



120TH ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE MAY COURT CLUB OF OTTAWA

2018-2019

“Enriching the lives of others as well as our own”



THE MAY COURT CLUB OF OTTAWA

On April 30th, 1898 Lady Aberdeen, wife of the Governor General, crowned the first May Queen, Ethel Hamilton, at an elaborate May Day celebration on the grounds of Rideau Hall. Lady Aberdeen took the opportunity of her opening remarks to encourage the young women there to commit themselves to lives of service both within their homes and in society, thereby giving birth to what would become Canada's oldest women's service club.

Our Mandate: To engage exclusively in such charitable undertakings as may be deemed advisable by the Corporation.

Our Mission Statement: Enriching the lives of others as well as our own.

From our earliest days we have dedicated our service to the needs of the community, often in the field of health and welfare for women and children. We supported Canada's war efforts and opened the first TB Clinic in Canada. Currently we house and support the May Court Hospice, provide grants to community organizations, scholarships for nurse practitioners and those studying Information Studies, operate the library at the Ottawa Hospital Civic Campus, and support a Munch and Learn program at six Ottawa Community Houses.

A Message from the President President's Report

A year in the life of The May Court Club of Ottawa goes by very quickly. All our committees were very busy in 2018 - 2019 and much was accomplished. I would like to thank all the convenors and their committee members for the exceptional effort that they have put in this past year.

During this past year, I tried to meet with all our committees and I am so impressed by the work that they have done. There was not enough time to meet with every committee this year, so I look forward to seeing the remaining groups next year.

Special congratulations go to the Bargain Box which made a profit of over \$95,000.00 in 2018. That's almost enough for our annual Hospice donation and perhaps at the rate they are going, they will surpass \$100,000.00 in 2019.

The Munch and Learn Committee held its second highly successful High Tea in September 2018 and will be having a third High Tea in September 2019. These are generally sold-out events.

The Aberdeen Artisans Committee surpassed all expectations with their Craft Show in November. The items for sale were beautiful and wonderfully displayed, the decorating was very festive, and the Tea Room provided a peaceful place to relax after shopping. The attendance was much higher than last year and it was lovely to meet so many of our neighbours.

The After 5's continue to support many of our fundraising events as well as manage the sales of our brand items. I enjoyed filling shoe boxes with them this year and was very impressed with the quality of the donations provided by our members.

Communications works, often behind the scenes, to promote our Club internally and externally. This year, as well as the informative issues of the Newsletter and Behind the Pink Door, our website has been greatly improved, including a Members Only section and the ability to donate and make payments online. We have also entered social media with our Facebook page. Many thanks go to Betty Rehbein who has worked tirelessly to make our Website hum. Wouldn't Lady Aberdeen be proud of us – we've come a long way!

As follow-up to a grant given to Cornerstone Housing for Women to furnish an apartment as part of their "adopt-a-home" program, Nancy Pyper and I attended a reception at their lovely new residence in Westboro which was once owned by a Catholic order of nuns, the Sisters of



Jeanne D'Arc. This community organization keeps women off the streets and out of abusive homes by providing them with emergency shelter and supportive affordable housing. We were given a tour of the building, including to an apartment of one of the residents and were present for the unveiling of a large wall plaque of donors including The May Court Club of Ottawa.

Sadly, after 40 years of providing a warm welcome to new Canadians, the Board felt it was time to discontinue our involvement with Citizenship Court receptions. In March 2019, I sent a letter to The Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to inform him that as a result of the insurmountable challenges of the new location at 240 Sparks Street, we must regretfully suspend our participation in the receptions for new citizens. If, in the future, these obstacles could be overcome, we would be more than pleased to re-instate our receptions.

Over the last year, we have been dealing with the issue of Patronage of the Governor General and I am happy to report that it has been resolved. Originally Government House replied that they had granted patronage to the Association of May Court Clubs which was of course an error. After many attempts to have this corrected, I finally received an email on May 6th from Rideau Hall to inform us that the patronage error has been corrected and to quote “My apologies for the delay in responding to your messages concerning a mistake in the granting of vice-regal patronage last fall. Indeed, our letter should have been addressed to the May Court Club of Ottawa and not to the Association of May Court Clubs, as the latter did not make such a request. The fault rests entirely with us and we have corrected our files to indicate the correct name of the organization that has been granted patronage: The May Court Club of Ottawa.” We have now received the official portrait of Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Julie Payette, which will be put up on the wall in our living room.

Thanks must go to our dedicated staff, who make our Club function so efficiently. Mary Schoenfeld is the hub of our office, who with dedication and calmness keeps the Club running smoothly. She is always available to pitch in when help is needed and is a faithful supporter of our fundraising events. Custodian Bill Craig keeps our Club House and grounds in impeccable condition and helps us through the constant maintenance required by “this old house” including water damage from flooding, asbestos removal, and leaking pipes, just to mention a few. Bill works tirelessly and has taken on additional tasks that we previously had to contract out. Marnie Wellar, our Library Manager, keeps the Library at the Civic Hospital Campus running well and has made many significant improvements.

We are also lucky to have excellent professional support and advice. Louise Saint, our bookkeeper maintains our accounts receivable and payable and ensures that our finances are in order. Ian Hendry, our Accountant, makes sure that we meet the stringent requirements of our annual audit and CRA. Mark Ellis, our Portfolio Manager ensures that our investments perform well and our capital grows. We also can't forget the effort provided by the committees



responsible for our Club administration; Property Management, Finance, Fundraising, Grants, Scholarship and Social.

I would like to also thank those individuals who have helped me through my first year as President and made my job much easier than I had anticipated. Past Presidents Nancy Pyper, Margie Howsam, and Sharon Murphy have provided answers to my many questions and Vice President Sharon Harrison has provided support and shared ideas. The running of our Club is only as good as its Board of Directors and this certainly was an excellent one for which I am very grateful. Of course all our members all deserve a big thank you for supporting our Club.

Dorothy Scorsone



THE MAY COURT CLUB OF OTTAWA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2018-2019

PAST PRESIDENT	Nancy Pyper
PRESIDENT	Dorothy Scorsone
VICE PRESIDENT	Sharon Harrison
RECORDING SECRETARY	Mary Jones
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	José Hamilton
TREASURER	Donna Shields-Poë
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Marie Stent
MEMBER SERVICES DIRECTOR	Diana Gauthier
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR	Christine Beelen
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR	Kerry De Blois
SOCIAL DIRECTOR	Nancy Birchard
BARGAIN BOX DIRECTOR	Cathy Bélisle
DIRECTORS AT LARGE	Beth Burn
	Holly MacDougall
	Valerie Zinger

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Past President's role is to be the liaison between the Club and Hospice Care Ottawa. She attends Hospice Board meetings as an ex officio member –listening and taking part in discussions but does not have a vote. She then reports to our Board about issues that concern our Club.

Our Club has supported the Hospice in several ways over the past year. We continue to give them \$8,333.33 every month which adds up to \$100,000.00 for the year. This year the Bargain Box net results were close to providing the entire amount. Hospice fundraising again had a successful year: Giving Tuesday 2018: \$43,465.00 which was earmarked specifically for the May Court Hospice. A beautifully renovated family kitchen is now in place in the residence. Hike for Hospice 2019: \$127,650.00; Homes for the Holidays 2018: \$142,000.00; Girls Night Out 2018: \$52,000.00.

These are fortunate results for the Hospice because as you know only 60% of the necessary funding is provided by the government and Hospice Care Ottawa has to come up with the rest in order to provide the incredible services they provide.

At our Fall General Meeting, Lisa Sullivan told us that they were waiting for secure funding to open residence beds at Maison De l'Est, to serve the Francophone community, unfortunately this did not materialize.

On June 18th The Hospice Board held a full day retreat; the main purpose was to develop a new strategic plan for 2020-23/25. Town Hall meetings were held at all three Hospice Sites in preparation and I was one of the facilitators at the Ruddy Shenkman meeting for the discussion period following Executive Director Lisa Sullivan's comments. Some interesting statistics include: in the fiscal year April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019, there was a 25% increase in clients overall with 2298 clients served, 400 of whom were in the residences. Seven days was the average length of stay in residence, 900 volunteers provided 52,000 hours. Client and Volunteer Service satisfaction scored higher than any other service provider. The clientele is changing as people are living longer with palliative care illnesses. It is clear that Hospice Care Ottawa is responding to these needs with ever-expanding programs.

The May Court Club of Ottawa should be proud of our long and ongoing support to Palliative and Hospice Care. Hospice continues to wait for a decision on our nomination for the June Callwood Outstanding Volunteer Appreciation Award.

Nancy Pyper

TREASURER'S REPORT

These are the results of the audit of the May Court Club for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.

The auditors reported a clear audit and raised no concerns with the Club finances or records. They said all was in order for them to complete the audit.

Our Gross revenues for 2018 amounted to \$428,654.00. Of this our long-term investments yielded an income of \$195,707.00. These investments are our largest single source of revenue. Other revenues were \$171,921.00 of which the Bargain Box at \$140,670.00 was the largest earner. Bequests and Donations at \$67,213.00 were a significant income this year. A single donation of \$50,000.00 from a Life Member contributed to this amount as sadly, did many *In Memoriam* donations.

Our overall expenses for 2018 were \$420,043.00. These expenses were made up of the regular administrative costs which do not vary much from year to year; building Maintenance and Repairs both of which were down again this past year. Other expenses include library costs and professional fees. The largest expense, of course, is our donations at \$152,582.00 in 2018. This amount includes the \$100,000 given to the Hospice and our grants, scholarships and the Munch and Learn Program.

In summary, our Net Assets for 2018 were recorded as \$4,709,479.00 down about \$300,015.00 from 2017. 2018 was a bad year on the financial markets. 2019 is proving a better year and we have nearly recouped those losses in 2019. In conclusion the May Court Club finances are in reasonable shape.

Donna Shields-Poë

May Court Club of Ottawa
Balance Sheet December 31, 2018

Current Assets:

Cash	\$	65,036
HST rebate receivable		5,636
Inventory		3,464
Accrued receivables		25,731
Prepaid expenses		10,936
		<hr/> 110,803

Long-term Investments

4,215,119

Capital Assets

383,557

\$ 4,709,479

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities	\$	49,789
Net Assets		
Invested in capital assets		383,557
Internally restricted (Scholarship)		199,753
Unrestricted		4,076,380
		<hr/> 4,659,690

\$ 4,709,479

Statement of Revenue and Expenses December 31, 2018

Revenue

Membership Fees	\$	19,590
Investment Income		195,707
Community/Fundraising Projects		171,921
Bequests and Donations		67,213
Rental		14,137
Social Functions		8,370
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		476,938

Costs of fundraising projects		48,284
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Gross Profit	\$	428,654
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Expenses

Administrative	\$	99,899
Amortization of capital assets		10,998
Building Routine		68,700
Repairs		24,110
Communications		473
Association dues and expenses		4,682

Donations		152,582
Library at Civic Hospital Campus		21,545
Professional Fees		29,896
Social Function expenses		7,158

\$ 420,043

Net revenue before unrealized gain on investments	\$	8,611
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Unrealized gain (loss) on Investments	\$	(315,136)
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Net (expenses) Revenue	\$	(306,525)
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Donations to the Community July 2018 to June 2019

1. Palliative Care	Amount	%
May Court Hospice	100,000	65.0
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2. Health Issues		
Carty House	2,000	
Muslim Family Services	1,325	
Somerset West Health Centre	4,000	
	7,325	4.8
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3. Homelessness and Housing		
Youth Services Bureau Start Up Kits	5,000	
Housing Help	3,000	
	8,000	5.0
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4. High Risk Youth and Families		
Caldwell Family Centre Day Camp	1,000	
May Court Munch & Learn	19,500	
	20,500	13.2
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5. Education		
Centennial Scholarships	10,000	
Susan Anderson Scholarship	5,000	
Christie Lake Kids Literacy Program	3,675	
	18,675	12.0
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Total Cash Donations	154,500	100%

Community and Club Service

Reported hours, January – December 2018

Community Service Fundraising		
Bargain Box	7033.5	
Fundraising Special Projects	152	
	7185.5	37%
Community Service		
Citizenship Court	45	
Hospice – Evening Reception	145	
Hospice Reception	1994.5	
Knitting	1645	
May Court Grants Committee	215.5	
May Court Library	883	
Munch and Learn	320.5	
Scholarship Committee	87.5	
Women's Breast Health Centre	172	
	5508	28%
Club Service		
Aberdeen Artisans	1909	
Administration	1091	
After 5's	381.5	
Association of May Court Clubs of Canada	33.5	
Board of Directors	396	
Bridge Club	89	
Club Communications	489.5	
Finance Committee	183.5	
Member Services	579	
Nominating Committee	42	
Outreach Committee	210	
Property Management	345	
Social Events	235	
	5984	31%
Total Number of Hours	18677.5	

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORTS

Citizenship Court

Heather Dunbar

Over the past year, the Citizenship Court Committee provided receptions to new Canadians following their swearing in Ceremony. One reception was a truly unique experience as it was held on sacred Indigenous land on Victoria Island in the Ottawa River.

The new Canadians have always been delighted with the receptions. However, since the Citizenship Court moved to their new location on Sparks Street, it became quite difficult as we had no storage facilities, could not serve tea or coffee, and had no access to running water. All the supplies had to be carried in every time and parking became even more of a challenge. Every effort was made to continue providing the receptions but given these continual challenges, it was simply not feasible. With the support of the Board, I and my outstanding co-convenor Judy Campbell have stepped down and so, after 40 years of providing a warm welcome to new Canadians, the Club has discontinued Citizenship Court Committee for the time being. We hope at some point in the future, we might be able to host a Citizenship Reception at the Club. A huge thank you to all the many previous amazing Conveners and the hardworking May Court members who participated in this Committee over the years.

Hospice at May Court – Day Reception Desk + Palliative Care

Leslie Jones

The Day Hospice Reception Desk and Palliative Care Team provided 1,868 volunteer hours to the May Court Hospice during the past year. The Team consisted of 28 May Court Club volunteers. While most worked on the May Court Hospice reception desk, there were three who devoted their hours solely to palliative care work and one who contributed to both activities.

The work of the Day Hospice Reception Desk team consisted of welcoming and screening all people entering the Hospice, answering questions of all types concerning Hospice Care Ottawa in person and on the phone, serving as the Hospice receptionist, as well as supporting and assisting with fund raising and office activities.

We are fortunate to have a number of dedicated and reliable volunteers whose contribution to the work of the Hospice is valued. This year at the 2019 Hospice Volunteer Appreciation event, held by Hospice Car Ottawa, the following May Court volunteers received their 15-year volunteer service awards: Patricia Sanders, Mary Jones and Rosemary Timlin; while Holly MacDougall, Leslie Jones, Nancy Laffin and Nancy Gagné received their 5-year volunteer service awards.



Whether assisting at the Hospice Reception or volunteering with the Day Hospice, volunteering at the Hospice is one of the most rewarding volunteer jobs that you can have. The Day Hospice Reception Desk and Palliative Care Team is honoured to be a part of the delivery of palliative care services at Hospice Care Ottawa.

**Hospice at May Court –
Evening Reception Desk**

Beth Burn

The May Court Club is responsible for a Wednesday evening shift on the reception desk at the Hospice. Unlike the daytime, this shift is usually very quiet and the receptionist's responsibilities are mostly limited to welcoming family and friends of the residents. There are always fresh flowers on the desk – a very welcome treat over the course of our long, cold winter!

The evening shift is perfect for women who are employed but would still like to contribute to the Hospice volunteer team. This year we had three members who were assigned regular shifts supplemented by a member of the day-time committee who was our occasional 'spare.' Shifts are always scheduled as per the committee members' availability.

Knitting Committee

Jill Strachan

The knitting committee continues to be a part of the Aberdeen Artisans Committee and meets monthly with them. In 2018 we donated knit products to the Hospice, the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the General Hospital, and hats for kids with cancer as well as raise over \$1,100.00 at the Christmas Craft Fair. With more than 17 knitters putting in hundreds of hours we are very proud of our contribution to the Club.

May Court Bargain Box

Cathy Bélisle

Our long winter, punctuated by freeze/thaw cycles, made a bit of an impact on the Bargain Box. We saw more days of closure, due to bad weather compared to last winter. As of the end of April, the Bargain Box earned \$37,890, allowing us to contribute \$22,980 to the Club. We did have a great day in May with sales of over \$1,100!

Although the Bargain Box earnings are dedicated primarily to help fund the May Court Hospice, the Bargain Box also contributes through a variety of outreach activities:

- Providing unsold items of clothing to Hope Living, the sister organization of the Shepherds of Good Hope.
- Assisting the After 5's Christmas Shoe Box Program by providing a scarf and a piece of jewelry for each box.
- Donating children's items through the Munch and Learn Program.

The Bargain Box wouldn't run without the help of a lot of volunteers. Our clerks and cashiers are very important, as we've heard stories over the years from customers praising "those ladies in the pink smocks". They don't just sell merchandise, but they're a kind smile, a generous spirit and even a shoulder to cry on. The window dressers who always put together a beautiful display. Monday morning Worker Bees who sort donations and display them. Pat Finn, our wizard of scheduling; Gill Puxty, our very patient treasurer and Bargain Box Convenor Sandra Ferguson the crazy glue that keeps it all together. And thanks also to every Club member who has generously donated to the store.

Library

Jane Mace and Helen Shakarchi

The library continues to be a busy and productive corner of the Civic Hospital, providing up-to-date magazines and recent novels to the patients, visitors and staff of the hospital. The reading room's computer has been a welcome addition to our services as has been our children's and young adults' section, and many visitors enjoy a quiet moment browsing the shelves or working on a project in our friendly surroundings. We are fortunate to have a large community of donors who keep us well supplied with all the material we need and thanks to them we are able to hold three popular book sales throughout the year. We are also often fortunate to have the help student hospital volunteers who assist us in our daily activities. Our library manager Marnie Wellar has created a warm and welcoming space for all who visit us.

May Court Munch and Learn Program

Kathy Yach

It was another busy year for the Munch and Learn Program. Begun in 2014, it brings much-needed resources to community housing projects in Ottawa. The six Community Houses located throughout the city benefit from the Club's contributions to provide nutritious snacks to the children who attend these houses after school. The program helps with the homework, provides arts and crafts activities, recreational activities and even lessons in cooking using nutritious ingredients. Each month the house is provided with a card allowing them to buy groceries. We have also collected games and books to distribute to the youngsters and we had members of our committee volunteer at the community houses. We support the following

Community Houses: Banff Avenue; Blair Court; Britannia Woods; Britannia Woods; Debra Dynes; Michele Heights; and Morrison Gardens.

Thanks goes to all the committee members: Sharon Carstairs, Judith Scott, Mary Arthur, Linda Meek, Maurene Atherton, Sally LeFeuvre, Holly McDougall, Heather Dunbar. Appreciation is also extended to Club Secretary, Mary Scheonfeld who takes our committee minutes. I would also like to thank the members of the May Court Club who have helped us in many other ways to achieve our goals.

Scholarship Committee

Bev MacSween & Bonnie Stevens

The 2018-2019 scholarship year was most successful granting scholarships to three recipients. In the fall of 2018 our president, Dorothy Scorsone, had the pleasure of meeting and having tea at the May Court Club of Ottawa with the University of Ottawa Director School of Information Studies, Helene Carrier, and our Susan Anderson Memorial recipient, Ariane Bercier.

There are nine members on the 2018-2019 May Court Club of Ottawa Scholarship Committee, four for the Susan Anderson Memorial Scholarship (Johanna Blakney, Pat Finn, Leslie Jones, and Bonnie Stevens) and five for the Centennial Scholarships (Mary Gray, Bev MacSween, Louise Piche, Bev Wilcox and Lynda Zimmerman). Pat Finn left the committee and thanks are extended for her terrific contribution in every leadership capacity plus! Sharon Henry will be joining the May Court Club of Ottawa Scholarship Committee.

Four applications were received for the 2019-20 Centennial Scholarships. Two applications were received for the 2019-20 Susan Anderson Memorial Scholarship. The Committee met in May to make decisions on the marking process and in June to collectively review the applications marked and to select the candidates to recommend to the Board as 2019-20 scholarship recipients.

The May Court Club of Ottawa Board of Directors approved that the:

May Court Club of Ottawa 2019-20 Centennial Scholarships be awarded to:
Jaymie Hancock (Laurentian University) and Stephanie Lawrence (University of Toronto)

The May Court Club of 2019-20 Ottawa Susan Anderson Memorial Scholarship be awarded to: Lina Harper (University of Ottawa)

Thank-you for the opportunity to work with such passionate members of the Scholarship Committee and so many others (too many to list) that make all of this happen behind the scenes over the scholarship year.

CLUB SERVICE REPORTS

Aberdeen Artisans Committee (AAC)

Sharyn Heagle

The Aberdeen Artisans Committee originated from the Knitting Committee dating from the early days of the May Court Club. It has a long and honourable history of providing hand-knitted items where needed in the community, from knitted socks for servicemen in WW1 to lap rugs for cancer patients. Over the years contributions expanded from knitted items to include quilted and hand-crafted items, which ultimately lead to an annual Christmas Craft Fair. Once a members-only event, the Fair was opened to the public in 2016, becoming one of the most profitable single fund-raising events in the Club.

The Aberdeen Artisans meet regularly where a variety of items are demonstrated to members in preparation for the annual Christmas Craft Fair held early in November where trinkets and treasures, jewelry, baked goods and candy are also on offer.

After Fives

Gill Puxty

The After 5's have supported several other committees in their fundraising events and have conducted some of their own. The committee meets monthly. One of their contributions is to prepare the Club newsletter for mailing to those members who do not have Internet access.

In September, members of the After 5's prepared and served the tea at the successful High Tea and then helped clear up after the event. In October and November, the Committee collected the Club members' generous donations to the Ottawa Shoe Box Campaign and put them into boxes wrapped in Christmas paper, packing 92 shoe boxes – a new club record! These were collected and distributed to lonely women in shelters over Christmas. Thank you again goes to all the Club members who donated to this worthy cause.

In November, the After 5's ran the tearoom at the Aberdeen Artisans' Christmas Craft Fair. They made a significant contribution by providing a hot beverage and home-made cookies (made by committee members) to more than 50 people as they shopped at the Club.

The After 5's also sell Club merchandise such as Lady Aberdeen Tea, aprons, pens, bags and badges. They are busy preparing for the Club's participation in the September 7th Old Ottawa South Porch Sale.

Thank you goes to the terrific After 5's for their hard work.

Archives

José Hamilton

The Archives committee has been hard at work through the winter sorting and cataloguing the Club's history through the numerous different functions of the club. The work is on-going and will take a great deal of time to sort through the many boxes and put everything in its proper place.

Bridge

Jane Mace & Shirley Parrott

This year only sixteen couples participated in the Round Robin Bridge after the opening fall luncheon. Concern has been raised that there may not even be that number for the coming year so the Committee is looking for new players.

Communications

Christine Beelen

The Communications Committee is responsible for keeping the members of the Club and the public up to date on Club activities. In order to do that effectively we have a newsletter which is produced four times a year, a electronic "Behind the Pink Door" bulletin that is issued biweekly except in the summer, a very effective Website with both public pages and a Members Only section, the popular photographs that appear in the newsletter and on the bulletin board at the Club, creative posters to attract people to events, and the Annual Report.

Fundraising event convenors are required to have a communications liaison in place to work with the Committee to promote their events. Promotion is carried out through traditional media, on-line sources, posters, outdoor signage, and word-of-mouth. This year promotional support was provided to the High Tea, the Fall Bridge, the Christmas Craft Fair, the Line (Dancing), Wine and Cheese event, and the Life Cycle Bike Ride. Within the Club we have also assisted with promoting the Book Sales at the Library, the After 5s Shoe Box program and collecting donations for the Porch Sale, Sales at the Bargain Box, the Outreach lunches, the Club meetings and socials.

We are fortunate to have very talented members of the Club as part of our team and great thanks go to each: Betty Rehbein has master-minded the Club's website for us with the major success of managing our Pay-Pal Account to be able to accept charitable donations, she also contributes her talents to the layout of the newsletter and other projects. Jennette Diguer is our Club Photographer – everyone enjoys her mastery with the camera. Valerie Zinger has brought new life to our event promotions by creating colourful, attractive, eye-catching posters. Thanks also to Club Secretary, Mary Schoenfeld for her support.



Much of the work of communications goes on behind the scenes. Communications has been heavily involved in the production of a Fundraising Manual for fundraising convenors as well as working on the production team for the “Lady Aberdeen Visits 2020” calendar.

Outreach Committee

Barbara Burton

The Club’s 12 zones are covered by 17 Zone Captains who also hosted seven Friday Soup Lunches, many of which featured homemade soups. Recipes continue to be shared with members. Attendance at lunches averaged 22, with a low of 16 in November and a high of 32 in May. Guest speakers enhanced lunches in March, April and May with higher attendance: Heather MacDonald, a certified aesthetician spoke to us about skin care. Two Club members also acted as guest speakers: Nancy Pyper spoke about The May Court Club and its contribution to the community over the years and Diana Gauthier shared her experiences on a river cruise in Quebec. Efforts will be made to invite guest speakers to lunches next year. We continue to encourage members to invite non-member friends and there have been a number of guests this past year. We will also offer rides to lunches next year if we hear that a member needs a lift.

15 “Thinking of You” cards were sent to members and friends of the Club on behalf of all our members. We heard from a few of them who said that they very much appreciated our good wishes. We continue to work with the Member Services Director to try and contact members who have been out of touch. The committee volunteered 166 hours between July 2018 and June 2019. Other members also helped with lunches and contributed 52 hours.

Property Management

Kerry DeBlois

The brutal winter we experienced resulted in more money spent on snow removal this past season. Due to the continual rollercoaster of temperatures creating freezing and thawing, Chris Smith our contractor had to use a lot of salt. When snow fell it fell in abundance, so the roof had to be shoveled off and the snow removed from our property. All these additional services were not included in our contract and we incurred additional costs for snow clearing. Chris and his crew did a great job and I am happy with him and his company. Our property is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with all kinds of vehicles needing access to our property including our members and the staff and volunteers who make up the Hospice.

Work on the outside of our building and surrounding grounds including the planned rebuilding of our stone wall will be carried out during the summer months. Thanks go to our committee members for their advice and commitment as well as to Mary Schoenfield and Bill Craig whose help and support are an integral part of keeping our premises functional, clean and safe.


Recording Secretary**Mary Jones**

The Board of Directors of the May Court Club of Ottawa met on the fourth Thursday of every month from September to June. The Fall General Meeting October 3, 2018 and the Spring General Meeting March 6, 2019 were held in Lady Aberdeen Hall followed by a luncheon. The Annual General Meeting and luncheon were held at the Tudor Hall on June 5, 2019 when a new slate of officers for the 2019-2020 year was elected. President Dorothy Scorsone presided over the meetings.

Social**Nancy Birchard**

Four events were held under the banner of the Social Committee. Fall and Spring General Meetings and Luncheons took place at the Club, catered by Goodies, were well attended and the food received positive reviews.

The Members' Christmas Party in December featured May Court party sandwiches with treats provided by members of the Board.

The final event was the Annual General Meeting and Luncheon, this year held at Tudor Hall. Feedback has been very positive regarding the location, food and service.

Thanks to all who assisted in preparing for these events; sandwich makers, servers, clean-up crews. Special thanks to Maurene Atherton and Johanna Blakeney for making the club look festive, and to Carolyn Lumsden for sharing her skill in flower arranging.

The events are an excellent way for new and long-term members to get involved in Club activities and enhance a sense of congeniality and purpose.

The Grants Committee

Sharon Harrison

The May Court Grants Committee is composed of the Vice-President who acts as Chair, the President, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer, one Life Member, three Associate Members, three Active Members and one Provisional Member all with voting privileges.

In October 2018 and May 2019 the Board approved the following grants:

- \$5,000.00 to the Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa for 50 Housing Start-Up Kits to provide to homeless youth leaving shelters;
- \$3,675.00 to Christie Lake Kids to help launch their Discovery Club, an enhanced literacy program for economically disadvantaged children;
- \$1,325.00 to Muslim Family Services to support their Healing in Colour Program for women and children who are victims of domestic violence;
- \$2,000.00 to Carty House for its Health and Well-Being Fund which provides access to enhanced healthcare services for refugee women fleeing situations of war, violence, persecution and famine;
- \$3,000.00 to Housing Help to purchase approximately 100 fans for rooming houses;
- \$1,000.00 to the Caldwell Family Centre to purchase food for 86 at-risk children who attend the Centre's day camp.
- \$4,000.00 to the Somerset West Health Centre to purchase food for 20 at-risk children who attend the Laroche Park After-School Program.

Total \$20,000.00

SPECIAL EVENTS

High Tea

Kathy Yach

The second High Tea was held at the Club on September 29, 2018. Mary Cook returned as the guest speaker. Three high school students entertained the guests with music. In addition to ticket sales, there was a silent auction which helped the event to raise \$3778.00.

Thanks to all the members of our committee, especially Sharon Carstairs for being the Treasurer and volunteering for many other roles, Nancy Birchard for purchasing and organizing the food and volunteers, and Linda Meek and her staff making the scones and sweets for our High Tea. I would also like to thank all the other volunteers on our committee who make this event a success.

Fall Bridge

Nancy Birchard

The Fall Bridge fundraiser was held at the Club on October 18, 2018. Thirteen foursomes enjoyed the popular lunch of party sandwiches and this year's dessert was pumpkin cake. The door prizes were excellent – notably an Instapot – all winners were very pleased with their bounty. Thanks to the many hands who helped make this another successful Fall Bridge.

Christmas Craft Fair

Johanna Blakney and Valerie Ziner

The May Court Christmas Craft Fair was held in early November 2018 and was open to the public for the third year in a row. Items were organized by tables: Florals; Jewellery and Cards; Food: baked, savoury and candy; Sewing and Quilting such as table runners, place mats; Trinkets and Treasures; Knitting wearables and décor; and Silver including fine tableware. As a special treat, a Palm Reader volunteered to provide readings with all proceeds donated to the Christmas Craft Sale. The After-Five Committee served coffee, tea and sweets to customers which provided a much-needed break from shopping. This successful 2018 event raised close to \$9,000.00 after expenses.

Line, Wine and Cheese

Kathy Yach and Sandra Ferguson

On Saturday April 27, 2019 a Line Dancing fundraising event was held at the May Court Club under the leadership of co-convenors Kathy Yach and Sandra Ferguson. The line dancing instructor was Jody Benjamin who lead the line dancing in two shifts in Aberdeen Hall where participants reported having a great time. The wine and cheese were served upstairs.



Thanks go to Joan Murray and her volunteers for the Silent Auction which was a great success. Holly MacDougall was the Treasurer, and Nancy Birchard organized the wine and cheese and volunteers. Thanks also to Linda Meek for her donation of cheese and crackers and her door prize contribution. I would also like to thank all the members of the May Court Club who volunteered and to those who participated.

Life Cycle Bike Ride

Nancy Pyper

On Saturday, June 1, 2019 the third annual Life Cycle ride set out from the May Court Club once again to the strains of Rob Miller's bagpipes and best wishes for a successful ride by May Court President, Dorothy Scorsone. This year we were fortunate to have Graham Richardson as our celebrity rider. Much to our surprise he was accompanied by a CTV camera man: Dorothy was interviewed and a report appeared on the CTV 6:00 pm local news. Terrific publicity for the Club! Joel Harden, our local MPP joined the ride between his engagements and John Fraser, a strong supporter of Hospice also came for the start.

The spring weather had been stressful, bringing much flooding resulting in road and park closures. Ron Stoneham, a strong supporter of our ride rode the route twice the week before. Bate Island was closed and detours were experienced on the pathway on route to the Aylmer Marina. In lieu of Bate Island, Beth Burn and Shirley Parrot "hosted" a successful tailgate party at Kenneth Lloyd Parc. Polly Ann Sobier and Lynda Gorman-Pike provided additional sustenance at the Marina before the riders set off back to the Club.

We were so fortunate to have a picture-perfect day. The ride culminated successfully and happily in our beautiful garden with a Barbecue of sausages and chips accompanied by beer donated generously by Beau's Brewery. Thank you to Nancy Birchard and her crew of Bonnie and Blair Stevens and Mary Gray. Thanks must also go to Kunststadt Sports who posted our event on their Facebook page, provided technical support and two \$50.00 gift certificates for a draw.

The Life Cycle Bike Ride is growing: we had 18 riders, a slight increase from last year, many saying they will return, with some saying they would bring a friend to join the ride. We made slightly under \$5,000.00. The Bike Ride Committee must acknowledge Betty Rehbein for her website skills, including Pay Pal, without which we would not have achieved what we did this year.

THE ASSOCIATION OF MAY COURT CLUBS OF CANADA

On October 26, 2018, President, Dorothy Scorsone, and Vice-President, Sharon Harrison, attended the Fall Business Meeting of the Association of May Court Clubs of Canada in Oakville. The meeting proved to be a very valuable learning experience as delegates from the nine May Court Clubs participated in discussions regarding Club successes, strategic planning, membership recruitment, sponsorship and the possibility of men joining May Court Clubs.

On May 3 and 4, 2019 Dorothy Scorsone, and Sharon Harrison attended the Annual General Meeting of the Association of May Court Clubs of Canada in Chatham. The key points emerging from the meeting were as follows:

- It was agreed to increase the Association member dues by \$0.50 per Club member for next year bringing the dues for Fall 2019 to \$8.00 per Club member. Each subsequent increase in fees will require a vote by Club representatives at Association Annual General Meetings.
- The motion offered by The May Court Club of Ottawa to hold one Annual General Meeting each spring and cancel the Fall Business Meeting was defeated by a vote of 15 to 8 with one abstention.
- There was discussion and a subsequent motion to create an alternative to the May Court prayer. A “May Court Blessing” was agreed upon which reads:

“To those who are gathered here, let us guide our hands to works of charity, our hearts to humility and our minds to steadfast purpose.”

Each May Court Club can decide whether they would prefer to use the May Court Prayer or to use the May Court Blessing. The Association will eliminate the prayer from the Association’s Annual Report since this is a business document. Discussion also took place regarding Club by-laws and the need to ensure that they reflect inclusivity. In other words, Clubs might want to consider eliminating the use of gender specific terms such as “she” and “her” and replace them with “the individual”. The Association bylaws already refer to “the individual”. These issues will be addressed by The May Court Club of Ottawa in fall 2019.

The Association President, Cathy MacMillan, and Vice President, Renee Raphael, will come to Ottawa in September to attend the High Tea. The Fall Business Meeting of the Association of May Court Clubs of Canada will take place in Oakville on October 18-19, 2019.



ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE 2018-2019

Past President:	Alicia de Souza	(May Court Club of Windsor)
President:	Mary Jane Asick	(May Court Club of Windsor)
Vice-President:	Kathie Macmillan	(May Court Club of Barrie)
Secretary-Treasurer:	Linda Monforton	(May Court Club of Windsor)
Director at Large:	Lori Sims	(May Court Club of Oakville)

MEMBER MAY COURT CLUBS

May Court Club of Barrie
May Court Club of Brockville
May Court Club of Chatham
May Court Club of Kitchener-Waterloo
May Court Club of London
May Court Club of Oakville
May Court Club of Ottawa
May Court Club of St. Catharines
May Court Club of Windsor

PAST PRESIDENTS

*Deceased

1898-1900	Miss Ethel Hamilton*	1950-1952	Mrs Gordon Medcalf*
1900-1902	Mrs Edward Fauquier*	1952-1954	Mrs Melville Rogers*
1902-1904	Lady Perley*	1954-1956	Mrs Robert Gill*
1904-1906	Mrs Robert Kernan*	1956-1958	Mrs Harold Mulkins*
1906-1908	Lady Sybil Middleton*	1958-1960	Mrs Manson Campbell*
1908-1909	Mrs Robert Kernan*	1960-1962	Mrs Eric Prime*
1909-1910	Miss Florence Fielding*	1962-1964	Mrs Lloyd B. Rochester*
1910-1911	Mrs Gordon Hewitt*	1964-1966	Mrs David Hazelgrove*
1911-1912	Miss Mary Scott*	1966-1968	Mrs P.D. Holt*
1912-1913	Lady Perley*	1968-1970	Mrs J.H.F. Kenny*
1913-1916	Miss Edith MacPherson*	1970-1972	Mrs W.F.A. Davies
1916-1918	Mrs Robert Kernan*	1972-1974	Mrs W.P. Power*
1918-1920	Miss Sarah Sparks*	1974-1976	Mrs Ian McDiarmid
1920-1921	Mrs Lennox Blackburn*	1976-1978	Mrs Joan Prime*
1921-1922	Miss Margaret Southam*	1978-1980	Mrs Mary Elizabeth Harris*
1922-1923	Mrs Massy Baker*	1980-1982	Mrs Marian Parry*
1923-1925	Mrs Louise White*	1982-1984	Mrs Ellen Lahey
1925-1927	Mrs Noulan Cauchon*	1984-1986	Mrs Kay Yeomans*
1927-1928	Mrs H.P. Hill*	1986-1988	Mrs Patricia Scott
1928-1929	Miss Gwendolyn Burn*	1988-1990	Mrs Joyce Clarkson
1930-1933	Miss Freda Fripp*	1990-1992	Mrs Nancy Carruthers
1933-1934	Mrs Selwyn Wilson*	1992-1994	Mrs Isabel Pepler*
1934-1936	Mrs Arthur Hardy*	1994-1996	Mrs Patricia Burroughs*
1936-1937	Mrs Francis Gill*	1996-1998	Mrs Leslie Boyce
1937-1938	Mrs C.A. Gray*	1998-2000	Mrs Susan Lahey
1938-1939	Miss Ethel Beament*	2000-2002	Mrs Lillian Smith
1939-1940	Mrs I. Perley Robertson*	2002-2004	Mrs Mary Frances McIntyre*
1940-1941	Mrs C.H. Blair*	2004-2006	Dr Margaret D. Bell*
1941-1943	Mrs John Aylen*	2006-2008	Barbara Hykle
1943-1945	Mrs Douglas Blair*	2008-2010	Margie Howsam
1945-1947	Mrs Herbert F. Gordon*	2010-2012	Jose Hamilton
1947-1948	Mrs H.R.T. Gill*	2012-2014	Sharon Murphy
1948-1950	Mrs M.C. Christensen*	2014-2016	Margie Howsam



FORMER PATRONS

Mary Caroline, Countess of Minto
Alice, Countess Grey
H.R.H. Princess Louise Marguerite, Duchess of Connaught
Evelyn Emily Mary, Duchess of Devonshire
Marie Evelyn, Viscountess Byng of Vimy
Marie Adelaide, Marchioness of Willingdon
Roberte, Countess of Bessborough
Susan Charlotte, Lady Tweedsmuir
H.R.H. Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone
Margaret Diana, Viscountess Alexander of Tunis
The Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey, C.H., P.C., D.C.L., LL.D.
The Hon. Pauline Vanier, P.C., C.C.
Mrs Norah Michener, C.C., Ph.D.
Madame Gabrielle Léger, C.C.
Mrs Lily Schreyer, C.C.
The Rt. Hon. Jeanne Sauvé, P.C., C.C., C.M.M., C.D., LL.D.
Mrs Gerda Hnatyshyn, C.C.
Mrs Diana Fowler Leblanc, C.C.
The Rt. Hon. Adrienne Clarkson, C.C., C.M., C.D.
The Rt. Hon. Michaëlle Jean, C.C., C.C.M., C.O.M., C.D.
Mrs. Sharon Johnston, C.C.



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