



Murdock Murray, volunteer staff, and Jeanette Murray, director/coordinator of Auction 45's Card parties, enjoy a game at the Wentworth Recreation Centre. Their hours of volunteer work are appreciated. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)



Maxine and Kevin Brown have attended many Auction 45's games at the Wentworth Recreation Centre and their enthusiasm is enjoyed by everyone. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)

Card Parties in Wentworth are Fun

By Hope Bridgewater

Successful card parties of Auction 45's are held on Mondays, 7:30 pm, from September to May at the Wentworth Recreation Centre, with a break during June, July and August. Jeanette Murray, volunteer director and coordinator, has performed a great job during the last four years bringing up the attendance from about seven tables to 14 tables with four people at each table. With the increase in attendance, people are attending from Tatamagouche, Truro, Westchester, Folly Lake, Sutherland's Lake, Malagash, New Annan, and, of course, Wentworth.

Besides doing preliminary work at home, Jeanette arrives about 2 pm at the Recreation Centre to begin work for the evening card party. She prepares seating for four players at each table, arranges raffle tickers to sell, prepares score card for each table, checks finances, and checks details about the lunch served after the card party ends.

A registration desk is set up near the kitchen. Jeanette and a volunteer worker register people with a \$3 ticket and a table score card upside down. Why upside down for the score card with table number? It is done to increase socialization and friendship, because if people know table numbers, people are likely to meet with known family or friends instead of trying to meet new people as partners. At the

same time as handing out the admission ticket, Jeanette offers a \$2 - 50/50 ticket for the evening. Also, someone draws a card at random from the total deck of cards (minus the Joker) and Jeanette calls it out as "the travelling prize" which flows through the total game until the last hand is played and whoever finishes up with the travelling prize, a secret gift package, now can be opened and revealed to everyone.

After seeing the table number on the score card, each person goes to that table to meet their card partners. After eight sessions of playing, the winning couples move on to the next table and the other couples stay behind waiting for new partners to come.

There are social rules in order to keep friendship the key priority. Although people try to play as well as possible, this is not a serious competitive tournament, but a game of friendship. Abrupt, angry, or nasty comments are not expected or accepted. Another social rule is not to be too talkative while the game is being played. Each table tries to move two winning members on to the next table at approximately the same time. However, this usually is not done perfectly as card hands can differ considerably in a way that slows up plays. There is the factor some people are risk players and more often than others bid "30 for 60," which means they often win the high winning score or end up "in the hole," and this factor can either speed up the game or slow it down.

When the game is ended, then there is the excitement of who wins the prizes as announced by Jeanette: the highest score for men; highest women's score; winner from the raffle of score cards placed in a bowl; the winner of the 50/50 raffle number and winner of the travelling prize.

Jeanette then calls out that lunch and drinks are ready for another friendship time.

While talking too long during a game is a faux pas (social mistake), some people can say a few words about the game itself as it is being played, without holding up the game, such as the following: "We've had the biscuit; call off the dog; the wheels are coming off the car; some days you can't make a penny; that leaves me sitting in the weeds; my socks are down to my toes; that fills your boots; you're loaded for bear; that will knock you clean into next week; you don't have to lift the lid to know what's in the pot; well, I saved your bacon; go big or go home; I don't want to give away the farm; that changes the water on the beans; that makes the cheese more binding; that takes the roof off the barn; that rattles your timbers; that rattles your slate; that puts your knickers in a knot; that snaps your garters."

Auction 45's goes as far back as the 1500's in Scotland when written records state it was known to be played in 1510 and rules formulated in 1576. It was an ancestor of Auction 45's called "Maw," and when King James VI of Scotland (King James I of England) played it at court, it soon spread to the rest of Scotland, Ireland, England, and Wales.

Early settlers from Europe brought this game to the Eastern Seaboard including: the Atlantic provinces, Quebec, Maine, Vermont, New York, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts. It is called by a variety of names such as Maw, Auction 110, Auction 120, Growl, Spoil Five, Strong Five and, of course, Auction 45's.

Playing Auction 45' this past season in 2017-2018 under the leadership of Jeanette Murray and helpers was a great way to spend an evening in Wentworth.

Debert Legion Notes

By Dan Martell

The new Bar Hours for the summer months here at Branch 106 are as follows: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday- CLOSED; Wednesday- 4:30PM to 10:00PM; Thursday- 4:30PM to 10:00PM; Friday- 3:00PM to 12:00AM; Saturday- 4:00PM to 10:00PM. Groups looking to book space can pick up rental applications at the bar.

The Debert Legion Wednesday Night Crib League finished the 2017/2018 season on Wednesday the 13th of June with a beautiful Surf and Turf Banquet. First Place winners were Dave (Mad Dog) Kaye and Jim Weatherby with 1779 points while Mike Manley and Leslie Fulton took home Second Place honours with 1891 points, rounding out the top three were Earl Harvey and Marcia Eastcott with 1935 points.

Most Wining Nights were shared by Dave Kaye/Jim Weatherby along with Debbie Cock/Ron Eastcott, they had 5 each.

Most Hidden Scores was Loyis and Loyal Crocker with 6. There were 54, 24 hands and Jess Thompson and Earl Harvey led the way with 4 each. Norm Eastcott had the High Hand for the year with a 28 and he did it on two occasions.

At the bottom, holding up the League with 2623 points was Jess Thompson and Kim McNutt.

Thank you's are passed along to Marcia Eastcott, who marinated the meats for the BBQ, Debbie Buchanan who did a great job on the salads and Ron and Norm, who turned the red meat into beautiful brown colour and finally the clean-up crew, thank you for a job well done.

Hopefully we will see you all next year, along with a few more teams.

(Thanks Earl, for all your hard work and effort you put into running the League, a job well done.)

The fish are biting, be it here in the high country of Debert/Belmont or in Lake Ontario with a band of brothers. Larry and Spencer Martell took some beautiful trout out of a lake or two in the high country and Danny MacEachern dropped off a nice feed of speckled trout and he was fishing some ponds and still waters in the local area. (Thanks Dan.)

Down along the Bay the bass are hitting and some beautiful ones are being caught. A few of the lucky fishermen have been Doug Har-

vey, Spencer and Larry Martell.

Next we have "that band of brothers" who took St. Catharine's and Lake Ontario by the heels and turned them both upside down. Talking to Ian Menzie, Norm and Ron Eastcott and they had a fabulous vacation. Ian, Norm and Ron stayed with Dawn (sister) and Roger Metlin and had a few tasties and two days of fishing. Norm tells me they caught 38 salmon but did not keep them all. Dwayne (nephew) was their guide and they used lures and spoons for bait. They did not want for anything and had beautiful vacation indeed.

When Norm got back home, he saw the lilacs and wild strawberries were in bloom, so he took his trout rod and walked one of the rivers here in Colchester County and got a beautiful string (sea run) of trout. A man couldn't ask for more. Thanks Norm, the smoked salmon was awesome.

To all the people who save and drop off the pull tabs, thank you, they are much appreciated.

The Kirk and Elsie Debay fund raiser held here at Branch 106 was a huge success.

To all those people who helped in any way at all to organize and set up the hall, thank you very much for your help.

To all the people (business men/women) who donated merchandise for prizes or to bid on, thank you very much. Your generosity and thoughtfulness is/was greatly appreciated. To all those who dropped in to say hello and leave a donation, thank you. To all those people who had the high bids on the Silent Auction, thank you. To the band, the dancers and the door people, thank you.

A very special thank you is passed along to Bill and Paula Wood, along with Alana Rush-ton and her daughter Katelyn for the beautiful job they did on Decoration Day.

It is so good to see new flags over our Veteran's graves, Bill, Paula, Alana and Katelyn thank you very much, a big job well done.

Happy Birthday wishes for June are passed along to Maurice MacDougall, Marilyn Dykens, Gordon McCully, Donna Eastcott, Charlie Borden (sr.), Ardith McCully, Lee McCulloch, Debbie Cock, Annette Williams. Happy Anniversary wishes are passed along to Jean and Don MacQueen, Loyis and Loyal Crocker, Debbie and Harold Barclay.

Please don't forget to thank a Veteran; it is because of their sacrifices we are able to enjoy our freedom and our Country. Please say a prayer for our troops who are serving in foreign countries and their families.



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