

The Wasagan



Official Newsletter of Beachcombers Probus – Wasaga Beach, Ontario International Website: www.probus.org Newsletter Site: www.probus.org/7wasbcrn.pdf April 3, 2007

Volume 4, Issue 9

Newsletter Editors: Maggie Higgins & Ken Wong Guest Editor (January, February, March): Jan Bivall 422-1338 429-7584 kenmag@auracom.com stevebivall@sympatico.ca

APRIL GENERAL MEETING

TODAY'S SPEAKER: MICHELLE RICH, Environment Network Subject: Climate Change & Sustainable Development

SAY YES

Are you interested in getting more involved with the behind the scenes life of Beachcombers Probus? It is a new level of involvement which is very pleasing and rewarding. Both the social and management teams (members of the management team are listed on page four of this newsletter) need new members to continue to organize the fun and varied activities which we all enjoy. You are welcome to attend social committee meetings which are held on the third Friday of the month at the SuperStore Community Room at 10:00 a.m. The Management Team meets on the third Wednesday of the month at the same time and place. Please say yes when you are invited to join.

MARCH SPEAKER

Although we had to wait a few minutes for his arrival, our speaker was definitely worth the small inconvenience. Stephen Trafford is the Operations Supervisor for the Simcoe County Paramedic Service. He has held this position for three years and prior to this, he was an Advanced Care Paramedic for eight years. He was originally from the East Coast but has lived in Toronto and now lives with his family in Collingwood. He is Coordinator for the Public Access Defibrillation Program (PAD) and this was the basis of most of his message. These defibrillators are the ones found in more and more public buildings and they are there to treat sudden cardiac arrest. This affects 30 - 40,000 Canadians each year. This sudden cardiac arrest is caused by an irregular heart rhythm and is fatal unless treated within 10 minutes. Unfortunately there is only a 4% survival rate in Simcoe County mostly due to the longer distances ambulances must travel in our rural community. For every minute that passes, chances of survival decrease by 10% so the victim only has 10 minutes. Stephen and the Paramedic Service are working hard to improve these odds by increasing the number of Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's) available across Simcoe County. The AED's are designed to be used without training. The machine actually talks you through the process. The two pads are placed on the victim's chest and then the machine analyzes the amount of shock required or tells you if there is no need for shock and recommends CPR. The defibrillator acts as a reset button for the heart; the hope being that the shock will make the heart reset itself and work normally again. This must be followed by CPR in order to ensure the victim's survival. Three hundred people used a defibrillator and survived in Simcoe County last year. The Paramedic Service wants an AED in all arenas and recreational centres. They, in partnership with The Heart & Stroke Association, are actively attacking the issue by:

- offering mass CPR training it is free and lasts only 2 hours now. Participants get a 'Family & Friends Kit to
 practice with. CPR Training in our area will be advertised in the local paper or posted on the web site:
 www.county.simcoe.on.ca.
- 2. offering training in defibrillators in community facilities for every \$3500. raised, an AED is provided, plus all training of employees and all maintenance of the AED.

Currently there are AED's in all arenas in Simcoe County, every YMCA, library and recreational centre. Now they are looking at having them at golf courses also. It was gratifying that our Probus club donated significantly to the cost of the AED at the Stars arena.

Members had some interesting questions for Stephen such as:

Do the AED's work on batteries? – Yes, but they are long-life batteries that self-check and there is an alarm if the unit is not working well. This is also part of the regular maintenance service.

Do they work through clothing? - No, the victim's chest must be exposed.

What if I make a mistake helping the victim? – People are protected through legislation such as the 'Good Samaritan' Act and another act which protects you from any liability. You can never be faulted for helping someone with an AED.

Stephen then talked generally about the Paramedic Service in our area, saying that the station at Oxbow Road is manned 24/7 with additional crews on summer weekends. There are approximately 6-7 calls a day and if the one crew is on a call, another 'floater' crew backs them up. They use ATV's as first response units on the beach in the summer to provide help until ambulances can get there. Fire Departments also have AED's and in the future police cars may also have them.

MARCH'S SOCIAL EVENT at GEORGIAN DOWNS RACETRACK was cancelled due to the labour dispute.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

DINNER AND VARIETY SHOW

COLLINGWOOD LEGION

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

Want to see the talented 'stars' of Beachcomber's Probus? You won't want to miss this gala event. Enjoy a delicious chicken dinner followed by the glittering entertainment put on by our very own Probus Club members. Come and see the variety of talents that the members of this club have to offer. Join us for a delightful evening of sparkling entertainment and fun and applaud the wonderful efforts of our club mates. We are still looking for a few more participants to round out the evening's entertainment. Speak to anyone in the Social Group to sign up. Tickets for this diverse and humorous evening are priced at \$25.00 and are available today.

FAMOUS PEOPLE PLAYERS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

Our theatre outing includes bus transportation, chicken lunch and the performance, all for a cost of \$79.00 each. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to learn more about each other on the bus trip to and from Toronto. Come and join us for a fun day. Meeting place & time will be confirmed later. Tickets are available today.

FEBRUARY'S LUCKY DRAW WINNERS

1st Prize of \$34.50 was won by Peter Premich

2nd Prize of \$21.50 was won by Ruby Dimock

3rd Prize of \$17.00 was won by Chuck Davidson

4th Prize of \$13.00 was won by Greg Lemire

Gift certificate for Shopper's Drug Mart was won by Marg Richmond

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

(If you are considering organizing any type of interest group, please approach the Executive Committee.)

The special interest groups are open to Probus members only.

	Transmission Brown open to also) -	
*	Happy Bookers Book Club	Contact	Joanne Scruton	422-0976
*	Dinner at our Place	Contact	Betty Keyes	429-6064
*	Afternoon Luncheon Cuisiners	Contact	Maggie Higgins	422-1338
*	Restaurant Dinner Club	Contact	Diane Nagel	428-3209
*	Fair Weather Walkers	Contact	Gary Willis	429-7835
*	YOYO's	Contact	Joan Maloney	422-0573

The YOYO's (You're On Your Own) are a group of individuals wanting to share in good fellowship, potlucks and amusing activities. We meet on the 4th Wednesday morning of the month. Call Joan Maloney @ 422-0573 for more information – new members welcome.

Dinner at Our Place:

We have 4 hosts each welcoming 6 other guests for dinner. Responsibilities are rotated monthly with everyone preparing a portion of the meal. Our dinners begin at 6PM; we do not assign a particular evening to dine; this is left for each group to decide. The hosts are responsible for the main entree and the vegetables to accompany it. In addition, they supply the bread/rolls, tea/coffee milk/cream and sugar. As a host you do have 3 other couples who assist with your meal. I assign one couple to provide the appetizers, another couple soup or salad, and the third couple the dessert. Everyone provides their own choice of beverage for the evening whether it is wine, beer or a soft drink. At present we have 4 people who wish to become permanent members, and we need 4 more to join them to have a 5th house operational. Please call me or see me at a meeting if you are interested. We especially want to encourage our single people. Are you willing to host, like to cook and enjoy being with people for an evening of fun, good food and conversation? Betty Keyes 429-6064

The Happy Bookers club's membership is now full. If you wish to join, your name will now be placed on a waiting list. We meet every 3rd Monday of the month. Call Joanne Scruton @ 422-0976 Each of the 12 book club members choose a book to read from "Canada Reads". Canada Reads is an annual "battle of the books". Five advocates defend their choice for the book they believe Canada should read. This year's selection was as follows: Children of my Heart by Gabriel Roy, Lullabies for Little Criminals by Heather O'Neill; Natasha and other Stories by David Bezmazgio, The Song of Kahunsha by Anosh Irani And Stanley Park by Timothy Taylor. The following is a short review of Lullabies for Little Criminals, which just happens to be this year's winner. Lullabies for Little Criminals is HeatherO'Neill's first novel. The book is an endearing 'coming of age' story. A very disturbing, heartbreaking novel told in the first person about a thirteen year old girl named 'Baby' raised by her father who took better care of his drug habit than he did of her. She is shuttled between various run-down Montreal Apts, foster homes, etc. but somehow she is able to create a world that sustains her through the terrible times. She uses her imagination as a great escape; it distracts her from life's harsh realities such as her chaotic home life, poverty, prostitution and drugs. In the end her ability to adapt to change is her means of survival. When recommending this book a qualification should be made that there is a lot of offensive language used in the story line. Our April reading is A Throwaway Daughter by Ting Xing Ye and William Bell.

The Fair Weather Walkers: The walks always take place at Powerline Road. We will have the choice of either walking along the skidoo trail as we do during the winter, or we can use the forest trails. The walking is never cancelled; we enjoy each other's company no matter who happens to show up. We have walked in blizzards, in downpours and while fending off Canada's other national bird (The mosquito!). So come along any Friday and reward yourself with a cup of Timmy's coffee afterwards. Call Gary Willis @ 429-7835 for more information.

The Afternoon Luncheon Cuisiners meet every 2nd Monday of the month at 11:30 am. Members take turns hosting the lunch, which is an organized pot luck. It is a time of good food, laughter and gossip. We are now at our maximum membership limit of 12 ladies. Call Maggie Higgins @ 422-1338 if you want to be on our "wait" list.

The **Restaurant Dinner Club** is a group of some 60 members dedicated to the proposition that retirement is more than cooking. They go to different restaurants in the area every other month. Call Diane Nagel @ 428-3209 if you are interested in joining the group or you can recommend a good restaurant in the area.

BEACHCOMBERS SELLERS PAGE

Sellers must be members of Probus Beachcombers. Email your submission to Doris Willis @ teacop@rogers.com or add your submission to the list which is posted on the bulletin board at each meeting. Please notify Doris immediately when your item has been sold.

- 1. 2 piece sofa & loveseat, wedgewood blue, excellent condition, perfect for cottage or bedroom \$200. each piece or \$300. for both. Call Valerie Deveau @ 420-0354
- 2. Olympus 2.1 Digital camera with extra memory cards \$100. Call Jim Park @ 322-2419 (selling on behalf of Keith Rossel)

- 3. Professional Beauty Salon Hair Dryer; hardly used \$125. Husquvarna garden tractor; adjustment for pushing snow. Call Nell Holowachuk @ 429-7240
- 4. Child's Evenflo Exersaucer-Deluxe Active Learning Center. Call Kay Knab 429-5547 SOLD
- 5. Crock Pot Rival 5 quart Model 3850. LIKE NEW!! \$ 30.00 (Sears catalogue \$ 69.50 plus tax) Call Sheila @ 429-3451
- 6. Dark green love seat (2 years new) \$250. Call Bill Travis 422-1148
- 7. Victorian 3 piece Settee set, carved, Mother of Pearl inlay English. Call Jim Park @ 322-2419

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES:

Best wishes to those who celebrated in March!

DON'T FORGET:

- The Secretary's Minutes of the last General Meeting and the Treasurer's Summary of the Club's finances are posted on the Bulletin Board. Please read them! These Bulletin Boards often have details of other Community Events and Happenings in the area. We do this as an information service to our members, but we do not promote such things.
- Please notify the Membership Convener (Deborah Ferris) of any changes to your address, phone no., etc. We realize this is a continuing reminder, but it is very important!
- Wear your name tag to all Probus meetings and events.
- Please pass the information on sickness, hospital stays, or deaths of our members to our Goodwill Convener (Kay Knab 429-5547). If you don't tell us, we may miss sending out a card. Get-well Wishes, Best Wishes, and Condolences to anyone we may have missed.
- Our New Member Ambassador, Betty Keyes, is always available to give you information about our Club and its activities. Betty can be reached at 429-6064.

NEXT MEETING:

May 1st, 2007

ALL STARS ARENA

Arrive at 9:30 to enjoy coffee and tea with your friends prior to the meeting at 10:00.

When you are unable to attend a meeting, you can access your copy of The Wasagan at www.probus.org/7wasbcrn.pdf (Please contact the Editors if you do not have a computer)
Please be aware that the address changed in January to reflect the year 2007.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

President:	Chris Armstrong	429-7805	Refreshments:	Orlene & John Fost	429-9479
Vice-President: Tom Donohue		429-0644	Membership:	Deborah Ferris	429-4977
Treasurer:	Harry Durrant	429-3071	Social:	Gloria Harasowsky	429-0180
Secretary:	Doris Willis	429-7835		Vivian Sheridan	429-5590
Past President:	Ray Porter	429-9260	60/40:	Kay Knab	429-5547
Speakers:	Jan Bivall	429-7584	New Member Ambassador:		
	Diane Nagel	428-3209		Betty Keyes	429-6064
Goodwill:	Kay Knab	429-5547	Newsletter:	Maggie Higgins	
				& Ken Wong	422-1338