

President Warren Gregg opened this meeting at 9:50 am as his first membership meeting as President. There were 54 members in attendance and no new guests.

President Gregg began by paying credit to the past members who have served the Club so well as president as well as so many members who have served well in other capacities. Warren said that these member's leadership have both provided inspiration as well as intimidation as hard acts to follow.

Warren then welcomed Kayla Johnson from the Donkey Sanctuary.

Announcements – Frank Webster, Chair of the Activities Committee

- Frank Webster asked for a show of hands of members who liked the caterer who provided the meal at the previous meeting and AGM. (The feed-back was very positive.);
- He indicated that there were 22 participants who attended the tour of the Sikh Temple on June 11th;
- The Drayton performance of *'Priscilla, Queen of the Desert'* on Sat., August 3rd: see Warren for tickets;
- The sign-up sheets are out for members to sign-up for the tour of the Steam Heritage Museum on Tues., August 6th;
- A tour of the HMCS Haida in the Hamilton Harbour near the end of August;
- There's a sign-up sheet for an Evening-at-the-Races at Elora on Fri., September 13th at a charge of \$35 per person;
- The Christmas Luncheon is scheduled for Thurs. December 12th.

Doug Davidson introduced Kayla Johnson,

Bio

Kayla Johnson:

- Studied biomedical & animal sciences at The University of Guelph;
- A lifetime in the animal care industry;
- Joined The Donkey Sanctuary of Canada (DSC) almost 8 years ago...
- She is an Animal Care Coordinator, Trainer, and Public educator.

The Donkey Sanctuary of Canada was founded in August 1992 by Sandra Pady in Puslinch, Ontario with the vision of creating a sanctuary where donkeys, mules and hinnies could live free from neglect and abuse.

Making international connections:

Though initially, Sandra had not considered the possibility of their farm becoming a sanctuary. It was only after friends mentioned there were several donkey sanctuaries in England that she started to research them and to write letters requesting information.

Dr. Elizabeth Svendsen, founder of The Donkey Sanctuary in Great Britain - the world's largest donkey sanctuary - replied immediately to Sandra's queries, encouraging her to start a sanctuary in Canada. In addition, Dr. Svendsen provided helpful advice about organization and fundraising.

Presentation

The Donkey Sanctuary of Canada rescues and rehabilitates donkeys, mules and hinnies who have been neglected, abused or otherwise need Sanctuary. We also provide resources and education to the public and the equine world about the unique traits and needs of donkeys and donkey-hybrids.

(See Kayla Johnson's slide presentation on the RCMC website under "Speaker's Notes")

Membership Meeting
With Kayla Johnson – Donkey Sanctuary

June 20, 2024

Upon conclusion of Kayla Johnson's presentation, she was given a token of appreciation on behalf of the Club by Warren Gregg.

Next Meeting: July 4, 2024 – Speaker TBD

Adjournment @ 10.57 am

Recording Secretary: Kerry Gennings