



# The ProBuzz



*Newsletter of the PROBUS Club of Northumberland - May 2014*

---

## *A Message from Your President*

*Our club has benefited from our members meeting the challenge of filling many management and committee positions since last September. There are nineteen of you who have volunteered since that time to assist the incumbents in the running of the club. This number does not include the many who fill in temporarily when one of us is absent.*

*This commitment to the club ensures our continued success in maintaining many of our traditional events as well as daring to try some new things. The car rally has become a more leisurely Drive & Dine. The Drive Committee is also new and has been utilized a couple of times.*

*So join the Singles group, or host Appies & Drinks, or volunteer or try something you haven't tried before. The key to our success is with our members continuing to be involved and many new members have already demonstrated this.*

*If you have an idea for an event, or how we may improve something or try something new, please let me or one of the Management Team know your thoughts.*

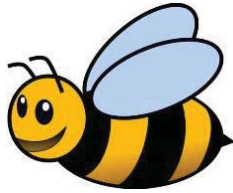
*It continues to be an honour and a pleasure to be serving as your President again. I know Lynn is looking forward to leading the club come October. If you would like to help her with the administration of the club, please let her know. As always, you do not need to wait to be asked to help. We always appreciate your assistance.*

*As we move into our 15th year, Happy Birthday, and please remember:*

*Our Strength is Friendship ... Our Success is Participation*

*Jamie Doolittle*

## PROBUZZ - THE BEGINNING



Who is this little apian character you see flitting around the pages of ProBuzz and where did he come from? Here is a note from Rena Thorneycroft that tells the story:

*"Newer members may be wondering how ProBuzz started and the origin of the logo. In the early years it was decided to have a newsletter for which a suitable title and logo were required. Buzz is naval slang for news: hence ProBuzz. My granddaughter Sarah Beth, because of her computer skills, was requested to produce a suitable logo associated with 'buzz', and she designed a logo depicting a bee (bees buzz). Over the years the logo has shrunk, lost its colour and wings but has appeared somewhere in every edition since."* ~ Rena Thorneycroft

From these early beginnings, Billy Buzzbee, as we call him, has evolved and is now grown up ... you might say he has waxed great in stature. Over the past winter he hibernated, like many of the rest of us, and emerged this Spring with a full set of wings, and a new spirit to help give flight to this new version of your newsletter with a new logo and new page design.

Billy will be helping us to keep your publication interesting by bringing you tidbits of useless information, and filling tiny spaces where no self-respecting editor would dare to go. Billy will be the buzz in ProBuzz and you'll be seeing more of him on these pages in the months ahead.

Speaking of these pages, if there are any regular features you would like to see added to each issue, or any article of interest you would like published, please contact the editors. If there is room and it is in good taste, we'll put it in. After all, this is your newsletter and we are but your humble servants (OK maybe not, but you get the point).

Thank you to all the members who send material in every month, especially those who send it in ahead of deadline. Now it's time to buzz off, so until we meet again, Billy Buzzbee says, "Have a great month, and beehive yourself."

## APRIL 10th MEETING



### The Sir William Top Hat Society

On April 10<sup>th</sup> we had a visit from Bill Checkley and some members of the Executive of the Sir William Top Hat Society. This is a charitable organization that sends professional therapeutic clowns and entertainers to visit and entertain those in hospital, hospice, or residential care in Northumberland County, Durham County, and the GTA..

A fashionable clown, William "Bill" Checkley dresses in top hat and tails and wears a bright red wig. The Top Hat Society got its name from his top hat which plays a role in comforting children with cancer who have lost their hair. They wear the hat and then pose for a picture with a clown. The clowns do not play games or perform tricks. Instead Sir William and the other clowns just try to make the ill more comfortable, and the needy feel more valuable.

"There's no greater joy in the world than making life better for one person," Bill Checkley said, "and we are fortunate to be able to help thousands by appealing to the inner child in all of us." He commented that our Easter Parade of colourful hats before his presentation was a good example of the 'inner child'.

Bill decided to become a clown many years ago when visiting his sick nephew in a Toronto hospital. He came back to the hospital dressed in what is now his trademark get-up, and when he saw the effect it had on his nephew and the other children, he thought that he wanted to do the same for as many children as possible. And then he learned that adults take to a friendly clown just as much as children do. From that small but inspired beginning, the Society has evolved into the more far reaching organization it is today.

The Sir William Top Hat Society accepts donations from the community which allows them to continue making hospital and institutional visits.

For further information, you can email them at [swtophatsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:swtophatsociety@yahoo.com) or visit their web-site at [www.tophatsociety.org](http://www.tophatsociety.org).

## APRIL 24th MEETING



The April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting was a pleasant change of pace. Instead of a speaker, Harry Nash produced an excellent mind and memory challenging QUIZ!!!!

The 25 questions were varied including puzzlers from Mathematics, History, Geography, questions about “bits and bytes”, dart board numbers, scrabble, temperature, WW1 and WW2 heroes, etc. Amazing variety.

The winning table included: Jean and Michael Hanlon, Fred and Donna Cooke, John Boczan, Vivian Jenkins and Doris Rasmussin.

Harry put in a great deal of time and effort to produce an excellent informative session.

Well done, Harry.

*- Marilyn McMillan*

## EASTER PARADE



This year's Easter Parade featured many hats of all shapes, colours, decorations and sizes. They were paraded by their creators to music rendered by Bill Ramsay tickling the ivories, and later everyone joined in to sing “In Your Easter Bonnet”.

Prizes were won by Helen Hulme, Barbara Reading, Brian Scott, Ron Sergent and Verna Templer for first, second (male and female) and funniest. A general good Spring feeling was enjoyed by all. Thanks are due to all who helped make it a good time.

*~ LaNor Woodhouse*

## Smartphones good for your health in Cobourg



Imagine a smartphone to record your health history, share it, and then communicate directly with your health provider. Have you ever been handed a clipboard and pen in a doctor's office and asked to fill out a questionnaire about your health history only to realize you can't remember all the facts?

You are not alone. Over the course of six or seven or more decades on this planet, the simple facts of our own health story – medical conditions, surgeries, treatments, allergies, and so on – can blur. As each year goes by it gets more difficult to present an accurate summary to a new healthcare provider. Think of the time wasted or the errors that can occur when we don't get it right!

Fortunately for 300 seniors here in Northumberland, and the caregivers who support them, the real time communication is about to get a whole lot easier.

Beginning right now, thanks to Project PATH, local seniors selected for the pilot will be assigned a smartphone and trained on how to use it. They will be able to record key facts of their healthcare history to share with their healthcare providers in a secure, private online portal directly from their home.

This is the beginning of a true dialogue between seniors and their healthcare teams, providing feedback after each healthcare encounter, and the ability to monitor conditions remotely and communicate accordingly.

As described at a recent PROBUS meeting, PATH is an exciting local effort with provincial and national potential. To read more about this and/or to sign up for PATH news and updates, please go to [www.changefoundation.ca/projects/path](http://www.changefoundation.ca/projects/path) or call the PATH office at Northumberland Hills Hospital at 905-377-7791.

*~Excerpt from Northumberland News*

## MARCH 27<sup>th</sup> MEETING

At our March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting Harry Nash introduced our guest speaker, the Reverend Stanley Isherwood, Treasurer of the Cobourg Museum Foundation, who gave us a most interesting presentation on the Sifton-Cooke Heritage Centre (SCHC) and its origin.



*The Sifton-Cooke Heritage Centre on Orr Street*

Reverend Isherwood opened his talk by challenging the audience's knowledge of Cobourg's early history with a multiple choice quiz. His questions and the correct answers included:

**Q:** *What was the date settlers first arrived in Cobourg?* **A:** 1798.

**Q:** *Which native of Cobourg is honoured with a bronze statue in Times Square, New York City?*  
**A:** Padre Patrick Duffy.

**Q:** *What was William Weller known for?*  
**A:** He was the owner of a famous stage coach line.

**Q:** *What was the name of a famous Arctic explorer born in Cobourg?* **A:** Laughlin Taylor Burwash.

**Q:** *What were Ontario #1 and Ontario #2?*  
**A:** A pair of two-funnelled steamers that plied Lake Ontario between Cobourg and Rochester carrying coal and cars.

The Cobourg Museum Foundation is located on Orr St. and has been referred to as "the Barracks" for many years. Through the efforts of dedicated volunteers and hard work it officially opened the Heritage Centre in the summer of 2012 and in 2013 recorded 3,023 visitors from the local area, Toronto, Quebec, the US and Europe.

The success of the SCHC, as a means of promoting a wider knowledge of our local history, is the result of the generosity of more than 30 local businesses, the volunteer efforts of hundreds of individuals and the dedication of more than 30 Board Members who have guided the Cobourg Museum Foundation

through its 14 year history. The length of volunteer service has ranged from a few days to commitments spanning many years.

Over its first two summers of operation and under the policy of free admission to all, many successes have been achieved. Two heritage buildings have been added and this year on February 10<sup>th</sup> the museum received the Ontario Heritage Trust Community Recognition Award, acknowledging the significant contribution towards local heritage (two heritage buildings and their adapted re-use at the SCHC). This award was accepted by board chair Joan Chalovich on behalf of the more than 300 volunteers who have served over the past 14 years.

A winter newsletter put out by the SCHC outlining their achievements was distributed to the Probus members in attendance. This newsletter also set out the need for volunteers to continue the centre's tremendous contribution to the history of Cobourg. Volunteers are needed in a variety of categories ranging from guiding at the centre, membership development and newsletter preparation and distribution.

Interested parties who can devote some time to the SCHC are encouraged to contact Stanley Isherwood by mail at the Cobourg Museum Foundation, 55 King Street West, Cobourg, ON K9A 2M2; by email ([info@cobourgmuseum.ca](mailto:info@cobourgmuseum.ca)); or by telephone at 905-372-0698. Their website at [www.cobourgmuseum.ca](http://www.cobourgmuseum.ca) is another wonderful source for information on volunteer opportunities. For those with limited time to devote, any financial assistance would also be welcomed.

If you haven't yet visited the SCHC you owe it to yourself to see this tremendous display of our local heritage right here in our midst. The 2014 season opens on May 17<sup>th</sup> and will feature "Our Military Story" as the theme. How many of us knew what a rich military background Cobourg can claim, including Victoria Cross Medals, and the sensational trial of a WW I General held right here at the Olde Bailey Court Room in Victoria Hall?

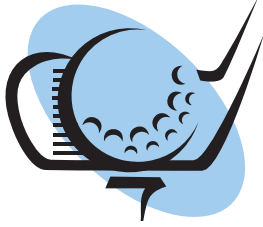
Don't let the summer go by without paying a visit as your time will be richly rewarded.

~ **Marcie Polson**





## THE GOLF GROUP



Golf season will be here soon, and we plan to continue the activities of our Golf Group. This will be our twelfth year, and last year 62 of our members participated. This is a unique opportunity to have some fun playing golf while getting to know your fellow PROBUS members better.

The following information is provided for the benefit of our new members, which should give you a better understanding of our golfing activities.

- Our emphasis is on "FUN GOLF".
- We play 9 holes of golf on the Monday morning following each of our PROBUS meetings.
- We play as teams of four people using the "Scramble Format" for about half of our outings.
- We play at 5 different golf courses.
- The time and place of our golf outings are announced at our PROBUS meetings.

There is no obligation to attend every golf outing, just whenever it suits you. Arrangements are sufficiently flexible so all we need is a show of hands at our PROBUS meetings of those planning to golf with us on the following Monday.

If you wish to join our Golf Group or have any questions, please see me at our meeting on Thursday May 8<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to golfing with many of our members again this summer.

~Danny Robertson

Billy "Tiger" Buzzbee says ...



"I'm a scratch golfer. I write down all my good scores, and scratch out all the bad ones."

## THE SINGLES CLUB



### April 15<sup>th</sup> at the Golden Chopsticks

The singles group had a change of plans due to the forecasted rain/ice on April 15<sup>th</sup>. We opted for a local establishment and had lunch at the Golden Chopsticks on King Street in Cobourg. Only five of us "braved" the weather (which was not as bad as predicted) and had an enjoyable lunch. Hopefully by May we can venture further afield with better weather.

We welcome singles to join us for lunch, and there was hopeful talk of taking a trip somewhere.

~ Patricia Noble

## MAY TWO FOUR WEEKEND



Queen Victoria's birthday on May 24<sup>th</sup> is a statutory holiday in all of Canada, except Quebec (so what's new?) However it is celebrated on the first Monday preceding the 24<sup>th</sup> and this year is on May 19<sup>th</sup>. (Still with me?). It is the first long weekend since Easter and is also known as the May Two-Four weekend.

This is the traditional weekend during which one opens the cottage and observes the unofficial start of summer. The reference to two-four instead of the twenty-fourth refers to the obligatory case(s) of 24 bottles of beer required to celebrate the opening of the cottage, and to steel one's courage against the black flies, and the mice that have settled into the cottage since last Fall.

After this weekend gardeners can be reasonably sure that there will be no more frost till Autumn, so they can safely sow or plant delicate crops and flowers. Although with the weather we've had recently, I wouldn't count on it.

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES



Here are some changes and additions to our membership list as of April 30, 2014.

We'd like to welcome new members:

**Lois Lohnes**

92 - 437 John Street,  
Cobourg K9A 3T6  
(905) 372-4418

**Kathy McKellar**

1202 - 120 University Ave E,  
Cobourg K9A 0A9  
(905) 373-8810

Address Changes:

**Jamie & Carol Doolittle**

1302 – 120 University Ave E,  
Cobourg K9A 0A9  
Same phone: (905) 372-6465

**Trish Morgan**

711 Henderson Drive,  
Cobourg, K9A 8J1  
Same phone (905) 377-1020

## 5 DEADLY TERMS USED BY A WOMAN

**FINE** - This is the word women use to end an argument when she knows she is right and you need to shut up.

**NOTHING** – This actually means “something” and you need to be worried.

**GO AHEAD** – This is a dare, not permission. Do not do it!

**WHATEVER** – A woman’s way of saying ‘screw you’.

**THAT’S OK** – She is thinking hard on how and when you will pay for your mistake.

**WOW !** - This is not a compliment. She is just amazed that one person could be so stupid.

## MOTHER

Howard Johnson was an American songwriter in the early to mid-1900s who was later inducted into the Songwriters’ Hall of Fame. Among his many hits were “I Scream (for ice cream)”, “When the Moon Comes Over the Mountain”, “A Broken Heart for Every Light on Broadway”, “Love Me or Leave Me”, and the lilting “Ireland Must be Heaven for my Mother Comes From There.”

But probably his most famous song, sung by most of the popular singers of the day like Al Jolson, was this one which we now dedicate to mothers everywhere.

**M** is for the million things she gave me

**O** means only that she’s growing old

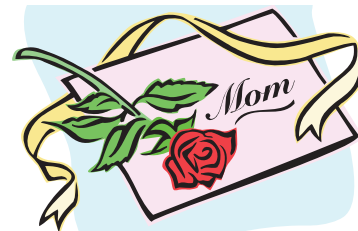
**T** is for the tears she shed to save me

**H** is for her heart of purest gold

**E** is for her eyes with love light shining

**R** means right and right she’ll always be

Put them all together they spell MOTHER  
A word that means the world to me.



*Happy Mothers' Day*

## AND GRANDMA TOO

While we honour all our mothers  
With words of love and praise  
While we tell about their goodness  
And their kind and loving ways  
We should also think of Grandma  
She’s a mother too, you see  
For she mothered my dear mother  
As my mother mothered me

*~Author unknown*

## WICKED



**ED MIRVISH THEATRE**  
*(formerly The Cannon Theatre)*

**Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2014**  
**Bus departs from the Lions Centre**  
**on Elgin Street at 10.30 a.m.**

**Cost per person \$135**  
**(based on Seniors' dinner**  
**price at the Mandarin)**

A story of an unlikely, but profound friendship of two girls (one born with emerald green skin - is smart fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular) who first meet as sorcery students. Through a series of extraordinary adventures in the Land of Oz, they ultimately fulfil their destinies as Glinda the Good Witch and The Wicked Witch of the West.

An unforgettable award winning musical that reveals the darker side of Oz with a sinister edge you would never imagine. "Wicked" is the winner of over 50 major awards, including a Grammy® and three Tony® awards.

### **What is included:**

Bus pick up and return from Cobourg to Toronto, orchestra seats for the matinee performance, dinner at the Mandarin (no beverages included), tips for Mandarin staff and bus driver.

There are only 56 seats available and 31 have already been sold. We have been told that this is a show you do not want to miss. Due to the fact that the balance of the cost of the theatre tickets must be paid by July 4<sup>th</sup>, we will require payment **cheques only - payable to Probus N Travel - by the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

You can call me (905) 377-2436 to add your name to the sign-up sheet.

*~ Jan Lundbohm*

## Woman's Poem

Before I lay me down to sleep  
I pray for a man who's not a creep  
One who's handsome, smart and strong  
One who listens all day long  
One who thinks before he speaks  
Who'll do things now, not wait for weeks  
Oh send me a king to make me a queen  
A man who loves to cook and clean

## Man's Poem

I pray for a gorgeous young deaf mute with a great body who owns a bar on a golf course and loves to send me out to go fishing and drinking. This doesn't rhyme and I don't care.

*Now doesn't that bring a tear to your eye?*

## 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.

## THE LUNCH BUNCH



On April 24<sup>th</sup> the Swiss Chalet catered to the appetites of 28 Lunch Bunch members. The most popular item on the menu was their chicken, accompanied by much "finger-lickin" and enjoyment. This month we are experiencing Kelly's Home Like Inn, a pub with a separate dining room and lots of good food. Hope to see you there.

*~ Marian Boys*

## SOCIAL CALENDAR



**Elvis:** The Capitol Theatre in Port Hope is hosting a tribute to Elvis on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Call (905) 885-1071 for info about tickets and show times.

**Stony Lake Cruise:** Marilyn Wood has made arrangements for us to enjoy a relaxing boat trip and lovely luncheon on Stony Lake aboard the Kawartha Spirit near the Viamede Resort on Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The boat can comfortably accommodate 130 passengers for this two hour tour.

The cost per person is \$40.25 including taxes and gratuities. Wine, beer and spirits can also be purchased on board for your enjoyment, but are not included in this price. Please see Marilyn at the break to secure your seat. Last day for sign up is June 12<sup>th</sup>. Cheques should be made out to Probus N Travel. Further details about directions will be made available later.

**Wicked:** Please see Jan Lundbohm to sign up for Wicked at the Ed Mirvish Theatre on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to make all cheques payable to Probus N Travel. The cost is \$135.00 for the show, the bus and dinner at the Mandarin. Jan says you can call her at home (905) 377-2436 to book your seat and pay a deposit of \$100.00. The balance owing for this event is due on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Picnic in the Park:** Mark your calendars for our annual Picnic in the Park on June 26<sup>th</sup>. The Lawn Bowling members have graciously offered to host this event again. We will start our sign-up the last meeting in May.

~ Marilyn Csefko

## WARNING

*"If you look like your passport photo,  
you're too ill to travel."*

## SPEAKERS' CORNER



**May 8** – Lori Pearson and Jeff Cain tell us about Northumberland 89.7 FM "Small Town Radio". This is our volunteer-run community station providing quality radio programming geared to local events.

**May 22** – Russ Donaldson of Cobourg PROBUS will give us a presentation entitled "What I can do with my computer". Russ says the title has little to do with his presentation.

**June 12** - Guest speaker is John Kraus, Music Director of the Northumberland Orchestra & Choir, our area's first and foremost purveyor of beautiful orchestral and choral music.

**June 26** – Picnic in the Park.

~ Harry Nash

## LUNCH BUNCH



**May 24th at Kelly's Home Like Inn.**

~ Marian Boys



**PROBUS Club of Northumberland,  
PO Box 491, Cobourg, Ontario, K9A 4L1**

**ProBuzz Team: Russ & Helen Hulme  
(289) 252-2087 <rhulme2@cogeco.ca>**

**Eve Gorrige (905) 885-6917  
<tillybee@sympatico.ca>**

**Trish Morgan, (905) 377-1020,  
<patriciamorgan@sympatico.ca>**

**Note: Past issues of Pro-Buzz are available at  
<[www.probusnorthumberland.com](http://www.probusnorthumberland.com)>  
491, Cobourg, Ontario, K9A 4L1**