
40 Homewood Community Newsletter

Volume 3 Number. 12

December, 1 2006

The views expressed in this publication
are those of the writers of the articles
and not the Board of Directors.



December 25th, 20



December 15th, 2006



CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 9th, 2006

Recreation Room

B1 Level.

6:00 pm`

\$20.00

Tickets available from Office.



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"BUON ANNO"

"JOYEUX NOEL"

"VESELE VANOCE"

"MELE KALIKIMAKA"

"NODLAG SONA DHUIT"

"BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA"

"GOD JUL"

"FELIZ NATAL"

"BOAS FESTAS"

"FELIZ NAVIDAD"

"MERRY CHRISTMAS"

"KALA CHRISTOUGENA"

"VROLIJK KERSTFEEST"

"FROHLICHE WEIHNACHTEN"

"BUON NATALE-GODT NYTAR"

"HUAN YING SHENG TAN CHIEH"

"WESOLYCH SWIAT-SRETAN BOZIC"

"MOADIM LESIMHA-LINKSMU KALEDU"

"HAUSKAA JOULUA-AID SAID MOUBARK"

"N PRETTIG KERSTMIS"

"ONNZLLISTA UUTTA VUOTTA"

"Z ROZHDESTYOM KHRYSTOVYM"

"NADOLIG LLAWEN-GOTT NYTTSAR"

"FELIC NADAL-GOJAN KRISTNASKON"

"S NOVYM GODOM-FELIZ ANO NUEVO"

"GLEDILEG JOL-NOELINIZ KUTLU OLSUM"

"EEN GELUKKIG NIEUWJAAR-SRETAN

BOSIC"

"KRIHSTLINDJA GEZUAR-KALA

CHRISTOUGENA"

"SELAMAT HARI NATAL - LAHNINGU NAJU

METU"

"SARBATORI FERICITE-BUON ANNO"

"ZORIONEKO GABON-HRISTOS SE RODI"

"BOLD OG KARACSONNY-VESELE VIANOCE "

"MERRY CHRISTMAS - - HAPPY NEW YEAR"

"ROOMSAID JOULU PUHI -KUNG HO SHENG

TEN"

"FELICES PASUAS-EIN GLUCKICHES

NEWJAHR"

"PRIECIGUS ZIEMAN SVETKUS SARBATORI

VESLE"

"BONNE ANNEBLWYDDYN NEWYDD

DDADR FELIZ NATAL"

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Getting To Know You



*Martha McGrath
and Ollie*

During Montreal's Expo '67, Martha and her fellow workers in Place Ville Marie (the newest office building in the city) would watch the flag-waving limousines streaming to the nearby hotels and try to discern where the visiting dignitaries were from. She found it a very exciting time.

Born in Notre-Dame-de-Grace, she worked for several companies before spending 27 years at the Royal Bank. In 1978, when Montreal became uncomfortable for non-French speakers, the bank transferred Martha to Toronto. Luckily, a good friend moved at the same time. She still remembers how polite she found the subway crowds and the relief at being easily understood.

Martha no longer travels very far but having been to Europe as a young woman and several Caribbean islands, the U.K. and some of the U.S. and Hawaii, she is satisfied. At age 40, she had a three year brush with marriage, but independence won out. In 1995, she purchased a home here at 40 Homewood and in 2000, a year of major downsizing at the bank, she took a package and freed herself from work

Martha belongs to several clubs that reflect her passions—Cabbage Patch Dolls, Coronation Street, and belongs to the Cabbagetown Quilters' Guild at Riverdale Farm. She has twice visited the Coronation Street set in Manchester and has been to several Cabbage Patch Doll conferences. She is the secretary of our Board of Directors and editor of this Newsletter.


Getting To Know You



Francisco Leon

Frank says that he was "spoiled" as a child in Cuba, but he has had to prove his grit and independence to get where he is now, here in his adopted country.

His father, a prosperous criminal lawyer, died when Frank was only 10. The family, which had had servants, adjusted as mother went to work to care for Frank and his sister. Cienfuegos, on the south coast of Cuba, was a good place, however, to grow up, swimming and playing out-of-doors.

Two years studying thermo-engineering ended when he was thrown out of university for his political ideas. Then in college he studied civil engineering, graduating as a technician rather than a professional engineer because "they never let professionals leave," and leaving Cuba was high in his priorities. After an attempt to go to Panama in 1989—jinxed by the US invasion—he came to Canada in 1996.

At first a refugee, he then earned immigrant status and now is a proud citizen. After a series of lousy jobs, a computer course in 2000 opened the door to working on the re-construction of the Pearson airport. Then acquisition of a driver's license landed Frank back in the field he was trained for. Currently, he is a site inspector for Valdor Engineering.

Movies, the gym, and social dancing occupy his spare time, as did the renovation of the unit he bought in 2005.



Down Memory Lane

By Violet

Turkey is good...but...

"Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat, please put a penny in the old man's hat."

It is many years since that was called out in the streets – probably in Dickens' time.

Nowadays it seems that Christmas shopping must start as early as Thanksgiving and the gifts get more expensive each succeeding year. It is much different than when we shopped a few days before the 25th under much less stress than nowadays.

Around 1980 or 81, I was planning to "go home" and spend the festive time with "her". As the day of departure drew close, a friend offered to drive me to the airport. His mother was coming to have Christmas dinner with him and intended to have it early enough for me to join them, so that I would miss the traditional meal.

I must say it was all very nice, particularly as I did not have any chores to do. After a really scrumptious traditional meal, I was whisked off to Pearson airport in good time to check in for my flight.

The routine was always the same. After the first hour in the air, the crew began to serve the drinks and then the meal. The "Captain" announced over the P.A. that they had pressed the caterers to provide a turkey meal. He ended his announcement with the remark "We have just put the Christmas pudding on the stove to get hot for dessert". Much laughter came from the passengers. It would be served separately. Fortunately the portions are not large and I was able to enjoy a second traditional meal in less than 10 hours. It was all nice and jolly, carols were heard during the meal and most passengers seemed happy to have all this whilst high up in the sky.

We landed at Heathrow early in the morning and after claiming my bag and going through the immigration section, I set off to get the train to London and on to Fenchurch Street Station to board the train to Leigh-on-Sea, the last part of my journey. I was really pleased to see the one and only taxi at the exit and no one else was rushing to claim it. So, a few minutes later, I was at my Mother's door. It was 10:00 am local time. J She opened the door and greeted me and I said "Are you cooking so early in the day?" "Yes" was the reply "We are having our Christmas dinner today, there will be six of us. We felt sorry you spent the actual day in a plane".

"Oh well", I thought "How many people can be lucky enough to have three traditional meals in about 24 hours".

Needless to say, I did not look at turkey again until the next Christmas.



Food Bank

This year's initiative went extremely well! Twenty-two boxes of food and \$785 went to the Daily Bread Food Bank from 40 Homewood. Thanks go out to everyone who made a donation to assure that people not as fortunate as we are will be able to have a good meal this season. Thank you to **Raymonde Quichard** for volunteering her time to sit in the lobby and collect and pack up all the food.

Way To Go Raymonde!!
Thanks Everyone!!

CONGRATULATIONS!

To Antonio Monni for 20 years of dedicated service to the owners and residents of 40 Homewood. Antonio was presented with a watch on November 1st, 2006 to celebrate this milestone.

New Year's Eve Celebration

Don't sit alone on New Year's Eve....join some of your neighbours in the Recreation Room to see in the new year. Don will show "South Pacific" beforehand. Movie is 3 hours. Refreshments and prizes will be available. Watch the bulletin boards for more information. ""

My First Christmas Cake

by Hugh McKellar

Across half a century I can recall how apprehensively I placed my first Christmas cake in the oven and closed the door.

Actually, little can go wrong with a fruitcake once the batter is mixed, since it hasn't far to rise; but few adults explained this to children who, in the days of wood and coal stoves, were routinely banished from the kitchen while the cake baked. It needed a few hours of slow, steady heat, which a carefully arranged fire could supply—unless disturbed by the sudden movement of an active child. Many such children deduced that fruitcake must be too fragile for any but expert cooks, and continued to steer clear of it, without realizing that electric stoves had solved the original problem.

Once I had broken the connections between fruitcake and panic attacks, I began making an extra cake each year, for it could always be sure of finding a good home. This might be with a family where the mother, through no fault of her own, had been able to prepare little for Christmas; or with a woman who had grown up before refrigerators were common, and liked to have some fruitcake stored in a cool place in case company came—though, if she lived alone, she might want only part of a cake. In years when no one I knew was having trouble, the school where I taught and for the church where I sang could usually match cakes with need. Thus, when the food banks came on the local scene, I had simply to expand and streamline operations.

By then, I had stabilized two reliable recipes, for which I can assemble ingredients throughout the year at the time when each is cheapest—a tangible way of keeping the Christmas spirit in

mind. After Remembrance Day, I start baking cakes in loaves, which I freeze or chill as the weather allows. Shortly before Christmas, I cut the loaves into 4" X 4" blocks, which I put into small plastic bags and take in installments over to the food bank at St. Peter's Church, whose volunteers try to place them where they will do the most good (One block is about as much as a person living alone with limited fridge space could use without fear of spoilage)..

One delivery, however, I make in person. On the morning of each December 24th, I take one loaf of light and one of dark cake down to the 51 Division police station for the officers who, instead of spending that night with their families, will be patrolling the streets so that the rest of us can go in safety wherever we wish. The officers on the desk are always taken aback, perhaps because they haven't received any support or gratitude in so long that they can't remember how to act; but they rally, and take refuge in wishing me a Merry Christmas.

Christmas Wish for You

Submitted by Elfriede Dalrymple

My Christmas wish for you, my friend
Is not a simple one
For I wish you hope and joy and peace
Days filled with warmth and sun

I wish you love and friendship too
Throughout the coming year
Lots of laughter and happiness
To fill your world with cheer

May you count your blessing, one by one
And when totaled by the lot
May you find all you've been given
To be more than what you sought

May your journey be short, your burdens light
May your spirit never grow old
May all your clouds have silver linings
And your rainbows pots of gold

I wish this all and so much more
May all your dreams come true
May you have a Merry Christmas friend
And a happy New Year too

Author unknown

BRAIN TEASERS

How many Christmas Songs can you name from the pictures below?





Halloween

Thank you to Sylvia Keshen and Mary Davis for volunteering to hand out treats to the kids on October 31st. I am sure all the "kids", big and small, enjoyed the treats.

RECIPE EXCHANGE

Cranberry Chutney

Submitted by John Donat

1 - 16 ounce can Ocean Spray Whole Berry Cranberry Sauce
1/2 cup raisins
1/2 cup peeled and diced apple
1/4 cup + 2 tablespoons sugar
1/4 cup + 2 tablespoons vinegar
1/8 teaspoon allspice
1/8 teaspoon ground ginger
1/8 teaspoon cinnamon
Dash ground cloves

DIRECTIONS:

Combine all ingredients in a medium saucepan. Cook on medium heat, stirring occasionally, until apples are tender and sauce has thickened slightly. About 30 minutes.

Makes about 2 1/2 cups.

City Election Results from 40 Homewood

By Charles Marker

Our poll ("subdivision 47") for the municipal election produced:

Mayor: Miller 202 (71% of total 283), Pitfield 64 (23%)

Councillor: Rae 160 (59% of total 271), next highest 24 votes.

Public School Board Trustee: (our own) Joel Dick 145 (68% of total 214), then Kevin Moore 23, Sheila Ward 22.

City-wide turnout is said to be about 41% of eligible voters; City Hall has not yet crunched the poll-by-poll turnout numbers.

Holiday Hours for the

The hours for the Management Office on the holiday weekends are as follows:

Friday, December 22, 2006 - 10:00 am - Noon

Monday, December 25, 2006 - Closed

Tuesday, December 26, 2006 - Closed

Friday, December 29, 2006 - 10:00 am - Noon

Monday, January 1, 2007 - Closed



December 1, 2006

Answers to the Brain Teasers

1 .Jingle bells 2.(Walking in a) Winter wonderland 3. Santa Clause is coming to town. 4. Joy to the world 5. Rudolph the red nosed reindeer 6 O come all ye faithful 7 [I'm dreaming of a]White Christmas 8 O Christmas tree 9 what child is this? 10 We three kings 11 Deck the halls 12 I saw three ships (come sailing in) 13 O Holy night 14 Noel 15 Away in a manger 16 12 days of Christmas 17 I saw mommy kissing Santa Claus 18 All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth 19 The Christmas song (Chestnuts roasting on an open fire) 20 It came upon a midnight clear 21 Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow 22 silent night 23 o little town of Bethlehem 24 Silver Bells

Note from the Editor

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Happy Holidays

