



Newsletter

villa colombo

Ladies' Auxiliary

FALL 2011



Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendars

Family Mass & Brunch
Sun. Oct. 30, 2011

Rummage Sale
Wed. Nov. 9, 2011

General Meeting
Wed. Nov. 16, 2011

Annual Christmas Dinner
Thurs. Dec. 1, 2011



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www.villacharities.com
(click VCLA)

From the President

Dear Friends & Members,

A new season and a new journey have arrived at the VCLA. Since the last issue in the spring the VCLA board was successful in meeting their fundraising target and very proud to announce that we have completed our three-year project for the new electric beds. The June golf tournament held at the Carrying Place in Kettleby Ontario on May 25, 2011 accomplished this. The generous sponsorships and donations raised a total of \$53,000 net funds that largely contributed to the completion of this project. Please take a closer look through the subsequent pages of sponsors, guests and their memorable pictures. Personally, I am honoured to be a part of an endeavor that is so important to our residents. This is a story of shared determination by so many who care passionately about family and friends in this community. I encourage you all to be a part of this great board and have an opportunity to be involved in this rewarding experience.

As we move forward to our new fundraising project, we invite you to continue to support us and ask you to put your hearts towards this new initiative. We are currently in communication with the administration and the board of governors to explore the immediate and long-term needs of the residents of Villa Colombo. There are several areas of need and our board's prime focus is to ensure the safety and comfort of our residents and to choose a priority project that will benefit and enhance the well-being of the seniors.

In the meantime, momentum is strong and our upcoming events are gaining lots of interest. I ask that you consider being our partners in success. Attending our upcoming events is a great way to participate towards our mission: October 30, 2011 - Mass & Family Brunch; November 9, 2011 - Rummage Sale. Also, join us at our next General Meeting on November 16, 2011 and our Christmas Dinner Dance on December 1, 2011. Please be a part of this dynamic, fun and worthy organization and I promise that you will be rewarded by the goodness you do.

Thanking you in advance for making a meaningful difference.
Grazie & Happy Fall,

Frances Gratta



Board of Directors

Executive

President

Frances Gratta

First Vice-president

Luisa Dobilas

Second Vice-president

Marisa Celenza

Treasurer

Rita Rotundo

General Secretary

Rose Greco

Membership Secretary

Connie Vella-MacKay

Directors

Mara Busca

Josie Cuda

Olivia De Miglio

Jan Grossi

Maria LaMarca

Ornella Malatesta

Denise Padovani

Carmela Rotolo

Maria Jose Silva

Mary Venditti

Lucy Zampiero

Melina Zeppieri

Past President

Gabriella Tino

Honourary Board Member

Toni Ciccarelli

Honourary Chairs

Mary Bartolini +

Colly Cavalluzzo +

Barbara Colangelo

Alfreda Rivero

Roseann Fioze

Sonia Riccuitelli

Tea Calamia

Camille Mainelli



*Newsletter Editor & Layout
Design by Marisa Celenza*

Rummage Sale



Gift Shop

Located at the Main Entrance near the Reception Booth
40 Playfair Avenue



Wednesday, November 9, 2011

40 Playfair

Fountain Area

9:30 am – 3:30 pm

The next Rummage Sale will take place on Wednesday, November 9, 2011 in the fountain area of the Villa. Drop in to see what treasures you can find for yourself or as a gift for a friend or family member.

If you are not able to attend, there is still a way that you can participate in the Rummage Sale. We are looking for items to sell. Have you been putting off cleaning out that catch-all closet? Do you keep putting off giving away that duplicate gift? Are your cupboards full of unused items that you plan to use one day? Now is the time to create space in your home and contribute to a good cause. We are looking for new or "almost new" household items. Donations can be dropped off at the VCLA office or at the Villa gift shop.

Remember one person's junk is another person's treasure!



Spring Rummage Sale





VCLA 22nd Annual Golf Tournament



Our major fundraiser, the 22nd annual golf tournament on May 25th, 2011 was held at the Carrying Place Golf and Country Club in Kettleby, Ontario. The 150 participants enjoyed a beautiful and challenging golf course, ideal weather and a delectable meal. Luisa Dobilas, chair of the Golf committee and 1st vice-president, commented on the exceptional service of the Carrying Place team, "Their graciousness and professionalism in hosting the tournament was outstanding." She also publicly expressed her thanks to the VCLA golf committee as their hard work, was the foundation of the events success. The co-chair of

the golf committee and 2nd vice-president, Marisa Celenza, was also thankful to the talented and creative committee that once again demonstrated the dedication towards the seniors of Villa Colombo. Thank you to Joyce Frustaglio, our honorary chair for her support and participation and to the golf committee: Frances Gratta, president; Rita Rotundo, treasurer; Gabe Tino, past-president; Josie Cuda; Olivia DeMiglio; Jan Grossi; Maria LaMarca; Ornella Malatesta; Denise Padovani; Maria Silva; Connie Vella-MacKay; Mary Venditti; Lucy Zampiero; Melina Zeppieri; and Connie Crocco, office secretary, who definitely made the VCLA annual golf tournament a resounding success! Special thanks to the Interim Executive Director of Villa Colombo Wieslawa Stepkowska, who was very eloquent as the master of ceremonies and instrumental in her efforts to obtain some sizeable sponsorships. Congratulations to everyone that contributed towards this worthy cause!

Special thanks to our Platinum Plus sponsor Scotiabank, represented by Sante Tesolin, senior manager Multicultural Banking for their continued support over the past 12 years. We are equally grateful to our Platinum sponsors Arvan Rehab Group Inc. and Medisystem Pharmacy; our Gold sponsors FutureMed Healthcare Products and Shoppers Home Healthcare; our Bed sponsors starting with the VCLA's strongest supporter the Fusco Family of Commercial Bakeries Corporation, FutureMed Healthcare Products, Mary Montanari and Williams & Partners Chartered Accountants. Other corporations that were very generous as our reception sponsors include Basil Developments, Independent Build & Design, Maystar General Contractors and SYSCO Food Services of Toronto. Thank you to Active Green + Ross, Award Ribbons & Rosettes and Gatto Flowers that contribute annually to the success of our tournament. Thank you to PEEL FIAT for donating the weekend rental of a Fiat 500.

We thank all our golfers, participants, donors and sponsors including those who preferred to remain anonymous. Your generous support helped us raise **\$53,000.00**. Mille grazie a tutti. The success of the golf tournament coupled with the other successful events this year enabled us to achieve our board's mandate to complete the purchase of the remaining 67 new electric beds. To officially finalize the completion of our mandate, a cheque for \$100,000.00 was presented to the Villa Colombo board at our general meeting on June 22, 2011.

On behalf of all of us at the VCLA, we wholeheartedly thank all our members, friends, families and patrons for generously supporting our fundraising efforts this year. Your help is invaluable to ensure and carry on meeting the needs and improve the everyday life of our beloved residents of Villa Colombo, Playfair in Toronto.



VCLA Annual Golf Tournament 2011





Reserve the Date

Next year's golf tournament will be held on
Wednesday, May 30, 2012

at
Carrying Place Golf & Country Club

Invite your friends and plan to attend our major fund-raiser.



From Wieslawa Stepkowska Interim Executive Director



Dear Friends of the Villa:

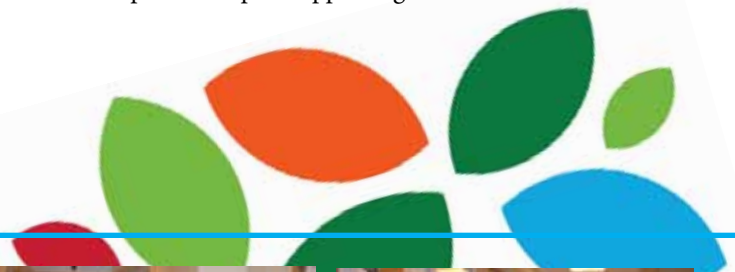
As you may be aware I had the pleasure of being welcomed back to Villa Colombo to serve in the capacity of Interim Executive Director after taking an early retirement to take care of my mother. It is both an honour and privilege to be back to serve our residents, staff and volunteers.

The VCLA continues to be our pillar of strength in fundraising and service to our residents and for this, we are most grateful. The environment in which we currently find ourselves is most challenging and the VCLA has been a great support, partnering us along the way, assisting in alleviating some of the anxieties and enabling us to provide quality care that befits our residents. Most recently with the help of the VCLA, we have procured much needed electric beds and specialty mattresses replacing all manual beds and improving both resident and staff safety.

I am pleased to share with you that the Accreditation 2011 Survey, which took place October 3 to 5, 2011 left us with a satisfactory preliminary verbal report by the lead surveyor. One of the things that came out of this survey is the great spirit of volunteerism evident here at the Villa and we were commended for this. We are awaiting a Forecast Report.

I take this time to thank you for your time and efforts, and ask for your continued partnership in supporting our residents' needs. The Villa needs you!

Regards,



VCLA Board Completes a 3-Year Project



Under the leadership of Gabriella Tino, past-president, the VCLA board took on the project of buying new electric beds for residents in the Fusco Wing of the Villa. The project continued with our current president, Frances Gratta. We are very pleased to report that half way through the current board's term, we have completed the project. The VCLA presented a total of \$225,000 to the Villa board. Each resident in the Fusco wing now has a new electric bed. These beds have provided more comfort and safety for both the residents and their caregivers. Thank you for all your support of our fundraising efforts and we look forward to your on-going support of our new project.



Villa Colombo Ladies' Auxiliary
 Cordially invites you to join us in prayer by participating in
 our **Sunday Mass & Family Brunch**
 "In Thanksgiving of Family & Friends"
 Celebrated by Father Celestino

Sunday Mass & Family Brunch
 Sunday October 30, 2011
 At 11:30 AM
 Sala Caboto
 40 Playfair Avenue

\$35.00 members
 \$40.00 non-members

Reserve your table today for your family & friends
 VCLA Office 416-789-2113 ext. 2260

Our Faith in God will be strengthened with your presence.




Gift Shop
 Located at the Main Entrance near the Reception Booth
 40 Playfair Avenue

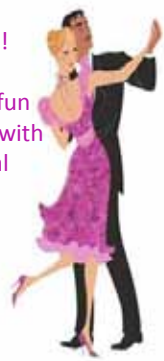


Fall Rummage
SALE

Wednesday, November 9, 2011
40 Playfair
Fountain Area
9:30 am – 3:30 pm



Let's Dance!
 Join us for a fun
 filled evening with
 professional
 dancers!



General Meeting
Wednesday, November 16, 2011
7:00 p.m.
Sala Caboto

Light refreshments will be served

Please confirm your attendance by
 Thursday, November 10, 2011
 VCLA Office 416-781-2113 Ext 2260

Admission: Members Free Non-Members \$10.00



Annual Christmas Dinner
Thursday, December 1, 2011



Reception at 6:30 p.m.
Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Villa Colombo Sala Caboto
40 Playfair Ave.
Toronto, ON

Members \$55.00
Non-Members \$65.00

Door Prizes
Entertainment by L'Italiano

RSVP no later than November 25, 2011



Menu
 Bruschetta
 Salad with Pear & Dried Cranberries & Nuts
 Polenta on Cutting Board with Mushroom Sauce
 Casarecce al Pomodoro e Basilco
 Roast Veal Striploin with Gravy
 Grilled Chicken Breast al Vino Bianco
 Rappini, Roasted Red Peppers and Potatoes
 Chocolate Tartuffo with Raspberry Sauce and Wafer
 Fennel Platter, Chestnuts & Clementines
 Coffee Tea



2011 Membership

Join us in helping Villa Colombo be the best it can be for our residents!

Our History

Villa Colombo Services for Seniors opened its doors in 1976. The realization of Villa Colombo Homes for the Aged involved one of the largest cooperative community efforts in the history of Canadians of Italian origin. In that year, the Villa Colombo Ladies' Auxiliary was founded with a purpose of benevolent volunteerism in support of the home and its valued residents. The VCLA is comprised of committed individuals who dedicate their time and efforts towards creating special fundraising events, promoting community awareness for the Villa and assisting in promoting the rich Italian heritage as part of Canada's multi-cultural mandate.

For over 30 years the Ladies' Auxiliary has raised millions of dollars for the Villa. As a service focussed charity, the VCLA membership is honoured and privileged to give back to its community. How can you support the Ladies Auxiliary? You can: become a member; attend VCLA functions; shop at the Villa Gift Shop; make a tax-deductible donation; and/or sponsor one of our events.

We welcome you to attend our general meetings or social events and mingle with our members. The VCLA attracts members of various ages and backgrounds. We invite you to join us and look forward to your participation and involvement as a member of the Villa Colombo Ladies' Auxiliary.

Our Mission

Villa Colombo provides long term care and community services to seniors in a culturally sensitive environment that honours the Italian heritage. The Villa Colombo Ladies' Auxiliary supports this mission through activities based on

Faith, Family, Food, Fun and Fundraising.

Membership Rewards

The membership fee for 2011-12 is **\$30.00**. As a member of the Villa Colombo Ladies' Auxiliary you will enjoy many benefits:

- Receive a free subscription to the VCLA newsletter published twice yearly, in the fall and spring;
- Attend two general meetings that feature special guests and/ or topics of interest to our members;
- Enjoy exclusive specials and invitations to VCLA events including, the annual golf tournament, the VCLA Christmas dinner, the Family Mass & Brunch, the Pasta-Bingo event; *Note: Most of our events include a members and a non-members price. If you attend all of our events, you will save more than the cost of membership.*
- Dine at Ristorante Boccaccio with a 10% discount for a maximum of six guests;
- Join the Columbus Centre Gym and receive 20% off the general annual membership fee (This offer cannot be combined with any other discounts.); and
- Register for cultural art courses at the Columbus Centre and enjoy a 10% discount. (This does not include private lessons.)

We encourage you to spread our message to your family and friends to become VCLA members or consider purchasing a membership as a gift. The VCLA members and volunteers are essential in making Villa Colombo more than a residence for seniors; you make it a home. We look forward to welcoming new members to our dynamic team.

Please make cheque payable to the Villa Colombo Ladies' Auxiliary in the amount of \$30.00

Donations to the VCLA are welcome. Donations over \$20.00 qualify for a tax receipt.

The VCLA's goal is to keep you well informed of our past, current and upcoming events. We are always looking for better ways to communicate and connect with you. Please provide us with your e-mail address for immediate updates and assisting us in reducing office cost. Feel free to share your feedback.

**For further information contact the VCLA office at
416-789-2113 Ext. 2260 or email: vcla@villacolombo.on.ca**

