



Probus Patter

Port Hope and District

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Probus Patter

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Christmas on the Farm

We are now into that wonderful season: a time when kindness and caring for others prevails. With eight children, Christmas was always the most hectic and nerve racking season for us, but at the same time the happiest. I still have a childlike love for the season. In spite of the over commercialization that exists today, I have never become cynical about it.

Rita and I were married in the month of October, and I remember the first argument we had was about what kind of Xmas tree we would buy. Later, when the children came along, the entire family and the dog would go to a Xmas tree farm and cut down our own tree. It took quite a while before everybody was happy with the selection, and the youngest was always made to feel that they had made the final decision. There was always lots of deep snow and we loved to watch our border collie running through it.

We still treasure the decorations we have collected over the years and when we unpack them and decorate the tree and house, wonderful memories come rushing back. I wish I could turn the clock back to the time of going out to buy new clothes for the children for Christmas.

When the family gets together over the holidays, the grandchildren always want us to show our old Christmas films and videos and they scream with delight at the sight of their mothers and fathers as children opening their presents. As for the grown-ups, they love to see again their favorite toys and the fancy dresses they wore long ago.

It was a lot of work and when it was over Rita and I were exhausted but happy that, once again, everyone from the youngest to the oldest found what they were looking for under the tree. It didn't hurt that we lived in a hundred year old farm house that was Christmas card perfect.

I know that you all have wonderful memories of your own Christmas-es and, like you, Rita and I are looking forward once again to the holidays.

Unfortunately, what is the happiest time of year for some of us may be the saddest time for others. For those who have lost a loved one, it can be a very lonely time. Others may be struggling with difficult memories. At this time of year it would be nice if we seek out someone who could use a little cheering up. Perhaps we could invite them into our homes or do whatever we can to bring a little warmth and maybe a little optimism back into their lives. *Terry Bell*

I WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!



PROBUS VETERANS

Back row: Don Campbell, Ken MacPherson, Ken Scott, Noel Martin, Merv Richards, Glen Cotter.

Front row: Charles Weaver, Jim Adamson, Norm Gould, Ian Tate, Tom Crooks, Bob Sculthorpe.

Absent: Tony German
 Since the last group photograph was taken in 2005, the following veterans have passed away: David Butler, Ross Darke, Joan Lawson.
 Other vets Bill McCarthy and Gord Woods have resigned because of ill health.

And Furthermore.....

As your president, I would like to appeal to everyone, especially new members, to volunteer for various jobs that need to be done in the club. Look on helping out as fun and a chance to make new friends and feel more connected. Here's what needs doing:

1. **Archives.** Here's a job for someone who likes taking pictures and scrapbooking. **URGENTLY NEEDED!** Speak to Pauline Carrick, 885-8554 regarding this rewarding job.
2. **Catering** – join the fun in the kitchen. Call Eileen Rose, 885-2845
3. Club Events: Each year, we need new committees (volunteers) to run our club events. If the fun is to continue, we need willing souls to help with the **Summer Picnic, the Corn Roast and a Car Rally.** Call President Terry 342-3700, or Vice President Catharine Ramsey 885-2763 to find out more.

Wow! Look at all that talent!



Should we Save the Old Pier Buildings?

The Pier Group has been formed to advocate for studies to be done on the century-old industrial buildings that are located on the Central Pier at the entrance to the Port Hope Harbour. Presently slated for demolition when the waterfront is developed, they will be turned into passive parkland. The Pier Group contends that some could be retrofitted to provide commercial and sports facilities that would benefit the town. For example, the Firefighter's Museum, indoor tennis courts, a second skating rink, a conference centre. The possibilities are endless. To comment go to: www.thepiergroup.ca .

Rod Stewart and Chris Wallace of the The Pier Group explain some details to Kitty Hatch, Paul Godfrey and Anne Shields after the recent Probud meeting.





HER HONOUR DROPS IN!

Mayor Linda Thompson talked to us at our November 18th meeting about Port Hope and its future as seen from the Mayor's office. Articulate and knowledgeable, she was forthright in answering our questions, some of which were about recent controversial issues – the Pier buildings, the W-Five television program, contamination etc. This made for an interesting and lively meeting. *(Above: Alan McCready and Tom Crooks speak with the Mayor.)*

CATERING

December Captain: Hazel Everdale

December 2: Alan Butler, Bev Mathieson, Kitty Hatch

January Captain: Fiona Graham

January 6: Margot Agnew, Joan McIntosh, Caroline Minion.

January 20: Mary Butler, Liz Davidson, May Anderson, John Graham

February Captain: Alan Butler

February 3: Verne and Judy Johnson, Dorothy Gilmer,

February 17: Barbara and Bob Moorecroft, Pat Buchan, Beth Wallace.

Please arrive at 8.30 a.m. and find a replacement from the membership list if you cannot help on your day.

NEW PEOPLE NEEDED! *Some of our original members have been in the kitchen for ten years now! Give them a break and call Eileen Rose, 905-885-2845.*

It's the Cold and Flu Season. Management reminds members to be especially careful around food (wash hands) and be respectful of those who don't want to hug you!

Please Say Hello to Our Newest Probus Members



Nancy Ford hails from Frankford, Ontario. She is married to Ed (who is on our waiting list) and they have 4 children. Their wanderings have included Cobourg, Pickering for 28 years, and then back to this area. Nancy worked as a secretary and, as well, as was involved in numerous community and sports activities. Look out, she's one of those fun-loving Red Hat Ladies!



Paul Godfrey spent his youth at Trinity College School in Port Hope. After graduate study overseas, he taught in Nova Scotia. He returned to TCS where he spent the next 36 years variously teaching Latin and History, being a senior housemaster, coaching cricket and soccer and taking on other responsibilities. His interests are antiques, art, cooking, golf and travel. Paul is well known for his prodigious memory.



Joann Henderson met Ken Scott 65 years ago at a school dance and Ken never forgot that Havergal girl. In later life they reconnected and have been together for 12 happy years. Joann worked in Occupational Therapy at various hospitals in Canada and the UK and raised 3 children with her first husband in Scotland. Joann enjoys bridge and Scrabble, as well as art and traveling with Ken. Her daughter resides in Canada and her two sons live in England.



December 9, 2008

Cocktails 6 p.m., Dinner 7 p.m.

Cobourg Best Western Hotel

Great Buffet, Fun, Surprises

Dancing to the Royals until 11 p.m.

Cost: \$35 members, \$50 guests

Prizes: Men: Most outrageous neckwear

Ladies: Best array of real or paste jewellery

Last Chance for Tickets!

SPECIAL EVENTS

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

January 21, 2009

The hills are alive once more as London's new smash-hit *The Sound of Music* makes its North American premiere at the Princess of Wales Theatre in Toronto. Elicia MacKenzie, winner of CBC's *How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria?* competition, stars in this production. Makes a fabulous present for that special someone. **Cost: \$110, includes transportation, show and dinner.** Meet at Phillips Road commuter lot at 11.00 p.m.

Planning for Other Events

Bill Minion would like to know what bus trips members would like to take in 2009. Please look over the list below and let Bill know if you would go on any of these trips or could suggest others.

1. Quebec City in early July (much interest shown when we stayed overnight on our way to St. John, New Brunswick in September).
2. Agawa Canyon Train in the Fall – spectacular scenery in Ontario's northland.
3. New York or Chicago.

Special Events Coordinators

Bill and Carolyn Minion, 905-342-3264,

December 2

Bruce Cox: paratrooper extraordinaire, will talk about some of his experiences in World War 11. (Due to knee surgery, Bruce was not able to be our Remembrance Day speaker, but we welcome him for this meeting.)

January 6: Audrey Wilson, naturalist, "Wild things I have known".

January 20: To be announced

SUE SPEIRS WOULD WELCOME YOUR IDEAS ON FUTURE PROGRAMS FOR PROBUS MEETINGS. PLEASE CALL HER AT 905-885-8604.

Inter Club Bowling Tournament

February 2, 2009, 9.30am

Northshore Lanes, Northumberland Mall

3 Cobourg Clubs and 2 Port Hope Clubs

Lunch at the Legion Hall, Cobourg

(South of King St., off Hibernia St.)

Bowling \$10, payable at the Lanes

Lunch \$15, payable by cheque at our club

Names to Liz Davidson or Shirley Kane

You can enjoy bowling only, lunch only,

or both for \$25

Don't forget to come and cheer.

Some enthusiasts have been bowling for the last few months at the Northshore Lanes, Cobourg. We "won" the TOILET SEAT BOOBY PRIZE for the last two years for lack of practice. We don't want it back again!

JOIN THE TEAM THIS YEAR.

Call Bob Short, 885-1420 more for more information and for the January practice date.

CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP LIST

Doug and Marion Gellatly: 120 University Ave. E., # 603, Cobourg, ON K9A 0A9. Phone: 377-9874.
Glen and Julie Cotter, email: cotterpin@cogeco.ca

Merry Christmas to All and to all
A Goodnight!