



Markham District Veterans Association Newsletter

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September 2020



President's Remarks – David Smith

Dear Members,

The Club has been shut now for nearly 6 months but your Board of Directors have been busy over the summer months instead of our usual time off. We have had several meetings, via Zoom, and at the August meeting the Board decided that we now need to open the Club up, **with strict Covid protocols to be followed**, as the number of Covid cases appeared to be somewhat stable.

To help us understand how members felt about coming back, and whether or not it would be financially viable to open, a survey was conducted which gave us some very valuable data. One thing that stood out was that a lot of members said they would not be back anytime soon. This is understandable as most of the members are in the highly vulnerable category. However, some Members indicated they are interested in coming in, and based on that input, we have decided to do a "soft" opening of the Club starting on September 17th. As of that date, the Club will be open on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 4PM to 8PM and pool playing will be allowed as long as players have their own pool cues.

Strict Covid protocols will be in place and enforced during opening hours.

Please join me in a **HUGE THANK YOU** to Annie Woodcock and her team for the supply of masks for our members. Karen Kearns still has some if anyone needs them.

Covid 19 has not only had a financial impact on the Club but a personal one as well. Our long serving cleaners, Betty McInnes and John Chalmers, have both tendered their resignations. Betty and John have been cleaning the Club for many, many years and I can't thank them enough for their service. They have always given 100% and always gone that extra mile when needed. They certainly deserve the rest.

We have lost a few members over the past number of months and we have a few others that are not doing well. We remember our beloved members Viggo Nielsen, David Anthony, Peggy Maw and Tom Spanton...may they rest in peace. We pray for those members who are ill...Past President Jack Forsey, Faith Collins, Barbara Leach and Jack Maw.

As we struggle with doing the right things for our members, we have decided that there will be no General Meeting in September and all of the Executive meetings will continue to be held via Zoom.

The business of the Club must go on, so a number of General Meeting actions and decisions will be conducted via email and/or telephone as allowed for under the Corporations Act Emergency Rules which are currently in place. Separate emails will be sent and/or telephone calls will be made to

you to obtain responses. These will be recorded and you will be advised of the decisions. The first of these will be the ratification of the Motion to Amend the Constitution which was tabled back on March 10th, 2020. All Life, Regular and Relative members vote on this Motion as per the MDVA Constitution. This will be issued to you shortly.

Covid cases are creeping up and schools have not gone back yet, so please follow all of the safety measures in place to help to stop the spread.

Stay safe and healthy.

.... **David**

Entertainment & Fund Raising Director – Shara Carr

Hi Everyone - just a quick note to say hello since I can't Direct much Entertainment these days! I hope everyone is having a good summer, stayed safe and got to enjoy some socially distanced outdoor time with family and dear friends.

I planned on at least sharing a little comedy with you all but due to the quarantine I'll only be telling inside jokes. ☐

Be well, stay safe and hope to see you soon,

....**Shara**

September Dates to remember !

- **Thursday September 17th – MDVA opens from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

Service Bureau – Karen Kearns

Hello everyone,

As summer nears its end, it has been a busy summer for me trying to keep up to date with our members. I've made a lot of phone calls to our members and am still doing so, just to say Hello, & how are you doing, during this time .

It's with sad news I report the passing of Peggy Maw August 27th wife of Glen Maw our condolences go out to Glen and his family.

Jack Forsey is still in MSH after suffering a stroke.

Jack Maw is in Richmond Hill Hospital, he suffered an aneurism, was operated on, and remains in hospital.

Barbara Leach is resting at home with a broken back & we wish her a speedy recovery.

Special Note on one of our members.

Faith Collins is enjoying the company of her daughters Judy and Kathy, visiting from the States on special permission to be here, as she struggles with her cancer, as it nears the end. Please respect the family wishes for Privacy at this time. I was able to have a short visit with her, took her flowers from the MDVA and she thanked everyone one for everything they have done for her over the years. Faith knows our thoughts and prayers are with her.

... **Karen K.**

Please call me if you know of anyone who is in poor health or needs assistance @ **905 471-5913**

Building Chair – Gary Bowerman

Good Day Members,

Keep Safe and Keep Social Distancing. The summer was the quietest on record for the MDVA. No air conditioning calls, no complaints about the heat, plugged toilets, broken flush

handles, vacuum cleaners, glass washers, ice machines, soap dispensers and warm beer. Darn, I miss the place.

However, over the summer, I was successful on two out of three contests I entered . The Hunk Contest, the Chunk Contest and the Drunk Contest. I will leave it to your imagination to which ones I won.

With the COVID requirements and new protocols for re-opening the Hall and getting us up and running again is coming along nicely. Changes in how we do business will have growing pains, so patience and understanding on all sides will be required.

Cleaning Contract opportunity at the Club! If any member is interested, I will send the required information to you. Please let me know as soon as possible, as the cut-off date is Friday Sept. 18th, 2020.

Contact by email only :

Gbowerman2013@gmail.com

Keep Safe

.... Gary

Parade Marshal

Good day Members:

The Remembrance Ceremony on November 7th will again be very limited due to restrictions. The City has allowed us to submit an application for the use of Veterans Square. We have submitted options of what type of service we would like to have.

Unlike previous years or unless COVID 19 disappears, we will not be having a Church Service in the Upper Hall. No permits to use the streets for a parade and march past will be issued by the City. The Cadets and youth are being asked not to participate this year as a RCL Guideline for 2020. Also, for many they will be disappointed to learn we will not be returning to the Vets Club after for refreshments and the traditional light lunch.

Received an email from Karen Rae where she described these as unprecedented times. Indeed they are. The City and we, will try our best to have a respectful service and honour the men and women we have been lost in the many conflicts, peacekeeping and peacemaking roles. We are optimistic yet, realistic in our expectations.

Keep Safe

.... Gary

Publicity & Communications Director – Karen Mooney

Hello everyone ! well, I hope you've had a great summer, all be it, most unusual! As David Smith talked about, we are ramping up to open up so that's good news! The club, like everywhere else, will seem odd at first with all the protocols in place, but it will be nice to see everyone, even though from a distance & with masks on!

The recipe book is coming along great & during those first few months when it was still cold & we were confined to our indoor space, it gave me something to keep me busy & something I've really enjoyed doing. Please, if you have more, send them in, as I'd love to receive them & include them!

My goal is to have a Recipe booklet for you to see in late October or early November !

Pewter Name Plates – well it goes without saying that they did arrive, have been installed into the B.S. table (thank you Gary Bowerman) & then Covid-19 hit & we had to close. Thank you to those who have paid. There are approximately 6 people, who didn't have the chance to pay so I will get in touch with individually by e-mail or phone & will give instructions at that time on how to make payment & the amount.

Stay safe, & well !

..... Karen M.

Because we have been following this story from Britain about “Tom Moore” in case you didn’t know

Queen makes veteran a knight at 100. no kneeling required



LONDON - In the end, Sir Tom didn't need to rise.

On a day infused with emotion, Queen Elizabeth II tapped the blade of a sword once owned by her father on the slender shoulders of 100-year-old Tom Moore, making a hero of a nation a knight of the realm Friday. (Friday July 17th, 2020)

Moore captivated the British public by walking 100 laps of his garden in England and raising some 33 million pounds (\$40 million) for the National Health Service in April. The queen knighted him with the traditional sword tap, but the World War II was not required to take a knee before the monarch.

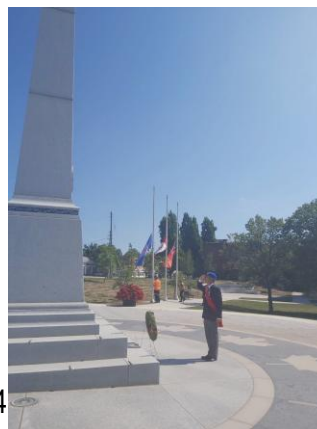
Instead, Moore steadied himself against his now-famous walker and wheeled himself across the grass to stand in front of Elizabeth.

“I have been overwhelmed by the many honours I have received over the past weeks, but there is simply nothing that can compare to this,” he tweeted after the ceremony. “I am overwhelmed with pride and joy.” The ceremony was staged outside of Windsor Castle west of London, where the 94-year old queen has been sheltering during the COVID-19 pandemic alongside her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh.

Moore, who rose to the rank of captain while serving in India and Burma during the war, revealed that he and Elizabeth spoke about ages - slightly breaking the protocol of not revealing a private conversation with the queen.

“She did mention I’m 100, and I said to her, ‘Well, you’ve a long way to go yet,’ so she’s alright,” he said.

VJ Day – Sat. August 15th - Thank you Larry Lau for sending these in & participating on behalf of the MDVA



Reasons to Celebrate ! OK maybe **not** until all of this is behind us but we have missed a few things like Birthday's & Anniversary's so for anyone who had a Birthday in late August & now coming up in September or October - or celebrated an Anniversary please let me know!



Thank you's to our "Front Line" workers ! Here we are months later, & we're still giving our thanks to those who have worked endlessly on keeping us safe !



Canadian Trivia Corner !

What is the oldest walled city that still exists north of Mexico?

- a) Montreal
- b) Halifax
- c) Quebec City
- d) Vancouver



Aloha!

The pizza variety everybody knows as Hawaiian originated in Canada, not Hawaii. Greek-born restaurateur Sam Panopoulos was the first person to pair ham and pineapple atop a pizza, which he first did at his restaurant in Chatham, Ontario, back in 1962.

Answer - Quebec City is the only city that has maintained its fortification walls, which were first built in 1695. This has earned the Historic District of Old Quebec a spot on United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's World Heritage List.

Please - please support these businesses!



SOON.

We're so grateful for the efforts of our community when it comes to prioritizing the health and safety of our residents. When the time is right, we will once again open our doors to families and friends and to everyone interested in senior living at Amica Swan Lake and Amica Unionville. Until that time comes, we're here to answer any questions you may have.

For the latest updates and re-opening information, please contact us.

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PROTECT YOURSELF & OTHERS

- Remember to continue practicing physical distancing
- Keep your social group to 10 people
- Wash your hands
- Wear a mask in public spaces



*Be Safe, be Healthy
& be Kind,*

**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

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