



NEWS!

Graminia Community League and Social Society

Change is the Only Constant

At the Annual General Meeting of the Graminia Community League and Social Society held on Monday, February 8, change was in the air and a new executive for the GCLSS was on the agenda. A few people who held executive positions stepped down from their roles but they did not step away from the GCLSS. Some people who held non-executive positions in 2015 stepped up to the plate and took on roles on the executive which leads the 2016 GCLSS executive team with a group of active volunteers who have an understanding of the hall history over the year. This continuity will bode well not only to building a strong decision making body for the GCLSS but also demonstrates volunteer loyalty and commitment to the Graminia Hall and it's community.



Deryk Kause

The 2016 GCLSS executive is:
Deryk Kause, President
Garth Brown, Vice President
Sheila Avison, Treasurer/
Grants
Pamela Hennig, Secretary
Angela Gehlert, Director/
Memberships, Special Events
& Casino Coordinator

Kelly Martens, Rental Coordinator
Angelina Ritter, Rental Coordinator
MJ Brown, Communications
Janel Padberg, Director
Derek Dowdall, Jarrod Kause,
Garth Brown—Maintenance

Deryk Kause, President

Last year, you filled the role of Vice President for the GCLSS executive. What do you think the GCLSS did well in 2015?

DK: In 2015, I think we did a good job of understanding the status of the GCL when we were elected, identifying the issues, and taking a slow organized approach and cor-

recting the shortfalls.

What great things would you like to see happen at the GCLSS in 2016?

DK: I would like to see the GCL define a long term plan that includes community involvement strategies and facility upgrades.

Lastly, if you could spend a day as someone else, who would it be?

DK: My lovely wife, Alison.

Spring Edition
April 2016

Special points of interest:

- Introducing the 2016 GCLSS Executive
- Update on Rainbow Playschool
- And the GCLSS Volunteer of the Year is.....!
- Membership Renewals
- What's New at Devonshire Pony Club

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Garth Brown, Vice President

What do you want the community to know about you?

GB: I was born and raised in Alberta and spent 38 years in the upstream oil and gas industry before retiring in 2014. I am married and enjoy skiing x-country and downhill, as well as competing in show jumping and pleasure riding on my horse, Solar Power.

Why did you choose to get involved with the GCLSS and what business strength do you bring to the executive team?

GB: I chose to get involved in the GCLSS because we live in the same subdivision as

the hall and though it would be a good way to participate in neighborhood activities. My strength is financial and system analysis and problem solving and I look forward to offering my skills in these areas to hall related challenges.

Since problem solving is one of your strengths, what 3 items would you bring to a deserted island other than two of them being water and food?

GB: I would bring a sailboat so that I could sail off into the sunset when the vacation was over.



Garth Brown

Sheila Avison, Treasurer/Grants

Tell us about yourself.

SA: I am married, have two little boys and have lived near Graminia School for eight years. Before I became a stay-at home mom, I worked as a pharmacy technician at the Misericordia and Grey Nuns Hospitals. My favorite hobby is running. My last race was a half marathon in San Francisco in October 2015.

What compelled you to take on the demanding and front line role of treasurer with the GCLSS in 2016?

SA: As a past playschool parent, the hall has become important to our family. Volunteering has always been important to me as well so this seem like a good fit.

If you could be any animal, what would you be and why?

SA: I would be an elephant. I have loved them since I was young. I appreciate how emotional and caring they are that they have large family groups.



Sheila Avison

Pamela Hennig, Secretary

PH: My family and I live just east of Graminia Hall. I have lived in Parkland County my entire life, growing up around the Muir Lake area. I have three beautiful daughters ages 5, 7, and 16. My fiancé has two sons, ages 6 and 11. I am an avid hunter and fisher and pretty much love any outdoor activities. I also do furniture restoration and wood working in my spare time. I have been a Medical Office Manager in Obstetrics and Gynecology for the past 12 years, but have recently decided to stay home with our children.

Why did you choose to get involved with the GCLSS and what do you see as the biggest challenge for community leagues like the GCLSS?

PH: I chose to get involved with the GCLSS to be an active participant in my community. I think the biggest challenge is getting other community members to be actively involved in these leagues to voice opinions and ideas that might benefit the community.

If you were a salad, what kind of dressing would you wear?

PH: Dill, of course :)



Pamela Hennig



Rainbow Playschool Carries on in 2016

Rainbow Playschool has been a part of the Graminia Hall for many years. Over those many years, teachers and children come and go but what remains is the valuable service Rainbow Playschool provides to the community.

Recently, there was a suggestion by some that the format of Rainbow Playschool should change. After discussion, and input from the community and GCL executive, it has been decided that it is time to explore a potential new model for Rainbow Playschool at Graminia Hall.

But the community can rest assured that one thing will not change and that is that Rainbow Playschool will continue to be offered at Graminia Hall in September 2016. It will continue to be play-based learning. Registration for 2016 will be on May 10.

The GCL executive is exploring the feasibility of offering pre and after school care at the hall to the existing playschool program.

Rainbow Playschool teachers are on contract and as a result, the GCL executive is inviting qualified teachers to submit their resumes to:

rainbowplayschool.gcl@gmail.com

We are seeking individuals with drive and passion for teaching young education. Currently we offer Playschool to 3 and 4 year old children using a play-based teaching method, Monday to Thursday, approximately 8:30 am – 12 pm, but are interested in offering more should the right opportunity arise.



Parkland County— Community League Volunteer of the Year

Each year, Parkland County gives community leagues the opportunity to recognize a volunteer member of the league with a dinner for the honoree and eight members of the league.

It is with pride the GCLSS nominee for 2015 is Angela (Angie) Gehlert, a woman of action.

Angie served as the secretary for the GCLSS in 2015. She consistently demonstrated that she is a woman of action by keeping the meetings running smoothly with her organized meeting agendas and minutes as well as actively assisting in conducting meetings as the need arose. She also planned and executed social events at the hall and in 2016, she stepped forward to be the Casi-

no & Events Coordinator as well as assist with Memberships.

Angie is an inspiration to other volunteers with her 'walk the talk' way. Congratulations, Angie!

Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud.

Helen Dyer

We need YOU to Renew!

Ten dollars per calendar year (or \$100 for a lifetime membership) doesn't buy you much these days but what it can buy you AND YOUR FAMILY is a year of fun at Graminia Hall.

Here are the top ten reasons you should buy/renew your Graminia Community League membership:

- 10) You can ride your horse in either the east or west ring.
- 9) You or your kids can play in the phenomenally fun playground.
- 8) You can meet some really cool people at our hall events.

- 7) You don't have to drive far to go out for a social evening.
- 6) There is a great ball diamond available to members for a spur of the moment game of ball or catch.
- 5) Your membership supports events at the hall.
- 4) Your membership supports maintenance of the hall.
- 3) You can feel good about giving back to your community—right in your own neighborhood!
- 2) A \$10 membership is gluten, calorie and cholesterol free, non GMO, and contains zero trans fats.

And the number 1 reason!!!

It is easy to renew!!!

Just go to <http://www.graminiahall.com/pdf/graminiamembershipform.pdf>

Upcoming 2016 Events at the Hall

April 30—Community Garage Sale
 May 28—Kids Carnival
 Summer Months—Farmers Market???
 Christmas Craft Sale
 New Years Eve Family Party

Graminia Community League and Social Society

51101 Range Road 270
Spruce Grove, AB
Phone: 780-412-1300
.www.graminia hall.com
Facebook.com—Graminia Hall



A community growing together.

2nd Annual Awesome Community Garage Sale at Graminia Hall

(in conjunction with Parkland County)

Saturday, April 30 9am-3pm

\$10 per reserved table or bring your own
table/tailgate \$5

To reserve, contact Angie at 780-412-1300 or
graminiahallevents@gmail.com

The Graminia Social Society, as it was first named, followed by the Graminia Community League and Society but more fondly, the Graminia Community League as it is now known, has been in existence for 36 years. Graminia Hall, in its original form was built in 1908 and it was a country school for children of the area. It ceased to be a school in 1959.

In January of 1960, Graminia Social Society became an incorporated club under the rules of law. There were 30 members that first year. The community sponsored local dances, box socials, whist drives, and a host of community events. Now, in the twenty-first century, the hall hosts craft sales, children's events and other community minded offerings. Membership in 2015 was 75 families.



**T-Ball at Graminia Hall
starts**

Thursday, April 28 6:30pm-7:15pm

Pony Club: A program for youth and adults too



Devonshire Pony Club rides in the east riding arena at the Graminia Hall and is part of Canadian Pony Club.

Canadian Pony Club is a member-based association, managed by volunteers, mandated to serve the needs of Canadian youth, ages 6 to 25 years of age, who are interested in riding, learning about and/or caring for horses or ponies.

www.canadianponyclub.org

Devonshire Pony Club (DPC) has 13 children enrolled for the summer of 2016. Horsemasters is the adult riding component of Pony Club and it is offered at Dev-

onshire Pony Club. It is a program for Adult Volunteers who understand and support the aims and objectives of Pony Club. Adults in Horsemasters will follow the Pony Club standards to learn more about riding and horse care, share their knowledge with the Active Members, and enjoy meeting and sharing time with like minded adults. Horsemasters Program for Adult Volunteers Devonshire Pony Club currently has five adults registered in Horsemasters.

Sarah Neil is the DPC instructor. DPC will be riding Monday and Wednesday evenings as well as Saturday mornings/afternoons. To participate in Pony Club you need a horse or pony (or have access to one), a horse trailer, English tack and valid membership with Alberta Equine Association (www.albertaequestrian.com/

[membership-types/individual-family/](#).

DPC membership fee is \$195 for Children and \$95 for Horsemasters. The lessons are \$26 for an hour group lesson for all ages. If a child has been a member for a year, DPC will subsidize one lesson a day, up to twice a week. This summer, members of the DPC will participate in a week long Rally Camp at Alhambra Stables in Red Deer in July, as well as at the Alberta North Region Horse Show for Show Jumping and Dressage in August. These events are free for DPC members 18 and under if funds allow. Horsemasters are able to participate in both of these events at their own cost.

For more information, please contact DPC President, Katherine Halverson at:

khalverson@hotmail.ca or at 780-906-6747.