

OAIA

# News & Views

Vol. XVIII

A Magazine by and for OAIA Members

Friday May 1, 2026



## April Showers Bring May Flowers

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Editor In Chief  
**Peter Robinson**

Webmaster  
**Frank Dittmann**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reason For Closure</b>
Monday, February 16 <sup>th</sup>	Family Day
Friday, May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Good Friday
Monday, May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Monday
Monday, May 18 <sup>th</sup>	Victoria Day
Wednesday, July 1 <sup>st</sup>	Canada Day
Monday, August 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Civic Holiday
Friday, August 28 <sup>th</sup> 5:00pm to Sunday, September 6 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Building Maintenance
Monday, September 7 <sup>th</sup>	Labour Day
Monday, October 12 <sup>th</sup>	Thanksgiving
Tuesday, December 22 <sup>nd</sup> 5:00pm to Sunday, January 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2027	Closed For The Holidays

## Memorial Postings

When a member requests that a card be sent in the event of another member's death, they can also request a newsletter memorial posting, which will appear below:

### Hours

#### Building Hours:

Mon, Tue, Wed 8:30am – 10:00pm  
 Thu, Fri 8:30am – 5:00pm

#### Front Desk Hours:

Mon to Thu 9:00am – 3:30pm  
 Fri 9:00am – 1:00pm

Newsletter Contact- [newsandviewsmarkham@gmail.com](mailto:newsandviewsmarkham@gmail.com)  
 Please visit our website at: [www.markhamseniorcentre.com](http://www.markhamseniorcentre.com)

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*We reserve the right to accept, reject, edit, condense and verify all submissions.*



## Presidents Report

The Volunteer Lunch was held April 22<sup>nd</sup>. 142 invitations were made to our volunteers and there were 120 attendees this year.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our club. Our annual luncheon event is a great opportunity to thank our volunteers for donating their time, energy and expertise to enable us to offer our many club activities and events. Special thanks to Helena Miscampbell for organizing the event and to Norma Matus for her assistance. Thanks also to Mark Barret for managing the invitation list.

The next special event on the club calendar is a Mother's Day luncheon on Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>. Thanks go out to Wendy Wise, Mary Lou Busato, Jeanne Colvin and her many helpers for organizing and presenting the event.

Now for an update on club elections. The members of the Nomination Committee are Mary Lou Busato, Gloria Smith and Ken Budarick. Nominations were accepted from April 7<sup>th</sup> to April 28<sup>th</sup>. Voting takes place 10 a.m. Monday May 11<sup>th</sup> and concludes 2:00 p.m. Friday May 15<sup>th</sup>. Vacancies for the position of President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary and two Directors At Large must be filled. As I write this report on April 19<sup>th</sup> to meet the News and Views publication deadline,

# OAIA

I can't stress enough how important it is that you vote. I have often heard it said that "we get the kind of governance that we deserve". I consider this to be mostly true. Those who don't take the time to inform themselves on the issues and the candidate's viewpoints and credentials and then vote, have lost much of their right to complain.

Be kind to each other. Random acts of kindness can often begin with a simple gesture and a smile. With so much negativity in the world today, you can be a beacon of positive light. I urge you to make the effort.

Stay well.

Les



## Dear Readers



We have some exciting things happening in the newsletter this month, including a few new articles and a poem or two. While April showers bring May flowers, they also bring election time. Below are three important reasons why you should vote.

### **Voting ensures representation.**

Board members and directors make decisions that affect programs, services, and the direction of the Centre. Voting helps ensure those decisions reflect the interests of the membership.

### **Low turnout weakens member influence.**

When few members vote, decisions are made by a small group rather than the Centre as a whole. Participation strengthens the legitimacy of the election results.

### **Elections shape the future of the Centre.**

Leadership choices influence priorities, planning, and use of resources. Voting is the primary way members contribute to the Centre's long-term direction.

If I see you in the lounge or anywhere in the Centre be prepared to discuss why you should vote! It's important! No, I'm not running for a position.

**Peter Robinson**  
Editor

## Comments...

We look forward to the newsletter every month. Since December we have been keeping all the copies of News & Views.

Keep up the good work.

Hi Peter...just saw the April issue and noted the following...

The Centre has a limited number of newsletters available. Please take one copy only, and if possible, help us share by passing it along to others.



## May's Mischief

In May, when the blossoms all sway,  
The sun turns the mornings to play,  
With bees in a hurry,  
And clouds on a flurry,  
Spring laughs as it dances away.

News & Views is your magazine. What you like and think is important to us. Please send any articles or suggestions to the email address below. They will be read. Honest...

[newsandviewsmarkham@gmail.com](mailto:newsandviewsmarkham@gmail.com)



## Astrology Signs For May

**Aries:** May asks you to slow down and focus on financial and emotional security. Steady effort pays off more than quick moves.

**Taurus:** This is your reset month—new beginnings around self-worth, appearance, and long-term goals feel especially supported.

**Gemini:** A quieter start helps you reflect before energy picks up later in the month. By the end of May, your confidence and voice return strongly.

**Cancer:** Friendships and future plans come into focus. Collaboration and emotional honesty help you feel supported.

**Leo:** Career and public matters take center stage. Consistency and patience bring recognition, even if progress feels gradual.

**Virgo:** May encourages learning, travel, or a shift in perspective. Staying open-minded leads to meaningful growth.

**Libra:** Shared resources and emotional boundaries need attention. Honest conversations lead to deeper trust and balance.

**Scorpio:** Relationships are highlighted, especially around commitment and compromise. Mutual effort strengthens important bonds.

**Sagittarius:** Daily routines and health benefit from small but disciplined changes. Consistency beats overextending yourself.

**Capricorn:** Creativity, romance, and enjoyment return to focus. Allow yourself pleasure without guilt—it fuels motivation.

**Aquarius:** Home and family matters ask for grounding and care. Strengthening your base helps everything else fall into place.

**Pisces:** Communication flows more clearly as the month unfolds. Speaking your truth gently brings clarity and relief.

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**May 2026** carries a grounding yet gently shifting energy for all astrology signs, blending Taurus season's focus on stability with Gemini's curiosity and movement later in the month. Many signs feel encouraged to slow down, reassess values, and strengthen practical foundations—whether in relationships, finances, or personal routines—before opening up to new conversations and ideas as the pace quickens. Overall, May favors steady growth, honest communication, and small but meaningful steps that build lasting confidence across the zodiac.

## TAI CHI

Tai chi can have significant benefits for older adults. This is at least partly due to the way it focuses on muscle control, stability, balance, and flexibility.

In today’s go-go-go fitness world, tai chi stands out for moving at a snail-like pace. Gentle, flowing movements and deep, soothing breaths define this ancient form of exercise rooted in the martial arts.

But can this slow-motion activity do much good for your body? Come try it out!

Wednesday at 10:30 am  
**Donna Jacobs – Convenor**



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### Monday Morning Bridge

In the Craft Room. Come out and enjoy a game with friends and neighbours.

9:00 am to 11:30 am  
**Margaret Crowley - Convenor**

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### The Slow Unfolding

The mirror learns my face anew,  
each line a road the years have drawn;  
the silver threads the daylight grew  
now catch the fire of early dawn.  
My hands remember seeds and rain,  
my heart recalls both loss and gold;  
and in the quiet, I remain—  
not young, not gone, but simply old.

## Current Events!

The Group Gathers Every Wednesday  
in the West Activity Room from:  
1:00pm to 3:00pm.

The programme consists of members getting to know each other through sharing humour, discussing current local and world events, plus other subjects of interest. Pictures, videos and PowerPoint information related to the subject of the day will be presented by a member and viewed on a large movie screen

*Last month, besides current news, some topics were: Happiness and Angkor Wat. Next month we may cover inventions, racism and playing cards.*

On entering, please sign in and deposit your \$0.50 in the "Room Fee" basket. A short break is at 2:00pm at which time coffee, tea, and treats may be purchased.

New members are always welcome.

**Jan Jang – Convenor**  
**Steve Hircock – Convenor**



# Monthly Sudoku

				6				
	1	5				2		
3	6		9	1		4		
4		6	3		8		9	
	2			9			4	
	3		1		7	8		2
		1		5	9		7	4
		3				9	1	
				3				



**Fill the Grid:** Each cell in the 9x9 grid must be filled with a number from 1 to 9.

**Row Rule:** Each row must contain the numbers 1-9 exactly once.

**Column Rule:** Each column must contain the numbers 1-9 exactly once.

**Box Rule:** Each 3x3 box must contain the numbers 1-9 exactly once.

**Given Clues:** Some cells in the grid are pre-filled with numbers (clues) to guide the player.

**Uniqueness:** The puzzle is solved when all cells are filled correctly, adhering to the above rules. Sudoku is a game of logic and reasoning, requiring no advanced mathematical skills, only logic and pattern recognition. It is a popular game for seniors and can improve concentration, memory, and logical thinking. ENJOY!

### Travel Desk Trip Update

**June (Niagara-on-the-Lake): "Funny Girl"** (Shaw Festival Theatre). Sold out; wait list available—sign up at the Travel Desk during posted hours.

**Apr 16 (Toronto): "The Magic of Little Canada"**—St. Lawrence Market, lunch at Hot House Cafe, and **Little Canada** (10 Dundas St. E.). Great feedback.

**May 7 (Waterloo): "Sentimental Journey 4"**—sold out; wait list available (Travel Desk).

**July 23: Niagara Takes Flight**—seat sales expected 2nd/3rd week of May; launch date will be posted at the Travel Desk.

**August:** No trip.

**Sept 15 (Stratford): "Guys and Dolls"** (Stratford Festival Theatre) + lunch at the Elmhurst Inn—flyer and launch date to follow. Questions or wait-list sign-up: visit the Travel Desk during posted hours. Payment: cheque or exact cash.

**Mary Lou Busato – Convenor**



### Library

Thank you to Mary Lou Busato for regularly shelving books in the OAIA Library—your work is greatly appreciated. We welcome new or “like new” fiction donations, but not damaged books.

We can no longer accept puzzles; please feel free to take any—no return needed. Book loans operate on the honour system. When finished, return books to the bin under the whiteboard.

**Angela Stewart – Convenor**



### Parking Permit Warning!

Please remember if you wish to park in the disabled parking spots, you must place your OPP (Ontario Parking Permit), on the dashboard of your vehicle. Make sure nothing covers it. If you do not have an OPP, you risk a fine of **350.00** dollars.



### Please

Even if you have a valid OPP, but are going to an activity, be reminded that there may be other members who need the spot more than you do.

## BOOK CLUB # 1

**Book Club #1** is held on the **first Wednesday of the month, from 10:15am-12:00pm.**

We are now reading “**Circle The Sun**” by Paula McLain.

**Susan Flatt – Convenor**

### Description

This powerful novel transports readers to the breathtaking world of Out of Africa—1920s Kenya—and reveals the extraordinary adventures of Beryl Markham, a woman before her time. Brought to Kenya from England by pioneering parents dreaming of a new life on an African farm, Beryl is raised unconventionally, developing a fierce will and a love of all things wild. But after everything she knows and trusts dissolves, headstrong young Beryl is flung into a string of disastrous relationships, then becomes caught up in a passionate love triangle with the irresistible safari hunter Denys Finch Hatton and the writer Baroness Karen Blixen. Brave and audacious and contradictory, Beryl will risk everything to have Denys’s love, but it’s ultimately her own heart she must conquer to embrace her true calling and her destiny: to fly.

Books are chosen from the Markham or Stouffville Library which provides copies for everyone. We have a few books with large print for those who want it. Often there are e-copies or audio copies in the library which you can access on your own.

Our discussions are always lively and provide interesting perspectives from a variety of members.

The sign-up page is in our large activity binder at the front desk.

## BOOK CLUB # 2

We meet every second **Wednesday of the month from 1:00pm-3:00pm**

It’s always fun to get together and discuss the books we have read each month. We usually have quite a variety of opinions to share. Last month we read “**Rules for Commuting**” by Clare Pooley.

We are now reading “**The Wedding People**” by Alison Espach

### Description

A propulsive and uncommonly wise novel about one unexpected wedding guest and the surprising people who help her start anew.

It’s a beautiful day in Newport, Rhode Island, when Phoebe Stone arrives at the grand Cornwall Inn wearing a green dress and gold heels, not a bag in sight, alone. She’s immediately mistaken by everyone in the lobby for one of the wedding people, but she’s actually the only guest at the Cornwall who isn’t here for the big event. Phoebe is here because she’s dreamed of coming for years—she hoped to shuck oysters and take sunset sails with her husband, only now she’s here without him, at rock bottom, and determined to have one last decadent splurge on herself. Meanwhile, the bride has accounted for every detail and every possible disaster the weekend might yield except for, well, Phoebe and Phoebe’s plan—which makes it that much more surprising when the two women can’t stop confiding in each other.

In turns absurdly funny and devastatingly tender, Alison Espach’s The Wedding People is ultimately an incredibly nuanced and resonant look at the winding paths we can take to places we never imagined—and the chance encounters it sometimes takes to reroute us.

**Donna Jacobs - Convenor**

### A heartfelt thank you to our advertisers

Your generous support plays an essential role in making this newsletter possible and in helping us remain connected with our members. Through your partnership, we are able to share important information, highlight programs, and continue enriching the lives of those we serve. We extend our sincere gratitude and encourage our readers to support the businesses and organizations that so generously support our Senior Centre.

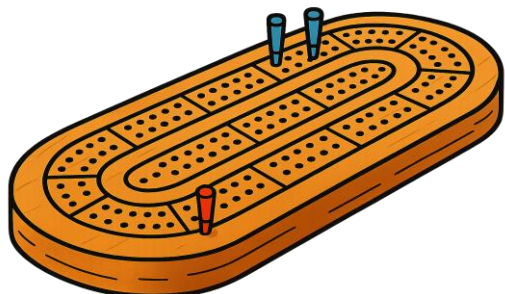
What is the only  
Letter that appears  
In this sentence  
Three Times?

## Cribbage!

Come Visit Us.

- Cribbage takes place from 1:00 to 3:30 pm.
- Tuesdays In the west activity room
- Thursday In the east activity room

Jeanne Lafond - Convenor



## BID EUCHRE

MONDAY EVENINGS - 6:30pm – 10:00pm  
(Craft Room)

If Monday is a Holiday, then we will play on Tuesday, same time and place.

**COST** - \$2.00 (Covers Prize Money and \$.50 Facility Fee)

**PRIZE MONEY** - First \$8.00, Second \$6.00, Third \$5.00

Fourth \$4.00 (Depends on attendance)

If you have never played before, the following is a brief description:

The game is played in teams like regular euchre. Eight cards are dealt. Each player bids on how many tricks he or she thinks they can take.

It is a little more challenging than regular euchre. Two decks of cards are used (face cards only). If you are interested in learning, come out and watch for a night or two and then join in.

**Ken and Bev. Budarick – Convenors**



## My Veteran Parents

I was lucky to be blessed with two wonderful parents. Unfortunately, they were born in 1921 and 1923, which meant they were just old enough to be part of the armed forces during World War II. My mother was two and a half years older than my father. She began training as a nurse at just sixteen years old and was recruited in 1940 when she was nineteen. She was born in Lancashire, England, on January 15, 1921.

At nineteen, she was a Registered Nurse and held the rank of Captain in the English Army. All female nurses were promoted to Captain so they would not be subjected to improper behaviour from male members of the forces whom they needed to command—or so my mother explained to me.

She had been trained by nuns in a London hospital. They were very strict, and she later said that this discipline prepared her well for what she faced as a nurse in the English forces. She served all over the world, including Belgium, France, and India.

When an army base was not available, she was sometimes billeted with local families. She told me her favourite posting was Belgium. She loved the sights and the people. She also spoke fondly of India, especially the food. Curried chicken served in the Indian mess tent was her absolute favourite. She even swapped meals with an Indian recruit who preferred English food from the English mess tent. She especially loved visiting the Cameroon Highlands, which she described as breathtaking.

All of her adventures in India were shared through letters she wrote home to her family in England. A young male cousin, Bruce, loved reading about her experiences.

By the end of the war, Bruce had saved enough money to visit her. Tragically, shortly after disembarking the ship, he was murdered in the harbour. The crime was never solved.

My mother was very Aryan-looking—tall, blonde, blue-eyed—and she spoke some German. Because of this, she was recruited into MI5 as a spy. In military hospitals, wounded German soldiers were placed near wounded Allied soldiers. My mother was often left in charge and made a point of befriending all the patients. The German soldiers nicknamed her “Blonde Poison,” which was apparently meant as a compliment, though I don’t recall the German translation.

Allied soldiers were given weekly allotments of cigarettes and alcohol, but my mother didn’t smoke. Instead, she would visit the young German patients, let them smoke her cigarettes, and talk with them about their lives. Most were young, homesick boys. She would ask about their homes in Germany, where they had been stationed, and where they had been injured. Everything she learned was reported back to MI5.

My mother was a spy—a hero in my eyes. These were stories she shared as I was growing up. They felt exciting, almost like something from television. One story in particular always stood out.

One day, she heard yelling—an English soldier calling for help. When she entered the room, she saw a wounded German soldier crawling along the floor toward a bedridden English patient. Clenched between his teeth was a knife. He was determined to kill “the enemy.” She immediately called for security.

My mother, Betty Schofield, was recruited at the beginning of World War II and served with distinction through D-Day on June 6, 1944, and until the end of the war in 1945. She earned more medals than my father and had many remarkable stories.

My father, Rex Nelson William King, was born on October 6, 1923. He was recruited into the Canadian Air Force in 1942 after turning eighteen, initially as a pilot. He has been very much on my mind, as March 20, 2026 marks the one-year anniversary of his death. He was 101 years old and living in the veterans' wing at Sunnybrook Hospital.

Early in his pilot training, it became clear that my father suffered from severe motion sickness. As a result, he could not continue as a pilot and was reassigned as a navigator. Although he still experienced motion sickness, it only affected him during the first few minutes after takeoff. Once he became sick, it never happened again during the flight, no matter how long they were airborne. His fellow recruits chose not to report it, and he carried out his duties with a "puke bucket" nearby.

He explained to me how critical the navigator's role was. Some planes never made it home. Their missions involved tracking and sinking submarines in the Atlantic. He told me that half of his friends never returned. The submarines were armed, and the planes—heavy with bombs—were essentially sitting ducks. On one mission, their plane was hit and a crew member was killed, but they managed to make it back to base, one bombardier short.

Sometimes, especially at night, the sky and the water looked the same. After hours flying over the Atlantic, he would pray that his calculations were correct, wondering whether he had doomed them all to a watery grave.

Unlike my mother, my father rarely spoke about his service. Once, I offered to treat him to a flight at the nearby base in Trenton in a plane similar to the one he flew during the war. He firmly declined. "When I disembarked from my last flight, I swore I would never board one of those planes again—ever," he said. "I lost half of my friends." He was awarded the King Charles Medal posthumously in 2025.

My parents met and married after the war, when my mother moved to Montreal. She worked as a VON nurse and met my father on a blind date.

Later in life, both of my parents lived in the Sunnybrook Veterans Wing—my mother first, for seven years. I took my father to visit her every Sunday. She passed away on February 28, 2018, at the age of ninety-seven. She suffered from dementia, was blind, and eventually required a wheelchair due to spinal stenosis. In October 2018, my father moved into Sunnybrook, where he lived for seven years until his death from pneumonia in 2025. I cannot say enough about how wonderful the staff at Sunnybrook were.

I don't believe war is "glorious." I believe the men and women who served are heroes in the truest sense of the word. Like my parents, they put their lives on hold and risked everything—death and lifelong injury—believing they were protecting their families and their way of life. Two of my uncles were killed in World War I, and my father's brother, John "Jack" King, served in the Navy during World War II and returned home alive.

— **Shelley King Bourne**

## Snooker League Winter 2026 Congratulations

### First Place

John Milligan Trophy Winners

- Mark Barrett
- Bob Van Wert
- Jim Turner
- Dave Caspar

Once again, the unthinkable happened: the first-place team was toppled by the team that barely scraped into last place, and it happened immediately—in the very first match of the finals. This scenario is strangely familiar, repeating itself far more often than expectations would suggest. It serves as a stark reminder that entering the finals at the top of the standings offers no guarantees. When the playoffs begin, past rankings lose their power, momentum shifts, and anything can happen.



Presented by **Geri Milligan**

### League Champions

Nell Dunn Trophy Winners

- Bert Metcalfe
- Stephen Lok
- Yen Lee
- Kai Mark

We witnessed another exciting final, and in the end, Lee’s team emerged victorious to win the tournament. The match was thrilling from start to finish and kept everyone on the edge of their seats. This marks the second tournament in a row that Team Lee has claimed the championship, an impressive achievement. If they manage to win the next tournament as well, it will be a moment truly worthy of celebration.



## Tech Corner

### Staying Safe and Savvy Online

Technology is moving fast, but it's never too late to learn something new — and to protect yourself while doing it. This month, let's talk about **online safety**, one of the most important skills for anyone using the internet.

#### 1. Recognize “Too Good to Be True” Offers

If you get an email or pop-up promising a big prize or asking for personal details, pause before clicking. Scammers often use urgency to trick people.

#### 2. Use Strong, Easy-to-Remember Passwords

A good password is like a strong lock on your front door. Try using a short phrase you'll remember, such as “SunnyGarden2026!” — mixing letters, numbers, and symbols.

#### 3. Update Your Devices Regularly

Those little “update available” messages aren't just for new features — they often fix security issues. Set your phone, tablet, or computer to update automatically.

#### 4. Ask Before You Act

If you're unsure about a message, link, or website, ask a trusted friend or family member before responding.

#### Tech Tip of the Month:

If you have a smartphone, try using the built-in **magnifier** feature. It can help you read small print on menus, medication bottles, or even your TV remote

## HOW I HAVE TO PEE, LET ME COUNT THE WAYS

How I have to pee, let me count the ways  
I have to pee from the back of my teeth  
to the core of my gut  
If I feel a sneeze or a road with a rut

I have to pee frequently, even small in amount  
How many each day is too excessive to count

I have to pee nightly, snug and warm in my bed  
If the thoughts in my mind,  
it will not leave my head

I have to pee often with no bathroom in sight  
I'm refusing Depends, but I'm losing that fight

I dribble in fright and laughter and tears  
and in meetings and churches and all manner of  
fears

When is my final pee?

If God choose,  
as I cross the doorstep of the Pearly Gates,  
my bladder will loosen, it's certainly fate  
And I shall surely unburden  
a golden wet sample of me

By Jan Jang



# OAIA BOARD ELECTIONS 2026

## *Call for Nominations*

**From:** *Tuesday, April 7th*

**Until:** *1:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 28th*

We encourage all members to consider standing for election or to participate by voting.

### **Board Positions to be Filled:**

- **President** (2 Years)
- **Treasurer** (2 Years)
- **Assistant Treasurer** (2 Years)
- **Secretary** (2 Years)
- **2 Directors at Large** (2 Years)

### **Voting**

Polling stations will be open:

- *10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Monday, May 11th to Thursday, May 14th*
- *10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Friday, May 15th*

### **Nomination Committee:**

Mary Lou Busato, Gloria Smith, Ken Budarick



# Your Vote Counts!

# Board Duties and Responsibilities

## **President**

Shall Chair – Board and Membership meetings, conduct liaison with the City of Markham – shall, between Board meetings act, if necessary, to ensure compliance with the Constitution and By-Laws and report fully to the next Board meeting of any action taken. The President may sit as ex officio member of all committees of the club.

## **Vice President**

Shall work with the President in the management of the affairs, programs, and activities of the Club; chair official meetings of the Club in the absence of the President, sit as ex officio member of the committees of the Club.

## **Secretary**

Shall maintain and record minutes of the meetings of the Board and Club membership meetings, may also serve as corresponding Secretary of the Board.

## **Treasurer**

Shall maintain the Club financial accounting records and procedures – receive all Club monies, be responsible for the disbursement of Club funds as directed by the Board of Directors; serve as Chair of the Finance Committee.

## **Assistant Treasurer**

Shall assist the Treasurer in all duties of the Treasurer.

## **Membership Director**

In partnership with the City of Markham, will arrange membership promotion; maintain current membership lists and confidentiality; issue membership cards, organize the membership renewal blitz and conduct periodic attendance audits.

## **Directors at Large**

Will fulfill the support and communication role with the activity/program Convenors of the Club.

## **Attention:**

We will not know until we do a final tally on Tuesday, May 28th to see if there is more than one person running for each position open this year. If there is, we would hold a vote and would need volunteers to help on the election desk.

The week would be Monday May 11th to and including Friday, May 15th. If anyone would like to volunteer for a full day (5 hrs.) or a half day (2 1/2 hrs.) please leave your name and phone number at the front desk and the election committee will pick them up and be prepared should such an occasion arise.

***Mary Lou Busato - Chairperson***

# MAHJONG

Mahjong is played twice a week at the Centre, on Monday and Tuesday.

## MONDAY



Beginners are taught the Asian method, which must be learned before attempting to learn how to play using the National method.

**Virginia Guevera**  
– Convenor



## TUESDAY

Beginners of the National method are taught on Tuesdays.

**Sashi Chitharanjan**  
– Convenor

The activity fee is 50 cents to play, and you must sign in the Activity Book upon arrival in the Craft Room.

# CANASTA

We meet from 12:30pm – 4:00pm in the West activity room every



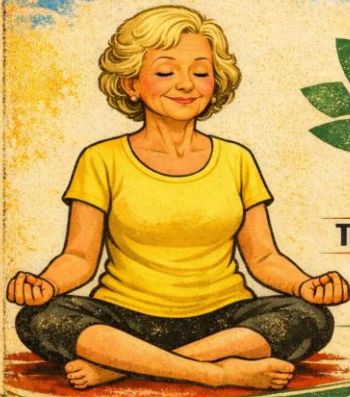
Thursday, for a fun afternoon and camaraderie. If you are interested in learning a new card game or to renew your skills...

Contact the front desk.

*Keith Shopman* – Convenor



# Summer Yoga!



**TUESDAYS AT 11:30 AM**  
July 7th – August 25th  
8 Weeks • Only \$50!  
Instructor: *Ranjith*

*Get Fit & Have Fun This Summer!*

★ **All Welcome!!** ★

*Wendy Wise* – Convenor

# MELODY MAKERS

Next Concert  
**May 25, 2026**  
11:30am – 12:30pm

Come and lend an ear  
Do a little dancing...

**Admission**  
\$2 at the door  
Coffee / Tea – \$1

**Everyone Welcome!**  
**Norma Matus**  
Convenor

# OAIA Mother's Day Luncheon

*A Celebration with Timeless Charm*



Friday, May 8th, 2026, 12:30 pm

Doors Open at 12:00 Noon

Markham Senior Centre — Auditorium

Join us for a delightful afternoon honoring Mother's Day, filled with good food, warm company, and a touch of old time elegance.

Cost: \$25.00

Catered by: **Village Grocer**

Enjoy a Door Prize, plus special awards for

◆ Best Outfit

◆ Best Hat

*(Vintage flair encouraged)*

Chicken Parmesan

Pasta & Fresh Salad

Dessert: Coffee or Tea

**Tickets on Sale April 7th**

Dress up, step back in time, and celebrate in classic style.

## Thursday Craft Group

Busy hands, big hearts!

We're sewing bags to support

**Markham Stouffville Hospital's Cancer Centre**

— Our new ongoing service project! —

Accepting donations of

**Fabric & Materials**

To keep the creativity flowing!



**Craft Sale Coming in May...**

Stay tuned for far-out fun!



## Spring Craft Sale

Friday, May 8th • 10am to 3pm

A wide variety of handcrafted and sewn items.

Something for Everyone!



A wide variety of handcrafted and sewn items.

Something for Everyone!



# DO YOU PLAY CHESS?



COME OUT AND HAVE A  
GAME OR TWO WITH US

**EVERY FRIDAY**

IN THE CRAFT ROOM  
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
TEACHING IS AVAILABLE

**FRANK DENC SHAZI**  
— CONVENOR —

8	4	7	2	6	3	1	5	9
9	1	5	7	8	4	2	3	6
3	6	2	9	1	5	4	8	7
4	7	6	3	2	8	5	9	1
1	2	8	5	9	6	7	4	3
5	3	9	1	4	7	8	6	2
2	8	1	6	5	9	3	7	4
6	5	3	4	7	2	9	1	8
7	9	4	8	3	1	6	2	5

## WEDNESDAY KNITTING GROUP



The members of the Wednesday Knitting Group have enjoyed knitting for everyone this year and would like to thank the members for showing interest in our projects.

Knitted and crocheted items are available from the glass cabinet in the main hall.

If you or your friends have yarn you no longer want, please leave it at the front desk. Thank you in advance.

**VALERIE MCCUNE – CONVENOR**

## DJEMBE DRUMMING



**WEDNESDAYS, 12:00PM-1:00PM  
IN THE CRAFT ROOM.**

**SIGN UP AT THE FRONT DESK**

THE COST DEPENDS ON THE  
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS.

**DIANA BARON – CONVENOR**



# MARKHAM DISTRICT VETERANS ASSOCIATION

## NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

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April 29 - May 2, 2026

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FLATC

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

## BLUE JAYS BASEBALL GAME

TUESDAY MAY 26TH  
TORONTO JAYS  
VS  
MIAMI MARLINS  
GREAT SEATS SECTION 137  
ROWS 26,27,29

PICK UP AT THE VETS HALL 400PM SHARP  
HOT DOGS FOR A LOONIE AT THE GAME  
RETURNING AFTER BASEBALL GAME TO VETS HALL  
TICKETS AVAILABLE TO FIRST 40 PEOPLE  
**\$120 PER PERSON**

TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED AT THE MARKHAM DISTRICT VETERANS ASSOCIATION  
OR ONLINE AT MDVA.CA  
7 WASHINGTON ST. MARKHAM

# Your concerns are my concerns.

*"If you have any issues that you feel need to be addressed please don't hesitate to contact me."*

**Karen Rea**  
Ward 4 Councillor

Tel. 905.479.7751

To keep informed on Markham and Ward 4 issues, visit:  
[www.karenrea.ca](http://www.karenrea.ca) or email: [krea@markham.ca](mailto:krea@markham.ca)



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I have worked as a hearing instrument specialist at some reputable hearing clinics for the past 6 years. After gaining experience, I decided to open my own practice with a mission of delivering the highest quality of hearing healthcare to my patients. "Always delivering best practices with the client's lifestyle in mind."

My hearing clinic stands firmly on the core values of professionalism, reliability, care, and quality. I adopt a client-centric approach to carefully listen to your concerns and work with you to design customized treatment plans.

I am well-versed with the latest technologies and advancements in the hearing healthcare domain and focus on implementing the best industry practices. I am also the recipient of the 2021 Charles Holland Award, which represents a model of hearing excellence across Canada.



**Lyle Mirrett, HIS**  
Hearing Instrument Specialist

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Snooker 8:30 am - 10:00 pm	Snooker 8:30 am - 10:00 pm	Snooker 8:30 am - 10:00 pm	Snooker 8:30 am - 5:00 pm	Snooker 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Pickleball - Auditorium 9:00 am - 11:30 am	Exercise - Auditorium 9:00 am - 10:00 am	Osteo Fitness - Auditorium 9:00 am - 10:00 pm	Wood Carving - West Room 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Table Tennis - East & West 9:00 am - 12:30 pm
Casual Bridge - Craft Room 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Exercise - Auditorium 10:15 am - 11:15 am	Badminton - Cornell 9:00 am - 11:30 am	Exercise - Auditorium 9:00 am - 10:00 am	Osteo Fitness - Auditorium 9:00 am - 10:00 am
Melody Makers - Auditorium Last Monday in the month 11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Table Tennis - West 9:00 am - 11:00 am	Band Practice - Craft Room 9:30 am - 11:30 am	Exercise - Auditorium 10:15 am - 11:15 am	Badminton - Cornell 9:00 am - 11:30 am
Ultra Beg. Line Dance - Auditorium 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Water Colours - East Room 9:30 am - 12:00 pm	Book Club - Board Room First Wed 10:15 am - 12:00 pm Second Wed 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Canasta - West Room 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Chess - Craft Room 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Beg. Line Dance - Auditorium 1:15 pm - 4:30 pm	Water Colours - East Room 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Tai Chi - Auditorium 10:30 am - 11:30 am	Crafts - Craft Room 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Yoga - Auditorium 10:15 am - 11:15 am
Mah-Jong - Craft Room 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Yoga - Auditorium 11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Djembe Drumming - Craft Room 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Cribbage - East Room 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Yoga - Auditorium 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Table Tennis - East & West 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Mah Jong - Craft Room 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Euchre - Auditorium 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Pickleball - Auditorium 11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Duplicate Bridge - Craft Room 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Line Dancing - Auditorium 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Cribbage - West Room 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Current Events Plus - West Room 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Osteo Fitness - Auditorium 1:45 pm - 2:45 pm	Pickleball - Auditorium 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Badminton - Auditorium 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Zumba Gold - Auditorium 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm	Acrylics - East Room 9:30 am - 12:00 pm	Pickleball - Auditorium 3:00 pm - 4:45 pm.	Pickleball - Auditorium 2:45 pm - 4:45 pm
Bid Euchre - Craft Room 6:30 pm - 10:00 pm	Zumba Gold - Auditorium 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Acrylics - East Room 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm		
	Pickle Ball - Auditorium 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Knitting - Craft Room 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm		
		Volleyball - Cornell 1:30 am - 4:00 pm		
		Line Dancing - Auditorium 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm		
		Pickle Ball - Auditorium 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm		

Shaded programs are instructional and require pre-registration. Check with the front desk 905.294.5111 or program Convenor for availability and cost.

May 2026 Drop In Programs - Registration Not Required					
	Program	Time	Cost	Room	Convenor
<b>Monday</b>	Badminton	7:00 pm - 9:30 pm	\$0.50	Auditorium	Arun Dewan
	Bid Euchre	6:30 pm - 10:00 pm	\$2.00	Craft	Ken Budarick
	Casual Bridge	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$0.50	Craft	Margaret Crowley
	Mah-Jong	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	\$0.50	Craft	Virginia Guevera
May 25th	Melody Makers - Last Monday	11:30 am - 12:30 pm	\$2.00	Auditorium	Norma Matus
	Pickle Ball	9:00 am - 11:30 am	\$0.50	Auditorium	Cha Pin Lee
	Snooker	8:30 am - 10:00 pm	\$0.50	Snooker	Steve Riesberry
	Table Tennis	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	\$0.50	East/West	Alphie Cheng
<b>Tuesday</b>	Cribbage	1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	\$0.50	West	Jeanne Lafond
	Mah-Jong	1:00 pm - 4:30pm	\$0.50	Craft	Sashi Chitharanjan
	Pickle Ball	7:00 pm - 9:30 pm	\$0.50	Auditorium	Cha Pin Lee
	Snooker	8:30 am - 10:00 pm	\$0.50	Snooker	Steve Riesberry
	Table Tennis	9:00 am - 11:30 am	\$0.50	West	Alphie Cheng
<b>Wednesday</b>	Badminton	9:00 am - 11:30 am	\$0.50	Cornell	Arun Dewan
	Band Practice	9:30 am - 11:30 am	\$1.00	Craft	Betsy Duffy
May 6th	Book Club #1 (1st Wed of Month)	10:15 am - 12:00 pm	\$0.50	Board Room	Susan Flatt
May 13th	Book Club #2 (2nd Wed of Month)	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	\$0.50	Board Room	Donna Jacobs
	Current Events Plus	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	\$1.00	West	Jan Jang
	Euchre	12:30 pm - 3:00 pm	\$2.00	Auditorium	Blair Simpson
	Knitting	1:30 pm - 4:00 pm	\$0.50	Craft	Valerie McCune
	Snooker	8:30 am - 10:00 pm	\$0.50	Snooker	Steve Riesberry
	Pickleball	6:00 pm - 9:30 pm	\$0.50	Auditorium	Alphie Cheng
	Volleyball	1:30 pm - 3:30 pm	\$0.50	Cornell	Joe Signorello
<b>Thursday</b>	Canasta	12:30 pm - 4:00 pm	\$0.50	West	Keith Shopman
	Crafts	1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	\$0.00	Craft	Wendy Wise
	Cribbage	1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	\$0.50	East	Jeanne Lafond
	Pickleball	11:30 am - 1:30 pm	\$0.50	Auditorium	John Varone
	Pickleball	3:00 pm - 4:45 pm	\$0.50	Auditorium	Kai Mark
	Snooker	8:30 am - 5:00 pm	\$0.50	Snooker	Steve Riesberry
	Wood Carving	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$0.50	West	Zdenek Brezina
<b>Friday</b>	Badminton	9:00 am - 11:30 am	\$0.50	Cornell	Arun Dewan
	Bridge (Duplicate)	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm	\$1.00	Craft	Bob Ysseldyk
	Chess	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	\$0.50	Craft	Frank Dencshazi
	Pickleball	1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	\$0.50	Auditorium	Clarence Jones
	Pickleball	2:45 pm - 4:45 pm	\$0.50	Auditorium	Clarence Jones
	Snooker	8:30 am - 5:00 pm	\$0.50	Snooker	Steve Riesberry
	Table Tennis	9:00 am - 12:30 pm	\$0.50	East/West	Eric Tam
Instructional Programs - Registration Required					
	Program	Time	Room	Convenor	
<b>Monday</b>	Ultra Beginner Line Dancing	12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Auditorium	Norma Matus	
	Beginner Line Dancing	1:15 pm - 2:15 pm	Auditorium	Joyce McDowell	
	Line Dancing	2:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Auditorium	Dianne Sweeney	
<b>Tuesday</b>	Exercise	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Auditorium	Lyn Bryan	
	Exercise	10:15 am - 11:15 am	Auditorium	Pat Rossi	
	Water Colours	9:30 am - 12:00 pm	East	Stella Carageorgopoulos	
	Water Colours	1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	East	Karyn Lockhart	
	Yoga	1130 am - 12:30 pm	Auditorium	Ruth MacCharles	
	Zumba Gold	1:15 pm - 2:15 pm	Auditorium	Susan Flatt	
	Zumba Gold	2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Auditorium	Judy Menlove	
<b>Wednesday</b>	Acrylics	9:30am - 12:00 pm	East	Karyn Lockhart	
	Acrylics	1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	East	Karyn Lockhart	
	Djembe Drumming	12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Craft	Diana Baron	
	Line Dancing	3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Auditorium	Carol Sparks	
	Osteo Fitness	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Auditorium	Lyn Bryan	
	Tai Chi	10:30 am - 11:30 am	Auditorium	Donna Jacobs	
<b>Thursday</b>	Exercise	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Auditorium	Lyn Bryan	
	Exercise	10:15 am - 11:15 am	Auditorium	Pat Rossi	
	Osteo Fitness	1:45 pm - 2:45 pm	Auditorium	Susan Crawford	
<b>Friday</b>	Osteo Fitness	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Auditorium	Lyn Bryan	
	Yoga	10:15 am - 11:15 am	Auditorium	Wendy Wise	
	Yoga	11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Auditorium	Wendy Wise	