



Probus Patter

Port Hope and District Probus Club, since 1998

Regular Meetings

May 5: Linda Davis, CEO Northumberland Hills Hospital

Following meetings will be on May 19, June 16, July 7 and August 18

Our next club Social Event



should be the Annual Picnic, on June 9. The Club needs someone to

organize it. We need **YOU!**

Other Fun Things

May 8: Woodbine Races

May 27: Speakeasy Murder Mystery Dinner

June 2: Extravaganza

June 13: Westben, *Fiddler on the Roof*

July 14: Stoney Lake Lunch Cruise

July and August: 4th Line Theatre

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



See page 4 for more information

Apps & Drinks

May 22: Fiona Maarhuis, 1149 Deyell Line, Millbrook, 4-6. Please get map and instructions for parking from Edie. Car pools recommended.



President's Message

What's Happening at the Management Meetings?

The April 7th Management Meeting was my first one after returning from Florida. I felt this would be an excellent time to update

members on some of the items that the management group has been dealing with over the last few months.

We have received our "Proof of Probus Canada's Liability Insurance."

You may recall that a few months ago, at a regular meeting, club members gave comments on what they felt would be the best way to increase membership. Erik Norenius has compiled these replies into a summary for discussion in more detail at the May 5th Management Committee meeting.

Edith Carr reported that there has been increased interest and activity for several planned special events. Perhaps everyone was motivated to participate after Fraser Carr gave a "Teacherish Talk" to members.

We have formed a Nomination Committee, headed by me as President and Barbara Struthers as Vice-President. Several members of the Management Committee will complete their terms this year. Over the next month, the Nomination Committee will contact members to find candidates to fill any vacant positions.

We also discussed an "Emergency Management Protocol. The cost of an Emergency Defibrillator ranges from \$1,500 to \$7,000 plus. The committee was not in favour of us purchasing one, but will discuss this with the Lions Club to determine if they plan to buy one in either the short or longer term.

Members are always welcome at our Management Meetings. If you have an item that you would like discussed please contact the secretary or myself and you can be added to the agenda.

Paul

April 7: Terry Hickey, Councillor, Port Hope Ward 1



Sixty-two members, many with the healthy sun tanned faces of returning snowbirds, gathered to hear Terry give us his views as a recently elected councillor.

He emphasized that the present Council has recognized that Port Hope citizens want change, and has set more community engagement as a priority. Councillors are searching for better methods to get news out and receive the public's feedback and opinions. Regrettably public consultations meetings are often sparsely populated. To make it easier for residents keep track on exactly what is being discussed or decided on and when, the new Council has combined both the Council and Committee of the Whole meetings into the same evening, every two weeks.

Members were pleased with the clarity, focus and comprehensiveness of Terry's presentation followed by his frank answers to their many questions.

He outlined the Council members portfolios, and briefly described the ongoing issues inherited by the present Council: aging infrastructure, significant debt, reduction of the low level radioactive waste, and managing a budget when senior levels of government are continually downloading programs to municipalities at the same time as decreasing grants.

Moving forward, Terry talked of opportunities: for more residential development; improving hi-speed Internet and cell phone coverage; and improving transportation, into Toronto and elsewhere. Emphasizing the importance of growing the tax base, he assured us that developing more residential areas will provide revenues that can be used for the whole community.

Another theme is to move away from an emphasis on tourism to making the town a better place to live in, for instance creating a more vibrant Downtown, and more recreation facilities for both seniors and families. The River could become an attractive focal area.

When asked about the Nicholson File Factory, his first suggestion was "Give it to ISIS for a training ground!" Members subsequently applauded his more sober opinion: it should be torn down, as it is unstable and rehabilitation would require far too much money.

Terry asked that his honorarium be donated to the Fair Share Food Bank.



Inside the Nicholson File Factory Compound

Take Five - Let's Picnic!

Barb Loucks presented a different type of Take Five, using less than five minutes to suggest a new type of "special event": picnics at one of the many beautiful and interesting places around Port Hope.

Her idea is that a group of members plan for a summer's day outing, each bringing their own lunch, and meeting at parks such as Victoria or Presqu'ile. She knows of many such beautiful spots, perfect for idling away a sunny summer's day in good company. The outings would be free, and if the weather looked bad on a particular day, it would be easy to reschedule.



Interested members should contact:

Barb Loucks: barbaral@eagle.ca or 905-885-8461 or

Marg Dennis: colborne@bell.net or 905-885-7749

April 21: Margaret Scott Spreads the Word

Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries.

(Anne Herbert)



Margaret Scott, CEO and Chief Librarian of the Port Hope Public Library, was our speaker for our April 21st meeting.

She returns here, having spent 10 years of her childhood in Port Hope. “I have enjoyed getting reacquainted with the people and places in the Port Hope area,” she said. In a Probus coincidence, Fraser Carr was the Principal of Dr. Hawkins School when Margaret was a student, long ago and not so far away.

Margaret comes to our library after an impressive career as CEO at Wellington County library and at Chatham Kent, where she oversaw 11 branch libraries.

She opened her presentation with the question: “Why do libraries still exist in the age of the Internet and other means of instant communication?”

In her fascinating talk and slide show, she made it clear that libraries are still relevant in the modern age, beginning with the fact that not everyone can afford to buy books or has a computer or similar gadget.

Libraries have changed with the times. “It’s not just print books,” she said. “We offer a wide variety of other programs of interest to the community – all free”. These include: being able to download e-books and audio books from anywhere in the world, just using you library card; an online data base on up-to-the-minute information; local history and genealogical resources; free in-library access to Ancestry.ca; deliveries to nursing home residents and house-bound patrons; and borrowing books on inter-library loans for local book clubs.

Apart from a large collection of fiction and non-fiction books, from brand new to classic, the library has as a popular and growing department of DVD rentals. Friendly warning: get these back on time – you get 7 days – or you will face a \$1.00 a day fine!

These fines on late books (3 weeks) and DVD’s (1 week), and modest rentals from the Program Room are some of the few ways that the library is allowed raise funds. Provincial and Municipal grants make up the main source of operating budget.

A quick glance at *What’s On*, the library’s monthly newsletter, reveals what’s on at both libraries, the Mary J. Benson Library on Queen Street, and the Garden Hill Branch in Ward 2:

- The Library Book Club, Mystery Reader Book Club, and Children’s Book Club
- The Wednesday Friendly Chat Group at Garden Hill
- Classic Movie Tuesday Matinees
- The Unfinished Stitchery Guild
- Babytime and Tales for Tots
- Dick Holmes recounts his time with The Special Boat Squadron (Garden Hill Branch)
- A Documentary, *Island Green*, looking at the changing face of PEI’s agricultural industry
- *Coronation Street Ping*: street talk, trivia quiz with prizes and a cuppa

Margaret assured us we will get a warm reception from the experienced staff when we visit the library.



I decided to change calling the bathroom the "John" and renamed it the "Jim". I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.

So Many Fun Things to Do



May 8: A day at Woodbine, \$89 for bus, lunch & betting.



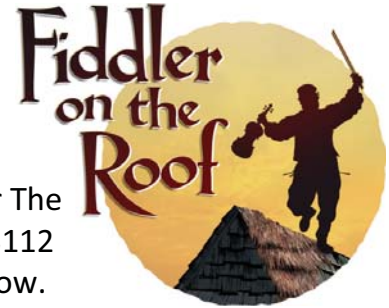
June 2: Spring Extravaganza, \$35 for presentation by The Honourable Romeo D'Allaire and lunch. Non-members now welcome. See Paul for tickets.



July 14th, Stoney Lake Cruise \$35.



May 27: *Speakeasy Murder Mystery Dinner*: Railside Restaurant. \$50. Hosted by Ganaraska Probus. Contact Gary Chadwick 905-885-0585, gchadwickg@gmail.com.



June 13: Westben for The *Fiddler on the Roof*, \$112 for bus, lunch and show.

Sign up at the front at meetings, or contact Edith at 905-885-5390, edicar@sympatico.ca



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



July and August: 4th Line Theatre, dates to be arranged : July *The Bad Luck Bank Robbers*, August *Gimme that 'Ol Time Religion*.



Caterers: coordinated by Judy Johnson

May Captain: Anne Shields

May 5: Sel Shields, Pat Goodyear, May Anderson

May 19: Sel Shields, Gillian and Gareth Jones

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

May 5: Joan McIntosh, Liz Davidson

May 19: Bill and Carolyn Minion

June 16: Pauline Carrick, Jennie Vanderwindt