



Probus Patter

Port Hope and District Probus Club, since 1998

September 2016

Regular Meetings

September 6: Seniors Care Network

Quoting from their website:

<http://seniorscarenetwork.ca/about/seniors-care-network-connected-possibilities/>

"The specialized geriatrics programs and services of Seniors Care Network are intended to help older adults with complex health concerns that threaten their independence and function."

Come prepared to ask questions!

September 20th: AGM

The meeting will start at 10:30!

No refreshments at the meeting, but lunch will be provided afterwards at a cost of \$15, for assorted bread & buns, caesar salad, tomato and cucumber salad, lightly seasoned chicken breast with roast potato, as well as assorted desserts, coffee and tea. Cash bar.

Sign up for lunch at the September 6th meeting.

The Nominating Committee's list of proposed Management Committee members is on Page 4. Members may propose other candidates from the floor

Other Fun Things to Do

December 4-6: Festival of Stars

 *More information on page 4.*

President's Message

Our beautiful summer is coming to an end, as is my term as President. As I write my last words for the September issue of the Probus Patter, it seems like only yesterday that I was facing the daunting task of creating a new message for each issue of the Patter for the next year. How time flies!

Throughout the year the main issue that our Club has faced is the problem of declining enrolment and if we would have enough members to carry on as an active Club. As I write this at the end of August, we have 89 members (a decline from 101 last year). I received an email from the President of Ontario District 1, Jamie Doolittle. The national annual membership growth rates over the last 15 years (1999-2014) has found a significant decline in overall growth rates changing from 14.7% to 2.7%, while the annual growth rate from existing clubs has decreased from 8.4% to 0.5%. Hopefully a committee can be formed by our Club to address recruitment strategies that will bring our Club membership up to where it was a year ago.



I would like to thank all of you who have participated actively in the events over the past year – we have had many opportunities to socialize, from the Car Rally, Christmas Party, St. Patrick's Day dinner, a joint meeting with the Ganaraska Valley Probus Club to celebrate National Probus Day, the "Picnic", and coming up, the corn roast. We have had many enjoyable "appies" parties, many scheduled activities and trips. Thank you to all the volunteers who made these events happen.

I would like to thank our incoming President, Betty DeLong for stepping forward to serve as the new President and wish her all the best for the year to come.

Barbara

July 5th: Melody Crowe of the Alderville First Nations

The image that stayed in my mind after this meeting was of Melody Crowe weaving a colourful First Nations blanket combining old traditions, practices and values with the best of the today's world

Melody, twice decorated with the prestigious "Eagle Feather", is a member of the Alderville First Nation. As she talked, she moved between tales of her childhood, the strong sustaining influence of family members, the many positive contributions of First Nations members over the years, and the ongoing thriving Alderville community. Despite past attempts to "kill the Indian in the child", the community survived to combine the positive elements of a strong modern society with traditional ceremonies and values.

Alderville is one of several First Nations Objibway communities in this part of Ontario, including Hiawatha (across Rice Lake), Curve Lake near Peterborough and Port Perry. Overall in Canada there are 634 First Nation communities, with 53 Native languages and 200 dialects.



Native American Proverb

We didn't inherit the Earth
from our parents.
We're borrowing it
from our children.

Kaawiin gitziimnaanig
gii-miingosiiinaanig maanda Ki.
Gda daawmaanaanig
Gda binoojiimnaanig.

Melody was brought up by a single mother, living with her grandparents, whom she called Dad and Mom, and who between them taught her the value of unconditional love. Dad, "Dan" taught her to trap and set snares, to walk silently through the woods, and, above all, patience. He not only was band chief, he acted as a guide on Rice Lake and played in a six-piece band. Melody joined them as drummer at age 12.

The Alderville School of Manual Labour, founded in 1912, did follow the usual practice of the time: forbidding children to speak Objibway and beating them if they were caught doing so, even in the schoolyard. One of the first to change to a more enlightened approach, the Alderville Community now houses a Community Centre, a Band Office, a Health Centre, a Learning Centre, a Women's Shelter, a Library and buildings for Health Service and Student Services (after school care) as well as a large solar farm. Nevertheless, community members still practice traditional arts of making porcupine baskets, and "birch bark bitings", where a thin

piece of bark is systematically bitten to form symmetrical patterns.

The Black Oak Savanna at Alderville is home to over 40 species of other "at risk" prairie grasses, trees and other plants. A "Prairie Day" is held each September, a family friendly event that includes guided hikes, workshops, entertainment, food and fun!



Melody Crowe, in her "jingle" dress worn at traditional ceremonies

Enjoying 4th Line Theatre on July 12th



Recent Events

August 16th: The 2017 Ontario Winter Senior Games

As representatives for these Games for participants over 55, co-chairs Paul Allan and Andy Tesluk were enthusiastic about the variety of sports that will be available to us. The Games will take place on February 21, 22, 23, 2017, with venues situated around Northumberland County.

With 10 events on offer, there is something for a wide range of interests and activity levels. Choose from the following list of events and venues at a cost of \$10 for any or all:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 10 Pin Bowling | Duplicate Bridge |
| Alpine Skiing | Ice hockey |
| Nordic Skiing | Prediction Skating |
| Badminton | Table Tennis |
| Curling | Volleyball |

Being a host community brings many benefits. Upwards of 1000 people, including participants and spectators, race officials and volunteers, are expected to swell the area, all needing to be fed and accommodated.

The local games will need 300 to 400 volunteers. Registration details for participants and volunteers are available on the official web site (address at the end of the article) or at the District Games Headquarters, Cobourg Community Centre. Paul encouraged us to get involved in the activities. "You'll have fun and meet lots of new people," he said. "If you are a winner in any of the sporting events, you can advance to the Ontario Winter Games."



Andy, Katie Litt and Paul

Memories popped to the surface as several Probus members revealed that they had participated in past Games.

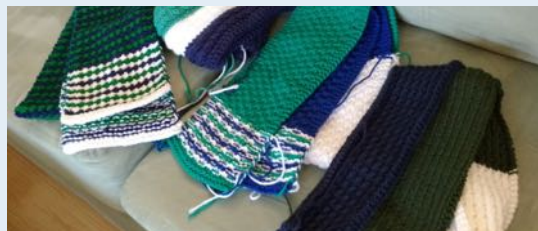
Fred and Gloria Schumacher played bid euchre in the 2016 Summer Games and met "some really nice people." Fred also participated in the 75+ golf tournament.

Barbara Loucks previously participated in Alpine Skiing and Pauline Carrick ran one year in a Prediction Race on the Port Hope high school track, although she only found out what this meant just before the event. You predict what time it will take you to finish the run/walk, and the closest time wins. It's not the fastest person. The 2017 Winter Games include the sport of Prediction Skating.

2017cobourg55wintergames.com

Calling All Knitters

A unique feature of the local games is to have all participants wear a hand knitted scarf in the team colours of blue, green and white. Can you knit? With an expected 1,000 entrants, this is a mammoth project calling for lots of people who love to knit. Volunteer if you can. Look for details on the web site at the end of the article, or on our Probus noticeboard, or call Katie Litt at the Cobourg Community Centre: 905-372-7371 ext. 8404



Enjoying the Corn Roast on August 30th



A great time, thanks to superb organizers Barbara and Bob.

A message from Edith:

September is the Annual Meeting and the end of our tenure - however, we are hoping to go to the "Festival of Stars" in Niagara Falls, December 4th - 6th, \$629.00 -- and also hoping some of you will join us!



Featured stars will include Daniel O'Donnell, BJ Thomas & Mike Walker in "Conway Twitty Remembered", and many other talented performers.

Nominating Committee's List of Proposed Management Committee Members:

President: Betty de Long
Vice president: -----
Treasurer: Ben Kuzmich
Secretary: Fiona Maarhuis
assisted by Alan Butler
Newsletter: Murray Munro
Program: Jeanie Keiser
Lois Hueston
Special Events: Shirley Robinson
Joan MacIntosh
Past President: Barbara Struthers
Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the meeting.

Greeters: coordinated by Barb Winfield

September 6: Luci Frew
Jenny Vanderwindt
September 20th: Nancy & Ed Ford

Last News from the Coburg Probus Club

by Pauline Carrick

The last get-together of the Cobourg Probus Club was held on July 21st at Victoria Park. The occasion was a tree-planting ceremony to mark the passing of members from the previous year. Since the Cobourg club began this interesting tradition soon after forming, nineteen trees have been added to the park's collection. This year, they dug in an extra tree to mark the passing of the club itself. With aging club members who are unable to take on the tasks of running the club and declining membership, it became apparent that the club could no longer sustain itself and, with heavy hearts, members decided to disband their club.



I was present to honor the passing of one of my dear friends, Audrey Levto. In a shocking announcement, emcee Russ Donaldson told us that nine of their members had died during the past year. A stark reminder that time marches on and was likely a contributing factor in the closure of the Cobourg Probus Club, the first one to open in the Northumberland area. The Port Hope club began three years later in 1997.

We are sorry to see the Cobourg Probus Club close. The memories of the members will remain with them.

Enjoying Apps & Drinks

