

## **SUPRAD Oldtimers 2024 30th Anniversary Reunion - Recap**

The SUPRAD Oldtimers 30th reunion was an outstanding weekend thoroughly enjoyed by so many. Meeting up with old friends, making new ones and sharing great stories from years past brought so much love and laughter to the CFS Leitrim ARM. "Friends Forever" is the Association Motto for a reason. Many thanks to all that came from near and far to keep the trade camaraderie alive and help us celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the SupRad Oldtimers Association.

I'd like to thank Wayne Moore, Butch Whitlaw, Dave Berry, Ray Lebeau, Bill Neelin, Eric Coles, Janet Coles, and Rob Dunbar for helping me organize so many components of each day and volunteering their time throughout the entire event.

I'd also like to thank Dave Berry, Janet Coles, Brian Mont and Joyce Berry for helping to sell tickets and greet all of the attendees. Another big thank you to Rob Mantle and Tony Cobden for the Meet & Greet Pizza set up, serving the long line up with exceptional efficiency and cleanup.

The last thank you goes to the CFS Leitrim ARM bar staff Wanda and Lori for the exceptional service as always. They both outdid themselves and worked very hard to help us at every turn.

The whole weekend ran like a well oiled machine with all of these amazing volunteers.

On Friday June 21st the Meet and Greet completely filled the CFS Leitrim Mess. Each person was greeted by Dave Berry, Janet Coles, Brian Mont and myself selling 50/50 tickets and raffle tickets.

Dave Berry created a 500 image slideshow that ran on the TV and the Big Screen all evening, and then again on Saturday, of our 291 family throughout the decades for all to enjoy and reminisce. The feedback filled his heart on how much each picture was appreciated by everyone!

Wayne Moore and I drew the 2 50/50 tickets before dinner and the winners that night were Frankie Robertson (second year in a row) and Barb Burleigh who took home \$210 each!

We then served a variety of 22 pizzas from Gabriel's that was well received by approximately 85 people! There were so many compliments how great it was and a lot of thank you's for serving food this year. It'll definitely be repeated next year!

On Saturday, June 22nd Eric and Janet Coles organized the 9 hole golf tournament at Falcon Ridge Golf Club. It was an exceptional day with 52 golfers (25 more than last year!!) and thankfully very little rain!!

After the games everyone stayed to share a drink/lunch in an impressive room full of friends!

Later that evening the Banquet Dinner put on by Lolacher's Catering Company was a fantastic turkey dinner with all the fixings and dessert for 100 people!!

It was so heartwarming to see so many widows at this event, which goes to show our group truly is a family that sticks together.

Everyone enjoyed the wonderful meal while sharing more life long memories.

After dinner, prizes were drawn and handed out by matching the name of a golfer to a random prize number followed by a presentation of the Annual Trophy to the team (in attendance) with the lowest

score, which went to the team consisting of Wayne Moore, Butch Whitlaw, Brian Cassidy, and Gary Anderson.

Next was the Raffle Draw.

The first Draw was a set of Adirondack Chairs with Ottomans and a table donated by Shawn Lodge. The set was won by Al Pardy, then gifted to Larry and Marlene Lambourne and then passed on to Ralph Meisner who really wanted the set to be enjoyed at their summer cottage.

The next raffle draw was a beautiful photo print by Phil Colwill and won by Clint Briscoe. The final raffle item was a dragonfly copper sculpture created by Sue Gibb from her Hazy Dayz Dragonflies small business and won by Wayne Moore. Thank you to all three of you for your generous donations.

The Saturday 50/50 was then drawn and won by Janet Coles and Dan McGean who took home \$170 each.

A number of door prizes were then given out to the banquet diners. Thank you so much to all of the gracious people that donated an impressive amount of items to make up a table full with a variety of door prizes to be enjoyed by the winners.

Congratulations to all!

A special highlight that evening was a video chat Al Pardy setup with Frank Sullivan, who wasn't able to attend this year. Frank was extremely happy to be able to say hello to a number of his buddies.

Sunday, June 23rd began with a Ceremony of Remembrance inside the Greely Legion due to inclement weather. Ray Lebeau effortlessly MC'd the ceremony that touched many hearts with his kind words with emphasis on how we all take care of one another as "Friends Forever" Community. Ray's complete notes are available on the SUPRAD Site: <https://supradoldtimers.ca/sample-page/announcements/>

Rob Dunbar read off the names of 24 Life Members and 42 Non-Members (Friends and Spouses) that had passed away since the last reading at the June 2023 Reunion.

Ray's speech can be found on the SupRad Oldtimers website with the names of all members and nonmembers we lost this year.

Special thank you to Vern Veinot for donating the sound system, the bugler Charles Armstrong from the RCMP Pipes & Drums for playing the Last Post and Rouse and the piper John Virag from the RCMP Pipes & Drums for concluding the service.

The Reunion came to an end after a delicious brunch put on by the Greely Legion Staff.

Thank you all for such a great weekend.

I was very touched by the kind words of thanks and a multitude of hugs by so many! It takes a strong team to pull off an event of this magnitude and we all did just that together!

"Friends Forever"

Karen