



THE COBOURG PROBIAN

Volume 12, Number 3, March 2006

The Probus Club of Cobourg and District
P.O. Box 63, Cobourg, Ontario K9A 4K2

Next Meeting: March 16th, 2006



President's Message by Bob Spooner

This, the first meeting of March is an indicator for all of us that Spring is just around the corner. With that in mind, it is time that we start to focus on the many warm weather programs and the volunteers required to make them a success and when the clipboards come around please give consideration to placing your name on the sheet.

Bob

Quote of the Month: In the beginning we make our habits – in the end our habits make us
Anonymous

Club Program

- March 2nd** (meeting) **Derek Hatfield** participated in one *Round the World* race and is now building a new, bigger, faster boat in Cobourg for the next race in October 2006.
- March 16th** (meeting) **Jim and Emma Sandham.** Members and sailors who will speak about their experiences taking their boat *Nonsuch* from Cobourg down the St. Lawrence to Boston.
Also President's Lunch – see below.
- March 30th** **Tour of the Historic Distillery District.** Bus leaves 9:00am returns 7:30pm. Cost \$72.00 includes deluxe coach, tour, dinner, all taxes & gratuities. More below.
- April 6th** (meeting) **Gil Brocanier** – Cobourg Councilor - Cobourg's new Senior's Centre
- April 20th** (meeting) **David Mowat** – Educational Development Office for Alderville
- April 28th** **Dinner Theatre – Picasso at the Lapin Agile** – Dinner Theatre at the Best Western - \$30 – More below.

Other Club Notices

The next President's Lunch will be March 16th (right before St. Patrick's day) and it will be held at

McGregor's on King street. The menu will be Irish Stew or Corn beef and cabbage with tea or coffee. Cost is \$13 which includes tax and gratuity. Book today with Myrtle Wardman.

President's Lunches are generally held every second month – the next one will be May 18th.



Summer Meetings

This summer, there will **not** be meetings on **July 6th** nor on the day of the **Summer Sizzler, August 3rd**. All other meetings will be held as usual – first and third Thursdays.

Helping with Canada Day parade

July 1st is coming up fast! Helpers and "marchers" are needed for Probus participation in this year's parade. Or do we forget about it this year?



Current Executive

President	Bob Spooner Tel: 372-5165
Past President	Ray Hiller Tel: 373-0978
Vice President	Karin Allan Tel: 377-8098 e-mail: krallan@eagle.ca
Rec. Secretary	Bev Silk Tel: 349-3766 e-mail: sonic@eagle.ca
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House Manager	Larry Flood Tel: 373-0326 e-mail: flood@eagle.ca
Comm. Service	Joanne Domine Tel: 377-8564 e-mail: j.domine@sympatico.ca

A full list of current **committee members** is on our web site. www.probusnorthumberland.com then go to *About Us* and select Cobourg

Summer Sizzler (BBQ) - Committee

Burke Van Valkenburg - Chair 342-2385
John Draper
Ron & Shirley Fraser
Ray Hiller
John & Hazel Lyons
Jack & Joyce Parker
Dave Paterson
Mary Ryan
Bob Spooner



This year's Summer Sizzler will be on August 3rd and will be held in the Pavilion in Victoria park.

Dinner Theatre – April 28th

Picasso at the Lapin Agile

Yet another award winning comedy by Steve Martin. Set in a Parisian bar in 1904, two of the century's most influential figures, namely Picasso and Einstein are brought together. These two men, both on the verge of greatness, argue about life, art, science and lust. Wild and crazy? You bet. Steve Martin even manages to sprinkle a little philosophy between the jokes that fly fast and furious. A show not to be missed!

Select your seating when you buy your ticket – see **Dorothy Allen** or **Mary Ryan**.

At the Best Western. Tickets \$30 – includes dinner, show, all taxes and services.

Bus Trip Thursday March 30, 2006.

9:00 am - Depart Northumberland mall parking lot in Cobourg for Toronto. **The Distillery** is the largest and best preserved collection of Victorian Industrial Architecture in North America and is now a pedestrian-only village entirely dedicated to arts, culture and entertainment.



Internationally acclaimed galleries, artists' studios and workshops, restaurants, bars and cafes, as well as live music, all form part of this new landmark cultural centre. In addition *The Distillery* has been the location for over 800 film and television productions making *The Distillery District* the most popular film location in Canada.

A guide will take you on a tour of the neighbourhood and point out all the points of interest. From 12:30 - 4:00 pm you'll have free time for lunch, shopping and further exploring.

Dinner is at **Tuckers Marketplace Buffet Restaurant** in Pickering at 5:00pm.

Arrival in Cobourg is at 7:30 pm

Cost per person: \$72.00 including all taxes and gratuities.

See **Mary Ryan** (905) 373-1475

History of Cobourg

Our meeting on February 2 had a heritage theme. Colin Caldwell spoke about Cobourg in 1835 – how it became a town and all hell broke loose. Colin is a scholar with an M.A. from the University of Toronto in Greek, Latin and the Classics. He is a keen student of local history and has written widely about his subject.

Colin's talk brought local history to life. He used wit and colourful story telling. The elections of the mid eighteenth thirties were quite different from the present day elections. There were no secret ballots. Voters had to stand up and announce who they were voting for. This took some guts because a good beating up could be the result of voting for the wrong person. Cobourg had three wards – two smaller ones were controlled by the Family Compact and the one larger one by the reformers. An honest politician was one who, once bought stayed loyal! On one occasion the ballot box was



moved to Harwood to stop people voting, when voters finally got there they were told that the voting station was closed.

Colin's talk was well received. We all learned a lot and had fun.

Colin was introduced by Jim Domine and thanked by Tom MacMillan.

Photo is of Cobourg's James Cockburn – Father of Confederation

News from National and International Probus

Watch out for a **Regional Probus Spring Fling** in Colborne at the Keeler Centre in May.

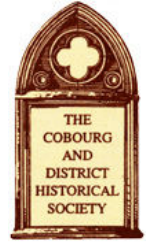
As of August 2005, there were over 300,000 members in approximately 4,000 Probus clubs worldwide.

In Canada, there are now 174 Clubs with over 21,600 individual members.

More on Cobourg's History

There are at least two organizations in Cobourg devoted to exploring and preserving Cobourg's history:

- *The Cobourg and District Historical Society* (meetings every 4th Tuesday in Victoria Hall at 8.00pm) and
- *The Cobourg Museum Foundation* (Joan Chalovich, president).



Both organizations are active and welcome new members.

If you have Internet access, you can get quite a lot of Cobourg's history on the web at www.cobourginternet.ca/history. Included are many photos including a couple donated by Marilyn Macklin plus the complete story of the Cobourg-Peterborough railway (as written by Colin Caldwell) and many others.

Meeting of February 16th

February 16th brought some quick morning discussions. Mother nature had dropped snow and freezing rain in our area, and the St. Mary's school choir could not come to sing for us as the school busses were cancelled.



A call to Myrtle Wardman, chair of the speaker's committee was in order and as usual Myrtle took the news in a calm way. Since she had a few things up her sleeve, we had a program ready to go for our Probus group.

The saviour for the day was our own Stone Avery. Stone stood up in front of our group and told us in his straight-forward manner how things had changed throughout his life – the way we did things differently in the winter of our youth – how winter was spent outdoors on our skates, but always remembering and keeping in mind that life has its changes, and as people, we are up to the changes.

The wonderful affirming thought he left us was that our life is becoming more and more diverse with new people and new cultures. We must be open with understanding and acceptance of these new avenues in our lives.

Thanks Stone for a great talk and thanks for being your giving-self.

Ann Hubbs

Other Events in Cobourg

Brad Halls Words and Music

This popular event will be held on 24th & 25th March. Call the Concert Hall at Victoria Hall for details. 905-372-2210

Hospice Fund-raiser

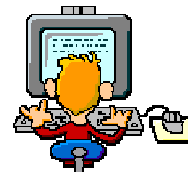
We have reserved 50 seats for the Northumberland Hospice **All Star Big Band** from Toronto. Held at the Capitol Theatre on May 6th. Tickets \$28.00
Nancy Foden

Northumberland Film Sundays

Movie: March 12th 4:00pm **Breakfast on Pluto**
Irish Drama/Comedy (R) *Alma Draper*

Editor's Corner

Is Spring around the corner? Or did we have it in January? Either way, I'm sure we are all busy – we'll try to help that by publishing events, both Probus and "other".



More about our Club and others in Northumberland – including Photos – on our web site at www.probusnorthumberland.com

John Draper, Editor

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March 2006

More at www.probusnorthumberland.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Meeting	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Meeting Probus Lunch	17 St. Patrick's day	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Distillery Bus Trip	31	

April 2006

						1
2	3	4	5	6 Meeting	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Good Friday	15
16 Easter Sunday	17	18	19	20 Meeting	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Dinner Theatre	29
30						