

# The Wasagan



Official Newsletter of Beachcombers Probus, P.O. Box 321, Wasaga Beach, Ontario L9Z 1A4
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June 7, 2011

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#### JUNE GENERAL MEETING

TODAY'S SPEAKER: SUE TENNANT, FREE SCHOOLS



### **CLUB ELECTIONS – PLEASE VOLUNTEER!**

## **MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE BY AUGUST 1, 2011**

(Post-dated cheques are acceptable)

#### President's Message

#### Only in Canada you say ...

- 1. Only in Canada ... can a pizza get to your house faster than an ambulance!
- 2. Only in Canada ... are their handicap parking spaces in front of a skating rink!
- 3. Only in Canada ... do the drugstores make the sick walk to the back of the store to get prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front!
- 4. Only in Canada ... do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries and a diet coke!
- 5. Only in Canada ... do banks leave both doors open and then chain pens to the counter!
- 6. Only in Canada ... do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway and put our useless junk in the locked garage.
- 7. Only in Canada ... do we use answering machines to screen calls and then have call waiting so we won't miss a call from someone we didn't want to talk to in the first place.
- 8. Only in Canada ... do we buy hot dog wieners in packages of ten and the buns in packages of eight.
- 9. Only in Canada ... do we use the word 'politics' to describe the process so well: 'Poli' in Latin meaning 'many' and 'tics' meaning 'bloodsucking creatures'!
- 10. Only in Canada ... do we have drive-up ATM machines with Braille lettering! (Yes, there are at least two of these in Thunder Bay)

All kidding aside CANADA is the greatest place in the world to live. I would not want to live any place else. If you want to find out how great Canada is ask someone who doesn't live here, but would like to.

Don Caron



#### EXTRA, EXTRA!! THE BEACHCOMBERS ARE GOING GREEN!

Our Club will be phasing out Styrofoam cups! Starting at our meeting in **August** we will no longer be providing Styrofoam cups to members who forget their mugs. Unless you wish to go without a hot beverage ... REMEMBER YOUR MUG!!

#### **MAY'S SPEAKER**

May's event was a "performance" of **Beachcomber's Balderdash!** The cast members for this event were; Don Belgum as *Reverend Tele Evangelist*, Pat Caron as *Marsha Stewart*, Rita Premich as *Fanny Lovebottom*, Vincy Stephenson as *Ms. Barnone* and Doris Willis as *Dorrie Mae Flatbush*.

A great deal of gusto greeted both Probus members and the cast as they progressed through the meanings of the chosen, highly unpronounceable, words. While the cast's job was to give the individual

true answer, they also gave the audience a great insight into their own character's background. It seems that our so-called lawyer was doing a good bit of soliciting for her own business. Dorrie Mae was precocious in the utmost way. The Reverend was at best "a pompous A". Miss Fanny Lovebottom was beguiling the audience with her rendition of "Miss Loose Elastic", and last, but certainly not least, Marsha Stewart, was not just a Queen of Domesticity but had a touch of acerbity.

The final vote was that this was a GREAT BELLY LAUGHING SUCCESS ... **BRAVO**!! *Monica Kristen* 

#### GOODWILL

A Get Well card was sent to Christina Armstrong along with our prayers for quick healing.

THANK YOU TO APRIL'S GREETERS,

MARY AND RON SEARL.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE A

GREETER PLEASE SEE BETTY

BAKER.

#### MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY

Monica & Mary invite you to a *Mad Hatter's Tea Party* at our July meeting (during the break). Please dress up in your craziest, silliest hat/fascinator (you may also dress in full costume if you so wish) - NO BASEBALL CAPS PLEASE! We ask that each couple bring 6 cakes/cookies/bars and each member to bring a cup & saucer. We will be having an *Alice in Wonderland* Quiz. Prizes will be awarded.

\*We need volunteers to place desserts on plates and serve. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Social committee table.\*

#### SATURDAY, JULY 2, 2011 - GARAGE SALE TO BENEFIT CAMP OOCHIGEAS - TAKE 2!

Our first garage sale on June 4 raised over \$2300. Due to the inclement weather, there were many items left unsold. So --- good news --- we're holding another garage sale on Saturday, July 2, 2011. If you have any more saleable items in good condition that you would like to donate, please bring them to the Scruton's at 44 Silver Birch Avenue on Thursday, June 30 or Friday, July 1. Please come out on July 2 just to cheer us on and maybe you'll find some treasure that you just have to have!

This year the money raised will be donated to Camp Oochigeas. Camp Oochigeas offers year-round programs for children affected by childhood cancer at its site in Muskoka, at Sick Kids Hospital, at the Ooch Downtown facility in Toronto and in the community. (You can find more information about Camp Oochigeas at <a href="https://www.ooch.org">www.ooch.org</a>). THANK YOU TO ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

#### **PAST EVENTS**

#### TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011 – WINES OF SPAIN AND ARGENTINA

On May 12, 42 members attended our club's first wine tasting evening. It was met with rave reviews. Participants tasted 5 wines from Spain and Argentina and enjoyed an array of delicious appetizers during the evening. Our sommelier for this event, Beth Vonpesceky, presented each wine along with information about the related wine regions. Our co-hosts, Sanjay and Kathy Kapoor of *Cheers! Make Your Own Wine*, were with us for the evening and generously donated a gift for everyone attending – two bottles of wine made at Cheers. A terrific event, sure to be repeated at some time in the future!



#### **UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS**

#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2011 - MYSTERY THEATRE AND LUNCH



We have **one ticket left** for the June social event – lunch and a mystery theatre matinee at the Old Mill in Toronto. The ticket is \$70 and includes your return bus fare, lunch and the theatre. Last chance for one lucky person to join us for a hilarious Sherlock Holmes whodunit!!

#### TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2011 - BEACHCOMBERS ANNUAL PICNIC

Make sure to buy your tickets for our annual picnic. Tickets this year are \$15 per person (a little more than previous years but still a good deal for an afternoon of fun with your Probus friends). Dinner, to be served at 4 pm, will be roast beef and chicken along with all the 'fixins', rolls, dessert and coffee. There will be snacks during the afternoon and water/soft drinks. Games will include some old standards and a few new ones. Come out and enjoy a warm summer afternoon at the Elmvale Park!

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2011, 2:00 PM - GOLF TOURNAMENT

Our annual Golf Tournament will be held at Marlwood Golf Club this year. Tickets are available at today's meeting for \$60 per person. The price includes 9 holes of golf, riding cart, steak dinner and a chance to win some prizes. If you don't golf and want to try it out, just let us know and we'll make arrangements for you. If you want to join us for dinner only, the price is \$25.

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2011, 2:00 PM - KING'S WHARF THEATRE

A number of members have asked that we have a King's Wharf event this year. So...we're having our September event a little early – on the last day of August. Tickets are \$35.50 per person for a performance of a side-splitting farce entitled 'Who's Under Where?' Come out for the Beachcombers last summer outing for 2011. You might also like to make arrangements with some of your Probus friends for lunch or dinner at a local restaurant in Midland or Penetanguishene.

#### **FUTURE EVENT - OCTOBER, 2011 - CAR TOUR??**

Think a car tour, followed by dinner at a restaurant along the route, is a good way to enjoy the fall colours? Then come by the Social Committee table today and sign the interest sheet. If enough members would like us to organize this event, it would be our pleasure to do so!!

#### "MEET YOUR MEMBER" - WE NEED YOU!

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

Contact Betty Keyes at 429-6064 for information regarding "Meet Your Member" profiles. Betty will be pleased to help you <u>compose</u> and read your profile at a specified monthly meeting.

NOTE: SOME OF US ARE NOT COMFORTABLE GIVING OUR PROFILE BUT MAYBE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE A STORY, MEMORIES OF A SPECIAL VACATION, A FAVOURITE HOBBY OR SOME OTHER SPECIAL INTEREST, LET MONICA KRISTEN KNOW AND SHE WILL SCHEDULE YOU IN!

#### **BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES:**

Best wishes to those who celebrate in June.

#### MAY LUCKY DRAW WINNERS

1<sup>st</sup> prize of \$94.00 – Elizabeth Munoz 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of \$57.00 – Don Caron 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of \$46.00 – Roger Coulter

4<sup>th</sup> prize of \$36.00 – George Paylor

\$40.00 Gift Certificate for *fud Grill* – Glenn Martin

#### **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

SPECIAL INTEREST	CONTACT NAME	PHONE NO.	SPECIAL INTEREST	CONTACT	PHONE NO.
Afternoon Luncheon Cuisiners	Joan Maloney	422-0573	Golf	WE NEED	YOU!!
Bid Euchre	Paul Turner	352-0747	Happy Bookers Club	Mary Barnes	429-2142
<b>Book Worms Club</b>	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 Restau Club		Restaurant Dinner Club	WE NEED	YOU!!
First Edition Book Club	Betty Montgomery	429-6854	ROMEO - Men's Breakfast	Bob Bowyer	429-0579
Genealogy	Sandra Hanson	422-0227			

#### **Daytrippers**

Our latest outing was a luncheon and trip to The McMichael Canadian art collection in Kleinburg. The gallery features the works of *The Group of Seven* as well as their other Canadian contemporaries. The setting, 100 acres of trails of natural beauty and spectacular scenery, rivals and compliments the works of art inside. There is at present an extensive upgrade on the grounds, part of this will include the addition of 9 outdoor sculptures for visitors to enjoy.

The paintings are numerous at The McMichael; it's a grand exhibition under one roof. Did you know the person most associated with these artists, Tom Thomson, is not included in the Group of Seven as he died in 1917 before they were formed? The Group of Seven was formed in 1920 and consisted of Franklin Carmichael, Lawren Harris, Arthur Lismer, J.E.H. MacDonald, A.Y. Jackson, Frank Johnston and Frederick Varley. The group eventually expanded to include three more artists – A.J. Casson, Edwin Holgate and L.L. FitzGerald.

We were fortunate to enjoy 2 other exhibits at the gallery. One was the works of George McLean who is a well renowned Grey County wildlife artist known for his painstaking detail and subtle shading of the animals and birds in his paintings. This talented artist also has published a book of his works with accompanying text. The second exhibition was a Marilyn Monroe respective of paintings, photographs, lithographs, as well as a few small sculptures. All agreed it was well worth the trip to Kleinburg.

#### 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. We rotate between 4 or 5 local restaurants. Our next breakfast will be held at the Mosley Street, Wasaga Beach, on WEDNESDAY, June 29, 2011 at 9:00 AM. We have 27 in our group. If you wish to join us anytime call Bob Bowyer at 429-0579.

#### **First Edition Book Club**

In May the First Edition Book Club read *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova. This was a real and frightening story of a 49 year old Harvard professor who develops a very fast advancing form of Alzheimer's disease. The disease breaks apart a husband and wife's relationship and turns their young adult children into caregivers, mothering their own mother. It was very sad and frightening in its truthfulness. We rated this book 4.5 out of 5.

#### The Book Worms Club

The Book Worms read *The Book of Negroes*, an historical fiction, written by Canadian author Lawrence Hill. It is a tale of human spirit and survival told by Animata. She is abducted from her tribal African village and taken into slavery at the age of 11. It is the story of how she endures many phases of her life from the physical degradation suffered on the slave ship to her comparatively tolerable life on the plantation in America, despite the rape and exploitation that she endures. She learns to read and write and attempts to gain freedom for herself and others as she travels from the southern United States to the teeming docks in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Having lost her parents, husband and a child she makes a journey back to Freetown in Sierra Leone only to realize the paradoxical situation of former slaves in that place. From there, she makes a final trip to the manor houses of London.

The book was inspiring and led to a lively discussion focusing on many of the themes presented in the novel.

#### Happy Bookers Club Report is at maximum membership.

For the month of May, the Happy Bookers read *The Bishop's Man* written by journalist Linden MacIntyre. The book deals with the subject of sexual abuse by Roman Catholic priests. The story is not graphic but rather as MacIntyre said in an interview; "the story is about a priest who goes into the business idealistically, who realizes that priests have feet of clay, and it leads him to a personal crisis."

Members gave the book a rating of 3.6 but caution that readers should be made aware of the subject matter.

#### MANAGEMENT TEAM for 2010-2011:

President	Don Caron	429-0308	Membership	Heide & Guenter Haessler	422-0288
Vice-President	Monica Kristen	429-9635	Refreshments	Susan & Brian Passmore	422-1956
Past President	Bob Bowyer	429-0579	Lucky Draw	Gene Stephenson	422-0201
Secretary	Mary Barnes	429-2142	Goodwill	Shirley Brett	429-8907
Treasurer	Kathy Zack	429-0033	Newsletter	Vincy Stephenson	422-0201
New Members	Betty Baker	422-1909	Social	Irene Donohue	429-0644
Speaker and	Monica Kristen	429-9635			1.25 0011
<b>Profiles Chair</b>	Mary Barnes	429-2142			

NEXT MEETING JULY 5, 2011 AT THE WASAGA STARS ARENA Arrive early to enjoy coffee and tea with your friends prior to the meeting at 10:00 am.

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