



SPRING NEWSLETTER

HOUSE NEWS

Twenty years young. 2014 marks the twentieth anniversary of QUAIL House and we are going to be celebrating that occasion early in the summer. Come and join us in QUAIL's "new" backyard complete with its four-seater swing set, gazebo, outdoor games area, and landscaping – a relaxing place where QUAIL residents can enjoy the outdoors with friends and family, from spring through to the autumn. Watch for the date and time for this celebratory event on QUAIL's website and in local media. Look forward to seeing you there!

Our QUAIL folks Gerard, Charis, and Hugh will also be marking twenty years of home-life at QUAIL, having been residents from the start. Since then, they have welcomed Robert and Tara as part of the family. As well, James joins the QUAIL gang for a day every week, Corrine comes six days a month, and Jeremy visits with QUAIL for a couple of hours each weekday while waiting for his transport to and from La Lanterne in Masham. Quite a range of services are being provided to intellectually challenged individuals in our community and their families through QUAIL.

Though we were sad not to be able to have our annual Christmas party this year due to illness, there has been much to keep us busy over this long winter. Hugh flew to Vancouver to visit with his family at Christmas - on the money that he earned through his kindling sales! Gerard is still as in love with bowling as ever and enjoys his weekly bowling outings with La Lanterne. Tara is looking forward to joining La Lanterne once an opening arises. This past winter, Tara had her wisdom teeth out as well as additional dental work; all went well. Charis has kept busy with her beautiful beading and Robert has been enjoying his drives about town and listening to "tunes".

As time passes, some of our residents are experiencing challenges associated with a rapid-onset aging process. QUAIL has begun discussions with the L'Arche community on ways of living with such issues. QUAIL's Residence Committee will be meeting with Ottawa's L'Arche community in May to discuss their approach. L'Arche was founded in 1964 by Canadian humanitarian Jean Vanier to create homes and day programs with people who have intellectual disabilities, based on a community model of living rather than a medical or social service model of care.
www.larche.ca

Our QUAIL staff are so important in ensuring that QUAIL remains a happy and secure place for our residents. Hats off to Joanna, Frank, and Pat as well as Kayla, Courtney, Sarah, and Vanessa. QUAIL is also looking forward to a student joining us for the summer.

QUAIL's Volunteers are such an important part of QUAIL life. Many thanks to all who have contributed – for example, Denis Delorme who teams up with Hugh on a weekly basis; and, Colleen Gifford who is undertaking a Life Stories project, working with each of the residents to compile photos, letters, and other mementos into a book that will document and celebrate each of their lives, and will be so wonderful to share with family and friends.

A Place for Students to Train. QUAIL has become a popular place for students from the Personal Service Worker Program at the Western Quebec Career Center and Algonquin College to do their internships. Over the past year we have welcomed 6 of these students and are about to receive two more in a couple of weeks. Their presence in the house allows for a broader range of activities to take place.

BOARD NEWS

QUAIL's Board is looking forward to seeing you at the **Annual General Meeting to be held at Chelsea School on June 19th, 2014 at 7PM.** All friends of QUAIL are welcome.

FUNDRAISING

Gill Heginbottom and her hardworking Fundraising Team continue to organize fantastic events that help bring QUAIL to the community at the same time as raising much-needed funding.

The Audrey Jessup Memorial Dinner was its usual gastronomic success and netted \$2114. Claus Jobses succeeded in emptying our pockets of all of our toonies in an animated Chinese auction of a beautiful sculpture by Raymond Warren

December's Christmas Bazaar was once again an enormous success raising \$3200, including the fabulous raffle prizes. QUAILING at the Legion was another success, raising \$700.

In March, a lot of noodles were consumed at the Spaghetti dinner, kindly hosted by La Vallee restaurant – in fact, enough to raise \$1893. Nadine Jobses provided the delicious cupcakes.

The Big Soul Project Concert, the first in a lineup of activities to mark QUAIL'S 20TH Anniversary year was a huge success and jolly good fun!

Once again, a big thanks to the Fundraising Committee and those in the community who support our fundraising efforts, including hosting QUAIL events and contributing raffle prizes.

Here's a bit of exciting news. The Civitan Club from Aylmer has selected QUAIL to be among the community organizations it supports through its fundraising activities. In early June they will be holding a road block at 4 intersections in Gatineau and asked us if we could supply a few volunteers to assist them. So, yes, we are stepping out of our comfort zone and into the traffic to join them! We are excited about the new partnership over the long term.

"MARK YOUR CALENDARS"

June 14: QUAIL garage sale at the Chicoinc's parking area, Wakefield. We welcome your contributions to the sale and your purchases on the day!

July 6: Best strawberry shortcake in town served at the QUAIL Strawberry Social from 12 noon to 3 pm.
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Chelsea.

August 2: Get out your bibs (and your appetites) for the QUAIL barbecue, held at the Charles IGA in Farm Point.

August 8: A good day to swing the clubs and have dinner at the QUAIL Golf Tournament at Mont Cascades.

November 4: Annual Audrey Jessop memorial dinner will be held at L'Orée du Bois, Chelsea.

November 1-2: Vorlage Craft Fair in Wakefield.

December 6: Christmas Bazaar at Chelsea School

QUAIL Raffle: Tickets on sale for fabulous prizes from September to December.

Final Note: QUAIL's newsletter is available by mail or email. With rising postage rates, we would be happy to include you in our email distribution (contact Barb at bhumick@hotmail.com)