



THE COBOURG PROBIAN

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The Probans Club of Cobourg and District

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

Next Meeting: June 18th, 2009

Vice Presidents' Report:

On this cold, windy Sunday morning, the last day of May, we can say Spring Fling is over!! Thanks to a lot of work by many of our Club members, we gave the attendees from 16 Clubs of Zone 1 West a very lively, humorous and upbeat day. Our Probans Canada guests were suitably impressed. Thank you all for your effort. It takes a team - and we had a dandy one.

Now we have to get back to the regular Club business and activities. Our next important activity is the July tree planting to remember our members who have passed away during the year. This is followed by Summer Sizzler in August and our annual General Meeting in September. While the AGM will see some changes on our Management Committee, planning and work still must continue with things like the Car Rally and the Christmas Party. Planning is also being done on the next year's programs and activities. It never can stop. To have a healthy, lively upbeat club, we are going to require some new people with fresh ideas to take over the spots of some of those who have been serving over the past years. We all owe them a big thank you for keeping the club going so successfully. But some wish to step down and our Constitution sets limits on the time you can serve in anyone portfolio. Are you willing to take over a function and put your thoughts and ideas into practice? It really isn't as hard as most people think. We need YOU, new blood, thoughts and ideas, to keep our Club successful. Be ready to step up!

J and j

P.S. For the record, J is Joanne, j is jim.

SPEAKERS & EVENTS

JUNE 4th Terry Stanley OPP
Driving Skill Review

JUNE 11th LORNE PATRICK GOLF TOURNAMENT 9:30 a.m. Golf and lunch
\$45. Lunch only - \$25. Call Doug Ward 373-0011 or Hal Jacobsen

JUNE 18th Sheila Burns
Donkey Farm Update

JULY 2nd Heather Stubbs
Comfort Zone - Keeping Your Cool Under Stress

JULY 10th Our annual "Tree Planting in memory of our members who passed on during the past year. Lunch after at the Legion. Further details will be announced. Mark your calendars.

AUG. 6th SUMMER SIZZLER in Victoria Park

OCT. 11 DINNER THEATRE "Relatively Speaking" sounds like a good comedy with marriages, mix-ups and plenty of fibbing. \$33.75



HERE COMES THE JUDGE

One of our own members, Judge John Bark, is Cobourg's version of Judge Judy. He entertained us with some humorous court room incidents at our May 7th meeting. Appointed a Judge in 1976 and a move to Cobourg in 1980, livened reports of court cases which became well-read items in the local paper as the Judge gave 'verbal spankings' to some of the accused.

Among the many sad cases were humorous incidents which saved him from going nuts. A delightful grandma with her blouse undone or winos robbing other winos or a pair of men handcuffed together, making a run for it, ended up straddling a lamp post with a sudden jerk.

He appeared to gloat when he related times his lawyer brother was obliged to address him as "Your Honor" when appearing before him. Before final retirement he became a traveling Judge through the Northern Ontario reserves which he appeared to enjoy.

Judge Bark was introduced by Bill Johnson and thanked by Hal Jacobsen.

SPRING FLING 2009

Spring Fling 2009 was held by 16 area Probus Clubs on May 20th at the Keeler Centre in Colborne, hosted by the Probus Club of Cobourg and District. Over 600 members of Clubs from Ajax to Belleville and north to Lindsay and Lakefield attended. Entertainment for the day was lively - the Blue Notes provided Dixieland music complimenting the '20s theme. Canadian humourist William Thomas kept the audience in stitches with his stories of curling, the dog ruling the household and 'Guys - Not Real Bright and Damn Proud of it!' The highlight of the event was a presentation of the John Morris Award to Cobourg's own Stone Avery, for his outstanding service to Probus Canada. Stone was very active in his zone and was instrumental in establishing several new Probus Clubs. Judy Saunders, Secretary of Probus Canada, introduced 91-year old John Morris, who presented his award. John brought Probus to Canada in 1986 and is President Emeritus of the Canadian organization. Marilyn Macklin, a founding member of our Club, was presented with an Honorary life Membership for her dedication and service as our historian/photographer and, "remembering our members" with cards and calls.

- Joanne

MARILYN SAYS "THANKS"

"I want to thank all the executive members of the Cobourg & District Probus Club for presenting me the lovely plaque and pin as an "Honorary life Member" of the Cobourg & District Probus Club with all the privileges and courtesies that this award implies, says Marilyn Macklin.

Of course you all know I like taking the pictures and keeping the Albums of members and past activities and speakers."

SMILE

My wife and I were sitting at a table at my high school reunion, and I kept staring at a drunken lady swigging her drink as she sat alone at a nearby table.

My wife asked, "Do you know her?"

"Yes," I sighed, "She's my old girlfriend.

I understand she took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear she hasn't been sober since."

'My God!' says my wife. 'Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?'

And that's when the fight started

SOUTH AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

Our knowledge of Guyana was broadened when Clare Wade, Minister at St. Peters Church, spoke of her homeland in South America. Guyana is the size of Great Britain and borders Brazil and Venezuela where main crops are rice and sugar. Guyana means Land of Many Waters and received its independence from Great Britain in May, 1966. The predominant religions are Christianity, Hindu and Islam. As yet, the rain forests are being protected.

A slide presentation of this beautiful country, - the Patkarima Mountains, the Demerara River and the Kaieteur Falls which are five times higher than Niagara Falls and the 450 km Atlantic coast line were very impressive. The British bulldings are becoming dilapidated and now being improved. This is not a country of beaches or vacation spots but the palm tree lined streets reveal a garden city atmosphere and you're "not in" without back packs and cell phones.

The sight of jaguars, harpy eagles, colourful birds and parrots welcome you after a 7-hour flight and you can buy a US \$300 small bottle of rum at the duty-free to take home.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

On a Maternity Room Door: 'Push, Push, Push'

On an Electrician's Truck: 'Let us Remove Your Shorts'

On a Plumber's Truck: 'We Repair What Your Husband Fixed'

In a Vet's Waiting Room: 'Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!'

In the Front Yard of a Funeral Home: 'Drive Carefully. We'll Wait'

Sign at a Radiator Shop: 'Best Place in Town to Take a Leak'

Outside a Car Exhaust Store: 'No Appointment Necessary. We hear You Coming'

Sign on the Back of a Septic Tank Truck: 'Caution - This Truck is Full of Political Promises'

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