

CDMC

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Sat Oct 29, 2011

 Leader: **William Wright**

Co-Leader:

Last night, a packed house of members from CDMC were treated to a wonderful evening of great food & drink, an exciting procession of our awards & prizes and followed up with an overview of club history as we remembered Don Apps.

Several new procedures were added, this year, to enhance our event which included using a wireless mike that greatly improved sound quality, a wireless connection to the Filberg's internet permitting our website photo contest to display and all our condiments were provided as organic and / or fair trade.

I'd again like to thank Valhalla for their generous support of this event in providing us with many excellent door prizes that were well received by the lucky winners, as well as their gift certificates that accompanied both our awards.

After enjoying the fine Potluck, Sylvia & Ruth spoke about the soggy Cape Scott trip, many moons ago, that first introduced Don & Sylvia - Ruth referred to the club's responsibility in regards to this backcountry affair.

Murray touched on the impact that Don had in his later years and even in failing health, he was a vibrant contributor on the trails, whenever possible. Ken mentioned Don's persistence at removing rocks, even if they were boulders that no one knew what to do with - a fine example is the Helen Mackenzie Lake campground boulder that bears a CDMC plaque, celebrating our Millennium Project.

Heather touched everyone with a poignant story of a Mt Becher trip that Don was leading in a blinding snowstorm - Don was, by now, quite visually impaired and a new member was asking him what was the point of going to the summit in such inclement conditions and Don responded "For the view, of course".

Don's best hiking mate, Otto, delivered a beautifully written short story of their history with the club which you can find archived in the history section of our website - some of the highlights were being thwarted by another snowstorm, on an Elkhorn summit bid; the 3rd recorded summit of Victoria Peak on a spectacular day in 1964, with Syd Watts and an early 60's winter trip to Fairbanks, Alaska with a Bronco II carrying a 50's era skidoo in the back seat and pulling a travel trailer (you had to see pictures to believe it).

Don's later years with the club had a significant impact on not only the CDMC but all those who use the trails of Strathcona Park - Don almost singlehandedly built the Upper Myra Falls trail and was the largest contributor to the Arnica Lake Trail that provides access to the Golden Hinde via Phillips Ridge.

Following all this was pretty hard to top but Ken found a way of keeping under wraps the Lifetime Achievement Award presented to Otto - quite special and timely in the sense of how close Don & Otto were. Otto received a beautiful pen set held in a wood-grain case and engraved from CDMC - quite appropriate as all are well aware

of Otto's aversion to computers (he may never see this).

The Golden Boot was presented to Tim for sucking it up, nigh on his 8th decade and being the top dawg in both trips led & participated on, while William received the Crystal Mountain Award for being the club's enthusiastic social butterfly.

The evening closed off with a well put together slide show of this past year's trips - Tim even managed to give us a preview of the coming winter with a few shots of snow from Paradise Meadows, taken a few hours earlier.

This was by far the most well-attended CDMC Potluck that I've had the enjoyment of being at - great fun and a huge thank you to all those who helped make this such a successful evening.

A few pics that are not up to their usual standards as they were only taken with Tim's iPhone.



Sylvia reminiscing about Don
[Tim Penney photo]



Ruth has a few words to say about Don's early days in the CDMC
[Tim Penney photo]



Otto sits quietly as William reads from Otto's "My Adventures with Don Apps"
[Tim Penney photo]



Heather relating a great story about a snowy club trip with Don
[Tim Penney photo]





*Tim with his Golden Boot
Award
[Jackie Gray photo]*

*William was presented with the
Crystal Mountain Award
[Tim Penney photo]*

Report contributors: Jackie G, Tim P, William W,

Participant list (44 of 75): Denise A, Sylvia A, Stella B, Bill B:***lapsed***, Chris C, Glen C, Sandra C, Angela D, Paula F, Diana F, Terry F, Pat F, Pat F, Jackie G, Jackie G, Jennifer H, Robin H, Ralph H, Frank H:***lapsed***, Carol H, Krista K, Ruth M, Heather M, Murray M, Rea M, Jacqueline M, Don M, Pam M, David O, Tim P, Chris P, Kate P, Ken R, Brian R:***lapsed***, Jenny S, Bob S, Ken S, Sandra W, Allen W, Jennifer W, Otto W, Terry W, Terry W, William W,

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