



NORTHSHORE NEWS

A publication of The Probus Club of Northshore Cobourg

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President Judi Curtis curtisskyvalley@hotmail.com

Presidential Ponderings



Wasn't that a great Spring Fling! Kudos to the Peterborough and Lakefield Clubs for a fab job of organizing. Just came back from the Billy Elliot trip. Thanks Sharron for your great organization. Great show, lots of energy and everyone on the bus had a smile on their face

as they boarded to come home. There was even a suggestion that we start a Probus tap dancing club. Humm ... wonder if my knees would take it!? June will bring Drinks and Appies at the Morrison's in celebration of Diane's birthday (we're not asking how many Diane), the Northshore Garden Tour and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Don't forget the Anniversary BBQ in August Aug 17th, which is shaping up to be another great event. All in all a very busy Probus calendar.

As we have only one meeting in July and the newsletter goes into its summer hiatus, a word about the elections and the Annual General Meeting coming up in September. Your Management Team consists of an elected executive made up of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer and as well as the immediate Past President. In addition, the heads of the various committees, that organize all our fun activities, are voting members of the Management Tea. Diane Morrison has already begun talking to folks about standing for various vacant positions on the management team, but don't be shy, if you are interested in helping out in any capacity (whether on the executive, heading up a committee or helping out on a committee) be sure to speak to any one of the current members of the team and they will pass your name along. At the first meeting in September we will hope to announce a

slate of candidates for the elected positions and hold the actual election at the second September meeting, which technically is our Annual General Meeting.

The notice of motion reviewing our Club By-laws is ready to go and will be presented at the first meeting in June and voted on at that second meeting in June. **(Please see the summary on page 6)** This is the first complete review of the Club By-laws since its inception and is very important to the smooth and efficient running of our club. On your behalf I'd like to thank the Past-presidents Bruce Steel, Bruce Collins, Paddy McCoy and Jack Chapman for their very able handling of this task and all their hard work. Great Job Guys!!!

I hope everyone is looking forward to a very great summer. Al and I will be doing some camping, fishing, dog trailing and celebrating our 40th wedding anniversary in August ... wow, did that ever fly by and yes I was a child bride !! On that note I'll leave you with this thought

"A wedding anniversary is the celebration of love, trust, partnership, tolerance and tenacity. The order varies for any given year."

Judi

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Probud Club of Northshore Garden Tour, 2011

Thursday, June 23: 1-4:30 p.m.

Garden One

Located atop the Oak Ridge Moraine, this property has enchanting views. Along the driveway, visitors are welcomed by a dappled oak park. You are invited to explore the shady secret gardens hidden along labyrinth paths throughout the property. Be sure to observe the variety of shrubs and trees, especially the Kentucky Coffee Trees and the Tulip Trees.

Across the front, enjoy the elaborate perennial beds, and proceed beneath vine-covered trellises and pergolas to an enchanting pond and dry riverbed. An avenue of fruit trees leads the eye, once again, to delightful vistas of Lake Ontario and the rolling Northumberland Hills.

Garden Two

This property on O'Connor Court was just a gravel yard when the house was built in 2003 so the landscaping is only seven years old. Overall, it has done well so far. The backyard is pie shaped with a variety of trees, shrubs and flower beds containing perennials, annuals and roses. There is also a waterfall and fish pond surrounded by a rock garden. The owners are looking forward to a "blooming garden" for this tour.

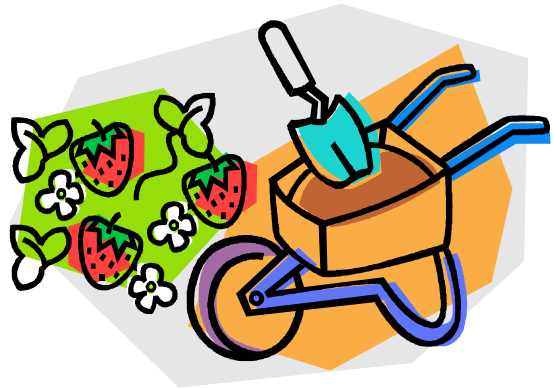
Garden Three

The various gardens on this Booth Street property are set in an urban setting on a corner lot which takes advantage of sun conditions that range from sun to semi and deep shade. A blend of bulbs, old-fashioned and new-introduction perennials, deciduous trees and shrubs, evergreen plantings and annuals will greet you. These provide an ever-changing parade of colour through the seasons. In June, expect that the Explorer roses, Japanese peonies, delphiniums and Siberian iris will be at their best, replacing the daffodils, tulips, columbine and phlox which have faded. As spring changes to summer and then to fall, the Rose of Sharon, chelone, sedum and autumn crocuses take over.

Over a hundred different specimens are represented in the four compact gardens that surround the property. Plan on at least 30 minutes to visit this property.

Sign up at the June 1 and 15 meetings.

Contact: Mary Potter



The batteries were given out free of charge

Speaker's Corner

Defying Danger



Cameron McFarlane is an outstanding achiever who was born and raised in Cobourg. He attended Cobourg Collegiate Institute East, followed by Fleming College in Peterborough, and University of Toronto, in Toronto. During five years with the Royal

Canadian Air Cadet 598 Squadron, he earned a pilot's licence, a glider's licence and an instructor's rating. He then delivered pilot training to other cadets. In 1979 he joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He trained in Regina then was posted to Ontario to work in various investigative units. He spent 14 years deployed with the R.C.M.P. Emergency Response Team. (ERT) Cameron explained that the mandate of the ERT is "to conduct high risk arrests/entries, VIP/witness protection, and any other high risk tasking beyond the scope of normal policing duties." He stated that one could compare ERT to SWAT teams.

"They had no electricity, no running water, no food, no guns, no ammunition, nor fuel."

Members of RCMP ERT are often sent to investigate commercial crime or drug related crime. They often join with the Toronto police or the O.P.P. to carry out their directives. Each team member is an expert in 110 police activity areas. For instance, Cameron contributes to his team the highest level status for assault, sniper and repelling skills, along with 107 more! He regaled us with an anecdote for even more specialty training to become an expert marine assaulter. He and his teammates were transported out west to be thrown into the dark, cold ocean. Each individual had to swim to shore with no guide lights! Their added skills were especially useful in their role of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Marine Assault Team. Another tale informed us that his team was also assigned to use their protection skills at the Vancouver Olympics. Cameron really enjoyed the beauty of Whistler!

Cameron's story of his career highlight, his year of deployment in Afghanistan, was told

with a tone of awe. The RCMP ERT joined the Provincial Reconstruction Team, whose mission was to train and mentor the Afghan National Police (ANP) in Kandahar Province. They were quartered at Canada's Camp Private Nathan Smith, named after a fallen Canadian soldier. Cameron brought the Cobourg flag for proud display. Once involved in the training/mentoring program, Cameron's team faced barriers besides the dangers of war zones. The young men they were training had limited skill sets; indeed, many of them were illiterate. (He later showed us a slide indicating that toy trucks were used as tools to help the Afghan men understand manoeuvres; translators were necessary too.)The people with whom the team worked, the Hazaras, a central north Afghan ethnic group, were desperately poor and in poor health. The homes and police stations were simple mud huts. They had no electricity, no running water, no food, no guns, no ammunition, nor fuel. The terrain in which the Afghans lived and in which the Team worked was rocky and subject to powerful sand storms.

The presentation of slides showing unusually shaped vehicles brought the explanation that in an attempt to save lives, vehicles have been adapted. Most of the changes were made to defend the drivers against IEDS (Improvised Explosive Device) ("which can be manufactured from homemade explosives (agricultural fertilizer) or military munitions (artillery, shells, mines, etc.) these are deployed against both vehicles and personnel in unconventional war"). Bullet proof glass has also been included. Other slides showed how the Provincial Reconstruction Team has added large numbers of huge protective bales around the Afghans' police stations and check points. At the personal level, Cameron ordered equipment such as flashlights, binoculars and shoes for the Afghan trainees. The Team also provided uniforms and meals. After 32 years in his high performance profession, Cameron has retired. He likes to sail, ski, mountain bike, fly, motorcycle, and travel. It seems like retirement will be just as busy as his life's work!

Jill Mills

If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed

Five Don'ts of Grandparenting

Avoid these common pitfalls and build strong and trusting relationships with your grandkids

by: Amy Goyer | from: [AARP](#) | November 9, 2010

When you first became a grandparent, you may have been expecting a fabulous experience: grandkids who adored you endlessly; their parents who turned to you for support and advice.

But perhaps things haven't turned out to be quite so idyllic. I hear questions all the time from grandparents who wonder why they're getting a cool response instead of boundless enthusiasm from their own kids — and their grandkids. Here are five pieces of advice that I'd like to share.

1. Don't tell your kids how to raise their children. *Avoid judging their parenting style and bite your tongue unless they ask for your advice.* If you disagree with their decisions — and you will, sooner or later — keep quiet. Your job is to be the *grandparent*, not the parent. Instead, respect their parenting efforts and look for reasons to complement them. Accept that the approaches to raising children vary from one generation to the next and your kids may do things differently from the way you did. Being a parent is hard work, and most parents are unsure of their parenting skills, whether they admit it or not. The parents of your grandchildren don't need you harping on their biggest fears and making them feel worse. The more they see you as criticizing, the more defensive they will feel and a rift can quickly form. The more they see you as supportive, the more open they will be to establishing a strong relationship. Focus on being positive and supportive, not invasive, and you'll be a big hit as a grandparent.



2. Don't forget how to say no. Never commit to babysitting or ongoing child care if you really don't want to do it. You will end up feeling resentment. Remember, you're entitled to have a life, too. When you offer or accept the request to care for grandchildren, go in with your eyes wide open and set some boundaries. You may be willing to make some sacrifices for your grandchildren and welcome the opportunity to care for them, but don't feel you have to spend every possible moment with them. Live your own life with balance and you'll be a great role model. When it comes to gifts for grandchildren, the same rules apply. Don't allow yourself to be "guilted" into spending more money on grandkids than you can afford. If their parents rely on you to pay for extras or even basics, consider your own financial security and remember that even the little things add up. Have the intention of generosity, but be prudent. Otherwise, you may end up needing their help. Grandparents often say the difference between a grandparent and a parent is that what they do for grandchildren is a choice, not an obligation. Make good choices with your time and finances.

3. Don't compete. Many grandparents fall into the deep dark "I'm the best grandma or grandpa" abyss. Competing grandparents only alienate their children and can ultimately make their grandchildren feel pressured and uncomfortable. When you set up relationships as competition, you're setting a dangerous precedent for your family and, quite frankly, being a lousy role model. Families have all kinds of varied

(Continued on page 5)

Show me a piano falling down a mine shaft, and I'll show you A flat miner.

(Continued from page 4)

relationships these days, which may result in kids having multiple grandparents. The good news is that the more loving adults there are in children's lives, the better chances they have for success. So be glad there are other grandparents in the picture and know that your grandchildren can be close to all their grandparents. You are all different people and will be different kinds of grandparents.

One grandma may be the outdoor enthusiast; another may be the one to teach a grandchild how to paint her nails. One may have more money to spend, but another may have more time. Celebrate your differences and enjoy what you have in common.



4. Don't disregard parental rules. Ideas about discipline, snack foods and TV time can be hot button issues. Be careful not to stretch the limits. Talk over the non-negotiable rules that are important to your children. But also introduce the idea that in your home, you should be able to have some rules of your own. For example, your grandchildren may not be allowed to eat in front of the TV at their house, but in your home you permit it. Make sure parents are aware, and also make sure grandkids know that you respect their parents' decisions. Grandparents love to spoil their grandchildren now and then — it's one of the perks of the role, right? If it's all "up front," and non-negotiable rules are honored, parents are much more likely to smile and look the other way.

5. Don't be too pushy. Resist the urge to insist on seeing your grandchildren all the time. Instead, let your kids — and later on your grandkids — come to you. Always communicate your availability, but don't insist on unwanted or inconvenient get-togethers. Understand that you won't always be a

top priority for your grandkids. They will inevitably go through times when they are more interested in their activities and friends than in spending time with you. Let it be, but also let them know you love them no matter what. Remember that part of growing up is learning about setting boundaries, so when grandkids withdraw, pushing them is the worst approach. Listen, don't lecture. Be their safe place and they will come around eventually. Your grandchildren may not let on that you're having an impact on them, but in the long run most adults will say their best memories of grandparents are of always feeling wanted and accepted. Focus on being positive and supportive, not invasive, and you'll be a big hit as a grandparent.

Membership dues

Membership dues should be paid by Aug. 1/11. Postdated cheques are acceptable. Date on the cheques will be for August 1, 2011.

Name that child

Johnny's mother had four children. The first was April, the second was May, and the third was June. What was the name of her fourth child?

Answer on page 8

Summary of Major Notices of Motion to Revise Club By-Laws

Entire Package to be presented to Club on June 1, 2011 with Voting on June 15, 2011

By-law #2 Membership

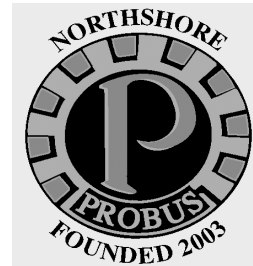
- Section "a" New dates June 1st and September 30th replace April 1st and July 31st
- Section "a" New wording at end to update contents of New Member's Envelope
- Section "b" "no later than October 1st replaces August 1st
- Old Section "d" deleted. Recommend placing it in the Membership Chair Job Description
- New section "d" from Probud Canada Inc. for Conduct of members

By-Law #3 Management

- Section "e" - position titles updated to reflect those currently used

By-Law #4 Election of Officers

- Section "b" the Executive updated by removing the Correspondence Secretary position as an elected position and placing it as a committee chair position
- Section "c" –Reworded so the Past Presidents' Council assumes responsibility for the Nominating Committee for elections thereby avoiding a potential conflicts of interest.
- Section "d" – new clause
- Section "g" is the old section "f" with updated wording.



By-Law #5 General Meetings

- Section "a" reworded
- Section "b" revised wording and detail added
- Section "c" reworded to reflect voting on a regular motion
- Sections "d", "e", "f" revised wording

By-Law #6 Financial

- Section "a" New fiscal year October 1st – September 30th replacing August 1st – July 31st
- Section "d" new clause requested by Probud Canada Inc.
- Section "e" new
- Old section "d", "e" and "f" renamed as "f", "g", and "h" and reworded

By-Law #7 Annual Returns

- Section "a" date revised as per Probud Canada instructions; "Club" added for clarity
- Section "b" date change and By-Law number and Item updated .

By-Law #8 Amendment to By-Laws Title revision

- Section "a" Probud Canada Inc. By-Law revision requires a two third majority vote
- Section "c" new clause

By-Law #10 Non-Profitability (new By-Law recommended by Probud Canada Inc.)

When you've seen one shopping centre you seen a mall

Coming Events

Bridge Club 2 will meet on June 9th at Diane Morrison's; and on June 23rd with location tba

Bid Euchre group will get together 1:30pm on June 7th at Louise Varga's, and June 21st at Les & Connie Pooles's...please call each host to let them know if you are...or are not attending.

Drinks and Appies will be at Diane and Rick Morrison's on June 29th from 7-9pm. Please let them know if you will be there. Come and help celebrate Diane's birthday!



Northshore Garden Tour June 23rd from 1 to 4:30pm please sign up with Mary Potter June 1st or 15th and plan on sunshine and a lovely day

August Anniversary Party (BBQ) on August 17th

Tickets will be on sale June 1st, June 15th, July 6th, and August 3rd

Please see Daphne or Diane for your tickets at the membership desk during break.

The party begins at 3:00. Games will take place at the Grafton Arena (Grafton) on Highway #2, and the BBQ will be at Canon Nind Hall (next door) following the games.



Trips and Tours

Mormon Tabernacle Choir

Monday, June 27th

\$120.00

Roy Thomson Hall 2:00 p.m.

Sign up sheet out with a \$50.00 deposit.



Police were called to a day care where a 3 year old was resisting a rest



A woman's husband dies. He had left \$30,000 to be used for an elaborate funeral.

After everything is done at the funeral home and cemetery, she tells her closest friend that "there is absolutely nothing left from the \$30,000."

The friend asks, "How can that be?"

The widow says, "Well, the funeral cost was \$6,500. And of course I made a donation to the church. That was \$500, and I spent another \$500 for the wake, food and drinks. The rest went for the memorial stone.

The friend says, "\$22,500 for the memorial stone? My God, how big is it?"

The widow says, "Four and a half carats."

When I went to lunch today, I noticed an old lady sitting on a park bench sobbing her eyes out. I stopped and asked her what was wrong.

She said, "I have a 22 year old husband at home. He makes love to me every morning and then gets up and makes me pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit and freshly ground coffee."

I said, "Well, then why are you crying?"

She said, "He makes me homemade soup for lunch and my favorite brownies and then makes love to me for half the afternoon."

I said, "Well, why are you crying?"

She said, "For dinner he makes me a gourmet meal with wine and my favorite dessert and then makes love to me until 2:00 a.m."

I said, "Well, why in the world would you be crying?"

She said, "I can't remember where I live!"

Answer to "Name that child"

Johnny

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