



Markham District Veterans Association Newsletter

7 Washington Street, Markham, Ontario, L3P 2R3
Telephone: (905) 294-3159, Email: markhamveterans@rogers.com

Find us on Facebook

April 2020



President's Remarks – David Smith

The annual saying "March in like a lion, out like a lamb" this year is more like "March in like a lion, out like a pride of lions on steroids".

We are experiencing something that many of us have never experienced before... a war with an invisible enemy, one that we have no weapons with which to fight it and one that is over whelming our health care system.

Our thoughts, prayers and heartfelt gratitude go out to all of the front line workers and first responders during this pandemic.

Our thoughts and prayers also go out to Marjorie Nielsen and her family on the passing of Viggo Nielsen, a dear and long time member of the MDVA.

The MDVA team is here for you and I applaud Karen Kearns who has called all of our veterans to see if they need any help and has assembled a team of MDVA responders who are available to help any member that needs help.

Gary and Eloise have also been terrific during the closure and spent many, many, many hours thoroughly cleaning and sanitizing all areas of the building, including carpet cleaning, window washing and painting (with Dirk Mooney's help and within the social distancing guidelines). When the club opens up you will know that it will be as healthy a place as any to visit.

As this pandemic continues to evolve, there will be no Executive or General Meeting in April and the MDVA will continue to remain closed until the Government lifts these restrictions. Based on what one hears from the Premier's daily updates and other news reports, I suspect that we will be closed through the month of April.

I will continue to keep you updated on any developments as they occur, and until we are able to get together again, stay well and safe.

.....**David**



Entertainment Chair – Shara Carr

Hi Friends,

What a difference a month makes! I hope this finds you all keeping safe and healthy and being kind to each other. Times like these can bring out the best in people and that is something to hold onto.

Many of you don't know but my mum has Alzheimer's and lives in a care home in Oakville where she's looked after by some very beautiful people. I can't tell you how hard it is not to be able to see her, know she's ok and well cared for, not to hug her and make her laugh. We check in with the brave staff who reassure us of course, but we don't want to bother them too often, it's all incredibly hard on them too.

On Monday one of these heroes decided to surprise my sister and I with FaceTime calls with my mum. It was such a relief and a joy to see my mum looking good, as healthy as ever, clean, neat and tidy and obviously well looked after. Her smile and little laugh made my day and this gesture

from one of her super special caregivers reminded me of what's most important, humanity, love and kindness.

Stay safe my friends.

Wishing you all health and hope

.....**Shara xx**

April - 2020 !

- **Good Friday – April 10th**
- **Easter Sunday – April 12th**



Service Bureau – Karen Kearns

To all the wonderful members who stepped up to say Yes I will help if you need me. I say Thank You from the bottom of my heart.

I have a list of names of members and phones from which I can call for help if anyone of our members needs Help during this time of isolation whether it large or small don't feel you can't call.

First call me Karen 416 885-0908 and I will see that you get what is needed.

This month is a sad one, as we lost a wonderful member Viggo Nielsen who passed away, husband to Marjorie Nielsen. Our condolences go out to her and the family at this time. RIP Viggo you will be missed.

We would also like to offer our condolences to Jennifer Spanton and family on the passing of her husband Tom on MARCH 28TH. Tom was a long time resident of Markham and euchre player at the club.

LAST I will be making calls again to check in with you again hoping everything is well with you.

If you know of anyone that is ill or needs help with anything ie ride to appointments please let me know @ 905-471-5913.

....**Karen K.**



Building Chair – Gary Bowerman

Good Day Members,

As I write this on April 1st. March certainly turned into a challenging month. We have been telling members to keep safe and keep social distancing. We have been proactive with enforcement at the club and using this time for some needed maintenance to the club while respecting all the requirements of these trying times. The Upper Hall kitchen floor was removed and reinstalled . We were able to paint and fix up the Upstairs Ladies washroom and hallway. Downstairs, all the carpets, brickwork, bar fronts, walls, windows, pictures, vents have been cleaned. We also conducted a mini spring cleanup to the exterior areas. Seventeen pewter plaques were installed in the BS table and refreshed a few others.

This was accomplished by a very small work party. The first was Dirk Mooney who painted the upper hallway and ladies washroom. The second group were Eloise and myself.

.....**Gary**

Parade Marshal – Gary Bowerman

Good Day Members

I have been in contact with the City of Markham. Due to the pandemic, they with not be issuing any permits for events on City property taking place before the 15th of May. . The 15th of May is a fluid date from the City and they will be reviewing the requirement to extend this date. I will be able to let members know in the May newsletter whether our D-Day Ceremony will need to be postponed

until a later date Vimy Ridge and the 75th of VE Day Club events have also been postponed until a later date.

.....**Gary**

Membership – Dawne Ramkay

It has been a crazy month. I know many of you are having a hard time. I keep you all in my prayers.

All around us, the world is changing., everywhere but in my house! My days are still pretty much the same... feeding babies, changing bums, picking up toys, breaking up toddler fights. I have been watching the PM speak every morning, and I never quite realized how aware kids really are.

One day last week, I muttered something during the PM address. My daughter asked what I said... my son answered...."She said friggen a** hole, he won't let us go to the playground!" What did I learn?... 1. Don't call ppl names in front of the kids, 2. They are aware and understand better than they should have too. Jax (5 yrs old) later told me that the man on the tv just shut down the whole world.

I trust everyone is making the best of things. I am looking forward to getting my garden bed prepared. I hope you all are doing little things every day that make you happy. Take care of yourself and each other."

..... **Dawne**

Publicity – Karen Mooney

The **pewter name plates** have arrived & Gary Bowerman has been a very busy guy installing them all into the B.S. table so by the time we have COVID-19 behind us, you'll be pleasantly surprised to see your names now in the table.

We haven't been able to see each other so if you could please mail your payment of \$30 into the club we'd appreciate it. You can write a cheque – made out to the MDVA & drop it into the mail to my attention at 7 Washington St., Markham, ON. L3P 2R3.

I will send out a separate e-mail to those who still owe !

with thanks, **Karen**

General Meeting – March 9th – Our Guest Speaker

If you were unable to attend the meeting our Guest Speaker was Officer Bussie Wood from York Regional Police who spoke to us about the type of scams that are going on & taking advantage of our seniors.



I will not include all of her presentation slides here, but will put in a couple that are pertinent to our membership.





TOP SCAMS TARGETING OUR OLDER FRIENDS

Lottery Scams / CRA / Telemarketing/Salesperson Scams

Calls from people impersonating police or Microsoft employees to extract personal information

Emergency/Grandparent Scams

Investment Schemes / Romance Scams

Distraction Thefts

REMEMBER TO ASK QUESTIONS AND THAT THERE IS NO EMERGENCY IN ANY SCAM!!



At this same General Meeting

Dorothy Jarick received a certificate for her years as a member & service to the club ! She joined when the doors opened so is one of our originals ! Nov. 1949 – over 70 years ! Awesome Dorothy !

Reasons to have a Celebration ! OK maybe not until all of this is behind us but we have missed a few things like Birthday's & Anniversary's so for the month of March

Be-lated Wishes to :

March 11th – Betty Moir's Birthday – they did get to celebrate in Florida & now however are in self-isolation (you might also recognize Ann & Ed Griffin previous members of the MDVA)



90th





March 16th – Happy Birthday Jennifer MacNeil

March 17th – St. Patrick's Day

March 19th - Treasurer John Craig

March 20th - Happy 55th Wedding Anniversary to Betty & Bobby

March 24th – Eloise Bowerman aka “Molly Maid” & Hall Rental Director

March 25th – Happy Birthday Rose Kelly



March 14/ April 14 – mix up ! so Mike Johnson has a special Birthday coming on April 14th His son ordered some lawn things to wish him a Happy B-day – problem the company sent & set up everything on March 14th – so does that mean you get to celebrate twice ?



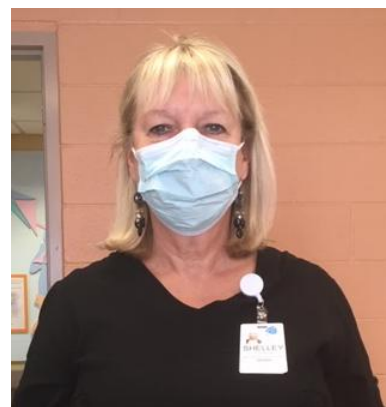
Members Stuck trying to get home ! For many, COVID-19 has thrown a wrench into vacations cut short or “isolation” else where !

Heard from one member that Lloyd & Joan Black were on a month long cruise, they were rescued and are self isolating in Calgary until April 2 ! Hopefully you'll be back in your **own** home by the time you receive this newsletter !



Thank you's to our "Front Line" workers ! Please be safe – our thoughts & prayers are with you all !

Shelley Fazackerley at
Seniors' Health Centre
LTC



Thank you Shelley Baker at
Markham Stouffville Hospital



Jennifer MacNeill
also at MSH on her
2nd Shift of the day
(Mar. 26th)



Corina Dosch
Long Term Care
York Region

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who are not just in the front lines in our hospitals & LTC facilities but the many others out there putting themselves in harm's way.

We would like thank ALL those, who are keeping us safe & protected, (Police & Fire Services), keeping our store shelves stocked, janitors trying to keep everything clean & sanitized, cashiers, postal workers, farmers, truck drivers & those keeping us fed & the countless volunteers helping our seniors “isolate” by picking up groceries & medications & delivering them to their homes. We would be amiss if we didn’t include all the Lab technicians across this country who are working around the clock determining each COVID-19 test whether it be positive or negative. There are many more to thank that I haven’t mentioned so I’m sorry for those I’ve missed just know YOU are all truly our hero’s !

Not sure if you’ve heard about the initiative to show our gratitude, but I’d like to share this with you. Do you remember the song “Tie a Yellow Ribbon around the Old Oak Tree” well now it’s “Tie a Blue Ribbon” in support of all of our Front Line Workers ... these blue ribbons with a Canadian Flag attached are popping up around the country. They are also popping up in Britain & the U.S.A.



Aurora

Dianne and Brian Harrison are retired, but spend a lot of their time volunteering in the community. They tied blue ribbons around nearby trees outside their apartment in south Aurora to remind front-line workers that they are appreciated and that, as Canadians, we stand together. It's also to remind Canadians of our troops that have been deployed around the world. -

“Cadet Corner” – Roger Carlsen

The Cadets have been in a stand down position for 3 weeks now. There's a good chance cadets will be cancelled for the year, which means no Annual Parade in June, which is the highlight of a cadets training for the year, for both the cadets and their families and friends.

March 6-8th the cadets were camping out at Woodland trails on their Winter Adventure weekend. There was a record amount of 38 cadets in attendance.

The coronavirus has halted all cadet training across Canada which will effect over 70,000 Cadets and Officers.

Stay well everyone
Cheers
Capt Carlsen CD

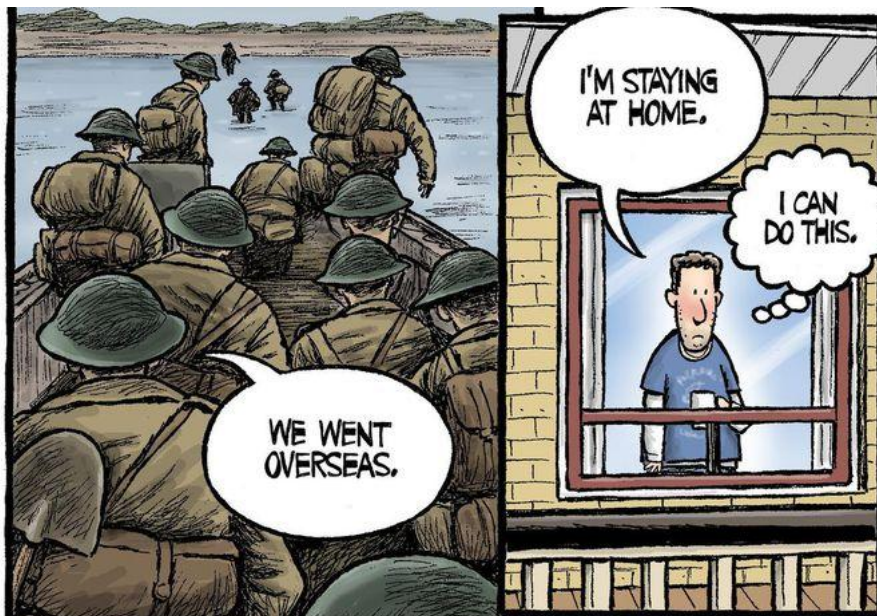




Last week I reached out to you by e-mail asking you to share any good news stories or random acts of kindness Thank you for your contributions & e-mails !

Please be safe, call a friend in need of cheering, look after each other, and be kind to one another!
 **Karen M.**

SACRIFICES



Theo Moudakis for the
 Toronto Star – April 2nd, 2020

Bar Chairman – Richard (Wiz) Kelly

I was driving along Sir Lancelot and a homeowner had a beautiful bouquet of flowers, a large heart and ribbons attached to their tree out front. It read “Just want to thank all the health care workers for all you do....we are thinking of you!” It was really nice to see!**Wiz**



Please - please support these businesses!

THIS IS SENIOR LIVING IN YORK REGION



When you're ready, let us get to know you. Together we can create a personalized senior living experience to support your unique needs, even as those needs change.

PRIVATE TOURS AVAILABLE | AMICA.CA

AMICA

SENIOR LIFESTYLES

AMICA SWAN LAKE • 905-201-6058 • AMICA UNIONVILLE • 905-947-9990

Happy Easter!

Wishing you a bright and joyful Easter.



**Karen
Rea**

Ward 4 Councillor
Tel. 905.479.7751

To keep informed on Markham and Ward 4 issues, visit:
www.karenrea.ca or email: krea@markham.ca

Lighting your way

when making these
important decisions.

905-294-2030

Dixon-Garland funeral home

family owned for over 60 years
www.dixongarland.com



YOUR VISION
IS
MY MISSION



647-273-8096
rukshan.para@3c3consulting.com

TIMES PHYSIOTHERAPY & Rehabilitation Centre

Elliot Tse
Registered Physiotherapist
(Canada, UK, Australia, HK)



Best Community
Service Award

PHYSIOTHERAPY
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
MASSAGE THERAPY
LASER ACUPUNCTURE

905-707-9888

www.timesphysiotherapy.com

550 Highway 7 East, Suite 304, Richmond Hill, ON



Covered by Insurance, OHIP, and
Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC)



NO FRILLS – Visconti's
5762 Highway 7 East
Markham, Ont.
L3P 1A8

**BUDGET
TOWING**
Services Ltd.
MARKHAM ONT.
SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1973

- LOCAL & LONG DISTANCE
- GUARANTEED DAMAGE-FREE TOWING
- HEAVY-DUTY FLAT BED SERVICE
- HEAVY-DUTY TOWING
- LOCK-OUT SERVICE
- SCRAP CAR REMOVAL

24 HOUR TOWING

905-294-2422

CAA



BENNETT

**BENNETT GOLF CARS
& UTILITY VEHICLES**
905.640.7822