



## **RCHA Heritage Newsletter Autumn Edition**

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

This Autumn Edition will be the final Newsletter of this year and thus will cover information and events through to our New Year's Eve party. What a year 2017 has been! A year of celebration of Canada's 150th birthday, a summer of successful events in downtown Kingston, and we still have much to look forward to before we welcome 2018! I hope you enjoy this edition and will have the opportunity to participate in some or all of the upcoming events at our club.

### **RCHA Board of Directors**

*Ken Edgcombe, Board Chair*

First, I would like to thank all the volunteers who help the Association and the club operate and provide such a great place to come and socialize. We continue to have great entertainment that helps draw new people to the club and increase the number of members

I have to thank Bob Chamberlain once again for organizing the Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Gunners Memorial in City Park. It is our responsibility to maintain the Memorial and organize the ceremony every year. Bob has been organizing the ceremony for a number of years and the attendance has grown reflecting the history of the RCHA in Kingston. 2 RCHA will once again come from Petawawa and be a part of the ceremony.

*I would like to encourage everyone to attend. After the ceremony, everyone is invited to come back to the club for refreshments and entertainment.*

**A reminder to members that we have a general meeting Monday October 30th at 7:00PM and I encourage you to attend.**

All the best!

## **Historical Committee**

*Bob Chamerslain, LCol. (Ret'd,) Committee Chair*

On 26 May 2017, the Gunners of Kingston celebrated their Artillery Day at the RCHA Brigade Association. It was well attended on the 2nd Floor. We would like to keep our historic connection to Kingston, dating back to the formation of the RCHA on 20 October, 1871; the first Canadian Regular Force Unit with A and B batteries and the School of Artillery.

As a point of interest, in 1873 the Gunners contributed the formation of the North West Mounted Police (RCMP) from Kingston with their first Commissioner LCol John French, several senior NCOs, including Sam Steele, horses, and an artillery gun. This contribution made up of 20% of the new Force heading to the NW Rebellion. Sam Steele later became a Major General and served in the Boer War and WW1. He was instrumental in forming not only the Boy Scouts, but also the Lord Strathcona Horse for WW1.

On 29 May at the annual RCHA meeting, a presentation took place. With the kind donation from Eric Coombs, a retired RCHA Chief Warrant Officer, a shadow frame of his collection of hat badges, buttons and lapel grenades was donated. The collection dates back to Queen Victoria in the 19th Century.

We as RCHA Members are proud of this rare donation, and will display it where other Members and guests can view it. No cost to the "Club", as I felt as an RCHA Veteran, that I would cover the mounting costs.

Regards to all Members of a very historical organization.

## **Membership Update**

*Carol Whyman, Membership Chair*

A warm welcome to the following new members since the last newsletter, Bev Bennett, for the 2016-17 membership year; and the following new members for the 2017-18 membership year: Evelene Brown, Don Tayfel, Shirley Dunlop, David Leakey, Linda Line, Ron Tyrrell, Dennis Smith, Jack & Tanith L'Abbe and Ray Baril

The final numbers for the 2016-17 membership year are: Honorary 18: Life 13: Active 72: Associate 87: Corporate – 3, **an increase in our Active & Associate members of 21 more than the previous year.**

The 2017-18 Membership renewal campaign is going well with at least 80 members (at press time) taking advantage of the early bird special of \$75. Congratulations to Jim Scott, who was the first to renew for 2017-18. As of November 1st, the fees revert to the normal \$100, so we encourage those who haven't renewed yet to do so soon.

Current Associate members are encouraged to apply for Active/Voting Membership after 2 years (1 year for military persons). Application forms are in the document box next to the elevator on the 3rd floor and require endorsement by 2 Life and/or Active members. Christina Tracy, Brian Weir, Shirley Kirkwood and Linda Barclay were approved as Active members since the last news.

Contributions to the Capital Improvement Fund for the 2017-18 membership year, to-date are \$2630. We are most grateful for your generous support.

Sincere condolences are sent to the family and friends of former active member Bob Murray who died in August.

#### **Membership Committee**

Carol Whyman, Chair, Kevin Bleeks, Sharon McLaughlin, Gord Brown and Cathy Sheppard

### **Royal Canadian Horse Artillery Brigade Association**

## **MEMBERS GENERAL MEETING**

**MONDAY OCTOBER 30, 2017**

**At 7 p.m.**

**ON THE 3rd FLOOR**

We encourage all Honorary, Life, Active Members, Associates, and the Corporate Associate Representatives to attend and participate in the meeting.

Only Life and Active members may vote.

## Thursday Entertainment Report

*Linda Cameron, Chair Thursday Entertainment*



Thursday early entertainment continues to draw new people to the RCHA Club, plus, offer a variety of early evening experiences enjoyed by Baby Boomers, certain regular members, visitors to Kingston and working people wanting an early night out 7-10 pm.

As well, senior visitors from St. Lawrence Retirement home have become frequent attendees a long with visitors to the city staying in nearby hotels.

Thursday nights feature an Easy Listening evening on the first Thursday of the month, Celtic music on the second Thursday, Country and Folk music on the third and either Karaoke or varied entertainment on the last Thursday of the month. The entertainment starts at 7 pm and ends at 10 pm. There is no cover charge and everyone is welcome. We feature local artists to support live music in Kingston. Ron Gray, Jon McLurg as shown in the picture above, John Somerville, Steve Medd and Roger Ecclestone are regular performers for many of those nights.

We invite members and guests of the RCHA to come out on a Thursday to enjoy some great local entertainment by talented musicians and vocalists. Check the monthly calendar.

## Special Events

*Linda Cameron, Former Chair, Special Events Committee*

*lcameron10@Cogeco.ca*



Robbie Burn's Birthday is an annual Celebration at the RCHA and has been since I started it in 2010. Sharon McLaughlin, Marion Smith, Phil MacKenzie and Susan and Frank Warnica have helped with it in the recent years making a great contribution to its sold out success.

2018 promises to offer another great Robbie Burn's night in January either, the 25th or 26th of the month. Look at the calendar and posters for actual date. The event features a pipe band and Turpin's Trail who play a variety of Scottish and Celtic music. There is a Scotch Tasting feature offered by Susan and Frank plus Haggis and tastes of traditional Scottish fare plus Chili.

There have many Special Events held over the past several years which helped to raise funds for various projects and improvements to the Club. These included: Fashion Shows, Christmas Gift Shows, Musical Entertainment Events, Remembrance Day, New Year's Eve, New Year's Day Levee, Valentine's Day, Halloween, etc.

Members and visitors to the Club have supported these initiatives which help the Club's bottom line. Various members have taken the lead on specific events. We are currently looking for a Chair of the Special Events Committee to help coordinate these events with the Entertainment Chair, Frank Warnica. Monthly meetings provide an opportunity for Special Events members to brainstorm and give new ideas to promote the Club and plan events for the upcoming events.

If you are creative and enjoy working with a team of like-minded individuals, please contact either me (Linda Cameron) or Carol Whyman to discuss heading this fun committee.

## **RCHA 2017 GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Congratulations to the winning team this year: Norm Wall, Wilf Johnston, Jim Gebhardt, Sonny Mclean.

A big thank you to the Garrison Golf Club and to all those that donated prizes, including:

### **Restaurants**

Black Dog Hospitality Group  
(Diane's Fish Bar, Atomica Pizza & Wine Bar, Harper's Burger Bar & Le Chien Noir Bistro), Kelsey's, Merchant Tap House

### **Others**

Peter Littlefair, Ken and Suzie Edgecombe

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

A special thank you to Chris Fountas of Blue Martini for the delicious dinner.

## Entertainment Report

*Frank Warnica, Entertainment Chair*

Thank you to all the volunteers and staff for making this past Limestone Blues Festival weekend a great success. This is our best weekend sales for the year!

Without any compensation, the Kingston Blues Society organizes the five separate events at the club and also contributes money towards paying the musicians. We are very grateful for this continuing partnership.

We're excited about some new music at the club. *Room With A View* is a jazz quartet which played to a very successful TGIF, and will be starting a monthly Sunday afternoon series on November 5th. The time frame will be 1 pm to 4 pm, with no cover charge and there will be a light lunch available for a cost of \$5. See you there!

On Friday December 1st the very well-known *Kim Pollard Band* makes its debut at the club. This will be an event that you should not miss!

In other entertainment news, we have *Samantha Martin and Delta Sugar* on November 17th. (The next night they are in Ottawa at the NAC!) On Sunday November 19th we have the return of the very popular *The Bobby Show*. The amazing Toronto band *Soulstack* will be appearing on Friday December 8th and the December show of the *Big Phat Horn Band* will be the very special "Diva" edition on December 16th.

**Don't forget tickets will be on sale soon for our New Years' Eve show with *Hat Trick*. Last year's show sold out quickly, don't be disappointed.**

**Editor's Note:** At the recent meeting of the Board of Directors the policy of permitting seating or tables to be reserved for events was reviewed. The Board determined that moving forward, to provide the best possible experience for all members and patrons, all seating will be General Admission with no reserved seating. This policy will be printed on all tickets for future events.

### *A Reminder of Dates To Highlight*

*October 30<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, Membership Meeting*

*November 5<sup>th</sup>, 1pm-4pm, The new Sunday Afternoon Music Series*

*November 11<sup>th</sup>, Remembrance Day Ceremony*

*Christmas Turkey Shoot watch for a Saturday afternoon date in early December*