
40 Homewood Community Newsletter

Volume 5. Number. 1

January 1, 2008

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



January 1, 2008

Merry Christmas – January 7th,
2008 to all of you who follow the
Eastern Orthodox Church.

<http://40homewood.ca>

Our building has a new website. Check it out. **Chris Ridpath** is the webmaster and has done a great job. He is looking for volunteers to help keep it current. Any suggestions as to what you would like to see in it would be welcome.

Smoke Alarms



The first of the year is a good time to change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.



Christmas Dinner

This year's Christmas Dinner was held on December 15th, with 57 people in attendance. The meal was delicious and everyone who attended seemed to enjoy themselves immensely.

After dinner was finished, **Jessai** entertained us with beautiful Christmas carols.

Thanks go out to **Gus Kieley** and **Candice Green** for coordinating this event.

To **Joseph Haggan** who emceed for the evening.

Gus and Candice had a lot of help from **Mark Watson, Barron Mount Briton, Elizabeth Johannes, Giles Bouffard, and Margaret Osmond. Dot and Dorothy Boyle, Martha McLaughlin, Jacqueline Hemberly, John Serena, Joe Silverie, Bill Langer and David Thorton**

Thank you **Pat Savoy** and others who contributed gifts for draws.

It goes without saying that we always appreciate the help of the ladies in the management office who sell the tickets for us. Thanks **Donna and Liz**. Also thanks to the maintenance staff who helped set up the room.

Board President

John Darling was elected to the position at the Board meeting on December 4th.

Ongoing Activities



Bridge in the recreation room,
Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:30 pm.



Movies with Don in the
recreation room, Thursdays or Fridays at
7:30. Notices posted every week.



Female Prayer

Submitted by Sylvia
Keshen

Before I lay me down to
sleep,
I pray for a man who's
not a creep

One who's handsome, smart and strong
One who loves to listen long
One who thinks before he speaks
One who'll call, not wait for weeks
I pray he's gainfully employed
When I spend his cash, won't be annoyed
Pulls out my chair and opens my door
Massages my back and begs to do more
Oh! Send me a man who'll make love to
my mind
Knows what to answer to "How big is my
behind?"
I pray that this man will love me to no end
And always be my very best friend.
Amen.

CLASSIFIED

If you are looking for something or selling
something, why not advertise here? I have
posted a couple of requests that have
produced results as have others.

I believe that more people will see it here
rather than on the bulletin boards. Why not
cover all bases?

It is worth a try. Just let me know what you
have to sell or are looking for.



*To everyone who has a
birthday this month*



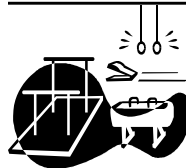
Food Bank

This year's initiative went
very well. 15 boxes and
\$452 were collected for
the food bank. Thanks go

out to everyone who made a donation to assure
that people not as fortunate as we are were able
to have a good meal this season. Thank you to
Anna Pacitti, with Popi Tzallalis and
Raymonde Guichard standing in, for
volunteering their time to sit in the lobby and
collect and pack up all the food.

Also, thanks to Antonio, Eugene and Ramel who
lugged the heavy boxes for us

Way To Go Ladies!
Great Job Everyone!!



Exercise Room

The Board of Directors
has accepted a quote for
the structural refurbishment of the gym.
The work is due to commence this month.

A DIFFERENT CHRISTMAS POEM

Submitted by Arthur Martin

The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light,
I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight.
My wife was asleep, her head on my chest,
My daughter beside me, angelic in rest.
Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white,
Transforming the yard to a winter delight.
The sparkling lights in the tree I believe,
Completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.
My eyelids were heavy, my breathing was deep,
Secure and surrounded by love I would sleep.
In perfect contentment, or so it would seem,
So I slumbered, perhaps I started to dream.
The sound wasn't loud, and it wasn't too near,
But I opened my eyes when it tickled my ear.
Perhaps just a cough, I didn't quite know,
Then the sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow.
My soul gave a tremble, I struggled to hear,
And I crept to the door just to see who was near.
Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night,
A lone figure stood, his face weary and tight.
A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old,
Perhaps Canadian, huddled here in the cold.
Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled,
Standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.
'What are you doing?' I asked without fear,
'Come in this moment, it's freezing out here!
Put down your pack, brush the snow from your sleeve,
You should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!
For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift,
Away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts..
To the window that danced with a warm fire's light
Then he sighed and he said 'Its really all right,
I'm out here by choice. I'm here every night.'
'It's my duty to stand at the front of the line,
That separates you from the darkest of times.
No one had to ask or beg or implore me,
I'm proud to stand here like my fathers before me.
My Gramps died at ' Dieppe on a day in
December.'
Then he sighed, 'That's a Christmas 'Gram
always remembers.'
My dad stood his watch in that Korean Land 'And
now it is my turn and so, here I am.
I've not seen my own son in more than a while,
But my wife sends me pictures, he's sure got her smile.
Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag,
Something red and, white, a Canadian flag.
I can live through the cold and the being alone,

Away from my family, my house and my home.
I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet,
I can sleep in a trench with little to eat.
I can carry the weight of killing another,
Or lay down my life with my sister and brother..
Who stand at the front against any and all,
To ensure for all time that this flag will not fall.'
'So go back inside,' he said, 'harbor no fright,
Your family is waiting and I'll be all right.'
'But isn't there something I can do, at the least,
'Give you money,' I asked, 'or prepare you a feast?
It seems all too little for all that you've done,
For being away from your wife and your son.'
Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret,
'Just tell us you love us, and never forget.
To fight for our rights back at home while we're gone,
To stand your own watch, no matter how long.
For when we come home, either standing or dead,
To know you remember we fought and we bled.
Is payment enough, and with that we will trust,
That we mattered to you as you mattered to us.'



The management and staff have asked me to convey to residents their thanks to everyone who was so generous to them with their gifts, cards and good wishes over the holidays and they wish everyone a Happy New Year.

By-Law Committee

The Board of Directors has set up a By-Law Committee. All directors will sit on it. A notice has been posted on the bulletin boards asking for volunteers to assist in this project. If you are interested, please give you name to the office.

RECIPE EXCHANGE

Brussels Sprouts with Chestnuts

Submitted by Charles Marker

Brussels sprouts, in addition to looking like mini heads of cabbage, are in the cabbage family, making them cruciferous vegetables. The earthy, cabbage-y flavor of sprouts is nicely complemented by chestnuts. If you're not up for cooking and peeling chestnuts, look for cans of whole cooked chestnuts. Thyme is a sweet yet savory herbal underscore for the dish.

6 cups Brussels sprouts
2 teaspoons olive oil
1/4 cup minced onion
1 clove garlic, minced
1/2 cup cooked chestnuts or canned
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon thyme
1/4 teaspoon pepper

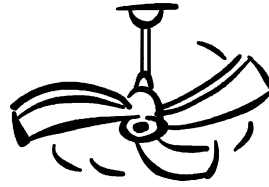
1 Remove the very bottom of the stem ends of the Brussels sprouts. Cut each sprout in half through the core. In a vegetable steamer, steam the Brussels sprouts for 3 minutes.

2 Meanwhile, in a large nonstick skillet, heat the oil over medium heat. Add the onion and garlic, and cook, stirring, until the onion is soft, about 5 minutes.

3 Add the Brussels sprouts, chestnuts, salt, thyme, and pepper, and cook, stirring frequently, until the Brussels sprouts are fork tender and golden, 5 to 7 minutes; add a couple of tablespoons of water if the pan seems too dry.

Makes 4 servings

A good source of Vitamin K



Building Heating

Submitted by Neil
Gilson

When I moved into 40 Homewood almost ten years ago, I found it rather strange when someone told me that the radiant heating for my unit (as with all other units) was in the ceiling. I had seen places with radiant heating before, but it had always been in the floor. So, since heat rises, how was I going to ensure that I would be comfortable? The owner prior to myself had a ceiling fan in the living area and also one in the bedroom. At that time, I assumed that the fans were used only in the summer to dispel the warm air in the rooms, however, I soon found out that this was not the case. The fans were used all year round. In the summer, with the fans set to deflect air downward (counter-clockwise), they would cool the rooms, however, when the fans were put on a winter setting (clockwise) to draw the air up and deflect warm air at the ceiling level, the rooms became warmer. This also creates good air circulation. I understand that there are people in the building who are using space heaters to keep warm. This sort of action completely defeats the purpose of the system. If you set your thermostat at 23C (74F), install ceiling fans (which can be as inexpensive as \$35.00) and set them on winter setting, you will find that your comfort will increase. At one point, I was curious as to the correct temperature in my unit, so I spoke to our Maintenance Man, Pete, who arrived with a sensor, and advised me that the temperature at the ceiling level was about 80F. With the ceiling fans going, the temperature in the entire unit became a comfortable 74 or 75 degrees Fahrenheit. If you do not have fans in your rooms, I highly recommend that you have them installed where possible. It isn't expensive and will certainly reduce the amount of hydro used by your suite. Fans use far less power than space heaters, and will circulate the warm air better.



Recycling Corner



The following is a corrected version of last month's Recycling Corner article

Used Household Batteries – Household Hazardous Waste

By Bill McGuire

Considering that our condominium includes almost 500 residences, the number of used household batteries turned into the office between January, 2007 and October, 2007, for proper disposal at a household hazardous waste depot, seemed very small. Thanks to those of you who participate in this effort.

If you are in the habit of disposing of your used household batteries in the garbage, consider the following. Those batteries will end up in a landfill, that is, an out-of-doors facility which receives garbage. The garbage received there is managed to a degree but there can be seepage of the contents into the groundwater. Groundwater can be one of the sources of water used by man for farming or drinking. Over time, the casing on your batteries will deteriorate to the point where the contents of the batteries will be released.

These contents are often reactive, with the environment. That is, they may be corrosive as are the contents of alkaline batteries or they may be toxic as is cadmium which is found in some rechargeable batteries. Lithium is another reactive substance found in some batteries. The effects of these substances are cumulative with time as more and more batteries are added to the mix.

Many devices in use today are powered by batteries: laptop computers, cordless and cellular phones, camcorders, digital cameras and cordless power tools.

So, instead of tossing that spent battery (alkaline or rechargeable) into the garbage, set it aside and take it with you to the office when you go to buy your laundry tokens. You will be helping to keep potentially noxious substances out of the environment and helping to protect the earth's precious groundwater.

Please tell your friends who live here about the used household battery collection in the office.

Thanks for your participation.

THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING.

Neighbourhood News

Submitted by Bob Leah

Neighbourhood walks by the Homewood and Allan Gardens Residents Association continued. Accompanied by 51 Division Police, parks and recreation ambassador, Troy Ford and concerned area residents, we shared problems and monitored the Homewood area.

The City of Toronto volunteers' manual is ready for printing. It has been a joy for me to work with Susan Lewis, coordinator of the City of Toronto Reference Committee in editing this manual (City of Toronto volunteers number in the thousands!),

The year 2008 will start exciting projects by the City of Toronto Volunteer Reference Committee to co-ordinate volunteers within the GTA and to recognize their service to our city.

The Wellesley Community Centre's programs are filled to capacity—now reassuring to see our youth (our citizens of tomorrow) using the facilities and sharing in activities that build self esteem. This is crime prevention in action—nurturing kids and pointing them away from drugs, break & enters and gang membership.

I believe in supporting The St. Jamestown Youth Centre program. It provides:

- After-school programs that include a homework club, one-to-one tutoring and snacks.
- The successful steel drum orchestra rocks! These kids had twenty gigs during 2007.
- Bursaries to assist youth in gaining an education

Achievement List 2007

- 50 Children attended the after-school program
- 30 kids form the orchestra
- 90 kids went to the 10 week summer day camp

- 25 young people were employed at the Wellesley Centre, working in the after-school program and summer day camp
- 4 young people were awarded the St. Jamestown Youth Centre bursaries.
- 14,000 snacks were served during the after school and summer day camp program.

I believe that appreciation is in order to Librada (Lody) Manlapaz, owner/resident at 40 Homewood. Her loving service on the St. Jamestown Youth Program board for her kids is boundless.

By the way, donations are tax deductible (charitable registration number 10703 4290 RR000),

Thanks for listening—Happy New Year
Heartfully, Bob



Kudos to our maintenance staff that spent many long hours, including helping out on their day off and coming in during the wee hours of the morning to make sure that the snow was removed from our driveway and walkway so the residents could come and go without too much effort.

Thanks guys.

Note from the Editor

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Happy 2008 to everyone.

