



in **TOUCH**



Probud Club of Colborne
Box 865, Colborne Ontario K0K 1S0
FOUNDED 2003

May 2010

PROBUS CANADA WEBSITE www.probus.org
Check us out at www.probusnorthumberland.com

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

What a great anniversary luncheon! I know I enjoyed it. Donna Rusaw served a wonderful hot meal at a great price. We are lucky to have her.

The auction was as entertaining as I had hoped. There were many laughs; and we made money to help defer expenses for our July picnic. Thank you to our auctioneer, Doug Galt, and his side kicks, Bob Lee and Gord McArthur. Many people left with great purchases.

Unfortunately, I learned that there are some comments going on behind the scenes regarding membership costs. The executive are planning an open discussion for members in September when the 2009/2010 finances are reviewed. I would like to remind members that we have a unique club – we do not pay for speakers, our coffee is provided by volunteer members and the Keeler Centre provides the meeting space at a more than reasonable fee.

The Annual Picnic will be at Anja's home on Little Lake. We will have the port-o-potty as usual! Remember to prepare for the Horseshoe Tournament.

Spring is here! Get outside, stretch your limbs, breath and enjoy the sunshine. Best of all, keep laughing.

Bonnie Hilliard

SPEAKERS CORNER

April 7, Judy Smith Torrie described Go Green Together, a not-for-profit organization based in Cobourg. She is Executive Director of the organization which oversees seven committees including bicycling, retrofit, conservation and efficient use of our environmental resources. The goal is to reduce Northumberland's carbon imprint. She is passionate about improving Northumberland for the future.

April 21 was our 7th Anniversary Celebration. The speakers were excellent – providing lots of amusement while teaching us about Belly Dancing. Did you know that this form of dancing was started in North India in the 5th century by women performing sacred dances in their

temple? Romany people carried the knowledge to other countries; each added to the now the 1000 styles of dancing in over 100 regions of the world. Nisaa Shuvani and her mother, Zarqaa, have opened a dance studio in Cobourg – Moksha Belly Dance. They are willing to offer group classes in Colborne in the future – details to be announced later. The meeting portion ended with an auction. The tasty offerings reaped \$190 for our Probus Club. Members then enjoyed a wonderful lunch complete with birthday cake!

BOOK REPORT

CLOUD OF BONES by Bernice Morgan

Good friends lend each other good books. I am fortunate to have one such good friend who recently lent me an inspiring novel by Bernice Morgan entitled *Cloud of Bones*.

The book is divided into three distinct parts, each written from the perspective of one of three complete strangers who couldn't possibly have anything in common; after all, one of them was reportedly the last of the Beothuk Native North Americans who was born in the early 19th century. One was a young WW1 deserter from the Newfoundland Navy, and the third was a middle-aged British anthropologist who became a widow shortly after the genocide in Rwanda in the 1990's.

Morgan offers the reader some fascinating, seldom heard, true history through the lives of Kyle, Shawnadithit, and Judith and weaves an amazing tale of how their lives intersect. Her insight into human nature captures people at their most heroic and most deplorable moments and demonstrates how misconceptions and subsequent actions can affect so many lives. *Cloud of Bones* leaves us with the haunting reality that there are few if any black and white issues and that everything is clouded by our perceptions and prejudices. It is a tale of good and evil, both of which are much alive in societies and the individual.

I know this book made a long-lasting imprint upon me. It is a very worthwhile read.

Heather McElroy

THEATRE

1. The last **First Stages Theatre Company** presentation at the Cameco Capitol Arts Centre is May 16 @ 3 pm. Tea at Five is an intimate look at the life of legendary Katharine Hepburn. Variety magazine stated "A poignant exploration of the universal joy and anguish of love." Tickets may be purchased at the theatre for \$20, unless a group of 10 or more for \$17.

2. **Perth Classic Theatre Festival** has two plays planned for 2010. 'Blithe Spirit' will run from July 9 to August 1, followed by 'The Voice of the Turtle' from August 6 to 29. The festival is offering group rates to Colborne Probus members. Is there someone who would like to organize an outing? Details will be on the Probus bulletin board in May.

COMMUNITY

1. Seniors' Computer Classes

Willis College – Cobourg Campus's Northumberland Mall

Photos

Tuesday May 11 – 1:30 – 4:00pm (with a break) Day 1

Thursday May 13 – 1:30 – 4:00pm (with a break) Day 2 optional

This Session will include resizing of photos, arranging files, renaming photos and how to use Prish Image

Payment is \$30 per session (must be paid in advance by Friday May 7, 2010 as cash, cheque, or charge card (visa or master card only). Contact Terri Lyn Simpson at 905-372-8978.

In case of cancellation money will be refunded.

Note:-

You may bring your own laptop if you wish; otherwise a desktop computer will be available to you. A booklet is provided for you to keep as part of the class and you can use it to make notes as a reminder of what you have learned and for future reference. There will be no more than 6 students in a class to allow for more individual attention.

2. The Johnston and Voscamp housing development is in the proposal stage with Cramahe Township.

UPCOMING DATES

Wed May 5 – Probus: 9:30 social time; 10 am Arthritis Society speaker

Sat May 8 – Mother's Day Tea at Salem United Church; 1 – 4 pm; tickets \$4 but seniors over 80 are free!

Wed May 19 – Probus: 9:30 social time; 10 am Author and local resident Jane Urquhart

Wed May 26/10 – Spring Fling; "Spirit of Quinte"; tickets have been presold for this event; location will be Maranatha Church in Belleville. **Alan Cullum has four tickets**

available!

Wed June 2 – Probus: 9:30 social time; 10 am Mayor Marc Coombs, 'Future of Cramahe Township: vision of the current Council'

June ?? Northumberland Biggest Coffee Morning – see Ferne Dobson for details

Wed June 16 – Probus: Bonnie McCool on 'Green Products for Safe Home Use'

Wed July 7/10 – Annual Probus Picnic; details soon!

Wed Aug 18 – Probus: Derek Paul, Smart Meters

Wed Sept 1 – Probus: Rev. Peter Tink

Wed Oct 13/10 – Annual Colborne Probus Car Rally for the FART Award

THE LAST WORD

Isn't email wonderful! Some messages are just too musical to turn off so musicians of Probus, enjoy the following story:

C, E-flat and G go into a bar. The bartender says, "sorry, but we don't serve minors." So E-flat leaves; and C and G have an open fifth between them. After a few drinks, the fifth is diminished and G is out flat. F comes in and tries to augment the situation, but is not sharp enough.

D comes in and heads for the bathroom saying, "Excuse me. I'll just be a second." Then A comes in; but the bartender is not convinced that this relative of C is not a minor. Then the bartender notices B-flat hiding at the end of the bar and says, "Get out! You're the seventh minor I've found in this bar tonight."

E-Flat comes back the next night in a three-piece suit with nicely shined shoes. The bartender says, "You're looking sharp tonight. Come on in, this could be a major development." Sure enough, E-flat soon takes off his suit and everything else, and is au natural.

Eventually C sobers up and realizes in horror that he's under a rest. C is brought to trial, found guilty of contributing to the diminution of a minor and is sentence to 10 years of D.S. without Coda at an upscale correctional facility.

On appeal, however, the C is found innocent of any wrongdoing, even accidental and that all accusations to the contrary are bassless. The bartender decides, however, that since he's had only tenor so patrons, the soprano out in the bathroom and everything has become alto much treble, he needs a rest. He fires his staff and closes the bar. He's now playing folk songs on the Aegean Sea.

P.S. The bartender's name was Harmon Y. Thyme. I knew his wife, Melody. and get E-notes from her often. They love the Aegean Sea and are so popular they are always being asked for their "Thyme" signature.

P.P.S. You know, I heard that C and G shared a fifth of Scotch, but G spat it out and threw the rest of the contents all over, proclaiming loudly that it tasted like a fermented 9th. C said the treble with G was he struck a discordant note everywhere he went, and his complaint was "bassless" and on top of that he had managed to mess up the staff, the bar and for that matter, a whole score of other notes who were just trying to have a quiet, harmonious drink.

Carol McArthur, Editor

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