



THE COBOURG PROBIAN

10th Anniversary Year

Volume 11, Number 1, January 2005

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

Next Meeting: January 20th, 2005

President's Message by Ray Hiller



A belated "Happy New Year" to all members. As we enter this year and prepare to celebrate our 10th Anniversary in May, we should be grateful for all of our many blessings. Probus has given us the opportunity to meet new friends and enjoy social activities that add zest for life. May each of you continue to experience reasonably good health and pass on joy and laughter to each other.

Ray.

Club Program

- January 6th** **"The Bear Buster" Jim Wilson**
(Meeting)
- January 17th** **InterClub Bowling Tournament** at Northumberland Mall, 10.00am. Sign up with our representative Malcolm Wardman. Cost is \$8.00 for bowling (shoe rental extra) and \$12 for Lunch at Best Western. Help us lose the "you know what"!
- January 20th** **Val Russel.** Musical producer for the Northumberland Players.
(Meeting) There is a Buffet Breakfast before the Meeting at the Best Western. 8.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. \$9.00 all inclusive.
- January 28th** **Dinner Theatre - Key for Two** At the Best Western. For more details, see below. \$30.00 (includes dinner, show, taxes and gratuities)
- February 27th** **Dinner and Theatre - Man of La Mancha** at the Capitol Theatre in Port Hope. Dinner at the Railside Inn, Port Hope. Package Price \$42.00.
- May 7th** **Big Band Concert** – In support of Hospice – More details later
- May 19th** **10th Anniversary Meeting** – a Special Program – keep this date available.
(Meeting)
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Notice to Snowbirds

Due to Renovations at the Best Western Hotel during March and April which are anticipated to take 6-8 weeks, our Probus Club will relocate temporarily.

Our meetings for **March 3rd, March 17th, April 7th** and **April 21st 2005** will be held at:

The Columbus Centre
232 Spencer Street East
(1 block North of D'Arcy and University)

Executive

President	Ray Hiller Tel: 373-0978
Past President	Malcolm Wardman Tel: 377-1930 e-mail: m.wardman@sympatico.ca
Vice President	Bob Spooner Tel: 372-5165
Rec. Secretary	Eleanor Abramczyk Tel: 372-9493 e-mail: eabram@eagle.ca
Treasurer	Madeline Schoeber Tel: 372-2606
Membership	Karin Allan Tel: 377-8098 e-mail: krallan@eagle.ca
Probian Editor	John Draper Tel: 372-5839 e-mail: jdraper@eagle.ca
Speaker's Chair	Myrtle Wardman Tel: 377-1930 e-mail: m.wardman@sympatico.ca
House Manager	Maurice Fraser Tel: 372-4103 e-mail: mojo@eagle.ca
Comm. Service	Joanne Domine Tel: 377-8564 e-mail: j.domine@sympatico.ca

Update on Barbecue

Six Clubs participating

Location: Roseneath Fairground

Time & Date: 5.30pm, Friday August 12th

Price: \$16.00

More details later

Please Note

1. The \$3.00 admission fee is mandatory and is set by the Best Western Hotel. **Everyone** must pay their admission to gain entry to the meeting. Refusal to pay will result in refusal of entry and membership Cancellation.
2. The members of the Executive have decided to re-instate the "6 Meeting/Year" *Minimum Attendance Rule*, to take effect at membership renewal time.

2005 Committee Members

There have been several requests for a list of committee members – so room has been found to publish them this month (only).

Car Rally

Godrey and Dorothy DeLisle
Nancy and Bill Logan
Marie and George Chisholm
Bev and Leon Silk
Mary Rimmer
Jim Stirling

Barbecue

Jennie Herniak
Gwen Care
Irene and Larry Flood
Pug Heenan
John and Hazel Lyons.

Golf (Lorne Patrick Tournament)

Roz and Bill Richards
Malcolm Wardman
Al Hoskin
Pug Heenan
Helen Donaghey

Christmas Party

Carol Hiller
Eleanor and John McFarlane
Marilyn and Ross Adams
Nancy Foden
Julie Ford
Edna Head
Marlene Stothart

Programmes

Chair and Dinner Theatre: Dorothy Allen

Day Travel: Mary Ryan

Special Local Events: Nancy Foden, Doreen Irwin

Dinner Theatre

Key for Two

January 28th at the Best Western

Directed by John Winkworth

Non-stop hilarity.

Probus Price \$30.00

(includes dinner, show, taxes and gratuities)

A great night out!

The Early Years

As we approach the tenth anniversary of **The Probus Club Of Cobourg And District**, I have been asked to look back on my recollections of the "**Early Years**". I am not a founding member; I missed out by a few months. The club was founded in May of 1995 and I joined in November.

My introduction to Probus happened one evening in Victoria Hall of all places. Donna & I were attending our first concert just a few months after our arrival in Cobourg. We were seated at a table with strangers but before the evening was over we had made two new friends....**Ron and Brenda Thurston**. Ron invited me to attend an upcoming Probus meeting and was so enthusiastic about the things that the club was doing that it was impossible to say no. In fact, the next day he called me at home to make sure that I was going to attend with him the following week. The rest is history.

My first meeting was a memorable experience! It was held in Arthur's Restaurant on the first floor of the Best Western Hotel. Ron and I sat together and who should join us at our table but **Audrey Levtov**.... need I say more. Founding president **Stone Avery** presided over that meeting and I can remember vividly winning the 50-50 that day. I think that was the first and last time that I have won the coveted door prize, but at the time I thought it was wonderful. What a way to treat a guest! With fees paid I became member number 45. When I look at Probus today with its 180 members in our club plus the two other clubs in town, one wonders what retired professional & business people did before Probus came to Cobourg.

Those early meetings were indeed spirited. **Wally Reid** and his sidekicks **Stone Avery** and **Bob Homme** would lead a spirited singsong. Wally on his guitar and Bob, AKA ...The Friendly Giant....of CBC fame, were always in good form.

Our first Christmas Party was held upstairs at the Best Western. It was a noon hour buffet affair with about fifty of us in attendance. We ate a hearty turkey dinner, sang a few Christmas carols and wished each other season's greetings. When I compare that with this years Christmas extravaganzawe sure have come a long way.

It also gives me great pleasure to think back at the masterful job that Stone Avery did as our founding president. We were so fortunate for us to have him lead the way and set an example

for those who followed! Stone set the bar high and subsequent club presidents have had to meet that high standard. The growth of the organization in Cobourg is a direct result of the foundation that he built and he continues that work today as a director of Probus Canada. Well done Stone... we all owe you a big thanks!

There have been a lot of great guest speakers and presentations during the past ten years that were exceptional! Two stick in my mind as the most memorable. The first was an audio visual presentation by a local photographer whose name I cannot recall. He presented a pictorial essay on Northumberland County that was out of this world. It was projected on a screen using five projectors working simultaneously with background music included. This presentation had literally hundreds of slides fading in and out on the screen with views of Northumberland like nothing you have ever seen before.

The second presenter that sticks vividly in my mind was world renowned photographer **John de Visser**, also a Cobourg resident. John's slide presentation was a magnificent pictorial trip across Canada from shore to shore followed by a whimsical charming series of slides of the most unique mail boxes he had come across in the country.

Both of these presenters were so good I think that we should be inviting them back to do an encore.

We have also been blessed to have some very interesting individuals as members. There was a gentleman by the name of **Art Stokes** who had been the Treasurer of the United Nations and could tell wonderful stories of rubbing shoulders with kings and queens and world dignitaries from the past. In addition we had another member, **Bob Sheppard**, who was part of a world team of scientists who visited the Chernobyl nuclear plant in 1990. And then there was **Judge Bark** who still astounds us today with his colourful stories from his years on the bench. All this for \$30 a year...what a bargain!

In summary Probus has come a long way from its humble beginnings! We should be recognizing the valuable contributions of the Rotary Club of Cobourg, plus the efforts that founding members such as **Stone Avery, Wally Reid, Bill Moore, Dorothy Allen** and **Marilyn Macklin** to name just a few. They have made our social club what it is today. They also gave to us the distinction of being the first Probus club in Canada to offer bi-monthly meetings. Well done folks!

By Russ Donaldson

Christmas Past

At our Probus meeting of Dec. 2/04 we were treated to a mischievous group of elves performing an old fashioned Christmas concert.



Boy Elf **Hugh** sat in glee among so many girl Elves ---- **Jackie, Bert, Lori, Myrtle, Audrey** and **Doreen**. Readings from well loved Christmas favourites were beautifully presented and the little elves were warmly rewarded by old fashioned hand clapping from those of us old enough to remember such things.

A real treat came with the performance of eight youthful, talented, choristers of the Lajeunesse Girls Choir. Beautiful clear voices filled the room with some of the most loved Christmas carols.

And we were not denied a visit from Old St. Nick himself. His "Ho Ho Ho" filled our hearts with joy. What a wonderful story was recited by him as he told of his first trip from the North Pole and of the adventures that befell ol' Santa himself.

Well done program committee. We all felt the Christmas spirit.

Submitted by " Wannabe" Elf Enoj. (June Harvey)

Christmas Party

On December 8th, 127 members and 22 guests attended our annual Christmas Party at the Lion's Hall. From comments received afterwards everyone enjoyed themselves dancing the night away to **The Royals Band** after an excellent turkey dinner. There were some outstanding displays of ballroom terpsichory* by some members. For anyone interested, the Royals will be playing at Canadian Legion dances on February 5th and April 23rd (\$12.50 per Person). Hazel Lyons was the lucky winner of the \$1,000 VIA draw. The club also made a \$9.00 profit as shown on following final financial statement:

INCOME

Ticket sales= 127 members @ \$35	\$4,445
22 guests @ \$40	\$830
	<u>\$5,325</u>
VIA draw	\$402
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$5,727</u>

EXPENSES

Dinner with wine 149 @ \$30.12	\$4,487.95
Royals Band	\$1,000
Ticket printing	\$23.03

Centre pieces, prizes etc.	\$207
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$5,718</u>
	(\$38.38 per Person)

PROFIT

\$9 .02

(No club subsidy required)

Many thanks to the following committee for a fine evening: **Myrtle Wardman** (Chair), **Carol Hiller** (Vice Chair), **Kay & Graham Marshall, Marlene Stothart, Edna Head, Julie Ford, Doreen Guy, George Chisholm.**

Submitted by Malcolm Wardman

* *Terpsichory – means the Art of Dancing. Thanks to Malcolm for a word new to me. – Ed.*

Muskoska Rendezvous 2005

All information about this event is available at www.probus.org/canada.htm (Includes application forms – or e-mail Editor for help). Ray Hiller has a few application forms and information booklets until April. Registration is limited to 475 people and there are 20,000 members worldwide. At present 40 Probians are coming from Australia. If interested, register early to be guaranteed acceptance and enter the early bird draw.

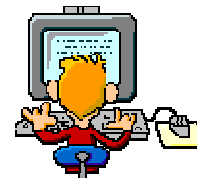
Dorothy De Lisle

Internet & E-mail

For members who have given us their e-mail address, we will be sending an e-mail version of this newsletter (in **glorious colour!**).

Editor's Corner

This month there are a few items that are different. I hope to continue with innovations. A special thanks to **Russ Donaldson** for his recollection of "**Early Years**". I would also like to receive articles from anyone else with "recollections". Even relevant Photos!



Please send contributions for the next edition no later than Jan 26th to:

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