

## **RCHA Heritage Newsletter**

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

Happy New Year and welcome to the first issue of the RCHA Heritage Newsletter of 2016! May the New Year give you Peace, Joy, Good Health and Happiness!

With a new year upon us, we often anticipate new beginnings, new changes and set resolutions for ourselves and our surroundings. We set goals and make plans to achieve them. For the RCHA, it is a new year to grow, improve, and be in a better place than the year before. We are fortunate to have a number of dedicated volunteers who assist in making positive changes to the Club, and who are passionate about its' heritage, so let's applaud our Board of Directors and RCHA Committees for 2016, and wish them all a successful New Year ahead...we look forward to seeing their plans unfold!

As your new editor, a goal of mine is to make improvements to the current Newsletter. It will be an ongoing project for me in coming months and I want to thank you in advance for your patience. Another one of my New Years' goal is to create a mini RCHA Cookbook. I'm excited to put this together as it will be a compilation of members' recipes. If you wish to participate, please send in your favorite recipe(s) for publication, along with your name, and state the year you joined the club (optional). The recipe categories will be: Appetizers/Soups, Main Courses (Poultry, Pork, Beef, Seafood and Vegetarian), Salads, Breads and Desserts and Gluten-Free. I would also welcome suggested wine selections to go with your recipe(s). This is a pilot project for fund raising purposes. Please send to [susie.edgecombe@sympatico.ca](mailto:susie.edgecombe@sympatico.ca), or mail to The RCHA Brigade Association, 193 Ontario Street, Kingston, ON, K7L 2Y7, Attention: RCHA Heritage Newsletter Editor. I hope to receive many of your favorite recipes soon!

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

“We are at our very best, and we are happiest, when we are fully engaged in work we enjoy on the journey toward the goal we've established for ourselves. It gives meaning to our time off and comfort to our sleep. It makes everything else in life so wonderful, so worthwhile”. - Earl Nightingale

Earl Nightingale (1921-1989) was an American radio personality, writer, respected speaker and author, dealing mostly on the subjects of human character development, motivation, excellence and meaningful existence; so named as the "Dean of Personal Development." (Wikipedia).

If you wish to join a committee, please let us know. New volunteers are always welcome and appreciated!

Happy Reading,  
Susie Edgecombe

### **Chair of the Board's Message:**

Volunteers keep amazing me as they put so much effort into the Club. Whether it is donating funds, food, decorating, attending a meeting and/or just plain effort, the Club is such a good place to be because of all the contributions from members and non-members too! The past year culminated with a sold out New Years Eve event, absolutely the best one I have ever attended!... but not possible without the volunteer efforts that went into it. We keep improving the Club every year and I want to thank everyone who contributes. You make it possible! Happy New Year!... and Thank YOU!

-Ken Edgecombe

## **Featured Article of the Month:**

(In anticipation of the annual Historical Hockey Tournament taking place on Saturday February 6, 2016, we would like to thank Bill Fittell for his editorial contribution, as follows...)

### **R.C.H.A., TAKE A BOW!**

For almost half a century, winters in Kingston have been highlighted by a novel event—the Historic Hockey Series. Created by local merchant and sportsman Phil Quattrocchi as a key attraction for the 1969 Kingston Winter Carnival, the annual February event commemorates the first organized game of hockey played on the harbour ice between Queen's University at Kingston and Royal Military College of Canada in 1886.

The one constant contributor in this “History Lesson on Ice” organized by the International Hockey Hall of Fame and Museum, has been the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery Brigade Association with roots dating back to A and B Batteries and Gunners who competed in Kingston sports and athletics for more than a century.

Adding pageantry and booming sounds to this three-game round-robin series are the hockey team and gun crew of the Second Regiment, RCHA from Canadian Forces Base, Petawawa, Ont., who represent the military that first played hockey-on-the ice in 19th century Kingston.

The RCHA clubrooms at Ontario and Clarence streets—that overlook the site of the first outdoor hockey game—have been the site of Historic Hockey's pre-game organizational meetings and each year the club hosts post-game festivities and presentation of awards.

The teams, seven a side, compete under century-old rules for the RCHA Brigade Trophy, a unique prize that exemplifies the skates used in the first game and a replica of a Martello Tower where the energy and spirit of “Once-A-Gunner, Always-A-Gunner,” still resounds to this day!

- J.W (Bill) Fittell, IHFFM Historian, Doors Open, June 20, 2015.

## **In Sports:**

The RCHA Dart teams are going strong this season with six RCHA Teams playing in the Pub Dart League every Wednesday evening starting at 8pm....come out and support them whenever you can or inquire about joining a team if you like playing darts, new players are always welcome!

The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Historical Hockey Tournament with RCHA 2 from Petawawa vs. Queen's University and RMC on Saturday February 6, 2016 at 2:30pm at Springer Market Square during Feb Fest .....come cheer for your team and then head back to the RCHA's Top floor lounge for the awards' ceremony and good cheer!

Please mark your calendar for the Super Bowl 50 Party taking place on Sunday February 7, 2016 at the RCHA Top Floor Lounge where 2 screen TV's are available to watch the game. Free munchies will be provided and Pizza slices for sale. Come with your friends or by yourself and enjoy the Super Bowl excitement, it could turn out to be an unforgettable event whether you're a sports' enthusiast or not!

## **Treasurers' Brief:**

A happy treasurer is a happy club, December was a good month for the club. Looking forward to a prosperous 2016 for club and members. Happy New Year!

- Michael Nimeh

## **Membership Brief:**

A warm welcome to the following people who have joined the RCHA since the last newsletter: Lynda Barclay, Donald Campbell, Ioene & Jim Davidson, Marsha Gormley, Marilyn Martin, Sonny McLean, Franz Moeslinger, Colleen Purcell & Sandra Vellone. Your participation in the activities and volunteer support is most appreciated.

**Life membership:**

In 2015 Frank Kenchington was presented with a Life membership in the Association noting his outstanding contribution to the RCHA over many years. Congratulations.

**Active membership:**

Active Membership applications approved: Judith Brown, Ed O'Reilly, Keith Belwa, Len Coyle, Norm Wall, & Sharon McLaughlin.

Associates may apply for active/voting membership after 2 years (military 1 year) Forms available in the document box.

**Honorary Associates:**

We welcome Mark Gerretsen MP Kingston & the Islands as an honorary associate during his term.

**Fallen Comrades:**

We send condolences to the families of Life Member Doug Orser and Active members Chris Ward and Murray Carswell who passed away.

**Membership renewals:**

A reminder that memberships not renewed for the Nov 1, 2015 - Oct 31, 2016 membership year by January 15 are suspended.

**Membership Committee:**

Welcome to Cathy Sheppard who has joined Kevin Bleeks, Gord Brown and Sharon McLaughlin on the Membership Committee. Thank you.

-Carol Whyman

**Bar Operations Brief:**

This month we have introduced featured wines by the bottle! Our current choices are Penfolds Thomas Hyland Shiraz and Enzo Vincenzo Valpolicella Ripasso. We also have two highly rated gluten free beers available along with our wide selection of beverages.

-Frank Warnica

The variety and quality of wine and spirits that we offer have gone up over the last few years and has resulted in increased overall sales of wines and spirits. We are trying new things and if you have suggestions, please bring them to us. We may or may not adopt them, but we will certainly examine them! Due to space limitations though.

-Ken Edgecombe

**Housing Brief:**

Continuing improvements to the RCHA Brigade Association building include a new furnace and the outside street scape.

-Frank Warnica

**Entertainment Brief:**

We had a terrific December lineup of entertainment with sold out shows for Soulstack, Celtic Christmas with Turpin's Trail, and of course New Year's Eve with Hat Trick. The addition of Doug Reansbury to our TGIF, along with David Hurley, Michael K. Myers, Dymphna McConnell and other great performers makes our TGIF a "do not miss" event. Remember that RCHA members get 20% off tickets for The Big Phat Horn Band and the British Invasion shows in January!

-Frank Warnica

## **Promotions and Special Events Brief:**

The Promotions Team are working diligently to increase the profile of the historic RCHA Club through various media, social media, posters, banners and public relations events. Efforts include reaching out to the community to get rid of the old concept of the RCHA being a strictly private Club for the military while respecting the history, heritage and traditions.

As well, the Committee is trying to think of ways to get more members to come out to support the many great Special Events and Entertainment opportunities. We welcome two new members to the Committee: Sandra Vellone (who is also on the Decorating Committee with Mark Whyman) and Patricia Graham, who has public relations experience. Sandra and Mark did a fantastic job of decorating for Christmas and New Year's Eve & Day. Thanks also to Susie Edgecombe who gives us a new and fresh version of the Newsletter. Thank you!

SPECIAL EVENTS - New Year's Eve was an overwhelming success with over 80 tickets sold. Also successful because of the efforts of the decorating committee and those who made and donated the wonderful late evening buffet food for the event. The music by Hat Trick was excellent as usual. Everyone had a great time and only positive remarks were heard about the event. Thanks for all who helped out.

The British Invasion with Hat Trick performing British favorites of the 60s including Beatles, Stones, etc. promises to be another sold out special event on Saturday, January 16 at 8:30 pm. Tickets for \$10 are now available at the Bar in the Standeassy. Come out dressed in your favorite 60s British look. Enjoy the night.

Robbie Burn's Day Celebration, an annual very popular event, returns on Saturday, January 23 at 7 pm. Come out and enjoy a great evening celebrating Scottish Culture. Turpin's Trail along with The PWOR pipe band will perform. Haggis, Lamb Stew, Canadian (Scottish) Chili and Scottish shortbread are all part of the food fare. Scotch tasting will be offered as well. Tickets are available at the Standeassy now for \$15.

-Linda J Cameron

## **Thursday Entertainment Brief:**

Thursday entertainment (from 7-10pm, No Cover) is growing in popularity and appeals particularly to baby boomers and older individuals who enjoy an early night of entertainment. Upcoming for January is the popular Celtic Jam with Shane Dunne, Ann Archer and the Kingston Ceili Band performing on Thursday, January 14. On January 21 for the Country Jam night, Jon McLurg and his new country band, Swinging Doors entertain. Back by popular demand on Thursday, January 28, are Steve & Penny providing a KARAOKE evening. Bring your best voice and join us.

-Linda J Cameron

## **In Other News:**

Be sure to check out the article titled 'St.Barbara's Day and unveiling of Commemorative plaque at RCHA Club' on Snap'd Kingston's website [www.snapd.com](http://www.snapd.com) (January 2016 Issue). Photos by Tracey St Germain.

## **Letters to the Editor:**

I'd love to hear from you, if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions (under 100 words), please send them to [susie.edgecombe@sympatico.ca](mailto:susie.edgecombe@sympatico.ca) for future publications. I also welcome any editorial contributions (300 words maximum) you may have that could be incorporated as the 'Featured Article of the Month'.

## **Coming Soon in February :**

The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Historical Hockey Tournament on Saturday February 6, 2016 at 2:30pm at Springer Market Square

Super Bowl 50 Party on Sunday February 7, 2016 (see "In Sports" section above).

Valentines's Day at the club– Sunday February 14, 2016....always a romantic place to come for cocktails before or after dinner.