

COOPER'S MILL

BELLE RIVER

A unique development designed for the relaxed lifestyle of those fifty and older.

On a chilly winter evening when most people were dozing in front of their television sets, a gathering of men and women streamed into a stylish new townhome, laughing and bantering goodnaturedly like old friends. Except these were new friends, happily brought together when each recently bought residences in Cooper's Mill Retirement Community.

Jim and Sharon Green are often found in the thick of such occasions. "Many times there are impromptu, spontaneous get togethers at somebody's home," Jim says. Organized golf tournaments, street barbecues and other excuses to have fun encourage neighbourhood interaction. Cooper's Mill residents since April, 2005, Jim and Sharon admit, "Our biggest worry was leaving friends from our old neighbourhood and moving where we didn't know anyone. Our worries were for naught."

When the Greens decided to move out of their four bedroom St. Clair Beach house into something more conducive to their semi-retired lifestyle, they were pleased to discover a wonderful new way to live in Cooper's Mill Retirement Community. Located behind the high school in beautiful Belle River, the community is comprised of homeowners in their late 40s to 80s; former residents of Toronto, Kitchener, Cambridge and Essex County. "It's a good mix of retired and semi-retired people," Jim says. "There are some who are working still but looking forward to retirement in a few years."

Friendships form easily in Cooper's Mill. "Widowed people who didn't know a soul when they moved in are now in a tightly knit community," observes Rob Mathers of Rob Mathers Realty Ltd. He handles the property sales and is delighted to see new buyers fit so quickly into the neighbourhood's laid back, friendly rhythm.

"Cooper's Mill is a really unique development unlike anything else out there," Rob says. "Belle River is a lakefront community with handy shopping, restaurants and services. Cooper's Mill is walking distance to the beach and marina. It offers Florida style retirement living."

Each townhome is a turnkey project, constructed and completely finished by BK Cornerstone Design/Build Ltd. Prices start in the low \$170,000s. As the model home at 390 Millstone Lane reveals, the townhouses are spacious and light filled, with convenient, intelligent floor plans. All of the homes are ranch style with one floor living. The Greens' finished basement comfortably accommodates



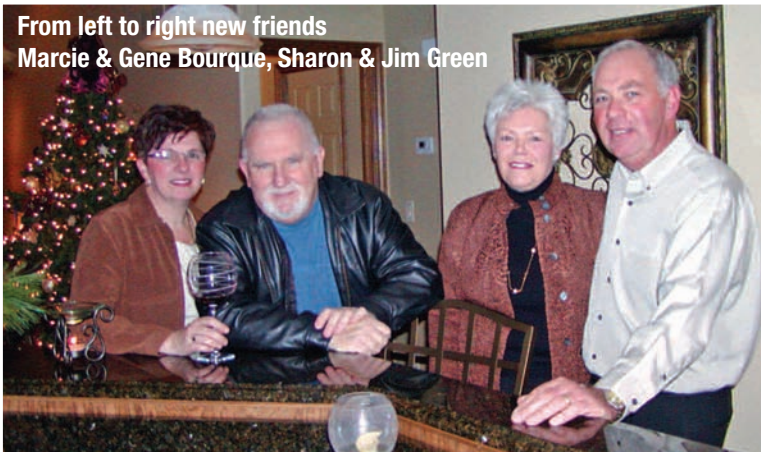
visiting family members. Lawn maintenance and snow removal are offered, although as gardening enthusiasts, the Greens do their own yard work.

The naturally pleasing setting entices homeowners to move about their community. Walking paths extend across professionally landscaped parks featuring a gazebo, outdoor shuffleboard courts and a huge cascading waterfall. Horseshoe pits will be installed next spring.

The real allure of Cooper's Mill, however, is its community spirit. "We look after and care for one another here," Jim says. The support of the neighbourhood is felt especially at times of illness and death. When a resident's beloved dog died, everyone grieved.

Knowing people are watching out for them, residents feel secure in leaving their homes behind when they get the urge to travel. When they return, there is companionship waiting.

"Everyone respects everyone else's privacy," Jim says. "If you want to be alone, that's not a problem. But if you want to socialize, there is usually something going on. We loved our old neighbourhood but we're very happy we made this change at this stage of our life. We haven't looked back," Jim notes. "Our kids have said they can't believe how easily we made the transition."



From left to right new friends
Marcie & Gene Bourque, Sharon & Jim Green



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