



Providing Affordable Activities for Seniors

# Welcome News



*Brockville ON, May 2015*

## President's Message

Yet another very successful year at the Shepherd's Welcome Centre is drawing to a close.

We again had large numbers of participants in our wide-range of activities and programmes.

We are a volunteer-based organization in all aspects of our operation and as always we are extremely grateful to all those who commit of their time and talents to make the SWC the success it is.

In my report to the recent AGM I summarized our achievements and initiatives over the past year. Once again, they were indeed impressive and a tribute to the team efforts of the whole SWC family.

We were also delighted elect and welcome 4 new members to our board and look forward to working with them in furthering the goals and initiatives of our organization.

In closing, as this is our last newsletter until August, I would like on behalf of the board to wish you and your families a safe and happy summer. Don't forget to avail of the opportunities to exercise with Kay Carlson's summer cycling group and Bob McDougall's summer Tai-chi sessions. Details were provided in the April newsletter and will also be posted to our website.

We look forward to seeing you back again in the fall.

***We may be getting older but we're not old yet!***

***Tony Dunbar***

## The SWC AGM

Twenty six (26) SWC members were present at the SWC AGM that was held on May 7<sup>th</sup> in the Community Room at the Thousand Island Mall.

Tony Dunbar gave a report on the activities of the 2014/15 year. He shared the work that the SWC Board did on a Five Year Strategy Plan for SWC, including Vision and Mission Statements, our Core Values and Goals.

Ralph Greenhalgh reviewed the balance sheet and expenses from March 31, 2015 and presented a budget for April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2015.

Laura Papaioannou and Kay Carlson were thanked for their years of service. Bill Carlyle and Cheryl Nix were renewed for another term of service.

Four people were elected as new SWC Board Members. They are as follows:

**Debby Greffe** – Debby is a long-time resident of Brockville, with work experience as a computer software support technician. Debby has proven organizational skills and is eager to provide hands-on support to SWC during her term of service.

**Bill Checkley** - Bill is a retired nurse who moved to the area within the last year. Bill has specialized over a long career in bringing support and comfort with compassion and humour to those who are sick and/or lonely. For his work in South Florida, Bill has been recognized by a US Presidential Award. Bill also has many years of experience on Boards and in raising funds for various organizations and causes.

**Bev Nixon** – Bev was born and raised in Brockville and has a deep sense of community. Bev has volunteered for a number of organizations and joined the SWC office as a volunteer during this past semester.

**Mike Mannella** – After a long successful career, including positions as technical and maintenance supervisor with CN Rail, Mike retired in June 2014. Since then Mike has qualified as a fitness instructor and private trainer and at SWC he will share the load with Bill Carlyle as an Activity Director.

The Board appreciates the willingness of these folks for stepping up to the plate to help keep SWC functioning into the future.

*The detailed minutes of the AGM together with the President's Report are now posted to our website [www.swcbrockville.ca](http://www.swcbrockville.ca). Copies of the financial report are available at or from the SWC office.*

## **Brockville Arts Centre Discount**

The Brockville Arts Centre (BAC) has offered to provide special discounts to Shepherd's Welcome Centre participants/members. We currently don't have a membership card or other formal means of proving membership. (We are exploring providing a membership card in the future.)

BAC has suggested we provide a list of the first and last names of SWC members who are interested in availing of a discount. BAC will maintain the list at their box office and give the discount accordingly. They will in turn provide a list of those performances where the discount will apply.

### Typical discount:

Summer ticket price: \$29.50 + HST = \$33.35

SWC discount: \$25.00 + HST = \$28.25

A savings of \$5.10 per ticket

So please contact the SWC Office as soon as possible indicating your agreement to have your name listed with the Arts Centre.

## **Year End Survey**

We intend sending out a questionnaire to the SWC membership to get some valuable feedback and suggestions regarding the operation of our organization. Please keep an eye out for the survey in your email and on the website and be kind enough to complete. We value the input of the membership in helping us better meet your needs.

## **SWC Office Closing**

The SWC office will be closed from Thursday May 28 to Thursday, September 10th. This will allow our hardworking office volunteer staff a well-deserved summer break.

## **Fall Open House Date**

Mark your calendar for the next SWC Open House and registration. It will be held Wednesday September 9, 2015.

## **Reminders & Useful Information**

- SWC office 613-345-2412
- email at [swcadmin@myhighspeed.ca](mailto:swcadmin@myhighspeed.ca) Location - take the elevator to third floor, turn left
- Website: [www.swcbrockville.ca](http://www.swcbrockville.ca)
- Office hours 10:00 – 12 noon, Mon. – Thurs. (except during June, July and August).
- SWC leases space from Wall St. Church and is a separate organization. Please take all questions and concerns to the SWC office.
- Wall St. United Church is a scent-free facility.

*Newsletter Editor, Cheryl Nix*