

Royal Canadian Horse Artillery (RCHA) Brigade Association  
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## **RCHA Heritage Newsletter- September 2016**

### **Editor's Note:**

Welcome back! I hope you all had a great summer. It was quite a hot one, but thank goodness the club has air conditioning and hopefully you were able to enjoy it while visiting the RCHA.

This month's Newsletter is off to a late start due to a hectic schedule this past week! In this Issue, Committee Members of the RCHA Board will fill you in on what's happening at the club and provide you with the latest updates.

In July, a survey for the RCHA Heritage Newsletter was sent out with positive results. Thank you for your feedback, it will provide me with the tools to work on some areas for improvements in upcoming issues.

September is a special month for the Kingston Blues Society as they celebrate their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Congratulations to the KBS and Thank you for hosting some of the Best Musicians the club has ever heard! Best Wishes for many, many more years to come! In celebration of their 10<sup>th</sup> year, legendary Juno award winner, Jack de Keyzer is returning for a two night special on September 30<sup>th</sup> and Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. Be sure to save the date and celebrate with the KBS!

Until next time, I hope it cools down a bit and we can all enjoy the return of Fall later this month (September 22<sup>nd</sup>).

Susie Edgecombe

### **Quote of the Month:**

“Autumn, the year's last loveliest smile”  
-William Cullen Bryant

## **Chair's Message:**

I hope everyone enjoyed the summer and found time to relax.

We have had a good summer at the Club with our A/C working away and cooling us off.

Our newly renovated 2<sup>nd</sup> floor hosted a number of events and we have continued to make improvements... including the availability of draught beer when we have the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor bar open.

If you are considering hosting a party for work or for personal reasons, please consider utilizing the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

Once again we had a fun RCHA Annual Golf Tournament with a meal back at the Club. Good times were had by all with Mother Nature obliging us with a beautiful day on the Garrison Golf Course.

We are now getting busy with events, such as, with the return of three Kingston Mixed Pub Dart League teams; in action on Wed. nights (new players are always welcome)... and entertainment Thursday through Sat.

The changes you see taking place, the arrangements for events and work being done to advertise are all the work of volunteers so I would like to thank everyone who does something for the Club. This work is how we survive. Thank you!!!!

Ken Edgecombe, Chair of the RCHA Board

## **Membership Brief:**

A warm welcome to new members Connie & Fred McAdam, Hal Richardson, Brenda Dunham, Mariah Hamilton and Peter Pridewho have joined the RCHA since the last newsletter. As well, we welcome Honorary Associate Donna Gillespie, CEO of KEDCO and a new Corporate Associate, the Toastmasters.

Between August 1– October 31, new applicants may take advantage of the prorated fee of \$25 for the remainder of the 2015-16 membership year.

Members are exempt from the entertainment cover charge, get a discount on most ticket events and can participate in Member Advantage/Discount program – getting discounts at several businesses (restaurants, hotels, golf and theatre) in the Kingston area. List posted on the Bulletin Board.

Congratulations to member J. Geoff Hampton, who was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel

and appointed Commanding Officer, 2 RCHA in Petawawa in June. This is a 2 year appointment and the family will be moving, but they plan to return to Kingston.

The 2016-17 Membership renewal campaign will again invite current members to renew your membership during the month of October at the early bird special of \$75. Sincere condolences are sent to the family of Active Member Eric Matchett, who died on June 28, 2016 and former member Louise Cassidy who died on August 9, 2016.

Carol Whyman, Chair of Membership

### **Housing and Bar Ops Brief:**

There is draft beer on the second floor! With thanks to Beare Weatherup, Gord Brown, Jim Davidson and second floor committee. We look forward to events on our beautiful second floor. We have responded to members' requests for seasonal drinks (ie. Sol beer and French rose wine) and encourage people to try something new!

Frank Warnica, Chair of Housing and Bar Ops

### **Entertainment Brief:**

The RCHA continues to offer the best variety of music anywhere in Kingston. The Big Phat Horn Band performs on the last Saturday of each month and tickets sell out quickly. Gerry O'Kane (from Ireland) rates the RCHA as his favorite place to play. Members love Spencer Evans & Funky Frienz, Hat Trick, David Hurley, the list goes on. We urge members to pick up a copy of the entertainment schedule each month, the schedule is also emailed to you.

Frank Warnica, Chair of Entertainment

### **A note from Frank Warnica (President of the Kingston Blues Society):**

In September the Kingston Blues Society will be celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Their affiliation with the RCHA started with monthly blues jams in 2008 and continues with shows featuring national and international artists. Many of the new members were first attracted to the club by these events. The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary KBS show is actually two nights of the legendary Juno award winner Jack De Keyzer on September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Promotions, Special Events, Thursday Entertainment Report**

by Linda J Cameron, Committee Chair

Promotions is improving for our weekly entertainment and special events, thanks to the new RCHA Facebook page set up by Brian Weir and capably managed by Susan Warnica. The page receives several hits daily and many likes and positive comments. It will be interesting to see if our attendance for paid events increases.

Carol Whyman continues to do a good job of notifying members and friends of the Club of upcoming events and the many advantages of being a member of our great community of the RCHA. As well she sends out notices to some media outlets which helps in promotions as well. Marion Smith drops off posters including the monthly calendar around the downtown area which all helps to give the Club a higher profile.

Susie Edgecombe is doing a great job with the Club's Heritage Newsletter reporting on events and offering some interesting articles in the monthly feature as well as different anecdotes and pictures.

At the last meeting for the Promotions team, we discussed plans for fundraisers towards getting the draft lines up to the third floor which is very costly apparently. I believe with the cost of the cooler necessary to do this and lines etc., it will cost approximately \$5,000. No finalized plans for a fundraiser yet--but will have some concrete plans after next meeting some time this month.

**Thursday Entertainment** has been showing successful nights as far as the bottom line goes for the Club. We are seeing more regulars come out for specific evenings as well and it is always enjoyable with top calibre local musicians performing. Most like it because it is an early evening starting at 7 pm and ending at 10 pm which works well for those not retired and still working. We are getting three or four seniors from our next door neighbour, St. Lawrence Place coming out to enjoy the music which is nice to see. Hope everyone enjoyed the wonderful summer we have had and we look forward to another great fall and winter at the RCHA Club—"not getting older just getting better". See you in September!

### **Second Floor Committee Report:**

by Linda J Cameron, Committee Member

The positive response to the renovated and restored second floor lounge has been overwhelming. Those who have rented it for special events have been very happy with the cosy attractive space and comfortable chairs plus appealing areas to sit with great downtown and water views. The large screen TV is a bonus for sport's watchers. The room is a great place to read a book while sipping a glass of one of our many terrific wine choices. The museum aspect has been improved for those who enjoy military history and will continue to be improved.

This past month the RCHA Club and the Second Floor Committee donated funds to buy a new draft cooler for the second floor and thanks to members, Jim Davidson, Frank

Warnica, Beare Weatherup and Gord Brown it is now up and running. Oh happy day for all the Club members and guests who enjoy cold draft.

Susan Warnica and Frank Warnica put down attractive laminate flooring recently, helping to finish off the bar area. Still more to do ,but little by little, things are getting completed to make the bar area much more functional and attractive.

As each month passes, improvements are being made to make both floors functional and appealing to members and visitors to the Club. Thanks to all the member volunteers our Club just keeps getting better and better.

Still on the committee's wish list is a new compact sound system and gas fireplace. The group is looking at a few ideas to raise funds through special events to help achieve these goals. That said, we are grateful and appreciate Michael George's generosity in donating a sound system until we are able to purchase our own. Thanks Michael—much appreciated.

### **In Other News:**

A big thank-you to those of you who took the time to fill out the RCHA Heritage Newsletter Survey I sent out in July. Your feedback and support of the current newsletter structure was helpful. Your suggestions for improvements were noted, and you should see some changes as requested in the near future.

The monthly "Featured Article of the Month" will return in October's issue of the RCHA Heritage Newsletter.

### **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: [susie.edgecombe@gmail.com](mailto:susie.edgecombe@gmail.com).

### **Last, but not Least:**

Be sure to check out the **Calendar of Events for September** as your entertainment guide. See the website [www.rcha.ca](http://www.rcha.ca) or pick up a hard copy calendar (located on the third floor, beside the elevator) when you visit the club.

**A Note from the Members of the RCHA Board: (Ken Edgecombe, Chris Whyman, Michael Nimeh, Carol Whyman, Frank Warnica, Linda Cameron, Phil MacKenzie, Frank Kenchington)**

# **RCHA 2016 GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**A BIG THANK YOU GARRISON GOLF CLUB**

**AND**

**TO ALL WHO PROVIDED PRIZES**

**including**

## **Restaurants**

Black Dog Hospitality Group

(Diane's Fish Bar, Atomica Pizza & Wine Bar, Harper's Burger Bar & Le Chien Noir Bistro)

Curry Original

Kelsey's

King Street Sizzle, Four Points by Sheraton

Merchant Tap House

Montana's

Sir John's Public House

Woodenheads

## **Others**

TG.co Hair Studio

Peter Littlefair

**THANK YOU ALSO TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS & VOLUNTEERS**

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR THE DELICIOUS DINNER TO**

**Chris Fountas of Blue Martini**

(Be sure to check out the photos of the RCHA Golf Tournament by snap'd Kingston on their website <http://snapd.at/eeuwg5m>).