



For Immediate Release
November 16, 2020

Buckhorn Community Centre Honours Six Volunteers with Founder's Cup Lifetime Achievement Awards

Buckhorn, ON. – Every year the Buckhorn Community Centre (BCC) pays tribute to a volunteer who has made a special contribution by presenting them the Founder's Cup. In 2020, the BCC decided to honour not just one but 6 people who have given countless hours of volunteer time and shared their many talents over many years. "2020 was such an unusual year and many of us had opportunities to reflect on people we're grateful to. We thought it was a perfect time to thank three couples who have given the BCC so much, and helped make it the special place it is today." says Judy McWhirter, General Manager.

Since it was not possible to safely have a large, indoor celebration, the BCC conducted 3 porch ceremonies at each couple's home. They were presented with a certificate for lifetime contributions and a handmade door wreath. Their names will be added to the Founder's Cup which is proudly displayed in a cabinet inside the main door of the BCC.

"The vision these folks had for a community centre with recreational and sports programs, as well as cultural and social events continues to inspire the BCC today," says Bill Kent, President of the Board of Directors. "All three couples made significant contributions to the BCC and we are very grateful for their incredible long-term support. We sincerely thank each one of them for putting their stamp on our community centre."

2020 Founder's Cup Recipients

It is challenging to sum up all the contributions the Bannons, Logans and Dumas' have made over the years, but here is a snapshot of their support which also helps tell the history of the BCC.

John & Irene Bannon

John and Irene were part of the group of residents who decided that Buckhorn needed a new community centre. In 1976, they sold the land on which the BCC was built for \$1,000. Together with other founding members, they put their home up as collateral to fund the mortgage for the original building. Irene and John gave many hours of their time volunteering at various events, including: Bingo, dances, Board of Directors and organizing and working at the Buckhorn Festival of the Arts. You may have seen them sitting in the little tent at the east end of the building at our last Art Festival. Everyone who enjoys programs and events at the BCC can thank the Bannons and other founding members for taking a chance and making a long-term investment in our community.

Don and Shirley Logan

Don and Shirley volunteered at many events at the BCC over the years. Shirley initiated Fiesta Buckhorn and was Co-Director of the Show. This event featuring wine, beer and food, was one of the most successful one-day shows in the Kawarthas. Over 2,000 people attended each year. Don is a gifted woodworker who handcrafted the showcase in the front lobby of the BCC and built a beautiful cedar strip canoe with volunteer Rob Gordon, which was raffled off as a fundraiser. When someone mentioned an idea for an item that would be useful, Don made it appear. Don and Shirley started the Bridge Club which grew and gained many new members who are now really missing not being able to play.

Michael and Ellen Dumas

Michael, a renowned wildlife artist, worked with Edwin Matthews to lay the groundwork for the Buckhorn Wildlife Art Festival that first opened in 1978, now called the Buckhorn Festival of the Arts. In 1982 Michael donated 400 limited edition prints of a pheasant. These prints were sold as a fundraiser to purchase building materials to build pavillions in the backyard of the BCC for vendors to display. One of these prints now hangs in the BCC's board room. Michael is still an active volunteer with the Festival of the Arts. Ellen has worked hard over the years to encourage local schools and students to display their artwork at the Buckhorn Festival of the Arts as well as teaching summer art camps for the youth at the BCC. She also contributes to events with children's activities and has come up with some of the most amazing crafts for children to make and take home.

-30-

Photos of Porch Ceremonies Attached

Media Contact:

Judy McWhirter
General Manager, Buckhorn Community Centre
www.buckhorncommunitycentre.com

buckhorncc40@gmail.com
705-657-8833