

LOST - OVER 100 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

The Vancouver Island Health Authority recently lost in excess of 100 years of combined experience with the retirement of three of their most experienced inspectors in the Duncan – Nanaimo area. Terry Preston, Senior EHO and Gerry Acorn, EHO retired in 2008 and Glen Smith, Senior EHO has just retired. Ann Thomas, Regional Manager of Heath Protection acknowledged they had lost a great deal of experience and local knowledge with the retirement of these three inspectors. Ann indicated, "Terry, Jerry and Glen were all well respected in their communities and by the staff with VIHA. We will certainly miss them and we wish them all the very best in their retirements." Jasmina Egeler, President of the BC

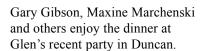
Branch stated, "We wish them all well in their retirement and hope they will continue their

association with CIPHI."



Terry Preston receives a handshake from Dwayne Stroh, Supervisor of Environmental Health for the Central & Northern Region at the VIHA Long Service & Retirement ceremony on November 20/08 in Nanaimo.

Glen Smith (with the flowered lei) chats with Allan Rideout, Laura Rideout, and Gerry Acorn at his retirement party.





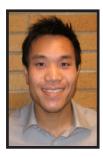




Gerry Acorn is pictured in his office ready to take action whether it be carrying out inspections or saving lives. In fact we can't forget the fact that Gerry did save the life of former colleague Bob Stickland who nearly choked to death at a Christmas luncheon a few years back.

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Message from the Editor



Its spring time but you wouldn't know it with all the recent wet and cold weather we've been experiencing for most of B.C. This extension of winter surely makes it hard for some of us to shed that dull winter attitude and welcome the spring season. This tricky transition from winter into spring is very much like our current move from old legislation into new legislation.

On March 31, 2009, B.C.'s new Public Health Act came into full force replacing the old Health Act. The Health Act, which came into force in B.C in 1893, was the spine that supported all of our hard efforts in public health. The Health Act was all that we have ever known and have been comfortable in using despite some very evident drawbacks. The Public Health Act, being our new spine transplant definitely gives our work more support and provides more power. Just like our transition from the seasonal divisions, it will take us some degree of time to get used to the new legislation. Where ever we are given more support or power I am sure we will welcome it with open arms. Some sections however, require that past procedures need to be changed and this variation may lead to some questions marks appearing above foreheads. All in all, I believe the transition into the Public Health Act will be easier than our leap into spring.

Respectfully, Alex Kwan - Editor

NEWS RELEASE

On April 7th, 2009, the Province of BC announced investing over \$1.7 million towards the health science programs at BCIT. This one time grant will include \$80,500 to support a comprehensive program review and revision of the environmental health-public health inspector program to align it with current employment and licensing requirements.

REMINDER New Mailing Address for Membership Renewal Forms

All BC Branch members renewing their memberships are reminded to send their completed forms to the following address:

Board of Registration CIPHI, BC Branch 720, 999 W. Broadway Vancouver, BC V5Z 1K5

Phone: 1-888-245-8180 Fax: 1-604-738-4080 Email: Office@ciphi.ca

If you haven't renewed your membership yet, a renewal form can be found at the end of this newsletter or visit www.ciphi.bc.ca.

NOTICE

RE: SEWERAGE SYSTEM REGULATION

The Sewerage System Regulation Improvement Coalition (SSRIC) with the support and cooperation of the Environmental Law Clinic at the University of Victoria prepared and submitted a detailed report to the BC Government outlining the serious problems and deficiencies with the current regulation. You are encouraged to read this detailed report located on the Environmental Law Clinic web site (www.elc.uvic.ca/press/documents/SSR-Reform-Submission-Mar4.09-FINAL.pdf) to better understand the extent and seriousness of the problems. Your comments and suggestions are most welcome.

Tim Roark, Spokesperson

Sewage System Regulation Improvement Coalition

Phone: 778-574-1188 Email: tdroark@shaw.ca 3301 – 164 A Street Surrey, BC V3S 0G5

BRANCH UPDATE



In my neck of the woods (Vancouver Island) the sea lions have gathered and are feasting on the herring, the skies are amassed with gulls scavenging what the sea lions leave behind. The geese are returning and the crocuses are strutting their stuff. I await the celebratory songs from the froggies cheerfully awakening in their pond. The season's rebirth is once again upon us. After a cold sleepy winter Spring has finally come. ..and it's all good. ..real good!

Over the winter the Branch continued on through snow and sleet on a few important projects. The Continuing Competencies Project (CPC) moved forth over another large stepping stone. In January focus groups of Environmental Health students, practitioners, consultants and managers across Canada were gathered in several

Provinces to provide feedback on Discipline Specific Competency statements for Environmental Health Officers. Here in British Columbia we conducted both an Environmental Health student focus group and an Environmental Health Officer practitioner focus group. Thanks to all the BCIT students and EHO's who took time out of their busy schedules to participate in this important project. Feedback indicated that participants enjoyed the opportunity to get involved with the Core Competencies Project. Many found an appreciation for the scope of this project, it's impact on our profession, and for the incredible amount of work that has gone into it. The project benefited greatly from the combined input provided from our members across the country. This objective review pointed out several important areas for improvement and revision. Revisions are underway, and a full scale release to Environmental Health Officers nationwide will occur in the next months. It is very exciting to be so close to completion on the CPC Project.

January 19, 2009 marked the start of another Environmental Public Health Week (EPHW) in BC, and Canada. Once again we received recognition for the dedicated work we all do in protecting our Nation's public health. Environmental Public Health Week is a great reminder to us all of the great and rewarding careers we have chosen. Thanks to all the EHO's that got out to mall displays, conducted media interviews, visited schools to speak to students about Environmental Health, and for posting EPHW posters around our communities. Kudos!

The Branch has been participating in a Sewerage System Regulation Improvement Coalition over the last year or so. This is a group of disciplines and professions concerned with the shortcomings of the BC Sewerage System Regulation and its potential long term impacts on the environment and the health of British Columbians. Recently the coalition released its final report to the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport which presents options for improving the Sewerage System Regulation. The BC Branch continues to fulfil its mandate in advocating for public health protection with its involvement in this coalition.

Another great development from CIPHI this winter was the announcement that the CIPHI National database and Listserv is ready to be used. 3004 PHI/EHOs from across Canada have been subscribed to date. This is an informational electronic mailing list for Public Health Inspectors/Environmental Health Officers and other environmental public health professionals across Canada which is moderated by the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. The purpose of the listserv is to facilitate communications among environmental public health professionals on topics pertaining to environmental public health issues, advocacy, public health events and professional development opportunities. We hope you find this as an important communication tool for keeping up to date on various CIPHI activities. The National database also serves members allowing online membership renewal, online application and payment for conferences, and for personal review and maintenance of your individual continuing educational portfolio. This was another massive undertaking that came to fruition this winter. Another big thanks to all the Branches in their combined efforts at the National Executive Council to complete this task.

Thanks everyone. Keep up the great work!

Best Regards,

Keir Cordner Vice President, CIPHI BC Branch





BACKGROUNDER

2009HLS0013-000315 March 7, 2009 Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport

NEW PUBLIC HEALTH ACT WILL PROTECT BRITISH COLUMBIANS

VICTORIA – The Province's new Public Health Act comes into effect March 31, 2009, replacing outdated legislation and setting the groundwork for a modernization of public health.

The new act will improve the Province's ability to deal with threats of global infectious disease, provide stronger tools to address the growing burden of chronic diseases and provide the ability for government to ensure that communities fulfill their role as a partner in preventing mental illness, problematic substance use as well as treating and housing residents with mental health and addiction challenges.

The Public Health Act replaces the Health Act, Venereal Disease Act and Public Toilet Act.

Changes include:

- The modernization of powers and duties of public health officials for communicable disease prevention and control, environmental health hazard response, chronic disease and hazard prevention, and public health emergency response; e.g. updated inspection powers, powers to issue orders, quarantine and isolation provisions.
- Improved health monitoring abilities such as being able to require the reporting of indicators of hazardous environmental exposures e.g. blood levels of lead and mercury.
- The ability of health officers to order groups of people to take prevention measures to control a health hazard. Previous to this new provision, each individual affected by a health hazard had to be issued a separate and unique order.
- Ability to require public health planning.
- New powers to regulate operations, activities or conditions that could pose a health hazard or adversely affect long-term population health. This includes requiring restrictions on trans fat in prepared food.
- Provisions that ensure administrative fairness.
- Strengthened relationships with and clarification of responsibilities of local governments regarding public health.
- Modernization of enforcement, sentencing and penalty provisions.

Other B.C. legislation that supports public health activities includes the Drinking Water Protection Act, the Food Safety Act, the Community Care and Assisted Living Act, the Tobacco Control Act and the School Act.

The Public Health Act is available online through www.hls.gov.bc.ca/phact/ -30-

Media Anne McKinnon

contact: Communications Director

Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport 250

812-4012 (cell)

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province's news feeds using RSS, visit the Province's website at www.gov.bc.ca.

INFORMATION

ADVOCACY

CIPHI is the only professional organization which represents the interests of PHI/EHOs and it is our primary mandate to certify, inform, and advocate on behalf of the profession. Many of the activities with which CIPHI is involved with are not tangible or readily visible. We want to take this opportunity to provide you with some examples which highlight the important voluntary work the Institute is involved with on behalf of the profession

JOIN NOW!

Becoming a member is now easier than ever. Go to our new national website to renew your membership, register for conferences and track your continuing education credits:

www.ciphimember.ca

REPRESENT CIPHI IN PARTICIPIATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- Promote the profession internationally by affiliating with the National Environmental Health
 Association (NEHA) and the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH). Discounted
 membership fees are available to become a member of NEHA (US)
- We currently participate on the Swimming Pool, Spray Pool and Wading Pool Regulations
 Provincial Review Committee and the Sewerage System Leadership Council to represent the
 profession and the public

PROVIDE AND PROMOTE EDUCATION & WORK OPPORTUNITIES

- Deliver an Annual Education Conference to which members receive a discounted registration fee
- Provide financial support for members to attend educational opportunities, which advance their professional development
- Publish the Environmental Health Journal and the BC Page to which members receive free subscriptions
- Secured the 2010 International Federation of Environmental Health Conference in Vancouver, which will be promoted as a joint CIPHI/IFEH Conference
- Provide CIPHI-NEHA Sabbatical Exchanges which allow members to spend two weeks in the continental US on a work exchange

BRING CIPHI MEMBERS TOGETHER

- Maintain a website, which provides centralized resources and discussion forums for members
- Hold annual social events and contribute to the funding of social events in more remote locations
- Hold social events at the Annual Education Conferences

ADVOCATE FOR THE PROFESSION

- Participate on the Core Competencies Steering Committee to facilitate the development of core competencies for the Environmental Public Health Practitioner in Canada - 'By the Profession, for the Profession'
- Conducted national surveys and prepared reports, such as the National Salary Survey and the soon to be released document, "Role and Responsibilities of PHI/EHOs across Canada"
- Coordinate the annual Environmental Public Health Week event to promote the profession

Revised March 2009

ADVOCATE FOR FUTURE PHIS/EHOS

- Attend university career fairs to recruit students into the profession
- Participate on the BCIT Advisory Board to ensure course curriculum meets the needs for today's work environment
- Promote the profession and assist with the recruitment of new students through the development of promotional materials
- Provide financial support and recognition to BCIT students with the following bursaries and awards: BC Branch Bursary to a First Year Student at BCIT, D.D. McNab Bursary, Environmental Health Achievement Award, Bob Herbison Award, John A. Stringer Memorial Award to aid with schooling expenses

RECOGNIZING CIPHI MEMBERS

 CIPHI recognizes the hard work from its members with awards such as BC Branch Member of the Year Award; BC Branch Honorary Member Awards; 25-Year and 50-Year BC Branch Member Awards; Alex Cross Award; Alexander Officer Award; Environmental Health Review Award; President's Award; and Life Membership Award

YOU HAVE A VOICE WITH CIPHI

- As a member you have the right to vote at the Annual General Meeting in areas of interest such as the CIPHI constitution and membership dues. You have the opportunity to vote by proxy as well
- As a member you can have the chance to hold office on the CIPHI BC Council and be involved in the day-to-day governance and operation of CIPHI

MAINTAINS STANDARDS IN ENTRY TO PROFESSION

• The certification process for new grads guarantees that the highest standards for entry into the profession are maintained. Newly certified members receive a free year of membership

MAINTAINS THE BOARD OF REGISTRATION

The BC Branch is unique because it funds a Board of Registration (BOR). The BOR reviews all applications for membership to ensure the applicant meets the qualifications for admission. The BOR also approves courses of study, examination, and continuing education as well as reviews conduct of regular members, ethics, and standards of practice

OTHER BENEFITS OF BEING A MEMBER

- A \$30 discount is available per household where two members reside in the same residence (only one copy of EPHR is received)
- Discount of 3.0% of the Imperial Oil Direct Billing Program if you purchase \$1500.00 worth of motor fuel with the Esso Business Plus Credit Card. Applications available from the national office

www.ciphimember.ca

To sign up online you require your certificate number, if you don't have it you can contact the BC Branch President Jasmina Egeler at bcbranchciphi@gmail.com to obtain your number.

Revised March 2009

Board of Certification Update

The October exams were held in Vancouver and 18 candidates sat the exam. The certification rate was 66% which is consistent with previous years and the national average. The April exams are being held in the Health Protection office in Burnaby. Fraser Health has kindly donated the meeting room space for this exam.

The BOC conducted a second employer survey in 2008 to assess the working areas of Environmental Public Health; the survey identified the main areas of practice. The results were not significantly different from the survey conducted in 2005.

The BOC has reviewed the administrative process for handling candidate appeals of the oral exam process, revisions will be made to the appeal process and these revisions are in line with other professional association's procedures.

The candidate feedback form was modified to allow the BOC to identify the subject area(s) where the candidate was unsuccessful. This information is also provided to the schools so they can look for any patterns or curriculum gaps.

We are fortunate to have examiner representatives from all over the province and participation has been great from all the health regions, thanks to the Regional Directors for there continued support. I am always looking for interested PHI's and MHO's to increase our examiner pool please send me an email at gord.stewart@fraserhealth.ca if you are interested.

We have been holding Examiner training workshops in conjunction with the Annual Educational Conferences and they are well received by the participants, the next examiner training workshop is scheduled for May 5 in conjunction with the conference in Kananaskis, Alberta.

The discipline specific core competency project is being finalized; this will establish the expected continued education areas for practicing Environmental Public Health Professionals or Environmental Health Officers as recognized in the new Public Health Act.

Gordon Stewart CPHI(C) REHO BC Exam Coordinator 300, 4946 Canada Way Burnaby BC V5G 4H7 Phone (604) 918 - 7516 Fax (604) 918 - 7520

WELL DONE & CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Hearty congratulations from the BC Branch to the latest BC graduates who successfully completed the BOC examinations in October 2008. Welcome to the profession.

Darrell Belanger
Jeremiah Donaldson
Gurpreet Gill
Dianna Hayden
Selena Jung

Lisa Kirkham
Jessica Lau
Casey Neathway
Christopher Russell
Samson Wong

ALEX NILSSON - ORDER OF CANADA RECIPIENT

By Lorne Eckersley - Creston Valley Advance

Alex and Nicole Nilsson were spending Christmas with family members in Arizona when they learned Alex had been named as a member of the Order of Canada.

Since returning to Creston the congratulations have rolled in steadily, the Nilssons said on Tuesday.

"I was talking to someone from Cranbrook on the phone the other day and he said, 'I hear you're a very important person now," Alex said. "That's right — we're all very important,' I said. 'If we realized everyone is important we would have a better world."

Alex Nilsson becomes the third Creston Valley resident to be inducted into the Order of Canada, preceded by Rev. James J. Morelli and Herbert K. Legg. Morelli was a Roman Catholic priest whose involvements extended into health care and Legg was the longtime publisher of the Creston Review weekly newspaper.

"He still remains a humble guy," Nicole said with a laugh when asked whether Alex had a swollen head after this latest accolade.



Alex in his earlier years donating one of several wheelchairs to local care facilities around BC. The wheelchairs were donated by the BC Branch.

Humility, in fact, is one of the first descriptors most people use when talking about Alex Nilsson.



Alex while on his 2005 across Canada roller ski trip to raise awareness for diabetes education.

"No one does this on their own — this is a recognition of all the volunteers I'm involved with," he said. "That's the beauty of having connections of being involved in many organizations — you get an appreciation of what this community is all about."

Involvement with many organizations is a bit of understatement. Nicole provided a list of two dozen, in almost all of which Alex played a leadership role over a lengthy period. His early community involvement reflected his passion for physical activity and his childen's interests

"I don't think our kids were involved in anything that Nicole and I weren't running," Alex said.

"We weren't parents who dropped our children off at the rink or the pool," Nicole said.

The couple was active in minor soccer, the swim club, speed skating and tennis. Alex played soccer and promoted the game to youngsters, and worked tirelessly to create what is now known as Alex Nilsson Field, the Creston and District Community Complex's soccer pitch.

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"I was the soccer team's laundromat," Nicole laughed, turning up her nose as she remembered the odour of sweat-filled socks that she would take home to wash.

For a man with a passion for physical activity, Nilsson has always had a remarkable interest in the endless meetings that have accompanied his role as an organizer. "I've always said I'm a board junkie," he laughed. "But it's at the meetings that you get an understanding of what needs to be done and what decisions were made. Then you take that information and go out and get things done."



Alex roller skiing across Canada

Those meetings are more than a means to an end, though, Nilsson admits.

"Those people are my friends, my social circle," he said. "They are people who I have a lot in common with and I truly enjoy the time I spend with them."

The man who can cite such remarkable achievements as riding a bicycle non-stop to both Calgary and Vancouver (the latter at the age of 60), participating in World Masters cross-country ski races, running eight marathons in eight months (when he was 71 and 72) and roller skiing across Canada in 2005 continues to plug away at passions that have consumed him for years.

He is co-president of the Creston Valley Community Housing Society, active with the Therapeutic Activation Program for Seniors (which he helped keep alive when the Interior Health Authority pulled its funding several years ago), sits on the Kootenay Employment Services board and continues to be a director on the boards of Cresteramics, the community living societies in Creston and the Kootenays, and the Erickson Golden Agers Housing Society.

Before he and Nicole left for Phoenix in December, he and close friend Terje Munkerud — "He gets a quarter of the medal; he helps me with everything," said Nilsson — were down at the therapeutic riding program horse stables on the former Endicott Centre grounds, working in frigid temperatures.

"The waterlines had frozen and we had to figure out a way to get water to the horses," he said.

Alex said he remains involved in seeing that the former Endicott Centre property is sold and that proceeds are directed back into the community to provide housing and services for people with special needs. He spent days last summer tidying up the property to help make it more saleable.

He and Munkerud volunteer their services as maintenance men to the TAPS program and Alex continues to be optimistic that the program will continue into the future.

"It's obvious that giving seniors social opportunities helps keep them out of the medical system," he said. "We tend to concentrate on providing medical care and forget about peoples' social needs. TAPS saves the government money and it's great for the participants. They are wonderful people."

The Nilssons haven't been informed when the Order of Canada presentations will be made in Ottawa, but Nicole said there's no hurry.

"I'd tell them to wait until spring," she laughed. "I don't want to go to Ottawa in the winter."

Alex and Nicole have remained each other's greatest friends and supporters during their long marriage. Alex is quick to joke that Nicole wants half of the Order of Canada medal, and quicker to add that she's earned it.

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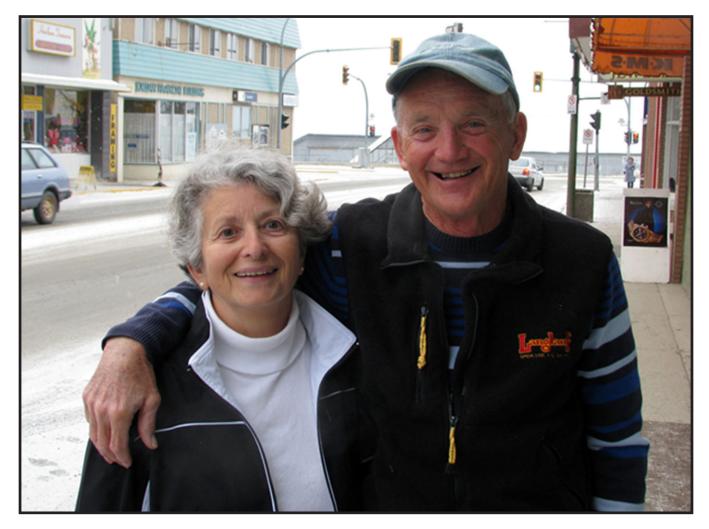
"I don't do anything on my own," he explained. "Nicole is my partner and my support system. We toss around ideas and she always gives good feedback."

For her part, the retired nurse manages to keep her own activities in addition to supporting Alex in his community involvements. She provides foot care for seniors and is a member of the Creston Valley Hospice Society. "We've done a lot of good things during our years together," she smiled.

For Alex, a former citizen of the year in Creston, a Freeman of the Town of Creston and a recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal, volunteering remains his passion and he shows no signs of slowing down.

"When you are involved in many things you start to understand that it isn't just one or two people or groups who make things work," he said. "I'd like this community to be all-inclusive, one that provides something for everyone. So you don't feel like you don't matter or that you're not important enough.

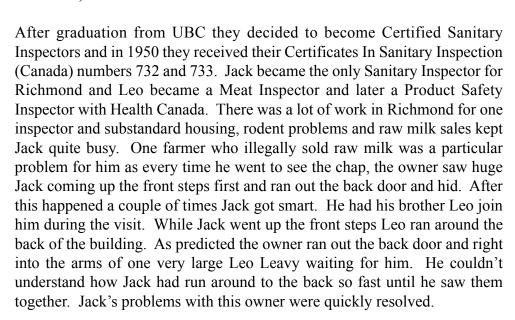
"I always thought the Order of Canada was for people in the diplomatic service or people making notable contributions around the world, like scientists. Not for little people like me. It's nice to know we count, too."



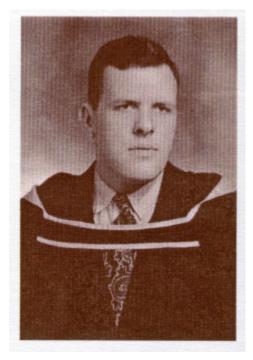
Above: Alex with wife Nicole.

Looking Back at Former Members - The Leavy Twins

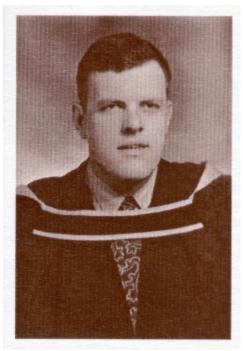
Jack and Leo Leavy were "Aggies" having graduated from UBC with their BSc. in Agriculture in 1946. They were identical twins. Their mother was 5 foot 4 inches tall but they were both 6 foot 10 ½ inches tall and weighed in at a svelte 340 pounds each in their earlier days. Several of the war veterans back attending UBC created the "Jokers' Club" because they felt life at UBC was too dull and passive. To counter this image, they dreamed up all sorts of wacky antics and appearing in most of these activities were the Leavy Twins, two stalwart boys who resembled the A&W bear featured in TV commercials. According to Bill Newman, a veteran in both the RCAF and Canadian Army (UBC BA 1952), "They often dressed up in short pants and beanie caps sucking on all-day suckers. I can remember watching them prancing through the lily pond in front of the library garbed in bikinis. Then there was the time they were featured in a gold fish swallowing contest dressed as whales. Often they enlivened basketball games riding children's tricycles across the basketball court. They were such good sports and did much to raise student morale. Life with all its academic pressures became bearable and I still chuckle at the thought of the entertainment they provided." For years after, the Twins would return to UBC to entertain at Mardi Gras, Homecoming and other celebrations. They were always a sight, in propeller beanies, short pants, sailor suits, riding trikes or camels, or whatever!



Life for Leo and Jack was anything but dull. They were born March 23rd, 1923 in St. Patrick's Parish, Vancouver, the only children of Leo, Sr. and Helen Leavy. They were affectionately known at "The Boys', "The Twins",



Jack Leavy B.Sc UBC 1946



Leo Leavy B.Sc UBC 1946

"Tweedle Dee & Tweedle Dum', etc. In school they would often confuse the teachers with, "Not me, Sister, it must have been my brother!" They were very even-tempered and kindly disposed and precluded disagreements or irritating behaviour in others – just at a glance! Friends say that high school dances were far more orderly when Jack and Leo chaperoned. The Twins were cited in the Guinness Book of Records as the world's larges identical twins. They travelled to New York to be guests on TV in "I've Got a Secret" and "Two For The Money" back in the 50s. Jack and continued on next page

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Leo attended the Banff (Summer) School of Fine Arts and might have chosen the Theatre as a career in another time frame but instead they chose science.

If one word could be used to describe the "Twins" it would be "involved" from college to their adult life. The Columbian Squires, Vancouver College Cadet Corps, the Catholic Youth Organization, the Jokers Club, joint Presidents of the Tip-Toppers Club of Vancouver, and the Newman Association. They were also active members of their federal and provincial political parties and well known as actors in several theatre groups including, Theatre Under The Stars, the Metro Theatre, and the North Shore Light Opera. In addition, they appeared in TV programmes such as the Littlest Hobo and several TV commercials. Yet while working, acting, performing and socializing (they loved dancing) they found time every day to visit their invalid father in hospital for eleven years.

At meetings of the BC Branch of CIPHI you could always find Leo and Jack speaking out and supporting the activities of the Institute as well as encouraging initiatives and broader horizons for Sanitary Inspectors and the profession in general. New members soon realized not to sit in the seats directly behind the Twins if you wanted to see the proceedings or be recognized by the President.



Jack owned an old dark blue De Soto limousine about 1948 to 50 vintage. He and Leo used to drive around in this large vehicle. Due to their height and size, they had the front seat moved way back to provide sufficient leg room in the front. If you saw them driving along it actually looked like they were sitting in the back.

The Leavy Twins were outgoing and colourful personalities. They chose careers as Sanitary Inspectors over many options which

were available to them. They were strong supporters of the Institute and encouraged its growth and development. Leo Leavy passed away in 1982 of a heart attack and Jack died of a stroke in 1988. They will be fondly remembered.

Tim Roark, Historian BC Branch CIPHI

March 31, 2009

Many thanks to Bill Leith and Cliff Van Alstyne Retired PHIs, Bill Newman (UBC BA 1952) and the UBC Alumni Trek Magazine and personal friends Mary Clohosey and Joan Gideon, Archivist for the Newman Association for all their great stories, photos and input.

Editor's Note:

The Newman Association of Vancouver has established the **Jack** and **Leo Leavy Bursary** in memory of these active former Presidents of the Newman Association. UBC undergraduates who belong to the Student Newman Club are eligible to apply for this award.





TIM ROARK

President

Tim Roark & Associates

Environmental Health Consultants

20898 Meadow Place Maple Ridge, BC V4R 2M8 Tel/Fax 604 467 4745 Email Tim.Roark@shaw.ca

New Face of Pest Control

You've heard of Bomb dogs? Drug dogs? Now, mans best friend is the latest weapon in the war on bedbugs. The new face of pest control allows for quicker and more accurate results than traditional bedbug detection methods. The Florida Canine Academy, who trains, certifies and sells bedbug-detecting dogs states, "the bedbug canine can search an average hotel room in less than two minutes."

Currently a few pest control companies in British Columbia carry bed bug dogs. Seen in the picture is Frankie, an active Jack Russell terrier with owner Sonal Nagla of Orkin PCO. Frankie recently completed a 600-hour course in Florida in detecting pheromones of bedbugs. Training is continuous for energetic Frankie, each meal time Sonal tests Frankie to detect for bed bugs on the wheel or at home prior to giving a treat.

It is well known that dogs scents are sensitive, and discriminating; it is documented the dogs detection range is from tens of parts per billion to 500 parts per trillion compared to a human at only parts per hundred. Dogs can also learn as many as ten odors. The USA recognizes trained and certified detection dogs in court as a "scientific instrument." Frankie is the new friendly face for bed bug detection.

By Isher Deol - Associate Editor

Reference:

http://bedbugdog.com

Dharm Makwana. *Dog, the bug-hunter,* February 27, 2009, 24 HOURS.



Above: Sonal Nagla with her Jack Russell terrier "Frankie".



BCIT FALL AWARDS CEREMONY

The BCIT Fall Awards Ceremonies were held on October 29 and November 5, 2008. Two students in the Environmental Health Program received awards during these ceremonies.



Pictured is Kira Jang receiving a very hearty congratulations from Dr. John Blatherwick as the first recipient of the new Dr. John Blatherwick Entrance Award at the October 29, 2008 - Entrance Awards Ceremony.



Jatinder Paul Sidhu, receives congratulations from Lorraine Woolsey, Program Head of Environmental Health at the November 5, 2008 - Scholarship & Awards Ceremony upon receiving the Joe and Glady Woolsey Memorial Achievement Award.

BCIT SPRING AWARDS CEREMONY

The BCIT Winter Graduating Awards Ceremony was held on February 19, 2009 at the Willingdon Church Conference Centre. Two students in the Environmental Health Program received awards during the ceremony.



Casey Neathway, recipient of the BC Branch, Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors, John A. Stringer Award receives congratulations from Isher Deol on behalf of the BC Branch



Christopher Russell, recipient of the Bill Leith Award, is pictured receiving congratulations from Lorraine Woolsey, Program Head of Environmental Health.

Acknowlegement also goes out to Darrell Belanger who was not able to attend the awards ceremony and is the recipient of the Sam Parrish & Gladys Cranke Memorial Bachelor of Technology Achievement Award.

Congratulations to all award recipients - Tim Roark

In Memoriam

George Hubert Armson



George Armson passed away peacefully at St. Michael's Hospice in South Burnaby on September 24, 2008 at 93 years of age. George was born in Kisbey, Saskatchewan on December 21, 1915. He served in the Merchant Marine during the Second World War. Upon return from the war George received his Certificate in Sanitary Inspection (Canada) #299 and joined the Vancouver Health Department as a Sanitary Inspector. In 1948 George was elected as President of the BC Branch of the Canadian Institute of Sanitary Inspectors, a position he held until 1950. Subsequently George was President of the BC Branch of the Canadian Public Health Association for a number of years. In 1950 George moved to the Burnaby Health Department as the one and only field Inspector along with the existing Chief Inspector and was later promoted to Chief Sanitary Inspector and then Director of Environmental Health Services at the time of his retirement. George was a proud Mason and was deeply committed to the BC Boxing Association.

"Georgie" as he was affectionately called by his family and close friends is survived by his only sister Mary Adelaide Armson and his stepson Gerald as well as his granddaughters Bobi Leigh Fernandes (John) and Christine Williams (George) along with his three great grandchildren, Jordan Williams plus Masen and Kyle Fernandes. George loved life and was active, including driving, and remained involved in current events and his interests until shortly before his death.

In 2001 George was presented with a **50 Year Membership Award** by CIPHI for his longstanding membership and support of the Institute. The Armson Family has now returned George's 50 Year Membership Award to CIPHI for safe-keeping.

Information and photo generously provided by George's stepson Gerald.

Tim Roark Historian BC Branch

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BC Branch Address:

c/o Jasmina Egeler, 1200 - 601 West Broadway Vancouver, BC V5Z 4C2 FAX: 604-736-8651

Editorial Team

Associate Editor:

Tim Roark 3301 - 164A Street Surrey, BC V3S 0G5 Tim.Roark@shaw.ca **Associate Editor**

Isher Deol Vancouver Coastal Health Authority Fraser Health Authority 1200 - 601 West Broadway Vancouver, BC V5Z 4C2 isher.deol@vch.ca

Editor:

Alex Kwan 537 Carnaryon St. New Westminster, BC V3L 1C2 alex.kwan@fraserhealth.ca

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