



The Canadian Progress Club Central Region Newsletter

Winter 2011

News from the National Vice-President Renate Thompson

Hello members of the Central Region. This is the inaugural edition of Central Region News. Congratulations to Devin Poole and Roy Urbach for organizing this. I look forward to seeing the first edition.

From the copies of the minutes I have received from most of your clubs, you have all had a busy November and December. I hope you have taken some time out to socialize with your fellow club members.

The last few months I have been busy with National Conference Calls and paperwork. All your club Presidents can relate because they are the ones who have to fill out all the paperwork for National. If you have not already done so, please complete the club info that I emailed all of you in early January.

In the near future a link to a survey is going to be sent out to all members of Progress. We ask that you sign in and complete this 5 minute survey. It will help us as a National board see how you look at Progress and the board as a whole. If you want changes, things cannot happen without your input.

The same can be said for the Region. Without your input and participation we cannot evaluate how we are doing when there is no feedback. I am looking forward to this Central Region publication to keep us up to date as to all club activities, successes and milestones. If you have an item to promote within the Region, this is the place to do it. In addition to articles be sure to submit a list of your events.

In our Region, we still have some items to work out dates for....Toronto Downtown to host a Zone Dinner Meeting....Brampton to host this years President's Ball....Durham Region Women hosting the Central Region AGM. Let's get these dates finalized.

I'm looking forward to visiting all your clubs between February and April, please send me a up to date schedule of you available meetings to attend.

See you soon.....
Renate



Collingwood Club Hosts Snowarama

The Collingwood Club once again is hosting Snowarama, on January 29th, for the benefit of local Easter Seal kids. We set up a tent & barbecue in a snowmobile parking lot at the base of the escarpment and host the snowmobile riders and all of the snowshoe enthusiasts who gather to ride and walk with pledge moneys that they have raised.

Last year \$10,000 was raised and donate to for the great charity and we are all proud to be part of it again this year.

**Glenn Barr,
President, Collingwood
Progress Club**



Mike Botting, Chairman of the event and a member of the Collingwood Progress Club, (back left), is seen here with member of Snowarama, along with Glenn Barr, President of the Collingwood Club, (back top right).

A Message from the Zone Governor

Greetings fellow members of the Central Region....I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season with your loved ones and are enjoying a great start to the new year.

As we move into 2011 our Regional membership action plan is going to unfold. Over the last year our National Vice President, Renate Thompson, and I have been hard at work putting together a comprehensive plan that we hope will initiate growth throughout the Region. The first step in the plan is the launch of our inaugural Regional Progression, which wouldn't have been possible without the hard work and commitment from Past National President Roy Urbach....thanks Roy for making this happen! I'd also like to thank all the Club President's that submitted an article because you've helped to make the Regional Progression possible! Please keep in mind that anyone can submit an article, as this is your opportunity to share your stories with your fellow Progressions and tell all of us about the great work that your doing within your community....we want to hear from you!

Just a quick update on our Regional fundraiser. I'm looking for committee members to assist with the organization of our lingerie show. If your interested in becoming a committee member or would like further information please contact myself at devinntammy@rogers.com or NVP Renate at RenateThompson@rogers.com

In the upcoming months I will be visiting each club at either a club meeting or an event. I look forward to seeing first hand the great work that all of you do within the community.

In the meantime if you have any questions or concerns I encourage you to contact me.

Keep up the fantastic work!

Yours in Progress,

Devin Poole

Canadian Progress Club Durham Women

The Canadian Progress Club is non-profit, charitable National Organization, and our Club Durham Region Women was established over 15 years ago. Over those years we have raised money to support a variety of organization within our community which have included, Special Olympics Rouge Valley Health System, Humane Society, Local Food Bank, Youth and Seniors Programs as well as many other local events and activities.

We also do many fun raising events, some are; Weekly Bingo, Euchre nights, food venue for Arts Festival and Canada Day.

For information contact: Mary Sawyer at 905 837-7780 or marysawyer@rogers.com

Canadian Progress Club Brampton

The Canadian Progress Club Brampton is famous for the Santa Claus Parade Food Drive. We are extremely proud as a club that each year we assist our community with hundreds and hundreds of pounds of food and other necessities such as diapers. Our last parade which was on November 20th, 2010, the generous people of Brampton donated approximately 5,150 pounds of food. During the parade there were monies collected as well that added up to around \$2000 which was spent to buy more food, especially baby food for the local food banks. All of this is distributed by the Salvation Army. From the parade until Christmas, another 800 pounds of food was collected from people in local businesses who collected food from their clients. Our total this year is about 6000 pounds. Our total over the span of 15 years is approximately 100,000 pounds. It is always amazing to me how each year our community is so generous. It is such a wonderful experience that our Brampton club is used as such a principal tool for our Brampton residents. We look forward to this special occasion each year.

We also have a great announcement. We are having, what we hope to be, our first Annual Murder Mystery. The theme is Murder Mystery Mardi Gras. It will be performed by Murder Mayhem and they actually wrote a brand new script for just this occasion. They did not ever have a Mardi Gras Theme. So it should be extremely exciting. The date is, Saturday, April 09, 2011, Tickets are \$60.00 each, with a cash bar and a hot buffet, the location is the Lions Hall, 45 Avondale Blvd., Brampton, ON L6T 1H1. The is a wonderful spread of items on our silent auction tables. Please, come join us for a memorable, amazing evening of mystery and detective work.

*Yours in Progress,
Anna Holloway, President, CPC Brampton*



The members of the Brampton Club helped with the organization of food donations working a long side with the Salvation Army and Scott of Scott's No Frills Brampton to distribute the last 2000 lbs. of food to the Salvation Army that was collected along the route of the Brampton Parade 2010.



Durham South joins in the Santa Claus Parade and other community events over the Season

On Saturday, November 13, 2010 members of CPC Durham South teamed up with 50 athletes and coaches from Durham West Special Olympics at the annual Pickering Santa Claus Parade. The streets were lined with kids, both young and old, who were overjoyed to get the "big candy canes" that we handed out to them. Seeing all those smiling faces really gets you in the Christmas spirit....what a great way to kick off the festive season!!!!

This marked the third consecutive year that our club participated in the parade and this was the first that we were lucky enough to be joined by a vibrant group of Special O athletes and coaches. We look forward to teaming up with them for many years to come....great job everyone!!!!



Following the parade we set up shop at Pickering City Hall for the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony where we served hot dogs and hot chocolate to a seemingly endless line of patrons. Although we were only there for an hour we sold roughly 400 cups of hot chocolate and made a grand total of \$1,000... we were even lucky enough to have Mr. and Mrs. Claus grace us with their presence....they enjoyed a steaming cup of hot chocolate before heading back to the North Pole to prepare for their trek around the world. On the final leg of our Christmas journey we all went to Zellers and filled our shopping carts with \$2,500 worth of toys and other goodies in support of the Durham Regional Police toy drive. We bought MP3 players, diapers, sports equipment, board games, camera's, movies, clothes, dolls, cd players, etc. etc. We had so much stuff in our carts that they dedicated a cash register just for us! The great part about the toy drive is that it brings out the kid in all of us and is one of our favorite events to participate in.

Additionally, our club made a \$2,500 donation to our local food bank and bought \$1,500 worth of turkeys in order to provide a warm meal for those less fortunate than us within the community.

Lastly, the aforementioned events that we attended and the financial contributions that we made this year have become customary within our club over the course of the last few years. They're always fun to participate at because they allow us to celebrate Christmas the only way we know how to.... by giving back to the community; this year we were blessed to give one more gift at Christmas to a vibrant 4 year old girl name Zoe who lost her left leg after falling in front of the path of a riding tractor lawn mower. After hearing her story the club members immediately wanted to help Zoe and her family so we decided to assist them with purchasing a new wheelchair for her. We're sure it won't be long before Zoe doesn't need the wheelchair anymore....



Greetings from Durham Region Women

This year we have helped:
Kidney foundation walks \$500.00
A local school for their special needs group \$1000.00
Alzheimer's society walks \$200.00
Parkinson Walk \$1000.00
Pickering concert band \$500.00
Durham West Girls Hockey \$500.00
We also supported a fundraiser for a man with brain cancer \$250.00

Our group is 15 strong and we keep ourselves very busy. Our Bingo is going strong and therefore we have been able to sponsor many different groups in our community.

Partnering with Durham South we purchased 100 turkeys for the local food bank for Christmas. A group of the Ladies attended the Mayor's Gala in November the theme this year was Arabian Nights and it was a fabulous night. Our club sponsored a trip to Morocco which was a feature in the live auction with the proceeds of \$7500.00 going to our local hospital. There was a nicely written article in the Mayor's gala booklet about our club.

Our club also filled shoeboxes that go to third world countries for children at Christmas; this has become an Annual event for us. We gave out candy sticks and sold light ropes at the Annual Tree Lighting in our community. We had our Christmas pot luck dinner and brought presents that were donated to Toy Mountain.