



PROBUS PATTERN

April 2011
Volume 13 Issue 4

President's Message

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SPECIAL EVENTS
CAROLYN MINION

NEWSLETTER
CAROLYN WEBB

As you read this we are finally into spring, officially that is. As I'm not a good predictor of weather I trust we will have a wonderful April. At least the days are getting longer and the sun has some heat in it. I find this a hard month for me even though the days are longer and warmer I can't get outside to do spring chores. Hence Carolyn and I are off to our place in the sun to get a head start. We miss you already, not. I even think of our friends here while on the golf course - I have a bridge for sale as well. We'll be back for David Blackwood at the AGO and our club visit to Ganaraska.

With all the disasters and unrest in the world I am ever so grateful that we live in a part of the world that is relatively stable both weather wise and politically. We lack serious tornadoes and hurricanes that occur just south of us. Earthquakes are quite mild as we don't live in a major fault zone, just periodic bumps as the earth still rises from the weight of the ice from the last ice age 10,000 years ago. Black flies, mosquitoes and 10 months of winter are our only hardships. We can escape those if we choose.

The problems in Japan, especially the nuclear issues make me think of our nuclear plants that are within 100 kilometres of us and the dangers that they pose. The mild earthquakes and the absence of Tsunamis here make me feel a little better. With regards to likelihood of a similar possible meltdown I heard an interview on CBC radio the other day with a university professor comparing our plants with the ones in Japan and else where in the world which I found enlightening. First, the fuel we use in our Candu is low grade, not enriched plutonium and can't work without heavy water. Secondly, shutting down our plants does not depend on external power. The rods that absorb neutrons are held above the reactor with electromagnets. Any disruption in power supply releases the rods and starts a shut down. Other plants use power to insert the rods horizontally. Valves which open extra cooling water are held closed by electromagnets as well and open on power failure. The water is also cooled by gravity thereby not depending on external power. In Japan without power the recirculation pumps couldn't work so the water boiled quickly creating steam which blew the containment vessels. There are more safety features which I won't go into now but which allow me to be comfortable living here.

Our Forces are involved in world problems once again and I pray for their safety.

See you all on the AGO trip and at Ganaraska.

Bill Minion

Probus Patter

The newsletter of the
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SPEAKERS CORNER

**MARCH 1
DAVID BOYKO**

In the early years David made miniatures by using a drill bit and sander. These are perfect in scale and really beautiful to see.

Moving on to making functional pieces he loved using butternut wood, however, as that is now an endangered species he mainly uses cherry. He is really keen on salvaging trees that have fallen and showed us several pieces made from these. He is happy that walnut is fairly often found in the Port Hope and Cobourg areas as carvings from this wood are quite in demand.

Interesting to note that he has made physiotherapy equipment for his sons as well as four stringed instruments similar to a guitar - items which are not usually associated with a wood carving artist.



**MARCH 15
TED DEVONSHIRE AND FRIENDS**



Ken Swann Lynn Brown Ted Our Own
Keith Pickett

Ted Devonshire discussed the history and evolution of barbershop singing, an indigenous North American art form.

The Barbershop Harmony Society was founded in 1938 to promote and preserve barbershop singing. Currently the society has some 30,000 members in Canada and the United States.

Honorary members of the society include Gordon Lightfoot, Irving Berlin, Victor Borge and Dick Van Dyke, among other well known artists.

After his presentation, Ted and his friends gave us their rendition of "My Wild Irish Rose". Encores were requested!

**RICK EVERDELL – PAST SPEAKER
BIG BECKY BREAKS THROUGH**

Rick Everdell – Ray and Hazel's son – was a guest speaker some time back and told us about the huge and the then seemingly impossible undertaking of boring a large tunnel under the city of Niagara Falls. However, after a long time and much work the final break through came recently thus completing the tunnel. Quite an achievement!

Nice to say we know someone who was involved with this but even nicer for Hazel and Ray to say "my son was involved with this"!!

APPIES AND DRINKS

February 28th – windy, cold, damp, drizzle - another depressing late winter day.

How very nice then to step into Catharine's warm and beautiful house for our first "Appie and Drinks" event. There were lots of tasty appetizers, great conversations and of course the drink of choice you brought along. Sitting in one of the many lovely rooms that flow into each other was a perfect setting to pass a winter's afternoon.

This first such event was well attended and very much enjoyed by all as you can see from the photos – thanks to Gary Webb and Erik Norenus.

Our greatest thanks to Catharine for hosting the first of what we hope will be many more such events. Remember size of the house does not matter – hosts set the number of guests that can be accommodated

PLEASE if you sign up to attend do let the host/hostess know in advance if you are not able to make it. Fourteen people, without prior notice, failed to show at Catharine's and they missed a great event. As the host/hostess does prepare for the number expected it would be much appreciated if you would advise, as much ahead of time as possible, if you can not attend.

Carolyn Minion is hoping others will offer to host this fun afternoon. Please let her know

A VERY WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS



Edith Carr introduces Jeanne Kaiser



Fiona Graham introduces Murray and Margaret Dillon

Jeanne was born and raised in Saskatchewan. In 1956 she graduated from nursing college and in 1967 met and married Dennis who was a High School teacher in Rosewood, Sask. On a visit here to see friends they fell in love with our town and so made the decision to put down roots here. They have are the proud parents of five – two of whom continue to live and raise families in Port Hope. Now retired they are travelling a little and babysitting a lot. Dennis is very active in the Basketball Referee's Assoc. and enjoys golfing – Jeanne loves to hike, read and garden.

Margaret came to Canada with her family when she was 12. She attended U of T and taught school for a while then became librarian at the Bishop Strachan School. Murray was born in Bancroft. He first worked at the Bank of Nova Scotia then went on to practice law. He has worked for DeHaviland and the Office of the Attorney General of Ontario. Both are happily retired here – Margaret is keeping busy volunteering both in Port Hope and Cobourg.

PROGRAMS – FRASER CARR AND SHIRLEY KANE

- April 5 **Erin Walsh, Port Hope Archives-** The Flood of 1936
- April 19 **Const. Gerry Marino, Community Services - PHPD** - Scams Against Seniors
- May 3 **Lee Caswell** - Working with The Antique Road Show
- May 17 **Tom Dunne. Lt. Col., Air Warfare Center, Doctrine Development** - The Closing of Camp Mirage
- June 7 **Mike Scott** – Major Case Management Power Case/Ontario Police College

CATERING – ANNE SHIELDS

APRIL CAPTAIN BABARA MOORCROFT

- 5 MAY ANDERSON, BOB MOORCROFT, GEORGE WATSON, FRAN CAMPBELL
- 19 PAT GOODYEAR, SUE SPEIRS, SHIRLEY ROBINSON, BETTY DELONG

MAY CAPTAIN ALAN BUTLER

- 3 SEL SHIELDS. DOUG & MARION GELLATLY, JANE MC CLUSKEY
- 17 BETTY COLLINS, LOIS HUESTON, JIM & PAULINE GRAHAM

JUNE CAPTAIN MARGARET MC READY

- 7 ALAN MC READY, BARBARA AND SAM MC REELIS, MARGARET TAIT
- 21 **PROBUS PICNIC – NO GENERAL MEETING**

SPECIAL EVENTS – CAROLYN MINION

- APRIL 27 AGO – DAVID BLACKWOODS “NEWFOUNDLAND’**
Phillip St. Parking Lot at 12.00
Dinner at the Hothouse – Church and Front - Toronto
Bring a lunch or eat before coming to the bus

- MAY 4 CANNON THEATRE - BILLY ELLIOTT**
Phillip St. Parking Lot at 11.30 A.M
Dinner at the Mandarin – Pickering
Bring a lunch or eat before coming to the bus

- JUNE 27 ROY THOMSON HALL – MORMON TABERNACLE CHOIR**

GREETERS - BARBARA WINFIELD

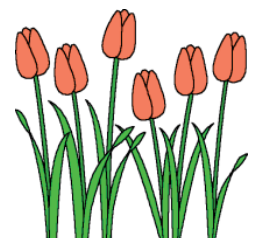
- APRIL 5 GRACE LEES AND JOYCE LEES
- APRIL 19 DOROTHY GILMER AND JEANNE KEISER

JUNE 21 PROBUS PICNIC – NO GENERAL MEETING

“Now nature hangs her mantle green on every blooming tree and spreads her sheets of daisies white out o’er the grassy lea”.

Robert Burns

Every Spring is the only Spring - a perpetual astonishment – Ellis Peters



GRACIOUS HOSTESS CATHARINE



Irish Pub Night
THANKS TO BILL MINION FOR PHOTOS

