



Hamilton, Canada

Founded 1982

General Meeting

Wednesday
September 14th, 2016
1:00 P.M.

THE ASSOCIATION
555 Upper Wellington
Hamilton

Guest Speaker

We will be having some guests from **Alliance Pharmacy** who will discuss new ideas on Medication Management including MedPacks. Come with any questions you may have about medications in general.

Published quarterly by and for the members of the **Hamilton Police Retirees Association**

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Articles appearing in *The Newspeak* reflect the opinions of the writer and are not necessarily those of the Hamilton Police Retirees Association.



A Message from our President

Terry Hill

I do not know about the rest of you but this summer seems to have just blown by.

I know some of what I am about to report was discussed at our General Meeting in May but I think a re-hash, for those that were not there, is in order.

Since our last board meeting in April, we have had several things take place starting with our Spring Luncheon. I want to thank **John Daniels**, his committee and all the volunteers that helped to make this a great success. John came up with some interesting twists from our previous spring luncheons. He did a great job for his first time running this big event.

So did our Top Cop Award committee with their awarding of two Top Cop Awards this year. One to **Pieter Ciere** for his many years of service to our retiree's association and the community. Congratulations Pieter! The second award was given posthumously to **Bob Muir** through his wife Sandy who accepted the award. Bob had provided so many years of service to our association before he was suddenly taken away from us before we had a chance to recognize him for his dedication to volunteering whenever needed. Congratulations to Sandy and the Muir families. I would like to thank **Dianne Jackson** and her committee for their efforts.

In May along with **Phil Slack**, we attended the Stoney Creek Chamber of Commerce Achievement Awards where our own **Wilf Rogers** and his wife **Susan** were recognized for their volunteerism by the awarding of the Citizen of the Year award.

Congratulations to Susan and Wilf and thank you for everything you have done.

We had the PPAO SAGM held in Oakville which was well attended by retirees from around the province. We had some interesting presenters and discussions. A director's position vacancy as a result of the passing of Russ Moore is still open. With three of Hamilton's members sitting on the board I don't think it would be a good idea to ask for volunteers again from Hamilton. We are fortunate to have as structured an organization that we do with willing participants.

We also had a Chief's Advisory Committee breakfast meeting with our newly appointed Chief, **Eric Girt**. Great dialogue was had by those that attended. Part of that dialogue was around the HPS museum. Back at the HPS Awards Night in May, which I attended, I spoke with **Insp. Scott Rastin** who asked how things were going at the museum. In short he again advised me that he had arranged with the design company that did the trailer, Rhoddy Marketing Group, to have the museum renovated similar to the trailer layout. Not only that the renovations were paid for, I am very happy to report that **S/Sgt. Maggie Schoen** has stepped up and the renovations to the museum are going forward with some icing on the cake; as of a meeting on Friday, 12th August. Dan has found some extra funds so that Rhoddy can do more. They are looking at completion by year end. The down side is that the trailer will be decommissioned. The issues with the trailer are a leaking roof requiring replacement, accessibility issues for the disabled and the costs for having to tow the trailer to and from events.

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(Continued on page 4)



Pensions and Benefits

By Phil Slack

Benefits

It has been a quiet summer in relation to benefits. Nothing new on the horizon in regards to changes in benefits. I regularly receive requests for information in regards to Supplementary Enhanced Medical Insurance plans available to our members after they have lost their benefits. The foremost issue is to make sure you begin examining your options at least two months in advance of you losing your benefits. Depending on which plan you go with, you have 60 days (Sun Life) to 90 days (MROO/ENCON) to enrol without requiring proof of good health. I'd be glad to help anyone seeking advice on medical insurance needs.

The Provincial Government made a positive announcement a few months back. New Stem Cell therapy for certain types of cancer has shown promising results, particularly in Leukemia treatment. Unfortunately, our healthcare system has been unable to keep up with the demand for treatment and required timelines for treatment.

On May 1, 2016 the provincial government introduced a significant policy change that will provide new treatment for those cancer patients not in remission. They will become eligible for life-saving stem cell transplant therapy.

Provincial Health Minister Hoskins announced that they will be expanding access at hospitals for stem cell therapy treatment in Ontario and out of country if necessary, where it's clinically recommended, to leukemia patients who are not in complete remission after chemotherapy.

Pensions

Many of our members have taken advantage of the OMERS "Additional Voluntary Contribution" program which in essence allows you to invest in a parallel OMERS pension portfolio. These locked in investments are required to be transferred into a RIFF in your 71st year. OMERS required legislative changes to allow them to provide RIFF's within OMERS. For the past four years OMERS has been working with the provincial government to facilitate members being allowed to leave their investments in RIFF's within OMERS. The OMERS Retirees Group (MROO, Police and Fire) have been lobbying and pushing for this process to be fast tracked. OMERS has recently announced that this should be allowed either by year end, or early next year.

The low management and administration fees of OMERS will provide a greater return on your RIFF's inside OMERS.

In the last issue of our Newspeak I spoke of the impending mandatory Ontario Retirement Pension Plan (ORPP) which was to begin in 2018. The Federal Government and

the Provinces have now agreed on enhancing the existing Canada Pension Plan for all Canadians, resulting in the Ontario Government cancelling the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan. Unfortunately, they spent 70 Million dollars in planning for it.

Police Pensioners Association of Ontario

The PPAO will be having their Annual General Meeting (AGM) co-hosted by the Durham Regional Police Retirees Association in Whitby On Thursday October 13th. We will have some informative speakers, and will be seeking approval for the establishment of A PPAO Scholarship Fund. This fund will award two individual scholarship awards on an annual basis to children and/or grandchildren of PPAO members. Full details will be provided after the AGM.

This meeting is open to all members of the Hamilton Police Retirees Association, as you are automatic members of the PPAO. Lunch is provided. Registration fees for this meeting have been waived, but you must register. Rooms are available at the Holiday Inn Express in Whitby for \$119.99 if you wish to attend the night before and enjoy the fellowship and hospitality. Further information is available through your Board of Directors. ▲

Phil

In Memoriam

- Rose Ann Cole
- Alita Fisher
- Fred Gauld Sr.
- Marjorie Peatfield
- George Spisak
- Norm Thompson
- Bill Wallace

*Gone from our sight...
Never from our Memories*

HPRA 2016 Golf Tournament

By: Steve Binch

SOLD OUT!

On June 20th we celebrated our 24th Annual Police Retiree's Golf Tournament.

I would like to thank our Major Sponsors, Ron Joyce Foundation, CIBC Meadowlands, D.A.Kurt Insurance, H.William Jewellers, Hamilton Police Service, HMECU, M. Lamont, PPAO, Smart Shutters. Also the 20 Hole sponsors & 88 Prize sponsors. With these contributions and the commitment of your Golf Committee this tournament reached unexpected goals donating over \$7,000 to Camp Faces.

- **First Place:** S.Pacey, G.Goguen, R.Graham, B.Stewart
- **Second Place:** K.Stanley, R.Arnold, C.Knowles, G.Jackson
- **Third Place:** D. Broom, B. Rodgers, D. Weliesh, K. Francy
- **Closest to the line:** M. Nicholls / E. Kovacsik,
- **Longest Putt:** Don Steevly
- **Par 3 winners:** M. Cole, Wendy Tompkins.

The winner of the Charitable donation to Camp Faces was Bruce Shaw approx \$4500.00. Unfortunately no one won the \$5,000 cruise from Waterdown Cruise Centre or the \$10,000 hole in one from Chippewa Creek.

2016 marked our 20th year playing the Retiree's Tournament at Chippewa Creek Golf Course.

We are in the process of looking at all of our options, this includes checking other facilities in the region. We would appreciate your input and ideas. IE: Move? Yes? No? Where? Suggested Improvements?

Please send me any thoughts or wishes, we have to start our decision process as soon as possible.

Steve Binch

steve.binch174@gmail.com

Much thanks to the **Golf Committee:** Dave Bowen, Peter Abi-Rashed, John Rusnak, Mike Cole, Jerry Bargeman, Phil Slack and Bob Slack.

"Leave the beaten track behind occasionally and dive into the woods. Every time you do you will be certain to find something you have never seen before."

Alexander Graham Bell

DATES TO REMEMBER

Firefighters Invitation

HORSEHOE PITCH

Thursday September 8th

11:00am

QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday Sept 14th—1:00 p.m.

@ THE ASSOCIATION

Hamilton Police "In Memoriam" Service

Wednesday September 28th

7:00p.m.

Grace Lutheran Church
1107 Main St. West, Hamilton

Tribute Dinner

Tuesday October 4th

For members who are eligible, your invitation is included with this issue of the Newspeak.

19th Annual Turkey Roll

Thursday November 24th

7:00 p.m.

@ Association Hall

AIRPORT SECURITY



Cavity check? I don't even have any teeth!

Update on the Association Club

Summer is almost over (on the calendar at least) and our lives will fall back into a bit of a routine, especially if you have children returning to school. The summer is usually a slower, quieter time at the Association and at the Association Club but this summer things have been turned upside down, literally. We have had a steady flow of contractors and trades (and dust) in and out of the Club planning, prepping and working on the renovations.

We are very excited to be able to soon re-open our doors and share it with you by mid – end of September. When dealing with various trades and various suppliers, sometimes there are unforeseen delays in the final touches being completed as well as delivery dates for our new furniture and fresh kitchen inventory. We will provide the details of our re-opening when they are solidified.

We have very happy to announce that we have hired a new Club Manager and new Chef.

Our Club Manager’s name is **Kelly Maitland**. He comes to us with an extensive background having been in the hospitality industry for over 20 years. Kelly’s experience ranges from working in smaller local restaurants to facilitating the construction and opening of a larger commercial chain. Kelly is ready to make the Association Club your first choice for a great dining experience or a “Rookie Night” out with your colleagues. You can get to know more about Kelly in his article in the upcoming Back Up magazine as well as meeting him in person when we open. Kelly is looking forward to hearing from you with suggestions for the new menu or suggested events you would like to see at the Club at kmaitland@hpa.on.ca

Our new Chef is **Devon Thurston**. He is a culinary graduate from George Brown and has worked at Ceilidh House Irish Pub and was the Sous Chef at Maccheroni’s and Boo’s Bistro. Devon is very excited to pump some new life into our menu and create a new selection of foods that will rotate with the seasons. Rest assured, you will always be able to get our famous chicken wings with our usual sauces as well as some new ones. Please feel free to contact Devon with any food suggestions/inquiries or special food events you would be interested in attending at dthurston@hpa.on.ca.

Both Kelly and Devon are from Hamilton and understand and appreciate our local pallet and menu price expectations.

Keep an eye on your inbox and on our website for more details about our opening date, grand re-opening party as well as a sneak peek as some new menu options.

Clint Twolan, President
 Hamilton Police Association
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Presidents message (Continued from page 1)

There was the unfortunately surprise closing of the Association Club. However, since the closing renovations have taken place and a new manager has been hired, **Kelly Maitland**. Steve Binch and I met with the new manager, Kelly Maitland and Andrew Ottay, HPA House Committee Chair, to discuss the club operation and timelines. That meeting resulted in their attending our last board meeting to present to the board on Tuesday August 16th. I am happy to report that the re-opening is still being targeted for mid-September.

I also attended the HPR Annual Golf Tournament in June which was another successful event that raised \$6,000.00 for Camp FACES. Congratulations to **Steve Binch** and the Golf Committee for their efforts. It certainly paid off. ▲



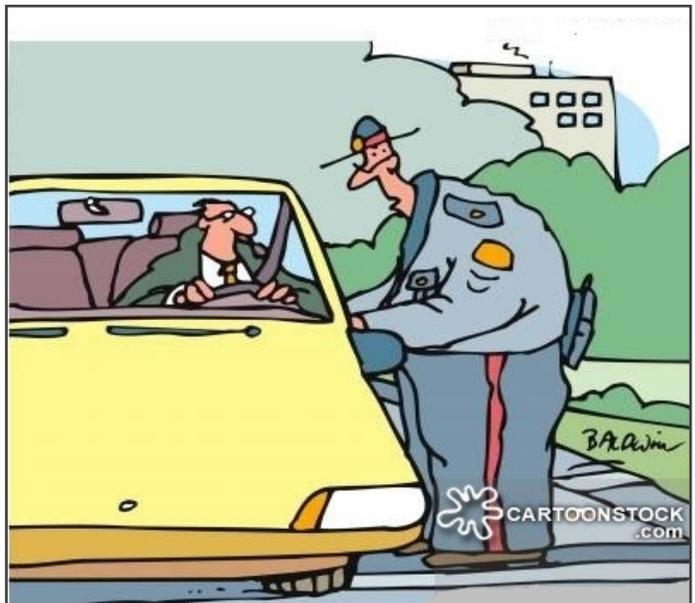
MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By: **Bob Slack**

There are currently 777 HPR members.

I’d like to welcome the following new retirees since the last Newspeek:

Darlene Shepherd, Gary Goguen, Rob Jamison, Norm Wills, Debbie Gifford, Wendy Passmore, Shirley Kazlauskas and Paul Morrison.



“Actually, the guy I was chasing got away. But thanks for pulling over – you’re better than nothing.”