



Probus Patter

Port Hope and District Probus Club, since 1998

June, 2015

Regular Meetings

June 9: Annual Picnic at the Lions Recreation Centre, 3 to 6:30, \$22, tickets from Barbara Struthers

June 16: Glen Bailey & the Northumberland New Ventures Band

July 7: Sandy Holmes & Glen Case of the Port Hope Area Initiative on *The Great Flood of 1980*

August 18: tbd

September 1: Annual General Meeting

September 8: Annual Corn Roast

Other Fun Things

June 2: Probus Extravaganza

June 13: Westben, *Fiddler on the Roof*

July 14: Stoney Lake Luncheon Cruise

July 28: 4th Line Theatre, *Bad Luck Bank Robbers*

August: Date tbd 4th Line Theatre *Gimme that Prime Time Religion*

September 16: Stratford, *The Diary of Anne Frank*



See page 4 for more information

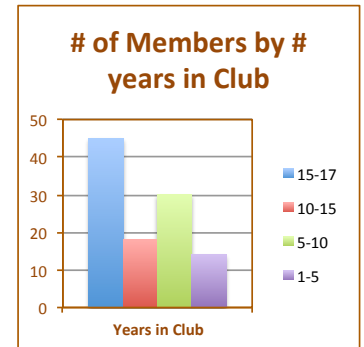
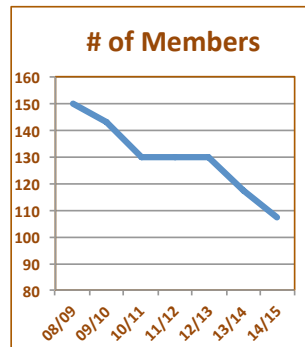
Apps & Drinks

July 21: Sel & Anne Shields, 4 - 6, 15 Scriven Blvd.



President's Message The State of the Union

I believe we all know that our membership numbers are falling. And that a large proportion of our remaining members have been with us for many years. The attached charts show this very clearly.



Recognizing that our senior members have contributed to Probus and other organizations over the years, they understandably have less energy now. However, we are now finding it difficult to get enough volunteers to do the work required to keep club events happening and enjoyable. If you review a few years of past Patters, you would see that virtually the same small group of about 15 members have held all committee posts and other volunteer jobs. These hard working souls are themselves getting tired.

If we cannot get some new, energetic members, there is a risk that all that has made Port Hope Probus an enjoyable club in the past will disappear.

The Management Committee has been puzzling on how to do this for a while. Members have provided good ideas: now the challenge is to get the volunteers to put these ideas into action.

Many of the ideas do not require a large commitment of either time or effort. For instance, see page 3 where we are asking for help in preparing a circular to deliver door-to-door in newer residential neighbourhoods, with aim of attracting recent, younger retirees.

We can do it, if we all pull together.

Paul

Recent Events

May 4: Linda Davis, CEO Northumberland Hills Hospital:

President Paul opened with the suggestion that every meeting should start with a "happy" moment. He encouraged anyone who is really happy on a meeting day to contact him, and he will invite them up on the stage to tell us all about it (no more than two minutes.)



Linda and Paul

Linda reminded us that the Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) is celebrating an anniversary: ten years of service to the community.

The past ten years have seen considerable change. NHH is now treating both more and sicker patients, whether in the Emergency Department, in Intensive Care, Day Surgery or on the wards. The hospital budgets for having 93-97% of its beds full. The year to date figure up to the end of March 2015 was 102.13%. In July 2014, the Hospital had to call a Code Orange, being overfull and therefore having to direct patients to other centers.

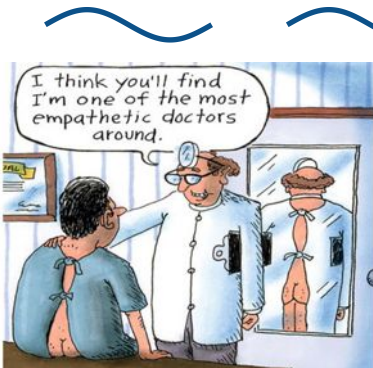
All of this has happened with no increase in funding over the last few years, despite the ravages of inflation, including a necessary 3% increase in wages.

One reason for the increasing acuity is that more people are first visiting their family doctors for treatment for lesser problems, leaving the hospital to serve more serious illnesses. Another reason, which also explains the increasing number of patients overall, is the growing number of "over 65s" in Cobourg (now 26%) and Port Hope (20%) as compared to the provincial average of 14%. Northumberland Hills can be considered a bellwether for care of the aging population of Ontario.

Linda stressed that the NHH has always had great support from the communities it serves. A volunteer board of 12 provides strategy and insures governance.

Priorities include always putting patients needs first and building collaborative networks with other service providers in the area. One such is Partners Advancing Transition in Healthcare (PATH), designed specifically for chronically ill seniors, to improve their experience as they move in, out of and across the healthcare system – to put the person in charge of their own healthcare. To learn more, see:

<http://www.changefoundation.ca/library/path-partners-advancing-transitions-healthcare-breaking-ground/>



Doctor: "I am not exactly sure of the cause. I think it could be due to alcohol."

Patient: "That's OK. I will come back when you are sober."

Emergency Management Protocol

The Management Committee has approved the following:

Location: Port Hope Lions Recreation Centre, 29 Thomas St. Port Hope
905-885-6051

Address and telephone number to be posted by telephone in the bar area
President or designate to recognize or be made aware of the emergency.

1. President to assign a person to call 911 (taken from a list of Volunteers)
2. Two (2) people only to assist in the Emergency (volunteers)
3. One (1) person to be assigned to keep others away

All members are encouraged to carry an updated list of medications (pharmacy list) with health card as well as next of kin's name and phone number

Committee members:

Judy Johnson, Lois Hueston, Gillian Jones

April 21: Local Waste Initiative Explained

Alex Mahabir and Sandy Holmes from the Port Hope Area Initiative team (PHAI) came with an excellent presentation providing an overview of the work to remedy the Low Level Radioactive Waste (LLRW) issues in and around Port Hope.

It all began in 1930 when prospector Gilbert La Bine discovered pitchblende ore containing radium and uranium. To make it commercially viable, he needed a location with ready access to plentiful supplies of water and connections to rail and road transportation. Port Hope proved to be the ideal location to set up refining facilities.

Attracting New Members

We are planning a circular to distribute door-to-door in newer residential neighbourhoods with the aim of attracting younger retirees recently moved to Port Hope.

From our own experience, we know that new retirees are eager to try many different types of activities and will be more attracted to a club that sponsors a variety of events.

We know that in the past, our own members not only met for meetings and annual special events but also organized several “special interest” groups, such as bowling, bridge, euchre, pub nights, shared dinner parties, talent nights, etc.. We believe some of these groups still exist, although they may no longer solicit new members from the Club. It would be a great help if we could talk about them in the circular.

If you know of these groups, please tell members of the management committee. Even let us know of groups that have ceased to exist because members lost interest because of age or other reasons. Doing so does not mean you will have to have to disrupt what is a smooth running organization or take responsibility for bringing an older group back to life. If new members show interest, we will just start a new group.

We can do it if we all pull together.



Carin Kelley, Sandy Holmes & Alex Mahabir from PHAI

It takes about one ton of ore to produce one gram of radium, hence the abundance of waste which was deposited and used around town. In response to the perceived stigma, there was a clean up in the 70's with material being stored at various sites. The current project is to collect all the LLRW and provide a permanent “once and for all” collection and storage solution.

The project is divided into three phases:

Phase 1: \$1.28 billion legal agreement with the Federal Government, completed and signed in 2001

Phase 2: Building the facility, collecting all the waste and transporting it to the facility, projected to be complete in 2022.

Phase 3: Maintenance and monitoring, time measured in hundreds of years.

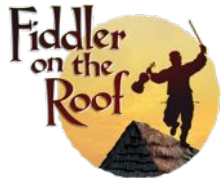
There are 1.2 million cubic metres of LLRW to be dealt with, together with some industrial waste included in the legal agreement. Each home and industrial building in the community will be surveyed and every effort is to be made to reduce impact on the community during the implementation.

Our presenters described the finished mound as having 4 cells which will be grassed and available for public use for trails and other activities. There is a model of the mound in the PHAI office at 115 Toronto Road and we are encouraged to visit.

Submitted by Keith Pickett

So Many Fun Things to Do

For more information, or to book, contact Edith at the front during meetings, or at 905-885-5390, or edicar@sympatico.ca



June 13: Westben for The Fiddler on the Roof, \$112 for bus, lunch and show, usually with a stop at the Cheese factory, possibly the Chocolate Factory as well. 8 signed up, 8 on hold, Edith must know ASAP.

July 14th: Stoney Lake Cruise, \$35 plus tip (suggested \$2). 54 coming with room for 6 more. If you want a drive, or can offer a space in your car, please let Edie know.



July 21: 4th Line Theatre, The Bad Luck Bank Robbers, \$30. A real life event in Havelock, not too many years ago. Does anyone remember? Food will be available from Kawartha BBQ & Catering. **Shirley Robinson is looking after these tickets. She has purchased 30, so please let her know ASAP! 905-885-8909.**

August, date tbd, 4th Line Theatre Gimme that Prime Time Religion, arrangements as above

September 16: Stratford The Diary of Anne Frank \$145 for bus, lunch and show.



Suggestions for August:

August 6: Georgian Bay's 30,000 Island Cruise, \$105

August 7 - 29: Capitol Theatre *Singin' in the Rain*, \$35

August 16: Blue Jays vs New York Yankees \$135

August 19th: Wining & Dining starting near St. Catharines \$115



Freedom, Fun and Friendship Picnics:

May 20th had to be cancelled because of the weather, but Barb Loucks (barbaral@eagle.ca or 905-885-846) and Marg Dennis (colborne@bell.net or 905-885-7749) are busy planning another. if Interested contact either of them

A few Patters ago, we asked if anyone was still interested in receiving Probus Pins signifying years of membership. If not, we planned to discontinue the practice.

There were no responses. So this is your **Last Chance** warning: if you want a pin, please contact Paul at 905-885-8603, or paultait.ph@gmail.com



Caterers: coordinated by
Judy Johnson

June Captain: Dorothy Gilmer

June 16: Shirley Robinson, Gloria

Schumacher, Diane Conduit

July & August Captain: Anne Brown

July 7: Lois Hueston, Jenny

Vanderwindt, Marg McCready

Aug. 18: Elaine Simpson, Liz Davidson

Bryan Sherry

Greeters: coordinated by
Barb Winfield

June 16: Pauline Carrick, Jennie
Vanderwindt

July 7: Marg Dennis, Judy
Johnson

Aug 18: Carolyn and Gary Webb