



Probust Patter
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Management
Committee
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Probust Patter

The Newsletter of the
Port Hope and District
Probust Club

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President's Message

Dear Fellow Probustians:

Well, we're enjoying beautiful weather again and it's a joy to sit out on the veranda and read – something I've missed doing over the cold winter months. With this lovely weather comes planning our regular summer Probust activities, and your Management Committee and others have been hard at work looking in to matters of interest to us all.

First, a very hearty thank-you to Marg and Paul Tait for agreeing to head up the committee organizing our Probust Picnic this year. And, of course, a very special thank-you to the Adamsons for again offering their gorgeous property for the venue. The date is Tuesday, June 15, so mark this on your calendar if you haven't already done so. The Taylors will be catering again this year, so bring along your appetites! Also, after wavering (on my part) and a thorough discussion at the last Management Committee meeting, the unanimous decision was made to have a regular Probust meeting on that morning! Sue has interesting speakers arranged for June 15th and, we will line up enough helpers to make the picnic set up go smoothly!

A little further on in your calendar will be the summer corn roast which will take place at the home of the Wakelys – thank you Donna and Harold! Vern and Judy Johnson have agreed to take on this event, with the usual help from our membership. The date has been set for September 7th which is the first Tuesday in September. The 8th of September has been booked for a rain date. Thanks again, Judy and Vern.

Could I let this issue of Probust Patter go to press without mentioning golf? Not on your life! Sel Shields and Don Kent have organized fun golfing opportunities for our group, with the first date this Thursday, May 20th at the Ashbrook Golf and Country Club. You'll find further details inside this issue of the Patter.

Last Tuesday, we received the unfortunate news that we will no longer be able to use the Community Room at The Independent for our Management Committee meetings. Scott tells me they need the space for expansion in order to carry more groceries. We have been very fortunate to have the use of this room without charge for several years and we are very appreciative of this benefit. Your Management Committee has been looking for an alternative venue. Thanks to Sue Speirs, we will be meeting in June at the Community Health Centre; however, we are still looking for something long term and will appreciate your suggestions.

For now, see you on the greens Thursday, and at Spring Fling on May 26th!

Cheers, Catharine Ramsey

TRIP TO QUEEN'S PARK

8.15 AM on April 21st - a beautiful Spring day - we were all on board our luxury bus for the trip to Toronto.

Traffic was light so we arrived in good time. During our drive Bill Minion, who had worked in the Legislative Building, gave us a lot of interesting information on the structure and history of the building as well as some of the day to day activities.

After clearing security, our group were met in the main lobby by Lou Rinaldi (MPP) and had time for a few photos with him. A member of his staff was on hand to guide us through much of the morning and this was most helpful and much appreciated. Then it was on to the Legislative Assembly where we were seated in the Visitors' Gallery in time to view the Question and Answer period. Very interesting to see how members behave (or do not behave) while this is going on.

The Assembly Hall and surrounding Galleries are beautiful. Huge chandeliers made of brass that have to be lowered by cranes (built-in but hidden from view) to the floor for cleaning. Ornate drapery and beautiful carved wood in mahogany and Canadian sycamore. Most visitors are sure to be awed by the surroundings.

As guests of Lou Rinaldi, we enjoyed a lovely buffet luncheon in the dining room and were visited by Lou who took the time to address the group and then visited each table.

After lunch we went on a tour of the building and learnt many interesting facts from our able tour guide. To touch on just a few - the building was erected between 1886 and 1892 and was designed by Richard Waite. Designed with a northern Italian influence it featured rounded archways and detailed sandstone exterior. In 1909 fire destroyed the west wing and library. This section was re-designed by E. J. Lennox and reconstructed by 1912 with extensive use of Italian marble.

Exhibits from across Ontario are showcased on the ground floors of both wings and there are a lot of interesting displays to see.

Perhaps one of the most intriguing things we saw is a marble column which shows what seems to be the skeleton of a prehistoric animal. However, this is under debate and scholars in this field who have carried out tests believe it is not a skeleton but just natural striation of the marble. However, to the novice it most definitely seems to be pre-historic skeletal remains.

We were home by 5.15 after a very interesting and enjoyable day.

CORNER FOR THE EDITOR'S HUMOUR

Some days you are the bug; some days you are the wind screen.

Don't worry; it only seems kinky the first time.

Good judgment comes from bad experience ... and most of that comes from bad judgment.

A closed mouth gathers no foot.

There are two excellent theories for arguing with women. Neither one works.

Alan Rutherford spoke to us at the May 4th meeting. Alan was the Venue Technical Manager at the Vancouver Winter Olympic Games this year. He has worked for several years for Olympic Broadcast Services (OBS) and has been on site for numerous Olympic and Paralympic Games. In Vancouver, his primary responsibility was to set up the cameras to record the ski jumping events. Obviously, the weather can seriously affect ski jumpers. For example if it is foggy, they cannot jump because of low visibility, and if it is very windy they could get blown off the run. In fact, the weather played havoc with many events, but Alan was stationed high up in Whistler where there was plenty of snow.

Alan's pictures clearly illustrated the technicalities of laying cables to all the cameras on the ski jump hills. Although there were ski lifts to get part of the way up the mountain, Alan found he got plenty of exercise walking up and down steps at the highest levels. It was quite a surprise to see how much goes on in the background, and how many people are involved, when most of us just sit back in front of our television sets watching the events!

Submitted by Sue Speirs



Alan Rutherford talking to Bill Minion.

IN MEMORIAM

McCarthy, William (Bill) - 1925 - 2010

Bill was a Probus member quite some time ago, and his spouse, Nicole Corbeil, has not been a member for the last few years. Bill died a short while ago but had been declining for some time. He will be sadly missed by us at Probus as well as his many other friends

Notices

The Picnic---Marg and Paul Tait are organizing our Probus Picnic to be held at the Adamson's on Tuesday, June 15.

The Corn Roast---Vern and Judy Johnson will convene that event at the Wakeley's.

Catering News

June Captain Margaret McCready

June 1 Betty Delong, Barbara & Sam McReelis, Margaret Tait

June 15 Gloria & Fred Schumacher, May Anderson, Bob Moorcroft

July Captain Jeanette Etter

July 6 Elaine Simpson, Dorothy Lent, Julie Cotter, Carole Payne

August Captain Betty Richards

Bryan Sherry, Harold Wakely, Pat Buchan, Bonnie Reid

PROBUS GOLF.

Come out and enjoy yourself at our first golf outing of the season. The details are given below.

ASHBROOK G.C. on the South side of Dale Rd. 2km. or so East of Hwy.28 at 9:30am, on Thursday 20th. May 2010.9 hole scramble format. \$20 walking. \$5 p.p. extra for a power cart. Pay to the pro.shop. Good snack bar in the clubhouse.

Sign up with Sel. Shields or Don Kent.

If something comes up at the last minute meaning you cannot attend, you do NOT have to call anyone.

Corrigendum

The caption for the photo on page 3 of the April Patter should have read Barbara Loucks (centre) introducing new members David and Sharon McElroy." Your editor apologises.

Special Events

May 18 - **Bob Short** is giving a presentation on his recent hike through the Grand Canyon.

June 1 - **Doug Thomas**, Director of Settlements and **Jane Leckey**, Corporation Relations, Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) will speak to us about Ontario's electricity system.

June 15 **Jen Powles**, Health/Physical Education Teacher, TCS and a student will speak to us about a recent Outward Bound School adventure in Costa Rica.

July 20 Speaker to be announced.

August 17 Speaker to be announced.

September 7 Speaker to be announced.

September 21 Breakfast and Annual General Meeting.

Future Events

June – Woodbine Race Track – Lunch Race Track and Slots \$70-\$80

July – Westben Theatre – Elmer Iseler Singers - \$80

August – Empire Theatre, Belleville – “Annie” and tour of Binoche Life Sciences Complex -\$80

September – Stratford – “Kiss Me Kate” - \$140

Appeal for information

To try to make the Patter more useful to the membership your editor solicits anyone who is involved with any activities of interest to members to drop me a brief e-mail so that I can put the info. Herein.

Thank You