
CHELSEA GARDENS Newsletter



ADJUSTING TO THE UNEXPECTED:

Chelsea residents have always enjoyed their snooker tournaments but it doesn't usually take them two and a half years to complete one. That being said, when you have a men's competition and a mixed doubles well underway and are shut

down because of the unprecedented plague of Covid 19, what are you to do? Well, you wait until the worst of it is over and restrictions are lifted, and you carry on.

The tournaments started in 2019 but come the spring of 2022 there were still a few games to be played. Finally, on April 14th, they were able to announce the winners and enjoy a belated windup party.



1st place winners, David and Elaine.

First place winner of the men's tournament was David Bremner, with Madan Gupta and Dave Pritchard placing second and third.

Joyce Doyle and Scott McFadyen came in third in the mixed doubles, right behind second place winners Gail Carter and Murray Hill. And first place? Why, it was David Bremner again, this time assisted by capable partner, Elaine Saunders.

The eminent philosopher, Herbert Spencer, said that playing billiards or pool well was a sign of a misspent youth. The results of this tournament raise serious questions about David's upbringing and early manhood.

BUT IT WASN'T OVER YET!

The return to normalcy that our snooker players enjoyed was short lived because it was only a week later that several of our fully vaccinated residents came down with the dreaded virus. We only heard of one of them who ended up in hospital and he is fine now but still it was the first cluster of cases we had experienced in Chelsea Gardens. It cast a pall over the social activities that had so recently been

reinstated. Wednesday morning coffee was cancelled for a week or two, the newcomers' welcome that had been scheduled for May 1st was postponed and many who had purchased tickets for the spring dinner on April 23rd were reluctant to attend and happily accepted the take-out service that the social committee scrambled to present as an alternative.

SPRING DINNER:

Hi Carole,

You won't be very happy with me, but there wasn't a single picture taken last night. Our photographer didn't arrive (*perhaps she was afraid of catching the plague*), and I had no time to call anyone else. There were challenges involved with packaging 55 dinners for pick up. The spinach and mandarin salad, hot ham, scalloped potatoes, beans and carrots, plus a bun and a piece of cheesecake wasn't a menu designed to be packaged. Fortunately, it was a beautiful day, and those who waited in line to get their meal, were very understanding and in good humour.

Those who chose to eat with us in the clubhouse had a relaxing meal with lots of space to spread out. We are so thankful for the committee members and the volunteers who worked so hard to cook, serve, and clean up, and to our bar staff who actually got to sit down and eat with everyone else this time.

I have heard nothing but compliments.

Ann Brokop's little Chelsea flower centrepieces were lovely.

Elaine Galley

SUN RUN 2022

Bob and Kathy Hurley, Doug and Kath McLeod and Keith Thompson headed into Vancouver on April 24th to participate in the first in-person run since 2019.

Congratulations to Kathy who came in 10th in her age category. The more cautious Chelsea Walkers team had elected to do the virtual run/walk. Ironically, when the day came, several of them were down with Covid.

A FOND FAREWELL:

Some months ago, our caretaker, John Unger, announced that he was retiring. Did that start a trend? It wasn't much later that we learned that we were losing our whole team. Val Morris and Ivan Tuura were leaving too. We wish them all well in their future endeavours and wanted to do a little something to express our appreciation for their years of service so a farewell party was planned for May 13th.

Pizza and cake were ordered. The bar was opened. There was a wonderful turnout. It looked like Ivan and Valerie were having a good time but where was John?

What rotten luck. He was at home nursing a case of Covid! It wasn't until June 8th that we were finally able to say our good-byes to him but instead of us treating him, he played host to us at our Wednesday morning coffee. The huge turn out was a testament to how much he will be missed.



John with helpers Ashley Orton and Jan Bergman

FINALLY! A TRADITIONAL CHELSEA CANADA DAY CELEBRATION

Canada Day has always been our biggest event of the year since it is held outside and there are not the usual space restrictions. Although we made a valiant effort to celebrate in 2020 and 2021, this was the first time in three years we've been able to have the real thing. In addition to a delicious picnic box lunch and an open bar, guests were treated to lots of entertainment

The day kicked off with a trivia contest to test our knowledge of our country. It brought to light all that we had forgotten and some things we had never known. Winners were Ron Bergman, Carolyn Swayze, Bill and Jo Troughton, Scott McFadyen, Kelly Garland and Cindy Herbstreit.

After all that hard work we were ready to sit back and enjoy some refreshment and entertainment. Guests made the rounds visiting neighbours and our very busy bar but when our Chelsea Dancers

moved into action, they were happy to sit back and enjoy the show. Unfortunately, the dance number was soon interrupted by the loneliest guys in town. Drama ensued! Our girls handled the disruption with class.



Chelsea Dancers: Keiko Yano, Patricia Lynn, Jan Bergman, Margy Jalbert, Christine Fleeton, Debbie Thorburn, and Gerry Helmer.

The "Oldie Weds" game was intended to test the couples who had been married for many years on how well they knew their mates. We couldn't believe all the family secrets that were revealed! There were two set of winners: Scott McFadyen and Diane Moore, and David Bremner and Cherith Johnson.

This newsletter is sponsored by the Chelsea Gardens' Social Committee

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If you have any suggestions, or would like to submit articles or photos for future newsletters, phone Carole Lazar at 778-565-7488 or contact her by e-mail at lazarc@shaw.ca. Submission guidelines, and a coloured on-line version of this newsletter can be found at www.chelseatoday.org



ATTENTION GOLFERS

Our Thursday morning golf group would like to open some tee times to Chelsea residents. We golf at “Langley Golf & Banquet Center”, 21550, 44th Ave. Langley. It’s an 18 hole par 3 golf course. Seniors pay \$19 for 9 holes and \$25 for 18 holes. We are looking for more regular player and/or part time players to fill some summer openings. Come try us out. If interested please call Cathy Lockwood at (604) 596-9568 or email clockwood1121@gmail.com.

A SMALL TRIBUTE:

On Wednesday, June 3rd, KAY OLD-MAN was presented with a bouquet to thank her for the 17 years that she managed our Wednesday morning coffee gathering. She purchased and stored supplies and for many years was responsible for finding volunteers to make coffee and act as hosts.



ALZHEIMER’S WALK

by Ray Arnett

When my son heard about the “Alzheimer’s Walk” he suggested that we form a team and take part. We would raise money and walk in honour of their mother, Dorothy. “Team Arnett” raised almost \$5,000 which will enable the Alzheimer Soc. Of B.C. to continue to provide programs and services to people affected by dementia and enable research into the causes and find a cure for this disease.

Sun. May 29th started off cool, threatening rain, but cleared up to a bright overcast day. Perfect walking weather. One lap around the racetrack and then around a route they had laid out – repeat and we had done 5k.



Left to right: Son, Bill; Granddaughter, Loryn; Ray; Daughter-in-law, Amanda; Son, Larry; Grandson, Connor.

TOWNHOUSE OWNERS:

Did you know that if you put your empty beverage containers in a bag and leave that bag in front of your garage door on any Friday morning, your empties will be picked up and recycled? The refunds will then be used to support a good cause. Details about this new venture to be provided in our next edition.