



Markham District Veterans Association Newsletter

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

Find us on Face book

January 2021



President's Remarks – David Smith

Welcome to 2021. I hope everyone is well and staying safe.

I was hoping that we would be out of the lockdown around the end of January but with the current number of cases and the positivity rate being so high I think we are now looking at February or possibly later. Here's hoping for a positive (no pun intended) change in direction soon.

Our 2020 Poppy Campaign has been finalized and as expected the donations were down considerably due to Covid restrictions. This year's campaign raised a little over \$23,000. To Rick Pacci, Bill Guiller and all of their volunteers, **"Thank You"**.

In December, we applied for the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) and the Veterans Organization Emergency Support (VOES). Both of these applications were approved helping the MDVA to offset our revenue losses and ongoing operating expenses in 2020 and 2021. A BIG **"Thank You"** to our Treasurer, John Craig for his work on both applications.

We also submitted our application for the Ontario Resiliency Grant in the amount of \$145,000 to build a universal accessible bathroom for the upper hall as well as other improvements to the club. We expect an answer on our application by late February to early March.....keep your fingers crossed.

As we start the new year, the MDVA Board is down 3 Directors as Dawne Ramkay and Gary Bowerman stepped down at the end of December and Eloise Bowerman is stepping down at the end January. Gary also stepped down from the Parade Marshal position.

I will be looking to fill the Directorships in early 2021.. As soon as I have replacements, I will be submitting them to the membership for ratification. If you have any suggestions please speak to the candidate and confirm that they are in agreement to serve. If they are, then send in their name(s) to markhamveterans@rogers.com for me to interview.

January and February we usually have 2 very successful member events in Burns Night, and Valentines Day. Last year's events were "sold out" and all we can do this year is reflect on the great time all had last year and look forward to next year.

Super Bowl is always a popular event for the membership with pot luck dinner and the football pools. While the potluck is not possible, we are looking to see if we can do an online pool for the members. If we are able to come up with something we will let you know via email so stay tuned.

Keeping our members engaged with the club is key as we continue through the lockdowns so if any of you have any ideas as to things that we can do to keep members engaged or to raise funds for the MDVA, please let us know by email to markhamveterans@rogers.com.

Stay safe and let us look forward to being vaccinated so that we can get life back to a new normal.

....David

Entertainment & Fundraising Director – Shara Carr

Hi All,

Just wanted to wish you all a Happy New Year! Hoping the New Year finds you all safe and well.

Members – here is an idea ! Monday January 25th is Robbie Burns Day! Because we can't celebrate in our normal fashion why not share some moments & fun by producing a Robbie Burns night / day / weekend at home & sharing it with us & through the February newsletter!

Here's our challenge out to you ! Whether it's over the weekend of Jan. 23/24 or on Monday the 25th, cook something from or make a Scottish dish, put on your kilts, & Scottish music, do a "jig" – whatever you want to do! Make haggis (or vegan haggis), tatties & neeps (mashed potatoes & mashed turnip) get dressed up & have a meal !!! No haggis, enjoy a meat pie ! if you do nothing else except have a wee "dram" of scotch or whisky, make a toast, – just do it & send your photos in & Karen Mooney who will put them into the February newsletter !



Just because we can't be together doesn't mean we can't celebrate & do something fun & socialize differently ! **IT'S A CHALLENGE & IT'S ON !**

I hope the time between now and when we can gather again safely in large numbers goes quickly!

Take care everyone!Shara

Dates to Remember – January

- **January 25th – Robbie Burns**



Dates to Remember – February



- **Sunday February 7th – Superbowl 55 – Host Tampa Bay**
- **Sunday February 14th – Valentines Day**
- **Monday February 15th – Family Day**



From Karen Mooney - Regarding Robbie Burns !

Just so you know, we received an e-mail from the University of Glasgow, who has put out a challenge world-wide ! however, their challenge is to send in photos **before** Robbie Burns of this year, so they can share them. We won't probably get enough by then (**another challenge for you**), so I plan on sending some of the photos we have on file from last year & previous years to them ! We'll put the MDVA on the map !!!



Bar Director – Richard Kelly – Whiz

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday Season and you are all safe and healthy. I can't remember ever being so excited to see one year end and another year begin! Good riddance 2020!!

I just wanted to thank all the members and guests that were able to come into the club and spend some time with fellow members.....it was fantastic to see you all!

As we begin 2021, I really wanted to express a huge THANK-YOU to Mike Johnson for all his assistance in maintaining a sufficient inventory at the club and most importantly, to Dave, Cora and Rob for all they did in providing a clean, sanitary environment for our members to enjoy.

Words can't express how appreciative I am for all you did! I look forward to a very exciting 2021 and rest assured, I cannot wait until the club is open once again and we can spend some time together!

All the best to each and every one of you and thanks once again to the incredible bar staff!
.....Whiz

Membership Director / Sgt. @ Arms – Larry Lau

Dear Members,

This has been a challenging ten months for all of us, and to a great extent for businesses. The MDVA is no exception. Covid resulted in the closure of the Club in March and, following a limited time period of modified operations, we are now closed again for a 28 day period. Despite this closure, we must stress that membership dues support our ongoing operational expenditures, which continue whether or not we are open, and ensure an acceptable financial reserve.

For those members who have already paid their dues for this year, thank you. Your timely support is greatly appreciated.

For those members who haven't yet paid their dues, we are asking you to do so by one of the following three methods:

- Mail a cheque to the MDVA, 7 Washington Street, Markham, ON L3P 2R3
- Drop off a cheque in the mailbox outside the MDVA front door (located to the left of the door)
- E-transfer the funds to markhamveterans@rogers.com (in the notes section indicate it is for membership)

To keep our mailing costs down, we would ask members to pick up their 2021 membership cards at the bar when the MDVA is allowed to reopen. If you prefer us to mail your card, please send an

email request to markhamveterans@rogers.com. We will mail out the cards when we have received your payment.

As a reminder, **Regular and Relative** membership is **\$45** and **Associate** membership is **\$50**. With Board approval, the late payment charge of \$5 will be waived if you pay the dues on or before the end of January, 2021. Late payment charges will be reinstated on February 1st, 2021. If you are unsure of your membership type, please look at your membership card from last year or email us at the Club and we would be happy to look it up for you.

Thank you in advance for your support.

.....**Larry Lau**

Publicity & Communications Director – Karen Mooney



Happy New Year everyone ! Well 2021 is here & I know for the most part most of the people I know are certainly happy to see it arrive !

I would like to thank everyone who purchased the MDVA Recipe book – it turned out to be a great success as we sold every copy of the 55 that we had printed.

By the way, Karen Kearns made the “My Dad’s Maple Cream Fudge” submitted by Janet Morgan & she said it was amazing & a big hit with her grandkids! As you try the different recipes in the book, please let me know which ones become a “favourite”.

Speaking of MDVA Recipe books! I’ve had a request to print more but the quantity will be significantly lower so if you’re interested in purchasing a Recipe book because you forgot to order one, please let me know **ASAP or by Tuesday January 12th by 5:00PM** – the price has gone up slightly from \$25 to \$26.50. Please email me directly at mooneykaren@hotmail.com – thank you !

With all the closures, & restrictions all of us miss seeing our family, & friends so I’d like to share a picture of Myrtle McClaremont with you! This photo was taken & sent to the Chalmer family on Christmas day of Myrtle receiving a gift from Markhaven where she now resides. Myrtle seems to be more content & doing much better than she was. Great to see her smiling face again ! Thanks for sharing !



Advertising:

The new year also brings us to, looking for companies or people who would like to advertise in our monthly newsletter, so if you’re interested, or know someone who is, please reach out to me at markhamveterans@rogers.com. Our prices are **very** reasonable & right now our newsletters & e-mails are all we have as a means of communication to all our members, so the timing is perfect to start this new year off right !

Fun Facts !

THE MONTH OF JANUARY

January was named for the Roman god Janus, known as the protector of gates and doorways who symbolize beginnings and endings. Janus is depicted with two faces, one looking into the past, the other with the ability to see into the future. What a fitting symbol for this first day of the year; this month is our door into the new year.



Did you know ? Canadian Facts !

- 1). Forget the Loch Ness Monster. Canada has **Ogopogo**, a creature that is said to live in Lake Okanagan, BC. Sightings of the creature have described it as multi-humped with green, black, brown or gray skin. **Or**, it could just be a floating log. (Timber is a major industry in the region).
- 2). If you have **ophidiophobia** (fear of snakes), you'll want to stay out of Manitoba. The province has the largest concentration of snakes in the world. Around 70,000 garter snakes come out of hibernation in May.
- 3). Churchill, Manitoba has the world's only prison for polar bears! Canada is home to 15,500 of the world's 25,000 polar bears. In October and November, the number of polar bears in Churchill, Manitoba outnumber its human population of 800. People actually leave their car doors unlocked in case their neighbours need to escape from polar bears, and the prison houses polar bears to protect people from the hungry bears, who venture into town in search of food.
- 4). Canada has more doughnut shops per capita than any other country in the world.
- 5) Canadians speak for Santa Claus. Thousands of kids write letters to Santa using the postal code HOH OHO. Letters are answered by Canada Post volunteers.



Please stay safe, wear a mask & continue to social distance !

..... Karen M.



Let us all continue to be thankful to



Service Bureau – Karen Kearns

Welcome members to the New Year . I know it was a very different Christmas and New Year not seeing your loved ones.

Our condolences go out to Diane & Keith Jupp and family on the passing of her mom June in December.

I just saw a recent picture **Myrtle McCalmont**, she was looking very well just to let those of you who know her, I thought I would pass this along. (Photo included above)

Robert Kowalski recently had a nasty fall at home and was taken to Sunny Brook Hospital. He has a Central spinal cord injury, after a few weeks there he was transfer to Lyndhurst Centre for Rehab. Robert will remain there for some time. Robert is only allowed visits by Family, only 2 times a week as his condition is serious. As far as phone calls to him, I know he would love to hear from people but right now it is very difficult for him to answer his phone unless someone is there to help him. I was given permission by his daughter to share his situation with you, as I know a lot of people have called and asked about him. We wish him a full recovery and hope he will be back to the Club when we can open again.

Andrew McCully continues to recover at home, from his double heart by-pass, we wish him a speedy recovery.

If you have any questions, you can call me.

Stay, Safe

.....**Karen Kearns , 905-471-5913**

Cadet Corner !!

The Cadets had a Virtual Mess dinner in December. Twenty-Five cadets picked up their Swiss Chalet dinners from Corps before the virtual dinner that night. The offices handed out the dinners that were picked up for the cadets and parents at a drive through we set up at our Corps. The dinner was a virtual hit.

In March we are allowed to send 7 cadets on a week long day camp in Scarbrough. The cadets parents would drop off and pick up the cadets daily.

This is the first time the cadets will be together with other cadets in a year...

Two of our senior cadets will be there as supervising leaders and getting paid \$100 a day which will be a nice in these challenging times.

The cadets have been doing virtual training from last March with 35 cadets attending every Thursday.

Still no word when we will have our boots on the ground.

The Corps morale has been fantastic during these tough times

Happy New Year
Cheers

Capt Carlsen CD
CO RC748(ARMY)CC

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.

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

AMICA
SENIOR LIFESTYLES

Happy New Year!

*I hope you had a good holiday.
Best wishes
for a healthy and
happy 2021!*



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

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)



YOUR VISION
IS
MY MISSION



647-273-8096

rukshan.para@3c3consulting.com



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