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Volume I Issue III

News and Muse

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Message from the President



With this issue of *ACRA News and Muse*, we conclude the inaugural year of our refurbished newsletter. I hope you've enjoyed the new format and content. Again, I would like to remind everyone that all constructive criticism is welcome. Help us be better at providing you with news and some levity. Forward to our Editor items/articles/photos/information that you would want included in the newsletter. The next issue will be published in October.

As usual, in the fall we'll be undertaking the registration process for membership in ACRA. Each year, we receive comments from several members who inform us that they won't be renewing their membership because they can't attend the luncheons and other events. It would be a great disservice to this wonderful association if we believe that that's all we're about. Yes, it's a social group that enjoys coming together as much as possible. BUT, **there is much more to ACRA** that we don't normally report such as reaching out to members in mourning or in great difficulty. Charitable donations are a meaning-

ful part of our association – donations made not only from fundraising events such as the Golf Tournament, Christmas Luncheon, etc. but donations that come directly from your membership fee of \$60. On page 6 you'll find a list of donations made from this year's membership fees as well as significant donations made in the past several years. The list doesn't include additional expenses assumed by ACRA to facilitate further donations, such as paying the entire cost of ACRA's Christmas Luncheon to encourage members to donate more generously to St. Gabriel's Food Bank; providing food for the volunteers working at St. Gabe's when preparing Christmas baskets, etc. I hope this provides you with some insight into the question – where do my membership fees go?

We had a very, very wet spring. I hope we'll be rewarded with a warm and sunny summer. I wish safety to all who might be travelling, great times with family and friends and, above all, health to every single one of you. See you at the golf tournament or in the autumn.

Be well,
Maria

Character is how you treat those who can do nothing for you.

ACRA McCord Museum Visit

On a rain-free May 4th day, 58 ACRA members and friends enjoyed a memorable visit to the McCord Museum, including guided tours of all exhibits.

Aislin (Terry Mosher) provided an entertaining, informative, and behind the cartoons perspective of his wonderful collection of "50 years of Cartooning"; the current main attraction of the museum. Along with his personal guided tour of the exhibit, Aislin warmly chatted with members and friends, posed for photos, and graciously autographed copies of his book. He provided those present with some unpublished stories behind some of his most famous cartoons. He thanked us for being a great audience and laughing at the appropriate times during his stories.

Following our tour, Aislin, along with 44 members and friends, had a most savoury lunch in the museum Bistro. Everyone enjoyed the fine food and ambiance. It was a most successful ACRA Spring outing!



ACRA Annual Dinner

On a warm summer-like June 8th evening, over 100 ACRA members and friends wined and dined in style at Buffet Roma in Montreal's east end.



After hors d'œuvres and cocktails, our President, Maria Di Perna, welcomed everyone and invited Andy Nardoza to lead us in the traditional singing of *O Canada*. Wayne Arnold said grace and expressed our gratitude for the many blessings ACRA members enjoy and asked us to continue our spirit of giving.

Our gathering served to honour one of the founders of ACRA and a man who continues to exemplify the spirit of giving and doing for others, Joe Jaroslowski. Peter Yaworski thanked all those who helped provide photos depicting memorable moments in Joe's personal and professional life; they are Helen Jaroslowski, Ed Gargul and Wayne Arnold. The photos were used to create a photo album that was used by members in attendance to provide their own personal comments to Joe. In addition, a special photo portrait of Joe was beautifully crafted by Wayne Arnold.

Peter then asked Len Tynan to begin the toasting and roasting of our beloved Joey! Len and Waguih Tabet had everyone laughing, including Joe, with their wit and sharp barbs about our man of the evening. George Pajuk followed the roasting with some very appreciative recollections of special moments in Joe's life as an educator, family man, and community organizer and supporter. The "celebration of Joe" was capped off with a presentation by our President of an original painting generously created and donated by our in-house artist, Phil Amabili.

It was another memorable ACRA event, possibly the best in a very long time!





The Snowbirds are back!



Just in time for.....

19th Annual ACRA Golf Tournament

Wednesday, July 5, 2017

Club de Golf Belle Vue - Châteauguay

Arrival - 11:30am Shotgun Start 12:30pm
Best Ball Format

Registration Fee
Early Bird Special: \$110 (Register & pay by June 1)
Regular Price: \$125 (After June 1)

Co-Chairs:
K E V I N M A R C I N I A K
P E T E R M A Y A W O R S K I

Complete details: www.acra.ca.org

All proceeds to St. Gabriel's Food Bank serving the entire Point St. Charles area

ACRA's Charitable Donations

2016-2017 budget

\$100	St. Jean Brebouf Parish
\$250	St. Raymond Parish
\$1000	Camp Caritas/Holy Family Parish
\$1000	Holy Cross Parish
\$1000	Dans la Rue

2015-16 budget

\$1000	St. Brendan's Food Bank
\$1000	Share the Warmth

2014-15 budget

\$1000	Literacy Unlimited
\$1000	Generations Foundation

2013-14 budget

\$1000	Camp Caritas
\$1000	Camp Plein a Plain Coeur

2013-14 budget

\$1000	Lac Megantic Recovery
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Don't complicate life

Missing somebody?	CALL
Wanna meet up?	INVITE
Wanna be understood?	EXPLAIN
Have questions?	ASK
Don't like something?	SAY IT
Like something?	STATE IT
Want something?	ASK FOR IT
Love someone?	TELL THEM

Keep your life SIMPLE.

Save the date!

ACRA AGM

Thursday, September 21, 2017

Time and location to be determined

All documentation and information will be sent to members late August or early September.

