



Markham District Veterans Association Newsletter

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

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March 2021



President's Remarks – David Smith

Members, well there is light at the end of the pandemic tunnel with the 3rd vaccine approved for use in Canada and a 4th on the way. Let us hope for a return to a new normal by the summer.

The number of Covid cases seems to be holding steady in York Region since we moved into the Red Control Zone last week (keep fingers crossed!), so you will have seen the MDVA reopening notice sent out earlier this week.

To keep yourself and the other members safe, please ensure that you comply with the Covid protocols that are posted at the club. With this reopening, the Government has added the requirement for us to do **daily screening of each member entering the club. The screening questionnaire is attached and what I would suggest is that you print out a copy, complete the details and bring it with you when coming to the club.** Now, if you forget, not a problem, there will be blank questionnaires at the bar which you will need to complete upon entry. If you have any of the symptoms on the questionnaire, then please **DO NOT** visit the club.

As we are only able to seat 10 people at a time, I would ask everyone to be mindful of this and be reasonable with the length of time spent at the club. After all, we want as many members as possible to come in and be able to enjoy the camaraderie.

At the February Board meeting, I raised the question about the criteria and length of term for Honourary membership in the MDVA. Bylaw 8 of the MDVA Constitution speaks to Honourary membership but to help clarify the criteria and term for the membership, the Board ratified at the March meeting an amendment to the Standing Rules which provides clarity to these questions. The amendment is attached for your information.

I hope to see you at the club starting next week.

Stay safe, stay healthy and let us look forward to when we can gather again under a new normal.

.....David

Secretary – Bridget Wells

March Board Meeting Highlights are as follows:

- **Treasurer's Report**, including Covid-related grant loan applications status, is attached
- **Club Re-Opening.** The Club will re-open as of Tuesday March 9th and hours of operation will be Tuesdays through Saturdays from 4-8pm. As per the Covid Red Zone requirements we

can accommodate a maximum of 10 patrons at any given time and Covid protocols will need to be followed.

- **Membership renewals.** We continue to remind those members not yet paid for 2021 that payments are due. To date we have 339 active members, with 72 members outstanding for payment. Many thanks to those members who have paid their 2021 dues.
- **Honourary and Life Members.** In response to our member vote for new inductions in these categories we are pleased to advise that Cliff Blundell, a local lawyer who has been assisting the Club with our work with the Lynde Clinic regarding the parking area, has received an Honourary Membership in recognition of his support. Bill Guiler and Rick Paci have received Life Memberships in recognition of their work on our Poppy Campaign for many years. Letters have been sent to all new Honourary and Life members
- **Honourary Memberships Process.** The Board has developed and ratified the updated criteria, term and process for Honourary Memberships. An amendment to the MDVA Standing Rules has been made and will be included in the March newsletter. (attached)

.....Bridget

Entertainment & Fundraising Director - Shara Carr

Hi Everyone,

I hope everyone's doing well! As you know, we're opening up on the 9th, numbers seem to still be going down and vaccines are on the horizon. Finally, there is some kind of end in sight!

Can't wait until we'll be able to start holding events of some kind! In the meantime I wanted to wish you all a Happy St. Patrick's Day later this month. I hope you are able to celebrate safely and will send some photos of your shenanigans in to Karen for next month's newsletter.

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

.....Shara

Publicity & Communications Director – Karen Mooney

Well March is here & York Region has moved from the Grey "lock-down" phase & back into the "Red" zone phase where we can start to slowly get out a little more, with strict protocols in place.

So, in saying that,

Let's start up the Exchange of Jigsaw Puzzles, Books & DVD's, that we talked about a couple of months ago!

If you are interested please let me know by sending an e-mail directly to me at:

mooneykaren@hotmail.com

I already have several puzzles & books & a number of you have expressed interest so my thought would be to put what you would like to exchange into a bag in your car. We can arrange to meet in the Parking lot at the MDVA on Wednesday March 10th, at 4:15 PM.

If you want your books or puzzles to be returned to you, please indicate by sticking a note on the inside cover or inside the box – if you wish to donate them, then indicate "No Return Required" just keep circulating.

Once the exchange has taken place, to be safe, please leave the books or puzzles in a bag in your garage or out on your front or back porch, or in the trunk of your car for a couple of days & wipe down with a Lysol wipe or spray just to make sure everything is “germ” free. Obviously difficult with a jigsaw puzzle, hence, leaving it outside for a few days should do the trick!

Birthday's & Anniversaries ! **Happy Be-lated Birthday's to:**

- **Brian Webb – Feb. 6th**
- **Jan Henry - Feb. 27th**

March :

- **1st – Richard Kelly (aka Whiz)**
- **2nd – Elliott Tse & Alic Tang – Happy 30th Wedding Anniversary !**
- **6th – Cora Watson (Happy 60th Cora)**
- **9th – Elliott Tse – 25th Anniversary of his Professional Practice “Times Physiotherapy & Rehabilitation Centre**
- **16th – Jennifer MacNeill**
- **19th – John Craig**
- **20th – Paul Kearns – Happy 80th Paul !**
- **20th – Betty & Bobby McInnes – Happy 57th Wedding Anniversary !!!**
- **24th – Eloise Bowerman**
- **25th – Rose Kelly – a very special Birthday - Happy 90th Rose !**
- **31st – Jennifer Whiteley**



Dates to Remember – March

- **March 17th – Happy St. Patrick's Day**
Because we're “restricted” to 10 people or less, we can't hold our traditional Dinner & Dance, but please, celebrate in whatever way you can & then share your pictures with us by sending them in to the MDVA or directly to me at my e-mail address noted above



Here are some ideas !

Make a traditional Irish meal ! wear something green ! add green food colouring to your beer !

The MDVA Recipe book has recipes for Irish Soda Bread, (which we normally serve at our St. Patrick's Dinner & Dance with Irish Stew) Irish Barmbrack, Irish Coddle, Irish Potato & Leek soup, so why not try one of these ! OR here's a recipe for your slow cooker / crock pot !

Corned Beef Dinner

Ingredients:

- 2 - 2 ½ lbs corned beef brisket
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 1 stalk celery, cut in 3
- 4 medium potatoes, peeled and halved
- 4 medium carrots, peeled cut in 3
- 1 cup beef bouillon
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 garlic clove, smashed
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- ½ teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 small cabbage, cut into 4 wedges
- 1 teaspoon caraway seed



If you can't find Caraway Seed – let me know as I have a huge bottle & would be happy to share !

- Trim brisket of all visible fat, cut to fit 4 qt or larger crockpot, if necessary.
- Place onion, celery, potatoes and carrots in bottom of crockpot, lay brisket on top.
- Whisk together bouillon, bay leaf, garlic, Worcestershire sauce and dry mustard.
- Pour over brisket, cover pot.
- Cook on low setting for 8 to 10 hours, adding cabbage wedges and caraway seed for the last hour of cooking.
- To serve, discard cooking liquid, slice meat onto hot serving plates, accompany with the cooked potatoes, carrots, celery, cabbage wedges and your favourite mustard.

Happy St. Patrick's Day



THE MONTH OF MARCH

March, the third month of the year, was named for the Roman god of war, Mars. Traditionally, this was the time of year to resume military campaigns that had been interrupted by winter.

In the early Roman calendar, March (or *Martius*) was the first month of the calendar year. As March brought the first day of spring with the vernal equinox, it was the start of new beginnings.

MARCH CALENDAR

- **March 8** is **International Women's Day**, which is a day that not only celebrates the achievements of women and the progress made toward women's rights, but also brings attention to ongoing struggles for equality around the world.
- **March 14** is the start of **Daylight Saving Time**, which begins at 2:00 A.M. that day. Don't forget to **"spring forward"** and set the clocks one hour ahead, or you may find yourself an hour late to everything!
- **March 15** is the **Ides of March**! Legend surrounds this ill-fated day. Beware the Ides of March!

- **March 15** is also Clean Monday. Also called Pure Monday, this day marks the beginning of Great Lent for followers of the Eastern Orthodox Christian Church. This day is similar to Ash Wednesday of the Western Church.
- **March 17** is St. Patrick's Day. According to folklore, folks wear a shamrock on St. Patrick's Day because the saint used its three leaves to explain the Trinity.
- **March 20** brings about the **March equinox**— & the **First day of Spring !!!!** also called the **vernal** or **spring equinox** in the Northern Hemisphere— did you know that on this day, **the Sun stands directly over Earth's equator**.
- **March 27** is the start of **Passover**, which begins at sundown on this day.
 - **March 29-31** are known as the Borrowing Days. According to lore, the last three days of March have a reputation for being stormy.
- **Looking ahead:** This year, **Easter Sunday will occur on April 4**



Did you know ?

Daffodils like 'Love Call', sometimes called jonquils or **narcissus**, are the birth flowers for March



Super-Bowl 2020



Thanks for sharing your photos

CONGRATULATIONS to the winners!

Sheet #1

1Q and 2Q - Brian Fazackerley \$190
3Q and Final - Chester Sadecki \$310

Sheet #2

1Q - Mike Johnson \$60
2Q - Narinder Bordi \$130
3Q and Final - Paul Aspinwall \$3



Great pictures Dawne ! Can't believe how big the kids are ! It looks like you had a feast for SuperBowl !!!



.....**Karen M.**

Service Bureau – Karen Kearns

Hello everyone! By now you have heard of the York Region Vaccine Program . If you need Help Registering Online, as that's what we are to do, please call me and I can assist you with registering, – my numbers are: 905 471-5913 or 416 885 0908, and if you have to leave a message please do so and I will call you back.

If you have an appointment and need a ride, I can assist you with that, so please call 905 471 5913 or 416 885 0908.

REMEMBER WE CAN HELP YOU WITH THIS.

On Sunday I had a nice chat with Robert Kowalski, first he says a big Hello to everyone. He is progressing with his rehab, & in a few weeks he will be moved to a transitional house in Toronto for about 6 months for the rest of his recovery. He is now moving from wheel chair to a walker, which is great news and he is staying very positive. His daughter Shelly took his guitar to him and once again he is starting to play again. All this is wonderful news & as he goes forward, I will give you updates as I have them.

If you know of someone who is ill or needs anything please let me know.
STAY SAFE!

Karen Kearns
416- 885- 0908, or 905- 471 -5913

Membership Director / Sgt. @ Arms – Larry Lau

Dear Members,

Membership renewals have been going well with 265 paid as of the end of February and 72 unpaid. To all who have paid "**Thank You**".

This pandemic has been challenging for all of us, and to a great extent for businesses, and your Club is no exception. Covid has forced the Club to be closed again since the middle of December, but we will be opening again on March 9th. Despite the closure, we must stress that membership dues support our ongoing operational expenditures, which continue whether or not we are open, and contribute to our financial reserve.

For those members who have yet to renew their membership for 2021 we are asking for you to renew your 2021 membership before the end of March. Normally, in accordance with the MDVA Constitution and Standing Rules, **renewals paid after December are subject to a monthly late fee** depending on what month they are paid in, and any membership not paid at the end of March is suspended. **In these special circumstances, for your 2021 renewal, the late fee will be waived until the end of March.**

As a reminder, membership fees are as follows:

Regular and Relative \$45,
Associate \$50.

Membership dues can be paid by:

- 1). mailing or dropping off a cheque at the MDVA
- 2). by email transfer to markhamveterans@rogers.com (please indicate that it is for 2021 membership).
- 3). paying at the bar

All 2021 membership cards are available at the bar for pick up.

Membership Info: at the end of February, we have 24 Honorary/Life Members, 57 Regular members, 102 Relative members and 106 Associate members
.....**Larry Lau**

New to the Newsletter this month ! If you have something to share please send it in !

What some of our members have been doing over the past few months to keep busy !

Aside from knitting up a storm, **Busy Betty** has been planting & growing peppers – started last October & now has 4 !





Lot's of knitted baby items – these will be going into the MDVA Bazaar as soon as we're able to have one ! Thanks Betty !

Helen Stuart – has also been a very busy cookie maker (her son Jay told me that!) & quilting – here are some of her latest projects ! Beautiful !

1. My COVID quilt in **Christmas theme** – a Block of the Month that started in January & February in class then moved to Zoom for the rest of the months in 2020 . Finishes at 44" x 58"
2. **Hello World** in Piet – an order I did for Hayden Comber – Piet is a program/code translated into abstract Art – included 2 pictures the 1 Hayden sent to me and the 2nd My Quilted Version Wall Hanging 20" x 20"
3. **Don't Fence Me In** – an appropriate name for this quilt during COVID. Just finished it a couple of days ago – nice bright colours looking forward to spring !

#1 – Front & Back



#2 – Original & Helen's below



#3 – Front & Back

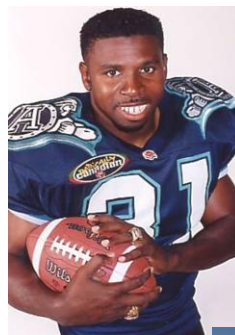


Cadet Corner !!

The 748 Army Cadets have had some exciting guests on their virtual training nights every Thursday evening.

The special guests:

Markham Fire ,
York Region Police,
32 Signals Reserves regiment,
York Region Paramedics,
G.G.H.G. Reserve Regiment,
RCMP recruiting Representative,



Pin Ball Clemons ex Toronto Argonauts football player, & Motivation Speaker

Hayley Wickenheiser ex Canadian Women's hockey player, Olympic Gold Medalist & Order of Canada recipient, & Hockey Hall of Famer



Other News:

Looks like summer camp for the cadets is on hold for now.

The units have been virtually parading 35 cadets every week.

The Cadet Annual Review will be Virtual again this year Thursday May 27...

We will post the virtual address in the newsletter closer to the event, as all the members are invited to this very special ceremony for the cadets and parents in these very challenging time.

Cheers !

CO Capt R.Carlsen CD
RC748 (ARAMY) CC



Let's Hope we see more of these signs in the coming weeks !!!!

Again – Thank you to all those out there who are keeping us safe !

We still need to be diligent & continue to wear our masks, distance ourselves & wash, wash & wash those hands again & again !



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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SENIOR LIFESTYLES

*Let's continue to break the chain of transmission of COVID-19.
We are all in this together! The battle against this virus is not over yet. It's very important that we continue to practice physical distancing, wash our hands frequently and avoid unnecessary outings.*



Stay Safe & Healthy!

**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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