



Markham District Veterans Association Newsletter

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May 2020



President's Remarks – David Smith

Well we're into our 8th week of lock down and all of us have been doing what we can to help flatten the curve of this deadly virus. I know the toll this is taking on my family and I can imagine what some of you must be going through.

If you watch the daily COVID briefings, you know that there is no forecast date as to when clubs will be allowed to open. The one thing that I am sure of is that we will be opening at some point, so I will be forming a committee to develop a reopening plan for the MDVA. This will be a challenge for us as I know that social distancing and group sizes will be a requirement that we will have to adhere to and one that we will have to strictly enforce. Whatever plan we develop will be done keeping our members health and well being front and centre.

Switching gears, here are some May dates to remember.....

May 1st - First Responders Day when we thank all of those on the frontline for their selfless dedication to the safety and security of our communities.

May 2nd - 75th Anniversary of the Dutch Liberation when Canadian soldiers played a key role in the culmination of the Second World War. More than 7,600 Canadians died in the nine months it took to liberate the Netherlands.

May 3rd - Ontario Police Memorial Day remembering all of the fallen police officers in Ontario.

May 8th - 75th Anniversary of the Victory in Europe (VE Day) the day after Germany surrendered to the Allied Forces on May 7th. 45,400 Canadian soldiers gave their lives in World War II

Unfortunately, all activities for these events have been cancelled due to COVID 19 but please take a moment to remember the ultimate sacrifice that these men and women made to help keep us safe and free.

May 2nd to May 4th, the flag is at 1/2 mast in remembrance of the 6 Canadian Forces personnel that lost their lives in the helicopter crash in the Mediterranean last week.

We are all in this together, so stay home, stay safe and stay healthy and let us look forward to the day that we can get back together and enjoy the camaraderie of our fellow members.

.....**David**

Entertainment Chair – Shara Carr

Hi Everyone,

I don't know about you but to me, it seems like many months have passed since we were last able to see each other! I truly hope this month's newsletter finds you all healthy, safe, and happy in one way or another.

I'm sure everyone is dealing with this outbreak and its ramifications in their own way but I do hope that every one of you feels loved and missed because you are. I know I'm sure missing you all and being able to socialize, laugh, sing, dance, and have dinners and drinks together. I can't wait until we can throw our Covid Coming Out Party! But it won't be much longer. We've come this far and while I'm sure it's wearing on many of us I know we won't waste our efforts by breaking the guidelines now...plus it looks like they are lightening up a little even as I write this.

For now and in the coming days I wish you and your loved ones well. Please be safe and kind to each other. On difficult days I find a walk down memory lane reliving our good times together and looking forward to the future fun we'll have helps a little.

Once we have a date when we can open again I'll have a look at the calendar of events, make some changes, and start planning some great parties for the rest of the year!

Until we meet again in better days

.....**Shara xo**

May - 2020 !

- **VE Day – May 8th (Victoria in Europe) 75th Anniversary - see Gary's note below**
- **Mother's Day – Sunday May 10th**
- **Victoria Day – Monday May 18th**



Happy
**Mother's
Day**

Service Bureau – Karen Kearns

Good Day Members, I hope everyone is staying safe and Healthy. Please don't be afraid to call me 905 471-5913 if you need anything picked up.

I want to thank those of you that are shopping for members and other people. I haven't had to call on anyone, as I have only had a few requests so I haven't had to call anyone on my Helpers List. Please remember to Call, Stay Safe and hopefully we will get together soon.

If you know of anyone that is ill or needs help please let me know @ 905-471-5913.

On a sad note, we would like to convey our condolences & sympathy to our member Janet Morgan who's mother passed away last week.

....**Karen K.**

Building Chair – Gary Bowerman

Good Day Members,

Keep Safe and keep Social Distancing. April was a very quiet month. We have taken measures to reduce the energy consumption at the club. The club temperature has been set at a balmy 15 degrees C or 60 degrees F. The Upstairs Bar is totally closed down. All non-essential electrical has been unplugged.

Good News.....we have placed the 5 large flower barrels in front of the Club. The first four people to contact me gbowerman2003@yahoo.ca can be responsible for one barrel each. This includes planting, watering and maintaining. Eloise and I already have our "dibbs" on one barrel.and no, you cannot plant whacky tobackey! I will contact the successful applicants by May 10th.

.....**Gary**

Parade Marshal – Gary Bowerman

Good Day Members,

The **Vimy Ridge** Ceremony, hosted by the MDVA was the smallest we have ever had. The flag was lowered to Half Mast and a wreath was placed in the foyer. Well done to all those that stayed home. Thank You

Nova Scotia, we lowered the Flag again to Half Mast to honour the victims of this tragedy and again on March 24th to honour RCMP Constable Heidi Stevenson . "Maintiens le Droit".

Victory in Europe: The 75th Anniversary of VE Day is May 8th. On this date in 1945, Allied Forces accepted NAZI Germany's unconditional surrender. With our Historian, Dave Watson, we were planning on having displays and events at the club. Sorry to say, this is not going to happen as

planned. I have attached two photos of VE Day Celebrations from 1945. Do you know where they were taken? Contact me if you do.



D-Day Ceremony: The city will not be issuing any permits for public events until the end of June. This will mean no event at the Cenotaph.

The best we can do is to place wreaths outside the entrance to the Club, members of the club and the public will be able to show respect while maintaining social distancing.

Above all.....KEEP SAFE !

.....Gary

Treasurer – John Craig

First and foremost, with our club closed and running on care and maintenance we can survive financially through to January 2021 before dipping into our reserves being the \$143,000 term deposit.

Looking Forward

At April 30th, our operating cash balance was \$34,000.

In shutdown mode, our monthly fixed expenses are less than \$2,000/month which covers heat, hydro, gas, internet, cable and phone as well software costs and various maintenance and office supplies.

Covered in the forecast are forthcoming annual insurance fees, \$10,000, audit \$1,500 , a total refund of Hall Rental deposits \$4,900 and ST. Patrick Day Refunds if necessary \$2,500.

After these expenses, we are projecting a \$2,000 operating cash balance at the end of 2020.

Throughout this period, our financial reserves, the term deposits remain untouched at \$143,000 earning a modest interest rate.

Year to Date Results

We have suffered financially in the first 4 months of this year with the loss of most of March and all of April revenue, a drop of \$34,000 from 2019. We have experienced a loss of (\$8,000) YTD compared to a profit of \$13,000 in 2019. Unfortunately, March and April have always been great revenue generating months in the past.

		Jan - Apr 20	Jan - Apr 19	\$ Change	
	BAR REVENUE	28,519	51,074	-22,555	
	HALL RENTAL	2,827	12,767	-9,940	
	OTHER REVENUES	10,831	11,862	-1,031	
	REVENUE	42,177	75,703	-33,526	
	COST OF SALES	14,608	23,936	-9,328	
	OPERATING EXPENSES	32,239	34,710	-2,471	
	AMORTIZATION	3,800	3,800	0	
	NET INCOME (-LOSS)	-8,470	13,257	-21,727	

Continual Review

We are reviewing our expenses in search of cost reductions as well as reviewing the various government programs to determine if we may be eligible for benefits. If anyone has suggestions, they would be appreciated!**John**

Membership – Dawne Ramkay

The Sun is warming up the land, the Robins and Geese are home. I have 1 tulip flowering in my garden a preview of what's to come. It's hard to believe April is over. We welcome May!

I found a poem online, it was written in 1869 and reprinted in the 1919 pandemic. It rings just as true today.

And people stayed at home
And read books
And listened
And they rested
And did exercises
And made art and played
And learn new ways of being
And stopped and listened
More deeply
Someone meditated someone prayed
Someone met their shadow
And people began to think differently
And people healed
And in the absence of people who
Lived in ignorant ways
Dangerous meaningless and heartless
The earth also begin to heal
And when the danger ended
People found themselves



Grieved for the dead
And made new choices
And dreamed of new visions
And created new ways of living
And completely healed the earth
Just as they were healed.
Author ~ Unknown

..... **Dawne**

Publicity – Karen Mooney

Hello all ! well, you know you're bored when you start making / baking cookies that you don't usually do until Christmas time ! (along with a glass of wine!!!)

Let's see & oh yes, I'm on the 2nd , 1000 piece jigsaw puzzle – a few of us have been trading them to keep busy!

Keeping in touch – face-time with the kids & grandkids has been great but also realizing that the little ones don't stay very focussed which also provides a lot of laughs. Also, found out about "Zoom" so now have a group of the "curling" girls doing a group "virtual cocktail hour" every Monday at 5:00 pm, as the curling year ended abruptly, like so many other things.

Sports ! what can I say ! so totally in withdrawal – desperate enough to watch the SuperBowl game from Feb. 2nd again – you bet !

Thank to those who have sent in their recipes ! I would like to encourage all of you to send me a recipe! Doesn't have to fancy – maybe your favourite comfort food as that is what we're all looking for ! Comfort !

To our members, thank you so much for sending me your ideas, & submissions for the newsletter ! I received so many that I couldn't possibly put them all in this time but hope to adopt & add some to next month's newsletter !
.....**Karen**

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 March, & April folks we missed, & the month of May

....

Best Wishes to :



March 20th – Happy **Belated** Birthday to Paul Kearns !

April 28th – Happy **Belated** Birthday to Karen Kearns – a special one – Happy 70th Karen

May 7th – Special Birthday wishes to Dorothy Jarick – **95 years young** today !!!

May 18th – Gill Adamson – Victoria Day ! Have a good one !

May 20th – Happy 26th Wedding Anniversary to Karen & Dirk

May 22nd - Happy 70th Birthday to Carl – organizer of Thursday night pool !!!!

May 24th – Happy 49th Wedding Anniversary to Jim & Jackie Lawton



Thank you's to our "Front Line" workers ! Last month we shared with you, photos of our own club members who are on the "front-lines" so I thought I'd check back in with them to see how they're doing

Shelley Fazackerley

Is now working at
"Fieldstone Commons
Care Facility" in
Scarborough



***Shelley Baker & co-worker Jennifer
Markham Stouffville Hospital***

How are things going Shelley ?

I am working far more than I want to be, especially with warmer weather on the horizon. I missed my parents 60th Anniversary in Nova Scotia, however we were due to drive back on the highway on that tragic Sunday, if we did get to go down home!!

The registration team is so grateful for the donations of ear savers, masks, and headbands from some of our very own members at the MDVA. Special thanks to Michele Chalmers, Betty McInnes and Ann Woodcock for the awesome items they have made for us at MSH. We appreciate everything and love our additions to our new "uniforms". Thanks, Shelley



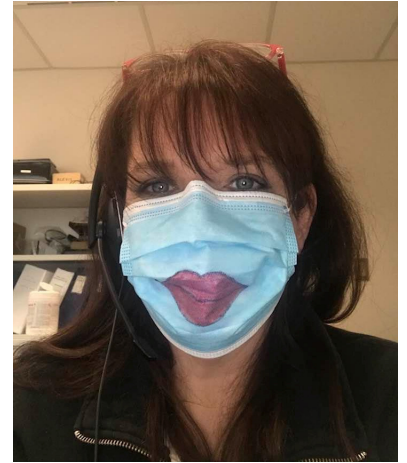
In memory of those who lost their lives in the mass shooting in Nova Scotia

And to the victims & their families of the 6 lives lost last week in the Canadian Forces Helicopter Crash



Jennifer MacNeill
MSH

Hi, I hope everyone is staying in and staying safe. I miss seeing everyone, and am looking forward to things returning to the "new normal" and getting back behind the bar at the club!



Special Shout Outs Go out to:

- **Ann Woodcock** - who has been busy making cotton face masks & donating them to MSH – the bag was given to Shelley Baker & distributed but kept a few back to give to some of our MDVA members – such as Faith, Margaret, Mary ! Thank you soooooo much Ann !
- **Michele Chalmers** – has also been busy crocheting ear extensions for face masks for the front line workers



Explanation – for those who are wearing masks all day & every day the loops that go around your ears start to really bother your ears & become uncomfortable – these extensions have buttons to pull the ear strap back away from the ear, becoming a more comfortable fit

Michele has now made about 350 of them.

And **Betty McInnes** – who has been crocheting these ear extensions as well!



This is how they are used !



- **Mike Johnson** – for making this sign & taking it over to Woodhaven !



"Cadet Corner" – Roger Carlsen

Our army cadets are teaching me a thing or two about holding a virtual get together. Now after 3 virtual training sessions over the last month I am getting the hang of it. We have had over 45 cadets participating during our virtual get togethers' on Thursday evenings.

The cadets are teaching everything from Polishing Parade Boots to Map and Compass virtually. I must say it's very engaging watching the cadets teach their lessons virtually on a computer monitor.

The cadets are having a virtual boot polishing competition.

The cadets are even having a photo contest there ask to photograph a pet, family member, or a still life, the photos are pouring in.

All cadet activities including training and community events has been cancelled until August 31 2020, at that time cadets Canada will have an update about moving forward.

The photos are some entries for the photo contest. Cheers, Capt. Carlsen CD



Another special milestone was reached last week – April 30th, 2020 – although not a member of the MDVA , I really wanted to add a little something about Capt. Tom Moore of Britain, a veteran who just turned 100 years of age & what he has accomplished !

A 99-year-old war veteran has been left "speechless" after raising more than £23m for the NHS.

Capt Tom Moore originally aimed to raise just £1,000 for NHS Charities Together by completing 100 laps of his garden before his 100th birthday.

The appeal by NHS fundraiser Captain Tom Moore topped £32m as he celebrated his 100th birthday. (Thursday April 30th, 2020)

The war veteran, who raised the money by walking laps of his garden, has also been made an honorary colonel.

The occasion was also marked with an RAF fly-past, of a Spitfire & Hurricane, which made 3 passes of his house, and birthday greetings from the Queen and prime minister. Among the thousands of birthday greetings was a personalized card from the Queen. An estimated 140,000 cards have been received and are on show at Bedford School, where his grandson, Benjie Ingram-Moore, is a pupil.

By the way members, did you know that at noon on every Sunday "The Three Tenors" sing O Canada & they want you to join in !!!! Go to your computer, I-Pad or phone & click on the link below.... Stay inside or go outside (which a lot of us are doing) sing along, stand at attention, or just listen They are amazing

[#CanadaTogether | O Canada The Tenors - YouTube](#)

[www.youtube.com > watch](http://www.youtube.com/watch)

Trivia Time – did you know ?

Q. Most boat owners name their boats. What is the most popular boat name requested?

A. Obsession

Q. What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser Printers have in common?

A. All were invented by women.

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



Greg Perry – Toronto Star

**WE NEED TO
ACT NOW,
LEARN HOW.**

**LEARN THE 3P'S
PROTECT YOURSELF.
PROTECT YOUR LOVED ONES.
PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY.**

**STAY
HOME
SAVE
LIVES**



A Little Different Perspective !

- 1) There are no bombs raining on our heads.
- 2) I am not a prisoner held in solitary confinement, as a million are.
- 3) I am not a refugee trying to escape with my life.
- 4) I am not standing in the line waiting to fill a pot of water.
- 5) I have access to fresh food and I am not starving.
- 6) I have hot running water.
- 7) My country has not been ruined by years of war.
- 8) I can reach my friends by phone and check in on them.
- 9) My friends check in on me because they care about me.
- 10) Any whiplash I feel about this strange turn of events is itself a privilege.
- 11) More than half of the world would gladly trade their everyday problems for the conveniences I am experiencing.
- 12) I may have anxious dreams but I'm dreaming them on a proper bed and I'm not sleeping on the sidewalk.
- 13) By staying at home I'm helping the planet rest.
- 14) As long as I have my mind I can create, imagine, dream and not be lonely.
- 15) This global crisis connects me to people around the world and reminds me of our common humanity. This is a good thing.
- 16) When something tragic happens to another country next time, I will respond to it not with superiority, but humility and recognition.
- 17) I will fight for positive changes and economically just policies in my own country.
- 18) I am surrounded by books.
- 19) I am surrounded by love.
- 20) The trees have already begun to bloom.

Everyone stay safe, stay healthy....

Submitted by Marjorie Nielsen

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We are all in this together!

***Let's break the chain of
transmission of COVID-19.
Thank you for continuing to
practice social distancing.
Stay Home! Stay safe & Healthy.***



***If you need any
help, call me!***

**Karen
Rea**

Ward 4 Councillor

Tel. 905.479.7751

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