



The Wasagan



Official Newsletter of Beachcombers Probus

– Wasaga Beach, Ontario

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JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

TODAY'S PROFILER: ROBIN NAGEL

ENTERTAINMENT: GAMES AND PRIZES

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Twas the meeting before Christmas, when all through the room
The Probus members were stirring, and not a minute too soon;
The newsletter was laid out on the table with care,
In hopes that the members would take it from there.
The cookies were nestled all snug on their plate,
With visions of sugar being a part of our fate;
And mamma in her kerchief and I in my cap,
Had just settled down for a coffee and chat,
When out in the parking lot there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from my chair to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the blinds and peered through the glass.
The sun on the breast of the new-fallen snow,
Gave a luster and sharpness to objects below,
When what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But Santa and his sleigh with eight tiny reindeer.
More rapid than eagles up the stairs he came,
As he whistled and shouted and gave me a candy cane.
As I drew in my hand and was turning around,
I glimpsed the North Harmony Choir go by with a bound.
Their eyes---how they twinkled! Their dimples how merry!
Their cheeks were like roses, their costumes colored cherry.
And later when they sang with beautiful voices,
All the eyes in the room were misty with their choices.
They spoke not a word, but went straight to their occupation,
And filled all our hearts with their synchronization.
The meeting continued and there was much laughter,
As the girls brought out cookies amid all the chatter.
The Salvation Army came by for the food that we'd collected
with our labor, For the families who needed a Christmas favor,
They spoke not a word, but went straight to their work,
And filled all their boxes, then turned with a jerk.
The leader sprang to his van, and to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all went like the down of a thistle.
The meeting was over and out by our car,
As we were preparing to leave, we don't live far,
I heard Santa exclaim ere we went on our way,

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOOD DAY!

PAST SOCIAL EVENTS

DECEMBER 2 CHRISTMAS DINNER & DANCE – COLLINGWOOD LEGION

It was a wild and stormy night. The dames in town were gussied up and made up and their guys were dressed to the nines and ready to trip the light fantastic. The Collingwood Legion set the mood and the joint was starting to hop as the partiers arrived in their glittering attire. The kitchen bustled with activity as the staff prepared the feast to come. It was to be a magic night as the revelers danced to the famous tunes of old.

The turkey dinner was a masterpiece of traditional fare and skillful efficiency. The service flowed like water sweeping along the banks of a mountain stream.

Santa Claus floated in on the tail of the storm bearing fabulous gifts for the guys and dolls. There was wild music and crazy games. The disc jockey spun her magic and captured us all in her web. We shimmied and spun to her arresting tunes. Across the crowded room I spotted some gals kicking up their heels to the sound of the music as their guys watched and tapped their feet to the beat. There were draws for fabulous gifts and for the extravagant centerpieces that adorned each table. The music played on as pastries and coffee brought some of the dancers to a temporary halt. All too soon it was time to call it a night. It had been a party to remember!

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

CURLING & LUNCHEON

STAYNER CURLING CLUB

WED, JAN 18

Cost will be **\$22.00** for the curling and luncheon. If you prefer to come for the **lunch only, the price will be \$7.00**. Tea biscuits will be served first, and then we'll have curling instruction, curling and finally lunch and neat prizes for the curlers. Wear GOOD running shoes with lots of tread and warm gloves. There will also be a raffle with tickets going for \$2.00 each (one ticket per person). Curling will start at 9 am so be there for 8:30 am sharp to find out whose team you are on. Today is the last day to buy tickets!

BOWLING

GEORGIAN BOWL, COLLINGWOOD

WED, FEB 15

Bowling will start at 2 pm and the cost will be **\$12.00** (cost includes shoes). We will be bowling 3 frames with no limitations on time. Dinner will be at **Tony's Skillet** (4:30-5:00 pm and at your expense) with prizes for bowling as well as a door prize. Tickets are available today and at the February meeting.

MINI PUTT AND LUNCHEON

THE PUTTING EDGE, BARRIE

WED, MAR 9

Cost will be **\$10.00** plus lunch at your cost (restaurant being organized). The Putting Edge has mini putt with black lights and we will play 11 am to 12 noon. There will be prizes for the most talented!

MURDER MYSTERY

BAYSHORE SENIORS CLUB

APRIL 21

We had a great response to the interest sheet out last month for our "The Flapper Era" Murder Mystery to be held April 21st at the Bayshore Seniors Club on River Road East. We will be holding a meeting of all those who have put their names down to be involved or help in some way. If you are an actor, you must be dedicated and attend all rehearsals. There is still time to sign up! Cost for the Murder Mystery will be determined by the February meeting.

FUN AT THE CASINO

MAY

There will be an interest sheet out in February for a "crew" to help organize this event. If you are interested in helping, please sign up next month. We will be looking for new ideas.

Thanks to those heading up the following events:

Susan and Taylor Pearson will be organizing the **Toyota Plant Tour**, Cambridge OR **Honda Plant Tour**, Alliston. Interested members will receive a call in February.

Diane Nagel is organizing the **OPP Headquarters Tour** in Orillia and she will be calling all those who signed the interest sheet.

DECEMBER'S LUCKY DRAW WINNERS

1st Prize of \$70.50 was won by Pat Caron

2nd Prize of \$29.40 was won by Maria Servaas

3rd Prize of \$17.60 was won by Pat Travis

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 Hoskins	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. This has proven to be a very winning interest group with Probus. 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: "The Bookseller of Kabul" by Asne Seierstad in January, "State of Fear" by Michael Crichton in February, and in March we will each read a book of our own choice from the "The Canada Reads List". April will have us reading "Alligator" by Lisa Moore.

We meet every third Monday of the month at 1:00 pm. If you would like to join 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. This group is in the process of "putting itself together" and those have shown interest will be contacted soon. Call Shirley Hoskins at 429-4378 for more information.

"THE HAPPY BOOKERS CLUB" BOOK REVIEW

Prepared by Mary Barnes

"Standing in the Rainbow" by Fannie Flagg

With the success of "Fried Green Tomatoes", Fannie Flagg has embarked on a new novel set in Elmwood Springs, Missouri during the 1940's and continuing into the 1990's.

The novel works as a satire on middle town America. Flagg introduces Tot Whooten who says "---this is not one of those personal tell-alls that will bore you to death by talking about how wonderful somebody is now, how bad they used to be but then got saved and now are wonderful again---" and then proceeds to offer the reader all sorts of characters from Alberta Peets, murderess turned housekeeper, among on of them.

Flagg begins with Bobby Smith whose mother, Neighbor Dorothy, broadcasts a local radio show from her living room and whose father is Doc, the town pharmacist. Bobby wants to climb the town's tower (there seems to be that tower all small town boys must climb to allay their fears).

We also meet Cecil Figgs, the funeral director, who provides "layaway plans" for his prospective customers; Minnie Oatman of the Oatman Family Gospel Singers whose daughter, Betty Raye, is the only member of the family is nonmusical (there is also a dummy named Chester who is part of the group of singers); Hamm Springs who works his way from tractor salesman to the governor; Beatrice Woods, the Little Blind Songbird. These and many more crowd the pages of Flagg's novel. The read is a hoot and once the story ends we are left with the question: are we so very different from the characters in her novel? Okay, maybe not quite as perfect, but don't we all want to stand under that rainbow?

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.

SPECIAL NOTICE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Copies of the Wasagan will no longer be automatically mailed to absent members. For those with internet, the newsletter can be found at our website at www.probus.org/5wasbcrn.pdf or by using any search engine and typing in the word Wasagan and follow the link to the site. If you do not have access to a computer, please notify us in writing at the newsletter station and we will continue mailing you your copy when you are not able to attend the general meeting. Under no circumstances will the newsletter be mailed out of the country.

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.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES:

Best wishes to those who celebrated in December!

NEXT MEETING:

February 7, 2006

at the 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