

Royal Canadian Horse Artillery (RCHA) Brigade Association
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RCHA Heritage Newsletter- April 2016

Editor's Note:

We are going to have photos! Our new volunteer newsletter photographer is Dave Marshall. Welcome Dave and Thank you for your contributions. RCHA member, Cathy Sheppard, who is often seen taking photos of many events throughout the year will also be submitting her photos to the newsletter! Thank you Cathy!

There are two main events that are being showcased in this months' newsletter. The first one is the long-awaited celebration and reveal of the efforts and amazing work done by the Second Floor Restoration Committee members and volunteers. Kudos to all of you on a job well done! (See Linda Cameron's report on this great accomplished project).

The second event is "The Bobby Show", a tribute written and performed by Michael K. Myers. We are very lucky to have Michael and company perform this spectacular show at the RCHA Club (third floor) for the very first time. This is a "do not miss" event, taking place on Saturday April 16th at 8:30pm and on Sunday April 17th at 2:30pm. Be sure to get your tickets soon before they sell out!

Michael and company performed a sensational sold out show last November at the Grand Theatre here in Kingston. This year, they are taking their show to the Centennial Theatre and the Kay Meek Center in Vancouver, BC on May 10th and 11th, 2016. They will then perform in Kelowna, BC at the Kelowna Community Theatre on May 13th, 2016.

Michel K. Myers is one of Kingston's very talented musicians. (See our "Featured Article of the Month" to read more about Michael K. Myers). I also encourage you to check out his website: www.michaelkmyers.ca for more information on his life and career in music and stage performances. You may also wish to read a profile article on Michael as he was recently featured in the January 2016 Issue of Kingston's Profile Magazine. If you missed January's issue, you can still order a copy for \$5.00 at: www.profilekingston.com. Michael K. Myers is also featured on a booking services website at: www.absolutelymusic.on.ca if you wish to book The Bobby Show for your special event.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the RCHA Heritage Newsletter and this month of great music!

Happy Reading,
Susie Edgecombe, Editor

Chair's Message:

Hats off to the Second Floor committee, all the volunteers involved and everyone who has contributed! It is looking great! There is still a bit of work to do but already people are talking about using the 2nd floor for events, gathering or just as a quiet space to chat. Quite a change from a couple of years ago.

Thank you to all who are making it possible and especially to Beare Weatherup for his leadership.

The club is gaining a reputation as the jewel ... some used to say the undiscovered jewel, but now it is becoming known to so many more. For this, we have to thank the musicians, members and everyone who contributes in some way. Let's keep the momentum going! Thank you!

-Ken Edgecombe

Membership Brief:

A warm welcome to the following people who have joined the RCHA since the last newsletter: Bill Amodeo, Judy Dennee, Don Dennee, Nicole Riley, and Gaylan Fittsell. This brings us to 15 new members in this membership year.

We send sincere condolences to the family of Life Member Gordon McArthur, who died on February 17, 2016.

The membership committee met on March 13. We have been successful in renewing efforts to engage more local businesses in the Member Advantage Program, to provide RCHA members with discounted rates on a variety of supplies and services. Updates will be communicated soon.

Carol Whyman
Chair of Membership

Reveal Celebration of 2nd Floor Grand Opening A Hit

by Linda Cameron, Promotions for Second Floor Restorations Committee

In spite of terrible weather including rain and high winds, a record number of members and guests came out to enjoy the unveiling of the newly renovated and refurbished RCHA Club's Second Floor Lounge. The March 31, 2016 celebration was the final result of discussion, planning, and fundraising lasting close to one and one-half years by Second Floor Restoration Committee Members: Beare Weatherup, Gordon Brown, Linda Cameron and Phil MacKenzie in cooperation with the RCHA Board and Heritage Committee.

At least 50 guests attending the event enjoyed Tapas and live volunteer entertainment from Ron Gray, Jon McLurg and John Somerville while enjoying the unique ambiance of the refurbished second floor. The Reveal Ceremony was opened by Board Member and Kingston Town Crier, Chris Whyman followed by briefs from Second Floor Restoration Committee Chair, Beare Weatherup, Heritage Committee Chair, Bob Chamberlain, retired gunner, who donated a beautifully hand carved coffee table designed by Syrian artisans with inlaid military crests significantly the RCHA Crest.

Frank Warnica spoke on behalf of Ken Edgecombe, RCHA Board Chair who was unable to attend the event. The paint: lamb's wool gray and diplomat gray colours were chosen by designers from Reid & Siemonsen for the walls and window frames after a complimentary consultation. The attractive furniture was selected and purchased from a Markham restaurant warehouse. The 60 inch television was purchased from Costco for money raised plus extra donations by members.

Member Jim Davidson donated his carpentry, electrical and plumbing skills to build the bar and a unique cabinet housing the historic gunner mannequin. Another military archives built in storage cabinet was made by Queen's Faculty of Education Technical Program students, Paul and John.

There is still more money needed to complete the project: A gas fireplace and sound system are still needed. We hope members will help with further donations to complete the worthwhile project the Club can be proud to showcase.

The Second Floor Restoration Committee thanks members Steve Gillen, Susie Edgecombe, Susan Warnica, Susan Shaw and Jon McLurg who attended our initial committee meetings and made a contribution of their time and effort and helped with promotion for fundraisers and events.

Thank you also to Sharon McLaughlin and Marion Smith for supporting the project on an ongoing basis. A special thank you to all those members and friends of the Club who donated money, in kind items or volunteer time painting and helping with the many jobs needed to complete the project.

A very special thanks to Beare Weatherup who pushed us all forward at times when we were most discouraged to realize our amazing dream to help the Club community we all enjoy and love.

“Featured Article of the Month”: (Taken from www.kingstonlobby.com/arts-culture/the-bobby-show-smooth-suave-sophisticated)

January 19, 2012

Christine Bode - www.pressplus1.com/concert-reviews

The Bobby Show by Michael K. Myers & The Real Gone Cats

Sunday, 23 May 2010 00:31

Watch out Michael Bubl ! Smooth, suave, sophisticated, 60ish [Michael K. Myers](#) is a charismatic crooner, who after spending 40 years playing music might just have hit his stride and caught a wave to glory with his brilliantly conceived and orchestrated The Bobby Show!

The Bobby Show debuted last night to a sold out room at [The Wellington Street Theatre](#) and left an audience full of fans of the great “Bobby” singers of the late 50’s and early 60’s smiling from ear to ear and showing their appreciation for a superb night of entertainment with a standing ovation.

Written by Kingston, Ontario songwriter and performer Michael K. Myers who sang lead vocals and played guitar for 95% of the show, and joined by his seasoned band The Real Gone Cats: [Tim Hallman](#) (music director, keyboards), [Gary Barratt](#) (drums, percussion), and [Bob Arlidge](#) (electric bass, stand-up bass) – The Bobby Show is a night of nostalgic hits from “Bobby” singers Bobby Vee, Bobby Darin, Bobby Helms, Bobby Day, Bobby Sherman, Bobby Vinton, Bobby Curtola, Bobby Goldsboro, and Bobby Rydell that will appeal to not only my parents’ generation, but mine as well.

Myers, whose musical inspirations include [Burt Bacharach](#), [Lennon & McCartney](#), and [Rodgers and Hart](#) has experience performing music in almost every genre including rock ’n’ roll, country & western, jazz and pop. He’s a skillful guitarist, witty and warm public speaker, and his tenor voice is clear, powerful and as delicious to the ears as Baileys to the tongue.

The Bobby Show opened with Myers performing two of the last of the Bobby singers, Bobby Sherman’s hits, including Julie, Do You Love Me? Myers had obviously done his research as he punctuated the show with a brief career recollection of each of the Bobby singers. I didn’t know that Bobby Sherman, who I definitely remembered from my childhood, had given up music in the 1970s and become a cop in Los Angeles. The show was filled with interesting tidbits like that and about 30 infectious hits of a bygone era in music that was largely underrated.

Myers used a few props for his show to accompany his enthusiasm and great sense of humour and changed ties for several Bobbys, from the groovy paisley tie he wore for Sherman’s songs to a bolo for Bobby Helms, a skinny black tie for Bobby Day, and a cardigan for Bobby Vee.

Myers and The Real Gone Cats performed Fraulein and My Special Angel by [Bobby Helms](#), as well as his 120 million copy seller, Jingle Bell Rock, even though it was slightly out of season on an exceptionally warm May evening.

[Bobby Day](#) was the only African-American Bobby who used to perform with bands The Satellites and The Hollywood Flames and had success with songs like Buzz Buzz Buzz, Little Bitty Pretty One, and Rockin’ Robin.

The audience tapped their toes, swayed in their seats and hummed or sang along while [Bobby Vee](#) took his place in the spotlight with Devil Or Angel and the [Carole King/Gerry Goffin](#) penned classics Take Good Care Of My Baby and Run To Him. Of particularly interesting note, keyboardist Tim Hallman once played keyboards for Bobby Vee, as did the little known Bob Zimmerman (who later became Dylan). Myers also covered The Night Has A Thousand Eyes and Wild One.

I caught myself grinning like a Cheshire cat throughout the show and thinking about how much my Mom would love it and wishing that everyone I know over 50 had been there.

We got to hear wonderful renditions of [Bobby Rydell’s](#) Forget Him, Sway With Me, and Volare which placed

third in the famous [Eurovision song contest](#) in 1960.

There was a brief intermission and we were treated with Canadian Bobby singer, [Bobby Curtola's](#) 1962 Gold selling Fortune Teller, as well as Aladdin, Hitchhiker, and Three Rows Over. A Member of the Order of Canada as well as a former representative for Coca Cola, Bobby Curtola is a Canadian legend I had not been familiar with.

One of the most memorable Bobbys has got to be [Bobby Vinton](#) whose hits Roses Are Red, Blue On Blue, Blue Velvet, and Melody of Love were expertly performed by Myers and The Real Gone Cats. Myers held up a white board with the Polish lyrics to Melody of Love on it for the audience to sing along and memories of the Polish Prince flooded the room.

Next Myers, who hopes to tour The Bobby Show in small theatres across Canada, offered the audience a box of tissues before sitting down to play acoustic guitar for the classic [Bobby Goldsboro](#) tearjerker, Honey.

My favourite part of the whole show came at the end when Myers paid tribute to the late, great [Bobby Darin](#), as Myers' voice compliments his music perfectly. He covered the playful Splish Splash, Dream Lover, Things (which Darin had written for his one time girlfriend, Connie Francis), Once Upon A Time, If I Were A Carpenter, and my favourites: Beyond The Sea and Mack The Knife, both superbly rendered by Michael K. Myers.

The band had to come back after their standing ovation and we were gifted with [Bobby Freeman's](#) Do You Wanna Dance?

Did I?! You bet! If The Bobby Show doesn't put a spark in your shoes, I don't know what will. Encore, encore!!

<http://www.pressplus1.com/concert-reviews/the-bobby-show-by-michael-k-myers-a-the-real-gone-cats-a-superb-evening-of-entertainment.html>

<http://scullylovepromo.wordpress.com/2010/05/23/the-bobby-show-by-michael-k-myers-the-real-gone-cats-a-superb-evening-of-entertainment/>



This show is a tribute to the great 'Bobby' singers of the late 50's, and early 60's. You'll hear songs originally recorded by Bobby Darin, Bobby Vee, Bobby Vinton, Bobby Curtola, and other Bobby's from that perhaps more innocent era of pop music, including stories behind those singers, and their songs.

The songs include Rockin' Robin, My Special Angel, The Night Has A Thousand Eyes, Fortune Teller, Honey, Blue Velvet, Dream Lover, Mack The Knife, and many more.

The Bobby Show is sung and performed by Michael K. Myers, with his band 'The Real Gone Cats'.

Michael Myers, the creator of the show says " I thought it would be fun to put together a music revue featuring just songs by, and stories about, the various Bobby singers who come from an overlooked, and often critically looked down upon period in popular music -the late 50's, through to the early 60's, prior to the British Invasion, and the arrival of The Beatles. I think some exciting, well crafted, and memorable music was produced then, by talented singers, and songwriters, including the Bobby's, and it definitely had, and still has, a big influence on my performing, and songwriting career."

Quote of the Month:

“There is nothing wrong with being afraid, but there is nothing more wrong than allowing that to be your master.”
-Bobby Darin (May 13, 1936-Dec. 20, 1973).

This Month:

Jack de Keyzer: Saturday April 9th, 2016 at the RCHA Club, third floor. A Great Show you don't want to miss! (Sorry, tickets are SOLD OUT).

The Bobby Show with Michael K. Myers and Company brings you the music of all the famous Bobbys. Showtimes: 8:30pm **Sat. April 16, 2016** and 2:30pm **Sun. April 17, 2016**.

Earth Day: **Friday April 22, 2016**.

Be sure to check out the **Calendar of Events for April** as your entertainment guide (see our website www.rcha.ca or pick up a hard copy calendar at the club, third floor lounge).

Coming in May...

RCHA Club, Third Floor lounge- **Thursday May 5, 2016** at 7:00pm- **Encore Saxophone Quartet** \$15- A Saxophone quartet concert with an opening from a local barbershop quartet, music from a variety of eras, jazz, blues, classics, modern and more. Tickets can be purchased in advance at 613-530-2050 online at www.kingstongrand.ca or at the door the night of the concert.

Mike Sheppard, Artistic Producer, Blue Canoe Theatrical Productions Inc.

Home Grown Live- **Saturday May 7, 2016**.

Mother's Day- **Sunday May 8, 2016**.

Victoria Day-**Monday May 23, 2016**.

Letters to the Editor:

If you have any comments or suggestions, or would like to contribute an article to the “**Featured Article of the Month**”, please submit to the RCHA Heritage Newsletter Editor: susie17.edgecombe@gmail.com.

In Other News:

In the March 2016 Issue of Snap'd Kingston, recent RCHA events were published. Check out their website at <https://kingston.snapd.com/editions/6456> to view photos of the Robbie Burns Celebration, Spencer Evans & Funky Frienz, and The Big Phat Horn Band, which were all held at the RCHA Club's 3rd floor lounge.

Please note that entertainment notices for the following month, go out to the membership via email distribution (by Carol Whyman, Board Secretary and Chair of Membership) during the last week of each month. Be sure to notify Carol (whyman@kingston.net) to update your new address, phone number or email if it changes, or contact the club at 613-542-8152.

Fun Facts: (Taken from kingstonlobby.com/arts-culture/the-bobby-show-smooth-suave-sophisticated)

1. Bobby Darin starred in *Come September* in 1961 with Rock Hudson and Sandra Dee.
2. Bobby Vee was actually born Robert Thomas Velline in 1943.
3. Bobby Vinton's nickname was 'The Polish Prince.'
4. Bobby Helms' *Jingle Bell Rock*, released in 1957, is a classic still played today.
5. In both the movie and the musical *Grease*, the high school was named Rydell High after Bobby Rydell.
6. Bobby Goldboro's biggest hit, *Honey*, about the death of a man's young wife was recorded in a single take.
7. In 1966, Bobby Curtola won an RPM Gold Leaf Award for becoming the first Canadian to have an album go gold.

