



The Wasagan



Official Newsletter of Beachcombers Probus

Wasaga Beach, Ontario

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APRIL GENERAL MEETING

TODAY'S SPEAKER: JOYCE MAYNE

THE MARCH GENERAL MEETING OUR PROFILER WAS CHRISTINA ARMSTRONG

After apologizing for not being a polished speaker, Christina proceeded to give us interesting insights into her life and keep us in stitches. Born in Hamilton, she survived a challenging childhood, acting as a protector for her siblings and working from the age of 10, but her stories showed an imaginative sense of humour as she referred to her father as an artist because he was 'drawing' unemployment insurance. Christina's life seemed for a while to be a series of 'ups' and 'downs'. After she won tickets to a Rolling Stones concert, she ditched school only to be caught on TV in the front row. After she eloped with the love of her life at 18, he took off 16 years later, leaving her to raise her two sons. But things eventually turned around. After a psychic told Chris she would meet someone important in a 'hot and crowded' place, she met her future husband, Brian, at a hot tub party. Chris has had many jobs but volunteer work is obviously most important to her. Currently, Chris is heavily involved with the Wasaga Beach Food Bank and wanted to correct several misconceptions. The Food Bank has to follow the rules of the Ontario Association of Food Banks, anyone using the service has to show proof of income, need and a local address; then they receive only three days' worth of food per month. She stressed that this is a year-round commitment, requiring volunteers and donations of food and cash. Someone mentioned that Christina would make a good motivational speaker and those who heard this profile would certainly agree.

SPEAKER: MICHAEL FAWCETT

Michael is the third generation family owner of Fawcett Funeral Homes in Collingwood and amazingly enough, Michael managed to make the topic of funerals both informative and somewhat amusing. He suggested that families need funerals for closure, for social support and to reflect on the departed person, and that many funerals are moving more towards memorial services. He also answered many questions regarding cremation which is requested by almost 85% of their clients. Rather than purchasing urns, many families create their own using personal items such as a cookie box or Crown Royal bottles. Michael also mentioned a funeral which detoured through Tim Horton's on its way to the cemetery as per the deceased's request. He stressed that pre-arranging your funeral eliminates the stress for your family of making all the decisions at the time, provides peace of mind and ensures that your wishes are clearly understood and carried out. Having this pre-arrangement also helps if you die in another location or another country. Michael mentioned an 'Executor's Tool Kit' and a book entitled 'A Useful Tool for Funeral Planning' by Judy Smith Ross, as helpful guides, both available from him.

Fifty of us gathered at The Putting Edge on Thursday, March 9th to try our hand at black light golfing. We were placed in teams and organized into a 'shotgun' start. The layout of the holes was interesting with a variety of challenges. It also tested our abilities with pool cues and toilet plungers. Obviously, some people (and you know who you are!) had spent many hours perfecting their shots with these implements. Amid lots of laughs, we completed our 18 holes. Prizes were awarded to the winning team and to the 'most honest' team. This was followed by a great lunch at the Mandarin. Thanks to Diane Nagel and Gloria for organizing this mid-winter treat. Even in the dark, Doris took some great pictures which are on the bulletin board.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

MURDER MYSTERY

BAYSHORE SENIORS CLUB

FRI, APRIL 21

Our actors have taken to this play so well, you'd think they actually knew 'THE MOB.' What a dedicated bunch. **Today will be your last chance to buy tickets.** There are only 130 tickets available. The cost will be \$25.00 for a dinner of juice, salad, meat lasagna, bread, dessert & coffee or tea (if you prefer veggie lasagna, let us know). There will be door prizes, 50/50 and tons of laughs. Cost for guests or non-members is \$30. Cocktails at 5:30, dinner at 6:00 and the play starts at 7:00. Dress the part with flapper dresses for the ladies and pinstripes and wide ties for the men. During intermission thrill to "The Charleston Girls". The prop team will be called on shortly to check out the hall and make the joint look authentic. We are still looking for a piano player.

O.P.P. MUSEUM TOUR

ORILLIA

MON. APRIL 24

The tour will be from 10:30 – 2 with a break for lunch (11:30 – 12:00) at the 'Steak Out'. Please arrive by 9:45. Take Hwy 11 north to Orillia, exit at Memorial Ave. continue to your right past Woodland Dr. to 777 MEMORIAL AVE. (a large building). Park in the front parking lot. You can shop and look through the Museum while waiting for the others to arrive.

HONDA PLANT TOUR

ALLISTON

THURS, MAY 25

If you are going on the Honda Plant Tour, please pick up your map and information sheet which confirms the time of your tour. The contact person for the 9:00 tour is Taylor Pearson and for the 12:30 tour is Bob Hammond. At this time we have two spaces left. Information is on the side table.

FUN AT THE CASINO

COLLINGWOOD LEGION

FRI. MAY 26

Cost will be \$25.00 and includes a roast chicken dinner with all the trimmings and, of course, the money to play with. Cocktails are at 5:30, dinner is at 6:00 and then the fun begins. We need more volunteers for this event. Please sign up if you wish to help. There is lots of 'funny money' to be won and lots of prizes to bid on.

LAWN BOWLING

STAYNER

TUES. JUNE 13

Lawn bowling will begin at 1:00 with a steak dinner at 4:30. The cost of the event will be \$15.00. The maximum number will be in the 56 – 60 range.

3RD ANNUAL BBQ

HERITAGE PARK, ELMVALE

WED. JULY 19

Mark this date on your calendar! More information to follow. Cost \$5.00

GOLF DAY – AUGUST - more information to follow

CRAFT FAIR

There is an interest sheet available. Nine people have signed up for our Craft Fair so that seems sufficient to forge ahead. Doris Willis has agreed to organize it. The fair will be held before our fall meeting and during the coffee break.

MARCH'S LUCKY DRAW WINNERS

1st Prize of \$51.00 was won by Luci Worch

2nd Prize of \$21.25 was won by Shirley Alexander

3rd Prize of \$12.75 was won by Bob Harasowski

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

*	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
*	Golfing Around	Contact	Bill Travis	422-1148
*	Restaurant Dinner Club	Contact	Diane Nagel	428-3209
*	Fair Weather Walkers	Contact	Gary Willis	429-7835
*	YOYO's	Contact	Shirley Hoskin	429-4378

Dinner at our Place wants you to come dine with us. Would you like to join us as a substitute for those who are on vacation? We rotate the duties; however as a substitute you would **never** have to host a dinner. You would be assigned an appetizer, or a 1st course of soup or salad or a dessert to bring that evening. We now have a full roster of 4 houses participating with 8 people at each house. You would enjoy good food, super company and interesting conversation. Speak to any member who is a part of this group and you will find they enjoy these evenings very much. Give me a call. I would be happy to explore any questions you might have about the dinners and welcome your participation. Betty Keyes – 429-6064

The Happy Bookers Club. Future reading schedule: April will have us reading Alligator by Lisa Moore. The book club meets every third Monday of the month at 1:00 pm. If you are interested in joining us, please call Joanne Scruton at 422-0976.

The **Fair Weather Walkers** meet every Friday at 1:30 pm at Powerline Road. Contact Luci Worch or Gary Willis for more details. The walk lasts about an hour and the coffee break after the walk is worth the effort. **Show up any Friday!**

The **Afternoon Luncheon Cuisiners** meet every 2nd Monday of the month at 11:30 am. Each person takes a turn hosting the lunch, which is run as an organized pot luck. It is a time of good food, discussion, laughter and gossip. Call Maggie Higgins at 422- 1338 for more information.

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 at 428-3209 if you are interested in joining the group or you can recommend a good restaurant in the area.

The **YOYO's** (You're On Your Own) are a new group of individuals looking for good fellowship and diverting outings to theatres, restaurants, bowling, etc. Call Shirley Hoskin at 429-4378 for more information.

"THE HAPPY BOOKERS CLUB" BOOK REVIEW

For the month of March, the members of the Happy Bookers book club chose to review several selections from Canada Reads.

Set in a small town in Ontario, in the early 1900's, **DEAFENING**, by Frances Itani, traces the life of Grania O'Neill through childhood and marriage as she waits for her husband to return from the trenches in WW1 and offers insights into the challenges faced by deaf individuals in a hearing world. A well written book. Recommended.

Using a cast of eccentric characters, **COCKSURE**, by Mordecai Richler, guides the reader through a sharply observed indictment of political correctness. Not for everyone, but those who enjoy the Richler wit will appreciate this book.

THREE DAY ROAD, by Joseph Boyden, is a story of the horrors of WW1 as witnessed and endured by a native Canadian called Xavier. Returning to the bush at the war's end, he must make an emotional, physical and spiritual journey in order to heal his tormented soul. Graphically written. Not for the faint of heart.

ROOMS for RENT in the OUTER PLANETS by Al Purdy, is a collection of poems written in his trademark gruffly garrulous style. From drinking beer and brawling, to bird watching in the tropics, to a tribute to hockey, no subject is considered to be too mundane. Well written, sometimes funny, worth reading.

A COMPLICATED KINDNESS by Miriam Toews is the story of the challenges faced by a 16 year old Mennonite girl unable to find a functioning acceptance within the family unit and generally overwhelmed by life. Her predictable rebellion is both darkly humorous and painfully touching. Often confusing; not recommended.

ATTENTION MEMBERS!

Everyone has an intriguing life story to tell. Give a thought to sharing your biography with the Probus membership! Call Betty Baker at 422-1909 if you are interested in presenting your profile.

NOTICE

Discounted cruise cabins are still available. Probus couples and singles are welcome. For further information, contact Paul Dorian, 429-3311.

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 (Lynda Trimble - 429-3402). 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 Members Ambassador, Betty Keyes, is always available to give you information about our Club and its activities. Betty can be reached at 429-6064.
- **Wanted or For Sale Items** – for the Bulletin Board. Sign your name & phone number. Betty Baker will be in charge of this.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES:

Best wishes to those who celebrated in March!

NEXT MEETING:

May 2, 2006

WASAGA STARS ARENA

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

MANAGEMENT TEAM

President:	Ray Porter	429-9260	Goodwill:	Lynda Trimble	429-3402
Vice-President:	Chris Armstrong	429-7805	Membership:	Deborah Ferris	429-4977
Treasurer:	Harry Durrant	429-3071	Social:	Joan Porter	429-9260
Secretary:	Doris Willis	429-7835	Refreshments:	Orlene & John Fost	429-9479
Past President:	Luci Worch	422-0062	Speakers:	Betty Baker	422-1909
			60/40:	Kay Knab	429-5547