



# in **TOUCH**

---



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

**October 2010**

PROBUS CANADA WEBSITE [www.probus.org](http://www.probus.org)  
Check us out at [www.probusnorthumberland.com](http://www.probusnorthumberland.com)

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN**

Fall is my favorite time of year with warm days, cool nights and Mother Nature turning our Canadian Maples those brilliant colours!

This is my last Newsletter. I want to thank everyone who has had some input into making this year a success. Thanks to my Executive for helping me out and Elsie Cullum and Carol Davies stepping in when needed.

As I was away for the second meeting in September, Bob Lee and I decided to have our Annual meeting the first Wednesday in October. At that time we will hear from our Membership any issues that need to be addressed. The Annual Elections will be October 6 as well. Most of our members who held positions for the 2009-2010 year have agreed to stay on. A few positions will change: an Upcoming Events person, a Well Wisher (someone who could send a get well or thinking of you card when need.) Think about volunteering or suggest someone who would like to take on these positions. Bob Lee or I would welcome new faces. Judi Eakins has volunteered to be 2010-2011 Vice President. Judi will be a great asset to our club - she also sings! Let's give her our support for our upcoming year.

### **A Senior Healthcare Solution!**

So you're a sick senior citizen and the government says there is no nursing home available – what do you do? Our plan gives anyone 65 years or older a gun and 4 bullets. You are allowed to shoot two MP's and two ministers – not necessarily dead! Of course, this means you will be sent to prison where you will get 3 meals a day, a roof over your head, central heating, and all the healthcare you need! New teeth – no problem. Need glasses, great. New hips, knees, kidney, lungs, heart? All covered. (And your kids can come and visit you as often as they do now). And who will be paying for all this? The same government that just told you they cannot afford for you to go into a home. Plus, because you are a prisoner, you don't have to pay any income taxes anymore.

**IS THIS A GREAT COUNTRY OR WHAT!**

*Bonnie Hilliard*

## **SPEAKERS CORNER**

August 18, Bruce Craig, President of the Town of Cobourg Holdings Inc., described the five companies in the organization: Lakefront Utilities Inc. (wires), Lakefront Utilities Services Inc. (four water systems), Cobourg Networks Inc. (fiber optics, water meters), Lakefront Generation Inc. (to be developed) and Lakefront Lighting Inc (induction lighting.) Bruce described how Smart Meters work, since Lakefront Utilities will commence TOU (time of use) billing by May 1, 2011. The utility will notify homeowners prior to commencement of the new billing system. The new meters are to encourage consumers to conserve energy since the cost per kilowatt hour will be doubled during the hours of 11 am – 5 pm. There was a brief discussion about energy retailers.

September 1, Rev. Peter Tink spoke on historical Australia. Portuguese explorers discovered and mapped the north west to south coast of Australia 200 years before Cook's claim in 1778. However, Cook did develop the first settlement in 1788 near Sydney. For the next 68 years, England 'dumped her convicts into Australia. These men became drovers in sheep farming until the gold rush of 1851. The largest gold mine in Australia, opened in 1906, still operates productively. The 500,000 population in 1851 grew to 5 million by 1856! Interestingly, until 1901 the separate states had no agreements on even railway gauges – each was different until after WW2. Large holdings were operated by station hands, boundary riders and itinerant shearers. Australian mates will defend their friends even before their spouses! Peter's presentation was definitely entertaining.

September 15, Constable Chris Dewsbury, OPP, provided an entertaining and educational speaker. His topic of senior security included internet and phone security recommendations. If a telephone call is automated – generally 'dead air' before the caller speaks – the suggestion is to 'hit the pound key (e.g.#####) several times. This action will 'confuse' the dialing computer. However, if the telephone call is a personal sales pitch, Craig recommended 'put the caller on HOLD' and walk away. Hang up the phone later. Craig presented a video on internet safety. He summarized 11 key points including: never give out personal information like Social Insurance Numbers, use good virus protection and update it automatically daily, be alert of suspicious emails and delete before opening. His mantra is "If it sounds too good to be true... IT IS!"

## **THEATRE**

1. **Stratford Festival** in Stratford has a wonderful line up for 2010. Check out their website [www.stratfordfestival.ca](http://www.stratfordfestival.ca) or phone toll free 1-800-567-1600. Group rates are available.
2. Always an interesting area to visit, consider seeing a play at the **Shaw Festival** in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Their website is [www.shawfest.com](http://www.shawfest.com) or phone toll free 1-800-511-7429. Group rates are also available.
3. Stirling Festival Theatre's fall schedule is available at [www.stirlingfestivaltheatre.com](http://www.stirlingfestivaltheatre.com). Note that *Hansel & Gretel* will be a panto from Nov 19 – Dec 31. Great for Christmas gift giving!
4. Another Christmas Panto will be *Snow White* from Dec 6 – 21 at the Capitol Theatre in Port Hope. [www.capitoltheatre.com](http://www.capitoltheatre.com)

## **COMMUNITY**

1. Between Sept 27 and Oct 1 you will receive your Cramahe ballot to the municipal elections 2010. Mark your choices and mail the ballot (or deliver it personally to the Municipal Office in Colborne before Oct 25. Exercise your franchise and VOTE.

2. Upcoming Northumberland Land Trust events are:

Sat Oct 2 at 10am – Volunteer Day at the Leckey Property

Sat Oct 23 at 10am – Guided Hike at the Leckey Property

Sat Nov 6 at 5pm – Gala dinner and Auction with speaker Ron Reid on Land Trusts;  
Tickets \$50 each

For information contact Ashley at 613-570-0741.

3. **Seniors' Computer Classes:** Willis College – Cobourg Campus in Northumberland Mall plans to repeat courses offered this past spring with the possibility of new topics. Their schedule was not available at my publication deadline so I will email it out as soon as I receive it from the College. Carol

4. Green Steps Workshops with Bonnie McCool are planned for Wed Oct 13 (1:30 – 3:00 pm) and Wed Dec 1 (6:30 – 8:30 pm). Bonnie holds these in her home; attendees prepare their own cleaning supplies and discover how it is easy to save the environment with simple homemade products. Cost per workshop is \$20. Book a date at 905-753-2013 or at [greensteps@eagle.ca](mailto:greensteps@eagle.ca). Also available are 'green spa sessions' which are listed on her website [www.greenstepswithbonnie.com](http://www.greenstepswithbonnie.com).

## **BOOK REVIEW**

I have just finished the second book by Robert Radcliffe that I read this summer. The first book was Under an English Heaven, about WW2 from the view of both British and American air force flyers.

The second was Upon Dark Waters and again about WW2 but from the Navy's perspective. I couldn't believe it was a novel as it seemed so real and exciting. These books probably would be geared toward male readers; but I loved them too and strongly recommend them.

On another topic, a nice gentle, feel good movie was Miss Potter, the story of Beatrice Potter.

*Audrey Shewan*

## **UPCOMING DATES**

**It is Membership Renewal Time. Alan Cullum, our intrepid Treasurer, would appreciate you renewing your membership ASAP. The renewal fee is \$40.00 each.**

**Wed Oct 6 – Probus:** Lynn Marshall, Lifeline and Falls Prevention

**Wed Oct 13 – Annual Colborne Probus Car Rally** for the FART Award; ‘Learning about Northumberland County’ is the theme for 2010. Each car will need a Northumberland county map which can be purchased at the Cramahe Municipal Office in Colborne – cost \$2.75. Lunch will follow the 3 hour fall drive at a prearranged site. See Doug Galt for details. The Rally starts at the Keeler Centre at 9am sharp.

**Wed Oct 20 – Probus:** Sandy Grant (BA, RHN), Senior’s Wellness

**Wed Oct 20 – Salem United Church Fall Supper;** sittings at 5 & 6:30 pm; for tickets (\$12 each) contact Muriel Todd 905-355-3903

**Wed Nov 3 – Probus:** Allison Roberts of Eco-Spark speaking on “Monitoring the Moraine”

**Sat Nov 27 - Salem United Church Bazaar and start of 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration;** detail in next issue of In Touch

**Wed Dec 8 – Annual Probus Christmas Party –** details in next issue of In Touch

## **THE LAST WORD**

I know my calendar is getting filled already. Who ever said retirees lounge around and grow fat? I wish I could agree with the adage for retirement that a week constitutes 6 Saturdays and 1 Sunday. Not in my life!

The one item not filled in on my calendar is the start of Colborne Probus Club’s Bowling season. Even though I live with the organizer, all I can say is he promises a date in November. I promise to keep you posted as soon as I know.

I welcome content from any members. Do not worry about perfect writing skills. I look for interesting news or information. I can help you but only if you give me content! Thank you, Audrey for sharing your summer reading experience. You expressed your enthusiasm about your book choices well.

**Carol McArthur, Editor**

**905-355-2665 or email: [mcarthur.198@sympatico.ca](mailto:mcarthur.198@sympatico.ca)**

**November Issue Deadline – October 24/10**