

IT'S IN THE BAG



SINCE 1974

February 2020

This Month's meeting: February 19th — Speaker: Stacey Gooder

Stacey Gooder runs her Financial Advising Practice in Niagara Falls with Edward Jones Investments. She uses an established process with her clients to organize their finances and keep things simple; build a roadmap for attaining your goals; protect your family with the right insurance; and transfer your investments to the next generation in the most tax efficient way.

She will speak to us about how Canadians with special needs can use the Disability Tax Credit and Registered Disability Savings Plan to reach their retirement goals.

Lastly, she will review the 10 Principles for Living in Retirement as a "road map" to serve as a guide along the way.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL?

In an effort to reduce mailing costs, we would like to offer the monthly newsletter to all of our members electronically.

If you have access to email, please send your request to info@niagaraostomy.com. The newsletter will be in PDF format. Most computers come equipped with the capability to read PDF files.

If you experience a problem opening the file, there will be a free PDF reader program download link attached to the newsletter.

Location:



Grantham Lions Club

(in the smaller hall)

732 Niagara St, (corner Parnell & Niagara St.) St. Cath.

Use Parnell Entrance

Doors open @ 7:00p.m.

Meeting starts @ 7:15p.m.

* fully accessible—no stairs*

(Ridgeway/Pt. Colborne meeting info on Page 4)

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Presidents Message

Hello everyone.

Gentle reminder that memberships are overdue. If you're one of the ones that hasn't renewed yet, please take a minute & send us your dues. We count on your support.

We have firmed up a date for Ostomy Visitor training, June 7th at the Lions hall in our regular meeting room from 9am sharp till about 3:30pm. More details can be found in this newsletter. The session will be based on the new revised guidelines for visitor training produced by Ostomy Canada. Certification will be valid for 5 years instead of the current 3 years. If our plan to do pre-op visits in the hospital comes to fruition, we will need more visitors than we currently have, please really consider taking this training. Spouses, significant others and caregivers can attend.

I had the pleasure of presenting (along with Roger & Janet from the Hamilton Chapter) at Brock University on Friday, January 31st to 76 first year Nursing Students. The agenda was primarily about the impact to a patient that has undergone ostomy surgery & day to day living.

February 6th we will be presenting to about 32 Personal Support Worker students (PSW's) in St Catharines. As well, on April 9th we will be presenting to 25 PSW's in Niagara Falls to an evening class, which will be our first presentation to that particular group.

My ice fishing trip was, well let's say, a bust. First off, the driver (no names mentioned) was busy yakking with friends and we took the wrong Highway. (Ended up near Sudbury instead of North Bay.) That added about 2 hours to our trip. Sunday in the wee hours, I came down with something, not sure what, but I blew 4 or 5 flanges in 36 hours, terrible diarrhea and gas. 3 different medical diagnoses were; picked up an intestinal virus, partial blockage, and finally, results from taking antibiotics to combat a chest infection (pneumonia) -- take a pick what it was, we will never know. It's probably one of those dark secrets that only a person with an ostomy can understand. Well after all that, we did manage to catch 1 fish, a 6" perch.

That's all. So this fish cost about \$250.00 per inch. We should have just gone to the fish market and bought a fish!

Let me talk a minute about traveling with an Ostomy.

By no means am I trying to scare people from travelling, but rather encourage it.

The general consensus is, to take 2 times the supplies you normally would use.

It seems a reasonable approach, unless of course you have an abnormal or unexpected issue.

I changed my pouch & flange Thursday evening before my fishing trip. We were leaving Friday morning, and returning Monday evening, so basically 4 days. I usually get a week's wear time from a flange and figured; heck I don't need any supplies. But traveling with no supplies would not be a wise idea. So I packed a pouch, 2 flanges and my travel bag of goodies. We arrived at the cottage on Friday as expected (well late because of an idiot driver that took the wrong highway). Saturday was spent on the ice, and a nice dinner in the cottage followed by a few

(Continued on page 3)



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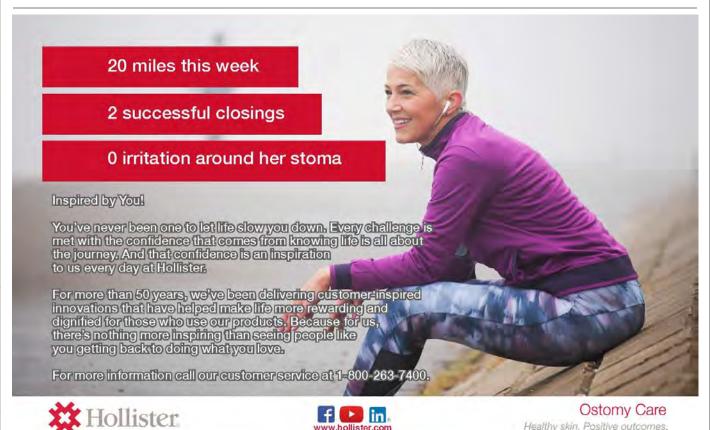
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(Continued from page 2)

drinks, cards and munchies rounded out the evening. not expecting to use any, and I have used up my supply. Nothing in that meal or evening was out of the ordinary for me. (I don't eat munchies or drink everyday)

Went to bed around midnight feeling normal, thinking about how much fun and who will catch the first fish in the morning. I was supposed to be on breakfast duty Sunday morning, so Sunday was set out for me. About an Sunday I told the guys that I am just too tired and with hour & half into my sleep I awoke to," oops, something what's going on, I need to stay in the cottage. Sunday ain't right here" I had a mess so to speak. Yup, I had proved about the same as the wee hours, and I managed to blown a flange, and I had diarrhea and tremendous gas. empty as needed, with no blowouts until the afternoon. Off to the small but comfortable bathroom to change. I So there's another change (from my supply that was a bohad such gas that I don't ever recall as having with the nus in my suit case) Sunday evening was cards, no drinks, ostomy, along with fierce diarrhea. I had to time the in- no snacks, and water & soup broth. Went to bed, setting stall very carefully & quickly so I wouldn't spoil it. Got the alarm for every hour to wake up & empty. All was as everything wrapped up and went to bed. Shortly after I expected, until the morning again, slept over the alarm & realized that this gas and diarrhea etc. wasn't going to blew yet another flange. Monday Morning I said to the stop, my pouch was filling, literally by the second. I set guys, this trip home is going to be a trip from hell, and I my alarm for 30 minutes to wake me in the event I fell think we should go now instead of this evening. They asleep. That seemed to work, I was getting tired of get- agreed. The trip home was totally fine, I was back to ting up every 30 minutes to drain. I had no choice. By the early morning, I guess I was so tired that I slept over the

alarm and didn't wake up. Yup, you guessed it, another blow out. But, now, since I brought 2 flanges with me, It's 6 AM Sunday morning, 35 miles from North Bay. I'm starting to fret. It was then I realized I had a bag in my suit case from a previous trip with more supplies. Whew!!!! 3 flanges, a few pouches and all sorts of other goodies. A real life saver.

Healthy skin. Positive outcomes.

(Continued on page 6)

SOUTH NIAGARA OSTOMY GROUP

Boggio Pharmacy, 200 Catharine St, Port Colborne

Doors Open 6:15pm, meeting at 6:30pm

Please note that the meetings are held after business hours when the pharmacy is locked. To keep the pharmacy secure, the front door is attended by staff and unlocked only to admit attendees between 6:15 and 6:30pm. No-one else will be admitted after 6:30 because the staff are also involved in the meeting.

March 25, 2020: Laura Thompson, Convatec May 27, 2020: Les Coulter, The Ostomy Clothing Company (formerly Weir Comfees)

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Director	Peter Winter
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Our Website: www.niagaraostomy.com

Our Email: info@niagaraostomy.com

2020 Dates

Feb 19-Stacey Gooder

Mar 18

Apr15

May 20

Telephone Numbers:

Niagara Ostomy Association: 905-321-2799

Coloplast: (866) 293-6349

ConvaTec (800) 465-6302

Hollister: (800) 263-3236

BBraun of Canada: (855) 822-7286



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NOTICE TO READERS:...

Products and methods mentioned in this newsletter are not endorsed by the Niagara Ostomy Association and may not be relevant to everyone. Consult your doctor or ET nurse before deciding to use any of them.

Application for Membership						
Name:	_					
Address:						
	_					
Postal Code:Phone:	_					
Email:	_					
Гуре of Ostomy(optional):						

Dues are \$30.00 per year, renewable by December 31 of each year. Membership is open to all ostomates, family members, medical professionals, health professionals and other interested parties. Includes monthly newsletter. We do not wish to exclude anyone because of inability to pay dues. If payment of dues is a hardship, please inform the treasurer or president. They have the authority to waive individual dues. This information is kept in the strictest confidence. We will never share your email address. It will be kept strictly confidential. Completed application along with your cheque or money order (payable to Niagara Ostomy

Association) should be mailed to:

Brenda Bagley, 66 Portmaster Dr, St. Catharines, ON L2N 7H7

Coloplast

(Continued from page 5)

"normal" so to speak. I though great, I'm better, after I got home I had about another 12 to 16 hrs. Of diarrhea with not nearly as much gas.

Plan to travel, plan to take more supplies than you can imagine. You never know what's around the next corner.



CHEERS!

John Molnar, President



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FUNGAL INFECTION UNDER THE APPLIANCE

Question:

I'm having a terrible time with chronic wet red fungal infections. I have tried crusting but it didn't really help. Tinactin is pretty good — it slows the onset but I still end up with it. I have heard Arglaes can help but I don't know if or how to properly use it. Can you help?

Response by: Andrea Manson RN, BSN, NSWOC, NCA, all-round nice person, now retired

Thank you for your question. A fungal infection is so miserable.

Fungus "bugs" like to grow in warm, dark, moist areas. Areas such as between toes, in groins and under flanges or pouching systems.

One of the main symptoms of a fungal infection is an itch. Not just a "yes it is itchy sometimes" itch; it is an "it is driving me crazy "itch.

So if we know that fungal bugs like warm, dark and moist environments to grow, we need to give it a different environment.

Expose as much skin around your pouching system as you can and still get a seal. You can cut off the tape edge or some of the barrier. I would recommend wearing an ostomy belt to support the pouching system.

(Continued on page 8)





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Tinactin is the antifungal powder of choice for fungal infection under a pouching system. Sometimes if you have had a fungal infection for a long time, you may have mixed bacteria and fungal infection. I would recommend washing your skin with Dexidan soap then rinse well. Sprinkle Tinactin powder around the peristomal area, brush away the excess powder (too much powder will cause the pouching system not to adhere), then apply your pouching system with the tape of edges cut down to expose as much skin as possible. (Use an ostomy belt to give you more support). Using your fingertip, reapply sparingly the Tinactin powder to the exposed skin at least twice a day. Remember to wash your hands before and after touching that area.

You may also need to change more frequently at first. That is, you may need to change every day or every two days to wash with Dexidan and to reapply Tinactin to the affected area.

Another resource to look at is the Peristomal Skin Assessment Guide. It will walk you through step by step how to assess your skin and it gives suggestions to solve skin problems.

http://psag-consumer.wocn.org/#home

I hope these suggestion are helpful in getting rid of your fungal infection.

Arglaes powder has been relabeled as Medline Ag + powder manufactured by Medline Industries. There is no difference in the formulation between the Arglase and Ag+.

Ag+ is an antimicrobial silver powder dressing that is effective against a broad range of fungi and bacteria.

It comes packaged as a single-use product that is once you use it, the remainder of the product should be discarded. When I asked the company if the product was still effective if you still had some left in the container and wanted to use it again in a few days, they could not answer that

(Continued on page 9)





(Continued from page 8)

question as it is a single-use product.

The procedure for using this product is the same for using any powder under a pouching system.

Only use a powder when the skin is wet and weepy. If the skin is dry, the powder will not adhere and you will end up dusting it all off.

Use sparingly, sprinkle some powder on weepy

area, rub in, dust off the excess. If there is too much powder on the skin, the pouching system will not adhere!

Powders should not be used routinely. If the problem continues after 7-14 days, please see your Ostomy nurse (NSWOC or WOC) or doctor.



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POUCH COMFORT

A reader of our Niagara Ostomy newsletter recently sent in their experience while trying to deal with a pouch comfort issue.

I recently requested your assistance concerning the heat from my pouch causing sweat and heat rash to my groin. I have tried many different aids, and, finally, have been successful in my

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Ostomy Visitor Training Session & Refresher Seminar – June 7, 2020 9:00 am-3:30 pm

Do you answer yes to any of the following?

- Have you been certified as an ostomy visitor in the past, but you need re-certification?
- Do you know the positive emotional impact a trained visitor can have on a fellow ostomate?
- Have you lived with an ostomy or been a caregiver or spouse to someone that has had ostomy surgery for at least a year that has adjusted well to the impact of living with an ostomy?
- Do you want to become an Ostomy Canada Trained Visitor?
- Do you know why it is important to become an ostomy visitor under Ostomy Canada guidelines?

If you have answered "yes", then you are eligible to register for the Visitor Training session hosted by the Niagara Ostomy Association.

Please register by calling **905-321-2799 as** early as possible.

The training will be held at the Grantham Lions Club, 732 Niagara St., St. Catharines.

Spouses and/or caregivers of someone with an ostomy are eligible to participate.

What's required by you?

- Be well-adjusted to your ostomy for at least one year.
- Have a positive outlook on life, with good listening and communication skills



- Agree to be on the Visitors team of trained visitors and try to make yourself available when called upon by the visiting coordinator
- Agree to follow the guidelines of the Ostomy Canada Society's Visiting program

What you need to know.

- Dress comfortably, in clean, tidy clothes as if you were making an actual visit.
- Bring a lunch with you since there are no restaurants near the hall.
- Coffee, tea, refreshments & light snacks will be provided by Niagara Ostomy.
- An information package will be sent ahead of time to prepare you for the session.
- You will be required to participate in all aspects of the session, and there will be active roleplaying to familiarize you with visiting scenarios.

The session will start at 9 am sharp and run until about 3:30 pm to be held at:

Grantham Lions Club, 732 Niagara St., St. Catharines.

Note that we will be using the new version of the visitor Training Guidelines, and certification will be for a 5 year term.

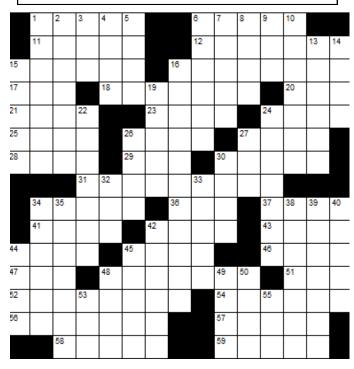
ACROSS

- 1. A German medieval guild
- 6. Magicians
- 11. Wall climbers
- 12. Stretchable
- 15. Hits
- 16. Run wild
- 17. An Old Testament king
- 18. Seasoned
- 20. Poetic dusk
- 21. Of higher order
- 23. Weaving machine
- 24. Petty quarrel
- 25. Coalition
- 26. Twosome
- 27. Fur
- 28. Hairdo
- 29. Pain
- 30. Embankment
- 31. An expanse of scenery
- 34. Country of the Nile
- 36. Detachable container

37. Flat float

- 41. Briskly (music)
- 42. Razzes
- 43. Dogfish
- 44. Connects two points
- 45. Residence hall
- 46. Jar tops
- 47. Years (French)
- 48. Slender double-
- reed instrument.
- 51. Commercials
- 52. Masses of floating sea ice
- 54. Mob
- 56. Roman silver coins
- 57. Fast
- 58. Goodwill
- 59. About a US quart

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DOWN

- 1. Reflexive form of "him"
- 2. Flyer
- 3. Louse-to-be
- 4. Dribble
- 5. Existence
- 6. Shooting star
- 7. Siren

- 9. Clairvoyant's gift

- 14. 1/100th of a dollar
- 15. Brazilian dance
- 19. Tartan

- 8. Malodorous
- 10. Spire
- 13. Conceive

- 22. Novice

- 16. Party poopers
- 24. Some

- 27. Liveliness
 - 30. Boys
 - 32. Mock
 - 33. A valley (British)

26. Breathe hard

- 34. Express
- 35. A Chinese herb
- 38. Lovable
- 39. Violinist
- 40. Thigh armor

- 42. Suppository
- 44. Placed
- 45. A gold coin of ancient Persia
- 48. Sister and wife of
- Zeus
- 49. By mouth
- 50. Type of antenna
- 53. Tavern
- 55. Smidgen



Answers on

page 9



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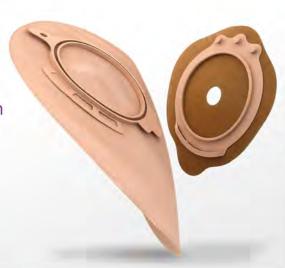
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(Continued from page 9)

efforts. I don't know if my problem is common, but on the chance that others may suffer as I did, I am pleased to notify you so that you may spread this "remedy" among your members, and others who receive your bulletin. The remedy is not a cure all, but it does relieve the rash/heat problem if used daily. Or at least it did for me.

- The ingredients are a liquid non-perfumed antiperspirant, and corn starch.
- The antiperspirant is spread, liberally over the affected body part, followed by corn starch, also spread liberally.
- To start, a mild antiperspirant should be used, to ensure that the user's body tolerates its application to the area of the body to which it is applied.

- The remedy works best applied before bedtime, as the sweat glands, according to information that I received, are less active during the sleeping period.
- The application of the antiperspirant may be used at anytime during the day, but the area must be clean: washing before use is recommended.

I have tried the remedy, and it works for me. And I discussed it with my MD. Any person willing to try it should also consult his/her medical practitioner.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS PROVIDED FREELY, AND IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ANY ONE WISHING TO TRY IT TO SATISFY HIMSELF/HERSELF OF ITS SAFETY AND EFFICACY.



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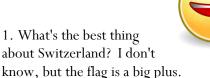
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PUNS FOR THE DAY



- 2. George Clooney, Leonardo DiCaprio, and Matthew McConaughey get together to make a movie. Clooney says, "I'll direct." DiCaprio says, "I'll act." McConaughey says, "I'll write, I'll write, I'll write."
- 3. I told my friend not to get too excited about turning 32, since her birthday party would be so short.

"Why would it be short?" she asked.

I said, "Because it's your thirty-second birth-day."