



PROBUS CLUB OF TRENT HILLS

OCTOBER 2016

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, ISSUE FIVE



Alan Appleby - President

The President's Voice

"Still round the corner there may wait, a new road or a secret gate."

- J. R. R. Tolkien -

It has been my honour to serve as your President for the past year. Having previously been Secretary and Vice President/Program Manager, I found the Presidency to be both the busiest and most rewarding position.

Our third year of operation has been busy, with several key accomplishments.

- Last fall we bought our own audio/visual equipment, and are getting good reviews of the better sight and sound experience.
- The Christmas Party was a lively affair with Randy the Mentalist.
- In March we received a Proclamation for Probus Month in Trent Hills, with a slide show to let the Mayor and Council know who we are. At that time, we also led, along with Ganaraska Valley Probus Club, in making a presentation to Northumberland County Council on behalf of all nine county clubs.
- Summertime brought our first Probus picnic, a fun-filled day at Lang Pioneer Village. It seems likely we'll be back next summer.
- In August we began to distribute our very classy brochure to encourage others to "join us."
- And just recently we conducted our first Member Survey to find out your thoughts and ideas for keeping our club doing the things that you want to do.

There was a variety of other events throughout the year including dinner theatre in Cobourg, lunches at Loyalist College and Hutchinson House in Peterborough, Mel Brooks' Young Frankenstein, and our annual visit to WestBen to see the amazing Next Generation Leahy. Other regular activities continued with Scotch Tasting, Book Clubs, and our Photography Club. Our Newsletters continue to amaze me, thanks to Anne, Sheila and the members who wrote their own interesting biographies.

Who can forget any of our engaging speakers? I'd have to give the "Oscar" to Major (Ret) Lee-Anne Quinn and her incredible story of front line nursing in the Canadian Forces. Let's also not forget the effort made by many members to plan a lunch in Hastings during the bridge closure last winter and spring. Thanks to all who helped out! Also think of the several members who left us too soon.

Our upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be short on business, and feature another interesting speaker. We will be entertaining our past and current Ontario Regional representatives, who are bringing greetings from Probus Canada.

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We have been fortunate to replace our five retiring Management Committee members, all of whom have served at least two years, with top-notch new volunteers to ensure that your Probus experience continues to be enhanced. Thank you for your support and friendship!



In Memorium

Regretfully we announce the passing
of our member and friend

Olga Young

“To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die.”

--- Thomas Campbell



Announcements

REMINDER

Annual Membership Dues of \$40 pp. are due before the end of the year. However, if you wish to vote at the October AGM, you must be a fully paid up member.

A REMINDER FOR NEWER MEMBERS

Probus Members are encouraged to bring guests to our meetings. It is a good way of introducing the Club to potential new members. Your guest(s) may attend up to three meetings.

CHANGES TO PERSONAL INFORMATION

If you have had any changes to your address, telephone, email etc., please keep us informed. We want to make sure you are receiving all notices and email messages as well as this newsletter.

Send info to: Attn. Bev McComb - trenthillsprobus@gmail.com

Probus Members

Piet and Joy

Goemans



Joy Gleeson (of Irish descent) was born in Toronto, in 1945. Piet was born in the city of Leiden, in the Netherlands in 1944. Joy was raised in Ajax. Piet grew up in Whitby where he moved at the age of 13 from Holland. As good immigrant sons do, Piet quit school at 16 to go to work and his first job was at Maher Shoe Stores in Ajax. At 17, Piet joined the Ontario Regiment Cadets and Reserves where he met Joy's twin brother John. John also started to work with Piet at the Ajax shoe store and one day, he invited Piet to his home. That is when Joy and Piet met and it was love at first sight. They started dating and love grew. It was while waiting for Joy to finish school, that Piet became a store manager in Port Hope and then a Supervisor / Vice president in Toronto.

We became engaged 3 years later and although it took a bit of convincing, Joy's Parents finally gave us their blessing to marry on August 20, 1966.

Our son Peter Christian was born March 10, 1969. At that time both of us worked at Ajax Magnethermic in Ajax. Joy retired from the Purchasing Dept. to take care of the baby and Piet was promoted from the stock room to manage the inside sales and service department.

In 1971 we moved to Bowmanville where our daughter Jennifer Joy was born on July 12, 1972. Three years later Joy started working in the Administration Department of the local Post Office.

Church was and is an important part of our lives. In Bowmanville we joined the church choir and Piet started a youth singing group that sang their original gospel songs at local and area venues.

This type of church and musical involvement continued as we moved to Oshawa, Belleville and Whitby, forming Christian gospel singing groups/bands at each location.

1983 had Joy moving with Canada Post to Belleville as the Supervisor Office Admin/Administrative Assistant to the Area Postmaster, while Piet started work in Trenton with Murata Erie. (Job from hell.)

Two years later, Ajax Magnethermic invited Piet to come back as Estimator, Parts and Service Manager. In 1987 Joy joined the employ of the Durham Board of Education where she remained for the next 20 years until retiring as Head Secretary of Ajax High School (where she attended as a pupil).

By now, our children had grown up into wonderful adults, married, and presented us with 4 granddaughters and one grandson. We are truly blessed!!!

In 2002 Joy's bother John purchased a cottage at Dreamland Resort in Hastings. We liked it so well that we decided to join her brother. We became "trailer trash" and stayed for four years.

The move to Trent Hills just east of Trent River became our retirement cottage on the river, a dream that we both shared and enjoyed for 10 years. From 2005 to 2007 we travelled to the cottage every Friday after work no matter what the weather threw at us. On July 31,2007 we retired from our jobs, and both of our employers gave us wonderful retirement parties.

We sold the house in Whitby, and while Joy was in Windsor, taking care of her Parents, Piet packed everything up and moved into the cottage full time. Since we attended church in Hastings when we lived in the trailer, we continued to attend there for a number of years after we moved to Cedar Shores, but, have since become members of Christ Church Anglican in Campbellford.

We now sing in the Campbellford Community Choir, Christ Church Anglican Choir and the United Church Choir as "friends." Singing and making music together has been and is a large part of life for us and there is nothing (other than children and grandkids) that we enjoy doing more.

Our 50th anniversary celebration began with a renewal of wedding vows in the church with a reception in the hall afterwards. Little did we expect that the church would be packed with so many family and friends. We felt truly blessed!!!

Piet has chronicled our love and life together in song for over 50 years and although some of the songs from the 1960's are a bit corny, they still carry a message of love and hope for the future. One song that Piet wrote in 1994 still rings as true at our 50th anniversary as it did then. Perhaps Piet can perform it at one of our Probus meetings. The song is entitled "It Just Keeps on Getting Better."

Past Event



Despite problems with ticketing and seating for this concert, all worries disappeared once the Leahy Family came onto the stage.....and what a wonderful family they are! Six of the eight children, plus Mom and Dad performed for us with such talent and activity, that more experienced performers would be green with envy. During intermission there was a great deal of positive feedback from Probus members who attended. We agreed it was a most enjoyable experience. At the end of their show, two younger members of the family were introduced and I predict that in a few short years there will be eight Leahy children on stage. Can't wait to see them!

Submitted by Anne Linton

Past Speakers



August 10, 2016
Melody Crowe
Alderville

Judy Pearce introduced our speaker, Melody Crowe, who spoke to us about growing up in Alderville and teaching about the Ojibway language and culture. Melody's family contains a long line of chiefs and leaders and Melody, herself, has received many honours including being an eagle feather carrier. Alderville is part of the Great Mississauga Nation which controlled all of southern Ontario during the 18th century. Alderville itself was settled in 1837. Melody's grandfather was a tribal leader, a guide, a musician and a hunter/ trapper while her grandmother was a very proud teacher of traditions, language and cultural values. There are 634 First Nation Communities in Canada, with approximately 53 native languages and over 200 dialects. Melody teaches the Ojibway language, as well as cultural values and traditions.

During her presentation, Melody touched briefly on the issue of residential schools and political correctness, but stressed the positive contributions of so many natives with years of inventions and innovations in North and South America. Melody spoke of cultural values and the many meanings of the medicine wheel. Members were invited to visit places of interest in Alderville; the veterans' memorial, the day care centre, the administrative centre, the church, the black oak savannah and the annual pow-wow.

Melody also focused on many of the great achievements of the members of the community and the importance of traditional crafts, celebrations and ceremonies for sharing culture and creating awareness. Tradition teaches us to "Think seven generations ahead in all that we think, act and do" and that "We didn't inherit the earth from our parents, we're borrowing it from our children." Profound food for thought, indeed! Melody was graciously thanked by member, Skye Morrison.

PHOTO BY ART LINTON SUBMITTED BY SHEILA WOOD



September 14, 2016
Carol O'Neil
CRTS

Our speaker for September came with many credentials to her name.

Carol O'Neil is a Certified Relocation and Transition Specialist, and her business is called Next Steps Solutions. She was here to give us advice on how to get rid of the "stuff" we seem to accumulate over the years.

She began by reading two obituaries of elderly people who had passed on and whose families express the love they had for the deceased, but not for the clutter they left behind - not the sort of legacy you want to leave to your family.

After looking over the smiling faces of our Probus Club she concluded that now is the time we should tackle the problem. She pointed out that we were "getting to that age" when we seriously need to make some decisions about all that clutter we tend to surround ourselves with. (Soft murmurings were heard in the crowd.)

As she went through her suggestions on exactly how to cope with this (in most cases), *massive project*, she used as examples, men who love to tinker and women who craft. (Much finger pointing went on at this time).

After showing us many examples of the things we tend to hang on to, in case our children wanted them, she simply told us that our offspring are not interested in the china, crystal and silverware of our generation. They have developed their own simpler taste and style and want no part of ours. So it is time to clear these things out of our lives. (Was that crying I heard?)

She had many suggestions as to how to go about this, but the best advice was to take 15 minutes a day going through the many boxes and drawers in the house, and make plans on the disposition of these items once separated from the pile. (Desperate sobbing)!!!

When she concluded her talk a rather loud groan of despair emanated from the centre of the floor! (You know who you are Tom)! After fielding many questions from members, Carol was thanked by member Becky Linton.

PHOTO BY TONY CROCKER SUBMITTED BY ANNE LINTON

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP NEWS

THE WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB - Meetings are being held at Maureen Dikun's home on the third Tuesday of the month at 1:30 pm. Two new members have joined.

THE PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP - are holding their meetings on the last Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be on October 31st.



SCOTCH TASTING - The Canadian air is starting to cool down, but in Scotland things are starting to heat up... in distillery country that is! If you are interested in attending a Scotch tasting, but have never participated before, please don't be shy, we would love to have you join us. The Scotch tastings are a great way to meet other Probus members in a casual, and fun atmosphere, with a wee dram of Scotch for good conversation. We will meet on October 13th at Capers Restaurant (upstairs) at 11:30 to order our lunch. After lunch and social time we will commence with the tasting. The cost of the tasting will be \$20 pp as usual, and we will be tasting three single malts sourced from the six distilling regions.

The tastings are simple in format, and I will do my best to give you accurate information on the single malts that you will be tasting, and a little history on the distilleries that produced them. Members are encouraged to bring a friend if you like, but please keep in mind that Probus members will be given precedence over non members should our sign up sheet get filled up. The sign up sheet will be capped at 17 people, and to be fair I will sign you up in the order in which I get notified. Ron Csenar of Capers will be creating his tasty lunch selections for us, and the tasters will be responsible for the cost of their lunch. The sign up sheet for the tasting will be at the events table at the next two Probus meetings, or you can e-mail or call either Bob Bennett or myself, and we will sign you up. I hope you can join us on October 13th.

Slainte

Gord > gareid@sympatico.ca or 705-653-2474

Bob > r.b.bennett@eastlink.ca or 705-653-1180



The following was submitted by member Tom Terentiew. A decision was made to add this to the newsletter as it seemed very appropriate given that last month our speaker, Carol O'Neil, encouraged us to literally "Get our House in Order," and the speaker at our AGM is talking to us about aging in rural Communities. Note: we do not usually publish random submissions and decisions to publish are made on merit and available space .

GOOD ADVICE

1. ***It's time to use the money you saved up.*** Use and enjoy it. Don't just keep it for those who may have no notion of the sacrifices you made to get it. Remember there is nothing more dangerous than a son or daughter-in-law with big ideas for your hard earned capital. Warning: This is also a bad time for an investment, even if it seems wonderful or fool-proof. They only bring problems and worries. This is a time for you to enjoy some peace and quiet.
2. ***Stop worrying*** about the financial situation of your children and grandchildren, and don't feel bad spending your money on yourself. You've taken care of them for many years, and you've taught them what you could. You gave them an education, food, shelter and support. The responsibility is now theirs to earn their own money.
3. ***Keep a healthy life,*** without great physical effort. Do moderate exercise (like walking every day), eat well and get your sleep. It's easy to become sick, and it gets harder to remain healthy. That is why you need to keep yourself in good shape and be aware of your medical and physical needs. Keep in touch with your doctor, do tests even when you're feeling well. Stay informed.
4. ***Always buy the best,*** most beautiful items for your significant other. The key goal is to enjoy your money with your partner. One day one of you will miss the other, and the money will not provide any comfort then, enjoy it together.
5. ***Don't stress over the little things.*** You've already overcome so much in your life. You have good memories and bad ones, but the important thing is the present. Don't let the past drag you down and don't let the future frighten you. Feel good in the now. Small issues will soon be forgotten.
6. ***Regardless of age, always keep love alive.*** Love your partner, love life, love your family, love your neighbour and remember: "A man is not old as long as he has intelligence and affection."
7. ***Be proud, both inside and out.*** Don't stop going to your hair salon or barber, do your nails, go to the dermatologist and the dentist, keep your perfumes and creams well stocked. When you are well-maintained on the outside, it seeps in, making you feel proud and strong.
8. ***Don't lose sight of fashion trends*** for your age, but keep your own sense of style. There's nothing worse than an older person trying to wear the current fashion among youngsters. You've developed your own sense of what looks good on you – keep it and be proud of it. It's part of who you are.
9. ***ALWAYS stay up-to-date.*** Read newspapers, watch the news. Go online and read what people are saying. Make sure you have an active email account and try to use some of those social networks. You'll be surprised what old friends you'll meet. Keeping in touch with what is going on and with the people you know is important at any age.
10. ***Respect the younger generation*** and their opinions. They may not have the same ideals as you, but they are the future, and will take the world in their direction. Give advice, not criticism, and try to remind them that yesterday's wisdom still applies today
11. ***Never use the phrase: "In my time".*** Your time is now. As long as you're alive, you are part of this time. You may have been younger, but you are still you now, having fun and enjoying life.

12. **Some people embrace their golden years**, while others become bitter and surly. Life is too short to waste your days on the latter. Spend your time with positive, cheerful people, it'll rub off on you and your days will seem that much better. Spending your time with bitter people will make you older and harder to be around.
13. **Do not surrender** to the temptation of living with your children or grandchildren (if you have a financial choice, that is). Sure, being surrounded by family sounds great, but we all need our privacy. They need theirs and you need yours. If you've lost your partner (our deepest condolences), then find a person to move in with you and help out. Even then, do so only if you feel you really need the help or do not want to live alone.
14. **Don't abandon your hobbies**. If you don't have any, make new ones. You can travel, hike, cook, read, dance. You can adopt a cat or a dog, grow a garden, play cards, checkers, chess, dominoes, golf. You can paint, volunteer at an NGO or just collect certain items. Find something you like and spend some real time having fun with it.
15. **Even if you don't feel like it**, try to accept invitations . Baptisms, graduations, birthdays, weddings, conferences. Try to go. Get out of the house, meet people you haven't seen in a while, experience something new (or something old). But don't get upset when you're not invited. Some events are limited by resources, and not everyone can be hosted. The important thing is to leave the house from time to time. Go to museums, go walk through a field. Get out there.
16. **Be a conversationalist**. Talk less and listen more. Some people go on and on about the past, not caring if their listeners are really interested. That's a great way of reducing their desire to speak with you. Listen first and answer questions, but don't go off into long stories unless asked to. Speak in courteous tones and try not to complain or criticize too much unless you really need to. Try to accept situations as they are. Everyone is going through the same things, and people have a low tolerance for hearing complaints. Always find some good things to say as well.
17. **Pain and discomfort** go hand in hand with getting older. Try not to dwell on them but accept them as a part of the cycle of life we're all going through. Try to minimize them in your mind. They are not who you are, they are something that life added to you. If they become your entire focus, you lose sight of the person you used to be.
18. **If you've been offended** by someone – forgive them . If you've offended someone — apologize. Don't drag around resentment with you. It only serves to make you sad and bitter. It doesn't matter who was right. Someone once said: "Holding a grudge is like taking poison and expecting the other person to die." Don't take that poison. Forgive, forget and move on with your life.
19. **If you have a strong belief**, savour it. But don't waste your time trying to convince others. They will make their own choices no matter what you tell them, and it will only bring you frustration. Live your faith and set an example. Live true to your beliefs and let that memory sway them.
20. **Laugh. Laugh A LOT**. Laugh at everything. Remember, you are one of the lucky ones. You managed to have a life, a long one. Many never get to this age, never get to experience a full life. But you did. So what's not to laugh about? Find the humour in your situation.
21. **Take no notice of what others say** about you and even less notice of what they might be thinking. They'll do it anyway, and you should have pride in yourself and what you've achieved. Let them talk and don't worry. They have no idea about your history, your memories and the life you've lived so far. There's still much to be written, so get busy writing and don't waste time thinking about what others might think.

Now is the time to be at rest, at peace and as happy as you can be!

Future Speakers

October 12 - The speaker for our AGM will be Dr. Keith Skinner, Trent University who will be talking to us about "Aging in Rural Communities".

November 9th - We will have OPP Constable Steve Bates speak to us about "Senior Safety".

MEMBERS OF YOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**YOUR NEW MANAGERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE AGM AND
POSTED ON THE NORTHUMBERLAND PROBUS WEBSITE**

Alan Appleby - President
Judy Pearce - Vice President and Program Manager
Art Linton - Past President
Diane Williamson - Secretary
Steve Wood - Treasurer
Jim Kelleher - Communications Manager
**Anne Linton - Events and Special Interests Manager
and Newsletter Editor**
Bev McComb - Membership Manager
Jerry Hazlitt - Meeting Manager

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