



THE COBOURG PROBIAN

Volume 14, Number 9, July, 2008

The Probans Club of Cobourg and District

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

Next Meeting: July, 17th, 2008

President's Message:

July. At this time of the Probans year we are working on the recruitment of members to run for next years executive. I urge all and especially new members to step forward. Join in and help out or become a back up for someone who may like to fill a spot but may not always be able to make a meeting. Example: last meeting the recording secretaries were both not able to attend so a new member stepped forward and did a great job, "thank you Marion."

President Larry



SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

JULY 3rd Judy Digwood
Wood Carver

JULY 10th TREE PLANTING Probans Club dedicates a tree to those of our members who died between July 1st, 2007 and June 30th, 2008. The tree planting will be held at 11:00 a.m. near the Marina building. Lunch afterwards at the Legion will be \$10 for a salad plate, dessert, tea or coffee. A bar will be available. Call Karin Allan if you need more information (905) 377-8098 or krallan@eagle.ca

JULY 18 & 19th Forth Line Theatre presents "The Last Green Hill"

AUG. 15 & 16th: The Forth Line presents "Schoolhouse". All tickets are \$20.
Also, some productions at the West Bend Theatre, Brighton, were announced, See Nancy for details.

AUG. 7th Don't miss the Summer Sizzler at the Lion's Pavilion, Victoria Park, 3 to 7 p.m.
Chicken (leg & thigh) and sausages cooked on site, buns and rolls, salads: (Green, Macaroni, Potato), pickles, Veggie tray, Fruit tray: Watermelon, Dessert Tray: Squares
Also hot coffee, pop, water and music (our kind) Sunshine on order. All for \$10.00
Don't forget your lawn chair!

3 DATES: July 31st, Aug. 9th and 23rd At Park Playhouse' Cobourg, "**Love List**", Tickets \$14.00

SEPT. 2008 PROBUS RENDEZVOUS in St John, New Brunswick. Bus trip information including Registration and accommodation will be provided at meetings.

SEPT. 17th WINE TOUR. Four wineries and one brewery in Prince Edward County. Lunch and shop in Bloomfield and return to Cobourg around 5:30 p.m. View this web site for details
www.tdc.ca/bustrip/2008pecprobans.htm

OCT. 24th ANY WEDNESDAY at Best Western dinner theatre \$33.75. A romantic comedy about a Lecherous, self-centred business tycoon who meets every Wednesday, with his naive mistress in the company executive suite. Things get complicated when the executive suite is double-booked.

ANOTHER ONE FOR THE RECORDS

Another great car rally of 25 cars and 100 occupants was organized by Warren Harvey, Mary Buckley, Eleanor Cobbe, Jim & Joanne Domine, Carol & Henk Van Goch for June 4th.

The scenery was magnificent through the rolling hills of old Northumberland and beyond. Spring blooms added to the rural beauty. Skill-testing questions kept the navigators and back-seat drivers minds off their real duties of “where do we go now?” and most didn’t get the right answers anyway. Pit stops at Kokimo Candles where coffee was provided and the enticing aromas of scented candles coaxed some to purchase the locally produced products.

On the next stop at Oak Heights Winery we were able to sip the ‘nectar’ and enjoy the spectacular views from Northumberland’s new and only winery. I’m sure many will be returning to this beautiful spot for lunch, entertainment and ‘product’. Winding our way around bends and turns, we passed through Hastings but just where are we going? Several guesses proved wrong, but we eventually came to the new Beaver Creek golf course on County Road. # 28 where 108 people enjoyed a great lunch and we learned who won the trophies.

Don and Fran Morrison and Cath and Ron Oberholtzer were the winners. Coming in late for what has become known as Car #5 trophy was Bob & Marlene Stothart, Joy Reaume & Julie Ford. Bob’s excuse was, he had 3 women telling him “where to go.” That’s his story and he’s sticking to it.

FARMING DOWN UNDER

Agriculture down under was the topic for Glen Milne, a Campbellford area dairy farmer, at our June 5th meeting. Glen was one of 30 farmers from Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program (AALP) visiting New Zealand and Australia in Aug. 2007. The purpose of the trip was to learn how other country’s agricultural programs work. Wheat was the main crop until two years ago in N.Z., now it’s dairying. They use irrigation if it doesn’t rain for 3 or 4 days.

Milking parlors, where everything is done outside, so not as much is invested in capital equipment due to their more moderate climate. He spoke of one large 500- acre operation milking 1,200 cows that are milked then turned into fresh electrically-fenced pastures each day, no grain is fed. Cattle herds are mostly cross-bred for fat and protein milk production. Canadian farmers focus on purebred herds and quantity of production.

95% of N.Z. dairy products are exported – (butter, cheese and powdered milk). Farmers like the fact that they are subsidy-free. N.Z. done away with the quota system 20 years ago. Farmers instead, buy shares in co-operatives based on their herd size. Sheep farming is another important part of agriculture in N.Z. and a good sheep dog can cost \$10,000 and replaces dozens of farm workers.

Australia has suffered the longest and most severe drought and has had to import milk products. Maps being used there today are the same as the ones used 200years ago by Capt. Cook

CLIMBING KILIMANJARO

Not everyone's idea of a holiday, but one that Dan and Lorraine Bulger planned and trained for, - mountain climbing in Africa. We enjoyed the talk and slides from the comfort of our chairs. This was a 5 –8 year project for the Bulgers who decided not to wait 8 to 10 years or the snow may not be there.

Kilimanjaro is close to the equator and 19,340 ' at the summit. Taking the Umbwue Route, they were 4 days climbing and 2 days descending, using 10 porters and 2 guides, climbing 54 km through 4 distinct climate zones. Training included walking 30 km a week and 6 vaccinations were required for the trek to prepare for the near vertical scramble up 1,000m climbs and 18' wall ledges.

Acute Mountain Sickness is one of the nasty things that can happen in high altitudes. If an ambulance is required, it would resemble a farm bale elevator. The 300' glaciers were awesome. The last part of the climb, they slept from 7 to 11 pm when they got their wake-up call for 6 ½ hours of hard climbing in the dark, take 4 steps and breathe. Winds are calmer at night and the shale and snow is firmer. The bonus for all this is to greet the sunrise from the top of Kilimanjaro. Wow!

PROBIAN REMEMBERED

Recently we lost a member, George Brown. George appeared to be just another fellow who was seen but not heard. What a surprise for those who attended the service at St. Peter's Church.

George was born in Belfast in 1925, one of seven children, received a grade 10 education and joined the Royal Navy at 17. He fought in the battle of the Atlantic, D-Day and the Med., his 7 medals were on display at the funeral. Arriving in Canada after the war, George went to North Battleford, Sk. And took a carpenter's course then went on to teach at a vocational school. He gained 2 degrees and a Masters and finished up as a principal. On retirement the federal government sent George to Ghana, West Africa, for 3 years to set up vocational schools. On retirement he settled in Cobourg.

Along the way he married the girl friend from his youth in Belfast and had a family. Sport was taken in stride, as an amateur boxer he had 300 bouts and won a Royal Nay championship.

What a speaker he would have been for us had we known this man, having lived a full life, from the bottom to the top, the top being helping others obtain a trade and in turn build their country.

Peace be with you George.

-Larry Flood

HOW IS YOUR MEMORY ?

(Contributed by Doreen Guy)

Remember "Fender Skirts"? You haven't heard about them for a long time. And what about "Curb Feelers? Steering Knobs, (AKA) suicide knobs. Remember "Continental Kits"? they were the rear bumper extenders and spare tire covers that were supposed to make any car as cool as a Lincoln Continental.

When did we quit calling them "emergency brakes" At some point "parking brake" became the proper term. But do you miss the hint of drama that went with "emergency brake"?

Didn't you ever wait at the street for your Daddy to come home, so you could ride the "running board" up to the house? You don't hear the term "store-bought" any more. Of course, just about everything is "store-bought" these days. But once it was bragging material to have a store-bought dress or a store-bought bag of candy.

"Coast to coast is a phrase that once held all sorts of excitement and now almost nothing. Now we take the term "world-wide" for granted. On a smaller scale, "wall-to-wall was once a magical term in our homes. In

the '50s everyone covered his or her hardwood floors with, wow, wall-to-wall carpeting! Today, everyone is replacing their wall-to-wall carpeting with hardwood floors. Go figure.

When's the last time you heard the quaint phrase "in the family way?" It's hard to imagine that the word pregnant was once considered a little too graphic, a little too clinical for use in polite company. So we had all that talk about stork visits and "being in a family way" or simply "expecting."

Apparently "brassiere" is a word no longer in usage. It's just "bra" now "unmentionables" probably wouldn't be understood at all. You loved going to a "picture show" but considered "movie" an affection. Most of these words go back to the '50s, but here's a pure '60s word – "rat fink" Ooh, what a nasty put-down! What about "percolator?" That was just a fun word to say. And what was it replaced with? "Coffee Maker."

Don't you miss those marketing words that were meant to sound so modern and now sound so retro. Words like "Dynaflow" and "Electrolux." Introducing the 1963 Admiral TV, now with "Spectra Vision!" Food for thought - Was there a telethon that wiped out "lumbago?" Nobody complains about that anymore. Maybe that's what castor oil cured, because you never hear mothers threatening kids with "castor oil" anymore.

Some words aren't gone, but are definitely on the endangered list. The one that grieves me most is "supper." Now everybody says "dinner." Save that great word. Invite someone to supper. Discuss fender skirts. Just thought some of us of a "certain age" would remember most of these.

UNDERSTANDING COMPUTER INFO

There was a husband and wife, who moved home to Newfoundland from Ontario. The wife had a wooden leg and to insure it in Ontario it used to cost \$2,000 a year.

So when they arrived in Newfoundland they went to an insurance agency to see how much it would cost to insure. The agent looked it up on the computer and said to the couple, "\$39.00."

The husband was shocked and asked why it was so cheap here in Newfoundland to insure because it used to cost him \$2,000 in Ontario

The agent turned his computer screen to the couple and said, "here it is on the screen, any wooden structure with a sprinkler system over it is \$39.00."

- Marilyn Macklin

Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.

Men are from earth. Women are from earth. Deal with it.

No man has ever been shot while doing the dishes.

If you must choose between evils, choose one that you've never tried before.

What's Irish and comes out in the Spring? Paddy O'Furniture

Send articles for the Probian to Elma Parker at elmapar@eagle.ca