



Probus Patter

Port Hope and District Probus Club, since 1998

July 2016

Regular Meetings

June 28: Annual Picnic: Dalewood Country Club, 5:00 pm, dinner at 6:00 pm. SOLD OUT!

July 5: Melody Crowe, Alderville First Nation

August 16: To be arranged

August 30: Corn Roast, Legion Hall Patio, 4 - 7 pm, dinner at 5:30. All beverages must be purchased on site. Tickets at \$10 will be sold at at the July and August meetings. Cheques only, please.

September 6th: To be arranged


September 20th: Annual General Meeting: starts at 10:30

Other Fun Things to Do

July 12: 4th Line Theatre "*The Hero of Hunter Street*." Liz Davidson will have tickets for those who booked at the July 5th Meeting.

Sept 2: Celtic Thunder at RAMA

December 4-6: "*Festival of Stars*"

 *More information on page 3.*

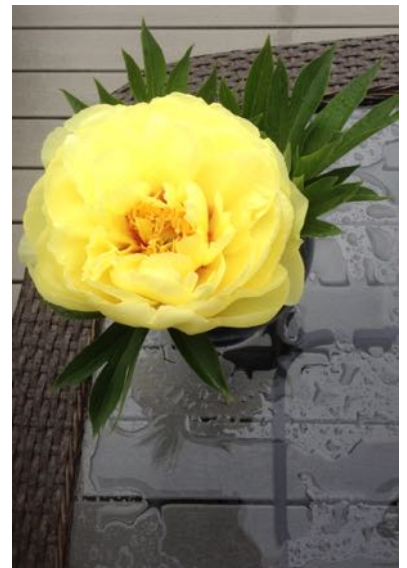
Apps & Drinks

July 20th: Barbara & Robert Struthers: 4 - 6, 7 Gibson Place

August 12th: Barb Winfield: 4 - 6, 17 Moore Drive. Room for 24 if rainy, 60 if good weather. Bring your own deck chairs.

President's Message

"Summertime, and the livin's easy". As I write these words it is June 20, 2016, known as the Summer Solstice. It is the longest day of the year, beginning at 6:34 p.m. tonight, a day falling around late June when there are approximately 17 hours of daylight. The name comes from the Latin solstitium meaning "sun stands still". It happens because the sun stops heading north at the Tropic of Cancer and then returns back southwards. In the northern hemisphere this means the days begin to get shorter. But 2016 is a special year because the solstice coincides with the Strawberry Moon, a once-in-a-lifetime occurrence. The last time the summer solstice and full moon were extremely closely aligned was in 1948, when the full moon occurred just 43 minutes after the summer solstice, according to the Royal Astronomical Society.



Ito Peony - Bartzilla
Photographed by Barbara

Summer is an easier time for many people, and Probus is no exception. This year we have only one meeting in July - on the 5th, and one in August - on the 16th. Perhaps it is also a good time to reflect on the meaning of Probus to each of us and the various activities that we enjoy.

Barbara

Recent Events

June 7: Murder Most Foul!

We were entertained by author and historian Dan Buchanan, whose latest book "Murder in the Family" is based on the true story of a Codrington doctor who killed his pregnant wife in the middle of the last century. And thereby hangs a fascinating tale.

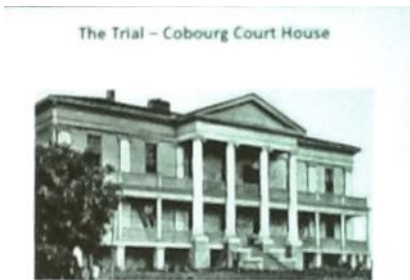
In 1858 newly graduated doctor Henry King appeared in the town of Codrington and began to take patients. He met his pretty young wife, Sarah Lawson, soon after arriving and they appeared to be a typical happy newlywed couple. It wasn't long before she announced that she was with child. However, "something happened" and the relationship turned sour. Sarah moved back to her parents' house, but unfortunately the child was born malformed and died at the age of two months.

Henry apologized to his wife and they began to live together again. Soon after the reconciliation, the young doctor decided to set up his practice in the town of Brighton. But once again "something happened" between the couple and this time it was apparent that Henry had become infatuated with a young lady called Melinda. Their compromising love letters to each other still exist in archives of the famous murder incident.

To complicate matters further, Sarah became pregnant with their second child. Henry decided to get rid of her so that he could be with Melinda. This seemed to him quite an easy task as he was a doctor and could easily poison his wife, so he thought. However, Sarah was a healthy woman even though pregnant. So he had to convince her she had a rare incurable disease, but not to worry, he could treat her because he was a doctor.



Dan Buchanan with a photo of his book



He treated her with arsenic and she really did become very ill. Concerned about her daughter, Sarah's mother visited the unhappy home and found arsenic in Henry's pocket along with a picture of Melinda and the love letters. Now Mrs. Lawson knew the truth. She took the evidence to the local constabulary, but it was too late for poor Sarah, who died within days. The mother demanded an autopsy and an inquest.

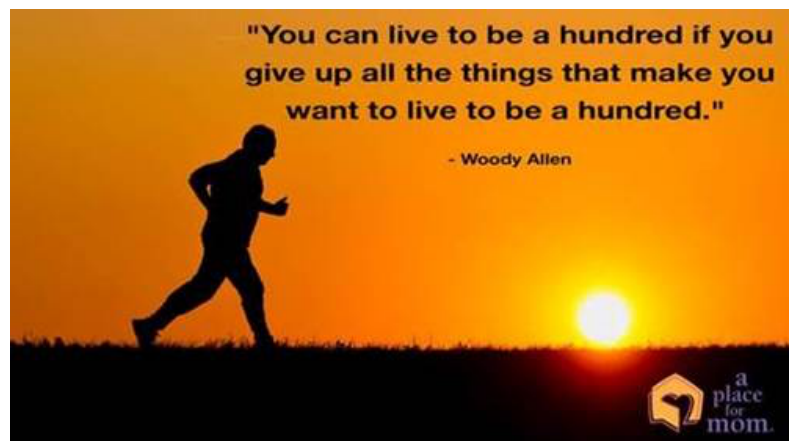
Traces of arsenic were found in Sarah's stomach and Dr. King was arrested and put in the Cobourg jail. The trial took place in the Cobourg Court House and attracted huge interest. In charge was Judge Robert Barnes who, after the guilty

verdict by the jury, pronounced "You will hang by the neck until you are dead."

It is said that upwards of ten thousand people flocked to Cobourg to see the hanging, which took place on June 9th, 1859. It was pronounced "a good hanging." Dr. Henry King was 26 years old. Sarah is buried in Codrington. It is not known what happened to Melinda.

by Pauline Carrick, photos by Catharine Ramsey

There was no quorum at the Management Committee Meeting on June 7th.



Recent Events

June 15th: Mark Cullen



Mark autographing his books

About 250 Probians gathered at the Lion's Club Center in Cobourg to hear Mark Cullen speak about gardening and planting trees along Hwy 401, now named the "Highway of Heroes." A lucky few won door prizes.

Mark took a panoramic photo of the audience holding up their hands and showing the "V" for victory sign. He spoke about how important it is to cultivate plants that attract bees, birds and butterflies. A number of people purchased his latest book on gardening which he graciously autographed for them.

He also spoke about "THE HIGHWAY OF HEROES LIVING TRIBUTE: A Tree for Every Hero." This an initiative to plant 117,000 trees, one for every fallen Canadian soldier since Confederation, along the Highway of Heroes from CFB Trenton to Toronto. He asked the audience to be a part of this historic Living Tribute by donating, volunteering and/or sharing information about the initiative with others. You can visit the www.HOHTribute.ca website to learn more about the initiative, and/or follow it on Facebook

& Twitter or subscribe to its newsletter to monitor progress.

I am particularly interested, along with the family, in planting a tree in memory of my late husband Jim. Upon discharge from the army after the war, the Department of Veteran Affairs paid for his university engineering degree. After graduating he began working for the Department of Highways in Port Hope, then transferred to Sudbury, North Bay and eventually back to head office in Toronto. A number of trees west of Port Hope were cut down for the highway expansion and I think this is a great way to replace them and honor our veterans.

by Liz Davidson and Ken Scott, photos by Liz Davidson



Some of our members who attended; from left Fred and Gloria Schumacher, Terry and Rita Bell, Owen and Dorothy Lent, Joan McIntosh, Doreen Rossi and co-author Ken Scott



Wednesday, July 12th, 4th Line Theatre presents "The Hero of Hunter Street", the story of the 1916 explosion and fire at the Quaker Oats factory in Peterborough. **Liz Davidson will have the tickets for those who have booked at the July 5th meeting.** If anyone else wants to go, call 4th Line Theatre, and say you are with the Port Hope Probus Group to get the special price.

Friday Sept 2: Celtic Thunder at RAMA. Depart Port Hope 3 pm for show at 9 pm. \$149 covers bus, buffet dinner and show. If interested email Edith at edicar@sympatico.ca.



December. 4th - 6th, Festival of Stars. Along with many other scheduled performers, featured stars include Daniel O'Donnell, BJ Thomas & Mike Walker in "Conway Twitty Remembered". Cost of \$629 includes 2 nights' accommodation at the Double Tree in Niagara, 2 breakfasts, 1 dinner at the Double Tree, 1 dinner at the Old Stone Inn, a Christmas Lights tour and more. If interested email Edith at edicar@sympatico.ca.

Some
Fun
Outings

Photos from the Annual Picnic, June 28



Ruth Roy & George Watson



Betty & Lucy

Donna Carew & Lois Hueston



Dorothy Gilmour & Ken Scott



Doreen & Dan Kuzmich



Betty Collins & Lucy Frew



Maggie Snow & Jack Brown



Margaret McCready & Catharine Ramsey



John & Pat Buchan



And finally, the photographer,
Fiona Maarhuis



Shirley Kane



Ed Ford



Barb Winfield with Josie



Judy Johnson



Peggy Martin



Noel Martin

Regrettably the threat of rain meant we couldn't be outside, but we still enjoyed a delicious meal featuring a roast pig. Thanks to Barbara and Robert Struthers for organizing it!



Greeters: coordinated by Barb Winfield

July 5: Bea Makepeace and Betty Collins
August 16: Carolyn and Gary Webb

September 6: Luci Frew and Jenny Vanderwindt
September 28: Nancy and Ed Ford