

The ProBuzz



Newsletter of the *PROBUS Club of Northumberland* – November 2016

Lest we us forget:

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,

We will remember them." Laurence Binyon (1869-1943)

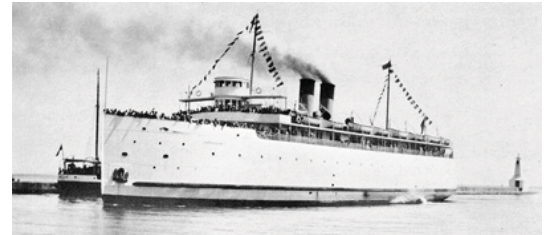


The Ontario Rail Car Ferry Company (1905 – 1950)

Ted Rafuse is a retired history teacher and the author of three books on Railways. On **Sept 22nd**, he spoke to us about the ferries that once provided service between Rochester, NY, and Cobourg, ON. He showed many photos of the two boats and the docks in US and here. The ferries were the largest ships then sailing on Lake Ontario and they operated year round – except for Christmas day – and they carried up to 1000 passengers, plus rail cars full of **Pittsburgh coal** to Cobourg – mostly for use by the railways.

Canadians would travel to Rochester and other US destinations to visit friends, and Americans would come for a visit to a "foreign country" – sometimes for a period as short as a day. The fare was as little as \$2 return although suites were available for \$3.50 one way – one can only guess why you'd want a suite for a 5½ hour trip! In

Cobourg harbour, passengers would often toss quarters into the water so local kids could dive for them in the clear water. Probus member **Sam Oliver** told us that he still has two U.S. quarters that he had retrieved from the harbour. The Ferries went out of service when new safety regulations required \$1 million in improvements. Since then the rail lines to the harbour and the piles of coal have been removed.



~ John Draper

Cornerstone – October 13th

Janelle Eisler and **Carly Cunningham** spoke about **Cornerstone**, the Family Violence Prevention Centre, in Cobourg, This organization, supported by the **United Way** and by **private donations**, provides immediate shelter, in a safe environment, for women and children threatened with violence. The centre's 17 to 22 beds are full, all the time. Some clients only stay a few days, before possibly moving on to family or friends, but some stay for a year. The centre's support workers offer counseling, support for court visits and help as the women plan their next step. In the community, they provide schools programs for grades 5 to 8 discussing with the students subjects such as friendship and respect, anti-bullying, cyber safety, and what a healthy relationship looks like.

Most of the women and children arrive with next to nothing so **Cornerstone welcomes donations of items** that the women could use when leaving the shelter to set up a home. To contact the Shelter call (905) 372-0746. **Donations of money** can be made online at www.cornerstonenorthumberland.ca



~ Mary Wilson

Growing Up in Cobourg – October 27

Ross Quigley, a long-time Cobourg resident, talked about what it was like to grow up here after WW II. Involved in many local organizations, he was able to cover many aspects of Cobourg's history. His knowledge and pictures of numerous historical buildings, such as the Old Chateau Hotel and the Beach Pavilion that no longer exist, provided information for new residents and a bit of nostalgia for long-term residents. The Old Victoria Park Ball Diamond and the Cobourg Tennis Courts near the Cenotaph are past landmarks, as is the old wading pool. Ernie Outwin's famous Christmas display was a mainstay at "Christmas in Downtown Cobourg" for many years. Ross personally took over this display after Ernie's death. Ross also had a display of memorabilia of Cobourg's Galloping Ghosts football team, a very famous athletic team in its day. Many people remember the large coal piles and the oil tanks that were on Cobourg's west beach. This area now houses condos and the Legion Village. According to Ross this is a big improvement.

A glimpse of Cobourg's past was enjoyed by many.

~ Eric Carleton

FINAL PROBUS GOLF of 2016

Our final outing, scheduled for September 26th, was completed on October 3rd. *Not the longest golf game ever* - just heavy rain which prevented us from playing at Cobourg Creek, but not from having dinner at **The Mill**. On October 3rd we reconvened at Cobourg Creek and played golf despite light rain and threatening skies. **Lynn Wallace** won a sleeve of balls and a hat in the putting contest sponsored by Bill Gullen, the pro shop manager. The par scoring team of **Jim O'Shea, Barb Swallow, Marian Boys and Ian Rogerson** won 9 holes of golf at Cobourg Creek, also thanks to Bill Gullen. **Everil Alls and Jamie Doolittle** won closest to the pin, while **Bill Alls and Jean Crowley** won closest to the line. All four were awarded 9 holes of golf at Shelter Valley Pines from Jessie Trajkovski, a Financial Advisor at Edward Jones, Cobourg.

A big thanks to Jamie Doolittle and Kathy McKellar for organizing and reorganizing our year-end golf and dinner. Thanks also for the assistance of Stan Maggs for sign up, Sue Tee for e-mails, Sue Lanctot for pictures and to the prize sponsors.

~ Heather Touchburn

"Thank you" to all members of the PROBUS Club of Northumberland for your patience, guidance and support. You made my year a special experience.

"Our Strength is Friendship, Our Success is Participation"

~ Yours in PROBUS, Barb Lawrence, Past President



I would like to thank our club executive for the Life Membership, presented to me recently. I am a Charter Member of the our club and have been involved in many positions during the 17 years of its existence. Pat and I have enjoyed our club's activities and we hope to continue to do so for many more years. **Thanks again for the recognition of a Life Membership.**

~ Danny Robertson

Need a Ride?



If you need a ride to a meeting or an event, you can phone **Barry Clayton** and **Sue Porter** at **(905) 377-9390**. They will arrange to have you picked up and returned.

Future Meetings & Speakers

November 10th: Remembrance Day

November 24th: Rhonda Cunningham/Nicole Beatty - Northumberland Hills Hospital

~ George Lawrence & Michael Hanlon



Reminder: Please silence your cell phone **buzzer** during our presentations. Thank you!

THE LUNCH BUNCH

A good sized group enjoyed their outing to **Kelly's Inn** on **October 27th**. It's always a fun place and the Liver & Onons remains popular.

Our next date is **November 24th** at the **Swiss Chalet**, 70 Strathy Street, Cobourg.

I hope to see you there. ~ Marian Boys

Drive & Dine - October 17th

It was bit of a magical mystery tour for the 88 intrepid Probians who left the Lions' Parking lot and headed north and east. We followed a well-detailed route, leading us on a 3½ hour fun trip through our beautiful county. The day was damp but wonderfully warm and occasional pockets of mist challenged driving skills but provided delight whenever we topped a hill and discovered a clear view of trees in blazing Fall glory! At specific points along the route, 7 clever, funny narratives described noted people and places. We enjoyed a game of how many cars could be squeezed into the lot at the **Primrose Donkey Sanctuary** where we learned about the rescue and protection of donkeys, mules, hinnys and other assorted animals. We discovered the burial ground of 35 members of the famous **Massey family**, heard the frightening story of **little Bill Alls** and the writhing ball of snakes, and we were left wondering what horrid revenge **little Coe** sister dreamed up for her big brothers. There was the visit to the **Alpaca farm** where we learned that, unlike camels and llamas who spit at everything, alpacas only spit at each other! On our return to the Lions Club, we were treated to a tasty, filling supper of Lasagne, salad and pie for dessert! Yum, yum!

Many thanks to **Doug and Jennifer Lloyd, Mary Dunphy and Lynn Wallace** for organizing a most enjoyable Drive & Dine.

~ Sue Tee

SOCIAL CALENDAR

~ Mary Dunphy (289) 691-3845



A Reminder for Matilda - November 16th, 2016: Cindy has requested that vehicles be parked at the **far back of the parking lot** as there are two other functions that day. Departure time is 10.45 a.m. sharp. This is due to the fact that the show starts earlier than the usual time and also to allow for poor road conditions due to weather or road maintenance. Dinner at the Mandarin includes tea and coffee and of course all gratuities to wait staff and our driver. ~ Jan Lundbohm (905) 377-2436



The VOS Production of Irving Berlin's White Christmas at Victoria Hall on Friday November 18th. A group discount is available for 10 or more people at a cost of \$ 27.33 per person including tax and box office fees. Cheques should be made payable to **Northumberland Probus.**

Christmas Celebration on December 8th, at the Lions Centre. Doors open at 5:30 pm. A Turkey Dinner will be served around 6:30pm. During dessert and coffee we will be entertained by "**Joyful Noise**", **A Women's Singing Group** who perform 50's, 60's and 70's music, with some seasonal songs as well. There will be a DJ and dancing from 8pm onwards. Prizes and lots of fun. Cost **\$48 per person.** Cheques should be made payable to **Northumberland Probus.**



"The Bodyguard" at the Ed Mirvish Theatre, TO. Wednesday Matinee at 2.00 p.m., **April 26, 2017.** We have secured spectacular seats - probably the best we have ever had, plus a bigger discount than usual, which enables us to offer a **great price of ~\$128.00 each!** This price includes, bus from The Lion's Centre, orchestra seats, and dinner at the Mandarin. As usual, all taxes and tips are included.

This smash hit musical, direct from London's West end, is about a former Secret Service agent, Frank Farmer, hired to protect Superstar Rachel Marron from a stalker. Each expects to be in charge - what they don't expect is to fall in love. Some of Whitney Houston's greatest songs, including "One moment in time", "Queen of the night" and "I will always love you" are featured in the production.

A sign up sheet will be available at the meetings on October 27 and November 10. A deposit of \$50.00 each will be required on **November 10th** because the group deposit is due at Mirvish Productions on November 11. If there are fewer than 40 signed up by then, we will have to release these seats, since the deposit is non-refundable. Call **Jan Lundbohm**, (905) 377-2436, if you have any questions.



Possible future show: We are exploring a **Famous People Players** special production to celebrate **Canada's 150th birthday.** A beautiful Maple Leaf, voiced by **Dan Aykroyd**, comes to life and takes you on a musical journey from province to province. This theatre group is dedicated to the integration of people who have developmental disabilities. It will be in September or October. If you have not seen the black puppetry show before, then this is a "must see".

Watch for details later.

If you have any **Ideas for Future Trips and Events**, please pass them on to me. I will be interested in hearing from you.

~ Mary Dunphy < mbdunphy51@gmail.com >

The Executive, Chairs and Organizers for 2016-17.



Back row: Roslynn Cooke, Trish Morgan, Stan Maggs, Marian Boys, Ossie Tee, Joan Wilkinson, Ron Coleman, Michael Hanlon, Barb Swallow, Ron Swallow, Diane Flynn, Marilyn McMillan, George Lawrence.

Front row: Mary Dunphy, Lynn Wallace, Gladys Maggs, Barb Lawrence, Doug Lloyd, Doreen Guy, Sue Tee, Linda Nash, Dianne Graham.

Last Halloween, two engineering students were walking across the U of T campus when one said to the other, "Where did you get that great flying broomstick?"

The second engineer replied, "Well, I was walking along yesterday minding my own business when a beautiful witch flew up on this broomstick. She threw the broomstick to the ground, took off all her clothes and said, 'Take what you want.' So, I took the broomstick."

The first engineer nodded approvingly, "Good choice; the clothes probably wouldn't have fit you."

Notes

HERMAN by Jim Unger (1937-2013)



"Nothing your mother does surprises me anymore.."

Northumberland Nibblers ~ Roslynne Cooke
To be announced.

The Weird & Wacky World of Steven Wright:
You can't have everything. Where would you put it?
A lot of people are afraid of heights. Not me, I'm afraid of widths.
If you were going to shoot a mime, would you use a silencer?
I planted some bird seed. A bird came up. Now I don't know what to feed it.
It's a small world, but I wouldn't want to have to paint it.
Right now, I'm having amnesia and *deja vu* at the same time.
What's another word for Thesaurus?
When I get real bored, I like to drive downtown and get a great parking spot, then sit in my car and count how many people ask me if I'm leaving.
I stayed up all night playing poker with tarot cards. I got a full house and four people died.
Cross country skiing is great if you live in a small country.
I spilled spot remover on my dog. Now he's gone.
When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

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The next **ProBuzz** will be sent out in early **December**.
The **DEADLINE** for submissions for is **November 28th**.
Please send material to: stee@cogeco.ca

If you would like to get a **PDF of ProBuzz in colour** by **E-mail each month**, just contact an Editor: **Sue** or **Ossie**.