

# OPAction Newsletter

MARCH

2022



## Spring OPA 2022 Update

The wagon trains a'headin' fer Harriston, Ont for  
some rootin' tootin' Country & Western fun!

**Giddyup!**

Details are listed on page 2.



## Fall OPA 2022

The Tri-County Travellers  
are "scaring" up some Spooky  
Wooky fun  
for the whole family.

**Sept 2-5, 2022**

Details are listed on page 4

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## Retiree Rally 2022

Plans are in process for the 45th  
Ontario Retirees campout to be held  
June 13-17, 2022 at Norwich  
Community Centre.

Details are listed on page 5

## Constitutional Review

Volunteers Needed to review  
existing OPA Constitution

Details on page 10





# SPRING OPA 2022

Hosted by the Halton Fireflies



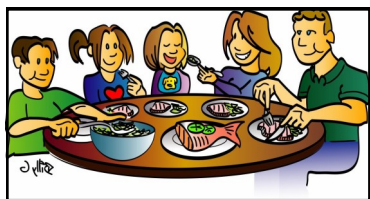
**When:** Friday May 20 until Monday May 23. Optional Early Bird day Thursday May 19. Gates open Thursday May 19 at 9:00 am.

**Where:** Harriston Community Complex, 111 George Street South, Harriston, Ontario, NOG 1Z0 519-338-3015

**Cost:** Registration \$25 or \$30 at gate. Activity & Camping fee \$85. Total cost of \$110 Thursday Early Bird Camping \$25

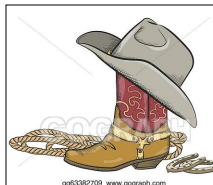


**What's Happening:** There will be an old fashioned "Barn Dance" on Friday night. On Saturday there'll be washer toss, a DASAT presentation, Poor Person Lunch, Penny Sale, 50/50 draws, a possible Church supper\*, and musical entertainment by 'Two of A Kind'. Sunday begins with a musical church service by Mark Curtis, Ice Cream sundaes, the OPA Voting Delegates meeting and Card Bingo.



**\*Possible Church Supper:** It is hoped that by April the local church will confirm whether or not they'll be able to provide a roast beef supper for us on Saturday night for an additional fee. If so, registered campers will be notified by email or phone to reserve tickets by May 10. Full payment of tickets will be required upon arrival at the campout.

**What To Bring:** Extra extension cords to reach electrical outlets, full water tanks, donations for the Penny Sale, cowboy attire, your dancing boots and good attitudes.



**Registration:** Online Registrations are encouraged. <https://opafcrv.ca/events/spring-opa/> For those who use online banking, pay by e-transfer to opafinancial@gmail.com. Otherwise make cheques payable to Ontario Provincial Association and mail to Bill & Karen Gerrie, 14011 6th Line, Limehouse, Ontario. L0P 1H0. 905-873-8929. kcountrystate@yahoo.com

**Hospitality Needed:** The Halton Fireflies still require volunteers to host the Sunday evening hospitality. Please contact Ruth Taziar if you can help.  
ruthtaziar@gmail.com 905-854-2319

**WE**   
**VOLUNTEERS**

# Highlights From OPA Voting Delegates Meeting Sunday March 6, 2022

## Greetings from Gerry Pfirsch FCRV President

Once again, President Gerry Pfirsch "zoomed" in from Colorado to attend the March OPA Voting Delegates meeting. Gerry thanked us for sending in our "Event Submissions" which will be included in the 2022 printed programs as well as being included on the FCRV website.

He advised that FCRV's membership would soon be increasing by about 80 as a struggling camping organization called, "Friends & Family Campers", plans to merge their membership with FCRV.



## Treasurer's Report

Dave Skillings reported;

|                               |   |              |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Spring OPA expenses.....      | - | \$ 675.00    |
| Bank Balance March 6/22.....  |   | \$ 15,364.67 |
| Term Deposits valued at ..... |   | \$ 15,477.66 |
| Total assets .....            |   | \$ 30,842.33 |





# Fall OPA 2022 Campout Spooky Wooky Fun

Hosted by Tri-County Travellers



**When:** Fri. Sept. 2-5, 2022. Early bird day Thursday Sept. 1

**Where:** Tavistock Fairgrounds, 1 Adam Street, Tavistock, Ont.

15 amp power, showers, washrooms, playground equipment for the kids, potable water available for filling tanks, dump station included in registration



**Registration:** \$120 for the weekend of fun. Optional early bird day is extra \$25. Online registration is available after May 20, 2022. Pay online with e-transfer (minimum of \$20) to [opafinancial@gmail.com](mailto:opafinancial@gmail.com) or mail cheque made payable to Ontario Provincial Association to Karen Chatfield, 69 Naomee Cres., London, Ont. N6H 3T3

**What's Happening?** Popcorn & Movie night, "lost soul stroll" walks, pumpkin carving, ghoulish games, competitive site decorating, trick or treating RV to RV, costume parade & contest, graveyard card bingo, live entertainment, OPA voting delegates meeting, Campers Own church service, door prizes, ice scream sundaes, poor person BBQ lunch and more!

**What's Not Happening?** There will be NO Penny Sale since everyone needs to bring so much extra "stuff" for this campout.



## So Here's What You Need to Bring

Extra Extension Cords—to reach outlets

pumpkins & carving tools

Decorations for your RV and site

Costumes

Candy to hand out to the "Trick or Treaters"

Door Prizes to donate



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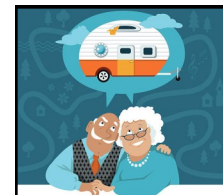






# Retiree Rally 2022

Monday June 13—Friday June 17



## Price:

\$125/ unit without meal package.

\$10/person for meal package

\$20/unit Early Bird camping on Sunday

June 12 after 1 pm.

*(If you arrive before 1 pm you will be "dry camping".*

**Registration:** Send cheques made payable to Ontario Retiree Rally to Jim Sampson, 8-1560 Kerns Road, Burlington, Ont. L7P 3A7



## Retiree Olympics

Ring Toss, Ball Toss, Golf Putting and Driving, Kick the Shoe, Bean Bag Toss, Ladder Ball Toss and more!

**Meal Package:** \$10 per person includes one breakfast, one lunch, one catered supper & ice cream social. Great Deal!

**Door Prizes** The Norwich area businesses have been very generous in donating prizes year after year. 2022 promises the same. Let's support these businesses by shopping locally during the week. Save your receipts for a chance to win a prize.

## Golf Tournament

at Oxford Hills (formerly Mt.Elgin Golf Course)  
Sign up Sheets will be available for 9 holes of golf on Thursday June 16  
(green fees paid by players)

## **Volunteers Still Needed For:**

Thursday's Hospitality  
Nickel Card Bingo  
Euchre Tournament  
Tuesday's Lunch  
Thursday's Breakfast

*Contact Karen Chatfield to volunteer  
tricitytravellers@gmail.com*

## Nightly Entertainment

Card Bingo

Euchre Tournament

Elvis Impersonator

Prairie Ridge Band

**Guest Speakers/Tours** Our organizers are hard at work lining up some interesting guest speakers and local tours.



**Hands Free Dump:** Once again a "sewer sucker" truck will be onsite on Friday to empty your black water tanks. Just sit back and relax and leave the "dirty work" to us.



## OPA Recruitment Team Report

President Jack Smye reported that the Recruitment Team has been formed. A future meeting is being planned to brainstorm ideas, projects and events, that will promote our camping clubs and present opportunities for potential new members to learn about us.

Anyone interested in joining the Recruitment Team or in making a suggestion, contact Jack Smye at 905-339-3588 or slsmye@sympatico.ca.



## Provincial Directors Report

- **FCRV Printed Programs** We were excited to learn that our FCRV Trustees plan to produce annual printed programs that can be given out at RV Shows and RV Dealerships. Our Provincial campouts will be listed in this program. We look forward to receiving copies this spring.
- **FCRV website:** I have submitted information regarding our OPA campouts and the Retiree Rally as well as re-capping our 2021 Fall OPA and Retiree Rally.
- **OPA Blog:** Our OPA website has a "Blog" section for members to post photos and comments regarding past campouts. This is a great way to promote our camping fun to prospective new members.

## Membership Update

as of October 31, 2021

|                                    |      |
|------------------------------------|------|
| FCRV International Membership..... | 2250 |
| FCRV Ontario Membership.....       | 141  |
| FCRV OPA Chapter Membership.....   | 88   |

There are 9 chapters registered with OPA.

### **Scholarship Donations Needed!**

Jean Bedford reported that donations during the Pandemic were virtually non-existent since campouts were cancelled. She had to cash in one of the GICs in order to fund two scholarships. She expects to receive another two applications this year and therefore is in desperate need for donations from chapters and individuals.

Let's plan to make a donation at Spring OPA campout!





## Memorial

| <i>DATE</i> | <i>NAME</i>     | <i>CHAPTER</i>              | <i>CITY</i> |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Feb. 2021   | Margaret Mooney | former Kingston Roadrunner  | Kingston    |
| May 2021    | Carol Cline     | former Bruce County Camper  | Kanata      |
| July 2021   | Bob Weir        | Bruce County Campers        | Inverhuron  |
| Sept. 2021  | Lorraine Young  | former Wandering Canadians  | Guelph      |
| Nov. 2021   | Bob Reese       | former Kingston Roadrunners | Kingston    |
| Dec. 2021   | Gerry Curzon    | former Happy Gang           | Guelph      |
| Jan. 2022   | Robert Reily    | Independent                 | Mt. Bridges |





# **Campvention 2022**

## **Rocky Mountain Bliss**

**July 10-15, 2022**

**Colorado State Fairgrounds,  
Pueblo, Colorado**

### **Teen Royalty Pageant Cancelled**

It is with great regret that the 2022 Campvention Team announces the cancellation of its traditional Teen Royalty Pageant due to the lack of a Pageant Coordinator.

Teen Activities, however, will continue as usual during Campvention.



### **Enjoy Crafts?**

The following crafts are being offered at the 2022 Campvention.

Magnets,  
Clay Pot People,  
Windchimes

### **Registration**

Registration forms can be found in Camping Today magazine. The OPA website has a direct link to Camping Today.

### **Workshops**

Want to learn something new? The following workshops will teach you how.

Shadow Boxes ,  
Paper Sculptures,  
Alcohol Ink Techniques,  
Card Making,  
Scrapbooking



## **Constitutional Review**

**Friday May 20, 2022 at Spring OPA**

**Volunteers are needed to participate in a review of our existing OPA Constitution to advise the membership if changes are needed.**

**If you are interested in participating contact Ruth Taziar:  
rtaziar@gmail.com**



## **Happy Retirement**

### **Carl & Linda Wood**

**Thank You for your years of service as  
CONSERVATION CHAIRMAN**





# TORONTO

Sportsman Show  
March 17—20, 2022



## A PROMOTION & RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITY

**"Thank You!"**

To Harold Merton  
of the Sarnia 4Ts  
and editor of **SCOPE** magazine

For gifting OPA with a complimentary  
booth at the Toronto Sportsman Show.  
This is an \$1800 value.



**"Thank You!"**

To Jack Smye  
Terry & Faye Swanburg  
Jim & Lynn Sampson  
For travelling to  
Mississauga to take a  
"shift" at our OPA  
promotional booth.  
See more photos on page 15

## OPA Vacant Volunteer Positions



### Recording Secretary

Duties: Take minutes of voting delegates meetings & Board of Directors meetings.

### Teens

Duties: Provide guidance within teen chapters. Advise chapters on matters pertaining to organization & operation of teen activities.



### Youth

Duties: Assist and Advise chapters on all matters pertaining to organization & operation of youth activities.

### Conservation

Duties: Assist and Advise chapters on all matters pertaining to Conservation.



### Chaplin

Duties: Conduct "Campers Own" church services when requested.



### C.A.M.P.

#### "Campers Actively Moving Program"

Duties: Organize and participate in opportunities for campers to exercise in some way.







## OPA Website News

### Future Growth Depends on Embracing Technology:

The FCRV Trustees have recognized the need to create an online presence in order to attract new members. Here in Ontario, we are also working towards this goal. Our new OPA website is simple to use and contains tons of information. Visitors can quickly see who we are, what we do, and where our future campouts will be. They can even become members directly through the website by filling in the application form. They can visit the photo gallery and read the Blog to see how much fun we have. They can scroll through our OPAction Newsletters and become further informed. They can even "Contact Us" with the click of a button if they have any questions or comments. How easy is that?

#### Online Registration

One of the best features of the new OPA website is the ability to register and pay online for any OPA campout. This is wonderful for anyone who does online banking...which is almost all young folks these days. (Most of them don't even own cheques.) This also saves postage and time. E-transfer payments to opafinancial@gmail.com go directly to our OPA Treasurer. This eliminates the costly set up of a separate bank account for organizers of an OPA function.

Unfortunately any non-OPA campout, like the Retiree Rally, will not be able to pay through opafinancial. But they can still register quickly and easily online, and send the payments separately as directed by the organizers.





### UP-COMING EVENTS

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>April 29-May 1, 2022:</b> | <b>Blue Water Mini Mixer, Pt.Huron, Michigan</b> |
| <b>May 20-23, 2022:</b>      | <b>Spring OPA campout, Harriston, Ontario</b>    |
| <b>June 13-17, 2022:</b>     | <b>Retiree Rally campout, Norwich, Ontario</b>   |
| <b>July 10-15, 2022:</b>     | <b>Campvention, Colorado</b>                     |
| <b>Sept. 2-5, 2022</b>       | <b>Fall OPA campout, Tavistock, Ontario</b>      |
| <b>Sept. 23-25, 2022</b>     | <b>Bluewater Mixer, Imlay City, Michigan</b>     |
| <b>Nov. 6, 2022</b>          | <b>OPA Voting Delegates meeting via ZOOM</b>     |

**SEE *You* THERE**





Terry & Faye Swanburg take a shift at the OPA Booth at the Toronto Sportsman Show.



Jim & Lynn Sampson, along with Jack Smye working to promote OPA at the Toronto Sportsman Show.