

The Wasagan



Official Newsletter of Beachcombers Probus, P.O. Box 321, Wasaga Beach, Ontario L9Z 1A4
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May 3, 2011

Volume 8, Issue 9



MAY GENERAL MEETING

CATERED LUNCH AND QUIZ



President's Message

May has been my favourite month for many reasons. The weather is improving after having a lengthy winter season that usually begins in late fall and continues into early spring. I also like May, as it is when Pat and I can get outside and work in our gardens. Pat looks after the flowerbeds and I look after the lawn and vegetable garden. I really don't know why we like it so much because it is a lot of work and we are getting older. (In case you didn't notice!) Speaking of getting older! My birthday is also in May, which is another reason for it being a favourite month, especially when I was young. I am now well over my three score and ten. When I was a kid I never thought that I would make it to this age, and now I am hoping that I can keep running for many more years.

We Need Your Help: As the end of the year for the present Management Team is fast approaching, we are asking members to please consider volunteering for one of the Management Positions.

The new Management Team will take over at the August General Meeting. All Positions are open except President and Past President.

Any member of the Nominating Committee, consisting of Bob Bowyer, Betty Baker and Don Caron, would be pleased to hear from any member interested in one of the Management positions.

Don Caron



EXTRA, EXTRA!! THE BEACHCOMBERS ARE GOING GREEN!

Our Club will be phasing out Styrofoam cups! Starting at our meeting in **August** we will no longer be providing Styrofoam cups to members who forget their mugs. Unless you wish to go without a hot beverage ... REMEMBER YOUR MUG!!

APRIL'S SPEAKER

Ken Haigh was a fascinating speaker and he kept us captivated with his stories of his two years teaching in Bhutan.

Twenty years ago when Ken got his English degree he could not get a job in Ontario so he looked into teaching overseas. It took two years but in 1987, he



was finally offered a job teaching high school in the remote Himalayan village of Khaling (pop. 500) in eastern Bhutan.

The school that Ken taught at was originally established by Canadian Jesuits. The students and teachers had to board at the school as it was too far to travel back and forth on a daily basis. Ken had 21 to 28 kids in his class and the total number of students in the school was only 300. School was free if you passed; if you failed you had to pay to come back and since most families could not afford to pay, only the very brightest made it to graduation. The government made sure that they received jobs at the end of their education so it was well worth it to study hard. By high school only a quarter of the students were girls as they were too valuable at home and therefore pulled out.

Ken told us how he learned to deal with the lack of telephones, the constant haggling, the rats, the wild dogs, the leeches, the hundred-mile treks, the near death experiences on terrifying mountain roads, the frustration of language barriers, the monotonous diet (rice, rice and more rice, vegetables in season and very rarely some meat) and the sickness. Yet, despite the great discomforts, he told us of becoming captivated by the magic and the mystique of a strange land and its people.

After teaching in Bhutan, China and the Canadian Arctic, Ken earned his Masters of Library & Information Science at the University of Western Ontario. He is currently living in Clarksburg and has returned to work part-time at the Blue Mountains Public Library. He continues to write and actively parents his three school-aged children.

If you would like to learn more about Ken's many experiences in Bhutan, he has written a book entitled "Under The Holy Lake: A Memoir of Eastern Bhutan".

THANK YOU TO APRIL'S GREETERS, JIM AND SHEILA EWING.
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE A GREETER PLEASE SEE BETTY BAKER.

GOODWILL

Get well cards were sent to Charlie Baker and Judith Harrison.

Sympathy cards were sent to Christina and Brian Armstrong on the death of Christina's brother and to Don and Pat Caron on the death of Don's brother. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Christina, Brian, Don, Pat and their families.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Club would like to welcome our two new members Margaret Cajot and Joanne Sutman. Welcome, ladies!

<u>A BIG THANK YOU</u> goes out to Joe Baxter and Olga Yates for their fine work of looking after the coffee while Brian and Susan were away. Many thanks for keeping the "liquid gold" flowing!!

PAST EVENTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2011 – LUNCH AT A SUGAR BUSH

Forty members enjoyed a sunny early spring morning and early afternoon at Shaws. We strolled through the sugar bush and Terri-Lynn Shaw told us a little of the history of Shaws and its maple syrup production. Shaws has been



producing maple syrup at that site since 1904. The lunch of pancakes, sausages and Shaws maple syrup was delicious. None of us had ever seen such huge pancakes. Few were able to finish. This is an event that is sure to be repeated at some time in the future.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011 - WINES OF SPAIN AND ARGENTINA



Join the festivities and delight your senses as we take a journey through the wines of Spain and Argentina. Enjoy an evening of wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres and good company. The adventure will start at 7:00 PM at the Lions Club, Wasaga Beach. Tickets are \$20 and will be available for the last time at the May meeting.



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2011 – MYSTERY THEATRE AND LUNCH



For June's event, we have rented a bus and we'll be off to the Old Mill in Toronto for lunch and a mystery theatre matinee. The production, entitled 'Tangled Web', features Sherlock Holmes and a cast of 'likely suspects'. Tickets are \$70 each and include your return bus fare. lunch and the theatre.

Join in the fun and participate in the solving of a hilarious whodunit!! There are only a few tickets left – don't miss out!

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2011 - BEACHCOMBERS ANNUAL PICNIC

Mark July 19 in your calendars for another fun afternoon at our annual picnic and stay tuned for more details. There will be some new games/activities and a changed menu for lunch. This is one of the two events each year that the club subsidizes so it will be a particularly good value for the ticket price. Tickets will be on sale in June.



APRIL LUCKY DRAW WINNERS PLEASE BRING COINS TO BUY YOUR LUCKY DRAW TICKETS

1st prize of \$60.00 – Betty Baker 2nd prize of \$37.00 – Ruth Dobson 3rd prize of \$30.00 – Jack Benedet 4th prize of \$23.00 – Ruth Clarke



\$40.00 Gift Certificate for Foodland – Helen Aherne 2 Complimentary Tickets to *GREASE* – Pat Caron

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES:

Best wishes to those who celebrate in May.

"MEET YOUR MEMBER" - WE NEED YOU!

MEMBERS WHO PRESENT THEIR PROFILE WILL BE ENTERED INTO A DRAW FOR A FREE BEACHCOMBERS PROBUS MEMBERSHIP!

Contact Betty Keyes at 429-6064 for information regarding "Meet Your Member" profiles. Betty will be pleased to help you compose and read your profile at a specified monthly meeting.

NOTE: SOME OF US ARE NOT COMFORTABLE GIVING OUR PROFILE BUT MAYBE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE A STORY, MEMORIES OF A SPECIAL VACATION, A FAVOURITE HOBBY OR SOME OTHER SPECIAL INTEREST, LET MONICA KRISTEN KNOW AND SHE WILL SCHEDULE YOU IN!

ROMEO - Men's Breakfast Group

The ROMEO (Men's) Breakfast group meets on the last Wednesday of the month for fellowship, and a good breakfast. We rotate between 4 or 5 local restaurants. Our next breakfast will be held at the MOSLEY STREET GRILL, 1238 Mosley Street, Wasaga Beach, on WEDNESDAY, May 25, 2011 at 9:00 AM. We have 27 in our group. If you wish to join us anytime call Bob Bowyer at 429-0579.

First Edition Book Club

In April we read the book "*The Day The World Came To Town*", by *Jim Defede*. This was a poignant, often humourous and very vivid story of 38 Commercial airliners diverted to Gander, Newfoundland on September 11, 2001. Over 6500 people were guests of the townspeople and no money changed hands. They were housed, fed, clothed and entertained. The generosity, friendship and concern of the townspeople was a shock to the big city people. No one locked a door, a car or a home; everything was given in friendship. We rated this book a 4 out of 5.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

| SPECIAL INTEREST | CONTACT NAME | PHONE NO. | SPECIAL INTEREST | CONTACT NAME | PHONE NO. |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Afternoon Luncheon Cuisiners | Joan Maloney | 422-0573 | Golf | WE NEED | YOU!! |
| Bid Euchre | Paul Turner | 352-0747 | Happy Bookers Club | Mary Barnes | 429-2142 |
| Book Worms Club | Kathy Dunnett | 352-0100 | Kitchen Bridge | Betty Keyes | 429-6064 |
| Daytrippers | Betty Keyes | 429-6064 | Regular Euchre | Loraine Doidge | 422-0622 |
| Dinner at our Place | Steve and Jan Bivall | 429-7584 | Restaurant Dinner Club | WE NEED | YOU!! |
| First Edition Book Club | Betty Montgomery | 429-6854 | ROMEO - Men's Breakfast | Bob Bowyer | 429-0579 |
| Genealogy | Sandra Hanson | 422-0227 | | | |

MANAGEMENT TEAM for 2010-2011:

| President | Don Caron | 429-0308 | Membership | Heide & Guenter Haessler | 422-0288 |
|----------------|----------------|----------|--------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Vice-President | Michael James | 429-7207 | Refreshments | Susan & Brian Passmore | 422-1956 |
| Past President | Bob Bowyer | 429-0579 | Lucky Draw | Gene Stephenson | 422-0201 |
| Secretary | Mary Barnes | 429-2142 | Goodwill | Shirley Brett | 429-8907 |
| Treasurer | Kathy Zack | 429-0033 | Newsletter | Vincy Stephenson | 422-0201 |
| New Members | Betty Baker | 422-1909 | Social | Irene Donohue | 429-0644 |
| Speaker and | Monica Kristen | 429-9635 | | | |
| Profiles Chair | Mary Barnes | 429-2142 | | | |

NEXT MEETING

JUNE 7, 2011

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.

The following are corrections to the Beachcomber's Membership List dated December 2010:

MEMBER LIST- REVISIONS APRIL 2011

| FIRST NAME | LAST NAME | ADDRESS | TOWN | POSTAL CODE | PHONE # | E-MAIL |
|---------------|--------------|------------------------------|----------|----------------|----------|---------------------|
| Margaret | Cajot | 101 Silver Birch Ave. | WB | L9Z 1N8 | 429-7769 | N/A |
| Marilyn | Evans | 5080 Boyne Street RR2 | Alliston | L9R 1V2 | 256-2352 | N/A |
| Greg | Lemire | 14 Timberland Crescent | WB | L9Z 1G7 | 422-1738 | grlemire@rogers.com |
| Rickey | Lemire | 14 Timberland Crescent | WB | L9Z 1G7 | 422-1738 | grlemire@rogers.com |
| Joanne | Sutman | 15 Marlwood Avenue | WB | L9Z 1S9 | 352-0574 | jsutman@rogers.com |
| Shirley | Watson | 207 - 19B Yonge Street North | Elmvale | L0L 1P0 | 322-2419 | N/A |

CONFIDENTIAL LIST - THIS LIST IS NOT TO BE USED FOR COMMERCIAL OR OTHER PURPOSES