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HIGHLIGHTS

Opening of Amberwood Gallery – Sunday, October 3rd

We are very happy to announce that after a prolonged period of shutdown, the Amberwood Gallery will be reopening on Sunday, October 3, 2021, featuring the work of local painter Charles Spratt. You can preview Charlie's work on [his website](#). The exhibition continues every Thursday and Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. until November 11, 2021 (closed on Thanksgiving Monday, October 10), and Charlie will be on-site for an in-gallery chat on October 14th.

We hope to see you there and we thank Charlie in advance for his generosity. Twenty-five percent (25%) of all proceeds will be donated to the AVRA Building Fund.



AVRA Special meeting

A special 'virtual' meeting will be held on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. to vote on the annual dues. The annual dues must be approved by majority vote of the AVRA membership so please mark your calendars and [register now](#). A formal invitation is forthcoming.

AVRA Garden Club

The Garden Club held an end of season gathering to share in their good harvest, and to enjoy the company of all AVRA gardeners. A special thank you to our Co-Presidents Bert Donnelly and Tom Clifford, and to Steve Adams, our Treasurer, for organizing this gathering, and for leading the gardens this season.



"Showcase" Pickleball match

Want to see some great pickleballers in action? Come to Amberwood Golf & Country Club on October 5th from 5:00-to-9:00 p.m. to see some of Ottawa's top players showcase a match. See for yourself why pickleball is the fastest growing sport in North America and what it takes to get you to the next level.

ALE NEWS

Submitted by Ben O'Neil, GM ALE

ALE is getting into the spirit of the season this fall with many return seasonal favourites!

ALE is offering its annual [Thanksgiving Takehome Dinner](#), available by pre-order only (by October 7th), with curbside pickup from 10-4pm on Thanksgiving Sunday (October 10th). Chilled and packaged with re-heating instructions, this year's three course meal choices have all the traditional Thanksgiving fixings that makes the holiday so special, priced at \$49.99 + HST per person.

On Sunday, October 17th, ALE will also be offering its annual [Harvest High Tea](#) service, available for both dine-in (\$45+HST) and take-out (\$40 +HST). Reservations or a take-out pre-order are required.

Orders for both Thanksgiving dinner and harvest high tea are being accepted online at aleottawa.ca/order or by emailing ben@aleottawa.ca.

Lastly, ALE will soon be releasing a information about its annual Halloween Party, featuring the talented Tyler Keeley! Rumour has it that there will be a costume contest and several other fun and spooky surprises! Stay tuned for more information.

A special reminder as we welcome the cooler weather that ALE is open **year-round** for indoor dining. After the challenges faced this past year, ALE is eager and hopeful to see familiar faces all winter long! Other community events and special public event nights will take place every month! ALE is actively encouraging the broader community to come visit the facilities all winter long through several dining incentives, handed out at the restaurant during every visit.

Effective November 1st ALE's Winter hours will be:

- Monday-Tuesday: CLOSED
- Wednesday-Saturday: 4-9pm
- Sunday: 10am-8pm (Breakfast served!)

*ALE is always open for large reservations (lunch & dinner!) Email ben@aleottawa.ca for more information.

BOARD NEWS

Submitted by Christine Adam-Carr, AVRA Board Secretary

Fall/Winter Activities

The first session of Indoor activities is expected to be starting Nov 8th and will run until December 31st, free of charge to all AVRA and golf members (there may be nominal supply fees). The anticipated activities will include: Billiards, cards (bridge, cribbage, euchre), knitting; and a writing group. Volunteer Activity leads are currently being recruited, and once they are in place registration for the activities will start. Questions about the indoor activities should be directed to: avra.indoor.coordinator@gmail.com.

PROJECTS

Submitted by Christine Adam-Carr, AVRA Board Secretary

Surplus Furniture

Nearly all of the surplus furniture has now been sold or given away to various recipients, including the Habitat for Humanity ReStore. The resulting \$1,300+ will be put towards new furniture for the activity rooms.

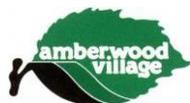
At this time, the only item left to be sold is an electric piano. The piano was purchased by a former restaurant tenant, and does not work when plugged in. It is an Adagio GDP-8800 baby grand style piano, likely purchased from Costco 10 years ago. Please contact avra.board.secretary@gmail.com if you are interested in the piano.

CLUB NEWS

Submitted by Katharine Vollet-Usher, AVGCC General Manager

It is hard to believe that October is just around the corner. What a year at the Club with the new irrigation installation, pool and pickleball refurbishment and Covid challenges. A huge shout out to all that helped us raise \$2,000 for our putting contest. Congratulations to Percy Fisher who won the green fee package for use in 2022. We are planning to keep the golf course open until the weather prevents us from doing so. Despite the late start for the pool, it was a tremendous success with many enjoying our New Amberwood Resort.

We are busy getting ready for next season and are planning for a busy year with events and activities for all. 2022 will be a busy year and our membership options are available if you want to [join now for next season](#). When you sign up now, your name will be entered into a draw for a basket of goodies (for pool or racquet members) or for 10 ½ hour blocks of mat time at Ben Franklin Park Indoor Driving Range at the Superdome.



CAPTAIN'S UPDATE

Submitted by John Thomsen, pickleball captain

Greetings from the Amberwood Pickleball team. Our facility continues to be very active with over 40 players out the last few drop-in sessions. Fall seems to be a very popular time to play, and our plan is to play until the snow flies and our courts remain safe. Our membership rates for 2022 are now posted on the club website with information about draws for early registration.

Many thanks to John Badger for organizing all those beginners and advanced instructional sessions; he promises to schedule more next spring to get everyone ready for an exciting 2022 season.

Plans for next season also include ladder and organized league play as well as more drop-in times, including the possibility of two morning times during the hotter summer months. We are also considering hosting some exhibition tournaments to bring more awareness to our courts, and to showcase some great pickleball from Ontario's best players. More to follow on that.

Some safety tips: If playing on a middle court please wait until a stoppage in play on the side court you'll be walking behind as you leave your court—the same request applies if you need to enter the middle courts when they become available. Please respect other games that are in play. Continue to stop when you hear "BALL," and do not enter another court to retrieve your ball--just wait for a fellow member to get it back to you. Please continue to use the blue bins to determine next up. As you face the bins the left one is the next group to go. Please be alert as games end and players call out open courts. Play Safe—Stay Safe!

That's it for now. Bundle up and we'll see you on the courts the next couple of months.

Golf—Women's League

Submitted by Suzanne Hiron

The Ladies' League at Amberwood closed its second COVID-restricted season with a lovely indoor lunch served at ALE. The event began with a nine-hole shotgun start where golfers took to the course in the spirit of limiting the number of their putts. It was a fun way to have golfers of all skill levels take part in the game.

The scenic room was well decorated for this first social gathering in two years: Table settings and prizes were prepared by Jan Lockett and Joanne Milligan, who spared no effort to make everyone feel valued and welcomed. The League thanked two members of the executive for their long-standing service as they step down from their roles: Jo-Anne Doherty as Treasurer and Jan Lockett as Coordinator.

Next year's executive has yet to be determined. The League has asked members to step up if they are interested in filling the role of next captain. Other changes for next year may include a reduced committee and a different type of play (nine holes vs, nine or 18 holes, shotgun vs. tee times, etc.). All these decisions will be communicated as soon as they are confirmed.

It has been a wonderful 2021 season and we all look forward to a less restrictive one for 2022.

Golf - Men's League

Submitted by Tom Woodward

This season has been an unprecedented time for Amberwood because of COVID. Two years ago, the course needed a new irrigation system, the pool needed a makeover, the courts needed to be redone to bring us into the era of pickleball. Look at us now. Lush fairways jam-packed with golfers, a resort-like pool, refinished courts. And how did this happen? Yes, of course, the selling of the five Trailway lots gave us the financial resources we needed. More importantly though—people made it happen. People in our league helped make it happen.



Steve Lockett and Ralph Milligan are current board members who have worked tirelessly for more than two years and who continue to work hard with the AVRA board and volunteers because the job is far from over. But they couldn't have done it without a strong foundation built by league members who, year after year, decade after decade, come back and support this Club.

Newer members might not realize that the happy-go-lucky golfers they play with helped build this foundation. I'd like to acknowledge some of them:

Gerry Robillard has been a member since the mid 90s. Gerry played on the Intersectional team back then; he was a Board director 2000 and 2001.

Jim and Doreen Sauvé have not only been members for the last 20 years, they also became Men's and Ladies Captains. They are still with this club.

Dick Hobbs was 2004 Club Champion, Director of Golf 2005 to 2009, and for years helped his wife Katie organize Amberwood's annual Canada Day tournaments.

Peter Armstrong, another former board member, has been playing golf since forever—you know, his fellow Scotsman invented the game of golf in the 15th century? And who do you think was there when it all started? :))

Guy Fortier and Bob Goudie were both captains and they continue to support Amberwood. Bob is on this year's executive as Treasurer.

Brad Hiron served as Amberwood's handicap captain, and Dave Short marshalled the marshalls.

And of course we can't forget a past president of the board, the person who got pickleball rolling at Amberwood, match play co-ordinator, intersectionals co-ordinator, league captain many times over, and this year's co-captain—the person we refer to as "The Quiet One"—*Yvon Tarte*.

On September 30th, we held our men's league closing tournament and enjoyed dinner together at ALE. We ended the meal with a toast to long-time member *Yaichiro Goto*, who left us on July 9th of this year, with these words from fellow member Jim Fennell: "I always called him Goto. He always replied with a great smile. I will truly miss him and his gentle nature. He was one of the good ones. God bless you Goto my friend."

AVRA MEMBERS' CORNER

September 13 and 14 Focus Groups

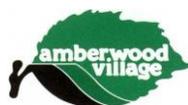
Twenty AVRA members gathered recently to join in for one of two focus group sessions to discuss possible annual dues packages. The participants represented a variety of age groups and homeowners from both the condos and the trails. All had enjoyed one or more of the activities available at Amberwood. The annual dues packages, as presented, were bundled with a variety of privileges. Each Focus Group participant shared their responses to several questions, and we are now confident that we have landed on an annual dues plan that will garner the support of our members.

Special Meeting - November 18

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Welcome new members

Membership to AVRA is temporarily suspended and will resume after the special meeting on November 18th.



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

If you have a specific topic you would like covered, please send us an email at info@amberwoodvillage.ca and we will include it in the next issue of *Amberwood Insider*.

Subscribe to our newsletter!

Click [here](#) to sign up for our monthly newsletter. You do not have to be an AVRA member or a resident of Amberwood Village to subscribe.

Stay up to date with us on [Facebook!](#)

