordon and his dog Willow. Brian presented Unit 302 with the banner as a thank you for the Unit's support over the last eight years. To date, 20 dogs have been given to veterans, police, firemen and 1st responders on the Island.

Sally Nalleweg and  
Photo by Holly McKay

## Dominion Convention 2024

### Unit 302 Delegates

Don Fisher  
Johanna Emerick  
Don Hinse  
Don Love  
Ed Emerick  
Sally Nalleweg  
Dave Gibbons  
Debbie Moore  
Missing:  
Dale McPherson





# Dominion Convention 2024

On Saturday September 7th 2024 nine of your Executive travelled to Sherbrooke Quebec to take part in the 56th Biennial Dominion Convention. The Convention was pretty intensive from September 8th through September 11th consisting of ten guest speakers, thirty three resolutions, awards and elections. It was not all meetings as there was also a sports afternoon that included shuffleboard, darts, crib and horseshoes. There was also guided bus tours on that afternoon for those that chose not to do the sports. Your Executive then returned on Thursday September 12th.

## Highlights:

First speaker was Amy Meunier, Assistant Deputy Minister, Commemoration and Public Affairs at Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC). Amy spoke on the VAC rules and responsibilities, current activities including Veteran Indigenous Recognition, Benefits both disabilities and financial, transition to civilian life, Veteran homelessness, national opportunity veterans employment, mental health benefits, Operational Stress Injury (OSI) and PTSD to mention a couple, INVICTUS games coming up and the 80th anniversary D-Day.

Second speaker was BGen Lemyre, who spoke about world conflicts and threats to global stability, he spoke of climate change & usage of military operations including Arctic incursions, NORAD, NATO stability, support to other countries as well as domestic problems like fires and flooding. He spoke about military deployments around the globe, evacuation of Canadians from war torn locations, defence weapons, personnel shortages, support, operational readiness and high standards of ethics and professionalism and, enhance capabilities in ships, planes and subs.

Third speaker was Col Jardine, Veterans Ombudsman. He had a video presentation and talked about the Veterans Review Board seeking fairness and help understanding VAC communication.

Fourth speaker James LaCoursier Jr., National

Commander American Legion and also a member of ANIVICUS with same goals and friendships.

Fifth speaker Berkley Lawrence, President Royal Canadian Legion who just finished their Dominion Convention. Their 100th anniversary will be held in Winnipeg in 2026. Berkley was instrumental in bringing home the unknown soldier to Newfoundland. The unknown soldier was definitely from Newfoundland, and that he fought and died in northern France while enlisted with the Royal Newfoundland Regiment.

Sixth speaker was Chris McNeil, Chairman of the Veterans Review and Appeal Board responsible for administration of Veteran entitlements and benefits, review decisions of VAC, reconsiderations, pain and suffering and review of your disability.

Seventh speaker was Maureen Purvis, cofounder of No Stone Left Alone Memorable Foundation. She gave an introduction to educational commemorative program and presented a vignette with the song “No Stone Left Alone”. A very “moving” song.

Eighth speaker was Ashlee Mulligan and Tabitha Beynen from the Atlas Institute for Veterans and Families. Atlas Veterans.ca talks about resources and support for OSI, military and RCMP Veterans and families mental health and well being. Digital stories are available. You can check Mindkit.ca

Nineth speaker was Glenn Ogden, Director Creative Development and Scenography the Canadian War Museum. He spoke of travelling exhibitions, outreach education and resources including online education. 2024 is the 60th anniversary of the Cyprus peacekeeping, 2025 WWII 80th anniversary, Netherlands 1944—45, Japan 1941—45, 2026 Canada/US Civil War and 2027 The Arctic exhibition. The museum has over half a million object of all types. I’ve been through it and it is a must for anyone’s agenda when visiting Ottawa.

Tenth speaker was Dave Pearson, Fort Drum Canadian Veteran Advisory Council (FDCVAC). The FDCVAC assist and support for army retirees to US and Canada. They also provide legal aid, assistance filing medical and pay benefits, homeless advocacy and info sharing.

#### Resolutions:

Thirty Three resolutions were discussed. Some highlights included several on consideration of family, escort fees for immediate family living with the Veteran, under the Veterans Well Being Act (VWA) advocacy for tax free compensation for family members impacted by a Veteran with injuries and illnesses and, caregiver compensation, adjustments to the VIP program, province of legal residency, transition to civilian life, post secondary education for children of military members, exceptional incapacity allowance, pensioners dental service plan, SISIP & VAC dual programs, medical benefits with outstanding VAC claims, disability adjudication staffing, PSC lump sum benefit, security clearances, VAC case management staffing, Gulf war Veterans, bylaws and guide to disciplinary procedures updates, membership lists, Associate and Affiliate membership, procedures for the liquidation, dissolution, folding or winding-down of a Ladies Auxiliary unit or Provincial Auxiliary Command, a Mission Statement and Land Acknowledgement.

Dominion Secretary Deanna Fimrite presented a new Dominion Website that will have links to each Unit. Each Unit will have a password protected pages for pictures, events, sponsorships and whatever the Unit wishes to put on their page. We should be getting details before the end of the year.

Awards—several associate awards were given notably life memberships, Order for Service 6 and Award of Merit 6. Several Canadian/American Legion Friendship awards were give and, the King Charles III Coronation Medal was given to about 20 members including myself.

#### Dominion Officers:

- Paul Hooper - Past President
- Al Dunham - President
- Sharon Gosko - 1st Vice
- Joe Barrett - 2nd vice
- Gord MacEachern - 3rd Vice
- Linda Caron - 4th Vice
- Lyn Sorie (spelling) - 5th Vice
- Collin Awry (spelling) - 6th Vice

The convention wrapped up with a closing banquet.

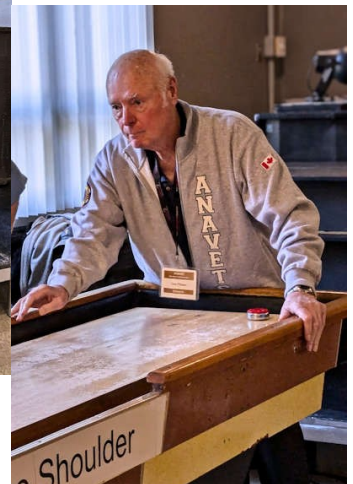
BC to host the 2026 convention in August

Written and presented by Don Fisher

## Sports Afternoon



Debbie Moore and Johanna Emerick playing darts



Don Fisher Shuffleboard



Sally Nalleweg Crib

Our sports players came away batting 1000.

No winners.