

Hunt Club: My Community



A warm welcome into our Hunt Club Community Organization to the 164 households from Mosswood Court, Vintage Lane and Wisteria Crescent. Wisteria Park is located just west of Paul Anka Drive, south of Otto's car dealership on Hunt Club. Residents Steve Long and Keith Hendricks will be representing Wisteria Park as directors of our HCCO.

Green Spaces in Hunt Club

Christine Johnson

How do green spaces impact a community's quality of life? If you've ever wondered how 'green' our Hunt Club community is, take a look at the top map at <http://hunt-club.ncf.ca/map.html>. All that bright green tells the story. How does this compare to the rest of Ottawa?

According to the 2006 Ottawa Neighbourhood Study, we have a total of 2.36 km² of green space per thousand people (including their Hunt Club Woods, Quinterra, Hunt Club East & Western communities, and Hunt Club Airport community). This is far above the city average of 0.26 km². We also have 104.8 m² of park space for every resident, which is three times the city average of 34.3 m² per resident.

In addition, our total distance of bike/walking paths equals 21.3 km or 3.69 m of bike/walking paths for every resident. This too is higher than the city average. You will find articles dedicated to some of these green spaces in the 2013 issues of Hunt Club: My Community.

How are residents in our community enjoying these areas? What is your favourite place in our community to be with nature, walk, cycle, jog, play? Do you have ideas to enhance any of these areas?

Please share them with us at our monthly Hunt Club Community Organization meetings. Your feedback from our first issue has been much appreciated. The conversation has begun! Visit our website for upcoming meeting dates at <http://hunt-club.ncf.ca>

Rinks at Owl Park

Peter McIlwaine

Maintaining the rink at Owl has been a great experience. What makes this so enjoyable are the many hands we have helping out and the many others who offer their volunteer services. Without these people it would take a lot more effort.

There's a group of about 8 dad's in our neighbourhood who got together and decided we'd take over the operation of the rink and we've had a blast doing it. All of us love to play hockey so we all know what needs to be done to maintain a nice ice surface, and we get in our games out there as well!

We have one main rink with boards and two puddle rinks, all of which get used frequently. We usually scrape the rinks every night and try to flood four nights a week, of course weather permitting.

The community has been extremely appreciative since the start. From people walking by with their dogs to parents dropping their kids off to play, they all express thanks and most stop to chat a little. It's a very close community we live in. Hearing all the positive feedback and gratitude and seeing all the kids playing hockey out there definitely makes this all worthwhile.

There has been a lot of time and hours put into building and maintaining these three rinks. For our first year as operators we feel we've done an amazing job, timing our next move according to the weather, preparing for the thaws, freezing rain or a flash freeze. We've all worked together well coming up with ideas and suggestions on how to better prepare for the weather.

This entire operation is all for the kids and the community. So as long as it's done properly the time and effort are definitely worth it. Our contacts from the city in the seasonal recreational department have been extremely helpful and always quick to offer up help or suggestions.

The graphic below is of children learning how to skate on the rink at Uplands Park.



On behalf of River Ward Councillor Maria McRae and our colleagues on Ottawa City Council, I am delighted to extend warmest greetings to Christine Johnson, Editor, along with the volunteers of the Hunt Club Community Organization, and readers of Hunt Club: My Community on the occasion of the inaugural edition of Hunt Club's newest community newsletter.

We congratulate Christine and her team at Hunt Club: My Community, in addition to the Hunt Club Community Organization, for the publication of this community-based news source, providing information of particular interest to the residents and businesses of the Hunt Club neighbourhood. Councillor McRae and all of us on City Council are pleased to have seen the completion of the expansion of the Hunt Club/ Riverside Park Community Centre, including the first ever Seniors Centre and Canada's first Library Kiosks, as well as progress on other important community projects through our collaboration with the Hunt Club Community Organization.

It is my distinct pleasure to convey best wishes to the editorial staff and contributors of Hunt Club: My Community, as well as to the residents and businesses of Hunt Club, for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2013.

Sincerely,

Jim Watson
Mayor
City of Ottawa

Environment Matters: Spring Clean Ups Christine Johnson

Spring clean ups have been planned for a few areas in or near our Hunt Club community:

Saturday April 27th, 10:00 a.m.: Portion of Sawmill Creek just east of the old Bingo Hall, west of Bank St. on the north side of Hunt Club Road. Meet along the African Queen in the shopping plaza at the north west corner of Bank and Hunt Club intersection.

Saturday May 4th, 10:00 a.m.: Paul Landry Park on Uplands Dr.

Saturday May 11th, 10:00 a.m.: Erin Crescent and the Hydro right-of-way that runs between Hunt Club and Lilloo. Meet at the island at the north east end of the crescent.

Ottawa Stream Watch will be surveying and cleaning up Hunt Club Creek this summer, dates not yet set. Call John Sankey 613-260-0317 to take part.

Many hands make for light work, so if you are available to help out for any of these Ottawa Cleaning the Capital spring clean ups in our area, please plan to join us. High school students, this is a great way to put in your community volunteer hours! Gloves and garbage bags are provided by the City of Ottawa.

The Crows of Hunt Club

John Sankey

American Crows spend summers spread out in small family groups. Food is then spread out evenly over the landscape and defending a foraging territory is their best way to guarantee food. During the winter though, food is much scarcer and usually is found concentrated in a few places such as around fast food places and city dumps. It's best then for them to congregate in roosts of a few hundred, to look for food together.

This winter, a group chose the woods next to Uplands Park for their roost. Unlike spring, when territories are being defended and predators warned off, and fall when young birds are choosing their mates, crows are generally quiet in winter roosts. But, you could easily see them while driving or walking along Uplands Drive next to the park.

Our crows are among the world's most intelligent and social birds. Unfortunately West Nile virus, usually unnoticed by humans, is almost always fatal to crows. Their numbers locally are half what they used to be.

Our Parks

Marilyn Koch

We are fortunate to have eight parks spread throughout our Hunt Club community. These include McCarthy, Cahill, Paul Landry, Owl, Uplands, Riverwood and Uplands Riverside, plus recently added Wisteria Park.

Parks provide public open space for everyone with a variety of activity choices year round: team sports, tennis, swings, water play, ball courts, ice rinks and walking space are available for different interests, seasons and age levels.

Although not a municipal park, we also have access to McCarthy Woods which is a special extra available to our community.

Please help keep our parks clean and green by keeping them free of litter for everyone's pleasure.

Hackett Street Profile

Peter Foulger

Hackett Street is a cul-de-sac of single family homes tucked away off Gillespie Crescent at the west end of Uplands. It's named after Andrew Hackett who owned 150 acres in 1879 that included the present street location. It was originally a very sandy area when Urbandale developed it in the late 80's, just to the east of the big sand pit that is now Quinterra. Most of the north side of the street backs on to either the Hunt Club creek that rises on the Uplands base or the City owned storm water retention pond that can be seen from Riverside Drive. The pond is home to many species of wildlife so we have had ducks and even ducklings wandering along the street. The street has always been a mini United Nations with people from many countries making their homes here. Not many of the original owners are left but a new generation of kids is now growing up in this hidden oasis.

The Plante's of Plante Drive

Candy Kroeger

According to "Milk/Cream Producer-Distributors in Gloucester", an article compiled by the Gloucester Historical Society, Jean-Baptiste Plante and his wife Exilda ran the Plante Dairy which was located where Plante Dr is today. It was accessed via a long laneway that began at 2314 Bank St, just north of the present McDonald's Restaurant, and included a level crossing over the railway tracks as shown below. The business lasted from 1926 to 1967, with the help of a large extended family.

There were seven boys and two girls in the immediate family-Rémi, Dorina, Napoléon, Albert, Raoul, Emmanuel, Gérard, Germaine and Ernest. Albert, Ernest and Gérard farmed and Raoul and Emmanuel were drivers who owned their own routes, while several sons and nephews helped. The more customers on each route, the more money the drivers earned.

Milk was transported by horse, express, and sleigh until the advent of trucks in 1932. Gérard's son, Hervé (now known as Harvey), remembers going door to door, carrying baskets with milk bottles for customers. Ray Henry, shuttle driver for Hunt Club Honda, remembers helping one of the Plante sons with milk deliveries in the early 1960s

Over the years, the operation grew to include a pasteurization plant and two farms, one in Gloucester and one in South Mountain. Milk from their own farms was processed, in addition to milk from several producer-distributors. Four extensions were added to the pasteurization plant and there were numerous employees.

However, with the expansion of Ottawa and the building of the nearby Airport Parkway, access to the farm was cut off from Bank St and the Plantes sold to Campeau Corp, who was able to obtain access via McCarthy Rd for their new subdivision.

The map below shows the Plante Dairy lane and buildings overlaid on a modern map.



The Family Tree of Bayview Public School

Geoff Raymond

Our Family Tree begins in 1859 in the Township of Gloucester on the Otterson family farm with a document that was a request to the township for a reimbursement for school supplies.

Standard School number 7 was a log cabin with a pot belly stove in the middle and six rows of desks lined up in the room.

This one room school had a varying enrollment of about twenty students, varying because of the needs of rural farm life; education was a luxury of time that not all families could afford. This building stood until its collapse in 1894. S.S.#7 was rebuilt near Mooney's Bay in 1895 at what is now Revelstoke and Riverside Drive. This is where "Bayview" got its name with its lovely location right by the bay.

The clapboard building served until 1923 when the Township decided it was time to build something more permanent for the growing enrollment needs. A brick school house was built on a parcel of land donated by the Graham Family. The new one room building could now accommodate eight grades and forty students. This new building didn't have all the conveniences that we currently enjoy: the two outhouses were out in the back and the water pump was out in front. Indoor plumbing wasn't installed until 1942, an event rivaling that of Queen Elizabeth's Coronation in 1953.

Over the next few years Bayview had several additions, its last in 1963, with a gymnasium and six classrooms on a second floor, bringing it to a total of fourteen rooms.

Bayview has a rich history, being close to the Rideau River and the Canal. Envision the barges floating past on a lazy summer day, workers polling them along down the shoreline. The Billings Family and their adventures also make this area something to talk about too. Can you imagine going over the Hog's Back Falls in a canoe?

Bayview has always been a family center. Having worked there for twenty years and watching the children and their families grow, I too felt part of the family. The school is not just bricks and mortar, it was the fairs, barbeques and other events that brought us together to celebrate as a school family.

In 2007 amid much political discontent, the Riverside site closed its doors and moved to the R.Byrns Curry campus. So the R.Byrns families now have their part in our family tree too.

But Bayview still lives on in its new location. It's the memories and the families that are the true bricks and mortar of the school. They are the roots of the tree that will survive over time, regardless of what happens to the physical building.

T&T Cooking Classes
Jimmy Wen

Cooking classes for all ages, levels and interests in cooking are now available at T&T Supermarket, Ottawa store. We believe that food and cooking are wonderful ways for people to learn about a place's culture and people.

Get yourself and your friends a top quality, authentic, intimate cooking experience with lots of laughter, friendship and memories. You will have fun and come away with some incredible recipes!

Cooking classes are most Wednesdays from 12-1:30 p.m. and most Fridays from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. with one Asian dish prepared at each class. Pre-registration is required with a \$10 fee. A \$10 gift card is given on completion of a class.

Please visit our store for more information:
244 Hunt Club Rd (at Riverside Dr) 613-731-8113

Hunt Club: My Community is published by the Hunt Club Community Organization
3093 Uplands Dr., Ottawa ON K1V 9T6
613-260-0317 <http://hunt-club.ncf.ca>
Editor: Christine Johnson
Layout: John Sankey
Distribution: Issie Berish

Distribution is free to Hunt Club homes and businesses. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily of the HCCO. Press run this issue: 3000

If you have an article that you would like to submit for our next issue, please e-mail it to editor.hcmc@bell.net.

We welcome your ideas for future issues; please submit them to us or come to our monthly meetings to discuss them.

We thank our local businesses who make **Hunt Club: My Community** possible and ask that you support them.

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