



The Probus Letter

Published for the Members of PROBUS CLUBS in CANADA
by: **PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.**
2855 Olympic Road, Qualicum Beach, B.C. V9K 2L8

December , 2005

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Maureen Huismans
President

Our first Rendezvous was a celebration to be remembered. The President's Workshop was the first event and was a very lively exchange of ideas between the more than sixty club Presidents, national Directors and other national Board Members who attended. Numerous questions were asked and answered and many people commented on how much they had learned. I wish we could have many more such events.

Highlights included the first night BBQ, all the trips to various locations and, especially the Wednesday night when we were all invited to dinner in Probus members homes all around Muskoka. Many discovered old connections through employment and different locations where they had lived in the past and all of us made many new friends. The Gala dinner on the last night where we treated to a special

dinner, entertained by Don Harron and graced by the presence of the **Honorable James K. Bartleman , Lieutenant Governor of Ontario** , was a fitting close to a very special event. We honored our retiring Directors **Archie Nicoll** from British Columbia, **Don Putnam** from Manitoba and **Betsy Eydt** from Ontario. A special banner was given to the **Vancouver Probus Club** which was responsible for opening the most new Probus clubs during our competition over the past two years.

We also honored **Ken Peck** from Barrie, Ontario with the **John R. Morris Award** recognizing him as a Probus member who has made outstanding contributions to our organization over the years. Well done and thank you Ken.

Finally we thanked the Muskoka clubs, members and volunteers who had contributed their time and talents over the past two years to the planning, and to our own "Fab Four", Marilyn Croft, Barry Stephens, Alandra Nayre and Jim King who formed the Rendezvous executive and completed their task in great style. The Muskoka spirit and the Probus spirit combined to create a wondrous happening!

Thanks to all of you who attended because you made it all worthwhile !

We would like to carry on the Rendezvous tradition in, maybe two or three years, but that will be up to the Club or Clubs who would like to volunteer to host such an event. Will it be East, West or North ??



Allan Lee

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

"Before the Rendezvous activities, the Board of Directors of Probus Centre – Canada, Inc. held a Directors meeting. At the meeting the Financial Review Committee presented a report recommending several policy changes which will result in better control of costs and increased clarity of financial reporting. One of the main proposals was that the present three component membership assessments be replaced by a single fee of \$2.50 per member (this total is unchanged since 1999 and this change does not mean an increase in fees) This will highlight the two main revenue streams of membership fees and profit from sales of pins and regalia and allow greater visibility of the major cost items of honoraria, Board travel and insurance. This accounting change and related other policy changes will require Bylaw amendments, which will be circulated early in 2006. More details of the financial review will be provided at that time".

WHERE ARE WE NOW ?

Since the last newsletter from Probus Canada was distributed we have presented Charters to four new Probus 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

THE COMMUNITY PROBUS CLUB OF TILLSONBURG, ONT.

(Combined) # 171

123 Weston Drive, Tillsonburg, Ont. N4G 5X1

Email: lauriev@sympatico.ca Fax: none

97 Members (Sponsor Rotary Tillsonburg, District 7080)

Charter Members 66 7/20/05

COMMUNITY TILLSONBURG MEET, Royal Cdn. Legion Hall,
4th Wed., 10:00 AM

President Suzanne Elliott (519) 688-7694

Secretary Mary Ann Degiorgio (519) 842-2288

THE PROBUS CLUB OF APPLEWOOD (Mississauga), ONT (Men)#172

861 Johnathan Drive, Mississauga, Ont. L4Y 1J7

Email: dividi@sympatico.ca Fax: (905) 276-2008

42 Members (Sponsor Probud Club of Mississauga South)

Charter Members 42 8/03/05

APPLEWOOD MEET Mississauga Valley Comm. Ctr., 2nd Thurs., 10:00 AM

President David W. Irwin (905) 276-2008

Secretary (TBA)

THE EVERGREEN PROBUS CLUB OF GUELPH, ONT.

(Combined) # 173

683 Woolwich Street, Guelph, Ont. N1H 3Y8

Email: travc@rogers.com Fax: none

48 Members (Sponsor Probud Club of Guelph & District)

Charter Members 48 8/16/05

EVERGREEN GUELPH MEET Lion's Lair, West End Community. Ctr.,
2nd Mon. 9:30 AM

President Trav Coleman (519) 780-0496

Secretary Jennifer Blackie (519) 824-7204

THE PROBUS CLUB OF MILTON, ONT (Combined) # 174

242 Centennial Forest Drive, Milton, Ont. L9T 5W9

Email: billmyra@sympatico.ca Fax: none

26 Members (Sponsor Rotary Club of Milton, District 7080)

Charter Members 26 11/8/05

MILTON MEET St. Paul's United Church, 1st Wed., 10:00 AM

President William Faichnie (905) 878-6615

Secretary T.B.A.

We have now chartered 174 Clubs in Canada and have over 21,600 individual members. This is fantastic growth but there are still many across Canada who do not have the opportunity to share in the aims and objectives of our organization. In the words of our national President, Maureen Huismans, we should do all we can to get rid of the "waiting lists" that tell us of those who have a desire to be part of Probud. If you agree that "having to wait" is not a good idea, why not look into the idea of starting a new Probud Club in your area to accommodate those who are interested, contact your area Director or the Managing Director for information or assistance to get the ball rolling. Remember that an additional Probud Club in your community should not be considered as "competition" but as "complimentary" to your Club and an additional opportunity to share in fellowship and the other benefits our Clubs provide.

We are now receiving renewals for 2006 as well as changes in Officers, etc. Your new **Probus Clubs in Canada Directory** will be forwarded early in the new year.

Probus Pins and Catalogue Items

We ask that you please note, and advise your Club Management Committee, that **Probus lapel pins** are ordered through our Managing Director and not through the Probud web site.

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 **Probus 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.

For other Probud products we refer you to the Probud Canada website for photos and order forms. Start at www.probus.org ... then click on "National Pages and Contacts" then on "Canada" and when the Probud Canada page comes up look to the left column and click on "Probus Merchandise and Order Form". You will find an excellent variety of items available.

FROM AROUND THE CLUBS

Women's Probud Club of Newmarket from their humour column ... "Only Irish Coffee provides in a single glass all four essential food groups ... Alcohol, Caffeine, Sugar and Fat."

Probus Club of Woodstock – Oxford from their humour column "To the optimist, the glass is half full. To the pessimist, the glass is half empty. To the engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be."

Probus Club of Cowichan Valley Also from their humour section ... "An accountant dies and goes to Heaven. He reaches the pearly gates and is amazed to see a happy crowd all waving banners and chanting his name. After a few minutes, St. Peter comes running across and says, "I'm sorry I wasn't here to greet you personally. God is looking forward to meeting such a remarkable man as yourself." The accountant is perplexed. "'I've tried to live a good life, but I am overwhelmed by your welcome", he tells St. Peter. "It's the least we can do for someone as special as you are. Imagine living to the age of 123 years and still looking so young," says St.Peter. The man looks even more dumbfounded and replies. "123 years old? I don't know what you mean, I'm only forty." St. Peter replies "But that can't be right – we've seen your time sheets."

(Editor: With apology to all of our retired professionals.)

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

President **Maureen Huismans**, Newmarket, Ont.
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Vice - President ... **Beth Hickerson**, Ancaster, Ont.
Tel: (905) 304-9939
Email: bethhickerson@gmail.com

Treasurer **Allan H. Lee** Edmonton, Alberta
Tel: (780) 464-5407
Email: dlee@interbaun.com

Secretary **Arthur Buck** Moncton, N.B.
Tel: (506) 532-8408
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Past-President **Ken Leaney**, Parksville, B.C.
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Stone Avery Cobourg, Ontario
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M. "Pidge" McBride ... Vancouver, B.C.
Tel: (604) 274-0446 Fax: (604) 274-0446

Gordon Smith Regina, Saskatchewan
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Nancy Troyak Kitchener, Ont.
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Email: ntroyak@golden.net

Eric W. Van Allen Oakville, Ont.
Tel: (905) 845-6970 Fax: (905) 845-3704
Email: ewvanallen@sympatico.ca

Non-Voting Appointees

President-Emeritus **John R. Morris**, Alliston, Ont.
Tel: (705) 435-3963 Fax: (705) 435-6487
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Web Page Publisher .. **Bernard Nadeau**, Wasaga Beach, Ont.
Tel: (705) 429-8578 Fax: (705) 429-8578
Email: bnadeau@georgian.net

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Email: budjunec@georgian.net

Managing Director ... **Reg Whynott**, Qualicum Beach, B.C.
Tel: (250) 757-8026 Fax: (250) 757-8036
Email: rwhynott@nanaimo.ark.com

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 – 2006

In the near future you will be receiving a form from national entitled "NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS" which is the official notification of elections to the national Board of Directors for 2006. It is also the call for nominations for the various vacancies which will happen co-incident with the Annual General Meeting in April.

Watch for this mailing and if there is an election to be held in your Region or District, give some very serious consideration to putting forward the name of a candidate from your Club or supporting that of another Club in your area.

President's Growl

Get Rid Of Waiting Lists !

My directors would like me to growl a little less as they tell me they are on the job and we have several potential new clubs in the works. Please contact your director if you see the need for a new club in your area. There is much we can do to assist !

WE DO REMEMBER !!

It was very obvious that many Clubs chose, at their November meeting, to do something special related to Remembrance Day. Special speakers, Members telling of their own experiences, readings or special notes in newsletters all aimed at remembering. I guess many would say "Certainly you did, you are the senior group and you should remember." As a veteran, may I say "Thank You for Remembering... May We Never Forget".

I had the distinct privilege of placing a wreath at a ceremony in my community and I was most impressed by the numbers who turned out for the event, in spite of dreary weather. I was also very impressed by the number of "young" people in attendance, several of whom took part in the program. It would appear that the "Year of the Veteran" did make an impression on many, especially in the schools across this country of ours. Let us hope that the practice continues !

"SPEAKERS CORNER" We are off to a very good beginning with a number of Clubs submitting information to this addition to the Probus Canada web site. Check the site by going to ... www.probus.org ... then click on "National Pages and Contacts" and then on "Canada" and when the page comes up go to the column headed "Club Information" and click on "Speakers Corner". To add your information, contact the web page Publisher atprobus@probus.org.



HAPPY PEOPLE ...AND JUSTIFIABLY SO !!

The Executive Committee of "Rendezvous 2005" do not look the least bit tired after more than two full years of planning including many hours of meetings and weeks of co-ordinated effort with hundreds of members of their support teams from the Probus Clubs of the Muskoka area.. They, and their dedicated volunteers , are most deserving of the appreciation expressed by our President Maureen Huismans for a task "**well done**"and the acknowledgment of this appreciation by approximately 400 attendees at the closing banquet of Rendezvous certainly supported the words of Maureen. This was a most successful "first" for Probus in Canada and the experience gained by those who made it so will be most beneficial to other organizers as we look to a repeat somewhere, sometime in the future.

Left to right ..**Jim King, Treasurer; Alandra Nayre, Secretary; Barry Stephens, Co-Chair; Marilyn Croft, Co-Chair**

Did the attendees at "Rendezvous 2005" have a good time ? Perhaps we should just let the photos speak for themselves. We can't share the memories with you but perhaps those who did attend will gladly do so !



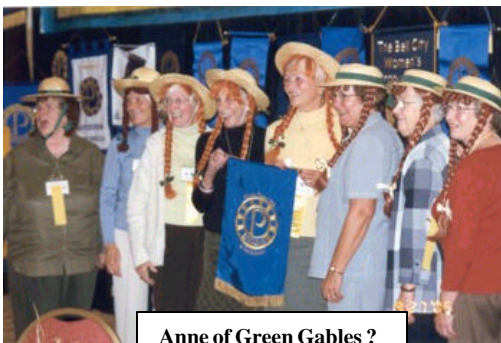
Golf Winners !



Meet the President !



Hats Galore !



Anne of Green Gables ?



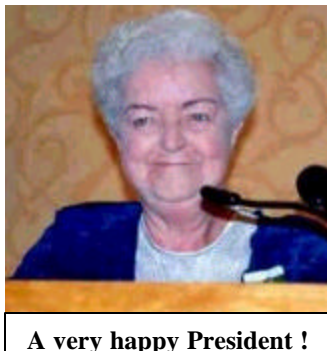
Good Hats = Prizes !!



And The Singing Was Great !



Canada and Australia eh !



A very happy President !



Smiles all around !!