



# THE PRO-BUZZ

**FEBRUARY 2014**

## ROBBIE BURNS' CELEBRATION

Awakened by his batman in the Married Quarters at 0700 hrs that day, Lieutenant-Colonel Harry Nash and The Colonel's Lady immediately got Operation Haggis under way. They'd had a disturbed night thinking about it. Was there enough time? Was there a safe container – haggis, conveying, for the use of – somewhere in MQs? Were his men in place? Had the perimeter been secured at the Mess?

But now, action was called for. On went the oven. In went the great chieftain o' the puddin'-race. Timing was imperative; orders from those who'd gone before must be obeyed without question – watches had been synchronized – 20 minutes per pound, not a nano-second more or less.

When the buzzer pinged, both Nashes secured the beast, scooped it into its styrofoam nest with military precision and set out into the dawn.

There was only one civilian vehicle on scene when their chopper landed in the parking lot, stopping only long enough to unload its material and personnel who set off for the cookhouse at a quick march.

Again, timing was key. At precisely 0950 hrs, President Jamie Doolittle (himself of military stock and known as "General Stentor" to the men) called the parade to order for the singing of the anthem.

Soon the skirl of the pipes could be heard in an undisclosed location as Piper Bill Ruttle tuned his instrument. At a nod from General Stentor, Col. Nash, kilted in the Royal Canadian Air Force tartan, slipped from the room. The pipes grew louder as Piper Ruttle entered piping furiously, followed by the Colonel bearing the gallant dish on a silver platter as the parade stood at attention.



Now the true ceremony was about to begin. But there was one setback: Bombardier Archie McGeachy had been medevac'd to hospital after being mauled by a savage

beast at his wilderness retreat north of HQ. So the parade was denied his annual spirited rendition of Robert Burns' 'Address To A Haggis'.

But Col. Nash gave a wise and witty Toast to the Lassies and Lanor Woodhouse did the same for the Laddies. And then the Haggis was served.

Some present refused even a taste. Their names have been taken and they will be placed on orders.

Submitted by Michael Hanlon

### **EARLY DAYS: PROBUS CLUB OF NORTHUMBERLAND**

*When I made a very happy visit to "my" Probus club last July, Jamie Dolittle asked me to send my memories of the early days of the Club to the Pro-Buzz editors. I am happy to oblige...*

In February 2000, I was asked by Russ Donaldson and Ross Adams to join them, along with Bill Moore of Rotary, to discuss the formation of a second Probus club for the Cobourg area. Knowing Bill as I did, it was a pleasure to be a part of the early discussions at Bill's home, brainstorming how the club could come about. The four of us had at least two meetings and it was agreed we would spread the word about an exploratory meeting at the Dalewood Golf Club in April. This would gauge the response and see if there was enough interest in going forward.

Remember, this was before social media, but the word certainly did get out because we were overwhelmed by the number of people who showed up and who expressed in no uncertain terms, that a second club was needed... now!

In May, Ron Templer agreed to be president, a committee was proposed, and luckily for the Probus Club of Northumberland, Ron and Verna proved to be the mainstay of the club. Their work and dedication over the years was beyond measure. Verna was still organizing activities when I visited the club this past July, and so many times over the years members of the first Probus club would say how they wished they could "kidnap" Verna to be their social convenor!

I was the second president, to be followed by Roy Thorneycroft, then many presidents since. I don't remember all of them except Mike Hanlon. He and Joan have also been hardworking members and Mike's background as a writer and journalist served the club well through his many newsletters.



It was hard to leave in 2006 to move to Victoria, so I went looking for a similar Probus club here but did not find one. The two I visited were so different, not warm and inclusive like Northumberland. The members sat in rows, theatre style, with no mingling, not much sharing of news and information and very formal. One was for

couples only and as Pat was still working it was made quite clear I could not join alone.

Eventually, I was lucky to find a wonderful group, not Probus, but Newcomers, and through that have come many friendships, outings and activities. What you have in the Probus Club of Northumberland is very special. I felt that warmth and friendship when I walked into the meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013 - Joan Hanlon at the door, Verna Templer working her magic on stage and all the rest of the familiar faces. Thank you so much for that welcome. It was wonderful to see the club in such good, caring hands thirteen years later. I keep my Past President 2001-2002 badge in my jewelry box as a reminder of six great years.

*Submitted by Pam Jackson*

**WANTED: LADIES BORN IN 1939**

Alma Draper, a longtime member of the Cobourg and District Probus Club has issued an interesting invitation to the female members of our Club. By way of background, Alma explains that in 2009, she and Bert MacMillan organized a birthday party for all ladies living in Northumberland County who were born in the historical year of 1939. Can you believe that 80 women came to that event? They had a blast and just about covered the globe insofar as where each one was born.

Under pressure not to wait until they hit 80 years of age before celebrating again, they are now organizing another party for this year to celebrate their 75<sup>th</sup> year on this earth.

Details are:

- Event: Lunch & Entertainment at the Best Western Inn, Cobourg
- Date: Tuesday, June 17, 2014
- Time: 12 noon
- Deadline: Tickets will be available until May 31<sup>st</sup>

Call Alma at (905) 372-5839 or Bert at (905) 372-6548 for more information or email Alma: [Adraper8@cogeco.ca](mailto:Adraper8@cogeco.ca)



**PLEASE NOTE**

The Oddfellows have equipment available to loan to people who require wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, raised toilet seats, etc. Although there is no cost, they do appreciate donations. Call Jack Scott at (905) 372-0500 or (905) 372-6725.

## **SINGLES' CLUB LUNCHESES**

Twelve of us kicked off our 2014 activities at the Railside and a very good time was had by all. Norma McGrath and Patricia Noble won a coupon each, donated by the Railside as a Christmas 'thank you' to its patrons. Appreciation goes to Jan and Norm Lundbohm who were the original recipients but offered the coupons to our group.

Our next outing was at the Woodlawn Inn on Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup> and, given the weather this winter, we're glad that we've picked places with on-site parking. The Mill will be booked for our March get-together since it is a central location with good eats and parking.

New members to the Singles' Club are always welcome. You must be single and a member of our Probus club. Please contact me at (905) 372-1809 if you are interested in joining the group for a social outing that includes lunch.

*Submitted by Louise Barraclough*

## **2014 ANNUAL GOLF TRIP**



This year's golf event will be held on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in Orillia.

Accommodation is at the Best Western Couchiching Inn. Please make your own reservations by calling 1-888-869-2306. Inform them that you are with the Probus Northumberland Golf Group in Cobourg.

Additional details are:

- Cost for golfers is \$279.36 and for non-golfers is \$194.36.
- Golfers will play on Monday and Tuesday at the Hawk Ridge Golf Course (above).
- The hotel stay is 2 nights and includes 2 breakfasts and 2 dinners.
- There is a shuttle bus to and from Casino Rama hourly from 5:30pm until midnight.

If you're interested in participating in this annual event, please sign up today.

*Submitted by Verna Templer*

## ADDENDUM TO 2013/2014 MEMBERSHIP LIST

as of January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014

### Additions

Hewson, Gord & Monica	756 Westwood Drive, Cobourg, K9A 2B8	905 372-8430
Holmes, Jane	6 - 101 Marissa Lane, Cobourg, K9A 2N6	905 372-8686
Hulme, Russ & Helen	103 – 145 Third Street, Cobourg, K9A 5X1	289 252-2087
Woodhouse, Ralph	9 Huffman Ave, Port Hope L1A 4J9	905 885-9348
Tee, Ossie & Susan	17 Coronation Cres, Cobourg K9A 1T5	289 252-0939

### Address Change

Leckey, Molly	359 College St, Cobourg, K9A 3V5	905 372-1130
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**Note:** 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.

## *SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY*

<b>Also called</b>	Valentine's Day Feast of Saint Valentine
<b>Observed by</b>	People in many countries; Anglican Communion (see calendar), Eastern Orthodox Church (see calendar), Lutheran Church (see calendar)
<b>Type</b>	Cultural, Christian, commercial
<b>Significance</b>	Feast day of Saint Valentine; the celebration of Love and affection
<b>Observances</b>	Sending greeting cards and gifts, dating, church services
<b>Date</b>	February 14 (fixed by the Catholic Church); July 7 (fixed by the Orthodox Church)
<b>Frequency</b>	annual



## COMING EVENTS

### **SOCIAL**

March Singles' Club lunch at The Mill Restaurant & Pub. A definite date will be announced at the next meeting.

May 26,27 & 28 Annual Golf Trip 2014\*

June 17<sup>th</sup> 1939ers Birthday Party\*

\* *Additional information about these events is available on pages 3 and 4.*

### **THE LUNCH BUNCH** by Marion Boys & Lynn Ramsay

Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> The Mill Restaurant & Pub

Mar. 27<sup>th</sup> The Red Lantern

### **THE SPEAKER'S CORNER** by Harry Nash

Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> Dr. Bob Scott – Rotary Polio Plus

Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> Mette Aarlev, YMCA Northumberland – Seniors-related projects

Mar. 13<sup>th</sup> Wendy Kolodziejczak & Gayle Einarsson – PATH Project

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*Note: Past issues of Pro-Buzz are available at [www.probusnorthumberland.com](http://www.probusnorthumberland.com)*

