



# Probus Patter

April 2013

Club Started July 1998

## Management Committee

President  
Gary Webb

Vice President  
Lynn Liddell

Past President  
Barb Louks

Secretary  
Keith Pickett

Treasurer  
Robert Struthers

Membership  
Dorothy Gilmer  
And Doreen Rossi

Programs  
Alan Butler

Special Events  
Sel and Anne Shields

Newsletter  
Margaret Dennis and Eleanor Carter  
Email:  
mdennis8@cogeco.ca

Despite the terrible "Spring" weather we experienced on March 18, a hardy group of Probians gathered at the Beamish House for our annual Irish Day celebration. The green drinks, a good meal and the warmth of the Beamish House together with a sing along and chatting with fellow Probians, provided a most enjoyable evening.

Thanks to Alan Butler, Dorothy Gilmer and Lynn Liddell for organizing this event.  
(More St Patrick's Day party news cont... to page2)

At our March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, Betty DeLong did "double duty", first as Greeter and then as our speaker for the day. A master gardener for 12 years, she provided us with many tips for the growing season ahead of us. From the interest shown and the number of questions asked by the members I think Betty could have been "on duty" all day.

If you have any questions or need advice give her a call or email

She is willing

to visit your garden if needed.

(Master Gardeners' give community service to ensure their competence is maintained. Thanks, Betty.)

I am disappointed at the slow pace of ticket sales for the "**May Day Extravaganza**". The Vice-Presidents of the seven Northumberland Probus Clubs started planning this two years ago fully aware of the problems encountered at recent Spring Flings as identified in the survey of our clubs' members taken last year i.e. too long a day, too large, not enough time for socializing, performances/speaker too long or disappointing.

Facing these real problems we worked diligently to avoid them as best as possible. This year we have put together a shorter day – a really great speaker – good food and time for socializing. At this time all the other Northumberland Clubs have sold their allotted tickets. However we have only had 16 tickets spoken for of our 45 allotment.

At this time all other Northumberland Clubs have sold their allotted tickets.

I urge you to sign up at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting so that you don't miss out on the day. I will have to turn unsold tickets over to the other clubs later that week.

If transportation to the Keeler Centre in Colborne is a problem just let us know and we'll get you there.

So on May 21 remember to go to the Keeler Centre in Colborne where there will be an "Extravaganza" and not to the Lion's Centre in Port Hope as there will not be a regular Probus meeting.

Gary



## March 5 meeting



Bob Wallace graduated from the University of Western Ontario. Since 1978, Bob has been with the nuclear industry in Port Hope. As a member of Port Hope Rotary Club since 1988, he has served as president, director, treasurer and webmaster. In 1998, as President, he led the club's efforts to assist the victims of the massive ice storm in Eastern Ontario. As a member of the District 7070 Foundation, he planned the Foundation Walk in Port Hope and, for the last four years has been an assistant governor. The talk introduced us to life in India and the volunteer program he participated in as a Rotary member. Thirty-seven Rotary delegates traveled to Delhi, Agra, Jaipur and Sonipat; the aim was to vaccinate as many children as possible under the age of 5 years on National Immunization Day.

Bob's slides contrasted the India of monuments like the Taj Mahal with the squalor of houses built from cow patties, beside open sewers, with children playing in garbage dumps. The numerous languages and dialects spoken could have been a challenge, but the bright yellow vests and hats worn by the volunteers identified those who were qualified to dispense the two drops into each baby's or toddler's mouth. To identify those who had been vaccinated, the small finger was coloured purple. Seven hundred and fifty-nine (759) teams covered the area; more than 213,218 persons were immunized.

The scope of the program in India was enormous with a total of two million children vaccinated. Bob will be donating today's honorarium to Polio Eradication. (Recorded E. Carter)

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## More news contd... St Patrick's Day (38 attendees)

Owen came well prepared with jokes that we could all appreciate. Many members were dressed appropriately with green hats, vests, earrings, etc. The menu was comprised of scalloped potatoes, corned beef and cabbage, Irish stew and chicken pot pies. Dessert was cheese cake or carrot cake. There were three prize winners, Lois Houston, George Watson and Shirley Kane.



**Birthday Wishes .Would you like your name to be added to a list of members' birthday list? Day and month only would be mentioned in the announcements.  
If you would like to add your name to a list let Marg Dennis know.**

**Lynn's Thoughts:**

Before I begin I would like to tell you - and I think this is how they say it - the opinions expressed here are mine and mine alone - but they are opinions, or observations that I have made and would like to share them.

We are hearing a lot lately about membership declining. As I said at our last meeting they seem to be going out the door faster than they are coming in. It would appear that it is a challenge to get new members.

What is interesting for our club - and I have heard this on a number of occasions - especially when I was thinking about joining. "You know, that's the club with all the 'old' people". Now, what bothers me about this is that it is said like that's a bad thing. I'm here to tell you that it is NOT a bad thing...and here are just a few reasons why it isn't bad. We have a club who has a member who has physical challenges that none of us could even fathom living with but she is an inspiration with her many involvements in the Town and her positive outlook on life.... and...

We have members in our club who fought in World War II and bring with them the dignity and honor of that role. and...

We have a club that honors a member turning 100 and marvel at his vitality and zest for life.... and....

We have members who win awards for volunteerism. Who actually walk the talk of "it is? better to give than to receive"....

We are a club where wisdom trumps youth, where quiet resolve takes the place of high energy, where to be old does not mean to be uninteresting.

So...the question is how we can attract new members. We, your executive decided to put the question to you. Remember there are no stupid ideas...if you think "oh, that's stupid"...put it down...we will be the judge of that!

So...yes, this club has older people. It actually works for me...there aren't many places that I go now where people say "we need young blood like you." That's a selling point for sure.

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Gary welcomed these visitors to meetings

March 5 Jane McCluskey, Ann Marie Elford, Sally McCracken

March 19 Anne Reddick.

### **Programs**

April 02----Ken Prue 'The Movie Man'

April 16---Trish Doney, President, Architectural Conservancy

May 07---St. Johns Ambulance Therapy Dogs

May 21---'Mayday Extravaganza'

June 04---Ossie Tee 'Birds of Northumberland County'

June 16--- Picnic

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**Probus Club Catering Coordinator Judy Johnson**

**April Captain Sue Speirs**

**April 2 Nancy Ford, Barbara Struthers, Margaret McCready, Alan McCready**

**April 16 Bryan Sherry, Marg Tait, Maggie Snow, Sel Shields**

**May Captain Anne Shields**

**May 7 Pat Buchan, Elaine Simpson, Doug and Marion Gellatly**

**May 21 Barb and Sam McReelis, Gloria and Fred Schumacher**

**Greeters/ Welcome - Coordinator Barb Winfield**

**April 2 Anne Brown, Pat Goodyear**

**April 16 Charm Dennis and Liz Davidson**

**SPECIAL EVENTS Fun and More Fun**

**1. APPIES & DRINKS. Tues. 23rd. April. 4 - 6 pm  
Hosts: Eleanor Carter & Terry Hickey  
12 Fenton Lane Port Hope 20 max.**

**2. MAY DAY EXTRAVAGANZA. Tues. 21st. May 9am. - 1pm Keeler Centre, Colborne \$25  
16 signed up. 45 tickets assigned. NOTE: THIS IS THE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP AND TICKETS  
MUST BE PAID FOR BY 16th. APRIL MEETING.**

**3. SINATRA & FRIENDS. Sat. 8th. June. 7pm. Victoria Hall, Cobourg.  
6 signed up. 20 required for group price of \$20.35 HST incl.**

**4. PICNIC. Tues. 18th. June. 3 OR 4 VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO ORGANIZE THIS POPULAR  
EVENT.**

**5. PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY TOUR Wed. 26th. June 9am. ----? \$92 incl. \$4 cancellation  
insurance.**

**Lakeshore Tours coach and escort. 22 signed up. 45 needed for the coach.**

**APPIES & DRINKS. If you wish to host an Appies & Drinks, please advise Anne or Sel. so that we  
can co-ordinate the date with other activities.**

**Sign up at the special events table. QUESTIONS? Ask Anne or Sel Shields**

**Vern & I would like to thank the Probus members for their kind thoughts, prayers, phone  
calls & cards while he has been unwell.**

**We appreciate your concerns and best wishes, he is feeling some better and looking for-  
ward to getting back to Probus in the near future Sincerely Judy**