

# Among Friends

## Newsletter Summer/Fall 2009

**Dear Friends,**

*A sweet old grandmother telephoned the Hospital. She timidly asked, 'Is it possible to speak to someone who can tell me how a patient is doing?'*

*The operator said, 'I'll be glad to help, dear. What's the name and room number?' The grandmother in her weak, tremulous voice said, 'Norma Findlay, Room 302.' The operator replied, 'Let me place you on hold while I check with her nurse.'*

*After a few minutes, the operator returned to the phone and said, 'Oh, I have good news. Her nurse just told me that Norma is doing very well. Her blood pressure is fine; her tests just came back as normal, and her physician, Dr. Cohen, has scheduled her to be discharged on Tuesday.'*

*The grandmother said, 'Thank you. That's wonderful! I was so worried! Bless you for the good news.' 'You're more than welcome,' the operator responded and then asked, 'Is Norma your daughter?'*

*'No', she replied. 'I'm Norma Findlay in 302. Nobody tells me **nothing!!!**'*

Lest we fall into the same trap, here is our newsletter of upcoming events. Events in the next few months include a picnic, social evenings, a STEAM TRAIN RIDE, and our Annual Christmas Lights Bus Trip. Details, prices and registration forms are included in the newsletter. We hope you will register early (like TODAY!) because we expect there will be high demand for these opportunities.

**NOW, some important and interesting information regarding the Banquet:**

**AMONG FRIENDS ANNUAL BANQUET - NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> 2009.** Our Banquet this year will be a **HOMECOMING**, an opportunity for Among Friends new and old to renew old acquaintances as well as meeting new and current friends.

It is now confirmed that, back by popular request after a three year absence, we will be entertained by **"THE PEACHES"** of TV and recording fame. You will hear the Peaches "as they were" and also "as they are" with some interesting music and entertainment. And we will have some other surprises as usual.

**AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND TOUR, January 2010: We now have over 40 people registered** for this ambitious trip. Just to remind you of the value we are offering: this was first booked when the CDN\$ was at par with the US\$, which means we are getting a 20% saving on today's exchange rates. OUR price includes EVERYTHING, taxes and other extras, and even a fuel surcharge (which, if prices remain at today's level, will not have to be applied).

The ship is now filling up, so you should **register very soon to get a better selection of cabins**. Those who enquire will also receive information about an **OPTIONAL** interesting extra

week at CAIRNS and the GREAT BARRIER REEF. The brochure can be downloaded from [www.Griefjourney.com](http://www.Griefjourney.com) under Among Friends, or by calling **Bob's Cruises at 905 338 2077**

**DON JACOBS MEMORIAL FUND:** As usual we will be having a **SILENT AUCTION at the Banquet** to raise funds to augment the Don Jacobs Memorial Fund. For newer members, The Don Jacobs Memorial Fund was established in 2002 to honor the memory of a generous member, and to continue his vision of assisting bereaved people who are experiencing financial difficulty. Through the years we have been able to be of help in several varied situations.

**DONATIONS to the SILENT AUCTION** can be made to committee chairman, **Arnie Gallant at 416-622-7796**. We welcome the donation of any items that can be in the silent auction, the LIVE auction, or on the bric-a-brac table. It is all for a very good cause, so we will be very grateful for any and all contributions.

**BENEVOLENT FUND PROTOCOL:** In February 2009, the new committee of trustees met and established a protocol for the use of the fund. Please note the criteria and please let the committee know in writing of any potential situations:

1. Any person who has experienced bereavement can be considered as a possible recipient of assistance from the fund.
2. The trustees will consider any situation that involves the reconstruction of a person's life after bereavement.
3. Applications for assistance will be made to the chairman of the trustees in writing. Disbursements will be made to needy members, after due consideration, at the complete discretion of the trustees.
4. Anonymity and confidentiality to maintain the dignity of any recipient is absolutely essential.

As many of you know Among Friends tries to keep the costs of events to a minimum. This year we did not ask for member donations toward the costs of mailings and related expenses, but we need to ask your help as we approach 2010. **While it is not mandatory for those who cannot afford it, MAY WE REQUEST THAT YOU CONSIDER A DONATION OF \$20 towards the operating costs of Among Friends.** Please give or send your donation to Lorna Mitchell, payable to Among Friends, 837 Merritt Drive, Milton, ON L9T 4J9.

Meantime our support groups continue in various communities, and we hope you will let any bereaved people you know about all these opportunities for support.

*Dr Bill*



## AMONG FRIENDS COMMITTEE 2009

### Executive Committee:

Bill Webster	905-624-8080	Pat Carson	416-259-4802
Lorna Mitchell	905-878-8842	Dale Hester	905-826-2888
Frances Clay	905-624-6317	Donna Fradenburgh	416-592-7775
Sally Jordan	416-207-0177	Sharon Coke	905-635-4967
Cecilia Podger	416-710-3155		

### Don Jacob Memorial Fund Trustee's

Arnie Gallant	416-622-7796	Shirley McKee	416-231-7169
Ken Mitchell	905-878-8842	Don Lambie	416-231-0624

### Local Contact People

Brampton:	Ian Williams	905-457-9945 or
	Cindy Stehr	416-902-3111
Durham:	Rob MacIvor	905-623-6042
Waterdown:	Denise Baynton	905-689-7326
Kitchener:	Dean Brock	519-744-2102

### Member Support

Ernie Worden	905-230-8353	Karen Baptista	416-322-9449
Karen Lambie	416-231-0624		

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

### MONTHLY DINNER MEETINGS - 4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

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

#### Toronto and Peel Region:

**Dinner, the FOURTH Sunday of every month, at 3:00 pm – PLEASE NOTE the restaurant will not have our reservation available until 3:00 p.m. so please arrange to arrive between 3:00 and 3:15 p.m. if possible. Cost \$28.00**

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

#### Durham

Monthly dinners are the third Tuesday of each month at Momma's Restaurant at 5 points Plaza in Oshawa starting at 6:30pm (please let rob.amongfriends@gmail.com know if attending so seating can be arranged).

Weekly coffee get togethers are every Wednesday at 6:30pm at Traditions Restaurant in Oshawa at 1052 Simcoe Street N, at Beatrice. This is a family restaurant so some of us also have supper at this get together.

Watch our web site [www.durham1amongfriends.spaces.live.com](http://www.durham1amongfriends.spaces.live.com) for other get togethers planned throughout the year

**Waterdown** – Dinner – The SECOND Sunday of each month at Marciano's, located at 5 Mill St South, at 3:35 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](mailto:dbaynton@skyline.net).

### **EVENT INFORMATION**

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**AMONG FRIENDS ANNUAL PICNIC  
SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2009  
Royal Botanical Gardens – Hamilton, ON**

**Meeting Time: 10:00 am.** (maps will be provided for drivers)

**Cost: \$28.00** (includes park admission & box lunch)

We will be car pooling from the Kelsey's in Milton (HWY 25 just south of 401) Or St. James United Church (400 Burnhamthorpe Rd., east of 427, west of Martingrove)

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**BUS TRIP TO SEE FALL COLOURS AND RIDE ON THE  
CREDIT VALLEY EXPLORER STEAM ENGINE  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2009**

Known for its rolling hills, deep valleys, unsurpassed fall colours and being the headwaters of four major river systems, the Hills of Headwaters region provides a wonderful backdrop for the Credit Valley Explorer's journey. Passengers will enjoy assigned first-class seating, large picture windows, all in a comfortable climate-controlled environment. The 74km adventure aboard classic rail cars is sure to be a memorable experience!

Bus Departures:

Concordia Club in Kitchener	8:00 am
Kelsey's parking lot in Milton	8:30 am
St. James Church, Etobicoke	9:00 am

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**Cost: \$75.00 - Price includes bus, train & lunch** (soup, sandwich and desert plus beverage. Wine is also served but can only be paid by debit or credit card - no cash)

**Note: registration cutoff date is August 23<sup>rd</sup> or until tickets are sold)**

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**AMONG FRIENDS SOCIAL  
DESSERT & GAMES NIGHT  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009 - 6:30 PM.**

Location: Kathy Weaver (Party room)  
1403 Royal York Rd. (North-east corner of Royal York and Eglinton)  
Party room on main floor  
Note: underground visitor parking available on P1

**Cost: \$15 includes desert, room rental & prizes!!!**

**Program: Among Friends "Feud", Board and card games.**

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**Among Friends” 8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BANQUET  
Sunday, November 8, 2009 (3:30 – 9:00 pm)**

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

**Cost: \$ 65.00 / \$70.00 (same price as last year if you register on or before September 27<sup>th</sup> after which the cost will be \$70.00)**

(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 27<sup>th</sup> or hand in at the Muddy Duck no later than September 27<sup>th</sup>.*

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



**WHITE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL &  
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2009**

**Cost: \$99.00**

**Includes:**

- Theatre Aquarius, Hamilton production of “White Christmas”
- Minolta Tower (Observation deck)
- Dinner: Pinnacle Restaurant
- View Festival of Lights before return trip home

**NOTE: If you require further information regarding any of these events, please contact the following**

<b>Picnic:</b>	<b>Sharon Coke</b>	905-635-4967
<b>Fall Colours/Train trip:</b>	<b>Pat Carson</b>	416-259-4802
<b>Social:</b>	<b>Dale Hester</b>	905-826-2888
<b>Banquet:</b>	<b>Lorna Mitchell</b>	905-878-8842
<b>Christmas Event:</b>	<b>Donna Fradenburgh</b>	416-592-7775

**REGISTRATION FORMS**

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

**AMONG FRIENDS ANNUAL PICNIC - SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2009  
Royal Botanical Gardens – Hamilton, ON**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose your cheque for \$28.00

I will be meeting the group at \_\_\_\_\_ Milton OR \_\_\_\_\_ St. James UC

Yes, I will drive \_\_\_\_\_ and can accommodate \_\_\_\_\_ people including myself.

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**BUS TRIP TO SEE FALL COLOUR AND RIDE ON THE CREDIT VALLEY EXPLORER STEAM  
ENGINE - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2009**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose your cheque - \$75.00

Please circle your selection of sandwich - Roast Chicken or Ham & Cheese or Vegetarian

**Registration cutoff date is August 23 or when tickets are sold.**

**Note:** Some people have indicated an interest in going out to dinner upon our return (**at your own expense**), so if you are interested in joining us please indicate below so reservations can be made (location to be determined once numbers are available but most likely the Muddy Duck or Kelsey's. We should be returning close to 5:00 pm

Dinner:  check if interested

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**AMONG FRIENDS SOCIAL (Dessert & Games Night)  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009 - 5:00 PM.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose your cheque for \$15.00

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**8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BANQUET - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2009**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose your cheque for \$65.00 or \$70.00. Tickets must be paid by September 27 to take advantage of the early bird fee of \$65.00, otherwise the cost is \$70.00.

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**WHITE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL & FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2009**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose your cheque for \$99.00

I will be meeting the group at: (circle one) Concordia Club or Milton or St. James UC