



# ***THE COBOURG PROBIAN***

Volume 14, Number 6, April, 2008

The Probus Club of Cobourg and District

P.O. Box 63, Cobourg, Ontario K9A 4K2

Next Meeting: April, 17th, 2008

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## **President's Message:**

By the time you read this, our plans for Spring will be well in place with our Spring meeting today. First I would like to thank Mary Ryan for filling in for me at the last meeting at very short notice.

When we joined the Cobourg and District Probus club, it was for the coffee, to hear good speakers and enjoy some of the happy events which our members put together. However, this past week while Irene has been in hospital, I've had many calls and best wishes from members. This is real Probus at work.

Many thanks to all, Irene is making good progress and hopes to be home 5 days following surgery.



## **President Larry**

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## **SPEAKERS AND EVENTS**

**APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup>** Stan Ferguson  
Motivational Speaker

**APRIL 16<sup>th</sup>** Dirty Dancing, included bus & dinner \$115.00 (Waiting List)

**APRIL 17<sup>th</sup>** John deVisser  
Local Photographer (one of Canada's finest)

**APRIL 25<sup>th</sup>** Dinner Theatre, "My Husband's Wild Desires Almost Drove Me Mad"  
On stage answers break laugh records all over the world. Tickets \$30.00

**MAY 1<sup>st</sup>** Bernie Shouldice  
Shouldice Clinic

**MAY 15<sup>th</sup>** Larry Wilson  
What happens when your aircraft runs out of fuel.

**MAY 28<sup>th</sup>** Spring Fling, \$28.00 make cheques to Probus Club of Cobourg  
At Jack Burger complex, Port Hope, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Lunch included

**JUNE 4<sup>th</sup>** Northumberland Mystery Car Tour  
Cost \$30.00 Cheques only made payable to Cobourg & District Probus club Sign up as a group or as an individual. See our volunteers at the table.

## **JANET MATTHEWS**

Author, editor, professional speaker describes our March 6<sup>th</sup> speaker. Janet is co-author of Canadian best seller Chicken Soup for the Canadian Soul. We were touched and inspired in the way Janet spoke of Canada's young heroes, - 15-year -old Ryan Hreljac who built wells in Africa and 22-year-old Craig Kielburger who saved children from slavery in other parts of the world. The moving story of how Marilyn Bell recounted first hand her historic 1954 Lake Ontario Crossing, in a two-hour interview.

The stories in her book touched and inspired our group. She recounted how World Champion figure skaters Barbara Underhill and Paul Martini contributed their 'Go For Gold' story The Magic Skates, inspiring us to never give up on our dream. The Legacy of Terry Fox, Canada's most beloved hero, is written so that future generation can be inspired by Terry's dream.

Then there are the sports stories of people like Paul Henderson, Rick Hansen and Kurt Browning that bring back many memories. There are 84 stories to choose from in this book. Janet autographed books available after the meeting. If you missed the meeting, see if you can borrow a friend's copy.

## **RENDEZVOUS 2008**

For the Rendezvous in September in St. John, New Brunswick, all information and hotel accommodation in St. John is provided. Not including the bus trip from Port Hope. Bus trip information will be provided separately at meetings.

Full information is available on our web site [www.probusnorthumberland.com](http://www.probusnorthumberland.com)

## **LIFE IS TOO SHORT**

Life is too short to wake up with regrets.

So love the people who treat you right.

Forget about the ones who don't.

Believe everything happens for a reason.

If you get a second chance, grab it with both hands.

If it changes your life, let it.

Nobody said life would be easy, they just wanted it to be worthwhile.

Friends are like balloons; once you let them go, you can't get them back.

It is a well documented that for every minute that you exercise, you add one minute to your life. This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$5,000 per month.

My grandmother started walking five miles a day when she was 60. Now, she's 97 years old and we don't know where the hell she is.

The only reason I would like to take up exercising is so that I could hear heavy breathing again.

I have flabby thighs, but fortunately my stomach covers them.

The advantage of exercising every day is that you die healthier.

## THE NOSE KNOWS

Don Missin and his keen-nosed K-9 partner were our guests at the March 20th meeting. You will remember Don when he was with our local police force with his trusty K-9 partners, Wally and Percy. You will be glad to know both dogs are still in Don's care and now in retirement, although Wally would rather be working.

Don is now with the Toronto Airport Authority with his loyal black lab, sniffing out explosives. A few items were left around the room to demonstrate the dog's talents. One word of caution, don't leave your car unattended outside the airport or it will be quickly towed as a precaution.

Other dogs and their handlers are used 24/7 to sniff for drugs, agricultural products, etc., and yes, even money. So be warned that you just can't smuggle anything and get away with it.

## ANOTHER SNIFFING STORY

This came in an e-mail hoping you will share this with your wives, daughter, mother, sisters or friends. It says:

"Our world seems to be getting crazier by the day – pipe bombs in mailboxes and sickos in parking lots with perfume. Be careful. I was approached around 5:30 p.m. in the Wal-Mart parking lot by two males asking what kind of perfume I was wearing. Then they asked if I'd like to sample some fabulous new scent they were willing to sell me at a very reasonable rate.

I probably would have agreed had I not received an e-mail warning of a "Wanna smell this neat perfume?" scam. The men continued to stand between parked cars, to wait for someone else to hit on. I stopped a lady going towards them, pointing at them and told her about how I was sent an e-mail about someone walking up to you at the malls or parking lots and asking you to SNIFF PERFUME that they are selling at a cheap price. THIS IS NOT PERFUME.... IT IS ETHER! When you sniff it, you'll pass out. They'll take your wallet, your valuables and heaven know what else."

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I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape, so I got my doctor's permission to join a fitness club and start exercising. I decided to take aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour. But, by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over.

I've sure gotten old! I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement, new knees, fought prostate cancer and diabetes. I'm half blind, can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine, take 40 different medications that make me dizzy, winded, and subject to blackouts. Have bouts of dementia. Have poor circulation; hardly feel my hands and feet anymore. Can't remember if I'm 85 or 92. Have lost all my friends. But, thank God, I still have my driver's license.

Question: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?

Answer: If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.

## CHEMISTRY'S PERIODIC

*(Contributed by Eleanor McFarlane)*

Research has led to the discovery of the heaviest element yet known to science. The new element, Governmentium (GV), has one neuron, 25 assistant neurons, 88 deputy neurons, and 198 assistant deputy neurons, giving it an atomic mass of 312.

These 312 particles are held together by forces called morons, which are surrounded by vast quantities of lepton-like particles called peons. Since Governmentium has no electrons, it is inert; however, it can be detected, because it impedes every action with which comes into contact. A minute amount of Governmentium can cause a reaction that would normally take less than a second to take from four days to four years to complete.

Governmentium has a normal half-life of 2 – 6 years; it does not decay, but instead undergoes a reorganization in which a portion of the assistant neurons and deputy neurons exchange places. In fact, Governmentium's mass will actually increase over time, since each reorganization will cause more morons to become neurons, forming isodopes. This characteristic of moron promotion leads some scientists to believe that Governmentium is formed whenever morons reach a critical concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as a critical morass. When catalyzed with money, Governmentium becomes Administratium, an element that radiates just as much energy as Governmentium since it has half as many peons but twice as many morons.

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We had to have the garage door repaired. The Sears repairman told us that one of our problems was that did not have a "large" enough motor on the opener. I thought for a moment, and said that we had the largest one Sears made at that time, a ½ horsepower. He shook his head and said, "Lady, you need a ¼ horsepower." I responded that ½ was larger than ¼. He said "NO. it's not." Four is larger than two." We haven't used Sears repair since.

When my husband and I arrived at an automobile dealership to pick up our car, we were told the keys had been locked in it. We went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's side door. As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door handle and discovered that it was unlocked. "Hey," I announced to the technician, "its open!" His reply, "I know. I already got that side."

Know how to prevent sagging? Just eat till the wrinkles fill out.

I joined a health club last year, spent about 400 bucks. Haven't lost a pound. Apparently you have to show up.

That's it folks. If you want different content, you'll have to contribute articles. Many thanks to everyone that added to the lighter side of this newsletter. Elma Parker (905)372-9143 or [elmapar@eagle.ca](mailto:elmapar@eagle.ca)