

At-A-Glance

Calabogie Club 55 Plus

Winter Edition

2025





Since our November/fall edition was last issued, there hasn't been a lot of activity other than our Christmas Parade/Calabogie Club 55+ float and our annual Christmas dinner/dance. This edition marks the beginning of our winter season, with Monday, December 21st, being the first day of winter. Happy December!! Remember, if you don't like the colder weather, wrap yourself up in the Christmas spirit.

In addition to memories of our parade and float entry and our Christmas dinner, this edition will concentrate on humour, something we can all appreciate during the holidays. That being said, I recognize that not everyone will be in a festive or joyous mood during the holiday season. We pay great homage to club members who are no longer with us. Our past members will forever be in our thoughts and devotions.



Did you attend the Calabogie parade sponsored by the Calabogie Lions? What did you think? It looked like there were more people on the floats than spectators. The committee chair, Lorna Johnston, provided these words for our club's newscast. "Our float this year was a Lumberjack Christmas. Many members helped with

the float by deciding on its theme, constructing and painting the props, and then assembling them on the cold day of the parade. It was a lot of fun! Thank you to everyone who helped. As you likely know, we placed second."

First place went to Alcock Electric. Placing third was King's Off Road. These floats, like many others this year, including Taylor the Tree Man, which also featured lumberjacks, were all great. I still recall years past when there were only a few floats in the parade. I like to think that our club helped to push this fantastic event into what it is today.

Rick Brown took photos of the parade. Dave Abraham turned them into a movie with a soundtrack and posted the video on the new [Calabogie Club 55 Plus YouTube channel](#) and on the [Calabogie Club 55 Plus website](#).

Rick, you amaze me with how you capture the essence of our float and the parade. Your photos are magical and so appreciative. Perhaps someday, before we all age too much, we will enter the "senior marching band" as you suggested a few years ago.

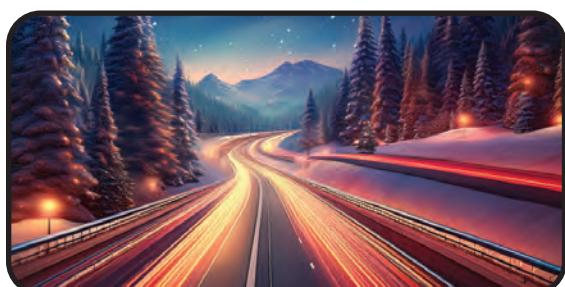


The District 5 Senior Summer Games will return in May 2026. Details for golf, bowling, prediction walking, etc., will be provided by early April 2026. For more information on how to participate in either of these games, please get in touch with Denise Lavallée, Lori Armour, or Val Trotter.



To date, Valley Community Bridge has already held three afternoons of non-competitive social bridge at the Community Centre, hosted by Dona Lamoureux and Lorna Johnston. Past dates included October 17th, November 14th and December 19th. As Dona indicated in her last email, the only thing you need to wear is a smile and SHOES, now that winter has arrived. Lorna advised that they had eight (8) tables this past Friday, who were somewhat talkative. They even donated \$250 to the Lions. That is quite an achievement, and I am sure the Calabogie Lions appreciated it.

The balance of this mixed bridge will take place on January 23rd, February 27th, March 27th, and April 24th, from 1:30 – 4:30. For more information, please call or email Dona or Lorna.



Watch for the 2026 road trips and hikes postings in the New Year. The club is still looking for help in our Social department. If you would like to lend any assistance, please get in touch with a member of the executive to discuss.

The 2025 Christmas Dinner and Dance was held on Saturday, December 13th, with 78 people in attendance. For those two who couldn't make it due to illness, we hope that you are well on your way to recovery. Mother Nature was slightly kinder this year than last year. Marilynn noted that we had a massive bag of socks for kids and grandparents, which went with the food bank baskets. One funny twist was that the Barryvale group had to return to the party because the road was closed due to a truck on fire on the 511. Charbonneau's turkey dinner was, of course, delicious, with appetizers and dessert. One club member told me that they danced their feet off. Even with the DJ's sound system/speaker issue, there were many on the dance floor. Five door prizes were won, including a huge tower of panna cotta. I can only imagine what this looks like and am now hungry for it. One of my sources said they had a terrific evening and that, as usual, Jean was excellent and the prizes were fantastic. Thanks, Jean!

January's meal is in the planning. Check your inbox in early January for details.

WINTER EDITION 2025

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You will recall that our club sponsored and organized the turning on of the Christmas lights on November 14th. These lights are still on at Heritage Point, so if you haven't yet had the opportunity to see them, go now while they are still shining brightly. Dismantling of these lights will be done around springtime, when the snow has gone, and volunteers will be needed to help remove the tripods, branches, and lights. Please lend a hand if you can.



The bowling league is continuing. Dan Ventresca, who looks after this activity, can be reached for more information.

Hockey game – April 4th, 2026. Contact Bob Lomas for more details.

Other activities are in progress and will be posted in the new year.

Did You Know:

The month of December originally consisted of 30 days according to the early Roman calendar.

Did You Also Know: After January and February were added to the calendar (around 700 BC), December was shortened to 29 days.

The Anglo-Saxons originally had their own names for December. One of these names was "Winter Monath," which needs no explanation, as it literally translates to "Winter Month."

January is named after the Roman god Janus, and it symbolizes new beginnings.

January was not the actual first month of the year! The Roman calendar had only ten months, starting in March. It wasn't until the Julian calendar, introduced by Julius Caesar, that January became the first month.

January is also known as National Soup Month due to dropping temperatures.

January is also known as "Dry January," encouraging people to abstain from alcohol for the entire month. (What the whole month, not just the first week...well, that's not going to happen!!). This break allows us to reset and focus on health, mindfulness and well-being. It is a way to recover from the indulgences of the holiday season and start the new year with a clean slate.

When the At a Glance returns in the New Year, I will note some interesting facts on March and April.

Until then, the burning question on my mind is, will there be snow on Christmas in Calabogie? With the recent rainfall, it looks like most of the snow may have melted. I just checked The Weather Network, and it indicates that after a period of snowfall today (Saturday), a frontal snow squall is possible as well.

Trivia:

Here is a Christmas trivia to keep you occupied for a few minutes while you have your morning cup of coffee, hot chocolate or tea. (No cheating by going on Google or other social media sites) I expect our Trivia judges, aka Cathy and Doug Jordan, to ace this quiz as well as the king of trivia, Chris Potvin. Please let me know how you all fared. Did you get all the correct answers?

	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which country created eggnog?	
2	Which of the following is NOT a name for Santa worldwide?	
3	In Austria, who is the festive character Krampus looking for?	
4	What are the missing lyrics? “O come, all ye faithful, joyful and _____”	
5	Shortbread is traditionally made before Christmas. Where does it originate from?	
6	Cougnou is a sweet festive bread baked in Europe. It’s made in what form?	
7	What is the most popular Christmas dessert in New Zealand?	

ANSWER CHOICES (See last page to check your score)

1	France	Italy	England	Australia
2	Pere Noel	Kris Kringle	Deushka Moroz	Papa Rosso
3	Ugly Woman	Smelly Pets	Naughty Children	Good-hearted Children
4	Loving	Good	Happy	Triumphant
5	England	Ireland	Wales	Scotland
6	Christmas Tree	Star	The Baby Jesus	Plait
7	Pavlova	Gingerbread Man	Fruitcake	Trifle

Brighten Your Day:

Why did Santa go to music school? To improve his “wrap” skills!
What do you call a snowman with a carrot nose? A “cool” dude!
Why are snowmen so good at playing music? They have great chill vibes!
What do you call a reindeer who loves to tell stories? A “tale’ deer.
What do you call a reindeer with bad manners? Rude-olph!
What do you get when you cross a snowman and a snowflake? A flurry of fun!
What do elves use to take notes in class? Their “elf” pads!
How does a Christmas tree get ready for a holiday party? It “decks” the halls!



Did You Believe Your Mother:

It's illegal to drive with the overhead light on.
If you swallow your gum, it will stay in your stomach for seven years.
Keep making that face, and it will freeze like that.
I have eyes in the back of my head.
You can't swim for 30 minutes after eating.
Don't sit so close to the TV. You'll go blind.
The dog went to live on a big farm.
I'm just running to the store for only one thing.
A watermelon will grow in your stomach if you eat all those seeds.
Maybe.... I'll think about it.



Humour:

Concept is Lost: When the company I worked for held an employee suggestion competition, I told my staff to submit ideas that would save the firm money. The winner was a woman in my department who suggested we post corporate memos on bulletin boards, instead of printing 200 in-

dividual copies for distribution. She got a helium balloon with the company logo and one share of stock. A memo announcing the prize went out to 200 people.

Thoughts: If you replace the "W" with a "T" in the words "What, Where, and When", you would have the answer to each one.

Morning Run: I went out for a run this morning, but I came back after a couple of minutes because I forgot something. I forgot that I can't run for more than a couple of minutes.

Glued to His Autobiography: My friend claims he glued himself to his autobiography. I don't believe him, but that's his story, and he's sticking to it."

Why is Dad's Hair White? Kid: Why is some of your hair white, Dad? Dad: Every time you make me unhappy, one of my hairs turns white. Kid: Now I understand why Grandpa's hair is all white!!

Marrying a Golfer: On a beautiful sunny Saturday afternoon, my buddy and I stood on the first tee of our golf club. He had just pulled out his driver when a young woman in a wedding dress came running up to him, crying. She slaps him in the face, turns, and runs away. My buddy turns to me and says calmly, "I don't know what her problem is. I distinctly told her only if it rained."

I'm Suing! A man is suing Smart Water for not making him smart. I want to formally announce my lawsuit against Thin Mints.

When the Cows fall asleep: When the cows fall asleep, it's time to go to bed. That's because it's pasture bedtime.

Trivia Quiz Answers:

Q1 - C, Q2 - D, Q3 - C, Q4 - D, Q5 - D, Q6 - C, Q7 - A