



NORTHSHORE NEWS

A publication of The Probus Club of Northshore Cobourg

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President

Brenda Moore

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Northshore Goes to the Dogs



At the first meeting in February the Lions Centre became the Doggie Centre as Ginger (top left) displayed her talents with her therapeutic paws. {story pg. 5}

February 18th brought a surprise opening to the meeting with the mournful drones of pipers Joanne Drury and James Bruce. (middle left)

(Bottom left) The Lunch Bunch met at the Railside. {more photos pg 4}



Bridge Club 2 celebrated Elva West's birthday on January 15th. Happy Birthday, Elva.

President's Message

The Birth of Probus Clubs in Canada



With **March** being **PROBUS MONTH** I thought we should go back to the beginning and look at how Probus has evolved into one of Canada's most successful organizations. It will continue to flourish because of the dedica-

tion of a number of Past Presidents and many others who have offered their time and efforts selflessly on behalf of Probus.

The first Probus club in the world was formed in England in 1965 when a recent retiree named Fred Carhill started meeting for coffee with several other ex-commuters. There were many retired men in this area with similar business and professional backgrounds and Fred decided to form a luncheon club. The local Rotary President organized the first meeting and with forty-five men in attendance they established the Campus Club.

At about the same time in September 1965 Harold Blanchard, a member of the Caterham Rotary Club also retired. At his urging the Caterham Rotary club organized a meeting of retired professionals and businessmen aged 60 and over in February 1966. Forty-two prospective members attended and agreed to a monthly luncheon meeting. They adopted the name of Probus, taking the first three letters of PROfessional and BUSiness. Harold is considered the "father figure" of Probus in Great Britain.

Since that time Probus has spread throughout the world and at the present time there are over 4,000 clubs worldwide and the numbers are increasing steadily.

Probus clubs were introduced to New Zealand in 1974, Australia in 1976 and Canada in 1987.

Probus in Canada

As of July 2012, more than 30,000 Probus members in 217 active Canadian Clubs thanks to **John Reynolds Morris -President (1996-1999)** for introducing Probus Clubs to Canada. John Reynolds Morris was the founder of Probus in Canada, the first President of Probus Centre- Canada. As President Emeritus, his wisdom and sage advice continues to be an invaluable asset to the Directors of Probus Centre- Canada. He is a Rotarian since 1946, and Past District Governor of Rotary International 1976-1977 in an area covering Southwest Ontario and New York State. Also, he was made a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary in 1976 and Rotary International Bene-

factor and was the personal representative of the president of Rotary International at five District Conferences. During a trip to Australia and New Zealand in 1981, John saw firsthand the enjoyment people were experiencing through Probus membership. He felt that retired people in Canada could share the benefits of Probus and was determined to introduce it to Canada.

His acquaintances from Australia supplied him with documents and booklets including instructions on "How To Form a Probus Club" which he re-wrote modifying it into a document that would apply to the Canadian Clubs. He scheduled several speaking engagements to Rotary clubs. This was the impetus needed to organize the formation of the Probus Clubs locally and eventually across Canada. During this period, he visited forty-three Rotary Clubs requesting their assistance in the formation of Probus with five visits to the west coast and four to the east coast.

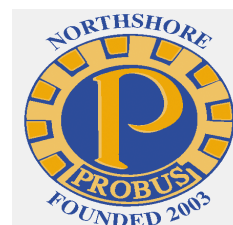
In 1989, John recognized there was a need of protecting the Probus logo and After making an application, was successful in acquiring a trademark. He realized there was also a need for liability insurance and with the assistance of Bert Klinkhammer of Galt, Ontario was able to procure it. Bert Klinkhammer who, in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Galt, was instrumental in forming Canada's first Probus Club, the Probus Club of Cambridge, on March 17th 1987 and became its first president.

Women in Probus

It was not until October 1990 that women had their first Probus Club. **The Women's Probus Club of Burlington, Ontario.** The first President was **Barbara Newham.** The second president, **Mary Fraser,** who served for three years on the Probus Canada Council and assisted with the formation of the Womens' Probus Club at Kitchener-Westmount. **Of the 217 clubs in Canadian 2012, there are 34 women's clubs and 47 men's clubs. These are far outweighed by the 89 combined clubs.**

At our Club, **Northshore Probus** we have designed a promotional card small enough that it will easily fit in your wallet. We ask that you use this card to invite one or two of your retired friends to one of our meetings so that we can share all of the great things that Probus has to offer.

Let's promote Probus at Northshore especially during March which is Probus Month.



Hitting the Road



Now how about this for a job? You get a brand new Camaro convertible. It's yellow in colour—it could grow on you—and you and your teenage son have to drive across the country with the top down—unless it's raining—and get paid for it. Now you do have to write stuff about the trip but surely given the breadth of this country finding something to say shouldn't be all that difficult. After all, it's a fair assumption that all you might have to do is park the car in a MacDonald's parking lot and talk to the people who come over to check it out. Well—drat—Mark Richardson got it, not me.

But then Mark found a whole host of other interesting things to do: took time off from a job as a reporter in Ottawa to travel around central and eastern Africa as an aid worker and researcher for a documentary. Then there was a TV news producer

“Seek out some adversity to give yourself that feeling of triumph...a sense of self discovery”

in the UK, came back to Canada to work at the *Toronto Star* where he became editor of the *Wheels* section and gave himself more interesting trips including one that included riding a motor cycle to California that provided sufficient number of adventures to write a book *Zen and Now*. It is no surprise that he has driven in every state and province in the US and Canada, some even with his wife and kids in a minivan.

Speaker's Corner

Overtime he has evolved a philosophy that keeps him heading down the highway. “Drive where you have never driven before...always seek out a new place for coffee or lunch” are easy to accept. “Drive in both light and dark” to give yourself a sense of accomplishment. “Don't take the easy route”— never fly when you can drive—and then too, see if you can find a ferry as a change of pace. “Seek out some adversity” to give yourself that “feeling of triumph...a sense of “self discovery”. Always have a camera and be prepared to be surprised. And most important, take someone with you, “trips are intended to be shared”.

But then there can be issues, particularly the part about sharing the trip especially if your sense of adventure is not all that compatible with your companion and then don't post a picture of your terrified wife in the article you wrote for the *Star*.

Julius



Peter Chrisomalis thanks Mark for his fascinating and informative presentation

Welcome to Northshore



At the February 18th meeting, President Brenda welcomed Nora Baker into the Northshore family.

The Lunch Bunch



After the meeting on February 18th, over 30 members descended on the RAILSIDE restaurant in Port Hope for conversation and good food. A big thank you to Sharon Holmes for arranging this delightful and delicious event.

Paws That Heal



Dogs are reputed to be man's (and probably woman's too) best friend. They have been part of lives for eons of time ever since the first one wandered into our

campfire's light in search of scraps and we came to understand that they will grow exceedingly fond of us just for food. Of course some dogs work: drag sleds, lead those who lost their sight, are companion to those with serous handicaps. Then there are those dogs that heal just by being what they are, dogs. Joanne Smith, who is Team Leader for the Cobourg and Port Hope Branch of Therapeutic Dogs, a coast to coast non-profit organization, that takes dogs to schools, hospitals and senior's residences. Locally the organization is funded by Cameco.

Joanne sees her job as "bringing a little sunshine" to those whose lives at that particular time may need a little brightening. Most particularly she senses this when she visits the Cardiac Surgery Unit at Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto. The children of course are upset, some crying, all are scared yet for the time she and her dog are there, the mood changes. "The kids become kids again." as they cluster about her dog, petting, calling out his name..."It's most rewarding."

The secret is not the breed of dog but its disposition. "The dog must be bomb proof" i.e. no matter what's going on the dog has to stay calm. The dog has to pass the test every year and one failure and the dog is rejected. But then the dog has to be serene in all sorts of environments ranging from excited grade one and two classes to a confused Alzheimer patient at a seniors' home.

The test begins with being in the company of many

Speaker's Corner

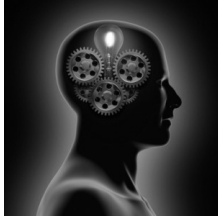
dogs; one bark and the dog fails. Then the dog is touched by a number of people at the same time, even in his mouth and it doesn't respond aggressively. The dog is surrounded by people who have all the equipment that one might find in a hospital setting: wheelchairs, canes, crutches, walkers and not get excited, not jump up on anyone, does not show fear when startled by a loud noise. Working dogs such as those accompanying autistic children are not supposed to be touched, "They are on the job". But being touched is a therapeutic dog's job.

The interesting thing is that all these dogs are trained by their owners, not by a professional in an obedience class. You can test your own dog if it has the right stuff. Roll the dog over on its back. If it resists, it's a leader dog and probably unsuitable. The dog is given treats but not as part of the training program; it is his or her character that makes it succeed.

Julius



Rick Moore and Ginger listen attentively to Joanne



Brain Exercise

- A What word in the English language is always spelled incorrectly?
- B Billie was born on December 28th, yet her birthday always falls in the summer. How is this possible?
- C In British Columbia you cannot take a picture of a man with a wooden leg. Why not?
- D If you were running a race and you passed the person in 2nd place, what place would you be in now?
- E Which is correct to say, "The yolk of the egg is white" or "The yolk of the egg are white?"
- F A farmer has five haystacks in one field and four haystacks in another. How many haystacks would he have if he combined them all in one field?

Trips & Tours

Stratford: **Sound of Music**, July 22 2015, \$146.00

Shaw: **Sweet Charity**, Aug. 27 2015, \$154.00

Call **Jennie Herniak 905-372-5953**

Bus depart from Staples parking lot @8:30 a.m. day of event.

Cobourg Probud club is going to the Ripley Aquarium April 15th

Bus, lunch, & entry for \$ 107.35 - Sharron McMann is taking reservations

Upcoming Speakers

March 4th ... Terry Fallis, Leacock Award winner for humour, political satirist
 - "An Unorthodox Journey to the Published Land"

March 18th... Community Care Hospice - service and bereavement support

April 1st .. Easter Bonnet contest

Probus Bowling - Mission Accomplished



Team Northshore Avoids the Toilet Seat!!!



Some of our happy competitors. We're not sure why Jack is trying to take a picture of Doug's hair. Perhaps he is scouting out a transplant.

On February 2 **Team Northshore** achieved its goal by avoiding last place and the dreaded Toilet Seat Trophy at the annual Probus bowling tournament held at Northshore Lanes in the Northumberland Mall. { There is no truth to the rumour that the bowling establishment is named after our club}.

Thanks to Mary Potter and Jack Chapman who spearheaded our third place team and organized practice sessions for the five teams and 28 bowlers that represented our club. In her report Mary thanked all the participants for their enthusiasm and good sportsmanship.

In Memoriam

In the past month Probud Northshore has been saddened by the loss of one former member (Ruth Morgan) and one current member (Connie Richardson). Our condolences are extended to their families in this time of their grief. They will be missed.



Ruth Morgan



Connie Richardson

Answers

- A Incorrectly (except when it is spelled incorrectly).
- B Billie lives in the southern hemisphere.
- C You can't take a picture with a wooden leg. You need a camera or cell phone
- D You would be in 2nd place. You passed the Person in second place not first.
- E Neither. Egg yolks are yellow.
- F One. If he combines all his haystacks, they all Become one big stack.

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