

**JANUARY 2008**

## **QUOTASCOPE**

### **Quota International District 18 Newsletter**

**My Governor's visits for the fall are complete. I visited the remaining clubs in November and had the opportunity to see all of you and to hear about all the great work you have accomplished and all the wonderful plans for 2008. Remember that in order for our clubs to keep growing we need to be on the lookout at all times for possible new members and invite people we know to join. I recently read a newspaper article which talked about the difficulties service clubs are facing with new member recruitment. We need to keep thinking outside the box in our search for new members.**

**I wish to express my condolences to all the clubs who have lost members and/or family members during the past three months. It is always a difficult time and I just want everyone to know that my thoughts and prayers are extended to your families and friends.**

**I am now busily working with the Peterborough club in planning the Conference for May, 2008. I hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend the Conference which is scheduled for May 2, 3, and 4. More information about the Conference, accommodation, and registration forms will be sent out in the middle of February.**

**We are looking forward to a very exciting training seminar scheduled for Friday, May 2 just prior to the start of the Conference. Mary Delaney, our Lieutenant Governor is hard at**

**work setting up the day. She will be sending out more information sometime in February as well.**

**Please contact me for any assistance or help you may need. I will make myself as available as possible. Keep up the good work you all are doing.**

## **CLUB NEWS.....**

### **BARRIE**

**The Barrie Club had a very busy November and December. Our chairperson Livia DeGennaro successfully championed our annual Bazaar and it was extremely successful.**

**It was the first time it was held at the Westminister Presbyterian Church and we had a great turnout. Our craft tables were very successfully run by Bev Sprayson and Ann Smith and I could hear the customers raving about the quality of the crafts that these ladies and other Quotarians had made. Our Cookie Walk was well received and we sold over 140 dozen cookies. We have already planned to hold next year's bazaar at the same location.**

**In December, President Ellen hosted the annual Christmas Brunch for the Barrie Club and their spouses. There seems to be a fondness among the Barrie Club for mimosas and all enjoyed the gathering. Our Quota Christmas party was held in the hospitality suite in Livia's building. We enjoyed Swiss Chalet and a fun exchange of presents.**

**The Barrie Club adopted a Christmas family through the Samaritan House and gifts were purchased, wrapped and taken to the family to enjoy. The members also brought in craft items**

**to be donated to the Rumball Home as craft items were on their Wish List. We were only too glad to help out.**

**The New Year's dance at the Southshore Community Centre was an outstanding success. It was organized by our "Dance Queen" Marie Giberson and we had a sold-out event once again.**

**In the fall, we started to work with Fundscrip and have been selling gift certificates. Nancy Dickey was kept very busy over the holiday season - ordering and delivering these certificates in time for Christmas.**

**Our Nancy Bumstead was busy making 'Izzy' dolls for the troops in Afghanistan and there are some wonderful photos of Nancy with her 'Izzy's'. Several of the other members have joined in on this project and we will have lots of dolls headed overseas.**

**At our January meeting, we were able to donate to Barrie Out of the Cold \$3000.00 from our New Year's Dance. \$1200.00 from our Bazaar was donated to Youth Haven. We will be sending another \$1200.00 to the Hearing Ear Dogs.**

## **COLLINGWOOD**

**Collingwood has had a very active past few months.**

**We now meet at The Chartwell Residence. This relocation is wonderful and we are enjoying this brand new facility for our meetings which are held every third Tuesday of the month. Quotarian Bessie Saunders, a resident of Chartwell herself made the suggestion and we are very pleased that arrangements could be made.**

**In the fall, our group decided to support a needy family for the year. The Community Service Chair, Darlene Sayers was able to liaise with the Children's Aid Society in Collingwood. Darlene was given the name of a family and Quota members bought new**

**clothes, games and provided food vouchers, as well as a food box filled with fresh veggies and fruit. This will be an on-going project throughout the year. Barb Trafford has been ordering the food box and Darlene makes the delivery as she has clearance with the CAS. Darlene works diligently for our Quota group, and as well she is to be commended for her part in co-ordinating all other community donations to the needy family list with the CAS itself.**

**The annual Christmas party for Quota members was held at Swiss Chalet in their private dining area. It was a great meal, with many members and husbands in attendance. We exchanged a small gift which could be “stolen” at any moment. Some gifts had many owners in the same night!**

**We are in the midst of selling raffle tickets for our Annual Hockey draw. The lucky winner gets two red Toronto Maple Leaf tickets, plus a limo ride to the game and back, or \$500.00 in lieu of the limo. Second prize is an autographed Maple Leaf team stick. Everyone has been sitting at malls and canvassing businesses for support. The draw takes place Valentine’s Day.**

**Our Quota members are excited about two new fundraising activities! We are joining with the Optimists to provide a pancake breakfast as part of Collingwood’s February Winterfest. The Optimists are having a Bed Race and the breakfast will be served early, the morning of the race. Secondly, we are having a card party in March!**

**Ann Sinclair, Angela McGann and Ann Keating Morrison gave an excellent Development and Growth presentation. It was very interesting and informative. The members greatly appreciated their efforts.**

**At our business meetings, under the direction of Kathy Blacow, we are learning to sign the Collect. This is going to take a lot of practice but we are enjoying the challenge.**

**As all Quotarians realize, memberships have their ebb and flow. This past fall, we had the retirement of long standing 30 year member Audrey Reistma. She was honoured for her lengthy years of service last May. We do miss her wisdom and sense of humour. Georgina Waind and Beverly Westcott are taking leaves of absence. Georgina is re-charging the batteries! Beverly is giving care to a relative and friend, Quotarian Myrna Westcott who is receiving medical treatment. Bessie Saunders has decided to retire from Quota as well. She has served for 30 years and will be receiving her service pin next month. Rollie Richardson and Shashi Prasad have 20 years service in 2007/08 respectively. The Collingwood Quotarians remain strongly committed to each other and to the Quota mandate.**

#### **GREY-BRUCE SILVER Q**

**The July meeting of Quota International of Grey Bruce was held at the home of Audrey Warner, Mallory Beach. President, Velma Smart, discussed the Canada Area Meeting to be held in Toronto at Stage West, September 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>. She read a letter she received from Quota International in Washington verifying Berry Lou Howlett as our Volunteer of the Year. The Governor of District 18 will visit on November 6<sup>th</sup>. President Smart also reported on her visit to our member, Angela Mitra, who is in hospital. Our member, Marg Capel, sent a request for volunteers for the Meet & Greet Tent for Homecoming. Sharon Chevrier introduced her guest, Marguerite Atchinson and she was welcomed by all. Concluding the brief business meeting, members enjoyed a social lunch and gathering on the patio and the water's edge. The next meeting will be held at the home of Sharon Chevrier and will include a Pampered Chef presentation. It will take place Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 11 a.m. Anyone interested in learning more about Quota International of Grey Bruce, or would like to attend a meeting, please contact President Velma Smart, 519-371-7506.**

**Quota International of Grey Bruce has had a very busy and interesting month. The Silver Q Club received an award for their 40% increase in membership at the Canada Area Meeting in Toronto. Betty Lou Howlett hosted a reception for Governor Anne Ollikainen at her home on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The Governor congratulated the Club for their enthusiasm and welcoming of new members. We were also pleased to see recognition on the Quota International Website from Washington featuring the Silver Q Club for their ongoing involvement in community and worldwide service. President Velma Smart chaired the monthly meeting at East Side Mario's. She had received a thank you letter from the Quota Club of Legazpi-Mayon in the Philippines. They have a "Stitch for a Living" program where 10 deaf or hard of hearing women have the use of sewing machines to learn dressmaking. The proceeds from their work purchase hearing aids and related equipment for children. The Club-to-Club donation to this club and others throughout the world comes from the penny jars that are placed throughout Owen Sound and area. Sherry Pottage from Quota International of Owen Sound was a guest at this meeting to talk about their Christmas Wrap program. An installation ceremony was conducted by Mary Craig Low. Bonnie Cathrae transferred from QI of Owen Sound. Vicki Clow, sponsored by Sharon Chevrier, joined the Club and she sponsored new member Joyce Porter. All were enthusiastically welcomed by the members. The Christmas party will be held on December 11<sup>th</sup> at Tuscany's. We had our Christmas party on Tuesday, which was lovely, and of course we don't meet again until March. Wishing you the Best of the Season, a Very Merry Christmas and all the Best in the New Year.**

## **HAMILTON**

**Three Club members, Mary Boyle, Brigette Brown and Mary Ann McNamara made 26 Comfort Pillows for Post Operative Breast Cancer Patients in the Wellwood Centre of Henderson Hospital in Hamilton. The hospital has requested more Comfort Pillows so the trio are busy sewing.**

**The Hamilton Club held a successful penny sale on October 2, 2007 raising \$1472.00**

**Our guest speaker in October spoke on Dundurn Castle and the history of Sir Allan McNab.**

**The Club will be participating in a Charity Bazaar at Mountain Plaza Mall in Hamilton on October 27.**

## **HURONIA**

**Our club welcomed a new member at our January meeting and we were wondering what your schedule was like Anne. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month, so please let us know if you would like to be involved on her special day.**

**Since our last news letter, Huronia hosted a birthday party for the seniors at Georgian Manor in Penetang. The cake and ice cream was delicious and we were entertained with some great old-time music.**

**Our community saw us at our first craft fair held at the Midland Sports and Recreation Centre in November. We were inspired after listening to the Children's Aid Foundation guest speaker at last spring's Conference and invited Pam to our club to learn more about Simcoe County's Catalogue of Hope. That put the wheels in motion and helped us to provide welcome kits for our children in need.**

**Our club celebrated Christmas by sharing with others and just before Christmas we shopped and wrapped gifts for families in need, hoping to make their Christmas a little more cheerful.**

**Valentines Day is just around the corner and it's time for us to get busy selling and making our box lunches.**

**March will see us rolling up our sleeves to help out at Garfield Dunlop's Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for the Wye Marsh in Tay Township.**

**Best wishes for the New Year to all and remember Spring is on it's way.**

### **MARIPOSA SILVER Q**

**Our club resumed its regular meetings in September after a summer of fun events - between b-b-qs' and mini golf tournaments, we were all ready to settle down and get on with the job of being helpful in the community.**

**On September 14, our members tagged for the Alzheimer Association. In December we will, once again, be doing our OPP Cadet Interviewing which is great fun. We will also be looking after the Salvation Army Kettles.**

**Our members were pleased to contribute to the Quota ad for the Bob Rumball souvenir program which was produced for the Gala honouring Bob Rumball. Past International President, Helen Macdonald, attended the function and reported that it had been a great evening!**

**In December, we held our annual Christmas Party and had a fabulous time although we dearly missed two of our Quotarians who passed away in the recent months - Mary Showers and Lillian Huffman. Shortly after Christmas, we lost another long-time member, Yvonne Lacey - all three were very active members and will be missed not only for their dedication but for their enthusiasm and joie de vivre!**

**It is now January and we can report that we have 24 members - our latest new members are Sharon Turner, Elaine Knowlson and Cathie Keen - and, as always, we are looking for others.**

## **Orillia**

**We are all saddened by the loss of Linda Lewis who passed away on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Linda, a Public Health Nurse who was called to the bar in 1993 has been a member for 13 years. "Her broad knowledge of community issues and dedication to families in need, both from a legal and humanitarian perspective, fuelled her passion to advocate for others." said President Linda to the Orillia to-day newspaper. She will be greatly missed.**

**The club had a good time at our Murder Mystery night back in October. We will be giving Deaf Access Simcoe, Orillia branch \$750.00.**

**We are starting to work on the upcoming box lunches slated for delivery on April 17th.**

## **OTTAWA**

**Ottawa has had a very busy, December. The focus of our Christmas Party was Lanark County Interval House. We provided Christmas gifts for the clients. A great time was had by Liz Revell and Mary Delaney, purchasing varying sizes of PJ's for the shelter. We also provided some 'theme' night packages to be enjoyed by a group of clients – a pizza night with coupons and soft drinks, and a movie night with dvd's and popcorn, and two baking nights – baking sheet, cookie mixes, hot chocolate and gingerbread house kits. We are now into planning for our Night of the Races for May. For Quota Cares Month in March will again support Lanark County Interval House.**

## **OWEN SOUND**

**Our club spent a lot of hours during July and August making bows for the Owen Sound Homecoming. It was such a success we are able to take it a little easier this year after coming off of a couple of busy years.**

**We did our annual Christmas Wrap for two weeks at the mall, and we are glad to say it was both a great success and a lot of fun. Thanks to Sherry Pottage and to Jean Wilson and all of the club members.**

**2007 and 2008 have been very good to us**

**In April we will have our Annual Roast Beef Dinner, which is also a great fund raiser.**

### **PETERBOROUGH**

**Quota International of Peterborough is busily planning for the Conference in May. We hope all of you have put the date on your calendars and are eagerly awaiting the information package. We are looking forward to having you join us in beautiful downtown Peterborough.**

### **MEMBERS AT LARGE**

**I realize this is a late wish for the New Year, but as they say, "better late than never." I have had a busy 2007. Did some travelling to South Africa before last Xmas, 2006 and the end of January '07 I went to Antarctica for 19 days. So in the previous 12 months 06 and 07 I was in the Canadian High Arctic, South Africa, and Antarctica. Stayed home after that except for a trip to Toronto and a flying trip to Ottawa for a day in August. My sister and I presented a brief to the Railway Safety Review Board in connection with the death of our brother Donald - my twin in a train accident in B.C. in June 29, 2006. The brief was given in Toronto and the Board invited us to come to the hearing Ottawa.**

**On August 1, 2007 I was officially put on the transplant list at the University Hospital in London for a liver transplant. The wait time for my blood type is usually 1 1/2--2 years. But I could get the call at any time. I actually feel pretty good for "the shape I am in"**

**I had a fun-filled Christmas season with my sons and wives and of course the 4 grand children, John 3 3/4yrs; Jodie 3 3/4 years; Jaelynn 2 1/2; and Allison 1 3/4yrs. They were really a hoot. Everyone in the family is doing well. All are very busy with work and their families.**

**Since I am grounded to 3 hours from the hospital, instead of a trip this year I am finally going to renovate the kitchen. The cupboards are about 45 years old. I did strip and refinish them about 20 years ago so I guess it is time. This project ought to keep me busy and out of trouble. This project is supposed to start the first week in February.**

**To every one I wish you a happy, healthy 2008 and fun with your families. Remember life is short so have some fun every day and do a few things you always think you wanted to do. Don't put everything off till " THE TIME IS RIGHT"**

**Warm wishes to all.**

**Donna Spicer**

### **Final Words**

**Thanks to the clubs who submitted items for this newsletter. I will gladly accept items for the next newsletter at any time. This helps us stay connected and lets the others see what a wonderful job we are doing within our communities. There is no copyright on our service projects, and all it takes is a small spark for our clubs to really sparkle and shine within our communities, and promote the various projects we do.**

**REMEMBER: [www.quota.org](http://www.quota.org) . You can obtain just about any kind of information you may need or want. If it's not there, e-mail the staff at International. They can answer your questions also.**

**The Canada Area web site team has been working very hard to get the Canada Area Web site, [www.quotacanada.org](http://www.quotacanada.org) updated and user-friendly. Please visit the site to see what exciting things they have been accomplishing.**

**One final word. Mary, Joan and I are here to assist you in any way we can - to help increase your membership, develop new fundraisers, provide support etc.... but mostly to encourage everyone to enjoy themselves and have fun doing it.**

**We wish you a safe and happy winter. The next newsletter will be in April.**

**Anne Ollikainen  
Governor District 18**

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