



THE COBOURG PROBIAN

Volume 15, Number 4, January, 2009 The Probus Club of
Cobourg and District P.O. Box 63, Cobourg, Ontario K9A 4K2

Next Meeting: February, 5th, 2009

From Your President and Vice-Presidents:

The holidays are over and it's time to start anew. We're looking forward to a fun filled and eventful rest of the year. Mary, Jim and Joanne all hope you had a wonderful Christmas and wish you a healthy and happy 2009. We did have a great time at the Christmas party on December 18th! Our President surprised us all by being there, greeting everyone and participating! She really made the joy of Christmas for all of us. Mary made a special point of thanking all those who worked so hard to put together the wonderful party. It was small and cozy, allowing all to visit and share in the Christmas spirit. She also thanked those who are working towards our Spring Fling.

"Thank you all for your support, gifts and cards. They mean so much to me. I would like to write you all a "thank you," but unfortunately, my energy isn't what it used to be. How fortunate I am to have you all show how much you care." - Mary

Mary, Jim and Joanne

SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

JAN. 15th **Tara Borwick**
Stream Steward Program

JAN. 30th **ON GOLDEN POND** dinner theatre at the Best Western. A touching, funny, and warmly perceptive study of a spirited and lovable elderly couple facing their twilight years.

FEB. 5th Pete Csefco
Retired Police
Officer Music Plus

FEB. 19th Lourd Nelson
A Promise Kept
Newfie Dog Rescue

MAR. 5th **John Winkworth**
Scotland

MAR. 19th **Elizabeth McGinty**
Shelter of Hope

MAR. 25th THE SOUND OF MUSIC
Further report coming. Price about \$115 - \$120
Going to Hot Stove Cafe. See Audrey Levtoy for tickets.

APR. 2nd Judge John Bark
Humorous Experiences in Court

MAY 20th SPRING FLING Limited number of tickets available. Have your cheque books out at January meeting. Tickets \$35 per person. See more details in this Probian.

THE NEW YEAR

It's time for us to start with our various activities: we thank those of you who offered to help with our club events and will be contacting you. Our bridge group is off and running: meeting for lunch at the Red Rice in Port Hope on the second Tuesday of each month and staying on to play bridge. They'd welcome others, call Cath Oberholtzer at 905-372-2005 if you are interested; you don't need a partner. We are moving ahead with Spring Fling. All 15 clubs in Probus District 1 West have a copy of our table card that Bill Johnson created, (thank you Bill), as well as a Registration Form. Many of the clubs have already started a list of those who want to buy tickets and are close to filling their allotted number of participants. At this, our first meeting of 2009, we have tickets on sale for our own members; cost is \$35 per person, your admission ticket is your lucky entry on the draw for a 42 inch flat screen T.V. Our club is limited to 100 tickets; we are trying to allow those who are helping out to obtain their tickets first; and we can't reserve tickets, a cheque gets your ticket; so get your cheque books out!

CHRISTMASES PAST

Probian's were in the Christmas mood for our December 15th meeting. Although many were absent, probably getting prettied up for the big Christmas party that evening. Two of our members stepped up to the podium to relate humorous stories of their past experiences:

TOM MacMILLAN told of being a 19-year-old employee of Bell which put him on the short end of the "sucker list," for jobs no one else would do. He was drafted to be Santa at the company Christmas party.

He practiced his Ho-Ho-Ho for days and back then, Tom needed pillows to fill out the red suit. His entrance to the stage ended with a belly-flop and all his parcels scattered in all directions in a cloud of dust.

When it was time to exit, his expected ride back to where he could change into civilian clothes, hadn't arrived, so he had to walk back on the street, only to be berated by an angry woman for walking on the street in broad daylight in a Santa suit. That's it! Tom had had enough of playing Santa. "Never again!"

Tom no longer requires pillows for stuffing and his Ho-Ho-Ho is now done to perfection and he hasn't missed playing Santa in 54 years, even if a brilliantly lighted cane was required one year after having knee surgery.

CATH OBERHOLTZER recited "The Night Before Christmas" interspersed with comic versions. Then, she told about the time she and Ron arrived at a U.S. hotel where they had Christmas reservations, only to be told there was no record of such. After a 4-hour wait, they were offered the bridal suite, which included an elaborate 100-gallon tub surrounded by mirrors. But there was no way they could get anything but cold water. Never one to give up, Ron decided to try the "unromantic cold dip." They later found out the

adjacent room had a flood and the ceiling came down from all the water caused by the Oberholtzer's experimenting with the hot water taps.

Leave it to the Oberholtzers to leave a lasting impression by bringing down the ceiling, if not the roof.

LIFE MEMBER PASSES

Olive Reid, a life member of our Club, passed away Dec. 18th. Her husband Wally, along with Bill Moore, were the original Rotary sponsors of our Club in May, 1995.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Fun, food and entertainment was enjoyed by 81 participants at the annual Christmas party. Margarete Easton said, "the icing on the cake was having President Mary Ryan join in greeting members after her long illness." The McNamara Ensemble provided the entertainment. Beautiful table arrangements were created by Julia Ford and Edna Head. Joan Edmunds was the winner of the VIA Rail trip and Godfray De Lisle won the 2-night stay at a Toronto Hotel. A good time was had by all thanks to the hard working committee.

INTERESTED IN VERMICOMPOSTING ?

Pamela Russell, Director of Transportation and Waste sends the following information regarding composting. Vermicomposting and the red wiggler worms can be purchased online at the following site:

<http://www.wormwoman.com/acatalog/index.html>

HYMN No. 365

(Contributed by John MFarlane)

This is a hoot, but I suspect the minister didn't appreciate it.

A minister was completing a temperance sermon. With great emphasis he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

With even greater emphasis he said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

And then finally, shaking his fist in the air, he said, "And if! had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

Sermon complete, he sat down.

The hymn-leader stood very cautiously and announced, with a smile, nearly laughing, "For our closing hymn, let us sing Hymn No. 365, "Shall We Gather at the River."

Smile, life is too short not to!
If this brightened your day
Pass it on with a smile
Keep spreading the Cheer.
See you at the river.

It is better to be quiet and thought a fool, than to speak up and remove all doubt.

DON'T WORRY - BE HAPPY

On a stormy day in November, 2008, 92-year-old Mary Buckley was trapped for 2 hours in her apartment elevator, unable to return to her 6th floor apartment due to storm damage, until help arrived. Mary didn't panic, just pushed the button for help and read the weekend Toronto Star she was taking to the recycle bin, to put in time.

The Cobourg Fire Department arrived and kept asking her what she was doing? Reading the Toronto Star," she replied. "What are you reading about," they asked. "About Canada not being able to export snowboard helmets to Japan because they give the Japanese headaches," she said. The firemen kept checking Mary's calm demeanor by keeping up on the news reports. Mary is not claustrophobic and kept her cool which saved her well-being as well as the elevator from forced entry. Mary's experience is a great example of what to do in an emergency - keep cool!

DIS 'N' DAT

Mary Ryan's new e-mail address is: mryan28@cogeco.ca

Coca-Cola was originally green.

It is impossible to lick your elbow.

The percentage of Africa that is wilderness; 28% (Now get this ...) The percentage of North America that is wilderness; 38%

The first novel ever written on a typewriter: Tom Sawyer.

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history. Spades - King David
Hearts - Charlemagne
Clubs - Alexander, the Great
Diamonds - Julius Caesar

$111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$

Q. If you were to spell out the numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter 'A'?

A. One thousand.

Q. What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser printers all have in common?

A. All were invented by women.

This Probian was put together by teamwork. Many thanks to the Domine's; Mary Korol; Marilyn Macklin and John Draper for coming to my rescue during internet problems. Where there's a will, there's a way! I couldn't have done it without you. All contributions welcome any time. Don't wait for unexpected tech problems. Elma Parker (905) 372-9/43 or elmapar@eagle.ca



Christmas Party 2008



Insert in Probian January 2008