

PROBUS CLUB OF NORTSHORE - COBOURG

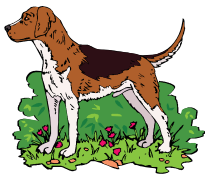
NEWSLETTER



Volume 8, Issue 2
November 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall glorious fall. For those who 'car rallied', wasn't that a great day??? Weather was wonderful, company great (personally I had an opportunity to get acquainted with new Probust members Doreen and David Landers), and of course good lunch. All in all a very successful Northshore day and typical of what we are all about - good company, stimulating activities. Yes, we did have to decipher the directions and answer all those difficult questions!!! Once again, on behalf on the management committee, congratulations to all the various winners and many thanks to everyone on the organizing committee.



Many of you have been asking how Al and the dogs did at the Grand. Well, before I tell you, please remember that the Grand is one of the top retriever trials in North America and the judges have really, really sharp pencils!! Soooo ...on the first day Garth thought he knew better than Al where the bird was. Now the funny thing is, 95% of the time he actually does! This time, however, Al knew better and it came down to a battle of will between them. Well Garth won the battle but lost the war and his Grand experience was over!



Dixie did much better. She spanked the blind that almost 75% of the dogs failed and sailed through to day two. On day two she was perfect. Al, however, not so much! On the last bird, he reached in to get the duck out of her mouth and touched her. Well probably number one rule in the retrieving game is NO TOUCHING YOUR DOG. So that was all she wrote! Dixie was out!

Now how do you make something good out of this?

As Al walked dejectedly back to the car with Dixie, I commented out loud "Well I guess I don't have to rent a car in order to see Savannah tomorrow" and a very southern gentlemen replied "Oh Honey, I surely do love a woman who can see the bright side of things"

Lesson remembered ... ***There is a silver lining to every cloud!!***

So off we went to Savannah - Beautiful city, especially if you like history, stately old homes and legendary, bigger than life inhabitants. If you have a chance do visit, do so and allow 2 to 3 days as there's lots to see and do.

On to November, which despite being

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

my birth month, I always consider a 'grey' month, in terms of both weather and what there is to do. Christmas is approaching. I'm off on the Grove City shopping trip not sure how much actual Christmas shopping will get done as my own wardrobe is looking a bit tired! For those lucky enough to get to the dinner theatre do enjoy. Take advan-

tage of any opportunities to get out and socialize and before you know it grey old November will give way to the busy Christmas season. Mark your calendars for the Christmas dinner Dec. 8th and the Winkworth's "drinks and appies" Dec. 15. See everyone there!!

Judi

Social Activities and Events

Lunch Bunch will gather on **November 17th** at Spice of Life Bistro on Covert St. Cost will be \$15 plus HST plus gratuity (~\$19). Please sign up with your food selection (minimum 20 people).



Bridge Club 2 will meet on **November 11th** at Bill McCrindle and Dorothy Miller's house. Please let them know if you can attend.

Bake and Regifting Silent Auction will be held on **November 17th**. Get those ovens fired up and bake your favourite cakes and cookies. Check those cupboards for new or nearly new items that you have never or very gently used, it may be just what somebody has been looking for. Mary Potter is organising this event, please see her if you have any questions. All proceeds from this event go toward the Christmas party.

Christmas Party is on **December 8th** at the Lions Centre. We hope you can all come out to enjoy good food, good music and great friends. Tickets are now on sale at \$32, please see Maureen Wells or Dixie Winkworth.

Drinks and Appies will be at Dixie and John Winkworth's house at 1266 Ontario St. on **Dec. 15th**. Please let them know if you can attend.

Sharon O'Conner and Brenda Carter - Co-coordinators

You don't stop laughing because you grow old. You grow old because you stop laughing.

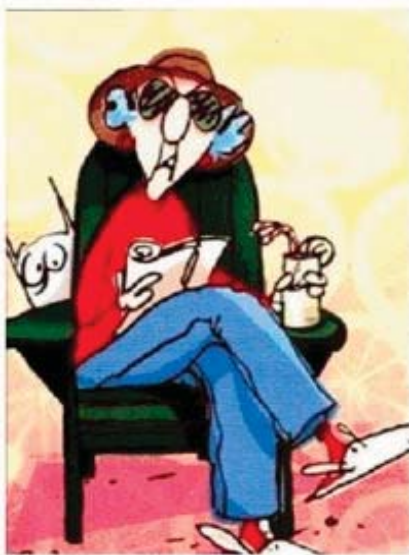
MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Thank you, everyone, for paying your dues on time for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. We now have 175 members. We have a membership cap of 200 so encourage your neighbours and friends to come and enjoy all that we have to offer. This is also a wonderful, friendly way for new residents to meet Cobourg and area people, so if you have new neighbours who are retired, please bring them to a meeting.

Kathy Maclean
Membership Chair



Senior health care solution - according to Maxine



So you're a sick senior citizen and the government says there is no nursing home available for you - what do you do?

Our plan gives anyone 65 years or older a gun and 4 bullets. You are allowed to shoot 2 MP's and 2 Ministers - not necessarily dead!

Of course, this means you will be sent to prison where you will get 3 meals a day, a roof over your head, central heating, and all the health care you need! New teeth - no problem. Need glasses, great. New hip, knees, kidney, lungs, heart? All covered. (And your kids can come and visit you as often as they do now).

And who will be paying for all of this? The same government that just told you that you they cannot afford for you to go into a home.

Plus, because you are a prisoner, you don't have to pay any income taxes anymore.

IS THIS A GREAT COUNTRY OR WHAT?

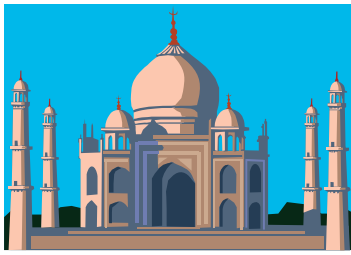


Newsletter Contributions

Your editors are working hard to make the newsletter interesting, informative and appealing. There are many activities associated with the club. We would welcome any pictures or short descriptions of club activities that you participate in. This would enable the newsletter to better reflect the vibrancy of the Northshore Probus Club of Cobourg and would surely be a useful tool for new or prospective members.

You may contact us with any of your materials at:
Bryan Armstrong --- bryana@sympatico.ca
Peter Chrisomalis --- pchrisomalis@cogeco.ca

Speaker's Corner



Trip to India

Kristiane Charlton, minister at Trinity United Church for the last four and one-half years, entranced her Probus audience with an audio-visual presentation on the topic of her trip to India. While the visual aspect of her presentation was the regular carousel of slides of people and places in India, the audio aspect came from the speaker's impressive, passionate elocution combined with her dramatic expression. The dissertation followed a tripartite arrangement: two sections highlighted a noticeable duality between standards of living; the third section provided our Probus audience with lessons in history and sociology.

In her introduction, Kristiane stated that her impressions of India were biased because she was hosted by a well-to-do woman with servants, in particular a driver, thus assuring her safety on all tours. Her next most astounding statement was the fact that she was admired everywhere for incredible reasons from a 'first world' Canadian point of view: her light skin and light hair, her education and her 'womanly' size! Our 'rev' suggested at this point that if no one had read Canadian author Rohinton Mistry's, *Such a Long Journey*, now would be the perfect time.

"It [is] like the black people in America—twice as good as the white man to get half as much." Rohinton Mistry, *Such a Long Journey*. p.55

An astronomical difference exists between the persons at the lowest level of existence, (still labeled 'the untouchables', even though that term is no longer legal nor acceptable,) and the well educated upper class society. One of Kristiane's examples of this horrific situation is the fact many Indian downtrodden neighbourhoods are filled with unemployed, unskilled, listless people,

and yet India has the most well equipped hospitals in the world along with the specialists and surgeons to staff them. Indeed, the Indian hospitals are more likely to service citizens of other countries, persons who can afford to fly across an ocean for treatment. Local poverty stricken Indian citizens in a medical crisis may not even be able to reach a hospital because most unmarked roads are blocked higgledy-piggledy by thousands of different types of transportation devices, including rickshaws pulled by animals. Another example of the difficulty of daily life in Mumbai, (formerly Bombay), is the fact that huge apartment buildings and office buildings have no sewage systems. Inhabitants must endure the fetid odour at all times. The city's bay, called 'the Bay of Bombay' has no moving water nor fish, merely thick, smelly sludge. Yet another sad situation in India is the common occurrence of 'honour killings'. This example of the poorest people being at a disadvantage exists because as a rule, India's better educated citizens would avoid the horror connected with that ancient, murderous custom. Kristiane mentioned another sad custom common in many third world countries, including India: the inequality of men and women in their society. While men can and do bathe undressed in public areas, women must keep their bodies covered in public. Many women wear a traditional garment known as a 'sari'; some women wear slacks, long sleeved shirts, and a head scarf.

The famous sights of the 'rev's touring became historical and sociological lessons for us. For instance, we learned that in ancient India much knowledge was gained through study of astrology when first the Persians held sway, followed by the Hindus. The Persian Empire left behind their symbols inlaid on the buttresses at the famous tiled Mausoleum; a tourist is treated to the beauty of onyx, marble, and malachite arranged in sketches depicting the Persian Paradise. Once the Persian Empire fell, Hin-

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

duism became the foremost power; Hindus' elegantly carved rocks and columns depict their religious symbols, with the beautiful lotus centric in all cases. (Kristiane also mentioned that most of the remaining Hindu families today continue the custom of a family shrine at home.) As time passed, other societies and their religions came to India. The world renowned Taj Mahal rose to honour a great leader and the well known Red Fort expressed the people's need to keep invaders at bay. The Christian influence is believed to have arrived (possibly in the personage we know as St. Thomas), in early A.D. Approximately half a century later Islam was making its presence known. India can proudly claim the largest mosque in the world! Another stop for the tourist is a set of 400 year old sundials that still work! In much more recent times, a remarkable feat of architecture known as Victoria Station is a not-to-be-missed sight. It is believed that the outlooks of the monotheistic religions

mingled with the older polytheistic religions gradually contributed to the tolerance that the many religions of India share today.

"prophet Zarathustra lived more than fifteen hundred years before your Son of God was even born; a thousand years before the Buddha; two hundred years before Moses. And do you know how much Zoroastrianism influenced Judaism, Christianity and Islam?"

Rohinton Mistry, *Such a Long Journey*, p.24

In conclusion, Rev. Kristiane Charlton's presentation was exceptionally well organized and thought provoking. Descriptions of over 4,000 years of people honouring their god(s) along with verbal and visual descriptions of famous sites/sights that arose from those times made Rev. K. Charlton's visit a five-star hit.

Jill Mills

Trips, Tours and Theatre (Out of Town)

"Evita" was enjoyed by the 44 people who travelled by bus to Stratford on October 28th. This was followed by a delicious supper at Angie's Kitchen in St. Agatha. This group consisted of three Probus Clubs and their friends...Brighton Probus Club, Cobourg and District Probus Club and our own club. It was a great opportunity to make new friends. The day was enjoyed by all.

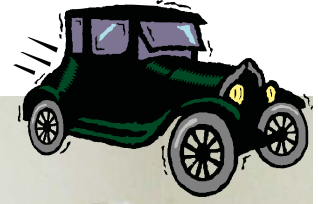
Shopping Trip to Erie and Grove City Nov 12,13,14 - \$240.00. Tickets still available - see brochure with sign up sheet for more details

Mystery Dinner Theatre "Dr Jekyll there is nowhere to Hyde" , **Nov 24th** at the Old Mill Inn, Toronto. \$68.00 per person (lunch, show and bus). Invitation from another group. One or two tickets are still available.

Portugal and the Mediterranean Cruise March 2011- Still time to sign up. Sharron has info if needed.

Sharron McMann, John Winkworth, Judi Curtis, Sharon Holmes, Dorothy Miller.

Car rally ends in dead heat



After exploring the hills of Northumberland two teams tied for first place. (above) The winning teams proudly stand with their trophy. (Diane & Rick Morrison, Louise Houle, Paddy McCoy, Trish Riddell, Rose Wood, Cal Johnston.



Best poker hands were collected by Eric and Linda Rankin, Bruce and Lynne Bateman (right) and John & Dixie Winkworth (bottom right)



The organizing committee

Julius, Brenda, Jack, Peter, Sharron, Bill, Donna and Cheryl



Best Dressed awards



Ralph and Cobie Skinner, Marion Buttars, Mary Henry

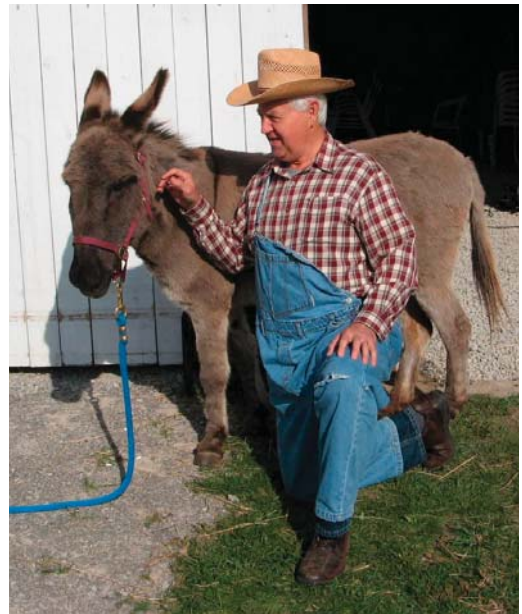


Carol Lawless, Kathy Hart, Dorla Hope, Therese May



The Snail trophy was presented to Bryan and Roberta Armstrong, Liz and Stan Muir.

Bryan kneels at the hoof of Primrose the donkey hoping to obtain geographic advice.





The Warkworth Legion provided a hearty delicious lunch for the weary travellers.

