

OPAction Newsletter

MAY
2022



The Saloon doors swung wide open to welcome cowboys and cowgirls to OPA's Spring Campout. Thirty-one units were on site for the weekend of fun. See details and photos on pages 2 through 7.

Spring OPA 2022 was a great success.....although it did attract some dubious-looking hombres! (Above, John Scott poses for a "Wanted Poster".

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Spooky Wooky Fall OPA 2022

Register online today!

Go to opaofcrv.ca to find the Registration form.

More details on this campout on page 16.



46th Annual Retiree Rally

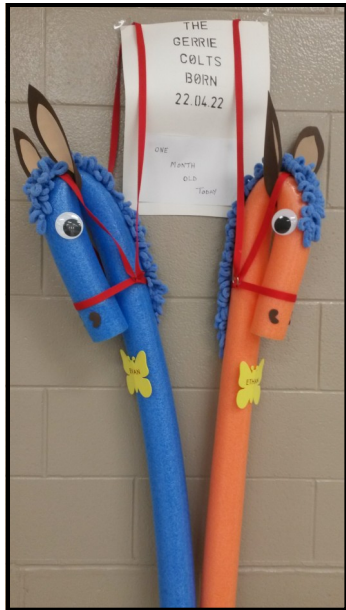
Details are on page 15
BRING A FIRST-TIMER
and you'll be entered into a draw for a great prize.



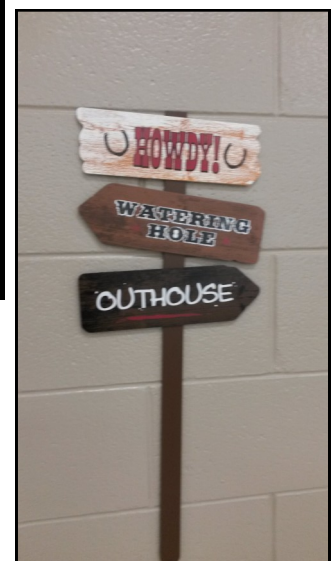
SPRING OPA 2022 Highlights

Hosted by the Halton Fireflies

Friday May 20, 2022



The Halton Fireflies did an awesome job decorating the Hall with a Western/Cowboy theme.



Opening Ceremonies consisted of a warm cowboy welcome by the Halton Fireflies and the introduction of dignitaries: Provincial Directors Lew & Lynn Acre, OPA President Jack Smye and Campout Chairmen Michael & Ruth Taziar.



Following the Opening Ceremonies, recorded music invited attendees to "kick up their heels" in a good old fashioned Barn Dance. However, most folks just wanted to sit together and "chin wag" for a spell since they hadn't seen each other all winter. A delicious hospitality of Cowboy cookies and homemade chocolates were later served by the Halton Fireflies.



Homemade chocolates in various "Cowboy" shapes were created by Ruth Taziar.

Saturday May 21, 2022

Early Morning

C.A.M.P. Walk

Only two campers ventured out for a walk around Harriston, but they found some bears in town!!! Main street was adorned with bright spring decorations.



Later in the morning, many campers gathered for the ever popular **Washer Toss Tournament**. To the left, Lew Acre tosses a washer. Below left, John Kaman & Lew battle it out with Malcolm Gillingham & John Scott. Below right, Mary Brown cheers on the players. In the end, the winners were Maureen Blenkinsop and Gerry Finkbeiner.





D.A.S.A.T. Director Terry Swanburg welcomed approximately 30 campers at 11 am in the Hall where he shared an informative presentation on RV Solar Panels. A lively discussion followed the presentation including testimonies from campers who had been successfully using solar power for many years.



The Field Directors Penny Sale took place Saturday afternoon. There was a good selection of items to bid on and few left with empty hands.

The most popular item in the Penny Sale was a homemade apple pie in a lovely pie plate. It was so popular that 5 bowls were needed to contain all of the tickets.



Saturday night an optional **Roast Beef Dinner** was served up at the Harriston United Church. Tantalizing aromas met the hungry campers as they entered the church. Despite the packed dining hall, it didn't take long for the efficient and friendly church members to load up each plate as the campers moved through an assembly line. Everyone was thoroughly satisfied and those who had room, were welcomed to come back for "seconds".



Saturday's entertainment began at 7:30 pm with the dynamic duo of **Two of a Kind**. These energetic performers got our campers up dancing and clapping as they played songs from the 50's and 60's. During an "intermission", the Tri-County Travellers served up slices of homemade fruit bread.



Sunday Morning Devotional Service

Father Mark Curtis, aka "The Singing Priest" encouraged, uplifted and entertained campers with testimony and songs of God's love. An offering was taken which raised \$ 325 for the Harriston Food Bank.



The OPA Executive Team was kept busy providing the traditional **"Poor Folks Lunch"** BBQ.

Dave Skillings skillfully flipped burgers and dogs on his propane grill.

Inside the Hall, Lew sold tickets, while Darlene, Lynn & Ruth assembled and wrapped the burgers/dogs and Camy served them up. Meanwhile Jack was busy handing out the drinks.

It was a real Team Effort which raised \$ 121 for the Scholarship Fund.

Highlights from OPA Voting Delegates Meeting

Sunday May 22, 2022

1:00 pm

Membership Update

as of April 30, 2022

FCRV International Membership.....2129

FCRV Ontario Membership.....137

FCRV OPA Chapter Membership.....88

There are 9 chapters registered with OPA.

23 Voting Delegates were in attendance to create a quorum.
This includes 6 chapter delegates, 7 executive delegates and 10
standing committee delegates.

Treasurer's Report

as of May 19, 2022

Previous Balance.....\$14,709.67

Spring OPA Registrations..... + \$ 2,690.00

Current Balance.....\$ 17,399.67

2 GICs with TD Bank\$ 15,734.98

Total Assets..... \$ 30,444.62



Decals

Terry & Faye Swanburg purchased a limited number of new FCRV "cling on" window decals, as directed by OPA. They are for sale at \$8 each.



Scholarship Report

from May 2021 until May 2022

Chapter Donations = \$544.50

Individual Donations = \$645.70

Total Donations = \$1,190.20



Pull Tab Report

Tabs, cans & cash collected Sept. 2019—Sept. 2021 brought in \$1,324.10 which has been donated to Ronald McDonald House Charities, S/W Ontario. 2022 collection thus far = 8 lbs tabs + 140 lbs cans.

May 21, 2022 collection = 60 lbs tabs

2022 Charity will again be Ronald McDonald House





Website Report

Online registrations are now available for Fall OPA 2022. Webmaster Dave Warrington requested members to submit photos of camping for the OPA photo gallery. Email digital photos to opafercv@gmail.com

Membership Recruitment Committee Report

This committee has met via Zoom several times since it's inception. They have concentrated on two major projects;

A) Promotional Brochures/flyers: These tri-folded, coloured brochures contain a brief explanation of OPA & FCRV, an application form, and some photos. Each member was encouraged to take 5 to distribute to potential new members.

B) Business Cards These cards can be carried in a purse or wallet and contain some basic information. They are meant to lead interested people to our website, where they can learn more about us.



Constitutional Review Committee

On Friday May 20, Vice President Michael & Ruth Taziar chaired a review of our current OPA Constitution & Bylaws. Four other members assisted in this review as well as emailed comments from a few others. They will submit some recommended changes to the Constitution to the Executive Board. Once the Exec. Board has discussed these recommendations, they will make their own recommendations for any changes to the Membership at large. Members will receive these recommendations via e-blast, so that any changes can be fully considered by members well in advance of the Sept.2, 2022 Voting Delegates Meeting, where the final vote will be taken.





Nominating Committee Report 2023-2024 Slate of Officers

If no other nominations are received prior to Sept. 1, 2022, the following Slate of Officers will be acclaimed and installed on Sept. 2, 2022.

President—Jack Smye

Vice President—Michael & Ruth Taziar

Treasurer—Dave Skillings

Corresponding Secretary—Darlene Wiltsie

Recording Secretary—VACANT

Nominations can be emailed to Prov. Dir. lynnacre1957@gmail.com or to Reg. Dir. Camy Hicks camyhicks@gmail.com



Ice Cream Social

At the conclusion of the Voting Delegates meeting, campers were ready for a tasty ice cream treat. Many hands pitched in to sell tickets, scoop ice cream and serve up the toppings. The popular fund raiser generated \$78 which was donated to the Scholarship Fund.



OPA 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
Mar. 2022	Betty Kila	former Oxford Rovers & Prov. Dir.	Woodstock
Mar. 2022	Lorne Douglas	Sarnia 4Ts, past OPA Pres, FCRV Trustee	Petrolia
Apr. 2022	Barry Stinson	former Bruce County Camper	Wingham
May 2022	Lorne Longley	Sarnia 4Ts	Sarnia
2022	Jim Hoover	former Norfolk Drifter	Simcoe
2022	Joanne Dymark	former Pull-Kats	Wallaceburg
2022	Bill Daly	Brantford Sundowners	Port Rowan



OPA Awards



Merit Award

Dave & Connie Skillings received the highest award presented by OPA. It is for an individual or couple who have performed an outstanding service or services for OPA

Carling Award

Terry & Faye Swanburg received the Carling Award. This is a promotion award. It is for an individual, family or chapter who has promoted FCRV and/or OPA.



Certificate of Recognition

Michael & Ruth Taziar received a Certificate of Recognition for their outstanding contributions to OPA and FCRV.



Sunday Night Entertainment CARD BINGO



Instead of "spurs that jingle jangle jingle", the sound of nickels jingled and jangled as campers counted their coins in anticipation of the next Card Bingo game. A wonderful "hospitality" of corn muffins & jam were served up later.



Steve & Darlene Gunning of the Halton Fireflies were the "Rootin' Tootin' callers" for the card bingo game.

46th Annual Ontario Retiree Rally

June 13—17, 2022

At Norwich Arena & Fairgrounds

Registration: Although you may register online (opafcrv.ca) you cannot pay online because the Retiree Rally has it's own bank account. Bring cash or cheque made payable to "Ontario Retiree Rally" in the amount of \$135 + \$10/person for the Meal Package. Email Jim Sampson to let him know you're coming jilysam@gmail.com or call 905-319-9509

Meal Package: What does your \$10/person give you? You will get 1 full breakfast, 1 lunch, 1 catered dinner with two meats & dessert, an Ice Cream Sundae, evening snacks and coffee & donuts on Friday morning. Now that's a deal!

Things that cost Extra:

- Norwich Volunteer Firemen's BBQ
- Golf fees \$35/person includes cart
- Shopping at Local Merchants

Activities Planned:

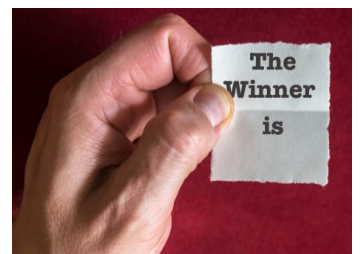
- Progressive Euchre Game
- Washer Toss Tournament
- Devotional Service
- Tour of Norwich Museum
- Bocci Ball Tournament
- Retiree Olympics
- Off site golf tournament
- Card Bingo
- Elvis Impersonator
- Prairie Ridge Band
- Nightly Hospitalities
- Nightly Door Prizes

Bring a "first timer"

You might win a prize!

The Retiree Rally is a great recruitment tool to attract new members for FCRV. This campout is so fun and is such a good value that it practically sells itself.

Invite someone new. You'll get your name entered into a draw for a nice prize. And they'll thank you for introducing them to such a great organization.





SPOOKY WOOLY

FALL OPA CAMPOUT

September 2—5, 2022
At Tavistock Fairgrounds



Registration: Register online opafcrv.ca and pay by e-transfer to opafinancial@gmail.com. Or mail cheque made payable to "Ontario Provincial Association" to Karen Chatfield, 69 Naomee Cres., London, Ontario. N6H 3T3.

Cost: \$120. Early bird day costs an extra \$ 25.



Activities Planned: "Trick or Treating" RV to RV, Costume Parade & Contest, Pumpkin Carving Contest, Site Decorating Contest, Ghoulish Games, Movie & Popcorn Night, "Grave Yard" Card Bingo, Ice "Scream" Sundaes, Voting Delegates meeting, Campers Own Church Service, and live entertainment.

What to Bring: Extra extension cords to reach electrical outlets, costumes, candy to hand out, pumpkins and carving tools, decorations for your camp site, door prizes to donate, cans & tabs for Ronald McDonald House.

There will be NO Penny Sale. Please do not bring donations for a penny sale.

Bring A "First Timer" Recruitment Opportunity

Kids love dressing up for Halloween. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to invite that family with kids to "come camp with us". If you bring along a "first timer", you'll get your name put into a draw. You could win a great prize.



Farewell Cowpokes

As the weekend came to a close,
and the wagon trains went their separate ways,
this happy cowgirl
rode off into the sunset
on her trusty steed.

(Right: Denise "Neesie" Bond
enjoys a pool-noodle pony at Spring OPA.)



UP-COMING EVENTS

June 13-17, 2022:

Retiree Rally campout, Norwich, Ontario

July 10-15, 2022:

Campvention, Colorado

Sept. 2-5, 2022

Fall OPA campout, Tavistock, Ontario

Sept. 23-25, 2022

Bluewater Mixer, Imlay City, Michigan

Nov. 6, 2022

OPA Voting Delegates meeting via ZOOM

SEE You THERE

A decorative graphic consisting of a black arrow pointing to the right, with three colorful arrows (yellow, green, and blue) pointing to the right above it.