



Probus Patter

Port Hope and District Probus Club, since 1998

June 2016

Regular Meetings

June 7: Dan Buchanan, historian will talk on "*Murder in the Family: The Dr. King Story.*"

June 15: Mark Cullen at Northumberland Probus "*The Highway of Heroes Living Tribute.*" Edith will give out tickets for those who have paid at the June 7th meeting.

June 28: Annual Picnic: Dalewood Country Club, 5:00 pm, dinner at 6:00 pm. Tickets \$30 available at May Meetings. Limit of 40.

July 5: Melody Crowe, Alderville First Nation

August 16: To be arranged

August 30: Corn Roast, Legion Hall Patio.
Cost probably \$10.

Other Fun Things to Do

July 12: 4th Line Theatre "*The Hero of Hunter Street.*"

August: Possible 30,000 Island Cruise

Sept 2: Celtic Thunder at RAMA

December 4-6: *Festival of Stars*

 [More information on page 6.](#)

Apps & Drinks

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

August 12th: Barb Winfield: 4 - 6, 11 Moore Drive. Room for 24 if rainy, 60 if good weather. Bring your own deck chairs.

President's Message

This is going to be a "Thank You" letter to the members of the Management Committee.

Vice-President Betty de Long who has been a positive support for me in my job, stepping in when needed and now as head of the Search Committee to find new people to fill the vacant positions. She is always at meetings early and one of her first jobs has been to take a set of keys and bring out the name tag box so it is ready for the members coming into the meeting. Betty will move on to be President and will hand over the "keys" to the incoming Vice-President

Past President Paul Tait took on the job of Program Chair, contacting and booking potential speakers for the Club – it has been a very successful year. This was a lot of time-consuming work, and I hope Paul had a great feeling of accomplishment when he added another committed speaker to his roster.

Secretary Keith Pickett has done a conscientious job of keeping minutes on what is said at Management meetings as well as recording all decisions when Members vote. He has also maintained all the official Club documents, and has been one of the signing authorities.

Treasurer Robert Struthers served a two-year term, then was absent for one year, but came back on board last Fall. He makes bank deposits, keeps the balance sheet of our finances, collects meeting dues, and orders new member badges and pins. He also had signing authority.

Membership Chair Doreen Rossi, assisted by Robert Struthers: Doreen is famous for her skills at "ticking people off" in our attendance record early in the morning, and in such a cheerful manner. She collects the dues and transfers them to the Treasurer, and checks out the applications for membership.

Newsletter Chair Fiona Maarhuis has been responsible for the most professional Probus publication in the organization (The Patter), which we use to transmit news to our members, either by email or in print form handed out at meetings. Fiona is always busy looking for new material to put into the Patter, as well as acting as event photographer and sharing photos of our memorable get-togethers.

Special Events Chairs Edith and Fraser Carr - What a dynamic duo these two have been – they have been very busy arranging interesting places to visit – it has been a successful, busy year for this couple.

.....*continued on page 3*



Recent Events

May 3rd: Helping Hands, Cobourg

Carol Carman, Lynn Rogalski and Ursula Silk entered the meeting carrying an amazing range of articles all made from materials most of us just throw away in the garbage.

Spokesperson Carol explained that Helping Hands (HH) main role is as “middlemen”, to collect items that we don’t need, and pass them on to those who do.

We were told what materials can be so recycled and how to get them to the HH storage depot (so full that much now has to be housed in Ursula’s home.) Some items can be passed on directly to needy organizations, both local and abroad. Others are miraculously transformed by a team of about twenty volunteers into articles that are both useful and attractive.

The volunteers meet twice a month and use some amazingly innovative techniques, some which Carol demonstrated. Many also take work home to do in the evening. One lady is known to crochet as many as 30 baby bonnets each week.



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Some of the Helping Hands miracles workers use:

- Milk bags, the bottoms of which are woven into sleeping blankets, or occasionally crocheted into purses (see photos at right.) The tops are used for stuffing pillows that may be given to heart patients to push against their chest when coughing, or to breast cancer survivors for use under seat belts.
- Old tablecloths and the blue plastic paper delivery bags, to be put together as sanitary napkins as part of new mother’s kits.
- Old flannelette sheets that become diapers and receiving blankets.
- Old pillowcases, men’s shirts and other fabrics that are turned into sundresses, or dolls and teddy bears, and given to children in hospital or waiting rooms.
- Unused yarn for hats, scarves and mitts.



In their role as “middlemen” Helping Hands also collect, among other things:

- Old uniform shirts to go to teams in needy countries.
- Campbell Soup labels to provide money for needy schools.
- Empty pop cans for money for wheel chairs.
- Sweat suits, rain gear and suit cases to give to new immigrants.
- Extra fabric to pass on to guiding groups and quilting guilds.



Carol, Lynn and Ursula

If you wish to know more about Helping Hands, or how to deliver your items to them, Carol suggested you email: Helpinghandscobourg@gmail.com to get on their mailing list. HH also has a public Facebook presence (click on Groups, and search for "Helping Hands Cobourg".)

First time in history? ...hmmmm!

If Hilary Clinton wins the U.S. presidential election, it will be the first time in history that two U.S. presidents have slept with each other!

If Donald Trump wins the U.S. presidential election, it will be the first time in history that a billionaire moves into public housing vacated by a black family.



Recent Events

May 14th: Emergency Preparedness and Fire Safety



Deputy Chief Edgar with his great aunt, member Lucy Frew

Even without using a microphone, C. Ryan Edgar, Deputy Fire Chief, Port Hope had no problem holding our attention. Having first started as a volunteer firefighter at age 17, Deputy Chief Edgar told us he thrives on planning for disasters, loving the "dirty stuff", for which reason he is glad to have his position in Port Hope.

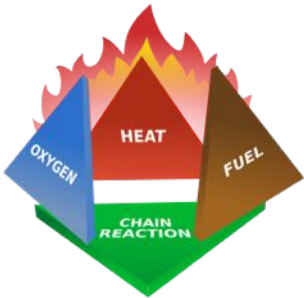
He also told us that one good thing to come out of 9/11 is that we are now better prepared for major disasters, proved lately in the minimal physical harm to the citizens of Fort McMurray.

He implored us all to understand basic emergency evacuation procedures, emergency exits and fire extinguishers in any building we are in, and also left a number of booklets on Emergency Survival Planning for civilians. (All this information can also be found on the www.porthopefire.ca website.) We were shown a ready-made "Emergency Survival Knapsack", available for about \$100 from Canadian Safety Supplies (www.canadiansafetysupplies.ca, or 1-866-534-0555.)



Emphasizing the fire tetrahedron shown on the left, the Deputy Chief explained how removing any one of the factors can extinguish a fire or at least halt its progress. He talked at length about fire protection in the home, and although I am sure most of us had already heard a lot of this advice, I suspect each of us learned something new. For me it was the importance of having at least one carbon monoxide detection fire alarm, and placing it near the bedrooms.

At the close of his presentation, he offered one of the Survival Knapsacks as a prize, and picked out a ticket from the Share the Wealth basket. The lucky winner was Joy-Ann Moore. A June Callwood Volunteer Award recipient, Edgar also told us he will donate his honorarium cheque to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.



President's Message continued from page 1

Events Chairpersons: We had several planned events last year, each with a main organizer to oversee the plans for the event (sign-up list, taking in the money, selling tickets). This is a hard-working group who enjoy the camaraderie that comes from friends getting together for a social event. Last year's events included: **Corn Roast at Barb Loucks' – Paul Tait and team; Car Rally – Barbara and Robert Struthers and Carolyn and Gary Webb; Christmas party – Keith Pickett and team; St. Patrick's Day – Nancy and Edgar Ford; Picnic at Dalewood – Barbara and Robert Struthers and team; and Corn Roast at the Legion – Barb and Bob Moorcroft and team.**

And of course, the many hosts who opened their doors for an afternoon of "appies" – always an enjoyable way to spend a couple of hours.

We also have groups and individuals that make the club work at every meeting: **Catering – Dorothy Gilmer and her helpers** who serve us delicious food at break time; **Sound – John Buchan and his helpers** who enable everyone to hear the words spoken; **We Care - Margot Agnew** who always sends out a card appropriate to the occasion; **Welcome (greeters) Barb Winfield 's team** who make all members feel welcome at the door; **Fran Campbell (unofficially Director of Communications)** who keeps an up-to- date mailing list and sends out important information to our members; and **Judy Johnson (Share the Wealth)** who sells the tickets and hands out the money to the prize winners.

I also want to thank **Robert** for supporting me this past year – it has been a journey and we both feel proud to have contributed and done "our share" to keep this Club successful.

If there is anyone I have forgotten, please forgive me.

Last but not least, I thank **YOU** the members who have shown up for meetings, signed up and bought tickets for events; volunteered to be responsible for an event and showed in many ways that you care for this Club. This is our Club, this is what we do, and how we will continue to operate, with your help.

..... *Barbara*

Fun Things to Do!

Contact Edith at front desk or at 905-885-5390 if interested in any of the events below.

JULY

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. Tickets are \$32.50 from Edith or Shirley Robinson. Only 5 tickets left at this special price.



AUGUST

Nothing planned but Edith is looking at the 30,000 Island Cruise from Midland. She will have a poster at the June meetings. cost will be \$105 for bus, cruise and lunch.



SEPT

Friday Sept 2: Celtic Thunder at RAMA, Depart Port Hope 3 pm for show at 9 pm. \$149 covers bus, buffet dinner and show. Tickets go fast so let Edith know your interest ASAP.



Edith & Fraser's role as special events organizers will finish in September - and we are very grateful for all they have done.

Nevertheless, they are planning to go to the Festival of Stars, December. 4th - 6th and hope some other members will join them. With many other scheduled performers, featured stars include Daniel O'Donnell, BJ Thomas & Mike Walker in "Conway Twitty Remembered". Cost \$629.



From the Management meetings

We still need someone to organise the Car Rally but we do have a convenor for the Corn Roast. Bob Moorcroft has taken that job on.

We have a tentative agreement with the Lions concerning our rental contract which is expected to be finalized at the next management meeting.

VP Betty will be pulling the nominations committee together to come up with a slate of officers for the next year. The dissolution word was used a few times during discussion, there are only two of the current board continuing to next year so there are lots of roles to be filled.

On a lighter note, Betty has the Masonic Hall booked for the Christmas Party

Keith Pickett

Greeters: coordinated by Barb Winfield



New Member Judy Goosens

June 6: Donna Carew
Barb Hawthorne

July 5: Bea Makepeace
Betty Collins

September 6: Luci Frew
Betty Collins

June 20: Shirley Kane
George Watson

August 16: Carolyn & Gary Webb

September 16: Nancy & Ed Ford