



# The Wasagan



Official Newsletter of Beachcombers Probus, P.O. Box 321, Wasaga Beach, Ontario L9Z 1A4

International Website: [www.probus.org/canada.htm](http://www.probus.org/canada.htm)

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April 6, 2010

Volume 7, Issue 9



## APRIL GENERAL MEETING

**TODAY'S SPEAKER:  
CALVIN EVANS**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

We extend a warm welcome to our returning snow birds. We know you will be chomping at the bit to resume your Probus activities. We have a nice bag of activities coming up for the warmer months to help you fill in your time.

My grandfather used to say; Spring is sprung, the grass is riss, I wonder where the birdies is. Well, we know where some of them are. We are on a pond lot in Park Place, and we have two Trumpeter Swans that return every year, and they are back. We also have 3 Mallards so far: One female with two male suitors. The males are driving the poor female crazy with their efforts to try and start a family. We also have a couple of Canada Geese as well, and we know there will be more to come. Oh joy oh bliss

Do not forget to thank Ron Hanson, Joan and Ray Porter for looking after coffee and refreshments while Susan & Brian Passmore are enjoying their winter vacation. As far as we know Susan & Brian will be back behind the counter in May

Bob Bowyer

### **MARCH'S GUEST SPEAKER**

Our March speaker was Patrick Stark who successfully completed his 1000 km circumnavigation of Georgian Bay in a kayak. The expedition took 40 days and raised awareness as well as approximately \$7,500 for the Georgian Bay Land Trust, a not-for-profit registered charity. The Georgian Bay Land Trust is dedicated to the preservation of land along the eastern shore and North Channel of Georgian that has ecological, geological and historical importance. This section of Georgian Bay is an internationally recognized UNESCO biosphere reserve.



Patrick began his expedition in the Parry Sound area (near Killbear Park) on July 1, 2008; he proceeded south and paddled clockwise around the bay. Patrick had to carry everything he needed including his tent, extra clothes, food, etc. In order to keep his strength up he had to consume 4000 calories a day – that's a lot of food to pack in a small kayak! Patrick regaled us with some interesting stories of his trip from the storms that he had to endure, the hospitality of the people along the way and the beautiful scenery.

On July 30, Patrick's girlfriend and brother joined him for the last week of his journey. On August 9, 2008 Patrick returned home. Waiting for him was a bottle of champagne and his family to welcome him home!. For more information on Patrick's trip as well as all of his pictures please visit his web site at [www.patrickstark.com](http://www.patrickstark.com). For more information on what the Georgian Bay Land Trust is doing to protect the bay (or to make a donation) go to [www.gbtl.org](http://www.gbtl.org).

**GET WELL WISHES & CONDOLENCES** This month, Goodwill sent out cards to Joe Baxter, Ross and Gail Dawe, Ruth Kammer, Joan Maloney, and Gary and Doris Willis. Did we miss anyone? Tell Shirley.

### **PAST SOCIAL EVENT**

#### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2010 – ST. PATRICK'S DAY GALA**

Our social committee did a fabulous job of organizing this event. They prepared and served a wonderful meal of Irish stew, buns, bread and salad. A large cake from SuperStore provided dessert with an added humorous bonus of incorrectly spelling the theme day "St. Patric." Michael James hosted a Limerick writing contest which was well received. You can read all the wonderful Limericks on the insert of this issue. Tom



Donohue provided some fabulously funny Irish jokes which cracked everybody up, mainly and especially Tom. There was also a quiz about knowledge of St. Patrick. Many members also enjoyed singing the traditional Irish tunes. A young dancer named Alicia (Thank you, **Monica Kristen**, for getting her to perform for us) rounded out the Irish entertainment with her lively Celtic jumps and spins. Many members won the large cash prizes (pot of gold?) in the lucky draws and a large bottle of Irish Cream was awarded as first door prize, followed by Guinness, and then shamrock chocolate. Small Irish Cream bottles were awarded to Limerick

writers and very expensive Dollarama hats and jewellery were awarded to winning teams in the Irish Quiz. Thanks to these members of the social committee (or spouse, as the case may be) who cooked the stews, specifically: **Michael James (2), Marilyn Evans, Joan Maloney, Sandra Hanson (2) and Irene Donohue (2)**. Thanks to Super Shopper **Sandra Hanson** who got the prizes, the stewing meat, the buns, the salads, etc. Thanks to **Michael James** who took care of all the alcoholic prizes. Special thanks to **Vincy Stephenson** for cooking two very tasty breads: one, a plain Irish loaf and the second a special Irish dessert loaf. And finally, a big thank you to **Gene Stephenson** for his technical expertise in projecting the words of the songs on the large screen while playing the accompanying music for our sing-alongs and projecting the quiz questions on the screen one at a time with appropriate and cute images. It added to the whole affair.

#### **FROM YOUR SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

Members of the social committee are Joan Maloney, Sandra Hanson, Michael James, Jane James, Linda Marshall, Marilyn Evans, Mary Searle and Tom Donohue. **Feel free to support us with flowery opinions, constructive comments and brilliant and helpful suggestions.** It is our hope that all members enjoy the variety of events we have lined up for you.



#### **UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS**

##### **TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010 – AN EVENING AT THE RACES**



This is the very last opportunity to purchase tickets for this event. Enjoy a fine dinner (alcoholic drinks are extra), and then look over the racing programme and pick your winners at Georgian Downs. Get there at 6:00 and leave whenever you desire. If you feel you may have better luck in the casino, just step downstairs. The cost this year is \$23 each which leaves more money to bet on the races.

##### **TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2010 – MAGICAL MYSTERY CAR TOUR**

Join us as we take a Magical Mystery Car Tour of the local area. This year we will travel a little further afield and leave the Wasaga Beach area. Teams will be provided with some information and challenges to guide you on your way and then it's up to you. Four persons per vehicle are encouraged. If you are a single rider, let the social committee know and we will endeavour to place you with some



company. It is always more enjoyable that way. Conversely, if you do not mind an additional passenger joining you and if you do have the room, inform the social committee. The tour will explore some places in our local area which may be magical. Then we will all meet at a spot for a (hopefully) delicious meal, and that is the mystery. Tickets are available at today's meeting and the \$12.00 cost includes your suggested route, challenges, prizes and the surprisingly good meal (lots of variety available) with coffee or soft drink.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2010 – TALENT NIGHT**

Tickets go on sale today for a dinner and Talent Night. You can sign up to be either a diner only or a diner/entertainer. The cost is only \$25.00 for a delicious (probably roast beef) meal at the newly renovated Collingwood Legion Hall topped off by an evening of lively and witty entertainment. Mark your calendars and get ready for a night of pleasure



**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 - STRATFORD THEATRE**

This is a whole day bus trip to the Stratford Theatre to view "Evita" which includes lunch at the Queen's Hotel. Cost for the day which includes bus there and back, the lunch and theatre ticket is \$120.00 each. Availability is on a first-come-first-serve basis. **Sign the interest sheet**, pick up a brochure and pay in advance if you are seriously interested and able to attend.

**HEADS UP FOR FUTURE EVENTS** (Mark your calendars)

**TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2010** – Annual picnic in Elmvale

**Thursday, August 5<sup>th</sup>** - A live comedy show at King's Wharf in Penetanguishene at 2:00 PM

**AUGUST (Date TBA) – Probus Golf Tournament**

**MARCH LUCKY DRAW WINNERS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize of the \$40.00 Gift Certificate to Boston Pizza – Jeanne Boem
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of \$34.00 – Jim Sommerville
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of \$21.00 – Lois Sommerville
- 4<sup>th</sup> prize of \$17.00 – Lucille Mancer
- 5<sup>th</sup> prize of \$12.00 – Bob Bowyer

**PLEASE BRING COINS TO BUY YOUR LUCKY DRAW TICKETS**

**BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES:** Best wishes to those who celebrate in April.

**"MEET YOUR MEMBER" – WE NEED YOU!** Please consider presenting your profile.

Please contact Betty Keyes at (705) 429-6064 for information regarding "Meet Your Member" profiles. If you are not comfortable speaking in front of groups, Betty will be pleased to help you compose and read your profile at a specified monthly meeting.

**SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

SPECIAL INTEREST	CONTACT NAME	PHONE NO.	SPECIAL INTEREST	CONTACT NAME	PHONE NO.
First Edition Book Club	Betty Montgomery	429-6854	Pinochle	Bob Bowyer	429-0579
Dinner at our Place	Linda Willis	429-0467	Happy Bookers Club	Mary Barnes	429-2142
Restaurant Dinner Club	Joyanne Loughran	429-6574	Afternoon Luncheon Cuisiners	Joan Maloney	422-0573
Bid Euchre	Paul Turner	422-0747	Fair-Weather Walkers	Lyn Rice	429-1798
Book Worms Club	Lucille Mancer	422-0143	Regular Euchre	Lorraine Doidge	422-0622
Kitchen Bridge	Betty Keyes	429-6064	Daytrippers	Lucille Mancer	422-0143
Genealogy	Sandra Hanson	422-0227	Men's Breakfast (ROMEO)	Bob Bowyer	429-0579

### Happy Bookers

Mary Barnes hosted this month's book club meeting. We discussed *The Shadow of the Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Zafon and members expressed enthusiasm for a well-written novel set in Barcelona. The story was full of intrigue, romance and humour with well-rounded characters and a strong narrative. Members gave the book an average of 4.0 with strong recommendation.

### Book Worms Book Club

*The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini takes place before the Russian invasion of Afghanistan. The pivotal point in this gripping story occurs during a kite flying competition, when 12 year old Hassan makes a tragic decision. The novel provoked lively discussion relating to cultures, mores, and relationships.

### ROMEO Group:

The ROMEO's (Retired Old Men Eating Out) meet on the **last Wednesday of the month** for fellowship and a good breakfast. We rotate between 5 or 6 local restaurants. Our next breakfast will be held at **THE MOSLEY STREET GRILL on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at 9:00 AM**. We have capped our group at 25. To get on the list as an alternate please call Bob Bowyer at 429-0579.

### THE DAYTRIPPERS

We have car-pooled to St Jacobs, done some Christmas Shopping at Yorkdale, The Eaton Centre and Square One. We recently enjoyed a Thai lunch followed by the movie *The Lovely Bones*. Planned are excursions to a theatre matinee, Toronto museums, touring local waterfalls in the autumn and going to the Cookstown Discount Mall followed by Japanese cuisine.

### DON'T FORGET:

- The Secretary's Minutes of the last General Meeting and the Treasurer's Summary of the Club's finances are posted at the front of the room. Please read them!
- **Please notify the Membership Convener of any changes to your address, phone number, e-mail address, etc.** We realize this is a continuing reminder, but it is very important!
- Please pass information regarding sickness, hospital stays, or death of a member to our Goodwill Convener (Shirley Brett at 429-8907). If you don't tell us, we may miss sending out a card.
- Our New Member Ambassador, Lucille Mancer, is always available to give you information about our Club and its activities. Lucille can be reached at 422-0143 or [lucille.mancer@sympatico.ca](mailto:lucille.mancer@sympatico.ca)

### MANAGEMENT TEAM for 2009-2010.

<b>President</b>	Bob Bowyer	429-0579		<b>Membership</b>	Heide & Guenter Haessler	422-0288
<b>Vice-President</b>	Don Caron	429-0308		<b>Refreshments</b>	Susan & Brian Passmore	422-1956
<b>Secretary</b>	Mary Barnes	429-2142		<b>Lucky Draw</b>	Michael James Linda Vanderknokke	429-7207 429-6846
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kathy Zack	429-0033		<b>New Members</b>	Lucille Mancer	422-0143
<b>Past President</b>	Betty Baker	422-1909		<b>Goodwill</b>	Shirley Brett	429-8907
<b>Speaker and Profiles Chair</b>	Monica Kristan Mary Barnes	429-9635 429-2142		<b>Newsletter</b>	Vincy Stephenson	422-0201
<b>Social</b>	Tom Donohue	429-0644				

### ATTENTION TRAVELLERS

Probus Canada has sent us a reminder on the Travel Insurance Program being offered to all Probus Club members. A copy showing the various options is posted on the bulletin board. Additional copies are at the Podium for those who are interested. If you have questions re coverage, or require more information contact the following:

**Lisa Hansen 1-888-412-8822 email [lhansen@johnson.ca](mailto:lhansen@johnson.ca)**

**Gary Sawatzky 1800-661-1973 email [gsawatzky@johnson.ca](mailto:gsawatzky@johnson.ca)**

### NEXT MEETING

**MAY 4, 2010**

**WASAGA STARS ARENA**

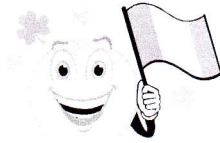
Arrive early to enjoy coffee and tea with your friends prior to the meeting at 10:00 am.

Remember to bring your "Probus" mug and wear your name tags.

# LIMERICK SUBMISSIONS FOR THE MARCH 17 GALA

Limericks containing the word "bucket" were omitted for obvious reasons.

There was once a fine group on the sand  
Who formed a club which was grand  
As strangers we came  
Now friends we'll remain  
Our best Probus group in the land.



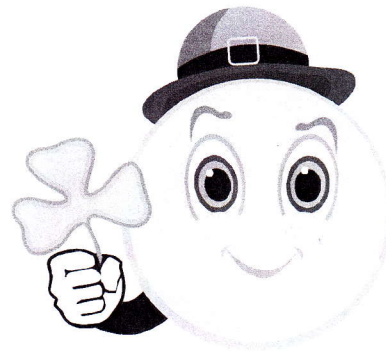
There once was a gal from the beach  
Who thought she sure was a peach  
The men thought she was good  
And figured she would...  
But they found she was quite out of reach.

There once was a young lad named Tom  
Whose jokes went down like a bomb  
He tried to be witty  
When he read us a ditty  
And sadly he had no aplomb.

A lady in Stickly  
Fell in something prickley  
She screamed out aloud  
Please help me out  
Or I will be infinitely sickly.

There once was a young man from Kent  
Whose finger was horribly bent  
He pointed the way  
One fine summer day  
But instead of coming, he went.

A green dressed guy named Tom  
Told Irish stories with aplomb  
Without hesitation and great presentation  
He told stories of laughter  
All day long.



There once was a member of Probus  
Who really was quite robust  
He went to the gym  
And he became so thin  
That now he's no longer with us.

## LAST MINUTE NEWS FROM OUR PROBUS SNOWBIRD BEACHCOMBERS

(We received this last minute report with thanks from **Betty Baker**.) The Panama City Beachcombers (who did not do too much beachcombing on account of the cold weather) still managed to have a wonderful social time. Many dined out in fine restaurants, and experienced good shopping at Pier Park. There were 20 of us who had a great cheese and wine party, a wonderful pot luck dinner, a book club get together for the gals, a fantastic pancake breakfast (with mimosas), and a great going home party. We came back to wonderful weather - but we understand there was also some snow. Everyone arrived home safely.