

SENIOR SCAPE

By **Jim L. Abram**

This is my first article for The Auroran. I hope you like it but if you don't, please let me know. If you do like it, that would be nice to hear too! I welcome hearing any stories, anecdotes, life experiences or any other information you wish to share with fellow seniors concerning life in Aurora as a senior.

I will make my best effort to include your contributions in content or in spirit in this column. Please send any correspondence to Jim Abram at jimabram@sympatico.ca. Not to worry though, Sylvia will continue to share this space with me and continue to provide her ever-interesting and insightful perspective on life at the Aurora Seniors' Centre.

In the news recently, the Cardinal conclave has elected a new Pope. This is very exciting, not only to those of the Catholic faith, but for all of those of us who are members of this great experiment we call life. This historic event did not go unnoticed by the members of the Aurora Seniors' Centre on 13-03-13 (a date that numerologists might have a field day with) as members watched, tweeted and gasped in anticipation as we waited for the announcement of the new Pope.

There was surprise and excitement around the winner, a respected Cardinal from Argentina and there was some vibrant conversation as to whether it should have been Canadian Cardinal Marc Ouellet or some other contender. Members at the Centre reacted with joy, bursting into applause and cheers at the news.

The point of all this is that the Centre serves as a meeting place for persons of all faiths to discuss, debate and enjoy the company of others in celebrating a major historic event in a comforting and pleasant environment.

Trivia Challenge

We had our always popular Trivia Challenge on March 8, where very competitive seniors taxed their memories and knowledge. It was a tremendous night for all. Our sponsor for the event was Oak Ridges Community Living who provided a great meal of lasagna and salad.

Even the cash bar hosted by Bill wasn't enough to give me the brainpower to win against the knowledgeable competition! Wait until next year! I do apologise for using the word 'taxed' at this time of year.

The Aurora Seniors' Centre held its annual St. Patrick's Day luncheon on March 13. There was great Irish-themed music, food and general fun had by all Irish and non-Irish alike. At the St. Patrick's Luncheon, members were entertained by the Irish dancers and they were just amazing with their dance numbers. They were all young students from the Irish Dance Studio in Newmarket.

Annual Spring Sale

The Annual Spring Sale will be held on April 27. There will be a wide variety of books, crafts, treasures and a great bake table and BBQ. Don't miss it! Your 'White Elephant Treasures' are greatly appreciated and will be accepted at the Registration Desk April 22 - 26 during the hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday to Friday. Please search them out and bring them in!

Budget Bistro

Another good reason why you might wish to hurry and join the Aurora Seniors' Centre is to enjoy our weekly Budget Bistro where you can enjoy a tasty lunch for only \$4 served by a tremendous team of volunteers every Wednesday.

Aurora Seniors Centre Board of Directors Election

Nominations for the Board of Directors are now being accepted. Nomination dates for ASA 'Board of Directors is Monday, March 18 to Friday, April 12 inclusive. If you already a member of the Aurora Seniors' Centre, be sure to learn more about the candidates for the vacancies on the Board and please get out to vote! If you are not yet a member, I do encourage you to join the Aurora Seniors' Centre as you are always welcome.

Membership is affordable; participation is tailored to members' wants and needs. Fun and Friendship are mandatory.

The Aurora Seniors' Centre is conveniently located and is a full access facility. Becoming a member is as simple as dropping by for a tour of the facilities and signing up. There is a modest fee of \$20 per year for Aurora residents and \$25 per year for non-residents. All those individuals over 55 years of age are welcome to join. And for a small Activity Fee of \$1 per day you can enjoy the many ASA sponsored activities to build your health, wellness and social interactions.

Well, that is my first article for The Auroran, our community newspaper. My goal in writing this article is to make every article very different in terms of content but to also make it very relevant to all seniors living in Aurora.

This week's advice: 'Don't let the person next to you see your cards.'

For more information on the Aurora Seniors' Centre and all it has to offer, drop by 90 John West Way, visit the web site www.auroraseniors.ca, email auroraseniors@rogers.com or call 905-726-4767 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday to Friday.