



RCHA HERITAGE NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2017

Editor's Note: Happy New Year to all our members and your families. My thanks to the Board for giving me the opportunity to produce the Newsletter for the club. This is the first of what will be a quarterly publication for 2017. This issue contains many highlights from our Committee Chairs, please consider any requests and note specific event dates so that you will not miss out on all that the RCHA has to offer. *Bill Sheppard* email: ganpa175@hotmail.com

RCHA Board of Directors

Ken Edgecombe, Board Chair

The Club welcomed 2017 in with a very successful New Year's Eve party and a well-attended New Year's Day Levee. Everybody enjoyed themselves and I have to thank all the volunteers who helped make both a success! Our tradition Moose Milk again went over well (Thank you Bob!) and the entertainment was great (Hat Trick packed the dance floor NYE and Beats Workin' provided great music at the levee).

I know a number of folks are headed to warmer climates now so travel safe and enjoy but for the rest of us, the Club is providing great entertainment and atmosphere so we hope to see folks out. The weather can play havoc with attendance at times but we hope to see you there.

We did face a number of unexpected maintenance issues as the year closed but we are headed into this year with a lot of updated infrastructure and plans for more (within budget of course).

The Historic Hockey tournament will be on Feb.4 starting at 2:30PM. We are hosting the teams and it is our trophy they are playing for! An RCHA 2 team will represent the RCHA in the tournament and we usually see a number of gunners from Petawawa and folks from the City attend. Please come and support them!

Best wishes for 2017!

Membership

Carol Whyman, Membership Chair

A warm welcome to new members Patricia Beckett & Michael Braun who have joined the RCHA recently; for a total of 10 new members this membership year. For new applicants, membership dues are prorated based on the date of joining and after February 1 will be \$75.

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.

We also welcome Col. Andrew Jayne, Base Commander CFB Kingston and Martin Sherris, CEO Greater Kingston Chamber of Commerce, as Honorary Associates.

Renewals are still coming in, with some additional contributions to the Capital Improvement Fund bringing the current total to \$2970. We are most grateful for your generous support.

The 2016-17 membership renewal dues are \$100. Payment may be made in 2 instalments: \$50 now & a post-dated cheque for \$50 dated by March 31, 2017.

Promotions/ Special Events/ Thursday Entertainment

Linda J Cameron, Promotions and Special Event Chair

Promotions

The RCHA Club has changed over the years from its beginnings in 1947 as a military social club for male veteran gunners to a historic Kingston Community Club, which welcomes civilian as well as military membership.

The Club has evolved over the years to become a comfortable place where visitors can appreciate and celebrate historic military museum artefacts while enjoying companionship, a variety of beverages, superior entertainment and special events. Our historic club is located in a designated Heritage building right downtown with great water and streetscape views.

Our effort over the years has been to promote the Club through various media including newspaper, radio, television, print posters, newsletters, brochures and the latest Facebook page plus a website

It is our goal over the next years to educate the public to the fact that it is a Community Club--open to Kingston residents of a variety of ages who enjoy quality music and camaraderie. The Club is especially appealing to the current large bubble of "baby boomers". Our job in 2017 is to promote the Club to educate the public and to grow the membership to sustain the Club into the future

The Promotions team is looking for enthusiastic members to help in this task by volunteering to accomplish this worthy goal plus help to plan fundraising events. A membership drive is planned for the spring. If you want to be part of our fun team contact me at lcameron10@cogeco.ca

Special Events: Robbie Burn's Day Celebration

Annually, The Robbie Burn's night at the RCHA, is celebrated with gusto--a pipe band, Celtic musicians and tastes of Scottish fare--haggis, lamb stew, neaps, chilli and shortbread. It is planned and implemented by a terrific team of RCHA volunteers including promotions and special events committee members

The RCHA Robbie Burn's event is **Saturday, January 21 at 7 pm**. Tickets are \$20 or \$35 for two. Tickets are selling quickly so those wishing to attend need to get theirs soon. Wear your tartan or be Scottish for the night.

More special events and fundraisers are being planned for the spring and summer.

Thursday Entertainment

Thursday nights are great times for those who enjoy an early evening (7-10 pm), especially, if you have to work the next day or just prefer not to stay out late. It is also a good night to showcase our Club for new visitors and potential new members as well as to promote local musicians. There is no cover on Thursdays.

The monthly format features easy listening on the first Thursday of the month, Celtic music on the second Thursday, Country on the third and Karaoke on the last Thursday. The Kingston Ceili Band brings out a good crowd as does Craig Jones and his performers. We are working to utilize the second floor more for single or small musical groups. Thursday nights help promote and support our Club.

Entertainment/Housing

Frank Warnica, Entertainment Chair

Entertainment

We kicked off 2017 with a sold out New Year's Eve with Hat Trick. Mike, Dan and Mark (Hat Trick) will be returning on the 4th of February and the 3rd of March. We are proud of the quality of all of our entertainers.

Here are a few highlights:

River City Junction will be playing Feb 10th and March 10th

The Kingston Blues Society shows: Samantha Martin and Delta Sugar Jan. 20th and Ginger St James on the 27th. March 31 we will have Tas Cru at our club!

Of course our special St. Paddy's Day celebrations wouldn't be complete without the legendary Gerry O'Kane from Belfast Ireland. He'll be playing two shows, March 11th and March 17th.

The club continues to support community non-profit organizations such as Joe's Mill. A fund raiser will be on the 4th of March; the night is called Frozen Roots and will have a line-up of Kingston's best musicians. The Big Phat Horn Band continues their very successful evening of entertainment on the last Saturday of every month, get your tickets early!

Housing

Thank you to all the members who contributed to the capital fund, along with their membership renewal. Currently our fund stands at app. \$1000. One of the projects we were able to complete at the end of the year was a new sewage pump for the building, which cost \$1500.

Going forward, one of our priorities will be the installation of a cold room on the second floor. This will enable us to change beer kegs by transferring the connections, without having to physically move the kegs between floors. At present, we have a price of \$5000 for the unit, with additional costs required for installation, ie: electrical and plumbing. This will mean a substantial investment, and we will be seeking help from our RCHA members.

Photo Gallery

New Year's Eve



Hat Trick performing their last song of 2016



Chris and Cindy our lovely bar staff



New Year's Day Levee



Bob Chamberlin, LCol. (Retd)
Moose Milk Mixologist



The Town Crier
makes it official!



Beats Workin' performs