



THE PRO-BUZZ

NOVEMBER 2013

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Thank you for the confidence you have shown in me by re-electing me as your president for the ensuing year.

Twenty-five members of our club are officially helping in the operation of the club and eleven of this number are taking on duties that are new to them. I thank them for volunteering and for their commitment to our club. We could not maintain the high level of efficiency without them.

Please continue to offer your suggestions to me, Lynn, or any member of the management group. Your suggestions in the last year assisted us in implementing some new programs, events, and trips, while maintaining our tried and true successes.

Please volunteer to help with our events. It's fun and a great way to meet new or veteran members and also to put your stamp on an event.

As Probians, please remember our pledge:

**OUR STRENGTH IS FRIENDSHIP
OUR SUCCESS IS PARTICIPATION**

Jamie Doolittle

HALLOWE'EN MEETING



On Thursday, October 24th, our members and guests were greeted at the door by Black Beard the Pirate and his trusty parrot, Polly. The elegant Witch was handing out treats and taking pictures of some of the costumes. The Hallowe'en theme was evident throughout the room. A special thank you to all who came in costume to help celebrate Hallowe'en, making it fun for all who attended.

Submitted by Doreen & Brian Scott

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE, NOVEMBER 14, 2013



Today, in our Remembrance Day Service, we are acknowledging the veterans who served in World War II and subsequent conflicts. We are presenting their stories as our tribute to them.

Geoff Coleman

Geoff enlisted in the Royal Canadian Army in Kingston in 1944. He joined the army as an infantryman, followed by being an ordinance and supply technician. Basic training was in Peterborough, followed by postings in Aldershot and Debert, Nova Scotia, Ottawa, Halifax, Egypt, Cobourg, Petawawa, Germany, Belgium and Shilo, Manitoba. His final rank was Warrant Officer and he was discharged in Shilo in 1969 after 25 years of service. His lasting memory of his time in service is the extreme poverty that children in Egypt experienced. This serves as a constant reminder of how fortunate we are in Canada. Geoff was one of the few Canadians to receive the Coronation Medal in 1953 and the Centennial Medal in 1967.

Harold Coward

Harold enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy at H.M.C.S. York in Toronto in January, 1942. He served as an engine room mechanic on cruisers and destroyers in Esquimalt and Vancouver, British Columbia; St. John's, Newfoundland; Digby, Nova Scotia; in the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean. His final rank was Third Class Chief Engineer and he was discharged in Charleston, South Carolina in April, 1945. His lasting memory of his time in service is the feeling of helplessness watching ships being torpedoed around him.

Harry Nash

Harry joined the RCAF from Toronto in 1965 and was awarded his wings as a Radio Officer and Air Navigator in 1966. He served at establishments in Canada, USA and Germany, mainly flying in the Argus and Hercules aircraft.

In 1994, Harry served on board the NATO Airborne Early Warning aircraft on Operation Deny Flight, during the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina, logging over 500 hours overtop the Adriatic on those missions. He retired in 1995 at Greenwood, Nova Scotia, reaching the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

W. James Stirling

Jim joined the British Royal Navy Fleet Air Arm in the fall of 1944. He left the Canadian Naval Base in Halifax for Liverpool, England. He trained at Portsmouth, Gosport, Bathampton, Torquay and Swindon. He soloed as a pilot in a DeHaviland Moth but later transferred to an observer corps.

Jim was discharged as a Naval Airman 2nd Class and returned to Halifax in August, 1945. His lasting memory of his time in the service was getting Mars Bars from the Salvation Army in Portsmouth as they were really not readily available at the time.

DRIVE & DINE

Close to a hundred Northumberland Probians (or should that be Probus Northumbrians?) motored from the Lions Community Centre one recent glorious autumn afternoon on a mystery tour that was quite magical. Ahead lay 127 kilometres of history, changing leaves, equestrianism, ice cream, and white chocolate and raspberry scones. And, of course, a final destination for dinner.

Each car was issued six pages of directions and three pages of notes on some of the sights along the way. In Cobourg, we went past George Hees' property on Brook North, past Brookside and Sidbrook, the old coach house at the corner of King and D'Arcy, the Mill and the golf course on Ontario Street and then out into the country. Inching down Van Luven Road and along Payne Road, we came upon the first surprise of many – 90 acres being cleared by Penn Energy of Pennsylvania to become a 46,700-solar panel farm that will create 10 megawatts of power, enough for 3,000 homes. Who knew?

Up we went past Centreton, Peter's Woods and the Alderville cenotaph and into the Roseneath Fair Grounds, where Al Wilson waited to give us all rides on the carousel. Swinging a leg over a saddle was difficult for some, dismounting even more so. Most agreed it went faster than they'd expected (5 m.p.h., but going in small circles and bobbing up and down made it a ride to remember).

After that, we took Warkworth by storm and left it reeling. The Our Lucky Stars coffee shop bulged as it churned out lattes, regulars, cappus, scones and cakes. The Cara Mia ice cream store was besieged as its lone attendant dished up cones and cups to customers who had to wait outside for someone to leave before they could squeeze inside to order.

Some members made it to the liquor store. One couple bought a rug. A couple of cars had lost their bearings and had to be guided out of town. And then it was homeward bound. A few had sussed out the route and knew our target. We then meandered down to Wicklow Beach and back up through Grafton and west to Workman Road up to Elgin Street and lo and behold, there ahead lay the Lions Community Centre.

A few drinks, a few laughs, a roast beef dinner, a stampede for fruit pies, and big thank-yous to the catering staff. President-for-Life Jamie Doolittle, stentorian as ever, delivered everyone's gratitude to organizers George and Barb Lawrence and Frank and Jean Crowley and we gave them a well-deserved standing ovation. It's your turn next year!

Submitted by Michael Hanlon



REMINDERS

1) If you donated food items to the **Salvation Army Annual Food Drive** today, we thank you. Marie Van Dusen will have her vehicle at the next meeting as well, so please bring non-perishable food items to support this worthy cause.



2) Would golfers who won prizes at the closing event, **please redeem their prizes.**

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

Newsletter



We plan to retire as Pro-Buzz editors at the end of March, 2014. This date represents two years of producing your monthly newsletters.

We will be happy to assist in the transition to new editors and can supply some useful tools that we have developed. These include templates for each month and a written protocol that articulates the process with the names and contact information for all regular contributors, as well as the details required for the printing of the newsletter.

We have enjoyed our experience as editors and look forward to passing over our duties to other members of our great Probus Club.

Bob & Carol Petter and Gary Bennett

DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER

Wow! What an evening Probus members enjoyed on Friday, November 1st. From top to bottom, this night of food and entertainment was worth every penny. The dining was its usual first class, with top notch service and a very comfortable environment to boot. Best Western Cobourg deserves kudos for their excellent efforts.



And the show ... well, what can one say. It was a total hoot. The acting was first class, the production was solid and the show was the funniest live theatre we have seen in years. The play concerned itself with two love triangles and a comedy of errors. The dialogue was delicious! The actors got into their roles with a level of energy and skill usually reserved for Broadway.

Who needs Toronto when we can get this level of performance right here at home? Three thumbs up for this one!

Submitted by Marilyn Csefko



A man was recovering from surgery when a nurse asked him how he was feeling.

The man replied, "I'm alright but I didn't like the FOUR-LETTER WORD the doctor used during my surgery."

"What did he say?"

"OOPS!"

COMING EVENTS

SOCIAL by Marilyn Csefko

- Nov. 20th *Les Miserables* - Princess of Wales Theatre – 2pm. Cost is \$130.
Bus leaves the Lions Centre at 11:15am. Bring your lunch to eat on the bus.
Dinner is at the Mandarin in Pickering.
- Dec. 12th Probus Christmas Party – Cost is \$40 for members and \$45 for guests.
You can sign up your guests today.
- Dec. 19th Singles' Club to meet for noon lunch at the Cat 'n Fiddle, 38 Covert
Street, Cobourg, for English pub fare. Gentlemen are welcome!
- Date TBD May Day Extravaganza – in planning stages

THE LUNCH BUNCH by Marion Boys & Lynn Ramsay

- Nov. 28th Stanley's Fish & Grill
- Jan. 24th Casey's

THE SPEAKER'S CORNER by Harry Nash

- Nov. 14th Remembrance Day – a Tribute to Veterans
- Nov. 28th Ossie Tee – Bird Watching in Northumberland
- Dec. 12th No Speaker – Christmas Party
- Jan. 9th Mike Vilneff – Cobourg Fire Chief

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