



Probus Patter

Port Hope and District Probus Club, since 1998


Regular Meetings

February 3: Joe Mullins, Manager, the Ontario Agri-Food Venture Centre, a new and interesting Coburg business

Support Your Club
Come out to Meetings


February 17: tba

Other Fun Things to Do

 **February 13: 6:30,** Valentine's Day Supper, Port Hope United Church

February 13 and 14: "Hats Off", a Gilbert & Sullivan Revue

February 24: 3-5, Apps & Drinks at Catharine Ramsey's, 33 South St.

 **March 17: 6:30,** Annual St. Patrick's Day Party at the Beamish House

April 9-13: Washington Cherry Blossoms Tour

April 12: "Dame Edna's Glorious Goodbye" at the Royal Alexandra Theatre

April 21: "The Sound of Music" in Stratford



See page 4 for more details

President's Message

The Times They Are a-Changin'



When Bob Dylan performed this song in 1964 he was singing about a different kind of change than society is experiencing today. During the 1960's it was more about the hippie movement, protesting against the

establishment and of course being able to smoke marijuana anywhere and anytime. Through the ensuing decades change has continued at an ever faster pace, but the type of change is very different. Today, a great deal of the change we experience is centered around technology with new cell phones and "APPS" being created every day.

Sometimes, the more things change the more they stay the same. During a recent call to my son he said that my grandchildren were playing a new game (new to them) called Crokinole. I am sure you can all remember spending many hours during the winter playing Crokinole with friends. Playing today's video games and Crokinole require some common skills such as good eye-hand co-ordination and strategy.

Marg and I will be in Florida for February and March enjoying a bit of warmth and sunshine. During my absence Barbara Struthers will be conducting the meetings and performing all the other tasks required to keep the club running smoothly. I would like to take this opportunity to extend a huge thank you to Barbara for her help during February and March. See everyone in April.

Paul

We still need a host for Apps & Drinks in March

Recent Events

January 6 Meeting:



President Paul Tait kicked off a lively start to the first meeting of 2015, asking everyone to turn to their neighbours, preferably members who they have not yet met, and wish them Happy New Year.

The meeting's speaker was Nancy Liddell, from the Northumberland YMCA. Nancy, a certified fitness instructor, has a particular interest in Yoga, including "Chair Yoga". She proceeded to lead members in a series of Chair Yoga exercises.

Before leaving, Nancy handed out Y brochures and free guest passes. She emphasized that the Y provides programs for all ages and activity levels, not just for "fitness buffs." The Y is a registered charity and raises money to help those who cannot afford program or camp fees or daycare.



In Memoriam - Stone Avery "Mr. Probus"

Sel Shields spoke sadly of the passing of Stone Avery on December 30th. Stone was instrumental in bringing Probus to Northumberland County and was a founding member of District 1. As a Director, he regularly visited every Club, and played a major role supporting our members in creating the Ganaraska Valley Club. He encouraged us to try a different approach in our sponsorship, suggesting a "one on one contact" that was so successful their membership was full at their first meeting

Subsequent to the January 6 meeting, our Management Committee approved a donation to the Northumberland Hospital in memory of Stone.

Members' News

Barb Moorcroft is now back home recovering from her surgery. **Kitty Hatch** also is now back home and improving. **Lynn Liddell** has had her medical procedure and has been seen around town, seeming well! **Catharine Ramsey** has just celebrated an anniversary of her surgery - 16 years cancer free.

Announcement on Probus Pins

Paul reported that the Club has a number of Probus Pins, historically given out to signify years of membership. They have not been given out for a number of years. The Club presently has 47 five year pins and 12 ten year pins.

Paul asked if any members wanted to have a pin to signify their years of membership, and whether we should completely discontinue - or re-initiate - the practice.

January 20 Meeting: Dave Lights up the House

Dave Broughton gave a fascinating and fact-filled presentation at the January 20th Probus meeting. After retiring from Ontario Hydro in 2004, Dave and his wife moved from Toronto to Port Hope, a move he hasn't regretted.

He promised us a talk on the historical perspective of lighting with kerosene lamps in the Victorian home, and didn't disappoint. While showing accompanying slides from his large collection depicting lamps and collectibles connected to that era, he kept up a steady stream of amusing anecdotes.

The forerunners of modern lighting began in the early 1800's with whale oil, which Dave said the public liked, but which "was hard on the whales." After this came burning fluid and solar lamps, followed after much experimentation by gas, and then kerosene, which is a distillation of coal oil. Canadian Abraham Gessner was the inventor.



Playing crokinole by lamplight

The kerosene lamp proved popular with the public as it was "non-explosive," and this was emphasized in the advertising of the day. Dave showed us many examples of these advertisements, some humorous to our modern eyes, as well as a large variety of lamps and memorabilia, many of which belong in his large collection at home.

Many songs were based on the new invention of kerosene lamps, including one which opined that there was nowhere for lovers to find dark corners now that lamps illuminated the Victorian home and streets. Dave encouraged us to sing along with a rousing rendition of "Oh! What a Difference since Hydro Came." We did our best, truly we did!

And follows up with a Generous Donation

Following the meeting, Dave sent this e-mail to Pauline Carrick



Hi Pauline – I just wanted to thank you folks for the generous and unexpected speakers honorarium that you gave me yesterday. I enjoyed myself so much it wasn't really necessary.

Whenever I have some unexpected good fortune I like to share it, so I have matched your cheque and made a contribution to the local food bank. Let's hope that some kids get to school with a full stomach.

I just thought that your group should enjoy your gift as much as I did

Thanks again

Dave Broughton

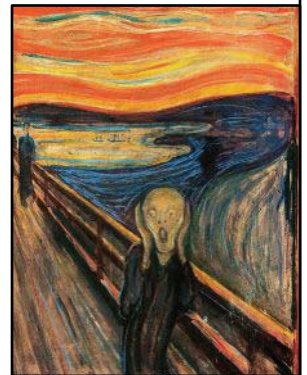
HELP WANTED

We're running out of content!

If we want to keep the *Patter* interesting, we need more ideas!

Do you have any photos, articles, stories, songs – about things we have done as a Club, or interesting events in your non-Probus lives?

Just send them along to fionaeditspatter@gmail.com. We will all appreciate them!



More on Fun Things to Do.....and Done

At the **February 3 meeting**, Joe Mullins, the Plant Manager of a new business in Colborne; the Ontario Agri-Food Venture Centre will talk about the scope of the project, its objectives and anticipated outcomes. It promises to be an interesting presentation and will be of particular relevance to those trying to follow the "purchase your food within 100 miles of where you live" program.



A **Valentine's Day Dinner** on February 13, 6:30 at the Port Hope United Church will raise money for church windows. For \$20 you will get a glass of wine, a roast pork dinner and a yummy chocolate dessert. Announcement requested by Joy-Anne Moore. Contact her at 905-885-2297.

There are still some tickets available for "**Hats Off**", a Gilbert & Sullivan revue directed by Probus member Keith Pickett on Feb 13 & 14 (matinee) at the Victoria Hall, Cobourg. Contact the Box office at 905-372-4301

Our **Annual St. Patrick's Day Party** will be held at 6:30 on March 17th at the Beamish House. Bar will open at 5:30. Tickets are \$28 for a main course, dessert and a drink, and will be on sale at the first February meeting.



From April 9 - 13 there will be a **Washington Cherry Blossom Tour** at \$1095 including tax. More details to follow but Edith would like to know if it is of interest to anyone.



The Cobourg Probus Club is arranging a trip to the Royal Alexandra Theatre to "**Dame Edna's Glorious Goodbye, a Farewell Tour**" on April 12. Australian actor Barry Humphries is retiring after 50 years. Tickets at \$135 will include dinner at the Mandarin. Only 13 seats now available. Contact Roslynne Cooke at 905-377-8517.

On April 12th, a trip to "**The Sound of Music**" at Stratford will help raise funds for the New Hope Church In Welcome. \$165 will give you an onboard lunch, roast beef dinner, driver gratuity and lots of fun. Call Julie Thompson at 905-753-2250.

Edith, our indomitable organizer for Special Events, wants to know your interests, whether they be more lunches after meetings, different shows, overnight trips, cards..... ? She will bring sheets to the next meeting for you to write down your suggestions.

Some of the other events she has in mind are:

April - Local Lilac & Wine Tour with lunch

May - Classic Country, Sterling, bus, lunch & tour

June - Westben Theatre

July and August - 4th Line Theatre

July, August or September - Lunch or Dinner Cruise on Stoney Lake



Organizer Edith Carr & husband Fraser at Ripley's Aquarium

Contact Edith at edicar@sympatico.ca or 905-555-1169



Liz Davidson took these fine photos on the Ripley Aquarium outing



Caterers: *coordinated by Judy Johnson*

February Captain: Nancy Lynch

February 3: Pat Buchan, Diane Conduit, Marg McCready

February 17: Jeannie Vanderwint, Liz Davidson, Margaret Dillon

March Captain: Jean Keiser

March 3: Joann Henderson, Bryan Sherry, Dorothy Gilmer.

March 17: Fran Campbell, Elaine Simpson, Dorothy Lent

Greeters: *coordinated by Barb Winfield*

February 3: Jeannie Vanderwint, Barb Hawthorn

February 17: Shirley Kane, George Watson

March 3: Margaret and Murray Dillon

March 17: Victoria and Chris Terry