

# Among Friends

## SUMMER 2007 NEWSLETTER

A Personal Letter from Dr Bill

**Dr Bill writes:**

Do you remember the first time you walked into a grief seminar? Or the first dinner you attended at the Duck or initial Among Friends activity? **How did you feel??** Probably a bit lonely and apprehensive, I am sure. **Did someone or something reassure you and encourage you to stay or to hang in?** Hopefully there was.

As Among Friends grows (which it has by leaps and bounds lately, if you haven't noticed) I am thrilled and excited that together we have developed something that is obviously meeting such a need. And I want to thank ALL of you who have been a part in that ... a group like ours needs FRIENDS to be AMONG, and to those who have been and become friends to others, it's been just great and much appreciated.

**I hope I can share a vision that I have.** While it is great to see so many who have made new friendships and enjoy each other's company, I still **worry about one who TODAY is coming in for the first time.** With so many well-established friendships, will they feel welcome, or feel like they are intruding?? Will there be people who will welcome them to sit at their table, or will they be told, **"Sorry, these seats are reserved for MY friends"**.

Will you please join me in keeping an eye and a heart open for newcomers to our group? **Remember, you were one once.** Would you have stayed or come back if someone had not shown friendship to you? **Let's make this the HALLMARK of Among Friends.**

**The Among Friends Banquet:** Last year **Gordie Tapp** entertained at our banquet, and we thought he would be a hard act to follow. But, this year, **GEORGE HAMILTON IV** has agreed to **come and do a concert** ... he is a **friend of Johanna's** so it's her influence we have to thank for this. So set aside **Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>** for the banquet and a great evening of entertainment with one of the great Grand Ol' Opry stars and television.

I honestly thought that if we got 40 people to come on our Mediterranean cruise I would be happy, but we have SIXTY. Again I am pleased by this response, and we will announce **TWO trips for 2008**, our annual **Caribbean cruise in January**, and by popular request, a **trip to Alaska in July-August**. Brochures will be out soon, and keep an eye on the website at [www.GriefJourney.com](http://www.GriefJourney.com) for more details.

As you will see from this newsletter, we have a good variety of activities planned for this fall season, and at the banquet in November you will have an opportunity to share YOUR ideas for future activities and initiatives, so if there is something you would like to see or do, we would like your opinions.

As many of you know, I have been traveling to the UK quite a bit and we are developing "Among Friends" over there. One of these days we may have an 'Among Friends Worldwide' meeting .... Do you think the Duck could handle it???

Sincerely,

**Dr Bill**

# **Among Friends Annual Banquet**

**Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> 2007**

**Featuring**

**GEORGE HAMILTON IV**

Our annual Banquet is one of the highlights of the year, and this year will be no exception. We are thrilled and delighted to have as our Guest Star, **GEORGE HAMILTON IV**, who is a well known TV and Grand Old Oprey personality. George will bring a concert to us which you will really enjoy. We also have a number of other surprises and fun items for your entertainment.

DON JACOBS was one of the founder members of Among Friends before his death 5 years ago. Everyone loved “Big Don”, and he was a most generous and thoughtful person, always willing to help out those who were less fortunate. When he died, we established the Don Jacobs Benevolent Fund which is used to help people who are in financial difficulty. This past year, quietly in order to preserve dignity, we were able to assist in several situations, including someone who could not pay their rent, and other needs that were brought to our attention. The fund is administered by three respected trustees, Ken Mitchell, Arnie Gallant, and Shirley Eustace.

At our Annual Banquet, we have a Silent Auction to raise monies for the Don Jacobs Fund. We are inviting ALL our members to contribute items to the Silent Auction, and to come prepared to be generous to this worthy cause. Do you have something you could donate ... an antique, a piece of jewelry you no longer need, a painting etc ... it doesn't have to be of great value, in fact we appreciate smaller items as well as those that fetch a bigger dollar. Do you know any businesses that might be willing to donate something to the cause ... last year, just for asking, we got a beautiful blanket from the Bay and other businesses that are willing to give to a worthy cause.

So if you have any **CONTRIBUTIONS** or have any **CONTACTS**, please help make this the best one yet. Please contact the Chairman of the Don Jacobs Committee, Mr. Ken Mitchell, 837 Merritt Drive, Milton L9T 4J9, 905-878-8842 or email: ken\_mitchell9@hotmail.com

We look forward to making this Silent Auction the best one yet. With more and more friends joining our group the needs will grow as well, and we would like to be prepared.

Thank you

Sincerely,

**Dr Bill**



## AMONG FRIENDS COMMITTEE 2006

### Executive

Bill Webster	905-624-8080	Cecilia Podger	905-775-6732
Lorna Mitchell	905-878-8842	Pat Carson	416-259-4802
Frances Clay	905-624-6317	Dale Hester	905-826-2888
Sally Jordan	416-762-6426	Donna Fradenburgh	416-592-7775 or 416-259-5789

### Don Jacob Memorial Fund Trustee's

Ken Mitchell	905-878-8842
Shirley Eustace	905-824-6177
Arnie Gallant	905-568-1105

### Local Contact People:

Oshawa:	Nancy Lewis	905-623-5887
Kitchener:	Dean Brock	519-744-2102
	Patti Schnaar	519-748-9674

### Member Support

Ernie Worden 905-457-2701 If you know of any of our members who are ill, please give Ernie or any committee member a call so we can keep in touch with these members and continue to offer support and best wishes.

### Monthly Dinner Meetings - 4th Sunday of the Month

We continue to have **TWO** locations, and are pursuing opportunities in other communities as our groups grow.

#### *Toronto and Peel Region:*

The cost for this is currently \$25.00 per person - if you wish to attend and not participate in the "AF menu options" but wish to order from the regular menu there is a minimum charge of \$10.00.

#### **Dinner, the FOURTH Sunday of every month, at 3:00 pm**

*The Muddy Duck*, Dundas St. Mississauga, just west of Hwy. #427 (905-275-9430)

Tickets will not be sold until 2:45 pm. Please do not arrive before that time as the restaurant is still serving late lunch. If you arrive too early you will be redirected to wait outside.

**Note: There is ample parking behind the Muddy Duck if required**

Contact: Lorna Mitchell 905-878-8842

***Oshawa Area:***

**Lunch, the Fourth Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m.**

Location: *The Mandarin* in Oshawa, 1319 Airport Boulevard (which is Taunton Rd.) Tel: 905-432-3000

401 east to Whitby, Brock Street north to Taunton Rd. turn right (east) the restaurant will be on the right hand side.

Contact: Nancy Lewis            905-623-5887

## **EVENT INFORMATION**

As many of you know Among Friends tries to keep the costs of events to a minimum. This year we did not ask for member donations toward the costs of mailings and related expenses, but we need to ask your help as we approach 2008.

**While it is not mandatory for those who cannot afford it, MAY WE REQUEST THAT YOU CONSIDER A DONATION OF \$20 towards the operating costs of Among Friends.** Please give or send your donation to Lorna Mitchell, payable to Among Friends, 837 Merritt Drive, Milton, ON L9T 4J9

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **TOUR OF HISTORIC CAMPBELL HOUSE**

**160 Queen St. W.**

**Saturday, September 8, 2007**

**4:00 pm. at Campbell House**

This evening will include a tour of historic Campbell House, former home of Sir William Campbell, followed by a buffet dinner in the historic dining room and a fun game in the library.

Campbell House is located at the corner of Queen St. W and University Ave. It is easy to access and is at the Osgoode Subway station. Members could meet at the Kipling subway station and come downtown together.

**Cost: \$45.00**

### **MINIATURE GOLF IN THE DARK / Putting Edge**

**2085 Winston Park Dr., Oakville**

**Saturday, October 13, 2007**

This will be a fun filled evening with pizza, golf and dessert

**Cost: \$25.00**

We will be car pooling from St. James United Church at **5:15pm** (400 Burnhamthorpe Rd. East of 427, west of Martingrove), so let us know on the registration form if you are willing to drive.

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**“Among Friends” 6TH ANNUAL BANQUET**  
**Sunday, November 4, 2007**

**Capitol Banquet Hall**  
**6435 Dixie Road, Mississauga,**  
**905-670-0635**

**Cost: \$60.00**

**Program:**

**3.00 pm: Annual General Meeting of “Among Friends”**

**3.30 pm: Fellowship Time:**  
*Silent Auction will be held for the Memorial Fund*

**4.00 pm: Dinner is served.**

**6.00 pm: “Entertainment”** (See Dr. Bill’s Letter for details)

**Directions:** From Hwy. 401, Exit at Dixie Road North and the hall is just north of Courtneypark Dr. on the east side.

Please see Dr. Bill’s letter on the front for details of the entertainment.

**NIAGARA ON THE LAKE / FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS AND DINNER**  
**Saturday, December 8, 2007**

Bus Trip to view the “Christmas Lights in Niagara Falls and enjoy dinner at the Minolta Tower.

10:00 am. - We have a tour of the Victorian Christmas at Dundurn Castle and then for lunch at a ‘surprise location’, shop in Niagara on the Lake, dinner at the Minolta Tower followed by a tour of the Christmas lights and then return home.

Cost: \$80.00 includes transportation, tour, lunch and dinner!!!!

The bus will be picking up at the;  
Concordia Club in Kitchener - 8:30 am  
Kelsey’s parking lot in Milton - 9:00 am  
St. James Church , Etobicoke - 9:30 am

**NOTE:**

Please complete the following with your name and email address and send along with your registration forms or bring to the Muddy Duck. We are updating our email distribution list and there are some that are out of date.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please print clearly.*

**REGISTRATION FORMS** - Detach and send with payment.

Cheques are payable to “**Among Friends**” c/o Lorna Mitchell, 837 Merritt Dr., Milton, ON L9T 4J9

**Historic Tour of Campbell House  
Saturday, September 8, 2007 - 4:00 pm.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to meet at the Subway entrance - YES OR No I will meet at the Campbell House

Please enclose your cheque for \$45.00

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**Miniature Golf in the Dark – Putting Edge  
Saturday, October 13, 2007**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose your cheque for \$25.00

Car Pooling: FROM St. James Church: **I AM WILLING TO DRIVE \_\_\_ YES OR NO**

**If yes I can drive \_\_\_ people including myself**

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**AMONG FRIENDS – 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BANQUET  
Sunday, November 4, 2007**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose your cheque for \$60.00

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**Niagara Festival of Lights and Dinner  
Saturday, December 8, 2007**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose your cheque for \$80.00