

***Social Director's Year-end Report
October 26, 2016***

ONEC Social Committee

I'd like to thank Susan Smith (Rowing) and Katrin Nagelsmithz (Sailing) for their help and advice this past year on the ONEC social committee. There was no tennis representative but I hope this can be remedied in 2017.

Social Events, between seasons

A number of events were organized for members who enjoy getting together after Club facilities close. Sailing also organizes monthly gatherings between seasons.

- December 15, Meet-the-Board Holiday gathering at New Edinburgh Pub.
- January 20, Billiards at MacLaren's pub and restaurant on Elgin Street.
- February 16, Rideau Hall Skating Party. This is an annual event that is popular with Club members. Unfortunately, Ottawa had a record snowfall on February 16 and most people were unable to make their way to Rideau Hall.
- March 18, "Sugar Shack" dinner at Vanier Museopark. This was a new event and the 20 or so people attending enjoyed this urban sugar bush experience.

In the spring, each sport organizes its own opening event: Sailing had a dinner on April 23, Rowing had a Welcome evening on May 15, Tennis had a kick-off event at the Pavilion.

Doors Open Ottawa and ONEC Open House, June 4 and 5

217 members of the public visited the Boathouse over two days. If there hadn't been a torrential downpour on Sunday, numbers would have been higher. Betty Ward, Pauline Tiragoui and helpers set up and presented a wonderful historical display in the ballroom and lounge. Additional volunteers greeted and interacted with visitors, staffed sports displays in the ballroom, answered questions about the Club and gave boathouse tours. Club members responded well to a call for volunteers--a total of 22 participated. A wine and cheese event was held at the closing of Doors Open in the Boathouse.

Pub / BBQ nights at Boathouse

These were held Thursday nights from June 9 to Sept. 15. With 2 staff on duty, BBQ and bar service worked smoothly. Tuesday pubs were added from July 5 to August 23, but were less popular than the Thursday evenings. Live music was provided by a classical trio (Marko Y. and friends) at one of the pub evenings, and was highly appreciated.

Hot Air Balloon Festival, Sept. 1 - 5

There was good weather during the Festival, and over 100 people enjoyed it from the balcony of the Boathouse over the 5 days. Staff worked the bar and BBQ on Thursday and Saturday. Swing dancing was featured Saturday night, but there was limited member participation. Volunteers did bar service on Friday, Sunday and Monday, and members brought their own food. A couple of groups took advantage of the facilities and warm weather to organize potluck picnics and BBQs.

Banquet (Sept. 23)

The lack of interest in an end of season club banquet led to its cancellation in 2016. Drumming up enthusiasm has also been a problem in past years, as members seem to prefer a dinner and awards ceremony for their own sport: Tennis held a potluck at the Boathouse on Sept. 23; Sailing had its banquet and awards at a restaurant on October 15; Rowing schedules an event at a bar/restaurant in November.