



# SICANNEWS

December 2008

Volume 2 Issue 6

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## 2009 SICAN Executive



John Scott (VP Central), Jona Way (VP West), John Duggan (2009 SICAN President), Henry Kelly (EST SICAN), Thomas Vincent (ISC Rep), Brian Aubé (VP East)

At the October SICAN Meeting in London ON, the above Executive team was elected to guide SICAN through 2009. In addition to representing regions in Canada, the Vice Presidents carry the following responsibilities: Administration & Communications, Membership and Finance. The January newsletter will provide updates on the roles and responsibilities of each VP.

The Executive Secretary Treasurer (EST), Henry Kelly is contracted to carry out the administrative duties of SICAN on behalf of the Executive and Board.

Look for the January Issue for 2009 SICAN Reps from the Canadian Clubs.

## Tribute to Norman Bevilacqua, 2008 President

Our sincere appreciation to Norman Bevilacqua for his leadership and contributions to Skál camaraderie in 2008. Norm and his wife, Lorraine, have shown true Skál hospitality and friendship during Norm's mandate as the SICAN President. They have reached across the provinces to include visits to as many Skál Clubs as possible, as well as hosting Skál events at NAASC in Jamaica and in Taipei at International Congress in October.

The hours of dedication required to lead SICAN are immeasurable – as

- Quebec City
- St. John's
- Saskatoon
- Thunder Bay
- Toronto
- Toronto North
- Vancouver
- Victoria
- Winnipeg

### Newsletter:

<http://www.sicanada.org>

Editor: **Loretta Clarke**

[loretta@skalwinnipeg.com](mailto:loretta@skalwinnipeg.com)

### SICAN Executive

**President: Norman Bevilacqua, Thunder Bay**

Henry Kelly, SICAN EST

Executive Board Members:

Vice-President Eastern Region: John Duggan, Halifax

Vice-President Western Region: Jona Way, Calgary

Vice-President Central Region: John Scott, Toronto

PR/Communications: Bill Rheume, Canadian Rockies

### SKAL TOAST

**To Fellow Skålleagues Everywhere**

**Happiness**

**Good Health**

**Friendship**

**Long Life**

**Skal!**

**2008 SICAN Officers:**

SICAN takes on a life of its own and becomes a full time volunteer position for the President.



**Grazie tanto!** A big thank you goes to Norm and his wonderful wife, Lorraine for their 365+ days of living and breathing SKAL!

## The Meaning of SkÅL

The word Skål comes from Scandinavia and has a long tradition. The "Skål", a bowl with a welcome drink, was offered to visitors when they entered the home. One would say "**Skål**" as a sign of friendship! The letters of the word SKÅL mean:

- **Sundhet (Good Health)**
- **Kärlek (Friendship)**
- **Ålder (Long Life)**
- **Lycka (Happiness)**

*"To fellow Skålleagues everywhere - Happiness; Good Health; Friendship; Long Life; SKÅL!"*

## Skål International Victoria

### Outstanding Skålleagues

**Ian Powell**, general manager of the Inn at Laurel Point and managing director of Paul's Restaurants Ltd. was ordained on Nov.1, All Saints Day, as a deacon into the Anglican Church of Canada.

**Alison Partridge**, Skal International Victoria President and Managing Director of Proof Positive Solutions, has accepted the presidency of the De Mezey Memorial Abbeyfield Housing Society in Victoria. Abbeyfield is an international movement concerned with non profit housing for seniors.

**Eric Charman**, C.M., O.B.C. (Performing Arts), Victoria, B.C.

**Member of the Order of Canada** Philanthropist and patron of the arts, he gives generously of his time and financial resources to many cultural and charitable organizations. Believing passionately in the importance of keeping the arts and culture alive in his community, he has hosted profitable and entertaining events on behalf of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, the Victoria Symphony and the Pacific Opera. He has also been a tireless fundraiser for the city's Hospital Foundation, the United Way and the B.C. Hospital for Sick Children.

Victoria: David Rooper  
 Vancouver: Ron Waterhouse  
 Canadian Rockies: Doug McPhee  
 Calgary: Jona Way  
 Edmonton: Judy Windsor  
 Saskatoon: Lloyd Beazley  
 Winnipeg: Loretta Clarke  
 Thunder Bay: Mary Long-Irwin  
 Hamilton: Kimberly Hartley  
 London: Del Wright  
 Toronto North: Murray McPhail  
 Toronto: John Scott, Doug Patterson  
 Ottawa: Carmine Domenicucci  
 Montreal: Christine Killinger  
 Quebec City: Brian Aubé  
 Halifax: John Duggan  
 St. John's: Harold Hefferton

### Top Ten Reasons to Join Skål!

1. Meet business executives in the local tourism industry
2. Network with local, national and international colleagues you meet through Skål
3. Camaraderie – make new friends instantly at monthly meetings
4. Superb Food & Wines
5. Creative Venues – learn more about local and regional attractions & destinations
6. Attend North American and International Congresses – expend your knowledge about other cultures and discover new business opportunities
7. Member Benefits –



Attached picture of the current Executive taken at the World famous Butchart Gardens at the annual club Christmas Party 2008:

L to R: Doug Cliff, Treasurer, Art Garner, Executive Director; Tom Oram, Membership & Hospitality Director; Alison Partridge, President; Dave Spaven, Past President; Judy Scott, VP; Eric Charman, Membership & Hospitality Director; David Rooper, SICAN Rep & ES. – Missing is Reid James, Executive Director.

Skål,  
 David Rooper, Executive Secretary  
 Skål International Victoria

## Skål International Montreal

### welcomes two new members



During its November 11<sup>th</sup> dinner, the Montreal Skål Club was happy to enthrone two new members, Margarita Perez, the regional director, sales, Canada, LAN airlines, and Emmanuel Sapina of Voyages Aquanautes. They are seen in the photo at the investiture ceremony accompanied by Eric Douay, President of the club. At this meeting of Skål Montreal, members took part in a beer and wine tasting presented by a master sommelier.

Skål Montreal is the first Skål club founded in Canada and in March 2009 will celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary as part of the world wide group of Skål clubs. You can find information about Skål Montreal on the Web at [www.sicanada.org/montreal](http://www.sicanada.org/montreal). Michel Villeneuve, Chairperson, Communications & Public Relations

discounts, trips, inter-club travel

8. Learn from the Best – Top speakers and experts to inspire you locally and internationally
9. A Port in a Storm – with over 20,000 members internationally you can attend a Skål meeting wherever there is a Club

Tourism Advocacy – From the United Nations to local politics – Skål is there to speak with the voice of the world's largest travel and hospitality industry

## Skål International Halifax



Congratulations to Susan Eldridge, the proud recipient of the 2008 Petroleum Communication Foundation Legacy Scholarship for Excellence in Communication.

Eldridge, born in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, earned her Bachelor of Arts from St. Francis Xavier University. She later earned a Certificate of International Trade and speaks fluent French and Japanese. Having lived, worked and studied in Japan for five years, she returned to Nova Scotia in 1995 to open an inbound tour business specializing in Asian visitors. She sold her company in 2003 and worked as a business counselor for immigrant-owned businesses in Nova Scotia. She has worked for two World Expositions, EXPO '86 and EXPO '95. She is a student in the Division of Continuing Studies at the University of Victoria and an Active Member of the Halifax Skål Club.

## Double Merd!

For those following the Calgary/Quebec City College Football Challenge from the last newsletter, here's the scoop sent in by Brian Aubé: "The Calgary Dinos put up a great fight but in the end, the Laval Rouge et Or won (59 to 10). It was 29 to 0 after the first quarter so it was a long afternoon. It was great seeing about 100 Dino supporters with their cowboy hats on."



Back to the bet: Brian sent Jona an official Laval player Jersey, a ball cap and 3 t-shirts. Jona is to stand in front of the Calgary Skål Club and repeat "I proclaim that the Laval Rouge et Or football team is the best university team in Canada".  
Photo: Laval Tailgate party roasting a dinosaur over the BBQ.

## Skål International Edmonton News

Edmonton started off the SKAL Season with a "back to school" theme for the **September** Meeting. The Little Flower School House, in the historic river valley, was the perfect setting for the event. It came with blackboard, yardstick, taking of attendance, and a pop quiz.

As a special thank you to the members in the hotel industry, the travel agent members were the wait staff. Most courses arrived without incident and with much merriment. The hoteliers have to be commended for their patience as some of the servers occasionally needed reminding to quit visiting and get to work.

Oktoberfest was the theme for the **October** Meeting. Aptly, the German Canadian Club was the venue. Traditional cuisine and beer were enjoyed by the members. German folk dances were performed by a German Dance Group. The highlight of the evening came when some of the SKAL members participated in the performance. (However, it was evident that none of the SKAL members would make the initial audition for "So You Think You Can Dance Canada")

Each **November**, Edmonton is the home of the Canadian Finals Rodeo. "Be seen in jeans" is the mantra for Rodeo Week and Edmonton Club members arrived at Esmeralda's Nightclub, in the Ramada Hotel and Conference Centre, in rodeo-appropriate attire. Terry Wallis, president of the SKAL Calgary Club, was a special guest and provided the B-to-B session of the meeting. After the meeting the nightclub staff gave a line dance demonstration, then invited members onto the dance floor to learn the finer points of shuffle, kick, and clap.



<Photo: Gary Hill, Edmonton

The **December** Meeting was a celebration of Christmas at the historic Selkirk Hotel in Ft Edmonton Park. After cocktails at the Mahogany Bar (once known as Canada's longest bar), a beautiful holiday dinner was enjoyed by the members and their guests. Donations for the Food Bank were again part of the evening.

Each table was provided with the raw materials to create its own Santa. Within a few minutes one Mrs. Santa and six Santas appeared. The Santas ranged from "Way Too Ugly Santa" to "Porno Santa" to "Full-fledged Santa".



Mrs Claus & Friend are Debbie Bruinsma and Paul Durand.

Gen-X was our new Young Skal, Brian Leung

This was the first meeting for Edmonton's new Young Skal member and he participated in the festivities with relish. He represented his table in the Santa contest as "Gen-X Santa".

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## Skål International Calgary

Skål International Calgary honoured out-going Executive Secretary Treasurer, Bob Lees at their November meeting.

Bob joined Skål 28 years ago, served as President in 1988 and took on the role of Executive Secretary over 15 years ago. Over the years Bob has been involved in every major event that Skål hosted from annual Christmas parties and Charter Night to the NAASC congresses in 1991 and 2005.

"Bob has been an integral part of our organization and his knowledge has helped each and every president over the years", says past President, Catherine Heeg.

Julien DeShutter will step into the role of Executive Secretary in the new year.

SKÅL is a professional organisation of tourism leaders around the world, promoting global tourism and friendship. With over 20,000 members worldwide and active in over 90 countries, SKÅL embraces all sectors of the tourism industry including hoteliers, travel agents, airlines, attractions and tourism media.

Contact: Catherine J. Heeg  
International Professional Speaker and Trainer  
Phone: 403 726 0171  
Fax: 403 726 0371  
[www.cmsspeaking.com](http://www.cmsspeaking.com)

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## Skål International St. John's



John Duggan, SICAN VP Finance and SICAN President Elect 2009 visited SI St. John's, Newfoundland where the Club welcomed him in true Skål fashion. John says; "St John's would also like to welcome all fellow Skålleagues to visit anytime. We encourage all SICAN members to contact and visit St John's Skål Club when in Newfoundland.

Their invitation is not only on regular meeting nights but anytime for lunch or coffee "

Photo: John Duggan presents a SI Halifax pennant to the President of SI St. John's Mark McCarthy.

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## Skål International Hamilton

On November 25th our club celebrated our 30th Anniversary in a. We combined our Annual Christmas/Auction meeting for December into one big celebration inviting Skalleagues, of the PAST,

PRESENT, and spouses, significant others, friends and business colleagues. We had 104 people enjoy the evening.

President Mary D'Alton welcomed all members and guests to our celebration, in particular all past members and presidents attending. She commented on the framed "Honour Roll", reading the names, and asked for a moment of silence to remember past presidents and members who are no longer with us but who were very much part of our being here. She asked all the Past Presidents stand to be recognized, remain standing and then presented the SKAL Toast followed by a toast to Canada and the Queen.

Mary noted that we had received a number of letters before introducing Thom Vincent, our ISC representative on SICAN. Thom explained his role as our voice to Skal International. Skalleague John Scott, Vice President for Central Canada, SICAN, brought greetings on behalf of President Norm Bevilacqua and President elect, John Duggan. On behalf of SICAN, he presented a plaque to Mary commemorating the anniversary of our 30 years in SKAL. He also brought greetings from Toronto Club who assisted in the formation of our club. President Mary introduced Skalleague John Graham, the M/C for the evening. Among the guests and spouses, we had seven Past President who were not active members join us. John acknowledged our band (Sandy & Friends) that played during the entire evening. He outlined the evening noting Carmen's was the location where we had held two prior events, one being the NSCC Congress, September 24th 1994. John asked the blessing which was followed by an excellent meal.

OUR own Jim Cooper, a finalist in the Senior's Talent competition to be shown on CTV, sang three songs – Phantom of the Opera; We Rise Again and My Way. Mary, assisted by John, recognized some of our members for their dedication and hard work. Jim Cooper, was presented a bottle of water that looked 'Golden'; Bob Scarfone, a food basket for his many years as sergeant of arms at the door; Stacey Coupland, bouquet of flowers, for the auction; Lorna (a bouquet of flowers) and Larry Hundt, for donating the Bus which brought 30 people to the meeting. John also received a bottle of coloured water for all his extra efforts to make the evening a success. Jim provided the group one more song – "Danny Boy"- which was received with a stand up applause from everyone. Dancing continued until 2300 hours, even the "Chicken" dance. We had regrets with comments from, Elizabeth Glenny, Margaret Morgan, Soren Harrison and Ed Van Oosterhout. It was apparent that everyone enjoyed the festivities of the evening.



1. John Graham our M/C for the evening
2. Pres. Mary thanking members who helped make the evening a success
3. Head Table - President Mary and V.I.P's

Submitted by: Grady Liddle, Executive Secretary

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## Highlights from the Fall SICAN Board Meeting

John Scott and Thom Vincent have done an outstanding job in getting our SICAN Website in place and working. It was a lot of extra work and both should be congratulated for the extra time and effort they have put forth.

David Rooper made a point that the Website is our best tool to get new members. We must make sure that we have the best we can provide. David also said that we must open a new page when we close down the site.

Jona Way advised that membership reports will continue to be updated on the SICAN website. Jona will set up a membership survey called "Survey Monkey" to be sent to our Reps. This is a tool each club could use.

President Norm encouraged members to work with their City Tourism Partners.

John Duggan would like a list from all clubs so that we can provide a link to Trade Publications/Travel and any other information. We need to accumulate as much PR/Communications as possible so that we can get the word across to as many industry people as we can. All Clubs are asked to send this information to John/Henry.

Norm thanked Loretta Clarke for her great job she has done with the Newsletter.

Henry & Norm presented framed certificates to the following Skål members to recognize and thank them for outstanding contribution to their Clubs and SICAN:

- Loretta Clarke, Winnipeg
- Arthur Garner, Victoria
- Jim Engel, Edmonton
- Coach Corazza, Vancouver
- Bob Lees, Calgary
- Dick Copeman, Quebec City

**SICAN SENDS HOLIDAY WISHES AND HAPPY NEW YEAR  
TO ALL OUR MEMBERS ACROSS CANADA.**