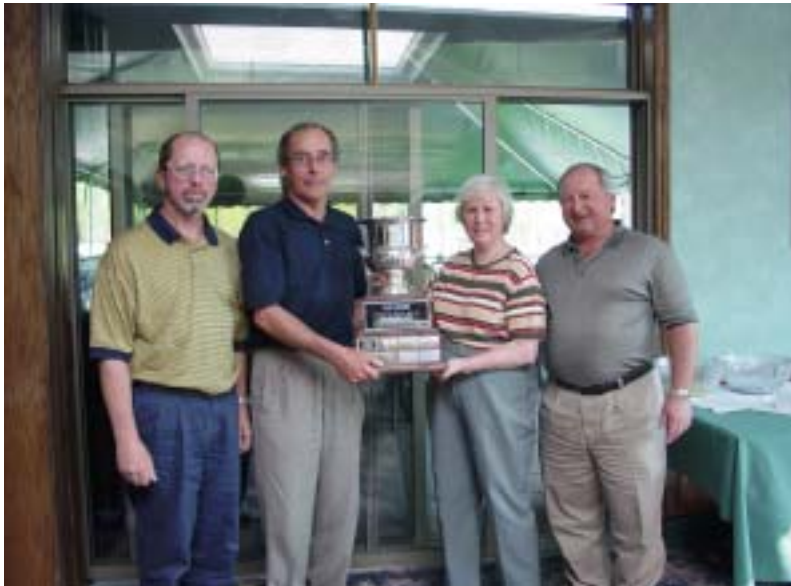


# MARY CENTRE NEWSLETTER



## RECORD TURNOUT FOR MARY CENTRE GOLF TOURNAMENT!



Nora Wiczorek presenting "Stanley's Mug" to the Tournament Winners, Treklogic Technologies Inc.

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Mary Centre Golf Tournament held at Silver Lakes Golf and Country Club on May 27<sup>th</sup> was a rousing success. A full complement of 144 golfers participated in the tournament, which benefited for the first time a corporate sponsor, **SCOTIA CAPITAL**. While inclement weather forced the golfers indoors after 15 holes, this didn't dampen the atmosphere during the reception and dinner, which followed. The highlight of the day was the inaugural presentation by

Nora Wiczorek of "**Stanley's Mug**" to the winners, John Chrobak, John McKimm, Bobby Richardson and David Robertson. "Stanley's Mug" is named in honour of Nora's late husband, Stan Wiczorek, a long time Mary Centre board member and supporter who had been the driving force behind the golf tournament in its first three years. Prior to the presentation, Elyn Smith, offered her insights into the warm and gentle man who was her father.

In addition to the fun on the course, a series of raffles and awards for golfing prowess, each participant benefited from a wide selection of prizes, which had been expertly displayed by Janet Christensen of Mary Centre.

In financial terms, this was our most successful tournament to date, providing needed funds for our Integrated Seniors, Parish Outreach and Respite programs. These programs are vital to our mission to improve the quality of life for our residents and are entirely reliant on our funding efforts.

Mary Centre would like to thank all participants in the tournament and extends an invitation to come again next year when we guarantee the *sun will be shining!* In particular, we would like to thank our many corporate supporters who purchased foursomes, sponsored holes or donated items to the prize table, as this support was the key factor in the success of the tournament. As always, Mary Centre staff, deserve our thanks for their efforts in bringing this all together!

**Mary Centre recognized for 15 years of service**

Catholic Charities recognized Mary Centre's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary at a special Mass honouring volunteers and charitable agencies within the Archdiocese. The theme of this sixth annual celebration was Joy in Service. His Eminence, Aloysius Cardinal Ambrozic celebrated the Mass, and during his homily praised the work of those who give of their time to serve those in need. "This is a Mass of thankfulness to you volunteers, in you, and through you," he said. "You know the world will not be perfect and that it needs caring, compassion, kindness and charity."

Mary Centre was founded in 1988 and opened our first home (Leyton) in 1989. Over these past 15 years, our services have expanded. But our mission remains: **supporting adults with a developmental disability to improve their quality of life.**

At the reception following the event, Mary Centre President Ray Kahnert personally thanked the Cardinal for his prayerful and financial support of our agency's work.

Other organizations honoured at the event included St. Elizabeth Health Care, recognized for 95 years – and Catholic Charities for 90 years of service. Mary Centre is in excellent company!



*Ray Kahnert & Cardinal Ambrozic*

**A VOLUNTEER WITH HEART**

*By Carol Chung*

Jean Witherspoon is this special person. She is a dedicated and loving visitor to Michael at his home in Scarborough. Jean is a member of the 'Legion Of Mary' group at St. Boniface Catholic Church, of which she has been the president for a number of years.

Jean has been spending quality time with Michael for about 5 years. Once every week, without fail, Michael can count on her being there. Michael is so attached to Jean, he can be seen looking out for her, for that quality time they would spend together. If she doesn't show up, he would ask for her, but this rarely happens. One of the other 'Legion' members is usually with her on these visits, when they might go for a walk altogether, or take in a trip to the mall, or sometimes check out 'Tim Horton's.

For an additional treat, Jean and companion usually sing a song or two for Michael and his roommates; sometimes one or two of the folks would sing along with the ladies, filling the entire house with song.

Jean's devoted relationship to Michael is an example of the blend of spice which adds flavour to the lives of the individuals which Mary Centre supports.

**On a sad note.....**

On April 6, 2003 His Eminence, Gerald Emmett Cardinal Carter passed away at the age of 91. Cardinal Carter played an important role in the eventual creation of Mary Centre. His knowledge of the political landscape and influence greatly assisted Catholic Charities and families to meet with Provincial politicians. Cardinal Carter will be missed and our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

**Mark Your Calendar!**

November 13 & 14, 2003 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala  
Famous People Players Dinner Theatre

May 26, 2004 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament  
Silver Lakes Golf & Country Club

For information regarding these events contact Marion Patterson at (416) 630-5533 or mpatterson@marycentre.com

## Expanding Community Support Program

Just as Mary Centre's focus is to assist individuals to achieve their goals while respecting the whole person-as well as their uniqueness and right to equality-the Community Support Program offers services to individuals involving support, guidance, care and supervision according to their needs. The program aims to develop life skills, help find employment and help find/access recreation activities, all while forming new friendships and gaining new experiences.

This program is one that continues to expand at a steady pace. The program is centred in Brampton and offers services anywhere in Peel region to individuals who want to learn some life skills. Many of the applicants currently live at home, or have recently started to live on their own, and need to gain some more independence.

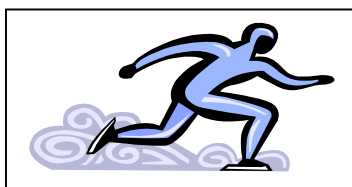
The program is free, and attempts to seek out individuals who aren't currently receiving too many other services. It is quite flexible, in that the worker will often go into the home, or even meet at a predetermined location, depending on convenience to the individual.

For some of the individuals, this scheduled time is one they look forward to all week. Just knowing someone is coming to spend time with them alone gives them confidence they might not get too much of elsewhere.

In order to keep this program growing as it has been, feedback from families and individuals is encouraged. With any luck the Community Support Program will continue to expand, and allow for more staff to ensure that everyone interested get the service they deserve.

**CONGRATULATIONS,  
YVONNE!!!!**

Yvonne VanAdrichem, who is an individual supported by the Community Support Program won Two Gold and Two Silver Medals in Speed Skating at the Special Olympics held in Barrie last February. She is now looking forward to competing in the Nationals in Charlottetown, P.E.I. next January. *Good luck, Yvonne!*



## We Salute Julie!

Our staff is often required to multi-task, to do more than what is usually called for during their normal work shifts. One such person is Julie Antal. Within days of being hired by the agency last January, Julie was asked to join the Newsletter Committee. Since then, she has also become a member of the agency's Training and Development Committee. Aside from these responsibilities, Julie continues to work at the Community Support Program in Peel as well as supporting three individuals in the SIL Woodbridge program. When you first meet Julie, the impression you'll get from her is that she is a quiet, unassuming, friendly person. After all, to quote one of her colleagues in Brampton, 'Julie is a very nice person to work with'. She goes about her job with a genuine dedication, trying to find what is in the best interest of those whom she supports. This is not to say that Julie is completely consumed by her obligations to the agency, she is also busy with her fiancé planning for a fall wedding. At this time, we, as a group, would like to acknowledge Julie for her efforts and like to thank her for her contributions to Mary Centre.

**IN MEMORIUM**  
**DECEMBER 22, 1932 – MAY 12, 2003**

*“A man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions, but how he shares of himself with others”.* Life cannot be measured by the attainment of material things, but by how you touch the lives of others. Bud was such a man who shared all he had with those around him. He touched the lives of many people who knew him. One of his friends said, “When you get to know Bud, he finds a way to your heart. My heart has a *No Vacancy* sign on it because he occupies so much space”.

Norman passed away May 12, 2003 at the age of 70.

Sadly, Alzheimer’s disease took its toll on Bud. In the last few years, he was not quite as mischievous as he once was, but Bud’s spirit and humour still shone through. His genuine warmth never failed to capture the hearts of those who were privileged enough to work with him. He is survived by his two sisters, Elva and Eunice. He will be fondly remembered in the hearts of many staff and friends who loved him dearly. We will miss him dearly, but we know he is in a better place. *Bud, you are now our angel looking over us and singing in the heavenly choir and as lead guitarist!*

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If you would like more information about Mary Centre and/or you would like to make a donation, please clip out this section and return to our office.

- I would like more information about the agency
- I would like information on becoming a volunteer
- I enclose a cheque in the amount of: \_\_\_\_\_ or charge to my Visa/American Express/MasterCard  
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