

May 10,2023---AGM Report by David Friesen-Health & welfare

In December, Kathy & I took a trip to the Big Island of Hawaii. There we saw some amazing sights. Below is a Rainbow Eucalyptus tree. You can see the rainbow colors on its trunk.



This last year has been a hard one for our club. A lot of us have had medical issues, and some of us have not survived. Our Friend, Brian Curtis has been fighting cancer for more than a year now. We continue to think of you and wish you the best!

We have lost some of our “Old Timers” int the last 1 ½ years. Howard Lancaster. Bill Heron, John Kliewer, Dennis Cale. Peter Nolan. We will miss these guys and think of them often. I have sent cards with your best wishes to those that I have addresses for. We have sent donations to their favorite charities.

I have been sending out a Mensheds Newsletter on an irregular basis. I have been writing news letters since the club started, titled “Hi Guys”,

but took a break from that when Doug Mackey started writing “Keeping Busy” while I was in the hospital fighting my own cancer. While Bill Heron was our secretary, he struggled with presenting information to our group, so I resumed the letter writing. Since Vic Thiessen has taken over the secretary position, he has been so adept at sending out information as it happens, that the newsletter has become somewhat redundant.

As I said earlier, last year was hard on some of us. About 6 of us got covid in March, causing us to re-shutdown for a while. Some of us are still battling the long-term effects. In November, I became ill with a cold which was hard to shake. When we took a trip to Hawaii, I felt a pop in my Right ear & had a lot of pain. At the end of January, I lost the hearing in that ear, along with a debilitating constant roaring, especially when there is much background noise. It’s funny, I can hear road noise and other distractions, but the sounds do not translate to anything my brain can make sense of. I really miss singing with the band! I can not get to see the ear specialist until July 25, so I have decided to step away from the Board.

When I decided to assist Doug in starting this thing called Mensheds, I



thought this could be a great thing for senior men who are struggling with this new world of Retirement. Well, it has been a good thing for me too. I enjoy spending time with all of you. You have blessed me beyond description. I will not fade into the sunset!