

55+ CLUB NEWS!

BREAKING NEWS

Bit by bit, things are starting to return to some semblance of our former “normal” at the Club. Drops-ins are now allowed Monday to Friday, from 9am to 4pm. The furniture has been returned to its proper place in the lounge. The TV service (which was disconnected for 2 years) is being re-connected. People can come into the Club, use the lounge, play a game of pool and use the library again. There’s still a lot of Covid hesitancy out there: it almost feels weird to be with people again.

But socialization is very much needed after so lengthy a period of isolation. It’s so nice to see people you haven’t seen for 2 years (although none of us has gotten younger in 2 years!) To this point, even though the mask mandate has been discontinued, most people are continuing to wear their masks when playing cards. That may change over time assuming the numbers continue to go downward.

We’re making plans for the gradual return of other activities. You will soon start to see artwork on the walls. Pat McCarthy has spruced things up in the display case and in the entry way. We could conceivably hold an outdoor event, possibly in June. We are looking into the return of lunches, possibly in September/October, and there are some exciting plans surrounding the return of trips. CHATS is planning to return possibly in June. Everything, of course, is dependent upon the health guidelines at the time

FROM THE 55+ STAFF WORKING GROUP

The 55+ Club Staff Working Group met on March 21st. We discussed the issue of drop-ins and the resumption of TV services. We will be arranging for some of our receptionists to return, possibly in May. As Covid hesitancy lessens, there may be others who wish to help out on the reception desk. We discussed the Neighbourhood Network and Better Impact programs. There was discussion of a senior grant currently being offered by the province. Sandra Bianchi reported on the York Region 55+ Games. Cribbage will be held at 6240 on Monday June 6 at 1pm. The deadline for registration is April 21. Registration forms will be available at the Club shortly.

THE BOOK CLUB RETURNS!

Our book for April is **“Her Fearful Symmetry”** by Audrey Niffenegger. From the author of the #1 bestselling *The Time Traveller’s Wife*, this is a spectacularly compelling novel. It takes place in and near Highgate Cemetery in London and deals with the love between twins, between men and women, between ghosts and the living. Julia and Valentina Poole are twenty-year-old sisters with an intense attachment to each other. Join the group on April 22! Did you know that the Book Club has been meeting all through Covid, just meeting at individual homes?

SMILES

S.O.S. Explained

An Airbus 380 is on its way across the Atlantic. It flies consistently at 800 km/h at 30,000 feet, when suddenly a Eurofighter with Tempo Mach 2 appears.

The pilot of the fighter jet slows down, flies alongside the Airbus and greets the pilot of the passenger plane by radio: “Air, boring flight, isn’t it? Now, have a look here!” He rolls his jet on its back, accelerates, breaks through the sound barrier, rises rapidly to a dizzying height and then swoops down almost to sea level in a breathtaking dive. He loops back next to the Airbus and asks, “Well, how was that?”

The Airbus pilot answers: “Very impressive, but now you look!” The jet pilot watches the Airbus, but nothing happens. It continues to fly stubbornly straight with the same speed. After 15 minutes, the Airbus pilot radios, “Well, how was that?”

Confused, the jet pilot asks, “What did you do?”

The Airbus pilot laughs and says, “I got up, stretched my legs, walked to the back of the aircraft to use the washroom, then got a cup of coffee and a chocolate fudge pastry.”

The moral of the story is: When you are young, speed and adrenaline seem to be great. But, as you get older and wiser, you learn that comfort and peace are more important. This is called S.O.S.: Slower, Older, but Smarter. Time to slow down and enjoy the rest of the trip!

APRIL BIRTHDAY PEOPLE

Graham Sparrow, Audrey Feasby, Lovanna Sanders, Gennie Cuthbertson, Sig Kusatz, Alwin Peter Lee, Kelly Matthews, Marilyn Wright, Patricia Weddell, Brenda Gentles, Laura Giunta, Anna Bartell, Richard Gorniak, Lamont Baker. Celebrate!

NEWS AND NOTES

Well, it appears there was some confusion over the **Breakfast Out**. People didn't realize they were supposed to register so with nobody registered, the event was cancelled. Diane Ward is moving the Breakfast Out to the Fickle Pickle as they have advised that they will be retaining the QR process. They will also take reservations. For your part, you need to call Jen or Diane to let them know you're coming. Diane will reserve a seat for you. Join her at the Fickle Pickle on April 13 at 9:15.

Pat Ogston is also moving the **Lunches Out** to the Fickle Pickle for the same reason. Please let Jen or Pat know you're planning to come and she'll reserve a seat for you. Join Pat on April 20 at noon.

What have you been doing during Covid to keep yourself busy and retain your sanity? Do we have any members who have been painting or crocheting or drawing who would like to display their work at the Club? Please contact Jen so we can all enjoy the fruits of your labours!

A plexiglass screen has been installed on the **reception desk** in the lounge. We are starting to plan for the return of our receptionists. Some have moved away or have health issues or become involved with other commitments during Covid. We will not be having the reception volunteers return until we can be assured of their safety. If you are able to help out with one 3-hour shift, please contact Jen. Training will be provided.

Have you been reading up a storm during Covid, and now you have all sorts of great new books needing a home? Our little **library** also needs a "shot in the arm". We'd be happy to take your new books off your hands. That will be one of the first jobs for our reception people, to weed through the library, recycle the old stuff and put great new stuff in for all to enjoy! There will be collection boxes in the lounge.

Copies of the registration form for the **York Region 55+ Summer Games** are now available at the Club.

AND THE WINNERS ARE ...

DUPLICATE BRIDGE: Mar. 1: N/S Howard & Bev; E/W Ron & Mary. Mar. 8: N/S Gord & Vida; E/W Susan & Bonnie. Mar. 15: N/S Gord & Vida; E/W Joan & Dorothy. Mar. 22: N/S George & Al; E/W Margaret Ristich & Carol M. Mar. 29: N/S Howard & Bev; E/W Ron & Mary.

CONTRACT BRIDGE: Mar. 2, Dorothy Young, 2840. Mar. 9: Joan Marshman, 2746. Mar. 16: Joan Marshman, 3,670. Mar. 23: Dorothy Young, 2,810. Mar. 30: Nick Boldiroff, 4,460. Join us on Wednesdays for fun bridge!

MAH JONG: Mar. 3, Al Huff, 13,414. Mar. 10: Mary Raybould, 2,108. Mar. 17, Al Huff, 1,440. Mar. 24: Sandra Iwasiw, 1,120. Join us on Thursdays for a friendly game of mah jong!

WELCOME, SPRING!



HAPPY EASTER!



Thanks to Pat McCarthy!