

AWI NEWS & NOTES

August 2020

There is some very important information about the upcoming Provincial Convention in this newsletter. If you are the Branch member receiving this information on behalf of your Branch, please pass it on to ALL your members, regardless of whether you are having a meeting or not. Please pass all information you receive on to your members as this is the only way we have of communicating with some of them. Thank you.

- **PROVINCIAL CONVENTION 2020** – due to the ever-changing situation that we find ourselves in because of COVID-19 this year's Provincial Convention will not be held face-to-face in Camrose but will be held **VIRTUALLY*** or online.

Your Provincial Council is currently working on a plan for there to be as much participation by members as possible for this unusual Annual General Meeting. Details will follow once we have them all worked out.

This is a new experience for all of us so please be patient as we figure things out.

**The definition of virtual as stated by the Miriam-Webster dictionary: being on or simulated on a computer network, example online virtual shopping.*

- **Cash Raffle Tickets:** If you still have Cash Raffle tickets please continue selling them until the end of August then mail any unsold tickets, ticket stubs, and money to District 3 Director, Yvonne Erickson. They need to be to her by September 16th. Please mail to:

Yvonne Erickson
20 TWP 484 West
Round Hill, AB T0B 3Z0

- **From the Creative Writing Coordinator, Linda Toews:**

A Challenge

This is an opportunity for all of us to turn our hand to writing down our experiences as we go through this unprecedented event in our history. When we live through history, we don't always think to take the time to write down what we are experiencing and how it affects our families and our friends. We probably have already been regaling our friends and families of the last trip to the grocery store and having to line up 2 metres behind everyone, so a limited number of people were in the store. Perhaps you've experienced what is left after the toilet-paper hoarders beat you to the store, leaving you still looking. Perhaps you have stayed home and not gone out at all, relying on others to bring you groceries and other essentials. Perhaps you have been busy making masks or helping others in some other ways. Perhaps your experiences are entirely different from any of these.

I'd like to challenge everyone to write down some or all your experiences and send them in. This will make for very interesting reading for other members and for our creative writing contest, as well as providing great insight into your life during this time for all your family members. If we get enough of them, we can put them together in a book. I will undertake to put the book together. I challenge all of you to send in enough pieces to make a book. If you wish to submit them to the Creative Writing Competition, they must follow the Competition Rules. If they are for a book of experiences, they can be as long or as short as you wish, and do not have to follow any set format. Send them to awicreativewriting@gmail.com or mail them to me at the address for AWI Creative Writing. Please note if the submission is for the Creative Writing Contest, a book of experiences, or both.

I look forward to reading all your experiences and sharing them with other members.

- Would you like to have the *News & Notes* and other information emailed directly to you? If so, please contact Bernadette at the Office to get put on the mailing list.

Please look after yourselves and your families, look out for your friends and neighbours, and stay safe.

Cathleen Thurston
AWI President

"Notice that the stiffest tree is most easily cracked, while the bamboo or willow survives by bending with the wind."

— Bruce Lee