Assisted by the unusually warm March, your WIA Executive came out of hibernation and got off to an early start this year; a year that promises to be a significant milestone for our club and our dear clubhouse. As you will read elsewhere in these pages, we are entering the centenary season of the Ward’s Island Association and the 75th anniversary of the building that has been a gathering place for Islanders since 1937. More than ever it will be a time to contact Islanders from around the world, tell the old stories about the good old days and dream about the future. It will also be an opportunity to pitch in with work and resources to upgrade the clubhouse – some of those repairs have already taken place – and to ensure that our building is around for another 100 years to host many more memorable events.

This year we can look forward to the official dedication of phase one of the Pebble Mosaic, the mosaic plaza and gardens, and with some timely donations, phase two, featuring the historic landing stage and more gardens. Gala Day promises to be better than ever with many special celebratory features highlighting the centenary. The cafe has promised another fabulous Friday night music series. Throw in some fierce competition on the tennis courts, bowling green, baseball diamond, soccer pitch and new chess club and we have the makings of a fantastic season.

This year’s executive boasts a full compliment of repeat offenders with some lifers working behind the scenes. They are the dedicated lovable people named in the box on the next page, so be sure to show them some appreciation when you can. Give them a smile and a hug; and bring them your ideas and energy to make this another great season at the WIA. Come out and get some excercise on and off the dance floor.

Let’s party like it’s 1912/13 and/or 1937.

Bruce Rosensweet

### Upcoming events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>DANCE - Bover</td>
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<td>June 2</td>
<td>Island Hoedown</td>
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<td>June 30</td>
<td>WIA Dance</td>
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<td>July 21</td>
<td>WIA Dance</td>
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<td>August 4</td>
<td>GALA DAY - Paul James</td>
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<td>September 22</td>
<td>WIA Dance</td>
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<td>October 20</td>
<td>Hoedown</td>
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<td>October 27</td>
<td>Halloween Dance</td>
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See inside for some summer camp options for the kids!
Hello neighbours, it’s hard to believe that another spring season is upon us! This season we are happy to be celebrating our centennial year, as well as the building’s 75th year going strong! The official WIA sport and social season will kick off May 1st. We are pleased to announce that once again, membership prices will not be raised. Early Bird memberships are available from street captains through May 31st.

Non-members are welcome to enjoy sports opportunities with us but must purchase day/week guests passes available at the Wards Island Cafe. A very special thanks to Geoffrey Lye for, once again, generously donating this year’s membership cards. As well as many thanks to the Ward’s and Algonquin street captains for all their work and spirit!

Ariel Cikvar, Membership chair

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**Category** | **2012 Membership** | **Regular Fee** | **Early Bird (to May 31)**
--- | --- | --- | ---
**All Sport** (Tennis, Bowling & Field Sport) | Family | $360 | $330
 | Single Adult 19+ | $210 | $185
 | Seniors 65+ / Students | $110 | $85
**Tennis** | Family | $285 | $255
 | Single Adult 19+ | $155 | $130
 | Child 18 and under | $50 | $40
 | Seniors 65+ / Students | $95 | $70
**Bowling** | Family | $100 | No Early Bird Rates
 | Single Adult 19+ | $75 | No Early Bird Rates
 | Seniors 65+ / Students | $50 | No Early Bird Rates
**Social Only** | Family | $40 | No Early Bird Rates
 | Single Adult & children 18 and under | $30 | No Early Bird Rates
 | Single Adult 19+ | $25 | No Early Bird Rates
 | Seniors 65+ / Students | $15 | No Early Bird Rates

* All sports categories include social membership.
* Single Parents and their children receive 50% off regular 2012 family fee in any category.
* Family Memberships are available for families with children 18 and under, or students 19+.
* Members who have been awarded Lifetime Memberships no longer pay any associated activity fees.

**2012 WIA GUESTS:**
Tennis $14/day or $70/week
Bowling $10/day or $49/week.
Passes are available for purchase at the Wards Island Cafe.
For further inquiries, please contact Ariel, 731-3503
A Word from the VEEP

Here I am again, your pesky – I mean peppy! – cheerleader for the big double anniversaries coming up this 2012 season. Don’t worry, I won’t go on about what a fabulous year it’s going to be (details in upcoming issues of the Weekly, and it is going to be fabulous). For now, I’ll cut right to the chase. The clubhouse turns 75 this summer, and needs a bit of sprucing up. That’s going to cost a bit more than the $2,600 it cost to build the clubhouse in 1937. (Yes, I plagiarized that line from my article in the last Island Newsletter. Just wanted to see if you were paying attention.)

There have already been a lot of improvements to the clubhouse and grounds. The inside walls have been painted. We have a bigger, much more attractive garbage shed. We’ve paved the entrance to the green – no more slipping on that muddy slope! Allyson Woodrooffe has done a great redesign of the WIA website and instituted a more user-friendly booking calendar. The Pebble Mosaic and the blooming flower beds surrounding it are a magnet for visitors. To accommodate the installation of the mosaic, we’ve rebuilt the front steps and the wheelchair ramp. See Kathleen Doody’s update on the Willow Square project on what the city is doing, what remains to be done, and how much $$$ is needed to complete the job.

There’s much more to be done to ensure that our beautiful heritage building lasts another 75 years. We won’t be raising the membership fees this year, and we’ve instituted a long-overdue increase in the private rental rates. There will be T-shirts and sweats with a special 100th anniversary logo for sale at Gala Day, as well as a book celebrating 100 Years of the Ward’s Island Association. Stay tuned for more exciting details!

Kathleen McDonnell

Power to the Pebble

The planning of Phase Two of the WIA Willow Square Project is underway. Phase Two refers to the area formerly used as a parking lot and garbage transfer site. It will include the restored Landing Stage, the pebble mosaic squares made in the workshops in 2011, and paving stones and planting beds similar to those in Phase One.

Because this is City land, and Parks is convinced of our commitment to the project, the City (mainly through the efforts of Warren Hoselton) has offered in-kind and financial support. A historical architect will be hired to assess and draw up plans for the reconstruction of the Landing Stage, and the rebuilding will be tendered by the City. This could take a while, but will ensure that the restoration is done accurately and well, and will place it under the City’s future care (and insurance) once it is restored.

The City will also remove and dispose of the existing asphalt, including the “road” area separating the two sides of the project. It will supply the paving stones needed in addition to those left from Phase One.

This is a huge contribution and more than we had dared to hope for. Now it is up to us to raise the money for the installation of the pavers, mosaic squares and planting beds. The estimate is $12,000 (plus HST).

In order to keep the momentum of the project, and the offer of assistance from City Parks, we would ideally like to complete the installation before the WIA season opens. But we still need to raise the $12,000. We also realize that Islanders have already dug deeply to help out. We are working with the WIA to look at joint fundraising projects.

Meanwhile, all those thousands of bulbs in the gardens, planted last fall, have started to bloom. They are spectacular, thanks to donations secured by Sheila Murray and help from a lot of planters. Jerry Englar has done a beautiful landscape design for the Phase 1 gardens, with small trees, shrubs and perennials. With help from other Island gardeners and donations from nurseries, we are hoping to get those in the ground soon. Loblaw has donated $500 towards plants from their garden centre.

We have spray-painted the design of Phase Two on the parking lot. Take a look at the site, as well as our blog:
torontoislandmosaic.blogspot.ca/

Thanks to you for your continuing support of this project.

Kathleen Doody, Jerry Englar and Penny Lawler
As you’ll read elsewhere in this newsletter, the WIA clubhouse was built 75 years ago. Pretty amazing life for a small wood building. In fact, wood buildings are quite remarkable. They flex a little here and there, so neither wind nor snow nor settling sand will break them. However, they do need to be maintained, and the approach thus far, by generations of caring volunteers, has been “rampant ad hocery”, to quote Jay Bascom. A little of this and a little of that and, at first glance, the building looks great! Even better with the pebble mosaic installed.

A plan is afoot to do a thorough study of the building’s condition. When it comes to caring for an old building, I’m always in favour of knowing the worst, but we may be looking at some significant capital repairs in the future. Currently, we’re fixing and replacing some obvious things:

• eaves-troughs and downspouts
• the south porch floor, including a new ramp
• a new garbage shed, inside the fence
• a new step at the front of the building

We’ve also painted the inside, and done a few minor repairs to doors. We’re upgrading the electrical service so that there’s enough power for restaurant equipment, sound systems, and everything else we use. And, we’ll be changing the roof of the tennis bleachers later in the year.

Things we need to do in the longer term include replacing the beam underneath the front of the building, replacing siding, and some more work on window and door latches. Stay tuned to hear more about the details as we get them.

Eliza Moore

It’s time to get the cobwebs off your racket and join us for some great tennis at the WIA Tennis Club.

The courts are in very good shape, thanks to the volunteers who worked hard to get them ready for play: Martin ter Woort, Roger Abbott, Charlotte deHeinrich, Frank Sullivan, Marc Irman, Roger Pepler, Glenn McArthur, Paul Nelson and Zsuzsa Kelemen.

If you are planning to join this year and are not on the Tennis e-mail group, please let me know at: daliatanner@gmail.com or phone me at 0916.

Marc Irman will be giving tennis lessons again this year. His schedule is Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday, from noon onwards. All levels are welcome. Please call Marc at 416-879-1354 or e-mail him at mirman@rogers.com.

WIA Tennis memberships will be available beginning in May. Look for the early bird special. Please ask your block captain for details.

Hope to see you on the courts very soon!

Dalia Tanner, Tennis Chair
In what was a tense off-season, filled with speculation of a possible lockout, I am pleased to report that we have come together on a new collective agreement between the players’ union and league representatives. Union head, Faye Fenton, held firm with demands of a second freezie after each game, causing a rift that seemed irreconcilable. As days turned to weeks and weeks turned to months, many players began exploring options of playing abroad. With many of our players looking to the United States, Japan, and the Dominican Republic, the league and the players union realized concessions were needed on both sides to ensure that we would have a season and retain our best players (let’s face it all that travel would have been too much to ask of the players’ parents). After tough days and long nights of negotiating, we were able to hammer out a rough agreement that we hope will be the ground work for many years of labour stability. The base of the agreement is; a name change from Kids Baseball to Youth Baseball, to reflect the maturity and professionalism of our players; better stat keeping by the league to ensure proper record keeping of past glorious achievements; and more skill development drills, as our players wish to get better (a fruitless endeavour how do you improve on perfection). With this deal in place, we can look forward to a new season of Kids’….

Elliot Hill, Commissioner

This is the fifth year of the inception of the bowling green. Let’s make 2012 the year of increased community involvement with this beautiful facility. We will be running lawn bowling workshops for beginners, young and old, on Sundays at 1:30, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:45 (weather permitting.) This is a fun sport, so please feel free to come out and experience a longtime WIA activity. Bowls provided, soft soled shoes are all you need!

To prevent any damage to the surface of the green, I respectfully request that people refrain from using it for any activity other than bowling. Signs will be installed as a reminder to all. The green will be undergoing a maintenance check and I’ll keep members posted of the date.

Our regular tournament play and standings will be published as the year progresses...just wait for it, Ted! I would like to add a big thank you to Anne Broecker and Jay Bascom for extending the use of the green to our Vintage Islanders on Wednesday mornings.

Thanks to all,

Colin Brodie, Bowling Chair

From the Archives: July 25, 1925

NINETEEN LITTLE TOTS RECEIVE W.I.A. GIFT

Babies Reception Well Attended

The completion of the new clubhouse was fittingly celebrated on Monday of this week by the reception of Ward’s Island’s new babies. Nineteen young hopefuls, accompanied by their mothers, were on hand and were the recipients of a presentation from the W.I.A. in the form of a bib chain suitably engraved.

... The babies who received gifts were: Glen Tasker, Allan McClure, Christina Gay, Opal Ward, Walter Peace, James Filby, John Dunfield, Phylis Buck, Jean McGregor, Leone Crowley, James Roach, Gwendolyn Crowley, Leslie Lye, Moreen Lynn, Harry Ludlow, Jean Booth, Mary McCullough, Dorothy Hill, and Marian Randall.
Welcome to the 2012 Café Season!

We are excited to open seven days a week starting Friday, May 18th for drinks and dinner, hours to be posted soon. Neighbours have been coming by to see how the work has progressed. We’ve been painting, planting and planning to get ready for a great season.

We’re pleased to bring you a new bar to lean against, or a stool to sit and watch the tennis matches while sipping a cold beer, glass of wine or a creative cocktail. New this year, is our vegetable and fruit juicer, salamander grill (think bubbling cheesy nachos) and table service. We look forward to serving you on our licensed patio.

Building on last year’s concert series and other special events, we are pleased to announce Ivy Mairi’s return as the concert producer. A schedule will follow with all of our events including Amnesty International Taste for Justice and letter writing club, Friday night concerts, chess, bridge, games nights and other fun times!

Mother’s Day Brunch and Plant Sale Sunday May 13th from 9am-1pm.

Check out new furniture made by Maura and Tyler!

Get ready for summer and fall canning workshops!

Look for local talent baking morning treats, pouring drinks, washing dishes, cooking dinner and singing songs.

Great Temptations n Cooking from Soup to Desserts
The Garden Café at Ward’s Island Dock, Toronto Island

Toronto Island Rowers

The Toronto Island Rowers invite you to try Fitness through Rowing. We have two to three openings to become members of our group. Rowing is considered one of the most effective methods to achieve cardio-vascular efficiency. It is impact free and injuries are rare. The Island Rowers are members of the Toronto Island Canoe Club and the membership includes rowing on the Concept 2 rower which can lead to rowing on water. Please get in touch with Tom Butcher butschertom@rogers.com or 416 203 8087 for a free intro.

Check out the WIA’s new website. Upcoming events, the colour newsletter and lots more! www.wardsislandclubhouse.com

We love our farm!
Please do what you can to help save it. See notices around the community.
Toronto Island Grannies Host their Second House Tour

In 2010 the Island community wowed their guests and visitors on the first Toronto Island House & History Tour in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

“highlight of the day was the amazing homeowners we met”

“every home was a personal tour—have never experienced anything like that and have been on several house tours”

“in every home, we felt like a welcome friend”

“all the hosts were so interesting to talk to and eager to share the history of their homes”

So Grannies in Spirit and our very supportive neighbours are doing it again on Sunday June 10, 2012. Please help us get the word out!

More information is available on our website at www.torontoishousetour.weebly.com. If you aren’t connected to the internet, we would be happy to supply a few postcards to hand out to your city-side friends and contacts. Call Sari 416-203-1016.

With your continued support, we hope to garner more rave reviews for the event and our community. Plus we will be helping grandmothers in Africa to raise their orphaned grandchildren and to face a brighter future.

Sari Bercovitch, Grannies in Spirit

ISLAND HOEDOWN

Saturday, June 2, 2012

Ward’s Island Clubhouse

$5 cover / $10 family rate / Free for kids under 12
(DONATIONS TOWARD COMPLETING THE WILLOW SQUARE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED)

Doors open at 7:00 pm
First dance set starts at 7:30 pm sharp

Music by the Sandbar Stringband

BE THERE, JOIN A SQUARE

St. Andrew Strawberry Social
June 17, 2012

Photoglyphs & Travel
Rick/Simon @ Rectory Cafe • 2 May - 2 June 2012
Opening Wednesday 2 May 7-9 pm • Closing Friday 1 June 7-9 pm
Milestones

ALICE PRODANOU won the 2012 Writer’s Guild of Canada Screenwriting Award in the Children and Youth category. She had been nominated several times before, but this is her first WGC win. She is also a past winner of an Emmy Award, an Emmy nomination, and the prestigious Humanitas Prize awarded to writers who elevate the topic of human values. We’re very proud of her, especially since she recently became a new mom.

ALEXEI SMITH graduated from Wilfrid Laurier University, April 2012. Congratulations!

On Sunday, April 29, former islander and long-time organist, ISABELLE GAMBLE, celebrated her 90th birthday at St. Andrew by-the-Lake. She was joined and toasted by the congregation, her family and many new and old friends gathered for the occasion. Isabelle has been associated with the church for many years. She was the organist at the first Yachtsman’s Service, held at the church in its original location on Centre island in 1949, and has continued to play at every Blessing of the Boats Service to the present. In 2012 the church building will be 128 years old. Here’s to many happy returns for both Isabelle and St. Andrew.

KYLE ROERICK has finished his Master’s Degree in History from the University of Ottawa! Kyle specialized in Canada-US Relations history, particularly concerning the historic bilateral trade relationship between the two countries. Kyle’s MA thesis was entitled, Much Ado About Free Trade? Examining the Role of Discourse and Civil Society in Framing the Anti-Free Trade Debate, 1985-1988, in which he studied the various ways civil society organizations sought to inform and shape public opinion and perceptions of free trade with the United States in the 1980s. His thesis is available online: hdl.handle.net/10393/22757

NEIL MACDONALD turned 50 on May 2nd and celebrated this milestone with a big party at QCYC on April 28th. Neil and his partner Susan Baker moved to Algonquin Island on September 1st and have immersed themselves in Island life.

Got a graduation, anniversary, wedding, birth or other significant event in the family? Send us some info and photos. Email allyson9@mac.com or deliver to the mailbox at 24 Bayview Ave.

Liz, Mary & Allyson
In memoriam ....

JOHN WILLOUGHBY WALKER
May 27, 1926 - February 18, 2012
Of 2 First St., Ward’s Island and Fudger House, passed away on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at St. Michael’s Hospital following a very brief illness. Husband of Kathleen “Kay” MacKenzie Walker, currently at Fudger House; son of the late Percy Walker (of the British Royal Horse Artillery) and the late Mary Sargeant Walker; brother of the late Louis Frank, Beryl Constance and George Eustace (and Adrienne Sandell) Walker; uncle of Judith Ann and Janice Catherine Walker of Ottawa. John was born in England but came to Canada at a very early age, worked as crew on lakers with Upper Lakes Shipping Lines, married Kay in 1955 at St. Andrew-by-the-Lake, Centre Island and spent most of his life in their home on Ward’s Island. John was famous for his bicycling/tricycling and his cheerful, enthusiastic volunteer work, building the Shaw House for Seniors and many other projects on Toronto Island. He lived at Fudger House since 2004. A memorial service was held Sunday, March 25th; 11:30 a.m. at St. Andrew’s following the regular 10:30 a.m. Anglican service. For photos of John’s life, see www.standrewbythelake.com For more information, contact Bruce Weber, 416-203-0911.

DANNY COLEMAN passed away on Monday April 23rd, at the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre, Toronto General Hospital. He was 61. Danny lived on the Island from the age of 3 – first, with his parents, at 27 Third and then in his own home next door at 29. He was a dental equipment technician and loved sailing. Alcohol-free for 2.5 years, and with the renovation of his house almost completed, Danny was looking forward to returning to his beloved “Island Home”. After a 10 hour surgery for mouth cancer seven weeks ago, Danny was progressing well, but unfortunately succumbed to a heart attack. A memorial service, presided over by the Rev. David Mulholland of The Mission to Seafarers, will be held at St. Andrew-by-the-Lake Church in the near future with a reception to follow at Danny’s home at 29 Third St.

Keep those kids busy!

Toronto Island Canoe Club
July 2 - August 24
www.torontoislandcanoeclub.org
416-203-8977

QCYC Sailing Camp
July 3 - August 24
www.qcyc.ca
416-203-0929

Tanya’s Art Camp
July 1 - 13
Tanya Golden 647-238-1377

Waterfront Montessori Children’s Centre Summer Camp
July 2 - August 23
www.waterfrontmontessori.net
416-203-1017

Tanya’s Lantern Workshop Camp 2002. Can you guess who is who?

Andree, Zoe, Clare, Hannah, Olivia and Lily

Illustration: Thoreau MacDonald, 1925
Farewell to winter ...

One of the few skating days on Ward’s ... February 2012

Photo: Caroline van der Drift

Pssst ... Have you heard?
The Annual Veterinary Island Clinic is BACK!

Saturday, June 2nd, 2012
9:00am to 6:00pm
Ward's Island Club House

Please call us at (416) 868-1545 before May 20th to book your appointment.
Book early as a limited number of appointments are available!

Physical Examinations
Vaccinations
Flea Control
Heartworm Tests and Medication
Wellness/Senior Pet Lab Profiles
Stool Tests for Parasites
Concerns Discussed

Brought to you by
The Animal Clinic
106 Mutual Street, Toronto
www.TheAnimalClinic.ca
(416) 868-1545

The iPhone APP is here! Ferry times, map showing your position and more.
Check it out at torontoislandferryfinder.com
Made by Allyson W. & Sandra Wood