

CHELSEA GARDENS

Newsletter

2019

Autumn

NEVER A DULL MOMENT

Canada Day is always a fun filled occasion here at Chelsea Gardens but we don't usually have so much planned that we have to post a schedule of events. At first glance, it looked a bit overwhelming. The Chelsea Museum opened at 11:00 AM and residents were invited to come and learn about our 25-year long history. The photos, albums, posters and memorabilia displayed there gave guests lots to chat about so they were in no hurry to leave.

Once the bar opened and guests had a chance to get themselves a beverage, the Chelsea Chicklets circled the fountain and got us into the mood for a day at the races. Their dance was followed by the parade to the post as each of our six racing teams was introduced. After we had a chance to size them up, the betting began!

The Old Grey Mares did not really look like a speedy lot but not wanting to hurt their feelings, many placed a bet on them.



The Old Grey Mares, Gail Carter, Yvonne Brennan, Ann Gorrill, Ann Van Hove, Joyce Doyle and Elaine Saunders

Then the race was on and a close one it was. Several of us had reservations about Walk of Shame. That horse was so hyper that when it won, we demanded drug screening. Well he passed the tests so was declared the winner.

Here he is with his team.



Bob Greenwood holding the trophy, Dr. Colin Softly, Jack De Vries, jockey, Scott McFadyen, Cliff Glowsky, Jim Parker, and Kelly Garland.

The winner's cup was not the only prize presented. Do you remember the Old Grey Mares? They won a little something for being the best dressed. Marlene Purdy took home a prize for having the snazziest chapeau and finally the group that won the trivia quiz got to go first for dinner. Cold fried chicken, an assortment of salads and suitably decorated Canada Day cupcakes were served up right at the scheduled time. Some of us couldn't believe it was time to eat already. Our long and very busy Canada Day program had worked out perfectly!

IT'S NOT ALL PLAY

Did you notice that all our gates have been freshly painted? We didn't pay contractors nor was this job done by good elves.



Phil Smith and Lloyd Anderson working on the east gate.

A TREASURE HUNT AT GRAMMY'S HOUSE

By Margy Jalbert

When Zenon pulled into the driveway after picking our granddaughters, Julia and Nadine, up from the ferry terminal, I waited and waited for the crash of the door and the huge bear hugs...

Finally, at least 5 minutes later Julia did just that, a beautiful crash through the door and hug to go with it. I asked where Nadine was, and that's when I found that 'Trash & Treasure' had held a greater interest than a welcoming hug for Grammy!

I found Nadine out in our little pile of 'trash', that she had already turned into 'treasures'! She had found a discarded plastic snowflake and a piece of string and turned it into a necklace!

It didn't stop there... within minutes the two were running down the street being careful not to miss a pile and rummaging through each as though there was true gold to find!

Smart as they are, they each found a 5-gallon bucket and lifted the split lid conveniently to deposit their finds in what they referred to as their treasure box.

Down the road they found a wheeled office chair and took turns with one pushing and the other riding from pile to pile of hidden treasure as they continued their hunt.

It was dark before they got back to Grammy's and Grampa's place and their buckets were full! Sad faces were seen when they had to roll the amazing chair back to a curb and leave it there.

That evening they dumped their 5 gallons of treasure on Grammy's floor and began to play. Two door knobs made a clicking sound and could be used to attract wood peckers, the spiralling dryer pipe made funny sounds and pushed out air, and two plastic bars were going to be perfect for a relay race in the morning.

That night, their night light was the best treasure of all; a lit-up Christmas tree shape made perfectly from someone's mother's earrings!



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Has any of the information you provided on the emergency forms changed? Not sure?

For example:

- Your phone-number?
- Your pet(s)?
- Residents in your unit?
- Assistance needed?
- Special Equipment?
- Emergency contacts or their phone numbers?
- The Chelsea neighbour(s) with your spare key?

If changes need to be made please contact the office at 604-834-4578 or 604-501-0479 or drop by the clubhouse so that your form can be updated.

IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT THE INFORMATION FOR OUR FIRST RESPONDERS IS CORRECT!

A MEXICAN FIESTA

When we have a sunny day in August it doesn't take much of a stretch of the imagination to do a bit of decorating around the pool and then pretend you are in Mexico. That was the theme for our extended pub night on August 9th. Guests shared appies and brought their

own beverages, but it was the entertainment that made it a true fiesta! The Three Amigos provided the warm-up act for the well-chosen playlist of danceable music that followed. And I can tell you that after the Three Amigos, the audience was *very* ready for the change to recorded music.



The Chelsea Chicklets led off the dancing, but before long everyone got involved.



Keiko Yano and Terry Hyde coax Elaine Scott (centre) to join them.

WHY BOTHER TO READ THE WHOLE THING?

I am not a golfer so when I saw the poster advertising our annual golf tournament, I didn't bother checking out the details. Sunday, August 25th, 2:00 PM. I made a note so I wouldn't forget. Job done!

Now they wouldn't be likely to allow me on the course at Nico Wynd Golf Club anyway so as usual I waited until 5:00PM on the big day and then wandered up to the clubhouse intending to take some pictures and find out who the winners had been.

If you are one of those who DID read the poster you will immediately see my error. This year the dinner was at the golf club. I am guessing Maureen Ruddick and our council members got tired of cooking.

When I questioned participants the following day, none of them had seen anyone with a camera so the only picture I was able to track down was one Gladys Bittner took with her phone. It featured ducks. I thought we had had enough of those in our last issue.

A note to Crossroads did, however, get me a list of the winners. They were:

Men's Closest to Pin: David Bremner

Ladies Closest to Pin: Sandra Delaney

Men's Long Drive: Chris Connell

Women's Longest Drive: Cathy Lockwood

Low Net Team: Ken Kurki, Dave Cooper, Jim Wiley and Roy Gjesdal.

Low Gross Team: Grant Pritchard, Roz Phipps, Ross Ruddick, Maureen Ruddick

Most Honest Golfers: Mike Pesut, Glen Lewis, Mary Gawle and Gerry Blanchard.

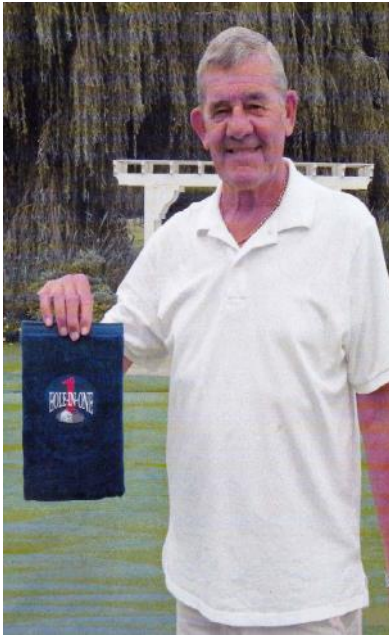
Thanks to the generosity of our many donors, there were more prizes than there were competitors. As a matter of fact, there were more prizes than there were golfers. Many of those who had just come out for the dinner were winners too.

The event made a profit of \$1,800 and, as usual, that money will be used to buy something for the clubhouse. At the end of the day, thanks to the hard work of the organizers, we are all winners.

LOSING IT!

Is it because we are all getting older? I have just explained that I missed our annual golf tournament because I didn't read the poster but it might be that Brian Gervais is slipping a bit too. On August 22nd, he was at the Langley Golf course with the usual Thursday morning group. He was playing the thirteenth hole when he lost his ball. How annoying! All those on his team joined the search. There is a bit of a rise between the starting tee and the green and everyone had seen his ball clear that but still no one could find it.

Have you guessed where it finally turned up? Well hiding in the cup, of course. Here is Brian posing with the "hole in one" towel the club awarded as a memento. Maybe he hadn't lost it at all but was just too modest to check the obvious spot first.



A GRAND TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

Last year, for the first time, we had an event especially for the younger crowd. We wanted to give our grandchildren a chance to see that we knew how to put on a good party. There were games, contests, a photo booth and ice cream sundaes with as many sprinkles as they wanted to add.

The event was such a success that this year, on Saturday, August 24th we did it all again. Once more there was lots of fun and laughter but this time, we seem to have attracted a rather different crowd. Many of our guests were not GRAND at all. It might have been Grandma and Granddad who hosted them, and they might have brought along the required grandchildren, but many of them were just moms and dads or sons and daughters depending on your generational point of view. They were an active bunch and when there were contests that involved teams trying to clear their side of the pool of balls, their height and athletic prowess gave their team a real advantage.



What's a grandpa to do to make it fair? Ken Thorburn stayed on the pool deck retrieving balls that had been flung wide of their mark and I did notice that when he returned them to the pool, they never seemed to land on the side that grandson, Jacob was trying to keep clear.

Thanks, Gramps.

A CHANGE OF DELIVERY DATES:

For several years now, we have tried to have this newsletter to you on the first day of January, April, July and October each year. Starting in 2020, we will be delivering on the 15th day of those months instead of the first. Why? Well almost all of our delivery people are members of the social committee and our New Years and Canada Day celebrations are such a busy time for them. We think they deserve a little time to recover and put their feet up before we ask them to start delivering newsletters door-to-door.

The Chelsea Gardens Newsletter is sponsored by Chelsea Gardens Social Committee

If you have any suggestions, or would like to submit articles or photos for future newsletters, phone Carole at 778-565-7488. Our submission guidelines, and an on-line version of this newsletter can be found at www.chelseatoday.org

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