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# *The Bulletin*

## Hobbs Seniors' Club

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January-February 2024

Every year you make a resolution to change yourself.  
This year, make a resolution to be yourself.  
- unknown

### **'Tis the season...to be thankful.**

At this time of year, we are reminded that we have much for which to be thankful, whether it be a warm and comfortable home, the love of family and friends, or the sense of belonging in our community, and, indeed, in our own Club. Our appreciation also extends to our Club's many volunteers, who unstintingly give of their time to ensure that everyone has a safe and welcoming space to come to every day. In particular, we wish to recognize the outstanding job our conveners do to keep our activities running smoothly, from setting up, to ensuring all supplies are on hand, to collecting and counting the weekly fees and doing the month-end tally. On behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire membership –*Thank you all!*

### **'Tis the season...for colds and flu**

Concern has been expressed to the Board for the welfare of members given recent news articles about COVID, flu and RSV. Some recent news stories cast a threatening outlook. You may want to read the December 14 message from the City of Ottawa: [Ottawa Public Health and local hospitals urge residents to get their updated COVID-19 and annual flu vaccines | City of Ottawa](#)

The Board of Directors believes that members are doing everything they can to protect themselves and each other. The Club is a fellowship of respectful, supportive individuals. Nevertheless, convenors and instructors are reminded that they are liberty to request mask-wearing and to limit their class size.

### **'Tis the season for kindness ... Charitable Donations 2023**

In our last *Bulletin*, the Board of Directors solicited suggestions from the membership for charitable organizations to which the Club could contribute this year. Three proposals were received. After careful consideration, the Board decided that all three organizations merited a contribution. Consequently, donations of \$500 were made to each of the following organizations:

**The Ottawa Food Bank:** The Ottawa Food Bank is the umbrella organization overseeing food banks across the city. Donations of money and goods are directed to local organizations depending on the need at the time. Donating to the Ottawa Food Bank ensures the contribution will go to where it is most needed.

**Ronald McDonald House Charities Ottawa (RMHCO) Sylvie's Home for Dinner:** Home for Dinner allows volunteers to cook for the families staying at Ronald McDonald House. The cost of ingredients reaches \$200-\$250 to feed 28 people. The donation of \$500 will go directly toward the cost of providing nutritious meals for families preoccupied with caring for their sick children. Incidentally, Coca Cola matched donations made during December; hence, our \$500 had double the impact!

**Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer (OPACC) Comfy Cases Fund:** OPACC's Comfy Cases Fund brings together volunteers to sew fun, colourful pillowcases for children in hospitals with cancer or other life challenging illnesses, providing moments of comfort, colour and cheer! The 100% patterned, cotton fabric is expensive. At our request, our \$500 will be directed to the Comfy Cases program at CHEO.

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**'Tis not the season ... for this**

It pains us to be informing our wonderful fellowship that we have, unfortunately, had several incidences of Club money going missing. Someone must be very desperate. The Board of Directors has taken some steps to shield us from theft; however, these have not prevented repeated occurrences. The Board is considering more severe actions. Meanwhile, I must ask that everyone – including Board members, instructors, and convenors – to adhere to the terms of our rental contract with the City and not enter the Community Centre outside of our contract hours of 8:30 to 4:30.

**'Tis the season ... to wish you the best!**

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish you a happy holiday season, filled with love and laughter. All of us on the Board are grateful for your kind support these past six months. We look forward to the fun-filled year ahead. Meanwhile: Be safe. Be healthy. Be at peace. – *Jo Anne Denis, President*

**IN MEMORIAM**

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of:

**Jacques (Jack) Delorme** on October 23 at the age of 85. Jack was an avid bridge player.

and

**Donna Booth** on Saturday, November 11 at the age of 85. Donna was also a regular cribbage player for many years.



Board of Directors

Jo Anne Denis, Sheila Dhal, Marjorie Ashworth, Christine Kennedy, Diane Gauthier, Shirley Heaslip

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