



# Probus Patter

Port Hope and District Probus Club, since 1998

September 2015

## Regular Meetings

**September 1:** tbd

**September 8: Annual Corn Roast,**

at Barb Louck's house,  
4981 County Road 10,  
Canton, \$10. Come  
anytime after 3 pm.  
Bring your own beverage  
and deck chair.



**September 15: Annual  
General Meeting (starts  
at 10:30, coffee served  
before).**



**September 29th: Annual  
Car Rally (now fully  
booked).**



**October 6:** tbd

## Other Fun Things to Do



**September 16: Stratford,  
The Diary of Anne Frank  
\$145 for bus, lunch and  
show. For more info, or to  
book, contact Edith at the**

front desk, or at [edicar@sympatico.ca](mailto:edicar@sympatico.ca)  
or 905 885-5390.

*Hosts are required for our popular  
Apps and Drinks in October and  
November. Speak to Edith as per  
above. If you have a small  
residence, you can state a  
maximum number of attendees*



## President's Message

Since this will be my final article for the Patter it is difficult to decide if I should look back at the past year or look ahead and give some thoughts on what the club could do in the next few years. In looking back I realized that we still have more than 20 of our Charter Members still active in

the club. Many of them have taken on leadership roles over the years and several are Past Presidents. While doing some research for this article I was curious on how our club compared to other clubs in Canada. There are a total of 236 active Probus Clubs in Canada with a total membership of 32,735 members. With an average membership of 138 this puts our club slightly below the average and should motivate us to get as many new members as possible in the next couple of years.

During the past year we have had many excellent speakers on interesting subjects but have tried to avoid subjects that could be considered controversial. In doing so perhaps we have missed an opportunity to hear some excellent speakers and take part in lively debate on subjects that are important to our members. Have we closed our minds to other concepts and ideas because we thought that we could not engage in discussions of controversial items without offending our friends and neighbours? The word discussion is defined as "the action or process of talking about something, typically in order to reach a decision or to exchange ideas". During the coming year perhaps we should try for a couple of speakers that would engage the club in debate.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the best of luck to our incoming President Barbara Struthers for the coming year. The club will be in good hands.

*Paul*

## July 7th Meeting: The Great Flood of 1980



On the afternoon of Saturday March 22, 1980, Port Hope residents stared in horror as the Ganaraska River started washing over the Walton Street Bridge.

Records show that the Ganaraska flooded over 30 times, to ever increasing levels, between 1810 and 1940. Over the years, forestry and agriculture higher up the river lead to soil erosion and increased run off. Testing army vehicles during World War II further damaged the sandy drumlin area.

The Ganaraska Regional Conservation Authority, founded in 1944, has since planted over 20,000 acres of trees with the objective of combatting erosion, elevating ground water and increasing stream flows.

However, even this did not prevent what Sandy Holmes and Glen Close of the Port Hope Area Initiative (PHAI) described as a "Perfect Storm", with large amounts of rain falling on a huge snow pack sitting over frozen earth. The result was widespread devastation, and over two million dollars of damage. The flood waters crushed buildings and destroyed businesses, leading to the Town of Port Hope being declared a disaster area, enabling provincial funding assistance for clean up and reconstruction.

With the intent of combatting future floods, the flood plain is now extensively mapped. PHAI is responsible for maintaining the flood plain and surface contours.

Sandy and Glen showed members several graphic photos of some of the 1980 damage, in sharp contrast to what the same areas look like today.

The 1980 flood is commemorated with the annual Port Hope "Float you Fanny Down the Ganny" race, held annually in April. Contestants enter the 10 kilometres race in one of three categories: Canoes, Kayaks, and homemade Crazy Crafts.



The Old Fire Hall, which was so damaged it had to be demolished, despite its historical designation .



**RUN, RUN  
VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH THE CLUB  
IT'S FUN!**

## August 18th Meeting: Zim Art's Stone Sculptures

Fran Fearnley, founder of ZimArt's Rice Lake Gallery, told us about her remarkable collection of Shona stone sculptures from Zimbabwe, Africa. These can be enjoyed by strolling around her outdoor gallery, which is essentially a large field, part of her picturesque five-acre farm overlooking Rice Lake.

Fran travels to Zimbabwe each year to buy the work directly from the artists. Representing 50 plus sculptors, her goal is to promote cross-cultural

understanding between Canada and Zimbabwe, to raise awareness of this beautiful art form, and to raise money for vulnerable children in Zimbabwe.

Fran has received several awards for her cross-cultural work and has recently joined the board of the Art Gallery of Peterborough.

The Gallery of amazing Shona stone sculptures of all sizes and colours is well worth an afternoon visit. It's an experience that is both tranquil and awe-inspiring. Not just a display, all the art works are for sale.

The Gallery is open daily from June 1 to Thanksgiving (11 p.m. to 6 p.m.). Admission is free, although donations to ZimKids are gratefully accepted. Great web site, including directions and dates of special artist events, at: [zimart.ca](http://zimart.ca)



*Feeling the Movement* by Singi Chihota



*Heart of Caring* by this year's artist in residence Walter Mariga

## July 28th Small Group Outing

July 28 2015 was a scorching hot day but the heat did not deter a few of our members to take to the highway to find a picnic area not too far from home.

We chose to first visit Peterborough Lock #21, and then drive on to Lock # 24 close to Lakefield, a great shady park like setting, It is an interesting yet very tranquil area and we enjoyed our picnic lunch and watching the boats sail through the Lock. Barb talked to a couple from the States who, four years ago, started out on a one-year trip but are still traveling

After lunch and a leisurely "walk about" for those so inclined we drove to Lakefield for delicious ice cream. Believe me, even a single serving in a cone is more ice cream than one needs!

We had planned for more people, but regrettably, at the last minute, there were five cancellations due to unforeseen circumstances.

An enjoyable trip, great company, lots of fun and close to home.

*Barb Loucks and Marg Dennis*



**BOO HOO**  
**NO VOLUNTEERS TO**  
**RUN THE CLUB:**  
**NO CLUB!**

# Stony Lake Cruise on July 14th

With unapologetic thanks to Edward Lear's  
*The Owl and the Pussy Cat*, from his  
*Nonsense Book*

The intrepid Probian went to sea  
In the *Kawartha Spirit* boat  
We took some honey and plenty of money  
For our Stony Lake trip afloat.  
Paul looked up to the sun up above  
And sang to a small guitar,  
"O lovely Marg, Oh Marg, my love  
Buy me a cottage, that one's not far."

Edith to Fraser; "Oh elegant man,  
How charmingly sweet you sing!  
Let's get remarried, too long have we tarried:  
But what shall we do for a ring?"  
We sailed away for much of the day,  
To the land where the Viamede rose,  
And there in a wood a Piggy-wig stood  
With a ring at the end of his nose.

"Dear Pig, are you willing to sell for one shilling  
Your ring?" Said the Piggy, "I will."  
They took it away, and remarried next day  
By Barb on the side of the hill.  
We all dined on mince and slices of quince,  
Which we ate with a runcible spoon:  
And hand in hand, on the edge of the sand,  
We danced by the light of the moon.

**Runcible spoon:** fork curved like a spoon with  
three broad prongs, one edged. Nonsense word  
used by E. Lear, English humourist d. 1888.

*Pauline Carrick (poetry and photos)*



*Waiting to go on Board*



*Or Somewhere Else?*



*Viamede Resort on Stony Lake*



**Caterers:** coordinated by  
*Judy Johnson*

September Captain: Judy Johnson  
Sept. 1: Doreen Rossi, Liz Davidson,  
Lois Hueston  
Sept 16: Elaine Simpson, Dorothy  
Lent. (Coffee will be served  
before the 10:30 meeting.)

October Captain: Nancy Lynchn  
Oct 6: Shirley Robinson,  
Gloria Schumacher  
Oct 20: Alan Butler, Maggie Snow

**Greeters:** coordinated by  
*Barb Winfield*

Sept 1: Doreen Rossi, Liz Davidson  
Sept 15: Judy Johnson, Shirley Stark  
Oct 6: Ed and Nancy Ford  
Oct 20: Terry and Rita Bell  
Nov 3: Diane Conduit, Marg Dennis  
Nov 17: Barbara and Bob Moorcroft