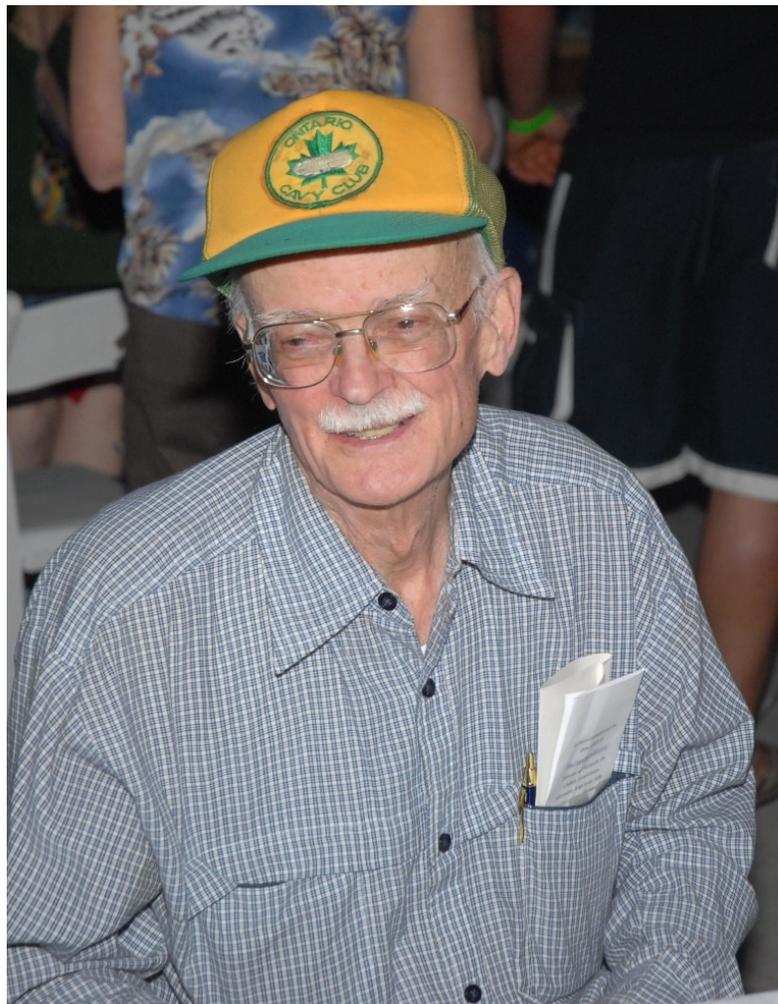




## **Ontario Cavy Club Newsletter**

**Spring 2018**



This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Murdo McLennan.  
A true gentleman of our hobby  
May his memory and legacy live on within our hearts and our animals

## Presidents Message

Welcome to 2018 show season. I am excited for this years Convention and the upcoming show season. I trust you all are as well.

It always amazes me that these cute cavies, can bring together such a wonderful group of people. Many of whom I wouldn't know if not involved in the club, but none the less am blessed to have them as friends. We are group that is comprised of people from all walks of life. We have professionals, farmers, trades people, retired and those about to start their careers. All who have a love for cavies, and this unites us.

As we start the show season, a friendly reminder to everyone to do their best to respect deadlines for the show entries and start times for shows. Help is always needed for clerking, and various other tasks on show day. When we all make this effort, shows run more smoothly and everyone can enjoy their day.



The club is not just one person, or the board etc., the club is all of us members. We all have a way we can participate. This year we are off to a great start. Youth members have also stepped up to assist with committee roles. Members are also very supportive in organizing, donating, and bidding in our Facebook Auction. We have several members involved in our Committees - Convention, By Law, Standards and Audit.

This fall members will vote on By Laws and Standard changes. I strongly encourage members to review the Standard, and the By Law documents. Members are able too submit changes for review by the committees. Approved suggested changes then go the board, then on to the ballot for final membership vote. Dates for proposed changes deadlines, will be detailed further into the newsletter. Important dates and show schedule can also be found in the Google Calendar on our website.

Please feel free to reach out to myself, or any other board member with any concern or question. We are here for you. I look forward to seeing everyone this year and wish you all success on and off the show table. Let's celebrate the Cavy and enjoy the fellowship.

Wheeks and Squeaks

Kelly Roth

OCC President 2018-19

## My adventures with Murdo



My fondest memories of Murdo will always be the big trips we did together to the ACBA Specialty or ARBA. Traveling with Murdo was such a pleasure. The first one was a big surprise to me because I had the opportunity of finding out a whole different side to the person I already viewed as my friend. Most of us knew Murdo as a quiet sort who kept to himself. On these long trips there never was a lack of things to talk about and the conversation was never forced. Murdo was not shy of sharing his opinion. He often shared memories of when he was brand new to the fancy.

For 2011 ARBA in Indianapolis, Murdo travelled down by himself and we met there. I learned how resourceful Murdo was. He would easily travel two extra hours if the way was simpler. Keeping things simple was what Murdo was all about. He would put considerable effort into being properly oriented and as a result he never became lost when he did these big trips by himself.

ARBA 2012 to Wichita was the first one we did together. Almost a week together. For Murdo it was a relief that he did not have to navigate these adventures anymore. For meal times, the simpler the better. MacDonald's was fine. Murdo had a particular fondness of this maple yogurt parfait that was on the menu for a \$1. I would encourage him to eat more so he would add an orange juice. Occasionally he would order 2. He would point at his light build and ask "Do I look like someone who needs a lot of calories?"

Murdo was always keen to feel like he was contributing his fair share to travelling expenses. It sometimes became a game to see who could sneak in the payment first. I can remember one time that I was going to pay for gas and the cashier said "Here is your change" Murdo had prepaid more than was needed.

Time in the motel was definitely about taking care of his animals before he considered anything for himself. What ever was the agreed start time for the morning, Murdo was NEVER late! So often while loading the vehicle, the doors to the motel would seem to magically open. Even though Murdo did not have the stamina for the hard jobs, he paid attention and doors just opened when they were needed.

During the “down” time of the conventions, Murdo was an easy person to please. He did not need a constant string of high energy excitement. Just having an opportunity to drive around and see things that would normally not get to see was really all that it took to make Murdo happy. He informed me that the last time ARBA was in Wichita, he had driven an hour south to Oklahoma for breakfast just so he could say he had been to Oklahoma. He was always keen to share details of a particular person he had met on one of his previous travels.

Our next adventure together was ACBA in Orlando in April 2013. During the course of conversation Murdo informed me that he had never seen a palm tree. I promised him that the first palm tree I saw, we would stop and get a picture with him. The first palm tree that we saw was a dwarf one outside a McDonald’s in southern Georgia. He was still pleased to see a palm tree even if it was only 3 feet tall. He did get to see lots of “normal” palm trees. What Murdo found fascinating about the drive to Florida was that we left in a snow storm and two days later it was summer. We experienced all the stages of spring in two days. Like most aging people, Murdo sometime felt the challenge of keeping warm. He really enjoyed the warmth of Florida. Murdo always enjoyed meeting up with the cavy people who he had known for so many years. It was rare that he did not come home with a new black to keep his lines fresh. Murdo certainly had enough respect from his fellow cavy fanciers that if he was looking for something special, all he had to do was ask.

Our last cavy road trip was in April 2015 to Cleveland ACBA. Things were definitely slowing down for Murdo. He took pride in how well his animals had always done but that did not make him a competitive person. For him it was not about winning. All he asked was that he did not finish last. When his animals finished 14 out of a class of 22, he was ok with that but he also realized that he could not do this much longer. He was definitely more willing to share from his stock. There was a tremendous amount of pride in Murdo knowing how others wanted his bloodlines.

I will always be grateful for the time I took to sneak a pig into the long care facility so that Murdo could spend a little more time with his beloved pigs. There was such a look of contentment as he gently stroked the animal, contentment in Murdo and contentment in the animal.

Murdo ... my friend ... a gentleman and a gentle man

Norm

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT

With all the new members of the club just wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself my name is Gregory Elchuk. I want to let everyone know how excited I am for the upcoming show season. As well as of how pleased I am to be serving as your Vice President for the next two years. As always, I will do all that I can to help the club and its members if it within my power to do so.



Our family has been members of this club for about 6 years and have owned guinea pigs for almost 10 years. This is however a short period in comparison to some of our senior members. Our involvement in the club has allowed us to make many new friends that share our love of the Fancy and of our fur friends. As well as giving us the opportunity to share our experiences and knowledge with them.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the shows during this year. As well as wish you all a safe and happy show season. So, watch for the upcoming shows. Come on out. Have some fun and enjoy this fancy and all the wonderful little fur creatures that come along with it.



## REPORT FROM YOUR SECRETARY TREASURER

Hello club members. I want to thank everyone for their patience while I transition to this position that our wonderful past secretary treasurer Bonnie Dart has done for the previous 2 years. If you have not done your 2018 membership it can be paid either by

1. PayPal at [ontariocavyclub@gmail.com](mailto:ontariocavyclub@gmail.com)
2. Mail to Darlene Elchuk 580025 60 Sideroad RR7 Markdale Ontario N0C 1H0
3. Catch me at a show to pay by cash.

Here is a summary of where our finances stand.

As of the end of February 2018 the club's accounts sit as follows:

PAY PAL CANADIAN \$1118.94

PAY PAL US \$ 174.97

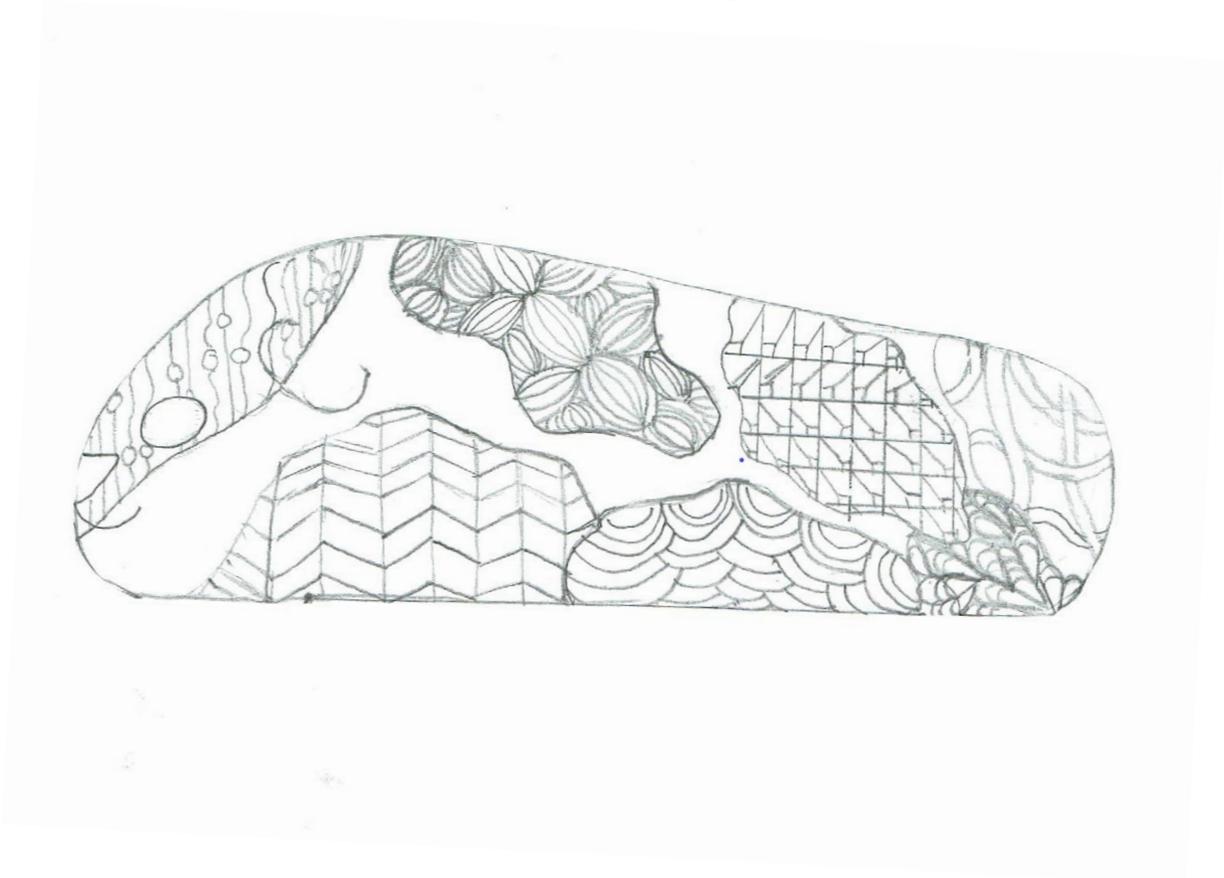
CANADA TRUST \$5416.30

The above amounts are inclusive of the bulk of the sponsorship funds for the upcoming convention, catalogue ad fees and membership dues paid to date.

Just as a note I would like to remind all members using Pay Pal to transfer funds to the club, when transferring funds please select friends or family. Doing this will mean the club does not incur transaction fees.



## **Convention Colouring Contest**



**For one and all! Just print out this picture ( created by Marrisa Roth) colour it anyway that you would like and bring it to convention. Both Adult and Youth categories.**

## ONTARIO CAVY CLUB COMMITTEES

### By Law Revision Committee

Chair – Greg Elchuk  
Brian Dart  
Adam McCabe  
Janet Cox  
Bev Leslie  
Shirley Bird  
Kelly Roth

### Standards Committee

Chair – Kelly Roth  
Heather Baulk-Smith  
Denise Robertson  
Erica Leslie  
Donna Kenny

### Audit Committee

Chair – Allison Halsam  
Bill Robertson  
Kelly Roth

### Webpage Committee

Chair – Allison Haslam  
Lexi Haslam

### Annual Club Convention Committee 2018

Chair – Kelly Roth & Bev Leslie

### Other Roles

est. 1952

### Sweepstakes

Kelly Roth  
Marissa Roth

### Club Photographer

Julie Consoli

With our first show less than 2 weeks away, here is a reminder on how to Enter for show.

Be mindful of the deadline, this year with the exception of Convention, ALL entries will close the Wednesday at 9pm before a show. Entries are emailed to [showentriesoc@gmail.com](mailto:showentriesoc@gmail.com) ( P.S You do not need to wait till last day to submit entries 😊 )

Please provide: Exhibitor Name, phone number, email address and if Youth. Then list each cavy entry on it own line in the following format:

1. Abyssinian Black Senior Boar
2. Abyssinian Black Senior Boar
3. Abyssinian Brindle Senior Sow

And so forth.

OR Use the OCC Entry form found in the files section on the Facebook group. You can fill this on the computer, or print it off and manually fill it, then send them in. When using the form, be sure to use one for each family members exhibiting.

Late fee/changes/payment for scratches will be enforced as per show flyer.

This year we will be providing coop ear stickers. IF you need replacement you must see the show secretary.

Best practice Tip: About a week or before, check over your cavy. Decide who you taking to the show, review weights, and check cavy over. Make sure no signs of sickness, nails trimmed etc. The night before show day, do final check over and get some rest.

Arrive early to show to allow time for check in, pay for entries, pick up ear coop # stickers, etc.

Enjoy the day 😊



## ANNUAL CONVENTION APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup> & 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2018 STRATFORD, ON CANADA

*Home of the World Famous Shakespearean Festival*

Festival Inn – lodging, show and banquet  
all in one convenient location!

FEATURING:  
Judges Conference, Welcome Party, Youth activities,  
Banquet and more

[www.ontariocavyclubconvention2018.com](http://www.ontariocavyclubconvention2018.com)

an **ONTARIO  
CAVY CLUB  
PRODUCTION**



## IMPORTANT DATES!!



**April 6-7<sup>th</sup>** - Annual Convention – Stratford

**April 27-29** - ACBA Specialty Michigan

**April 14<sup>th</sup>** – DR&CBA – Barrie

**May 19<sup>th</sup>** - Double Show - Peterborough

**May 27<sup>th</sup>** – DR&CBA – Schomberg

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>** - OCC Single Show - Breast Cancer Fundraiser – Michigan

**June 9<sup>th</sup>** - OCC Double Show - Fundraiser – Gorrie

**June 16<sup>th</sup>** - Newsletter Submissions Due

**June 23<sup>rd</sup>** - OCC Double Show – Club Challenge – Palmerston

**June 23<sup>rd</sup>** - DR&CBA – Powasson

**June 30<sup>th</sup>** - By Law Submissions Deadline

**July 14<sup>th</sup>** - OCC Double Show & Meeting – Schomberg

**August 1<sup>st</sup>** – Standard Submissions & Member of Year Nominations Deadline

**August 4<sup>th</sup>** – Forest City Rabbit Club – Workshop/Clinics Rabbit & Cavy

**August 18<sup>th</sup>** – OCC Double Show – Aylmer

**August 25<sup>th</sup>** – DR&CBA - Barrie

**September 15<sup>th</sup>** – Newsletter Submissions Due

**September 9<sup>th</sup>** – DR&CBA – Orillia

**September 12<sup>th</sup>** – DR&CBA – Sunderland

**September 15<sup>th</sup>** – DR&CBA – Bracebridge

**September 30<sup>th</sup>** – Ballots mailed out

**October 8<sup>th</sup>** – DR&CBA – Erin

**October 14<sup>th</sup>** – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, RAFFLE & SOCIAL TIME - MORRISTON

**October 20<sup>th</sup>** – OCC Double Show with Forest City Rabbit Breeders Club – Komoka

**October 27-31** – ARBA Nationals

**November 10<sup>th</sup>** – Single OCC (nonsweeps) & ARBA show – Drummondville QC

**November 11** – DR&CBA single show – Royal Fair Toronto

**November 18<sup>th</sup>** – OCC Double Show – Thorold

**December 15<sup>th</sup>** – Newsletter Submissions Due

**January 1<sup>st</sup>** – Membership renewals Due