



# The Wasagan



Official Newsletter of Beachcombers Probus, P.O. Box 321, Wasaga Beach, Ontario L9Z 1A4  
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December 6, 2011

Volume 9, Issue 4

**DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING WILL FEATURE CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**



### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Well, the Christmas Season is upon us whether we like it or not. Everywhere you go there are images of Santa Claus, that must have toy and snow. We rush about trying to find the right gift for that special someone and we get caught up in all the excitement. The stores are full of everything you could ever wish for except what we all really need. It is amazing that this material world we live in will never promote what we all need. There is no profit in peace, love, respect and happiness.

Although Christmas is a Christian tradition, it is the underlying message of the season that we should all appreciate. Peace, love, respect for others and happiness for all is a truly human need.

This is also the time of year to look back and examine our successes, our failures and how we can improve our lives in the upcoming year.

On behalf of Vincy and myself I wish you all only good memories and happy thoughts and the joy that comes with this season, the most wonderful time of the year.

Merry Christmas and a most Prosperous New Year to All

**Gene Stephenson**

### NOVEMBER SPEAKER

Don Belgum introduced our guest speaker, Reverend Ian Stewart from the Collingwood Legion who is their branch Chaplain and Treasurer. Reverend Stewart gave the members an insight on the many aspects of servicing the Legion members as well as the communities within Simcoe County. The Legion is now in its 85th year with a total of 380,000 members across Canada. The importance and function of The Poppy Fund was explained and the many diversified areas it supports within our communities. Our members were advised their donations help support families both emotionally and financially. Additionally, they donate to numerous health, charitable, sports and literary organizations. A number of custom built items are also made for 'special needs' children when costs are prohibitive for the families. It was a very informative speech that made members aware of all the worthwhile work the Collingwood Legion does within our community. Don thanked Reverend Stewart and presented him with a token gift of our appreciation.

**THANK YOU TO THE GREETERS OF OUR NOVEMBER MEETING - Monica Kristen and Shirley Brett.** If you would like to be a greeter, please speak to **Betty Baker.**

**Safe trip to all our snowbirds. See you when you return.**

DEFINITION: Very quietly, I confided to my wife, on the eve of our 50th anniversary, that I was having an affair. She turned to me and asked: "Are you having it catered?"  
And that, my friends, is the definition of "OLD"




## PAST SOCIAL EVENT

**SQUARE DANCING** On November 8, some 30 + Beachcombers gathered together at the Stars Arena for an evening of square dancing. Thanks to the patience and skills of our caller, Dean, and with the assistance of a few of our members who actually knew what they were doing, we all learned a little and laughed a lot. Coffee, tea and sweets finished an enjoyable evening.

## UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

The following tickets are on sale at the social tables today.

<p><b>BEACHCOMBERS PROBUS CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE</b>  <b>Friday, December 2, 2011</b>  <b>At the Collingwood Legion</b>  <b>Cocktails at 6:00</b>  <b>Dinner at 6:30</b></p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 20px;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$25. 00 PER MEMBER</b>  <b>Sorry, this event is sold out. Look for the report next time.</b></p>	<p><b>BEACHCOMBERS PROBUS FIVE PIN BOWLING</b>  <b>2:00 p.m. Wednesday,</b>  <b>January 18th</b>  <b>\$16.00 per person</b>  <b>GEORGIAN BOWL</b>  <b>832 HURONTARIO ST.</b></p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 20px;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>There is an option to join us for dinner afterwards at your expense.</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Coming in February</b></p> <p>Your social committee is looking at holding a movie night with perhaps a meal at a restaurant.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summer Ideas Needed</b></p> <p>The social committee will accept alternate plans for next summer's picnic. The afternoon at the park at Elmvale may have run its course and fresh ideas and proposals are needed – something new and summery. Your input is welcome. Speak to the social committee or put your idea on paper and submit. Thanks.</p>

### NOVEMBER LUCKY DRAW WINNERS

1<sup>st</sup> prize of \$ ----- \$53.00 **Vincy Stephenson**  
 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of \$ ----- \$33.00 **Linda Squires**  
 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of \$ ----- \$27.00 **Jim Sommerville**

4<sup>th</sup> prize of \$ ----- \$20.00 **Chuck Davidson**  
 The Gift Certificate for \$40.00 for Mark's Work Warehouse, **Ed Davies**

**PLEASE BRING COINS TO THE LUCKY DRAW TABLE**

### BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

Best wishes to all those who celebrate in December.

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

**NOTE:** IF YOU ARE NOT COMFORTABLE GIVING YOUR PROFILE PLEASE CONSIDER SHARING A STORY, MEMORIES OF A SPECIAL VACATION (WITH OR WITHOUT A SLIDE SHOW), A FAVOURITE HOBBY OR SOME OTHER SPECIAL INTEREST. LET OUR SPEAKER CONVENORS KNOW AND THEY WILL SCHEDULE YOU IN!

### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

**If you are considering organizing any type of interest group, please approach a member of the Management Team. Special interest groups are open to Beachcombers Probus members only.**

If you are interested in joining any of the special interest groups below, or want to find out more information regarding the group, please contact the person whose name appears beside the activity.



**AND** if you wish to have some interesting information regarding your group entered in the monthly newsletter, please contact the newsletter editor **Tom Donohue** by email at this special address at least a week before the next monthly meeting: **newslettertom@rogers.com**

SPECIAL INTEREST	CONTACT NAME	PHONE NO.	SPECIAL INTEREST	CONTACT NAME	PHONE NO.
Afternoon Luncheon Cuisiners	Joan Maloney	422-0573	Restaurant Dinner Club	Sandra Hanson	422-0227
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	ROMEO - Men's Breakfast	Bob Bowyer	429-0579
First Edition Book Club	Betty Montgomery	429-6854	GOLF	We Need You	
Genealogy Group	Sandra Hanson	422-0227	YOUR SPECIAL INTEREST HERE	Your name here	

**Happy Bookers Club** (at maximum membership)

In November, the 'Happy Bookers' saw the movie 'Sarah's Key' an excellent follow-up on our last month's novel. This month's novel was The Help by Karen Stockett. Many of you have probably read this best seller or have seen the movie of the same name. Ms. Stockett was born in Jackson, Mississippi the scene of the novel and she writes of the experiences of many black women who worked in the homes of the white women as housekeepers and nannies to their children. Most of their experiences illustrated the cruelty and thoughtlessness of the segregation laws of the South. Ms. Stockett chose 1962/63 as the time of her novel, the year of Martin Luther King Jr.'s March on Washington, J.F. Kennedy's Civil Rights speech and his assassination, but in many ways Jackson and the lives of these women were untouched by this upheaval. As the black women, particularly Aibileen and Minny, tell their stories to Skeeter Phelan, the young white journalist, the reader comes to share their lives and their fears of reprisals. It is a very satisfying read and one we would all highly recommend, with a rating of 4.7.

**Daytrippers**

'The Daytrippers' spent a lovely afternoon in October. They travelled north to Christies Mill Inn at Port Severn on the Trent for lunch, and then on to the Cranberry Marsh near Bala and enjoyed the tour and the wine tasting.

**Come Score with Us**

A catchy title that has caught your interest, but refers to bridge only! We are a group of 8 who meet once a month for a fun game of Kitchen Bridge. Currently, these games are held at 7 P.M. on the second Wednesday of the month at each other's homes. We organized this 'Interest Group' as most of us played bridge many years ago and wanted to once again play on a regular basis. I would like to increase our spare list and to call on **you** when members are absent. If this is of interest, please call **Betty Keyes** at: 429-6064. A warm welcome is waiting for you, and also a guarantee that you will enjoy your evening with this super group of Probus members.

**Book Worms Club**

In November, the Book Worms Club read the Forgotten Garden by Kate Morton. It is the story of a four year old girl abandoned on a ship headed for Australia in 1913. She is adopted by the dockmaster in Australia. The novel takes us through three generations and into three countries as she and her granddaughter seek to uncover their family's secret past. It is a tale of mystery and intrigue. We have room in our Club for more members, call Kathy at 352-0100.

**First Edition Book Club**

In November, the First Edition Book Club read Girl in a Blue Dress by Gaynor Arnold. This novel was inspired by the life and marriage of Charles Dickens and is based on a character named Alfred Gibson. He is cast as a flamboyant writer, mercurial family man and amateur hypnotist who harbours a weakness for young ladies in blue frocks. Alfred falls in love and marries young Dorothea (nicknamed Dodo) who is dressed in a blue dress when he first meets her. After having several children in succession, Dodo becomes stout and depressed. When Alfred meets a young actress named Miss Ricketts (who is wearing



a blue dress) he is infatuated with her and banishes Dodo from his home to live by herself in a small apartment. He retains Dodo's sister, Sissy, as his housekeeper and to look after the children. It is only after Alfred dies that Dorothea finally gets to see all her children again and they reminisce about old poignant memories. The book was rated 3.6 out of 5

**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 at **9:00AM. We do not schedule a breakfast for December, as it is too close to Christmas, and New Years.** We have 27 in our group. If you wish to join us anytime call **Bob Bowyer** at 705-429-0579. Please check this space in the January WASAGAN for the location of our next breakfast. On behalf of the **ROMEO (MEN'S) BREAKFAST GROUP** we wish all a Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

**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**. If you don't tell us, we may miss sending out a card.
- Our New Member Ambassador, **Betty Baker**, is always available to give you information about our Club and its activities.

**PROBUS CANADA WIDE BULLETIN BOARD**

A bulletin board posting is available to Probus Clubs. The address is [www.probus.org/bulletin.htm](http://www.probus.org/bulletin.htm). When you are unable to attend a meeting, you can access your copy of *The Wasagan* at [www.probus.org/11wasbcn.pdf](http://www.probus.org/11wasbcn.pdf) (Please contact the *The Wasagan* Editor if you do not have a computer.)

**MANAGEMENT TEAM for 2011-2012**

<b>President</b>	Gene Stephenson	422-0201	<b>Membership</b>	Vincy Stephenson	422-0201
<b>Vice-President</b>	TBA		<b>Refreshments</b>	Susan & Brian Passmore	422-1956
<b>Past President</b>	Don Caron	429-0308	<b>Lucky Draw</b>	Rickey Lemire	422-1738
<b>Secretary</b>	Betty Keyes	429-6064	<b>Goodwill</b>	Shirley Brett	429-8907
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dan Squires	429-4765	<b>Newsletter</b>	Tom Donohue	429-0644
<b>New Members</b>	Betty Baker	422-1909	<b>Social</b>	Diane Nagel	428-3209
<b>Speaker and Profiles Chair</b>	Don and Marion Belgum	812-1668			

**DEADLINE for submissions for January's newsletter is December 28. You may be too busy for a long submission - maybe. Anything submitted after this date will be placed in the February newsletter.**

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2012  
THE WASAGA STARS ARENA**

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

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