

President's Message

Annual General Meeting

May 15th, 2019

As I was preparing for this meeting, I looked at all the accomplishments of the Brockville 50+ Activity centre over the past two semesters. It has been nothing short of amazing!

Two very successful registration days. Both exceeding 400 members registering in various activities.

Moving our Open House to the Memorial Centre has been such a positive experience. More room for everything as we expand our presence in Brockville and surrounding area.

The Board of Directors, many volunteers and leaders were on hand to assist with the set up, activity tables, signage etc., making registration easier than ever. As my Mother always said, "many hands make light work!" Thank you to everyone who was able to help out!

Debby Greffe, Director and Social Convener, did a fabulous job at providing everyone a warm and welcoming reception for socializing.

We have now booked the Memorial Centre for our September 4th 2019, and January 8th 2020 registration days.

Two new activities were added to the schedule in September, they were:

Maximal Bell Ringing. Those who attended the Christmas Dinner on December 7th were treated to a musical performance, led by Peri Howlett.

Cathy Breedyk Law started an Art Drawing class, held at the Royal Brock in September. This group also proved to be a very popular addition and continued in the 2nd semester this year.

There were 28 classes /activities in the 2nd semester taking place at numerous venues. Some of them, even 2 – 3 times a week. We received very positive feedback from participants throughout the year regarding their chosen activities. None of this would be possible if it weren't for the leaders and facilitators, who go above and beyond, week after week, providing hours of high level leadership. Thank you so much for all that you do!

New in the 2nd semester, was Mind Body and Connection with Ursula Dowd. This addition was so well received that Ursula decided very quickly to add an additional day!

A few activities took their creations to the public to view, they are:

The Monday and Wednesday Art Studios', who had a showing of their work at the Library from February 6th to the end of March. A wide variety of different mediums, including watercolour, acrylic, oil and drawing were enjoyed by all who were able to attend.

Mosaic Art Group, had an open house at The Wedgewood in early May 6th, to display the incredible works of mosaic art that were completed this semester. It was well attended with approximately 150

people admiring the projects. In fact, one of the items was sold!! That was quite the confidence booster! Lol!

Another venue was added this semester, as the Table Tennis group out-grew their space here at WSUC. As more people registered, the play time was greatly reduced. The Table Tennis leaders, Ping Wu and Mike Libbos, working with the board for a win/win solution, sourced two new tables, purchased and moved them to the Salvation Army building on Centre Street.

In March, the Tole Painting group also moved into a room at the Salvation Army.

I understand both groups are very happy with this change.

In addition to the regularly run activities throughout the year, there were some special presentations open to members upon signing up. William Thomson of Tech Tudors conducted a wider ranging question and answer session in October.

In March, Eithne Dunbar held an Irish Dance Workshop, just in time for St Patrick's Day festivities.

Both were well attended and enjoyed by AC members.

Getting the word out about the Brockville 50+ Activity Centre is integral to our sustainability and future growth. Ensuring community members know about the organization so that they can join as members, leaders, volunteers or board members. We of course have our website, and newsletters and rack cards to inform people, however, we have also spread the word through the following events:

Brockville Culture Days in September

Prescott Seniors' Expo in October

Community Health Fair at the library in November.

We had our gazebo, and art, quilting and mosaic displays that were well received by everyone. During Culture Days, Bob McDougall and participants also demonstrated Tai Chi moves. Many new members learned about the AC from visiting us at that time. This was definitely time well spent! A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and energy on those days.

I would also like to say thank you to the following organizations, for their day to day help that enables us to run our activities smoothly: (I'm sure anyone who attends an activity at these places knows exactly what I am talking about!

Wall Street United Church

The Royal Brock

The Bridlewood

The Wedgewood

The Memorial Arena

Salvation Army

It has been a pleasure working with each of them this year.

As another successful year wraps up at the Brockville 50+ Activity Centre, and everyone looks forward to barbecues, get togethers , and other new adventures, I wish all of you a very happy and healthy summer! Until we meet again in September!

I now have the privilege of introducing John Dickie, the newest addition to the board of directors. John joined the board in November as Treasurer, and we are thrilled that he decided to join us!