

| | |
|--|----|
| ACCOMMODATION | 2 |
| Bed | 2 |
| Furniture | 2 |
| Chairs | 2 |
| Television | 2 |
| Pictures | 3 |
| Assist Poles | 3 |
| Other Items | 3 |
| ACTIVITIES | 3 |
| ALCOHOL | 3 |
| CLOTHING | 4 |
| COMMUNICATION | 5 |
| COMPANIONS/OUTINGS | 5 |
| DISCHARGE | 5 |
| DONATIONS | 6 |
| FAMILY & FRIENDS COUNCIL | 6 |
| FINANCIAL & PERSONAL AFFAIRS | 7 |
| Money and Valuables | 7 |
| Financial | 7 |
| FIRE | 7 |
| FOOD | 8 |
| FOOT CARE NURSE | 8 |
| HAIRDRESSER | 9 |
| INSURANCE | 9 |
| MAIL | 9 |
| MEALS | 9 |
| MEDICATIONS | 10 |
| NEWSPAPERS | 11 |
| OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST AND PHYSIOTHERAPIST | 11 |
| DENTAL HYGIENIST | 11 |
| OUTINGS | 11 |
| PARKING | 12 |
| PETS | 12 |
| MULTI-DISCIPLINARY CARE CONFERENCES | 12 |
| SHOPPING | 12 |
| SMOKING | 12 |
| SPIRITUAL CARE | 12 |
| STAFF | 13 |
| TELEPHONE, INTERNET & CABLE | 14 |
| TRANSPORTATION | 15 |
| VISITORS | 15 |
| WALKERS/WHEELCHAIRS | 15 |
| VOLUNTEERS | 16 |
| New Project – ‘Collage of Memories’ | 16 |
| HOW IT ALL BEGAN | 17 |

ACCOMMODATION

Residents are able to personalize their rooms as long as it does not interfere with safe resident care and thorough housekeeping. That means the room must be kept in a manageable, uncluttered condition. This will help prevent injury to Residents and staff. Residents that move into the Evergreen Unit may be moved out into A/B or C/D if they do not need a secure unit anymore.

Bed

Arrowsmith Lodge provides your bed and a top-of-the line mattress especially designed for skin protection when used alone. This bed meets or exceeds the requirements of Occupational Health and Safety.

Furniture

Each Resident's room is furnished with a bed, dresser, wardrobe and night table. You are encouraged to bring in pictures and other personal items that will assist you in feeling at home.

Chairs

Families are encouraged to bring a recliner or easy chair into the room. All chairs must meet the following criteria:

- Covering must be waterproof or easily washable, Scotch Guarding is recommended.
- Rockers, swivel chairs, chairs on castors or love seats are not acceptable. Recliners or recliner/standing chairs are acceptable.
- Resident or responsible party will be responsible for repairs and cleaning of personal furniture.
- Resident or responsible party may be asked to remove an item if it is deemed to be no longer appropriate or if its presence compromises the safety of the Resident or staff. The Nurse in conjunction with the Care Manager may make such determination.

Television

Traditional TVs are not to exceed 28' screen size and each set brought into the facility must be checked by maintenance staff and be CSA approved. We are unable to mount televisions to the wall.

Pictures

Pictures may be hung provided this is done by the maintenance staff. Pictures should not be hung over the bed due to risk of injury should they fall. Pictures on dressers or table-tops should be in sturdy frames and kept to a minimum as the surfaces must be regularly dusted and sanitized.

Assist Poles

These may be brought in and must be installed by the maintenance staff.

Other Items

Other decorative items such as stuffed animals, pillows, figurines, etc. should be kept to a minimum. Rooms must be clutter-free so staff and residents can move around safely in the room. Any item that is not in daily use must be stored outside the facility. There are no storage lockers available in the facility.

ACTIVITIES

A variety of activities are available throughout the building. Monthly activity calendars are posted and daily programs are displayed on the activity boards in the neighbourhoods. Activity Aides assist Residents who wish to participate.

Each month we celebrate and recognise Resident birthdays with a tea or luncheon in a group setting.

There is private dining room available for use by families and Residents should you want to hold a gathering for any celebration. Please arrange this three to four weeks ahead of time with the Activity Department to ensure the availability of the event room.

ALCOHOL

There is a weekly 'Happy Hour' event held by Activities for all Residents, families are welcome to come as well. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks are available for a nominal fee. A Doctor's written order is required prior to giving any Resident alcohol; this is for the health of the Resident due to possible medication interactions. Alcohol supplied by families will be stored in the medication room and administered according to the Doctor's order by the Nurse. Alcohol cannot be kept in a Resident's room.

CLOTHING

A laundry service is offered for Resident's personal clothing. All clothing brought into the facility must be machine washable and clearly labelled by the facility's labelling system. There is a one-time charge of \$40.00 to cover the cost of labelling which includes all clothing on admission, as well as all clothing added at a later date. Clothing should be placed in a bag clearly labelled with Resident's name and given to nursing staff for labelling.

ALL clothing must be machine washable and dryable. Our care staff and laundry staff cannot be responsible for damage to non-machine washable and dryable items.

The following lists are provided as a minimum quantity required assisting you in the admission process.

Clothing

- 6 nightgowns/pyjamas
- 2 housecoats
- 7 pairs of socks
- 7 underpants
- 4 bras
- 7 undershirts
- 2 pairs of non-slip slippers with Velcro closure
- 2 pairs of non-slip walking shoes
- 1 winter coat
- 1 coat suitable for spring, summer and/or fall
- 1 each: scarf, hat, gloves
- 6 pants/skirts/loose fitting dress
- 6 shirt/blouses
- 4 sweaters
- 3 pairs of non-slip socks

Should a resident require a mechanical lift for all transfers, "adaptive clothing" becomes necessary for the comfort of the resident. This clothing is able to be ordered through the Activity Department.

Toiletries

- 2 brushes/combs
- 1 nail clipper (not scissors)
- 2 deodorant
- 1 electric razor
- 2 toothbrushes

- 1 toothpaste
- Any favourite items; comforters, shawls, throws.

Glasses

All eye wear should be labelled prior to coming. This service may be provided by the company where the eye wear was purchased.

Hearing Aids

Please provide a container with the Resident's name. Please bring additional batteries.

Dentures

Please have the dentist label any dentures prior to coming.

COMMUNICATION

Arrowsmith Lodge is committed to providing quality care for our Residents. To accomplish this we need regular communication with Residents and family members, so we invite your suggestions, concerns or compliments. Please communicate regularly with the Nurse on duty. We want to know that your needs are being met. Your input is essential for maintaining quality care.

If, for any reason, you find that the Nurse is unable to address your concern, please feel free to speak with the Care Manager.

Should the Care Manager be unable to resolve your concern, our Administrator would be happy to speak with you.

COMPANIONS/OUTINGS

For Residents who require one-to-one outings or assistance to appointments, a paid companion may be necessary. Information is available; please contact the Care Manager or Nurse in charge. Residents must be signed out when families/friends are taking them out of the building. The sign-out book is located at each nursing station.

DISCHARGE

Discharge from the facility can arise from hospital admission, transfer to another facility, return to the community or death.

The date of discharge is determined by the Long Term Care Dept. The family or Power of Attorney is responsible for removing all personal effects from the room within 24 hours.

Refunds will be made for the unused portion of any prepayment of rent and trust account balances and mailed out within 45 days of discharge. Exceptions may include but not be limited to DVA clients as we have to wait for their process to be complete prior to refunds. Pro-rating/refunding occurs as follows:

- If a resident transfers out, the resident is pro-rated and refunded their rent from one day prior to departure from Arrowsmith Lodge.
- A deceased resident's estate is pro-rated and refunded unused portion of calendar month rent from one day after date of death.
- All monies in a residents comfort/trust fund/account are refunded at the end of the calendar billing month.

DONATIONS

MONETARY DONATIONS

Donations are always gratefully received and are used for the "extras" such as special medical or therapeutic equipment. A tax receipt will be issued for monetary donations to the facility. Gifts to "Staff Appreciation" are not valid for a tax receipt.

NON-MONETARY DONATIONS

These are accepted when the item is in new or near-new condition and is needed for immediate use by the facility. To ensure donations are suitable for use only the Administrator, Care Manager, or Manager of Therapeutic Services are authorized to accept donations.

FAMILY COUNCIL

This council is a forum for families of Residents of Arrowsmith Lodge, Cokely Manor and Arrowsmith Adult Day Program participants to share challenges and experiences. Family council provides a valuable mechanism for dialogue, support, as well as access to education and information for loved ones. The goal is to promote interaction between family members and elders of each program and/or service we offer while enriching the lives of the elders that Arrowsmith Health Care (2011) Society cares for. Any family member or support person of Residents at Arrowsmith Lodge is welcome to attend.

Family Council meets approximately monthly. You will also find the meeting date on the Activity Calendar that is posted on the Notice board at the front

entrance. For families who have provided their email address, they will receive an invite to the meetings via email as well.

FINANCIAL & PERSONAL AFFAIRS

Money and Valuables

- Residents are strongly discouraged from keeping money or valuables in their rooms and are encouraged to deposit money into a Trust account for withdrawals as needed. Large, valuable or irreplaceable items should be kept at home with family or friends.

Financial

- Under our licensing agreement no staff member may assist or act as financial agent on behalf of a resident.
- We cannot stress enough the importance of having such matters as Wills, Enduring Power of Attorney, Representation Agreements, Degree of Intervention, Funeral Arrangements, and other legal documents in order.
- It is equally important to keep the facility informed of these details and notified if any changes occur.
- For information regarding these legal documents, please see the Care Manager.

FIRE

To ensure a high standard of safety and fire protection, we ask that Residents comply with the following guidelines:

- Keep extra room furniture to a minimum and the room free of clutter.
- Appliances such as coffee machines, toasters or microwave ovens are not permitted in Resident's rooms.
- Electric blankets and heating pads are not allowed in rooms.
- Electrical appliances such as TVs, radios and fans are permitted but must be CSA approved and inspected by our Maintenance Department before use.
- Candles or other sources of ignition are not permitted in the lodge.
- Christmas decorations need to be kept to a minimum. Artificial trees and lighting must be inspected and approved by the Maintenance Department before use. Live cut greenery is not permitted unless part of a "live" flower arrangement.

- Smoking is not permitted anywhere inside of the building.
- Chemicals or cleaning agents such as bleach, ammonia, solvents, toilet bowl cleaner, etc. are not permitted in Resident's rooms.

FIRE DRILLS

Each month there will be a fire drill to ensure equipment reliability and staff preparedness in order to meet the requirements of the Provincial Fire Code.

As part of our fire protection system, Resident's rooms are protected by a sprinkler system and all room doors will shut automatically when the alarm sounds. Therefore, it is imperative that sprinkler head and room doors remain unobstructed. Please do not prop room doors open as they are designed to close automatically in the event of a fire.

We also practise evacuation of the fire area and Residents may be asked to accompany staff to a Fire safe area.

Thank you for your co-operation in helping us maintain a safe environment for all.

FOOD

Perishable foods should not be kept in Resident's rooms and non-perishable food must be stored in a small airtight container.

Small refrigerators are permitted in the rooms. Please see the Care Manager.

The facility takes no responsibility for food brought in by friends or family, nor can this food be cooked or reheated by staff.

FOOT CARE NURSE

The Foot care Nurse, Wendy James, visits on a weekly basis and will provide foot care in the Hairdressing/Foot Care room. Wendy is a Licensed Practical nurse with post graduate training in foot care. A Consent Form must be signed to acquire this service. The current fee is \$40.00 per personalized visit, the usual interim between visits is 6 weeks. Referrals may be arranged by speaking with the Nurse at Arrowsmith Lodge. This service is recognized as a medical expense by Revenue Canada and DVA. Payment is made directly to Wendy James and a tax deductible receipt is issued annually. Any procedure the Foot Care Nurse is unable to perform is referred to the Resident's physician.

HAIRDRESSER

We have an on-site, full-service hair salon that provides options for women and men. The salon also offers options to family members and employees. Price list is available for viewing upon request at the salon.

The days and hours of operation are Tuesday, Wednesday and occasionally Thursday from 9:30 am - 2:00 pm.

You can reach the salon at Ext. 113.

INSURANCE

While we will do all that is reasonable to protect personal property, any personal items in the facility are at the owner's risk.

MAIL

Incoming mail is picked up from Canada Post Super Boxes daily, Monday to Friday, excluding Statutory Holidays. The office sorts the mail according to instruction and the Activity Dept. delivers the mail to each Resident. The person responsible for financial matters should have business mail addressed directly to them.

Outgoing mail can be given to the Office and it will then be put in the Canada Post Super Box.

MEALS

Residents are encouraged to eat meals in the dining room, if ill, tray service for meals can be provided for a few days or as determined by the Nurse.

We encourage Residents to drink plenty of fluids. Family is also asked to encourage Residents to drink fluids and to bring nutrient rich beverages as part of their visits.

Refreshments are also available between meals and in the evening.

MEALS AND NOURISHMENTS

- 0630-0730 AM BEVERAGE
- 0700-0900 AM BREAKFAST
- 1015 AM JUICE

- 1200PM LUNCH
- 215 PM BEVERAGE AND TREAT
- 500 PM SUPPER
- 745 PM BEVERAGE WITH SANDWICH OR MUFFIN

Residents and families also have the option to eat at Cokely Manor. Residents of Arrowsmith Lodge are provided a discounted rate for their meal at Cokely's Bistro. The Bistro offers a full and tasty menu along with numerous specials each day that are sure to tempt your taste buds. It is strongly suggested that you phone before 12 noon for lunch reservations and before 5pm for dinner reservations. The Bistro is very popular and busy.

As in Arrowsmith Lodge, Cokely Manor also has a private dining area available for use by families and friends for special functions such as birthdays and anniversaries. Full catering is available at Cokely for such events. Please contact Cokely Manor for availability and reservations.

Meal Tickets for Guests

For a nominal fee, Residents' guests are welcome for the occasional meal; tickets are available through either Activities or the nurse. Please give the nurse advance notice so that seating can be arranged and the kitchen notified. The main (dinner) meal is at supper time.

MEDICATIONS

Medications must be supplied by Pacific Compounding and are dispensed by our nursing staff. The Pharmacare Program covers most medications. Those medications not covered by the program will be charged to the Resident for direct payment to Pacific Compounding, payment may be set up to be taken from the Residents' trust fund. Unused medications will be returned to the Pharmacy for credit/refund. Please make sure we have all information regarding extended medical insurance or DVA, as they are pertinent to what gets billed directly to the Resident.

Medications, including over the counter medications (laxatives, Tylenol or Aspirin, Vitamins, cough syrups, etc.) must not be brought in or kept in the Resident's room at any time. Speak to a Nurse if there are any questions regarding any medication.

Before leaving the facility, please ask the Nurse for any medications that will be due during the outing.

NEWSPAPERS

To receive a newspaper the Resident or their POA must set up a pre-paid subscription directly with the newspaper companies. The newspaper will then be delivered to the Resident. Parksville/Qualicum newspapers are free and can be found by the front door.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST AND PHYSIOTHERAPIST

There is a contracted Occupational Therapist and Physiotherapist to evaluate and assist Residents who may need walkers, wheelchairs or other mechanical assistance. Please be sure to consult with the therapist before purchasing or renting equipment to make certain the equipment is suitable for the Resident. The Nurse will contact the therapist on your behalf. It is the family's responsibility to provide wheelchairs and the use of the lodge's equipment is only temporary.

DENTAL HYGIENIST

The oral health of our Residents is important to us as this may affect their general health. The food they eat, their self-esteem, and nutritional status may be affected by their dental condition.

A regular dental program can resolve problems before causing needless discomfort and expense. We are pleased to have a Dental Hygienist to provide oral care services for our Residents. See the Nurse at Arrowsmith Lodge if you would like to set up a referral. The Dental Hygienist will then contact you with the fee for services that are available.

DENTURES

It is the responsibility of the family to make appointments with the Denturist for ongoing preventative service.

OUTINGS

Whenever a Resident leaves the building for any reason, please ensure the Nurse has ample notice to ensure any necessary medications are provided for the outing. There is a Sign-Out Sheet at the nursing station which must be filled in with the expected time of return. This information is communicated to staff and prospective visitors.

PARKING

Parking is limited and available at Cokely Manor as well as at Arrowsmith Lodge. These parking spaces are marked for "Visitors".

PETS

We encourage family members to bring their pets in for regular visits. To ensure resident safety and personal comfort, pets must be on a leash at all times and please do not bring pets if they can not be controlled.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY CARE CONFERENCES

A Multi-disciplinary Care Conference consists of a clinical team including the Medical Coordinator, Care Manager and/or Nurse on Duty, Health Care Attendant, Activity coordinator, Dietician, and Pharmacist. All aspects of a Residents' care are reviewed to make sure that we are meeting the needs to best of our ability. An initial review is held within 4-8 weeks of arrival and then annually after that.

The Resident or a representative for the Resident is welcome and will receive an invitation to participate once the Care Conference is scheduled, providing the opportunity to clarify information, offer observations, and ask questions that may arise since admission or over the preceding year.

SHOPPING

Personal shopping is the responsibility of the Resident/family/POA.

SMOKING

This is a non-smoking facility. We provide an unsupervised, outside smoking area as a privilege to those who are 'safe' smokers. On evidence of unsafe smoking (i.e. smoking in non-designated areas, burn marks, smoking others' cigarette butts, asking other Residents for their cigarettes), this smoking privilege may be revoked.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Our church contacts provide caring, spiritual encouragements, counsel and support to Residents and their families. The desire for worship, fellowship and spiritual support are also met through meaningful weekly worship and other services. We also encourage Residents to maintain contact with their own faith

communities. We provide church services every Sunday at 1:30 pm and write the Denomination of the church on the Activity calendar.

STAFF and Phone Numbers

Arrowsmith Lodge General Phone Number: 250-248-4331

Administrator: Deanna Smith

Oversees Arrowsmith Lodge and Cokely Manor. Has an 'open door' policy. Please feel free to see her at any time. Hours of work are Mon – Fri 7:00AM-3:00PM.

Care Manager: Tom Patterson

Oversees the Care and Quality Improvement of Arrowsmith Lodge. Please feel free to contact Tom at Ext: 106

Manager of Therapeutic Services: Karen Fredlund

Oversees operations of Cokely Manor, Adult Day Program, and the Activity Department. Please feel free to contact Karen at Ext: 104

Dietitian:

Assesses and monitors each Resident's nutritional requirements. Consideration is given to personal preferences within clinical guidelines. All aspects of nutritional care are in compliance with provincial legislation. Ext: 121

RN(Registered Nurse):

Responsible for planning, providing and overseeing daily resident care including providing clinical support for LPNs and RCAs. Has the most current and detailed information on a Resident's situation. Is able to respond to most family requests and questions. Ext: 1

LPN – Full Scope (Licensed Practical Nurse):

Responsible for contributing to care plan development, dispensing of medications and providing nursing care. Arbutus/Birch Ext: 2 - Cottonwood/Dogwood Ext: 3 - Evergreen Ext: 1

RCA (Resident Care Attendant):

Responsible for providing personal care and assistance with activities of daily living for the Residents

Activity Aides:

Responsible for providing recreation and activities 7 days per week.
Ext: 110

Business Office: Erin Slawson

Does the financial paperwork for admissions and transfers. Manages the Resident trust accounts and monthly rent billings. Erin can answer your questions about finances. Ext: 125

Medical Health Officer – Licensing:
250-739-6304

Patient Care Quality Office:
250-370-8323

TELEPHONE, INTERNET & CABLE

There is a telephone for general use located in the front lobby. This provides local calling options only. The Resident's room is equipped with telephone and cable TV outlets.

To arrange telephone services please call Telus. For internet service contact the provider of your choice. Payment for installation and service is the responsibility of the Resident.

TV Cable is in each Resident's room and the cost is included in your monthly statement if you chose. No need to call, service provided for hook-up.

TRANSPORTATION

Ambulance

Transportation to an acute care hospital is through the Provincial Ambulance Service and is billed directly to the Resident. The standard room charge will be maintained during any hospital stay according to VIHA – Long Term Care Policy.

Other Transportation

Handi-dart information is in the Nursing Office. There may be other transport services available as well, please check with the nurse for the most current information.

Nursing staff must be notified of medical appointments in order to follow through with the appropriate care. The Nurse will send along a copy of the Resident's current medication list and a list of questions to be given to the doctor during the visit.

VISITORS

Residents are encouraged to remain active and involved with the community, friends, and family.

Please do not visit if you have any symptoms of flu or cold.

Visiting hours are 9:00 am to 8:00 pm. Family and friends may visit at any reasonable time, and Residents are encouraged to go out and visit. The Sign-out sheet is at the Nursing Station on each neighbourhood and will need to be filled-in with the expected time of return.

Family and visitors are not permitted in Resident rooms while staff is providing care.

Please do not assist other Residents to leave the building if they are unattended.

WALKERS/WHEELCHAIRS

Residents requiring walkers/wheelchairs are responsible for purchasing or renting their own. We recommend that you consult with the nurse who can refer you to the Occupational Therapist before purchasing such items to ensure suitability. Upkeep of walkers or wheelchairs is the Resident's responsibility.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are selected, orientated, and trained to give special services to the residents of Arrowsmith Lodge, under the supervision of the Activity Coordinator and other Activity Aides on duty.

These services help to stimulate community interest, provide support and contacts with people other than staff and family.

Your help is important, and with a smile, a happy attitude, and understanding, you can help to make the elderly resident's day a little more pleasant.

Information and applications are available through our Activities Department to learn more about becoming a volunteer.

New Project – 'Collage of Memories'

In keeping with the Eden Philosophy of care and the strong belief that we are an extended family, the administration and staff at Arrowsmith Lodge wish to celebrate and honour the lives of our Residents by displaying a collage on each Resident door. This would comprise of important dates or events of a Residents' life listed in point form and a few pictures which may hold special meaning and represent the residents' past achievements.

The paper for the collages is available from Arrowsmith Lodge as it must conform to specific measurements. For further information, assistance with scanning of pictures, or putting the collage together, please feel free to contact:

Steve Crabb (RCA/Activity Aide)

250-947-9777 Ext: 4

crabbsteve@gmail.com

The following historical rendition has been transcribed from an original document produced by the Executive Committee of Arrowsmith Lodge dating 1978.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

When the present Executive Committee of the Arrowsmith Rest Home Society decided that this year 1978, after our entry into the Provincial Governments Long Term Care Program, it would be desirable, for the sake of posterity, to tell the story of the humble beginnings of Arrowsmith Lodge.

But immediately small problems arose, whom do we credit with its amazing success? Many hundreds of hard workers have helped with research, planning, financing and organization, but nothing could have been achieved without that first thought in the mind of one Everett Blish. That name must remain, or the story cannot be told.

In 1968 there was set up in this District of Parksville, Coombs, Errington and Nanoose, a Senior Citizen Counselling Service, and Everett Blish was that Counsellor. His duties involved interviewing and advising older people in the district and residents in the various Rest Homes in the area. At that time, the disappearance of a resident from one of these facilities, together with some incidences of elderly persons falling downstairs with resulting incapacitation, showed the need for a suitable building where people would be on a single floor with no steps; a place where guests would feel needed, wanted and at home, but still having sanctuary in their own private rooms. Thus, the idea of such a facility as Arrowsmith Lodge was first conceived.

A meeting was arranged with representatives from the three Old Age Pensioners groups in the District, and a decision was made to poll the area organizations and Service Clubs with a questionnaire to determine the type of care most desirable. When all this information was analysed, it was easily seen that a Senior Citizen Personal Care Unit was the greatest need.

But how to go about it? Some 'gloomy deans' were overawed by the apparent difficulties of such an undertaking, but Everett's faith bore out the poem of Edgar Guest:

"Somebody said it couldn't be done, but he with a chuckle replied, that maybe it couldn't, but he wouldn't be one to say so till he'd tried."

Many trips were made over on the mainland to learn of the problems and difficulties experienced by other Societies and communities with similar considerations. This research revealed still more poignantly the drastic need for help for the elderly.

Eventually, during an interview with the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Everett was guided to a Department in the Legislative Building in Victoria, where he learned of the necessary procedures of setting up an Interim Board, composing a Constitution which would be signed by a cross-section of the community. The Mayor, an alderman, a school teacher, a plumber, a grocer, a lawyer, old age pensioners and many others gave their names to the Constitution, and the name Arrowsmith Rest Home Society was chosen, indicating the District which it hoped to serve.

Application to form the Society was approved in 1969, and Arrowsmith Lodge was chosen as the name of the facility for the personal care of senior citizens of the district in need of that care.

A General Meeting was held in the Canadian Legion Hall to elect a Board of Directors. Mr. C. J. Dowling of the C.M.H.C. was in attendance and agreed to finance the Personal Care Home. However, as this facility must be on approved water and sewage systems, this stipulation restricted the choice of property to the Village of Parksville.

Less than an hour before that meeting, the manager of the Royal Bank phoned to offer his help. He came to the meeting, was elected to the Board of Directors, and interim financing was arranged through his bank with no further problems. Mr. Ed Noble, who had just recently moved to the Coombs district, was first vice-president to Everett Blish. Mayor Irving, Jim Russell of the Royal Bank, J. Pakenham and Mrs. Pauline Tranfield formed the first Board, with Mr. C. W. R. Attwood as Secretary-Treasurer. Unfortunately Mr. Attwood had to resign shortly thereafter due to ill health. Mr. J. W. Haworth accepted that office which he kept for many years after setting up the first bookkeeping system for the Lodge. Mr. Blish, acting as administrator, and Mr. Haworth in charge of Lodge and Society accounts served faithfully for those early years with no remuneration of any kind, in order to allow the income of the project to stabilize.

The first meeting of the "Ways and Means" • Committee was held in the Nobles' garage in Coombs. The problem was to raise money for the Society's share, ten per cent of the C.M.H.C. loan, and in that garage the very first dollar started the financial campaign.

It had been decided to “go it alone” • with no help from Provincial Government funds. In this way our Society could maintain complete control over Lodge residential applications and acceptances, which would, of course be primarily from District 69. This whole plan appeared to be overwhelming, for the Society members must raise almost \$30,000.00, and they did! They achieved their objective through card parties, bingos, teas, sales and raffles, but above all with personal canvassing and collecting. The Parksville Progress Newspaper was greatly responsible for our success, the paper’s Dollar-Thermometer and general publicity every week was so encouraging. The accumulation of personal donations, from as humble as fifty cents to cheques of a thousand dollars and more, soon told the story of our co-operative community!

The search for suitable land had not been easy. The speculation spiral was beginning, and many considered properties had doubled and tripled in value overnight. Finally the decision was made to purchase our present five acres for \$8,800.0. Local citizens cleared the land of merchantable timber and donated the proceeds to our Society. The Architects were Schultz and Spearing of Nanaimo.

Tenders were called for the building. A delayed financial signature from C.M.H.C. saw the withdrawal of the first contractor, and there was some hindrance to construction until a 'properly' signed agreement was obtained. Eventually Hunter and Son of Victoria, and Pat Gadd Construction of Qualicum saw the building begin to take shape.

The first three wings of the cruciform design were opened in November, 1971, and first residents moved in a few at a time so as to accustom our staff to the aims and objects of the Society. Soon forty elderly citizens in need of care were being looked after, and by the time the fourth wing was added three years later, there were sixty happy residents under our care.

Landscaping of the surrounding property had proceeded rather more slowly, but Society members and some Lodge residents had worked together to make trails through the natural forest and undergrowth which provided such a quiet rural background for the building. (Even at that, we were recommended for the Park and Tilford Trophy as early as 1972!)

Later, through grants from the Federal New Horizons Program, the property was fenced, and an extra well was drilled to provide irrigation for gardening which has been such an absorbing hobby for both Lodge residents and Society members. A Fruit orchard of thirty trees was planted through extra donations in memory of the late Lodge Resident Arthur Gibbs. Landscaping of the "Quiet Corner" was donated by the Ladies' Auxiliary, which had been organized in the home of Mrs. John Bloom in the late summer of 1971.

Since that time, the Auxiliary Ladies have worked unceasingly to provide extra comforts for the people of the Lodge and labour-saving equipment for the staff.

We have received immeasurable help from the Parksville Lions, the Kinsmen, the Canadian Legion, the Kiwanis, the Natural History Society, the Churches of all denominations, to say nothing of "Just people" •, truly a community project. Special thanks must go to the original staff who worked many long hours, far beyond the call of duty, just to make sure the Society would achieve its objective, a happy home, and plans for further health care, for elderly citizens of District 69.