



The Wasagan



Official Newsletter of Beachcombers Probus , P.O. Box 321, Wasaga Beach, Ontario L9Z 1A4
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JULY GENERAL MEETING

TODAY'S SPEAKER: CAL PATTERSON, MAYOR OF WASAGA BEACH

JUNE SPEAKERS

Peter McDonald, President of the Blue Mountains Club of the Bruce Trail Association and Lloyd Somerville were our guests for June. Lloyd started with a mathematical quiz to wake us up and get us on the 'same track' and then set up a BRUCE TRAIL anagram. The Bruce Trail is one of only 13 UNESCO sites in Canada. We saw the new CD which highlights some of the sights on the 850 km trail. The association's aim is to acquire 100% of the land whereas now they own only 47% which includes Provincial Parks and Conservation Areas that the trail passes through. The rest is private lands used under agreements with landowners. Volunteers in the 9 member clubs go over a section of the trail 5 or 6 times a year and make suggestions how to improve it. The Bruce which is the oldest and longest public access trail in Canada opened in 1967 and sustains over 400,000 visits a year. The local club has hikes twice a week, open to everyone. The schedule is on their website www.bmbtc.org or in their newsletter. Happy hiking!

PAST SOCIAL EVENT: VARIETY NIGHT and DINNER

When was the last time you line-danced with the Bodacious Beachcomber Babes to 'Sex on the Beach' or did the movements to The Village People's 'YMCA'? Most of the 125 people did this and more at the 2nd annual Variety Night. We heard 'Queen Betty's royal address and laughed with Marie Wedalot's (Christina Armstrong's) family of daughters in the wedding skit (imagine Bill Travis as a flower girl). Gordon Baird is the star singer of our club and demonstrated his abilities in two very entertaining sets. His song selection and range were appreciated by everyone. His dedication of the song "You'll Never Walk Alone" to Gloria Harasowsky was very touching. For music with a light touch, Joyanne Loughran provided us with a humorous parody of an Elvis song featuring the challenges of aging. Our very own Wasaga Village People performed various "unmentionable" acts while dancing and prancing both on stage and among the audience! Thank you to Gloria for doing a great job as "Mistress of Ceremonies". We thank all those who had the courage to volunteer, gave their time to practice and helped behind the scenes to make this an enjoyable and successful evening and thank our audience for enthusiastically joining in and making the evening a roaring success.

'MEET YOUR MEMBER' VOLUNTEERS for June – Bill and Pat Travis

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Your Beachcombers Probus membership is coming up for Renewal. The Renewal fee is \$25.00 per person and Linda Willis will be happy to take your cheque, post dated to August 1, 2008 at this meeting. The cheque should be made payable to 'Beachcombers Probus - Wasaga Beach'. You can also mail it to Linda at 1 Wintergreen Way, Wasaga Beach, L9Z 3A9. You no longer have to fill out a renewal form; just update any information as necessary.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I extend my warmest greetings to all of you. I hope you had a fabulous Canada Day. It is time to reflect on the past year as this is my concluding President's Message. The year has passed very quickly, hasn't it? To summarize the year for you would be a bit of a drag for you to read but it has been no drag for me. I enjoyed every minute of it.

Did it show? I did not do it alone and the many members of the Management Team were a treat to work with. I want to extend my gratitude to all of them and all of you for the support I have felt in this past year.

Thank you also to all the new faces (and some not-so-new faces) who have stepped up and volunteered to serve in some capacity on one of the many committees we have. I am sure you will see their names elsewhere in this or the next issue. It is with this cooperation and volunteer spirit that our club continues to be successful and we are the better off for it. May this willingness to serve, continue.

Next year's management team and all other committees actually assume their duties in the middle of the August meeting. I will pass the gavel to President Betty who will introduce next year's members after the break at that meeting. Congratulations and good luck to President Betty and the members of the teams for the next year.

Best wishes to all
Tom Donohue

PROBUS MANAGEMENT TEAM for 2008-2009

We thank the people who have agreed to continue in the following positions or have volunteered to fill a position:

Past President: Tom Donohue	Membership: Linda Willis
President: Betty Baker	Newsletter: Marilyn (Lyn) Rice
Vice-President: Bob Bowyer	Goodwill Convener: Marilyn Ruse
Treasurer: Kathy Zack	Speaker Conveners: Jan Bivall & Diane Nagel
Secretary: Joanne Scruton	50/50: Kay Knab & Joan Bowyer
Secretary Back-ups: Sheila Ewing & Mary Barnes	
Refreshments: Brian & Susan Passmore	
New Member Ambassador: Lucille Mancer	

The club still needs people to fill the following positions:

Social Chairperson
Back-ups for the Refreshment position

Thank you to this year's committee members who have worked so hard on your behalf. Many are continuing this year in the same capacity.

Goodwill Committee Members:

Mary Barnes	Shirley Brett
Gloria Douglas	Kay Knab
Dorothy Mitchell	Pat Travis

Social Committee Members:

Betty Baker	Marilyn Evans
Heide Haessler	Gloria Harasowsky
Joan Maloney	Mary Searl
*Linda Marshall	*Sandra Hanson (* new for 2008-09)

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS – FROM YOUR SOCIAL COMMITTEE

JULY 22nd – Annual Picnic at Heritage Park in Elmvale. Where else could you enjoy such good fun and games followed by a delicious BBQ dinner which includes roast pig, ham, beef, corn on the cob, salad, dessert, tea and coffee, all for only \$5.00 per member and \$16.00 for guests? This event is partly subsidized by the club.

AUGUST 25th – Annual Golf Tournament at Wasaga Sands. It will be a 9-hole Best-Ball Tournament. The cost is \$52. which includes golf, cart and dinner. Dinner only cost is \$22. Sign up today. 1:30 tee-off time.

DECEMBER 5th – Annual Christmas Dinner/Dance. Mark your calendars.

MONTHLY GOLF OUTING

If you are interested in joining the monthly golf excursion to different clubs in the area, call Bill Travis @ 422-1148 or give him your name.

JUNE LUCKY DRAW WINNERS

- 1st Prize of \$60.00 was won by Mary Quesnelle
2nd Prize of \$37.50 was won by Lois Sommerville
3rd Prize of \$30.00 was won by Brian Armstrong
4th Prize of \$22.50 was won by Dorothy Mitchell

Gift certificate for Home Hardware was won by Bill Travis

Best wishes to those who celebrated their birthday or anniversary in June!

IN MEMORIUM

Club member, Helen Valkovskis passed away on June 9th. In January 2008, the executive had passed a resolution saying that in the event of a member's passing, a cheque for \$25. would be sent to the organization of the family's choosing. A cheque for \$25. was sent in Helen's memory to the Canadian Cancer Society. Our sympathies go out to Rob and the family.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Several members of the Wasaga Probus clubs were part of the Relay for Life team that raised over \$5000. and whose "Knockout Cancer" theme came third. Thank you to those who supported and helped their effort.

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.

* The First Edition	Contact Lucille Mancer	422-0143
* Happy Bookers	Contact Mary Barnes	429-2142
* Dinner at our Place	Contact Betty Keyes	429-6064
* Afternoon Luncheon Cuisiniers	Contact Marilyn Ruse	422-0271
* Restaurant Dinner Club	Contact Diane Nagel	428-3209
* Fair Weather Walkers	Contact Luci Worch	422-0062

Beachcomber members belonging to the 'Dinner at Our House' group have completed another wonderful year of enjoying monthly dinners at each others' homes. June is the final rotation of dinners and we will resume these again in September. As usual, we are taking the month of July off with everyone looking forward to our annual group barbecue in August. This will be held at the home of Colette and Harry Durrant where we will all get together enjoying conversation, laughter and friendship while noshing on a super array of wonderful food.

If you would like to put your name down on the "Substitute" list to join us when others are on vacation, please give me a call: Betty Keyes, 429-6064 or keyes1@sympatico.ca

The **Happy Bookers Club** is at maximum membership.

Our June selection was 'I've Got a Home in Gloryland- A Lost Tale of the Underground Railroad.' Karolyn Smardz-Frost, a Collingwood resident, archaeologist and historian has spent 20 years piecing together the story of Thornton and Luci Blackburn. They were young American slaves who fled from Louisville up the Ohio River to Detroit in 1831. They were discovered by slave-catchers and slated to return to Kentucky in chains until the Black community rallied to their cause. The Blackburn Riot of 1833 was the first racial uprising in Detroit's history and the Blackburns were spirited across the river to Canada. This caused a major legal dispute between Canada and the United States resulting in the precedent of the 'no-return' policy in fugitive slave and capital cases. The Blackburns founded the first taxi business in Toronto and became prominent abolitionists. The book is definitely a historical read but the many details of the lives of slaves are a poignant reminder of the horrors these people endured. Recommendations depended on how much the reader enjoyed historical non-fiction but the average rating was 3.5/5.

The **First Edition** Book Club. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month and at this time have reached our maximum of 10 members.

This month the club met at the home of Olga Yates. The Fall getaway weekend, preceded the discussion of Carol Shields' The Stone Diaries. The fictionalized account of Daisy Goodwill's life, complete with photographs, is presented as a biography, with the various characters interpretation of events. As usual

there was lively discussion, and the members rated the book as “boring” to “excellent”. Review submitted by Lucille Mancer.

The **Fair Weather Walkers**, as the name implies, walk when the weather cooperates. We have been caught in downpours and blizzards but have always managed to complete the course. The route begins at the Powerline Road Skidoo trail and except for two small hills, is easy to walk. Our pace is unhurried yet steady and gives us plenty of time (about an hour) to observe the ever changing world around us. We have been known to see deer, a variety of birds, the occasional porcupine and even a black bear. (But he was too far away to cause us too much worry!) Please join our friendly group any Friday at 1:30. We enjoy laughter and good conversation which always carries to Tim Horton’s afterwards.

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.

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.

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 (Linda Willis @ 429-0467) of any changes to your address, phone number, email address, 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 death of a member to our Goodwill Convener (Marilyn Ruse @ 422-0271) - if you don’t tell us, we may miss sending out a card.
- Our New Member Ambassador, Betty Keyes, is always available to give you information about our Club and its activities. Betty can be reached @ 429-6064.

PROBUS CANADA WIDE BULLETIN BOARD

A new bulletin board posting is available to Probus Clubs. The address is www.probus.org/bulletin.htm

NEXT MEETING

AUGUST 5, 2008

ALL STARS ARENA

Arrive at 9:30 to enjoy coffee and tea with your friends prior to the meeting at 10:00 am. Remember to bring your “Probus” mug!

When you are unable to attend a meeting, you can access your copy of The Wasagan at www.probus.org/8wasbcnrn.pdf (Please contact the Editors if you do not have a computer). Please note that the number 7 in the website address has changed to number 8 to reflect the new year of 2008.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

President:	Tom Donohue	429-0644	Refreshments:	Susan & Brian Passmore	422-1956
Vice-President:	Betty Baker	422-1909	Membership:	Linda Willis	429-0467
Treasurer:	Kathy Zack	429-0033	Social:	Irene Donohue	429-0644
Secretary:	Joanne Scruton	422-0976	60/40 Draw:	Kay Knab	429-5547
Past President:	Christina Armstrong	429-7805	New Members:	Betty Keyes	429-6064
Speakers:	Jan Bivall	429-7584	Goodwill:	Marilyn Ruse	422-0271
	Diane Nagel	428-3209	Newsletter:	Jan Bivall	429-7584