



The Wasagan



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

International Website: www.probus.org/canada.htm

Newsletter Site: www.probus.org/12wasbcnrn.pdf

March 6, 2012

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MARCH'S GENERAL MEETING

Today's Speaker: Taryn Burchell, who will be talking about "Home Staging".

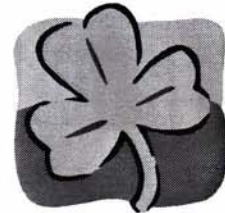
PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Remember on February 2, Warton Willie did not see his shadow yet Punxsutawney Phil did. What did this mean to us? Willie didn't see his shadow so we would have an early Spring. Phil did see his shadow so we would have 6 more weeks of winter. Well, March 21, the Spring (vernal) equinox, happens at the same time each year. This is considered the first day of Spring. So if you do the calculations, 6 weeks from February 2 is approximately March 21 and if we get an early Spring it most likely will not happen until March 21st. I guess tradition gives these rodents the limelight for a brief time but their prognostications really do not mean much. Some traditions are just something to take our minds off the daily grind. Either way Spring is almost here!

Speaking of traditions, March 17th celebrates St. Patrick of Ireland, best known for exiling all the snakes from the country, but mostly remembered for green beer and celebrating in the grandest Irish tradition by having an alcoholic beverage and wearing green. It is said that on this day there are only two types of people, those that are Irish and those that wish they were Irish. Is it coincidence that St. Patrick's Day, Julius Caesar's the Ides of March and the Spring equinox happen at almost the same time? Something to think about!

Have a wonderful March, with its Spring, green beer and tragic literary figures from the O'Stephenson's to all the Irish and want to be Irish club members.

Gene O'Stephenson



THANK YOU TO THE GREETERS FOR OUR FEBRUARY MEETING, **Mary Barnes and Betty Baker**. If you would like to be a greeter, please speak to **Betty Baker**.

February's Speaker

Betty Baker introduced Wasaga Beach Fire Chief Michael McWilliam. Chief McWilliam was born and raised in Wasaga Beach And has remained resident for all his 44 years. He is married with 2 children and was a volunteer firefighter until 1995 when he became full time. He was made chief in 2007. Chief McWilliam gave a very interesting talk which all enjoyed as evidenced by the many questions afterwards. He spoke of Wasaga Beach firefighters, the new station being built, the number of 911 calls and safety in the home. Betty thanked their Chief and presented him with a token of our appreciation.

BEACHCOMBERS PROBUS PHOTO CONTEST

Judges have been lined up to shortlist the finalists in this competition. Members wishing to compete must submit their photos in a 5 by 7 format (name printed on the back) to any member of the management team by May 15. The categories again are: people, travel, children, animals, landscapes and black and white. So start snapping and picking out your favorites for submission. No enhanced or photo shopped pictures, please. Final judging will take place at the June general meeting by all members attending the meeting.

PAST SOCIAL EVENTS

GAMES AFTERNOON -- Wednesday, February 22nd

We had 30 members show up for a fun afternoon of euchre, bid euchre, board games, wizard and cribbage. A good time was had by all with a few door prizes and snacks to boot!!!!!! It was a good way to spend a cold afternoon at the Beach.

A Letter from the Tate Family to Beachcombers Probus

It has recently come to our attention that the 2011 Car Rally was named the "Frank Tate Memorial" in honour of our Dad. We just wanted to let you know how thrilled he would have been not only with this honour, but to know that the event he had so much fun with has been continued by the members of your club.

Dad enjoyed life to the fullest, and his recipe for a full life included good times with good friends and a "good game". The Beachcombers Probus Club provided all these ingredients, and made him feel a welcome member of the community he chose to live in.

Thank you again for remembering him,

Yours truly,

Doug Tate, Nancy Howett, Debra Tate-Sears, Mike Tate and Flora Tate

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

Look for information about the following events at the social tables today.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>ON SALE TODAY! Wednesday, March 28 at 11:00 AM Mini golf at the Putting Edge (34 Commerce Park Drive, Barrie) to be followed by a light lunch of pizza, cold drinks and dessert at the Putting Edge – a popular indoor spot. \$15.50 per person</p> | <p>On sale today Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament Wednesday, April 19, 2012 Enjoy a lovely meal and a great show. The bus leaves the RecPlex at 4:30 PM. This trip is limited to the <u>first 46 people</u>. \$75.00 per person</p> |
| <p>On sale today A Night at the Races Georgian Downs 6:00 PM on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 Includes dinner, coffee, etc, gratuities, taxes. \$37.00 per person</p> | <p>All aboard the Miss Midland Thursday, June 21st, 4:30 PM Usher in the first day of summer with a cruise, dinner and music. Tickets go <u>on sale in April</u> and we are looking to sell at least 52. \$55.00 per person</p> |

DECEMBER LUCKY DRAW WINNERS

1st prize of \$30.40 ---- **Marie Jacques**
2nd prize of \$19.00 --- **Mary Barnes**
3rd prize of \$15.20 ---- **Violet Svirplys (1)**

4th prize of \$11.40 ---- **Michael Smith**
Gift Certificate for \$40.00 for a gift certificate from Wasaga Flowers was won by **Violet Svirplys (2)**.

NOTICE ABOUT LUCKY DRAW TICKET SALES

Please be sure to get your tickets upon arriving. They will NOT be sold at the break.

PLEASE BRING COINS TO THE LUCKY DRAW TABLE

Thanks, Ron

Our thanks go out to **Ron Hanson**, who volunteered to take over the secretary position for the next couple of months in the absence of Betty Keyes, who is on vacation in a warmer place.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES Best wishes to all those who celebrate in March.

MEET YOUR MEMBER – Member profiles may be a rare thing now but that does not mean we do not want to hear from you. If you are able to manage a personal profile, step up and let us know. Most of us would also love to hear from you regarding a hobby or a trip you may have taken. If you have photos to support your presentation, all the better.

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

Goodwill A card was sent to member **Erie Vanderknockke**.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

If you are considering organizing any type of interest group, please approach the Management Team. Special interest groups are open to Beachcombers Probus members only.

If you are interested in joining any of the special interest groups below, or want to find out more information regarding the group, please contact the person whose name appears beside the activity.

AND if you wish to submit some interesting information regarding your group in the monthly newsletter, please contact the newsletter editor **Tom Donohue** by email at this special address at least a week before the next monthly meeting: newslettertom@rogers.com

| SPECIAL INTEREST | CONTACT NAME | PHONE NO. | SPECIAL INTEREST | CONTACT NAME | PHONE NO. |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Afternoon Luncheon Cuisiners | Joan Maloney | 422-0573 | Happy Bookers Club | Mary Barnes | 429-2142 |
| Bid Euchre | Paul Turner | 352-0747 | Kitchen Bridge | Betty Keyes | 429-6064 |
| Genealogy Group | Sandra Hanson | 422-0227 | Regular Euchre | Loraine Doidge | 422-0622 |
| Daytrippers | Betty Keyes | 429-6064 | Restaurant Dinner Club | Sandra Hanson | 422-0227 |
| Dinner at our Place | Steve and Jan Bivall | 429-7584 | ROMEO - Men's Breakfast | Bob Bowyer | 429-0579 |
| First Edition Book Club | Betty Montgomery | 429-6854 | GOLF | We Need You | |

The Happy Bookers Club is at maximum membership.

For February the Happy Bookers discussed *Half-Broke Horses* written by Jeannette Walls. This is the story of Wall's grandmother, Lily Casey. Walls brings an energy to the pages, depicting Lily's intrepid spirit, with her trip across two states at the age of fifteen in the early part of the 20th century to teach, and with the journey of her father's body to its final resting place. These are but a few of the stories recounted of Lily's life. Though repetitive, the book was an easy and enjoyable read. Members gave it an average rating of 3.5.

First Edition Book Club did not file a report this month

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. In **MARCH** we will be meeting at **MOSLEY STREET GRILL** on **WEDNESDAY MAR. 28, 2012 at 9:00AM**. We have 27 in our group. If you wish to join us anytime call Bob Bowyer at 705-429-0579.

Looking ahead, I checked out the **EURO-LEX BISTRO & DELI**. We will give it a try in April. It appears the **FUD GRILL** at the **STAYNER AIRPORT** is back serving breakfasts again. We will contact them for May.

DON'T FORGET:

- The Secretary's Minutes of the last General Meeting and the Treasurer's Summary of the Club's finances are posted at the front of the room. Please read them!
- **Please notify the Membership Convener of any changes to your address, phone number, e-mail address, etc.** We realize this is a continuing reminder, but it is very important!
- Please pass information regarding sickness, hospital stays, or death of a member to our Goodwill Convener, **Shirley Brett**. If you don't tell us, we may miss sending out a card.
- Our New Member Ambassador, **Betty Baker**, is always available to give you information about our Club and its activities.

PROBUS CANADA WIDE BULLETIN BOARD

A bulletin board posting is available to Probus Clubs. The address is www.probus.org/bulletin.htm. When you are unable to attend a meeting, you can access your copy of *The Wasagan* at www.probus.org/12wasbcrn.pdf (Please contact the *The Wasagan* Editor if you do not have a computer.)

MANAGEMENT TEAM for 2011-2012

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| President | Gene Stephenson | 422-0201 | Membership | Vincy and Gene Stephenson | 422-0201 |
| Vice-President | TBA | | Refreshments | Susan & Brian Passmore | 422-1956 |
| Past President | Don Caron | 429-0308 | Lucky Draw | Rickey Lemire & Sandra Hanson | 422-1738 422-0227 |
| Secretary | Betty Keyes | 429-6064 | Goodwill | Shirley Brett | 429-8907 |
| Treasurer | Dan Squires | 429-4765 | Newsletter | Tom Donohue | 429-0644 |
| New Members | Betty Baker | 422-1909 | Social | Diane Nagel | 428-3209 |
| Speaker and Profiles Chair | TBA | | | | |

DEADLINE for submissions for April's newsletter is **Monday, March 26**. Anything submitted after this date will be placed in the May's newsletter.

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS

Some minds are like concrete – thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.

Misers aren't much fun to live with but they make great ancestors.

Don't suffer from insanity. Enjoy every minute of it.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2012

THE WASAGA STARS ARENA

Arrive early to enjoy coffee and tea with your friends prior to the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

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



Beachcombers Probud Club

P.O. Box 321, Wasaga Beach, ON, L9Z 1A4

IT'S YOUR CLUB!

A bad management team can wreck a good organization in a remarkably short period of time. The converse is not true. The best management team in the world can't make a club into something that the members don't want it to be. This is as it should be. We've all had enough of politicians and bureaucrats telling us what is best for us, despite the fact that someone else always seems to gain all the benefits.

If we really want to run our own show, there's a price to be paid. In one word, that price is **INVOLVEMENT**. The members of your Club's management team have no trouble keeping themselves involved by simply carrying out the duties and responsibilities they assumed when they took office. One might then assume that there's nothing left for the rest of the Club members to do? **ABSOLUTELY NOT!** Each and every member of the Club can make an important contribution by doing one or more of the following things in an effort to make this the best Club it can be:

1. At every general meeting, make a point of engaging another member that you do not know, or do not know as well as you should, in a friendly conversation. This will give both of you a warmer feeling about PROBUS than anything the Executive can do.
2. Volunteer to do things that will get you better known to your fellow members. We need members to present personal profiles or life experiences every month. If you have a special wealth of knowledge from your vocation that could be packaged as a feature presentation at a future meeting, let the Speaker's Chair know about it. If you've heard all the President's tired old jokes, volunteer to share some of your better ones with the Club. The list could go on and on. But, in general the members of the management team do not enjoy twisting arms to get members to participate. It's a lot more fun when members come forward voluntarily.
3. If there is anything that you don't like about the way things are done in the Club, let any member of the management team know and suggest a better way. Despite the brave face that we always put forward, the management team does not have a monopoly on wisdom or creativity. We need your input!
4. Be a roving reporter for the Club's newsletter. Every member of the Club knows things about other members that ought to be shared with all.
5. Try to be the first guy on the block to start correcting the imbalance between perceived rights and responsibilities. We are all experts in defining what the world, our various levels of government and even PROBUS, owes us. If we all give equal time to the contemplation of what we owe in return for all the benefits we have enjoyed and then act on our enlightenment, it is almost sure to make ours a better Club. Please remember, **IT'S YOUR CLUB....**

THE MANAGEMENT TEAM ONLY WORKS HERE – AND TEMPORARILY AT THAT!