



The Probud Letter

Published for the Members of PROBUS CLUBS in CANADA

by: **PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.**

2855 Olympic Road, Qualicum Beach, B.C. V9K 2L8

June , 2005



Maureen Huismans
President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What an amazing year to be installed as your President! I joined Probud in 1995 when the Women's Club of Newmarket was formed and offered to be their first Vice President, not dreaming of where that path would lead. In 1998/99 I was asked to serve on the Board of Probud Centre-Canada, Inc. as Assistant Treasurer (non Voting) in charge of regalia (a very fancy title) and looked after all the orders for club pins etc. It was a great opportunity to get to know where all the clubs were located. In 1999 I ran for the office of Ontario Director and was honoured to be elected and the Probud Canada executive also requested that I become the Treasurer. This required taking custody of four or five boxes of records and fitting them all into my 'granny' flat. Somehow the

shelves expanded overnight and I didn't have to move.

Currently I am serving in my sixth year as a Director and still enjoying every minute of all the wonderful friendships I have made. During my recent visit to B.C. I was made so welcome at the **Kelowna Mens' Club** as well as the **Qualicum Beach Club** and, during my trip to England and Wales last year I was made very welcome at the **Conway Mens' Club in Llandudno**. These welcome experiences have been repeated at many **Ontario Clubs** and, especially with the **Muskoka Clubs** who are hosting "**Rendezvous 2005**" this coming September. I have been meeting with the Rendezvous Committee over the past year or so and can only share my awe with you at the incredible commitment of all the volunteers preparing to welcome us. I am looking forward to meeting about five hundred of you, Probud Club members from right across Canada and some visitors from?????(Sssh)

I would be remiss in not recognizing the wonderful contributions made by past Executive members who have laid such a strong framework for us to follow. It has been a great pleasure working with our Past President, **Ken Leaney**, who dreamed of us having our first Rendezvous and carried us along with his enthusiasm. **Reg Whynott**, our Managing Director, who keeps us all 'on the ball' with his excellent organizational skills. **Bud Crookes**, our Financial Manager, who has been around since Probud began in Canada and supported us all along. Our Web Master, **Bernie Nadeau**, whose computer skills I envy, and his very capable assistant, **Brian Kirkwood**.

Last but not most, our Past President and President Emeritus and "**Mr. Probud**" himself, **John Morris** and his 'sidekick' **Doris Morris** (behind every great man there is a wonderful woman!). Both of them have given me tremendous help and support since I joined, just as they have done to my predecessors over the past almost two decades.

Please do not hesitate to ask if I can be of any help to you in your Club or District. We have a wonderful executive and I look forward to working with all of you !!!!

CURRENT OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF PROBUS CENTRE – CANADA, INC.

President **Maureen Huismans**, Newmarket, Ont.
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Vice - President ... **Beth Hickerson** , Ancaster, Ont.
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Treasurer **Allan H. Lee** Edmonton, Alberta
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Secretary **Arthur Buck**..... Moncton, N.B.
Tel: (506) 532-8408
Email: asbuck@attglobal.net

Past-President..... **Ken Leaney**, Parksville, B.C.
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Email: leaney@nanaimo.ark.com

DIRECTORS

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Non-Voting Appointees

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Managing Director... **Reg Whynott**, Qualicum Beach, B.C.
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If your Club is in need of assistance or guidance with any Probus related item please do not hesitate to contact any of the Officers or Directors listed above. For administrative items or ordering of Probus pins please contact the Managing Director.

PROBUS CANADA ELECTIONS – 2005

In keeping with the Constitution and Bylaws, elections were held to select persons to serve on the Board of Probus Centre-Canada for the next three years. There were calls for nominations to the Board with vacancies to be filled in three of the four regions of the country. There was no election in the Atlantic Region as Arthur Buck still has two years to serve. In Ontario, there were elections in two Districts, # 5 and # 6. In District #5, there was one nomination to the Board and Mr. John Adams of the Probus Club of Wasaga Beach was declared elected by acclamation for a three year term to replace Director and Treasurer Betsy Eydt who retired after one three year term for personal reasons. In District #6, there were two candidates nominated in the persons of Douglas Eckels, Probus Club of Brantford and Beth Hickerson, Women’s Probus Club of Brant. With all sixteen of the Clubs in the District participating in the election, Beth Hickerson was re-elected to the Board for a second three year term.

In the area of Man./Sask./Ab. there was also only one nomination submitted and Gordon Smith of the Probus Club of Regina was declared elected by acclamation to replace retiring Director Don Putnam of the Probus Club of Winnipeg who retired after having served on the Board with distinction for six years.

In British Columbia, there were five candidates nominated for the one vacancy Norm Broughton of the Probus Club of Saanich; John Leonard of the Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver; Archie Nicol of the Probus Club of Chilliwack; Gordon Springate of the Probus Club of Kelowna; and Bill Verburgt of the Probus Club of Comox Valley.. Again, after excellent participation by twenty-seven of the thirty two Clubs across the province, Gordon Springate was successful in being elected for a three year term on the Board.

As he complimented the successful candidates on their election, President Ken Leaney also expressed appreciation to all who had allowed their names to stand and he complimented them on their willingness to serve as representatives of Probus across Canada.

He also praised those who had completed their terms on the Board and thanked them for their many hours of unselfish contribution to Probus and to our growth and development over these past years (**Betsy Eydt, Archie Nicol and Don Putnam**)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Board of Directors at the end of April, the following Officers were elected for the year ahead: **President**—Maureen Huismans;
Vice-President- Beth Hickerson; **Treasurer** – Allan Lee;
Secretary—Arthur Buck; **Past President** – Ken Leaney

“SPEAKERS CORNER” Looking for an outstanding speaker has your Club had one recently that you would like to recommend to other Probus Clubs go to the Probus Canada website www.probus.org ... and click on “National Pages and Contacts” and then on “Canada” and when the page opens go to the column on the right headed “Club Information” and click on “Speakers Corner ...it could be interesting !

WHERE ARE WE NOW ?

Since the Membership Directory of Probud Clubs in Canada was distributed in January we have presented Charters to two new Probud Clubs. The details on these Clubs are printed below and you are asked to add them to your Directory in the space provided on page 36

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THE PROBUS CLUB OF NANAIMO NORTH, B.C. (Combined) # 169
 P.O.Box 41008, RPO Woodgrove, Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 6M7
 Email: robin_dodson@shaw.ca Fax: (250) 758-9175
 77 Members (Sponsor Probud Club of Lantzville)
 Charter Members 77 5/20/05
 NANAIMO NORTH MEET Costin Hall, Lantzville, 3rd Thurs. 9:00 AM
 President Robin Dodson (250) 758-9175
 Secretary Jim McEwan (250) 751-2775

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THE WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF CAMBRIDGE RIVERSIDE, ONT. (Women) # 170
 P.O.Box 25035, Cambridge, Ont. N3C 1Z0
 Email: powermarg@hotmail.com Fax: none
 90 Members (Sponsor) Women's Probud Club of Cambridge)
 Charter Members 90 5/26/05
 CAMBRIDGE RIVERSIDE MEET
 Grand Valley Golf & Country Club, 2nd Wed., 9:30 AM
 President Margaret DeBrusk (519) 621-6816
 Secretary Marguerite Power (519) 658-0167

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 We have now chartered 170 Clubs in Canada and have over 21,500 individual members. Our fantastic growth is an indication of the desire for many to belong to an organization such as ours. If your Club has a long "waiting list" or if you feel there is a need for an additional Probud Club in your community or area, please let us know at Probud Centre, either through one of the elected Members of the Board (listed on Page 2) or through our Managing Director, and we will provide the necessary advice and guidance to enable you to start the process. It's really not that difficult and you will be providing the opportunity for others to enjoy the same benefits of membership that you are able to enjoy.

INTERESTED IN A POCKET CREST !

In the very near future Probud Canada may be providing the opportunity for Probud Members to purchase a crest for your vest, blouse, jacket. The crest will be in the Probud colors of blue with gold outline and lettering and will be the appropriate size for adding to your wearing apparel. Price will be in the \$15.00 - \$20.00 range. Watch for further news !



Probud Pins and Catalogue Items

We have been very pleased at the response to the recently introduced "**Probud President**" pin and we thank those Clubs who have chosen to order one for their President to proudly wear. It is a fine way to ensure that your President knows that you recognize the extra effort and service she/he provides, as well as letting others know the office held by the individual. The cost is only \$7.50

In addition to the "**President**" pin we also offer the regular **lapel pin**, the **Past President** pin, the **5, 10, and 15** year pin and the very special "**Probud Canada**" pin (see illustrations below).

The "**Probud Canada**" pin is designed primarily for those who may be travelling outside of our country and wish to let people know that they are members of a Probud Club in Canada. They also make great gifts for visiting Probud members from outside Canada who might wish to have an excellent souvenir of their visit.

Regular Probud lapel pins are \$5.00 each in orders of less than 25 but only \$4.00 each in orders of 25 or more.

The 5, 10 and 15 year pins are still \$5.00 each regardless of number ordered and the President pin, the Probud Canada pin and the Past President pin are \$7.50 each regardless of the number ordered.

To order your pins, or for more information, please contact our Managing Director Reg Whynott by regular mail at 2855 Olympic Road, Qualicum Beach, B.C V9K 2L8 or by email at rwhynott@nanaimo.ark.com or by phone at (250) 757-8026.



PRAISE

"What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity. They are but trifles to be sure; but, scattered along life's pathway, the good they do is inconceivable."

Joseph Addison

"Most of us, swimming against tides of trouble the world knows nothing about, need only a bit of encouragement or praise – and we'll make our goal !"

Jerome P. Fleishman

MEET OUR NEW PRESIDENT MAUREEN HUISMANS

Born in Bootle on Merseyside, England in 1931. Merseyside was heavily bombed area during the second World War. After most of the heavy air raids it was decided that all children would be evacuated to a safe area and we were sent to live in Wales for a couple of years.

In 1952 I was married and in 1957 we decided to emigrate to Canada. I have three children, two boys and a girl and two grandchildren , a boy and a girl.

Hobbies My present hobbies are singing (thank you Wales), Quilting, embroidery, sewing and knitting. Currently I sing in a seniors Choir.

Education I finished Grade 13 equivalent at regular school in England. In Canada I have taken an Early Childhood Education (specially 'tailored') for group home work, at George Brown College and a Banking Fellowship at the School of Continuing Studies, University of Toronto. (F.I.C.B.) Microcomputer studies at Ryerson and many related tailoring and sewing courses at George Brown for personal pleasure.

Employment Nine years as a civil servant in Britain with the National Health Service. In Canada I worked for Metro CAS, running a group foster home for emotionally disturbed children for almost eight years. The rest of my working career was spent in the finance industry, Bell Canada, Imperial Oil, and twenty three years with CIBC.

Church Attended Saint Luke's United Church at Sherbourne & Carlton in Toronto for thirty seven years serving in Sunday School, Clothing cupboard , Food Cupboard and Meals on Wheels, and directing dramas with children and Nativity Pageants. I also served as church Treasurer for eight years and was a Trustee.

Since moving to Newmarket I have attended Trinity U.C., serving on various committees and singing in the choir. I have chaired York Presbytery for two years and presided over Toronto Conference.

Currently I serve on the Boards of TUCC and Seniors Meeting Place and am working on new church development in Barrie, Simcoe Presbytery

(For information on our President's experience in Probus please note the President's Message on Page 1)

FROM AROUND THE CLUBS

Probus Club of Cornwall & Area.... are you celebrating a special anniversary this year ? Many Clubs are. The Probus Club of Cornwall, Ont. celebrated their Tenth Anniversary with a very special dinner involving a number of their Founding Members, representatives of their sponsoring Rotary Club, an excellent meal complete with entertainment and a beautiful printed souvenir program.

Probus Club of Parksville, B.C. "For Sale – Four Poster Bed , 101 years old. Perfect for antique lover !"

Probus Club of Lethbridge, Alta This Club has started a special event. After their regular meeting those who wish gather for lunch to discuss the matters raised by the meeting speaker. No doubt this could lead to suggestions for future speakers.

President's Growl

'G'et

'R'id

'O'f

'W'aiting

'L'ists.

Please keep your district director informed on the numbers on your waiting lists, maybe we should be joining with other local clubs to start NEW clubs.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Probus Club of Hamilton Mountain "The ant can lift 50 times its own weight, can pull 30 times its own weight and always falls over on its right side when intoxicated." (From drinking little bottles of ?)(Did our gov't pay for this research?)

Women's Probus Club of Newmarket "At intersections look each way; a harp sounds nice but it's hard to play ! (Yep, you guessed it Burma Shaveremember ?)

RENDEZVOUS 2005

Over the past several months, through direct mailings to your Club from the Organizing Committee, as well as through this newsletter, your Club has been advised of the upcoming Probus Rendezvous being held in Muskoka the last week of September. The excitement, and at times, some nervousness, has continued to build until we can now tell you that approximately 400 Probus Members from across Canada, along with a delegation from Probus Clubs in Australia, will gather in the beautiful holiday area of Muskoka for 3 plus days of activity and fellowship organized, planned and promoted by the Probus Clubs of the Muskoka area. From the huge opening Barbecue to the final closing banquet, there will be constant activity for the registrants including a special evening of "in home" hospitality hosted by the Probus Members of the local Clubs. Tours, visits with various artisans, lake cruises, golf and just plain lazing about chatting with others who share the same interests will be on the itinerary, and we feel very confident that everyone will come away with a warm feeling and perhaps even some new friends for exchange visits in the future. Perhaps we will have the opportunity to see you and/or others from your Club **We sincerely hope so !**