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*Ottawa Outlook, nee North Hero News and World Review …. ……. Mostly stuff no one else would print.*

Wednesday, February 29, 2012 c:/outlk11, 12wc05 (2012 Letter # 5)

**Parties & Poetry.**

**(**Golly, … 29 days in February this year, … could have procrastinated on the monthly letter one more day!)

And gee, we’ve just had, … a party!

Yes, … we hosted 14 on February 25th in what was billed as a *“Stupid Games”* party. This was in reality, an indoor, sedentary, scaled-down version of the bygone *“Cedarvale Challenge”.* Hosts supplied the site and little else, so a wonderful assortment of food/wine was brought in by the contestants..

(Without making an actual accounting, believe over half of our hundred or so *“Outlook”* readers have intimate knowledge of infamous Challenges.)

Entrance at the door was via a solved ‘word search puzzle’ which was emailed to participants and also checked up on.

***Searching OK? \****

*Word Search” puzzles have been sent out.*

*Correctly solved, they leave no doubt.*

*They lead to your partner for our ‘Gaming’ affair,*

*Who all ensuing embarrassment will share.*

*And who, should you win, in unison shout, …*

*We did it, … We won, … The rest we did rout!*

*\* Having trouble with the search? Reply ‘Help’ to sender*

. The puzzles contained 32 words, & 34 left-over letters) The left-over letters spelled either part 1 or part 2 of a well known ’saying’. So, … one came in with say, *“are soon parted”* or maybe, “*change its’ spots”*  and commenced to look for, *“a fool and his money”* or *“a leopard can not”.* When found, the duo were partners. Surprisingly, this exercise was carried out sans hitch. Voila, … 7 teams! Seven teams with much of the old Cedarvale Challenge mentality.

*“Above the hue, the cry and the din,*

*The ultimate goal is,… win baby win.”*

First up; A greeting, followed by an explanation of 4 board games to be played, a short history of the trophy to be presented to the winning team, and a request to provide/vote on a name to be used in future gatherings.

Games played: . Trivial Charades., Scrabble, Picture Perfect, Electronic Word. Each team would play all 4 games. Victory over another team earned one point.

Trophy detail: A bronze beauty, about 30” tall from circa 1924, which was recovered from the depths of Lake Champlain by a snorkeling Matt Jefferson.

Request:

*Good to see you here today to contest with a ‘stupid game’.*

*But golly gee, this crazy bunch, … should have a crazy ‘Name’.*

*If one should happen to cross your mind, add it to this sheet.*

*We’ll vote on all and thus will have a moniker when ere we meet.*

*We’ve listed a few which came to mind, .., and as for today, … hey, real glad you came.*

*Ottawa Oddballs*

*Hopeless Hooligans*

*Crazies*

*Loonies*

*Funsters*

Results: The winning team was two M’s, Marianne & Myriam, … two gals with a Sudbury, Ont. background. Marianne is keeper of the trophy for the first 6 months of the year and Myriam for the second 6 months.

The winning group name was *“Hopeless Hooligans”.* There were 7 team name suggestions added to the above sheet. Most were not too complimentary. Thankfully, they garnered only one vote. One wasn’t too bad, “Sudbury sucs”. Added by one of the M & M’s? One addition, “Leuds”, is addressed in our closing limerick.

Think we can speak for the *“Hooligans”* , we had a great time. Even Ken, who came in dead last.

From Ottawa

Lucille & Ken.

Leud/lewd explanation:

*A fiercely competitively Dude and the like-wise team that he crewed,*

*blithely spelled out lewd out as leud.*

*Then, … despite loud complaints which readily ensued,*

*added a Scrabble point to the rest they’d accrued.*

*And the other team? Well, … they just got screwed.*

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