

## BURA Executive

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## Upcoming Events

**December 9, 2024**  
**BURA Holiday Celebration**  
with *Caitlyn Miller*  
at *Club Roma*

Arrive: 11:30am for lunch at noon

**January 21, 2025**  
**Artificial Intelligence and  
Post-secondary Education**  
with *Rahul Kumar*

at the *Holiday Inn*

Arrive: 11:30am for lunch at noon

**February 20, 2025**  
**Film Matinee**

at the *Niagara Artists Centre*

**March, 2025**  
**Authors Round Table**  
with *Lori Littleton & Nancy Taber*  
at the *Holiday Inn*,

**BURA Coffee Club**  
at *Ostin's Restaurant*,  
Arrive: 9:30am

**December 2, 2024**

**January 9, 2025**

**February and March**  
–dates to be determined

# Member News



## In Memoriam



In sorrow, and with respect, BURA observes the passing of the following members:

Joyce De Forest, September 1, 2024  
Clarke Thomson, November 23, 2024

### Know of any major events in the lives of our BURA colleagues and friends?

PLEASE let our membership facilitator know of any major life changes you wish to share. Contact: Pat Cane [BURAMembership@outlook.com](mailto:BURAMembership@outlook.com)

## New BURA Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Caroline Lidstone, *Secretariat*

Jane Dywan, *Psychology*

Phyllis Stanley, *Education*

Susan Sydor, *Education*

Deborah (Debi) Rideout, *Library*

### Avoid missing out on BURA Newsletters and Event Notices

MAKE sure we are kept apprised of any revisions to your e-mail or home address. Please email any changes to: Pat Cane [BURAMembership@outlook.com](mailto:BURAMembership@outlook.com)

# Rodger Beatty wins at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

**“The Premier Jam/Jelly Exhibitor - Amateur Award at The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair 2024 goes to Rodger J. Beatty, St. Catharines, ON” Bravo Rodger!** This award goes to one winner selected from the Amateur Section, whose entries earned the highest cumulative number of points based on the competition point scale.

Rodger won four First-Place Awards for the following amateur jams and jellies, which were on display at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, November 1-10, 2024:

- Raspberry Jam
- Peach Rum Jam
- Raspberry/Blackberry Jelly
- Mint Jelly

Rodger also won several additional awards in various amateur jam and jelly competition categories: 3<sup>rd</sup> for his raspberry jelly; 4<sup>th</sup> for his strawberry jelly; 4<sup>th</sup> for his strawberry jam; 4<sup>th</sup> for his apricot amaretto jam; and 10<sup>th</sup> for his sweet cherry jam.

In the RAWF’s 2024 **Amateur Pickling Competition**, Rodger received two awards for his bread and butter pickles – 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Amateur Sweet Pickle Class and 4<sup>th</sup> in the Amateur Heritage Pickle Class.

On Wednesday November 6, 2024, after receiving an invitation, Rodger travelled to Toronto to attend the Excellence in Agriculture Luncheon in The Royal Ballroom at The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair (RAWF). During the celebration, awards, and recognition part of the luncheon, he was presented with the Premier Jam & Jelly Amateur Exhibitor prize for RAWF 2024. Additionally, he received all of the rosette ribbons for all of his classes 1st, 2nd, and 3rd placings along with ribbons for 4th place rankings.

**Hearty congratulations go out to Rodger Beatty!**



Rodger Beatty



Rodger Beatty and Crystal Mackey

**Do you have any news that you would like to share with the BURA membership?**

**W**<sup>E</sup> would be pleased to review any member news submitted on the webform at:  
<https://brocku.ca/retirees-association/contact-us/>

## Past Events

### Where have all the protest songs gone?

with *Nick Baxter-Moore*

**N**ICK illustrated his talk by performing the protest songs that he used to survey the history of protest songs from the 30's to the present day. He divided the genre into factual, metaphorical, and ironic songs. The lyrics with irony tended to be difficult to interpret. He also categorized them by subject, such as anti-war, anti-government, and environmental.

Protest songs are still being created but their distribution makes it difficult to hear them.



Nick Baxter-Moore

### The Fate of Amelia Earhart: No Longer a Mystery

with *Ian MacKay*

**I**AN MacKay gave us an hypothesis on what happened to Amelia Earhart on her around the world flight. Ian supports the idea that she landed on Gardner Island to the south of her original destination of Howland Island. Direction-finding measurements on some post-crash radio transmissions point to a location on or about Gardner Island and indicate that she survived the landing.

The US Coast Guard ship Itasca was stationed offshore of Howland Island and received radio communications from Amelia Earheart. She reported reaching the LOP (Line Of Position) that passed through Howland Island, but did not know whether they were to the north or south. The poor weather that night had made accurate star readings impossible. The LOP also passed through Gardner Island.



Ian MacKay

# The Waiting Room Revolution

Seven keys for navigating a life-changing diagnosis  
with the *Dr. Sammy Winemaker*

**D**R. Winemaker noted how our current health system does not properly prepare or support patients with life-changing diagnoses. She recommended seven strategies to cope with such a diagnosis.

“Walk two roads: Hope for the best and plan for the rest.”

“Zoom out: Understand the big picture.”

“Know your style: Reflect how you cope and face challenges.”

“Customize your order: Tailor the care plan to your values and preferences.”

“Expect ripple effects: Prepare for the family’s parallel journey.”

“Connect the dots: Play a central role in navigating the system.”

“Invite yourself: Initiate conversations about what to expect.”

Further information can be found in her book “Hope for the Best, Plan for the Rest” written by Dr. Sammy Winemaker and Dr. Hsien Seow.



Dr. Sammy Winemaker



## Upcoming Events

**December 9, 2024**

**BURA Holiday Celebration**

with *Caitlyn Miller*

at *Club Roma*

**J**OIN your BURA friends and colleagues for some holiday cheer and live entertainment provided by Caitlyn Miller.

### **Event Details:**

Time : 11:30am for lunch at noon

Venue: *Club Roma*, 125 Vansickle Road, St. Catharines, ON

**January 21, 2025**  
**Artificial Intelligence and Post–secondary  
Education**

with *Rahul Kumar*  
at the *Holiday Inn*

**D**R. Kumar from the Department of Educational Studies at Brock University describes his research as concentrated on “the disruptive force of GenAI on education, its effect on Academic Integrity and how to cope with it. Though most of my work has focused on higher education, I have also undertaken research projects on how secondary school teachers are dealing with GenAI in their classrooms and schools.”

**Event Details:**

Time : 11:30am for lunch at noon

Venue: *Holiday Inn*, 327 Ontario St, St. Catharines

**February 20, 2025**

**Film Matinee**

at the *Niagara Artists Centre*

**Event Details:**

Venue: *Niagara Artists Centre*, 354 St. Paul Street, St Catharines

**March, 2025**

**Authors Round Table**

with *Lori Littleton & Nancy Taber*  
at the *Holiday Inn*

Lori Littleton is a past City of St. Catharines councillor who recently authored “In Repair”, and Nancy Taber is a Professor in the Department of Education at Brock University who recently authored “A Sea of Spectres”.

**Contribute to the BURA Newsletter!**

**T**HE BURA Newsletter continues to publish three times a year — the first week of September, December and April. Your contributions may include reports, notices of events, travelogues and photos, humour, poetry, and other information of interest to members. Send your submissions to: [Ronald Ogawa \[rbgabadh@gmail.com\]\(mailto:rbgabadh@gmail.com\)](mailto:Ronald.Ogawa@rbgabadh@gmail.com)

# BURA Coffee Club

following dates at the *Ostin's Restaurant*

**December 2, 2024**

**January 9, 2025**

**February and March**

–dates to be determined

**G**OOD news! The monthly coffee club will continue to be in-person gatherings this winter at *Ostin's Restaurant*, 327 Ontario Street, St. Catharines, starting at 9:30am. Please save the above dates. We hope to see you there!



## Other Events

### Historical Society of St. Catharines

*Celebrating the history of St. Catharines and its vicinity*

**Presentations – January to March 2025**

**T**HE Society was founded in 1927 and maintains its mission to increase the knowledge and appreciation of the history of St. Catharines and vicinity.

**February 27, 2025 7:30 pm** – *Cristina Soto*, “Black History”.

**March 27, 2025 7:30 pm** – *Paul Chapman*, former *St. Catharines Planning Director*, “Evolution of the City of St. Catharines”.

There will be different invitations to these meetings posted in the coming months. More information can be found at the following link:

<https://stcatharineshistory.ca>

#### Volunteers Needed

**T**HIS is an interesting and rewarding activity where small groups work together to organize events and complete other BURA activities. The Executive can always use new volunteers, whose talents and ideas are needed. Contact Rico Natale or any current member of the Executive for more information.

Please let us know by e-mail to:

Rico Natale [BURAPresident@gmail.com](mailto:BURAPresident@gmail.com)



## LLN – Winter Lecture Series 2025

Tuesdays, 10 am to noon.  
Registration opens January 3  
at <https://llniagara.ca>

Zoom Webinars  
\$70 for 6 webinars, or  
\$15 per webinar

### February 11<sup>th</sup> – Who Owns Outer Space? And Why Does It Matter?

*Andrew Simon-Butler, Junior Fellow, Outer Space Institute; Barrister and Solicitor of the Law Society of Ontario and Australian Lawyer,*

Explore the legality of space resource utilization (or ‘space mining’ as it is more commonly known). What happens in this decade and next will likely determine not only the lawfulness of space mining, but also the ultimate question of how sovereignty will be applied in outer space as humankind extends its presence there.

### February 18<sup>th</sup> – It Takes Two: Five Couples Who Transformed the World of Art and Music

*Dr. Laura Carlson, PhD; Historian, writer, and media producer; Manager of Public Programs, Heritage Toronto; host and producer of podcast, The Feast,*

Discover some of the historical power couples who revolutionized the worlds of art, music, and design. Artistic duos have given the world some of its most enduring and beloved works, but romance and art have often been a recipe for explosive relationships.

### February 25<sup>th</sup> – TBA

### March 4<sup>th</sup> – Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Healthcare: Existential Threat or Adding Value?

*Dr. James Tung, Engineer; Associate Professor, Systems Design Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, University of Waterloo; and Principal Investigator in the Neural and Rehabilitation Engineering Lab,*

This session will highlight how AI is impacting health care and the future evolution of medical applications of AI. Insights into Dr. Tung’s research in assistive mobility and rehabilitation will also be discussed in the context of future use.

### March 11<sup>th</sup> – Innovation in Humanitarian Assistance: Getting the Right Aid to the Right People at the Right Time

*Rahul Singh, Order of Ontario; Executive Director, GlobalMedic; Paramedic,*

While humanitarian aid continues to grow year after year, funding gaps continue to limit aid distribution worldwide. Learn how GlobalMedic responds to disasters by using creative, innovative solutions.

### March 18<sup>th</sup> – Magical Morocco: Glimpses of Architecture

*Shermeen Beg, Architect; Instructor, LIFE Institute (Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education); Speaker; and Storyteller,*

Join us on an adventure through the Kingdom of Morocco where the sunshine, colour, sights and sounds will help banish the winter blues!