

**EXECUTIVE FOR RCRC:**

President: Josh Verch - 613-732-7145  
Vice-President: Sam Dillabough - 613-639-4232  
Treasurer: Dawnalda Siegel - 613-639-4232  
Secretary: Muriel Verch – 613-735-0224  
Rental Contact: Josh Verch - 613-585-6770

It has been a long time since we have sent out a newsletter (Dec. 2020), but many things have been different for us all these last 18 months. Some of what is enclosed in this letter will be old news, but we felt maybe it would catch you up on a few things.

**SANTA IN RANKIN 2021**

We are happy to report that Covid-19 did not keep Santa from making his annual visit to Rankin. Many children came out to receive a treat bag from Santa in a drive thru manner. Many also dropped off their wish list to him.

**CARNIVAL 2021**

Sadly were not able to hold our winter carnival, but we did sell buttons and had an online auction. We were able to make a profit of \$2,356. We want to thank everyone who bought buttons and who also sent along a donation. A big thank you to April Verch who set up and ran the auction. Also thank you to all who donated items: Cathy Doering, Al Gutz, Meryl Hartwig, Ethel Keuhl, The Keuhl family, Alice Melcher, RCRC, Marilyn Sauk, April Verch, Muriel Verch, Anne Zadow. And thank you to all who supported our auction. Look for it again in 2022.

**CARNIVAL BUTTON WINNERS FOR 2021**

We wish to thank Lorenz and Helen Kelo for their work in making and looking after the carnival buttons.  
1st place winner number 847 - \$200 - Trish Rahn  
2nd place winner number 799 - \$100 - Eileen Reckzin  
3rd place winner number 380 - \$75 Nicole Fitzpatrick

**A BIG THANK YOU**

Even though the Centre was not open last year, our ice was great and was in heavy use all last winter. We thank Josh Verch for an excellent job on keeping our ice in such good shape, so that many could enjoy it during the lockdown.

**GRASS CUTTING AND PROPERTY CARE**

We want to thank the following people who donated their time and machinery to keep our grass cut and trimmed: Meryl Hartwig, Ralph Verch, Sam Dillabough, Josh Verch, Lorenz Kelo, & Wilmer Verch. Here is hoping we didn't miss anyone as sometimes it would be cut and we didn't know who did it but it sure shows what kind of caring community we live in! Thank you to Ethel Keuhl who again supplied the plants to put at the front door. It made our Centre look so much more inviting and beautiful.

**HALLOWEEN**

We will be holding a Halloween drive-thru on Saturday, Oct. 30th, 2021, from 6:00pm - 7:30pm. You do not get out of your car, just drive up to the front door (please wear a mask) and you will be handed a bag with some treats. This is open to all children.

**DELTA BINGO WORKERS**

When the Bingo County opens we will need people to volunteer at the gaming centre. It is 2 hour shift. We have approximately two shifts a month. If you are interested in taking the training please call Muriel and when the training is being done we will notify you.



**WINTER INDOOR-WALKING**

Just before Covid-19 locked us down we had started an indoor walking program once a week. It was appreciated by many people. It would be nice if we could run this again this winter. That being said, we need someone to open up and be there for the hour or two and lock up again, once or twice a week, or whatever the demand is. Please consider if you could do this.

**ANNUAL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP 2020-2021**

Congratulations to our scholarship winners: Ruby Pilatzke from Bishop Smith Catholic High School who will be attending Nipissing University and Liam Thomas from Fellowes High School who will be attending Fleming College. These two students are an inspiration and it sure was reflected in their volunteer work on their application. We had nine well deserving entries. Thank you to our judges, who certainly had a difficult time; Wayne Behm, Kelly Cuddy, Ryan Paulson and Jessica Roach. Also a big thank you to Ethel Keuhl and the Rankin Centre for sponsoring the prizes.

**MONTHLY MEETINGS**

At this point we are not holding our monthly meetings, but we certainly hope that come the New Year we can get back to this and of course are anxious to see everyone. Watch our Facebook page and our website. We are always open to suggestions you might have on anything that might make your Centre more appealing or helpful to you and of course we need help to accomplish this.

**ICE FOR THE 2022 SEASON**

Josh Verch will again look after making the ice. But before we get to that, there is work that has to be done (like cleaning the surface of leaves and checking the netting, etc.) If you can help call Josh. If Covid-19 rules allow, we would like to open the building for the canteen and skate changing during the winter. If we can, we will try to go back to our work schedule for the 2019-2020. If you didn't have a day and this is something you are interested in, give Muriel a call.

**LOOKING FOR BARTENDERS**

When we are ready to open, we need volunteer bartenders who are ready to help out. You must have your smart serve license (these can be obtained online, so now is the time to get certified). Please consider this and if we can add your name to our bartender list please call Muriel. If you need more information call Muriel.

## MEMBERSHIPS

You can support the RCRC by buying your 2022 membership by mailing a cheque to the RCRC, 20 Rankin Rink Road, Pembroke, ON, K8A 6W4 or by contacting membership chairperson, Cathy Grahl, 613-735-3381 or giving it to any executive member. Family memberships are \$20.00 and single memberships are \$10.00. The RCRC is struggling financially and this is just one small way you can help out.

## THE STRUGGLE

We know that we all have been struggling during the past 18 months. Many of us have lost loved ones, and did not have the support of family, friends and neighbours because we could not come together to grieve and share. We have been lonely and weren't able to celebrate milestones and family events. Some of us have suffered financially and others had no work. We had our lives disrupted because our schedules were no longer ones we could depend on. This has left us physically and mentally exhausted. In all of this the one thing we have to remember is that it is up to us how we handle all of it. Sometimes it is as simple as giving someone a smile, holding open a door for someone, giving someone a call, an email or a text just because you want to say I'm thinking of you. Maybe bake a surprise for someone, offer to pick up some groceries, or help cut some grass or help bring in wood. Children love to receive mail, send them a card or a picture to color. With more time on our hands, why not write down some family or community history to pass along to our children or grandchildren. We can help ourselves by helping others, rather than dwelling on what we are missing. Let us count our blessings and take the time to rest and be thankful.

And like how we have been **struggling** it is also true for our beloved **Recreation Centre**. We have had to close our doors to the public. However, bills still keep coming and need to be paid, but no revenue is coming in. We certainly have everyone to thank that did so much fundraising and volunteering during the past years, so that we had a nest egg we could fall back on. But as we move forward we need much more help. Many of our volunteers are tired and cannot return, due to health, age, moving away, etc. (this goes for the present executive as well) so we need many hands to step up to the task, if you want your Centre to continue to be here for you and your children and grandchildren, we need your help and commitment. We need volunteer bingo workers, bartenders, fundraising people, we need people to run events, we need people to do phoning, we need people to help cut grass and look after the grounds, change our sign out front and keep it up to date, delivery newsletters, run the canteen, etc. There are many jobs, big and small, that I'm sure we can find something you would be happy doing. We hope that we can count on you to help us out. Just give anyone on the present executive a call to tell us what you would like to do.

## KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE

As things change we will use our website and Facebook page to communicate and keep you up to date, so please check them out.

## CARNIVAL 2022

We don't know what February will look like with COVID-19 still with us, but again we would certainly hope that we can have some carnival events (it may be virtual, or half and half) but we need someone that can head a committee to plan it and set it up. We would like to hold another auction (live or online), so we will need items to auction and someone to do the technical data online, (if this is how we have to go). So please consider this and again if you can help, give Muriel a call. Lorenz & Helen Kelo once again have agreed to make the carnival buttons, and we will be asking you to help sell them. This is an easy fundraiser if everyone gets involved and does their share. The buttons will be distributed to you and we ask that you do your share to sell them or buy them.

## CONGRATULATIONS:

- We congratulate Holly Dole and Pat Dagenais on the birth of their daughter Zoey who arrived on April 10, 2021.
- We extend our congratulations to Miranda (Doering) and Trevor Schroeder on the birth of their son, Nash Trevor Schroeder; on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 weighing in at 6 lbs. 9 oz.
- Congratulations to Ben Doering and Kirsten Woito who exchanged wedding vows on August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- Congratulations to Holly Dole and Pat Dagenais who were married on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Congratulations to Marc Bru and Carla Manton who were wed on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

## SYMPATHY

- + We extend our sincere sympathy to Bruce McGuire, Chris & Sandra Johnstone & family on the passing of a loved wife and sister Brenda McGuire on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- + Our deepest sympathy to Shelley & Emile Tavares and Morrison on the passing of a loving mother, mother-in-law and grandmother Beulah Grife on Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> 2021. Beulah will be missed for all her volunteer work at the RCRC.
- + Our sincere sympathy to Ray, Darren (Nicole), Amelia and Clara Bonenberg, and the Welch family and on the passing of a loving wife, mother, grandmother and sister Carol Anne Bonenberg on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- + We send condolences to Serena Reckzin, Brandon Reckzin (Amy Hebert), Angela Colebourne (Kevin), Ella, Carter and Lucas on the passing of a loving husband, mother and grandfather, Murray Reckzin on Feb. 12, 2021.
- + We send our sincere sympathy to all of the Reiche family and their extended families and especially to Albert's wife, Andrea and his children, Aaron and Aiden on the passing of Albert Reiche, on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at his home in Kanata.
- + Our sincere sympathy to Joey & Rhindee Lair, and Harlow on the passing of their beloved daughter and sister Gracie Lair, on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- + We send condolences to the family of Warren Richter, his loving wife Norma, and children Eric (Cheryl), Peter, and Mike (Darlene) and his grandchildren, Shannon, Jasen (Feier), Ian, Erin and Gideon and also great grandson Aiden. Warren passed away on June 14, 2021.
- + Our sincere sympathy to Jean Lopushanski and family on the death of her husband, Stan Lopushanski on June 24, 2021. May God be with you all during these hard times.