

Acton Seniors Centre members are on the go again... and again

JULIE CONROY
Acton Seniors Centre

The Evening Euchre last Wednesday was well attended and Eileen Wedge held the Lone Hand. High Lady was Shirley Hunter and High Man was Norm Douglas. The second Lady was Gerry Chafe and the second Man was Steve Palichuk. Elinore Shannon won the boobie prize. The next Evening Euchre will be on Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 7:15 p.m.

It is hard to believe that the children will be starting back to school shortly and then we will see some of the familiar faces again. Some Grans (and grandfathers) have been busy babysitting over the summer.

The September and October newsletter should be at the front desk by the end of August. As usual, the Birchway and Elizabeth St. apartments will have addresses on them and be delivered by a kind member who lives in the apartments. The rest will not be labeled and it is up to you to pick it up. If you are a member of the Acton Seniors Centre and unable to get to the centre, please let us know and I will try and get a newsletter to you.

You will notice a new format to the newsletter and I hope you enjoy the photos and the different layout. Let us know your comments. Do you like the new look? Is something missing that you enjoyed in the old one? Your written comments would be appreciated.

If you signed the original information sheet for St. Lawrence Market/Royal Botanical Gardens/Waldie Blacksmith Shop and wish to go to the St. Lawrence Market, will you please make sure your name is on the sheet for the St. Lawrence sheet. (Separate clipboard). There is some confusion, and people are putting their names on the wrong sheet. We have gone over it, and hopefully have managed to pick up everyone who was interested.

Yvonne has managed to get some information on the train trip that runs from Orangeville to the Forks

of the Credit and back. It seem there are two different trips, one incorporated a champagne brunch and runs in the morning and the second is a late lunch/dinner in the afternoon and is a turkey dinner. Again I need some feedback on which you would be interested in.

I was asked today if ladies, who weren't members of the centre, were able to go on our Gals on the Go trips. The answer is yes, we would love you to join us, but there is an additional \$3 charge.

It will soon be time for the Acton Fall Fair (Sept. 17-19) and this year we will have a booth at the Fair, so we hope to see lots of you stopping by and saying hello. We met some really nice people at the Leathertown Festival, in spite of the rain and had many complimentary remarks about the painting and crafts made by our talented members.

There are two buses of seniors from the Acton and Georgetown centres going to the Niagara Casino in early September. (My daughter-in-law says between golfing and the centre I am never home, and I think she's right).

Betty Green tells me the last trip the travel club arranged was to the Jackson Point area, where they had a guided tour of the Sharon Temple (in Sharon), known as the Temple of the Children of Peace. After tea and cookies they had lunch at the famous Briars resort. Betty said, "It was fabulous." On the way home they stopped off at Baldwin to visit the Blue Willow Butterfly Conservatory. The plants and flowers have been planted especially to attract the butterflies and you could purchase plants if you wished. They also visited the local farmers market. The weather was beautiful, which really helped make the trip enjoyable. It seems every month they have a great trip planned.

Again the gentleman whose name was drawn this week at the Friday 50/50 draw had not put his loonie in the box. Next week the prize should be over \$300.

Help Stop the Secret Deals for Increased Integration with the U.S.

George Bush, Stephen Harper and Mexican President Felipe Calderon will be meeting behind closed doors in Montebello, Quebec, on August 20-21, 2007.

Their agenda? To change hundreds of Canadian regulations, laws and policies — social, cultural, economic, international and security — to match those in the U.S., creating a "fortress North America."

This scheme, originally proposed by the Canadian Council of Chief Executives (a lobby group representing the country's biggest corporations) has been developing in secret for over four years.

While corporations such as Wal-Mart and Exxon have been heavily involved in this process, the public and Parliament have been completely excluded.

The scheme goes by the deliberately deceptive title "Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America" (SPP). It is, in fact, a scheme to transfer power from democratic institutions to corporate board rooms.

When decision making takes place behind closed doors, human rights disappear.

"The Security and Prosperity Partnership, sadly, appears to trade basic human rights for continued access to the U.S. market," warned Alex Neve, Secretary General for Amnesty International Canada, and Roch Tassé, coordinator for the International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group, in the Globe and Mail.

Please go to RightOnCanada.ca to send your letter urging Stephen Harper to immediately stop the backroom deals

<<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=ktlWl2PNJmKSIdl&s=ceKKIOPnH8LOITPpEmH&m=9eJGLWPBKgKSH>>, disclose everything that takes place at the Montebello meetings and put the SPP to a national and parliamentary debate so that Canadians can have their say. Let Prime Minister Harper know that you want the government to give priority to human rights and democracy.

At the same time, you will be sending a letter to your own MP, asking her or him to take a stand on the issue. RightOnCanada has also written to every MP urging that he or she take a stand. We will publish their response (or non-response) on our website so as to make each MP publicly accountable.

As well, visit the Council of Canadians' website to learn more about the SPP <<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=nmK2JbMZlpJZJnL&s=ceKKIOPnH8LOITPpEmH&m=9eJGLWPBKgKSH>> and Canadians' efforts to stop secret deals that threaten our sovereignty and democracy.

That's what democracy means.

Where's the transparency in the 'Security' and 'Prosperity' Partnership?

Kathleen Ruff Founder of RightOnCanada.ca and Senior Advisor to the Rideau Institute

Maude Barlow, National Chairperson of the Council of Canadians and Vice-President of the Rideau Institute

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