

# Spirit Of SCHUMACHER



A Community Newsletter to Connect the  
Past, Present and Future

CELEBRATING 109 YEARS

MARCH 1, 1912 TO 2021

SCHUMACHER, ONTARIO

## MERRY & BRIGHT

To help spread some Christmas Cheer, SACHA invited Schumacher residents to enter photos of their festive outdoor décor in our first ever Holiday Display Contest. Four families took up the challenge. Their photos were featured on SACHA's Facebook page and users were allowed to submit a vote for their favourite display.

At the end of the weeklong voting period, 343 votes were cast with House C (Angie Trottier of Fourth Avenue) narrowly emerging as the winner garnering only 11 votes more than the runner-up, House A (Allison Guacci of Brundy Avenue). Angie received a \$50 Narduzzi's Restaurant Gift Certificate and Allison won a Spirit of Schumacher

mousepad. All entrants, including Wendy Martell from Croatia Avenue and Kirsty Roy from Fourth Avenue, received a SACHA headframe chocolate as a token of appreciation for participating. The SACHA Board was pleasantly surprised that the contest was so well-received and plans to host similar activities going forward. (For details on the next event, see page 6!)

As for the headframe chocolates, they were handcrafted for SACHA by Just Because Chocolates & Confections to help us celebrate our tenth anniversary. With a public gathering out of the question, we decided to treat our community's seniors and students. (Continued on page 2.)



See Page 6  
for details about our  
current contest:  
**SNOW CREATIONS**  
which runs through  
February 21, 2022.

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# BITS AND PIECES

To commemorate our tenth anniversary, SACHA partnered with the Schumacher Lions Club and the Schumacher Volunteer Fire Department to distribute headframe-shaped chocolates to the community's seniors and elementary school-aged children. The Lions distributed 119 chocolates as part of their annual Seniors' Christmas Dinner and the firefighters distributed 148 chocolates to local children along with their Mr. Schumacher Gifts. As a result of the ongoing pandemic, both events featured door-to-door drop-off service again this year. An additional 25 chocolates were distributed to residents of Extendicare Timmins; some recipients are former longtime residents of Schumacher while others resided in the Schumacher location before the new facility in Timmins was built.

The message on the chocolate tag reads: "December 2021 marks the tenth anniversary of the Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association. SACHA remains committed to celebrating the past, present and future of our community. Young and old, current and former residents; together we are the Spirit of Schumacher". Current SACHA supporters will receive a bookmark with the same message in their mailing of the Winter 2021 SOS. (We did explore our options for sending each of you a chocolate, but the logistics just weren't feasible.)



The Schumacher Volunteer Fire Department distributed 148 Mr. Schumacher Gifts on December 19, 2021. Each child also received a locally-crafted chocolate headframe provided by SACHA. (Photo courtesy of Marty Delich via Ryan Hartling.)

## MUSICAL MEMORY



David Hamilton's letter (see page 3) reminded Vera of a 1960s musical group in Schumacher. After digging through a scrapbook on loan from Anne MacDonald, we came across this photo of The Village Six that was featured in the April 10, 1963 edition of the Timmins Daily Press. The folk group consisted of Grade 11 Schumacher High School students (from left) Linda Radske, David Hamilton, Paul and Mary Ann Bogardo, (and seated behind) the late Louise Zanchin and the late Buddy Eckford.

### TRIVIA with BOB & CLAYTON

The Fall 2021 challenge was to name all the shoe and clothing stores that have existed in Schumacher. Here is Bob Rowe and Clayton McAlpine's list: Bucovetsky's, Economy Dry Goods, Mayfair Furriers, Gordon Rutledge Men's Wear, William Arnott Men's & Boy's Wear, Arnott's Tot & Teen, Frederick's Men's Wear, Hannigan's Sports, Zanchin's Shoe Store, Starcevic Tailor Shop, Kostenko Shoe Repair, Bonafario Shoe Repair, Sherry's Explicit Lingerie, If they missed any, please let us know!

*If you have trivia to share with us, reach out by email [schumachergirl@gmail.com](mailto:schumachergirl@gmail.com) or post PO Box 13, Schumacher, ON, P0N 1G0.*





# SACHA OPERATIONAL UPDATE

## CHANGE CAN BE GOOD



The SACHA Board will be introducing some changes as we embark on our eleventh year of existence. It is our hope that these changes will result in an improved experience for our valued supporters and lead to more efficient operations.

First off, the newly redesigned SACHA website is live! It has a fresh look and feel, and it is easy to navigate on a PC or mobile device. Check out [www.spiritofschumacher.ca](http://www.spiritofschumacher.ca) for all things SACHA (including past issues of the SOS, supporter acknowledgment, info on upcoming events, links to our documentary videos, and more). We will continue to maintain our Spirit Of Schumacher Facebook page and will likely also be branching out to Instagram in the near future.

Perhaps the most significant change involves the publication schedule for the Spirit of Schumacher newsletter. It's been a struggle for the past several years to put out 4 eight-page issues annually. Starting in 2022, we will be switching to 3 twelve-page issues. This will result in more content being shared with readers while at the same time easing up production timelines. Readers can expect the 2022 issues in the spring, summer and fall.

The final major change involves the SACHA support structure. We are replacing the individual and family tiers with a single support level costing \$20 annually. This will continue to include mailings of each issue of the newsletter as well as acknowledgment in the newsletter and on the website. The Business tier and Advertising option are now a single \$70 annual package with business ads running in the newsletter and on the website. These changes will be implemented on the website immediately and in the next issue of the SOS. Longstanding supporters will notice the change on their next renewal notice. Additional contributions will continue to be accepted and appreciated should you be so inclined to make one.

### READER MAIL

Dear Lisa,

Thanks to you and your directors for another great year of SACHA newsletters. Like everything else, I know that it has been difficult to put together these quarterly offerings in these challenging times; yet, you have managed to find interesting stories to keep us entertained and distracted.

I especially enjoyed the photos of the amazing historical shots from your Spring issue and the modern, contemporary views of the town. Glad to see that the McIntyre Headframe is being restored! I grew up in its shadow and with the rest of the minesite gone, it's reassuring to see this symbol of Schumacher each night on the CTV news.

They say that you can never go home again, and with the end of the Schumacher Reunions and the seemingly endless pandemic, that seems to be true at least for now. Thank you for maintaining a link to our hometown and the many happy memories we have of growing up in that amazing town.

Have a very Merry Christmas and please keep up the excellent work.

David Hamilton





## CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

# A DECADE OF SACHA

The Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association (SACHA) held its first board meeting at the McIntyre Community Building on December 3, 2011. At that time, the non-profit group set a mandate to “educate and advance the public’s understanding and appreciation of arts, culture and heritage, and to enhance the quality of life for the people of Schumacher and greater Timmins”. Over the past ten years, the group has met at several different venues (including the Croatian Hall, Schumacher Public School, the Grandview Hotel and, most recently, over Zoom) and has achieved several major and many smaller accomplishments.

For the past decade (and a current total of 40 issues), the Spirit of Schumacher newsletter has celebrated the past, present and future of the community. It has provided a hometown connection to former residents and shed light on our storied history to newcomers. The creation of several short documentary films (including ones on the Schumacher Lions Club and the Croatian Hall) provides a more in depth look at some longstanding Schumacher institutions. These videos are complemented by a handful of podcasts that capture the voices of some of Schumacher’s longstanding residents. (Links to past issues of the newsletter, the documentaries, and the podcasts can be found at [www.spiritofschumacher.ca](http://www.spiritofschumacher.ca), the SACHA website.)

Bringing the community together has been a SACHA priority over the years. Early events included a Miners’ Walk to celebrate Schumacher’s Centennial on March 1, 2012, a Christmas Mix & Mingle on December 22, 2012, and the presentation of a Spirit of Schumacher Award to Louise Nightingale Smith during Mr. Schumacher Day on March 1, 2013.

From 2016 through 2018, SACHA hosted an annual Schumacher Social featuring live



Above: The Darlings featuring (from left to right) Joe Polowy, Jason Dagg, Brian Jones, Lee Hannigan, Kevin Irvine, and Rob Knox perform at the 2018 SACHA Schumacher Social. Middle: A group of concerned citizens filled the Croatian Hall at the first Future of Schumacher meeting on February 4, 2017. Bottom: SACHA has curated several Schumacher-themed items over the years including mugs crafted by Mira Buchar and chocolate headframes handmade by Just Because Chocolates & Confections.





Above: Schumacher residents walked the path of the miners from the McIntyre Arena up to the headframe to mark Schumacher's Centennial on March 1, 2012. Middle: Lloyd Salomone and Vera Romanowski hold court at the SACHA table during the last Schumacher Reunion in May 2014. Below: To date, SACHA has produced 40 issues of the Spirit of Schumacher newsletter.



musical entertainment at the Croatian Hall. Most recently, the group partnered with the Schumacher Lions Club to develop the Schumacher International Peace Park within the Lions Club Park across from the McIntyre Arena. Over the years, SACHA has also curated Schumacher-themed items (from handcrafted mugs to mousepads to face masks to chocolate headframes) to help people display their Schumacher spirit wherever they live.

SACHA has also been active on the academic research and political action fronts. Since 2014, the group has supported Dr. David Leadbeater's Northern Democracy Initiative. The NDI aims to examine how federal, provincial-territorial and municipal government policies affect resource-based communities in northern Canada. The municipal amalgamation of Timmins and the effects on the communities (including Schumacher) that were forced to consolidate are one of its areas of focus. Back in 2017 and 2018, SACHA helped organize Future of Schumacher community meetings to provide a platform for concerned citizens to connect with local and provincial politicians. Our advocacy efforts played a role in the decision by District School Board Ontario North East to keep Schumacher Public School open and operational. SPS celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2019. Most recently, SACHA founder Lloyd Salomone has been working with a subcommittee of local historians to assess and archive Schumacher-related arts and cultural materials. Stay tuned for more information on this initiative in upcoming issues of the SOS!

Over the years, SACHA has received financial support from over 200 individuals and families as well as several businesses and organizations. At any given time, there are well over 100 active SACHA supporters; providing a clear signal that we should continue on with our efforts. The current SACHA Board of Directors includes original members Lloyd Salomone and Kathy Vukobratich, as well as longtime members Vera Romanowski and Lisa Romanowski. Ex-officio board members include the late Darrell MacGregor, Rob Knox, Brian Conley, Mark Chenier, Kylie Laughren, Chris Hubbs, Graham Reid, Lesley-Anne Dupuis, Deb Laffin, and Heather Duhn. Going forward, SACHA will continue to seek partnerships and work with other service, education, business, government, and cultural organizations to serve the community and people of Schumacher.



# EDITORIAL

By the time this issue reaches you, we will be well into 2022 ... best wishes for a happy and healthy year nonetheless! As it was for many people, 2021 proved to be a challenging year for my family right until the end. We're hoping 2022 will be calmer; but whatever it brings we're ready to tackle it together.

SACHA marked its 10th anniversary in December 2021. It really is amazing how much our little group has accomplished over the years. Publishing 40 issues of the Spirit of Schumacher newsletter is in and of itself cause for celebration! I want to extend a personal thank you to previous editors Heather Campbell and Bridget Yard for their efforts in establishing the newsletter. Thanks also to everyone who has submitted photos, articles and letters over the years; they are much appreciated.

We had hoped to have a community celebration to mark our milestone anniversary, but the pandemic had other plans. We're cautiously optimistic that we will be able to host a small outdoor event in March for Schumacher's 110th Anniversary followed by a larger community event this summer. Stay tuned!

Please check out the new SACHA website ([www.spiritofschumacher.ca](http://www.spiritofschumacher.ca)) when you get a chance!

Until next time, take care of yourselves!

*Lisa Romanowski,*  
SOS Editor

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

If you are local and interested in helping SACHA organize a community event to celebrate Schumacher's 110th Anniversary in March 2022, please email [spiritofschumacher@gmail.com](mailto:spiritofschumacher@gmail.com).

## Snow Contest 2022

BROUGHT TO YOU BY SACHA

There's lots of snow this year, so we might as well have some fun with it! Let's see how many snow sculptures and characters we can build throughout Schumacher! Get your family together, collaborate with your neighbours, or build on your own.

To enter our contest, simply email your physical address and a photo of your snow creation to [SPIRITOFSCHUMACHER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SPIRITOFSCHUMACHER@GMAIL.COM) by 9 PM on Monday, February 21, 2022. The first 25 entries will receive a surprise treat in thanks for participating.

Submissions will be featured on the SACHA Facebook Page. Winners will be contacted by email on Monday, February 28, 2022. Great prizes from local merchants to be won!

Contest open to residents of Schumacher, Platt Vet, Gold Centre and Carium.



We didn't enter the Holiday Display contest, but our house was decked out nonetheless. (Photo by Lisa Romanowski.)

## SACHA NOW ACCEPTS ETRANSFERS

Annual SACHA support payments can now be made by eTransfer. Use the email address [schumachergirl@gmail.com](mailto:schumachergirl@gmail.com).

## SACHA DIRECTORS

Lloyd Salomone  
Kathy Vukobratich  
Vera Romanowski  
Lisa Romanowski  
Jennifer Dunkley (Webmaster)

### SOS Newsletter Inquiries

[schumachergirl@gmail.com](mailto:schumachergirl@gmail.com)  
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### General SACHA Inquiries:

[spiritofschumacher@gmail.com](mailto:spiritofschumacher@gmail.com)

### Connect with Us Online:

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## SOS NEWSLETTER

The not-for-profit Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association publishes the SOS newsletter three times a year in the spring, summer and fall/winter.

For newsletter inquiries email: [spiritofschumacher@gmail.com](mailto:spiritofschumacher@gmail.com)

Readers are invited to submit articles and photos celebrating Schumacher's past, present, or future for publication consideration. Please include the creator's full name and the full names of photo subjects.

## ADVERTISING

Business ads are \$70/year. Contact us for more information.

## Good for a Giggle ...

What does a caterpillar do on January 1st?  
He turns over a new leaf!



**PLEASE CONSIDER  
SUPPORTING THOSE  
WHO SUPPORT SACHA**



*Look forward with excitement.  
Look back with compassion.*

*Look forward with faith.  
Look back with gratitude.*

*Look forward with wonder.  
Look back with understanding.*

*Look forward with hope.  
Look back with forgiveness.*

*Look forward with confidence.  
Look back with reverence.*

Will Bowen



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SACHA will recognize your generosity in the SOS newsletter and on its website. A non-tax deductible receipt will be issued.