



The ProBuzz

Newsletter of the PROBUS Club of Northumberland – August 2015

July 23rd Meeting

~ by Fred Luken

“Spread the word”. That’s what Probus club members of Northumberland were urged to do after they heard a most informative presentation about the Northumberland Help Centre and the Northumberland Community Legal Centre.



Krista Skutovitch, the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of this two-pronged agency, provided some very startling facts about not only the type of help so urgently needed in our community (for example, that there were 2500 situations where individuals or families were at risk of becoming homeless in Northumberland Country last year) but also the number of requests that are taken care of each year: 8000 by the Help Centre, and 5000 by the Legal Centre. The two pronged agency has full time as well as part time staff members in the Northumberland Community Legal Center and in the Help Centre. However, many of the services provided are carried out through the help of a large group of volunteers from the communities being served.

It was startling to hear that as a result of Help Centre assistance with income tax returns, clients in Northumberland received a total of \$3,929,618 in refunds this past year - money which they likely would not have received otherwise. 270 households received assistance with utility costs last year, and 62 households were saved from being evicted and becoming homeless. The Legal Centre helped clients receive another \$1,766,786 through criminal injuries compensation, employment insurance claims, additional CPP benefits, aid through the Ontario Disability Support Program, and other programs. Many other services, too numerous to mention here, are also provided.

And how can we all help? Krista encouraged us to become members of the Help Center (to receive a copy of the annual newsletter, attend the AGM and even stand for election to the Board of Directors), volunteer (with office duties, helping complete income tax returns, tutoring in their literacy program, helping fund raise), but above all, to spread the word about all of the assistance that is available to needy persons through the Help Center. Their office in Cobourg is in the Fleming Building, Suite 301, and the office is open from 9 am to 5 pm weekdays. It’s not every day that a social assistance agency so enthusiastically encourages us to spread the word about their services. And how many people have *you* told?

July 9th Meeting

~by Marg Denny



Speaker – Rory Quigley, Town of Cobourg Arborist

Harry Nash introduced Rory who is a local resident and has been in this profession for twenty-five years. What is the role of an arborist? An arborist is a certified licensed PhD of the tree industry. His training is in the art and science of planting, caring for and maintaining individual trees. Rory discussed the trees native to Cobourg and area, the diseased trees, and how to distinguish and treat those being affected by Dutch Elm fungus, boring and chewing insects such as the Tent Caterpillar and Longhorn Beetle, and the treatment required to overcome these problems. Culling, replanting and trimming young trees will help replenish the soil and add value to property.

Personal safety is an issue – working under power lines, climbing trees and avoiding falling branches is a risk in this profession. He reminded us of the 2013 ice storm which hit Cobourg, particularly in the park, and decimated so many of our large old trees. After Rory’s presentation, he answered questions from members pertaining to their individual situations.

GOLF AT PINE RIDGE JUNE 29th

~ by Stan Maggs



After many rainy days we fortunately had lovely bright weather for our golf day at Pine Ridge, which was attended by 24 golfers. There were only a few wet spots on the course. The team of Barry Hollis, Kathy McKellar, Heather Touchburn and Michael Hanlon came in with the low score of 40.

Congratulations! The big disappointment was the cost of the golf which was no bargain. Most people stayed for lunch.

Golf at Stonehenge on July 27th

~ by George Lawrence



Twenty-nine golfers teed off on Monday morning, in perfect weather at Stonehenge Golf course. The winning team – Fred C., Jamie D. and George L. had a 36, longest men's drive was shared by Fred C. and Ted J., longest ladies drive was Barb L. and closest to the pin for men was George L. The girls were not able to reach the 3rd green, so no closest to the pin winner. After golf we enjoyed a BBQ of sausage and burgers.

If you get a chance, ask Jamie D. and Jim O. about the bakery in Orono!

Q. How many golfers does it take to change a light bulb?

A. Fore!

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

"The story is a fable from history –but the best stories always are" quoted the playbill, and this story shows no signs of fading away.

On Wednesday, July 22nd we traveled to Stratford, had lunch and then were off to the theatre. We had time for a quick stop at the Festival shop for some retail therapy before finding our seats.

The hills were certainly alive with music for this wonderful performance of *The Sound of Music*. Even after 50 years this musical plays to a packed house. Feet were tapping and quiet singing and humming along with the songs could be heard throughout the theatre. Stephanie Rothenberg seemed to be overwhelmed at the well-deserved standing ovation. And when Anita Krause (Mother Abbess) belted out *Climb Every Mountain* you could feel goose bumps rise.

We enjoyed dinner at Swiss Chalet before boarding the bus for home. The return trip was relaxing with only a minor traffic slow down due to construction. I'm sure many of those who attended have been *Do-Re-Me-ing*, 'thinking of their *favorite things*', and remembering '*The Lonely Goatherder*'. '*I Have Confidence*' that everyone had a good time.

~ Submitted by Patricia Noble

SINGLES CLUB

~ by Louise Barraclough

Tomasso's in Trenton was a waterfront treat for five of us who lunched there on Saturday, July 11th. We had a range of different entrees to compare and we found the excursion as excellent this year as last.

By time this ProBuzz goes to print we'll have had a new experience: High Tea at the Stillwater B&B, Fowler's Corners, on the Civic Holiday weekend.

We will recover from the rigours of Labour Day weekend over lunch at the Grafton Village Inn on Wednesday, September 2nd at 12:30 pm.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

~ Roslynne Cooke, Social Convenor

Stratford Festival: A fabulous trip to see the stage production of the Sound of Music took place on July 2nd (see write-up). The 2016 Stratford line-up has been announced. So, we'll be off to see **A Chorus Line** next July. Date and cost to be announced towards the end of this year.

Stoney Lake Boat Cruise: A 5 hour Fall boat cruise on the Kawartha Spirit has been booked for Thursday, September 17th. Departure from the Northumberland Mall will be at 8:30 am for a boarding time of 10:30 am at the Mount Julian Viamede Road Dock adjacent to the Viamede Resort. The cruise includes a scenic tour of 2 Lakes, a stop over at Young's Point and a buffet style lunch on board. The cost is \$85 per person. Cheques are payable to Probus Northumberland. This trip is open to family and friends.

Kawartha Downs Horse Races and Dinner: Eric Carleton has planned an evening of racing, slots and dinner for our membership. The date is Saturday, September 12th. Please arrive at 5 pm. The cost is \$39.00 per person. Cheques are payable to Probus Northumberland and can be dated for September 1st.

Murder Mystery: To celebrate Halloween the Comedy Conspiracy Company of Ray James is hosting a production of "Young Frankenstein" for us at the Railside Restaurant on Wednesday, October 28th. Cost is \$65.00 per person. Cheques are payable to Probus Northumberland. Sue Vivian is on the lookout for three suspects.....

Cocktails 5 pm. Show 6 pm. Conclusion 8:30 pm.

Dates to Remember:

Sweet Charity (Shaw Festival) – August 27th
Departure time is 8:30 am at Staples in the Northumberland Mall.

Agawa Canyon/Mackinac Island – September 28th to October 2nd. All inquiries and payments should be directed to Lakeshore Tours and Travel in Bowmanville.

Drive and Dine – October 5th or 6th. Details to be announced once logistics are in place.

Ideas for Trips and Events: Please let me know if you have any ideas for trips or events. My e-mail address is roslynne211@gmail.com. I would be very interested in hearing from you.

SPEAKERS' CORNER

~ Harry Nash

August 27th

Author Dan Buchanan will speak on Dr. King and his execution in Cobourg

Sept 10th

Speaker is Cathie Houston, Chair of the Vintage Film Fest Committee

Sept 24th

John Geale will speak on the Northumberland Land Trust

LUNCH BUNCH

~ Marion Boys

September 24th

Carlyle Inn & Bistro
86 John Street, Port Hope

SINGLES CLUB

~ Louise Barraclough

Wednesday, September 2nd

Grafton Village Inn
12:30 pm

NEED A RIDE?



If you need a ride to a meeting or event, please call Brian or Doreen Scott at (905) 377-0103 and they will arrange to have you picked up and returned home.

