



# Stumbling through Stouffville

with Bruce Stapley

## BREWING UP THE RIGHT STUFF

I drive a 13-year-old car, my wardrobe is a nondescript mélange of Wal-mart-on-sale and Care and Share Thrift Shop, and my favourite television spot is the Coach's Corner segment on Hockey Night in Canada.

But while my taste in most things is admittedly plebeian, there are two areas where I simply will not compromise my high standards -- beer and coffee. For me, the drinking of those two distinctive beverages is a singular pleasure, something to be partaken of with a far greater emphasis on quality than quantity. In fact in most cases, one is usually sufficient.

Offer me a beer that bears the name Canadian, Bud or Blue, and I'll confront you with a look of such pained discomfort as to make you wonder if you've inadvertently passed gas in my general direction. To me, such pedestrian swill is to beer what wieners and beans are to gourmet food.

But inform me that your supply contains a Newcastle Brown, a Smithwicks or a Warsteiner, and I'm yours forever. In past years, in the

midst of a nasty winter like the one we've just endured, there were few greater pleasures for me than to sit in front of a fire and share with a good friend a large bottle of Samuel Smith's Winter Welcome Ale.

Brewed at Yorkshire's oldest brewery which dates back to the 1700's, this hearty, flavourful brew is only available during the winter months. At least it used to be. Alas, the LCBO no longer shares my enthusiasm for it. The outlet here in Stouffville, as well as everywhere else I've checked, has discontinued importing this exquisite seasonal ale.

Equally, passionate is my approach to drinking coffee, a drink that has had such a profound influence on Western civilization through the centuries. Quite frankly, the joe that is served up at most restaurants is simply not worth tasting. In this coffee snob's opinion, the stuff that 99% of Canadians insist upon imbibing at this nation's most popular donut shop isn't much better. The java found on the shelves of most grocery stores leaves me cold.

But head down to the Care and Share and pick up a package of their recently acquired line of Café San Miguel beans, take it home and grind a few tablespoons for a fresh cup first thing in the morning and you've got one of life's absolute pleasures in a mug. This stuff is a coffee gourmand's delight. It is mountain grown, hand picked, then roasted in small batches.

There's even an ethical component -- it's also fairly traded, which means you're contributing to sustainable economic justice and environmental practices. But don't mention decaf, or light beer, in my presence. Just ask the ladies in the *Stouffville This Month* advertising office, who have found themselves on the receiving end of my disdain more than once for their decaf dalliances.

For I may not know the difference between a Givenchy and a Da Vinci. But I do know that to befool coffee or beer in this way is to make a mockery of those who have toiled through the centuries to perfect the brews that have led to my magnificent obsession!

## Spring Fling CRAFT FAIR

Sat, April 12, 2003 • 9am -3pm  
STOUFFVILLE LEGION HALL • 12278 NINTH LINE N.

Bake Table ~ Light Lunch Available  
Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary  
Proceeds to VETERANS' WELFARE

Call Marjorie Smith 905-640-3604  
Doris Farthing 905-640-3272

## BUTTON, ARMSTRONG & NESS

### BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

Expert Legal Service Since 1896

- Real Estate
- Wills & Estates
- Litigations
- Corporate
- Family Law

Eric R. Button, B.A., L.L.B.

Gordon C. Ness, Q.C.

and Associate

Kenneth C. Goodbrand B. Comm. L.L.B.

905-986-0941  
Port Perry

905-640-3530  
6361 Main St., Stouffville

## Stouffville.biz welcomes new members

Stouffville's newest business destination, the Stouffville.biz network, has been growing steadily in the two months since its inception.

By partnering with the local Business Development Office and Neighbourhood Employment Resource Centre, and offering competitive prices on professional Internet services, Stouffville.biz hopes to facilitate business in the community.

"We're offering free membership, no charge business e-mail and complimentary business consultations. With the help of the Neighbourhood Employment Resource Centre, we're sponsoring local seminars and we'll host professional networking sessions over the coming months," said Claudiu Popa, e-business specialist and one of the association's two founders.

Each new member is asked to provide a special discount or bonus that will be unique to the membership of Stouffville.biz, encouraging business-to-business networking within Stouffville as well as savings for all members.

Stouffville.biz offers advertising opportunities in its e-mail newsletter, website and as a service for business websites. "With the help of the Business Development Office we gathered a tremendous amount of business information and published it on our website where it can be accessed for free by all visitors. We also have event listings and a friendly interface for accessing your private business e-mail from any computer, anywhere," said Glenn Jackson, partner and co-founder of Stouffville.biz.

"We're working very hard to show exceptional value to local businesses. As of May 1, members will access their own private site areas and sign up for events, discounts and other resources. Right now, we just ask that all businesses and professionals who have not yet signed up do so, and help us spread the word within the town of Whitchurch-Stouffville".

Stouffville.biz offers free on-line business resources, events and business e-mail. For more information visit [www.Stouffville.biz](http://www.Stouffville.biz).



Helping Seniors learn the basic functions of using a computer and the Internet

[www.cyberseniors.ca](http://www.cyberseniors.ca)

## Cyber Seniors

Lori Attack  
Tel: 905-640-8289  
[lori@cyberseniors.ca](mailto:lori@cyberseniors.ca)

Training is done in the comfort of your own home, at your convenience.



6397 Main St., Stouffville  
905-642-9864  
[e.robert.reid5@sympatico.ca](mailto:e.robert.reid5@sympatico.ca)

# Happy Easter from Reid's Antiques

Great Natty Chocolatier Easter Treats Available

PROUD SPONSOR OF THE BIA EASTER EGG HUNT SATURDAY, APRIL 19



Usual business hours:  
Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 6pm  
Sunday by chance