

Among Friends

Summer 2008 Newsletter

Dr Bill Writes:

It is now 25 years since my wife Carolyn died. I was thankful that the anniversary of that day fell on our May "Among Friends" Dinner at the Duck, because it was an encouragement to see how something good has come out of something so tragic. But that's life, isn't it? Some people say the glass is half full and others lament that the glass is half empty. But the wise people realize that, in fact, it is BOTH. It just depends on which part you decide to focus upon. The glass may be half empty, but if we can make the most of what we DO have, we will feel better about ourselves and about life.

All my support groups this spring have seen huge numbers, and so within a short time we will have many new members hoping to find a warm welcome "Among Friends". Please go out of your way to make sure they feel at home.

Please read through the newsletter and register for events as soon as you can. The bus trip to 1000 Islands on September 6th is already half full (or half empty??) and we don't want you to be disappointed. Our Christmas event is completely different this year, and we know it will be a sell out. So avoid disappointment and register SOON.

The Annual Banquet should be a MUST for everyone in Among Friends. **Sunday November 9th** (please note the change of date from the last newsletter) will be an exciting event as we welcome PETER APPLEBY and his quintet as the entertainment. In addition to the excellent meal and good fellowship, we will have a silent auction (details below) and a new proposal for our use of the benevolent fund. Please mark this date in the calendar for an evening of food, fun and musical entertainment.

The "Among Friends" Committee, chaired by Lorna Mitchell does a great deal of work behind the scenes for our various activities, and I want you to know I am grateful for all their efforts to make our group work. Next time you see them, let's make it a "Hug a Committee Member" Day to let them know that you appreciate their efforts too. We could not do it without them.

Dr Bill

Silent Auction at the Annual Banquet.

Some years ago, "Among Friends" established a Benevolent Fund in memory of a dear friend, Don Jacobs, who was a generous and willing supporter of the group in its early days. Over the years, we have used this money to assist people, by, for example, sending some single parent family kids to camp, assisting people with rent, and other anonymous acts of kindness to people in genuine need. The fund is managed and distributed by a Board of Trustees, chaired by Ken Mitchell.

This year, we are going to make a charitable contribution from the Fund to a bereavement initiative possibly involving bereaved children or some other worthy cause not directly related to Among Friends.

We hope that many individuals or groups will be able to make a contribution to the silent auction, whether some item you no longer want, or something you can contribute. It is always great fun at the banquet to get involved in the bidding wars on these things. We also get some corporate donations, such as Raptor tickets etc. Do YOU have any contacts in this area???

Can you send or bring your donations for the Silent Auction to one of our meetings, or contact Ken Mitchell at 905 878 8842 to make arrangements.

NEXT AMONG FRIENDS CRUISE:

January 2010 (18 months from now):

21 Days: AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND (with a 3 day stay in HONG KONG, 12 DAY CRUISE, and an additional 3 day stay in SYDNEY.)

Price (and you will hardly believe it for a 21 day trip) **Around \$5500**

Brochures will be ready by the end of June to allow you to make plans.

Caribbean Cruise 2009:

We felt that maybe we should take a break from the Caribbean for 2009.

HOWEVER, if YOU feel strongly that we SHOULD go, (and about 20 – 24 of you express this to Dr Bill by July) we will make arrangements.

Dr Bill's Travel Club:

Dr Bill will be leading more travel groups outside of "Among Friends" for people who just want to travel ... for information about this, contact Dr Bill.

Contacting the Among Friends Committee:

To assist you in obtaining information or answers to your questions you can reach us via e-mail at www.amongfriends@griefjourney.com



AMONG FRIENDS COMMITTEE 2008

<u>Executive</u>		<u>Don Jacob Memorial Fund Trustee's</u>	
Bill Webster	905-624-8080	Ken Mitchell	905-878-8842
Lorna Mitchell	905-878-8842	Shirley Eustace	905-824-6177
Frances Clay	905-624-6317	Arnie Gallant	905-568-1105
Sally Jordan	416-207-0177		
Cecilia Podger	905-551-0637		
Pat Carson	416-259-4802		
Dale Hester	905-826-2888		
Donna Fradenburgh	416-592-7775 or 416-259-5789		

Local Contact People

Brampton: Ian Williams 905-457-9945 or Cindy Stehr 416-902-3111
Durham: Bev Koss 905 576 6395 / Rob MacIvor 905-623-6042
Waterdown: Denise Baynton 905-689-7326
Kitchener: Dean Brock 519-744-2102 / Patti Schnaar 519-748-9674

Member Support

If you know of any of our members who are ill, please give Marion, Ernie or any committee member a call so we can keep in touch with these members and continue to offer support and best wishes.

Marion Campbell 416-766-1241 and Ernie Worden 905-230-8353

Monthly Dinner Meetings - 4th Sunday of the Month

We continue to have **TWO** locations, and are pursuing opportunities in other communities as our groups grow.

Toronto and Peel Region:

The cost for this is currently \$25.00 per person

Dinner, the FOURTH Sunday of every month, at 3:00 pm

The Muddy Duck, Dundas St. Mississauga, just west of Hwy.427. (905-275-9430)

Contact: Lorna Mitchell 905-878-8842

Durham – Dinner – The THIRD Tuesday of each month at the Marwood – for more information contact one of the Durham Rep's. or visit

www.durham1amongfriends.spaces.live.com for more information.

Waterdown – Dinner – The SECOND Sunday of each month at Marciano's, located at 5 Mill St South, at 4 pm. The cost is \$25/person. If you would like to join us, please RSVP to Denise Baynton at 905-689-7326 or email at dbaynton@skyline.net.



EVENT INFORMATION

Heart of the Islands Lunch Cruise Saturday, September 6, 2008

We will bus to Kingston / Belleville to board the **Island Star** and enjoy a three course lunch on board.

The Island Star sails past the Town of Gananoque and into the Bateau Channel for the return voyage to Kingston / Belleville. Fabulous sights include Howe Island, Napoleon's Hat, Isle of view, Fort Henry, and the Trident Yacht Club, to name a few. As the cruise moves into the 1000 islands, guests are treated to live entertainment. This vessel also has a full service canteen and bar.

We will disembark in Belleville and proceed to the Montrose Inn where we will enjoy a traditional English Tea and tour before heading home. The Montrose Inn is one of the best examples of 'ante bellum' architecture in Ontario, this magnificent mansion was built in 1916 on 7.5 acres overlooking the Bay of Quinte.

Cost: \$90.00 including bus, boat cruise, lunch, a light dinner and tour at the Montrose Inn.

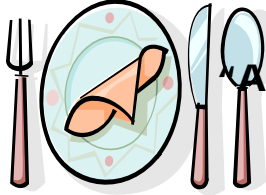
Pick Up Locations and times:

Concordia Club, Kitchener – 7:30 a.m.

Kelsey's in Milton – 8:00 a.m.

St. James United Church in Etobicoke – 8:30 a.m.

Frankenmuth – a number of people have indicated an interest in a two night trip to Frankenmuth, MI – We would be looking to do this in October, on a Tuesday – Thursday. If you are interested, contact Lorna, if we have enough interest a trip will be organized Complete the Interest Finder form below and you will contacted by the committee once we know our numbers.



"Among Friends" 7th ANNUAL BANQUET
Sunday, November 9, 2008
3:30 – 9:00 pm.

Capitol Banquet Hall
6435 Dixie Road, Mississauga
905-670-0635

Cost: \$65.00 (see Dr. Bill's letter re entertainment!!)

Note: *If you would like to organize (and pre-book) a table for 8, please send in the cheques all together before September 28th or hand in at the Muddy Duck no later than September 28th.*

Directions: From Hwy 401, exit at Dixie Road North and the hall is just north of Courtneypark Dr. on the east side.

CHRISTMAS BUS TRIP
Saturday, December 6, 2008



Cost: \$63.00 – PLEASE NOTE: this trip is filling up quickly so register soon if you are planning on attending!!

We will take the Bus to St. Jacobs to shop and explore. Lunch at the Crossroads Family Restaurant in Elmira and then **onto.....**

Christkindl Market

Willkommen! Welcome! We invite you to the sights, sounds and tastes of Christmas. We will visit Canada's original Christkindl Market and relive a centuries-old tradition. Our festival of German Christmas is a 4-day **festival**, with over 70 **vendors** and free entertainment

The sparkle of Christmas lights. The twirl of skaters. The sound of a choir singing Silent Night. Your breath clouds in front of you as you walk past stalls selling schinken, potato pancakes and fresh pastries, their delicious aromas inviting you to linger.

The colourful swirl of dancers and the melodious tolling of bells. There's nothing like music and dance to set the mood for some holiday magic.

In front of Kitchener City Hall, the crowd munches on Bratwurst and Lebkuchen (spice cake), while sipping steaming mugs of Gluwein (mulled wine). On stage, bellringers, dancers and musicians fill the square with the festive sounds of Christmas. Inside City Hall, vendors offer handcrafted and traditional gifts: ornaments, toys, jewelry, florals, ceramics, stained glass and carvings. Model trains journey through miniature landscapes at the model railway displays, while children enjoy the fun of creating their own Christmas crafts at the Kinderecke

... and then **onto...**

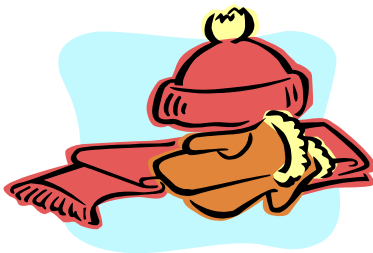
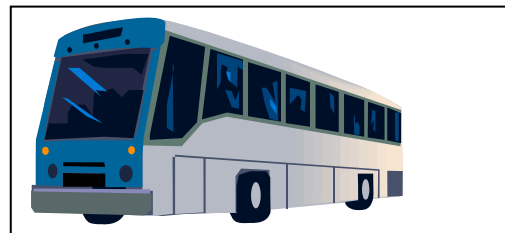
Westfield Heritage Village

"Twas the Night Before Christmas"
Westfield Heritage Village – 5:00 – 9:00 pm.
(dinner provided)

Celebrate Christmas past from the Georgian to the modern eras and feel the warmth of the season featuring live musical entertainment, fireworks, horse drawn wagon rides and a visit from Saint Nick.

The bus will be picking up at the:

St. James Church, Etobicoke – 9:30 am
Kelsey's parking lot in Milton – 10:00 am
Concordia Club in Kitchener - 10:30 am



**A WONDERFUL FUN FILLED DAY!!!
REMEMBER..... DRESS WARMLY.**

REGISTRATION FORMS

Detach and send with payment. Cheques are payable to "Among Friends", c/o Lorna Mitchell, 837 Merritt Dr. Milton, ON L9T 4J9

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**Bus Trip & Heart of the Island Cruise
Saturday, September 6, 2008**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Please enclose your cheque for \$90.00

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**AMONG FRIENDS – 7TH ANNUAL BANQUET
Sunday, November 9, 2008**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Please enclose your cheque for \$65.00

✂-----

**Christmas Bus Trip
Saturday, December 6, 2008**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Please enclose your cheque for \$63.00

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Interest Finders

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Tick the Box to Indicate your interest in:

Possible Caribbean Cruise Jan 2009

Dr Bill's Travel Club

Trip to Frankenmuth, October 2008
