

Canadian Club of Green Valley

Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 18

September 2011

Fall Picnic First event of the season



Members of the Canadian Club gather for the annual fall picnic on the terrace of the Santa Rita Springs Recreation Center. The picnic kicks off the Club's social season. See www.greenvalleycanadianclub.com for more photos and page 4 for information on this year's events.

Events 2011-12

2011

Picnic Potluck

Saturday, 19 November

2012

Wine and Cheese

Sunday, 29 January

Pot Luck Dinner

Sunday, 19 February

Golf Tournament

Sunday, 18 March

See page 4 for details

Canadian Club Donates to Non-Profits

The Canadian Club donated \$585 to two local non-profit groups in the spring of 2011. With a donation of \$200 to the Sherriff's Auxiliary Volunteers, the Club acknowledged the fine work these volunteers do, including regular security checks of vacant houses - something many of us take advantage of.

The remainder, \$385, was given to the food bank, a

worthy organization at any time and in particular need in these times of economic downturn.

Funding for the donations came from the annual golf tournament's 50/50 draw and silent auction.

The Newsletter is issued yearly by the Canadian Club of Green Valley. For information check our web site or email us at gvcdnclub@gmail.com.

How long can I stay in the US?

The answer is six months. Simple, right?

Well, maybe right and certainly not simple.

A letter dated 11 May 2007 from the US Customs and Border Protection to the president of the Canadian Snowbird Association and printed in the summer 2011 issue of the CSA News, says that their practice is to allow a six month admission. They calculate this by “counting ahead six months from the current month and subtracting one day from the current date. . . . Using this method, applicants may receive 181, 182, or 183 days, depending on the date of their application for admission and the length of the months during the six month period covered.” The letter confirms that these are the guidelines provided to their agents.

So it’s not all that simple, and it gets more complicated. According to replies to letters in the CSA News in both the winter 2010 and Summer 2011 editions, they note that you cannot deduct a visit to Canada (or elsewhere) of less than a month from that initial six months. If you travel out of the US for more than a month, then they consider your return to the US as a separate visit, but stays of 30 days or less may be counted as part of the initial entry to the US.

For example, you might want to spend two months before Christmas in Green Valley and then return to Canada for two weeks over Christmas (gotta look in on those adorable grand kids).

With that scenario, you could only spend four months less two weeks in Green Valley after your return. The CSA News is the Canadian Snowbird Association magazine. The

information is also on their web site www.snowbirds.org. Follow the links to Birdtalk.

So there are two six month periods that the US requires us to watch.

1. One is the six months we are authorized when we cross the border, as discussed above. That is under the authority of the US Customs and Border Protection.
2. The other is the length of time we spend in the US in each calendar year. This is under the authority of the IRS. We have to complete Form 8840 (closer connection exception statement for aliens) if we spend substantial time in the US. Those who spent 31 or more days in the US in a calendar year should check out whether they are required to fill out the 8840 – most do. This form can be found on a link on our web site www.GreenValleyCanadianClub.com.

Who We Are

The Canadian Club of Green Valley is a non-profit volunteer organization that provides Canadians, former Canadians and their guests with an annual program of social activities from November through March. There are no dues; rather a nominal fee is charged for some social activities to fund the operational expenses of the organization.

Snowbird Association Magazine in Library

The Canadian Club has purchased a gift subscription to the Canadian Snowbird Association magazine for the Green Valley Library. The magazine is targeted towards seniors with articles on such things as travel, health, finance and US laws affecting long term visitors like us.

For example, the column “Bird Talk” in the summer of 2011 issue tackled the question of whether you are allowed to subtract short term travel out of the US from a long term stay (you are not – see separate article on page 2) and whether you are required to subtract shopping trips of less than a day to the US from the total allowable time in the US (you are).

The Canadian Snowbird Association Magazine is now in the library thanks to the Canadian Club. It joins the half yearly subscription to Maclean’s which the Club also donates to the library.

Thanks

Thank you to departing board members Gerry Bates (president), Malcolm Cromarty (web master), Jim and Marilyn Westerman (coordinators for the pot luck), and David Colpitts (secretary). Also thanks to the many helpers who assisted with our events.

Returning board members include Madeline Andrukow (serving her second time as president), Marion Frelick (membership), Brenda Shearer (treasurer) and Maureen Brown (coordinator for the picnic and wine and cheese). New board members include Lynn Raby, Debra Spalding, Elaine Hutton, Larry Andrukow, Sylvia Woolley, Gwenne Sattaur, Barb Schultz and Michel Leblanc.

How to reach us

You can email us at [gvcdnclub@gmail](mailto:gvcdnclub@gmail.com) with any queries you may have. For starters, though, take a look at our web site www.GreenValleyCanadianClub.com. You may well find the answer to your question. The web site has a list of events, photographs of some of our activities, general information about the Canadian Club and more.

We’ll send out an email before each event, confirming timing, location and other details.

Did you know? . . .

Verifying membership: We ask you to confirm your membership information annually. We update changes to addresses, email, phone numbers or GVR numbers. Records of those we haven’t heard from for three years are deleted. It means fewer lost emails and more accuracy in our required reports to GVR.

Guest policy: The Canadian Club is part of Green Valley Recreation. That means those who attend a club event, except the golf tournament, have to be a GVR member or have a guest pass. Our web site has the regs regarding guest passes.

Passports: Foreign nationals in the US are required to carry documents, such as a passport, proving their eligibility to be in the US. Those who fail to comply can be charged with a misdemeanor. Border patrol agents may stop vehicles and inspect those documents at any time. See our web site for more information.

Board 2011-2012

President: Madeline Andrukow
Co-Vice President: Lynn Raby
Co-Vice President: Debra Spalding
Membership: Marion Frelick
Treasurer: Brenda Shearer
Secretary: Elaine Hutton
Web site: Larry Andrukow
Picnic: Maureen Brown
Wine and Cheese: Maureen Brown
and Sylvia Woolley
Pot Luck: Gwenne Sattaur
and Barb Schultz
Golf: Michel Leblanc

2011-2012 Canadian Club Calendar

Fall picnic/potluck

What a picturesque spot for our fall picnic/potluck with the beautiful Santa Ritas in the background. It will be held at **noon, Saturday, 19 November, 2011** on the patio of the **Santa Rita Springs Recreation Center**. Bring a dish to share (it's really a potluck and only a picnic because of the outdoor setting). You'll also need your own wine, beer or other beverage, cutlery, plates and glasses. You may also want a hat and sun screen. And don't worry about any rain or cold – we'll move indoors if the weather doesn't cooperate.



Wine and Cheese

The **Canoa Hills Recreation Center** is where we'll meet for wine and cheese on **Sunday, 29 January, 2012 from 3 to 5 pm**. There will be a variety of wines and cheeses to sample. A small cover charge will be levied to cover our costs. We'll send out an email reminder and ask you to RSVP.

Potluck dinner

Our pot luck dinner in 2011 featured the band *Country Comfort*, and it proved to be a lively and popular choice. Our committee is looking into entertainment for our potluck dinner in 2012, which will be held on **Sunday, 19 February, 2012 at 5 pm** at the **West Center**. Soft drinks, tea and coffee are provided. Bring cutlery, plates, glasses, wine or spirits and a dish to share. Please RSVP when you get the email reminder.



Golf tournament and dinner

Our golf tournament and dinner will be on **Sunday, 18 March**. It's a best ball format with teams of four, so no-handicappers and duffers alike can enjoy an afternoon of golf followed by dinner (you don't have to play to join us for dinner). Watch for our email notice and a sign-up table at earlier functions. GVR passes are not required for this event.