



# \*The Probus Letter\*

Published for the Members of PROBUS CLUBS in CANADA  
by: **PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.**

June, 2006

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Beth Hickerson**  
President

“Greetings” to all of the Probus members across Canada. Probus in Canada has come a long way since the first Club was formed in March 1987 in Cambridge, Ont. We now have 178 Clubs across Canada with over 23,000 members. We are hoping to top 200 Clubs by the end of 2006. If your Club has a waiting list, please consider starting a new Club in your area and give your friends the joys and pleasures of belonging to a Probus Club. Your local Director can assist in the start up, so please give them a call.

Probus Canada has been fortunate in having ready and willing members to take on special duties for Probus Canada. First and foremost is our Past President – President Emeritus and “**Mr. Probus**”, our lovable **John Morris**, and his wife **Doris**. Their efforts have resulted in what we have today – a strong Probus organization in Canada.

**Reg Whynott**, our Managing Director, who has kept the ship on course with his excellent organizational skills, along with a wealth of information on everything pertaining to Probus. **Bud Crookes**, who has just retired as our Financial Manager, kept us up to date on our financial situation. We will miss you Bud ! Welcome to **Gordon Hutton** who has replaced Bud. Thanks to Webmaster **Bernie Nadeau** and his assistant **Brian Kirkwood**, we have an excellent web site with lots of information ([www.probus.org](http://www.probus.org)). A new feature is the “**Speakers Listing**”. This is your web site so take advantage of information posted there.

From a personal perspective, I joined Probus in Kitchener-Westmount in 1994 and soon became Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and finally President in 1999. I was elected to the Board of Directors of Probus Canada in April 2002. I have served two years as Secretary and then later was re-elected for another three year term when I served as Vice President and most recently, in April 2006, I was elected President of Probus Canada. During the last four years I've been very busy visiting Clubs in Ontario bringing news and views from Probus Canada, and I plan to continue to visit as many Clubs as possible. Recently I've assisted in the formation of seven new Clubs in Ontario.

Since my retirement from Bell Canada Yellow Pages – Kitchener, in 1993 my previous position of administrative manager at Bell has assisted me in my volunteer activities, having served on the Advisory Council for Marmo Travel (A Seniors Travel Club) and as a representative on the City of Kitchener Mayor's Advisory Council for Seniors. I also previously volunteered at the Grand River Hospital.

Since moving to Ancaster, Ontario in June 2001, my volunteer activities include driving for the Canadian Cancer Society and assisting at a local Senior Retirement Residence. I am also an active member of the Rebekah Lodge.

Rendezvous 2005 was an overwhelming success and plans are underway for Rendezvous 2008 to be held September 25-28, 2008 in St. John N.B. More information will be released later this summer. If you have never visited the Maritimes, this would be an excellent opportunity to enjoy the fun and fellowship of Probus members from across Canada.

As your President, my goal for Probus Canada is to grow and with your support and enthusiasm foster the growth of fun and fellowship for Probians across Canada. I look forward to working with all of you to make it happen !

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

- President** ..... **Beth Hickerson** , Ancaster, Ont.  
Tel: (905) 304-9939  
Email: bethhickerson@gmail.com
- Vice - President** ... **Arthur Buck** ..... Moncton, N.B.  
Tel: (506) 532-8408  
Email: asbuck@attglobal.net
- Treasurer** ..... **Allan H. Lee** ..... Edmonton, Alberta  
Tel: (780) 464-5407  
Email: dlee@compusmart.ab.com
- Secretary** ..... **Nancy Troyak** .... Kitchener, Ont.  
Tel: (519) 744-1452  
Email: ntroyak@golden.net
- Past-President** \* ... **Maureen Huismans**, Newmarket, Ont.  
Tel: (905) 895-0224 Fax: (905) 895-8667  
Email: maureen.huismans@sympatico.ca

• (Appointed – Non-Voting)

### DIRECTORS

- John Adams** ..... Wasaga Beach, Ontario  
Tel: (705) 429-0966  
Email: jadams2512@rogers.com
- Stone Avery** ..... Cobourg, Ontario  
Tel: (905) 372-7244  
Email: rsavery@eagle.ca
- M. “Pidge” McBride** ... Vancouver, B.C.  
Tel: (604) 274-0446 Fax: (604) 274-0446
- Heinz Puersten**.....Bracebridge, Ontario  
Tel: (705) 645-3110  
Email: puersten@sympatico.ca
- Gordon Smith** .....Regina, Saskatchewan  
Tel: (306) 751-0379  
Email: gordonsmith@sasktel.net
- Gordon Springate** .... Kelowna, British Columbia  
Tel: (250) 769-0664 Fax: (250) 769-1937  
Email: jspringate@uniserve.com
- Keith Trail** ..... Nanaimo, British Columbia  
Tel: (250) 751-1055  
Email: ektvrt@shaw.ca

### Non-Voting Appointees

- President -Emeritus** .... **John R. Morris**, Alliston, Ont.  
Tel: (705) 435-3963 Fax: (705)435-6487  
Email: jdgbmorris@sympatico.ca
- Web Page Publisher** .. **Bernard Nadeau**, Wasaga Beach, Ont.  
Tel: (705) 429-8578 Fax: (705) 429-8578  
Email: bnadeau@georgian.net
- Financial Manager** .. **Gordon Hutton**, Qualicum Beach, B.C.  
Tel: (250) 752-4805  
Email: vanislegord@shaw.ca
- 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 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 two of the four regions of the country.

In Ontario, there were elections to be held in three Districts, # 2, #3 and # 4.

In District #4, there was one nomination to the Board and Mrs. **Nancy Troyak** of the Women's Probus Club of Kitchener was declared re-elected by acclamation for a second three year term.

In District #2, there were four candidates nominated in the persons of Lorne Hawkins, Probus Club of Alliston; Don McCallum, Probus Club of Newmarket; Robert W. O'Neil, Probus Club of Muskoka North and Heinz Puersten, Probus Club of Bracebridge. An election was carried out and **Heinz Puersten** , Probus Club of Bracebridge, was elected for a three year term.

In District # 3 , there was one nomination submitted which failed to meet all of the conditions of nomination and, in keeping with the Constitution & Bylaws, a second call for nominations was forwarded to all Clubs in the District and as of the printing of this newsletter, all details have not been completed to select a new Director.

In British Columbia, there were six candidates nominated for the one vacancy ..... Roger Archambault, Probus Club of Abbotsford; Alex S. Dobbins, Probus Club of White Rock/South Surrey; Chris J. Hopkins, Probus Club of South Delta; Keith Trail, Probus Club of Lantzville; Bill Verburt, Probus Club of Comox Valley; and Don Walduck, Probus Club of Qualicum Beach. An election was carried out and **Keith Trail**, Probus Club of Lantzville was elected for a three year term.

President Maureen also expressed appreciation to all who had allowed their names to stand and complimented them on their willingness to serve as representatives of Probus across Canada. She 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 (**Maureen Huismans; Ken Leaney; and Eric Van Allen.**)

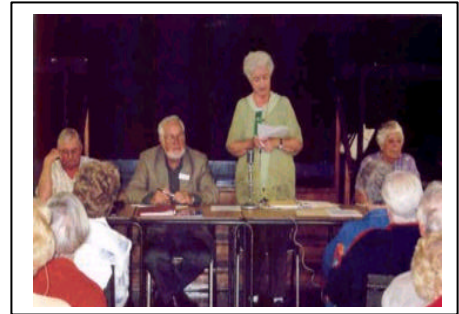
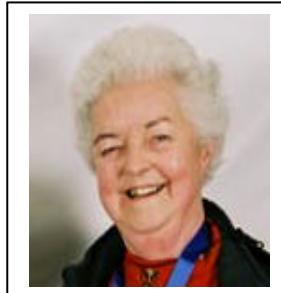
### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS PROBUS CENTRE-CANADA, INC.**

At the Annual General Meeting of the Board of Directors on the 27th of April, 2006 the following Officers were elected for the year ahead:

**President**—Beth Hickerson; **Vice-President**- Arthur Buck;  
**Treasurer** – Allan Lee; **Secretary**—Nancy Troyak;  
**Past President** - (Appointed – Non-Voting) Maureen Huismans

**“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 !

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR RETIRING PRESIDENT



In 1999 John Morris invited me to become a non-voting member of the Probus Canada Board. In 2000 I was invited to become Treasurer and in 2001 I became an Ontario Director. In April 2005, I was fortunate to be elected President of the national Board of this wonderful organization called "PROBUS" and I now look back with great pleasure on all the great friends I have made and all the events I have been privileged to attend. This has been truly a "Probus experience".

This past year was exceptional in that we held our first Rendezvous, due to the adventurous (and courageous ) people of the Muskoka clubs. They helped us to imagine and realize a Muskoka experience. Imagine inviting more than 20,000 Probus members to your home town! It was most successful from a participation, and a financial point of view, and will serve as a good blueprint for "Rendezvous 2". You will hear more about this event in the coming months. The "Meet the Presidents" workshop was an ideal opportunity to exchange ideas and information and it has already 'sparked' other district meetings with the same type of agenda.

I "GROWLed" in my first newsletter about waiting lists and we have seen the birth of thirteen new clubs in the past year and there are more on the way. I challenged the Directors to open our 200<sup>th</sup> club by December 2006 and IT IS POSSIBLE ! Don't forget there is still a competition with prizes going to the club that opens the most new clubs over the next two years.

We have been most fortunate in our choice of elected Directors who have all brought many talents to help promote the growth of Probus in Canada. Our Constitution and Bylaws have been reviewed and updated. We will continue to pay much attention to this area as our world changes, and the needs of Members change. We encourage members to submit /recommend potential changes to our Constitution and Bylaws through your District/Area Director for our consideration.

We have been most fortunate in having Bud Crookes as our Financial Manager for the past three years. Bud was a Founding member of Probus in Canada and we have been privileged to have his expertise available to us during this time. He has also been busy opening new clubs in his own hometown, Collingwood, during the same period. Now Bud, June would like to know if you are really going to retire this time? A special thanks from all Probus members for your leadership and a particular thanks from me for your patience with a rookie financier, and your friendship.

Reg Whynott, our Managing Director, has continued to give sterling service in all the administrative details of running a national office. Agendas, minutes, certificates and responses to country wide questions have all been handled promptly, politely and with great technical skill. (We cannot count the hours). Well done, Reg.

Our Publisher, Bernie Nadeau and his able assistant, Brian Kirkwood, have maintained an excellent web site on our behalf. They have kept us up to date, not just on Probus happenings in Canada, but all around the world. A big "Thank you", gentlemen .

Our twelve directors have improved our local communications systems and aided new clubs in their opening stages. They have presented many new ideas to improve Probus in Canada and are committed to continue in this fashion.

Finally, my personal thanks to John and Doris Morris, our President Emeritus and "Mr and Mrs. Probus", for all the help and support you have given me, as well as Probus in Canada, during these past years . It has been a great privilege to serve and your leadership was my inspiration.

To all the members for supporting me over this past year and making my work as your President so enjoyable, I thank you. The wonderful welcomes I have received at all the clubs I have visited and the "thank you's" have been most appreciated. I know that you will continue to support our Probus Canada Board in the future as you enjoy 'the time of your life'.

**Maureen Huismans, President 2005-2006**

### WHERE ARE WE NOW ?

Since the Membership Directory of Probus Clubs in Canada was distributed in February we have presented Charters to three new Probus Clubs. Please note the following information on the new Clubs and add them to your directory starting with the space provided on page 37. **We have now chartered 181 Probus Clubs in Canada and 178 are still active and well with just over 23,000 individual members**. Throughout this newsletter you will read remarks from people suggesting that help is readily available if you see the need for an additional Club in your area or a new Club in an adjoining area. Please take advantage of the assistance offered by the Officers and Directors or contact the Managing Director and contacts will be made for you ! Together we can spread the news about Probus as well as the opportunity to become involved in this great organization.

#### **THE WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB OF BRAMPTON – FLOWER CITY (Women) # 179**

17 Hartnell Square , Brampton, Ont. L6S 5W7  
 Email: [dsteven@primus.ca](mailto:dsteven@primus.ca) Fax: none  
 94 Members (Sponsor Women's Probus Club of Brampton Centre)  
 Charter Members 94 3/06/06  
 BRAMPTON - FLOWER CITY  
 MEET Century Gardens Rec. Ctr., 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. 10:00AM  
 President Doreen Steven (905) 791-2499  
 Secretary Betty Barnes (905) 970-0971

#### **THE CENTRAL BRANT WOMEN'S PROBUS CLUB (Women) # 180**

19 Hanlon Place, Unit # 35, Paris, Ont. N3L 4E8  
 Email: [mcregan@sympatico.ca](mailto:mcregan@sympatico.ca) Fax: (519) 442-5513  
 79 Members (Sponsor: Bell City Women's Probus Club of Brant;  
 Grand River Women's Probus; Women's Probus Brant)  
 Charter Members 79 3/29/06  
 CENTRAL BRANT WOMEN'S MEET Best Western , 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed., 10:00 AM  
 President Carolyn Johnson (519) 759-7411  
 Secretary Margaret Cregan (519) 442-0473

#### **THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORFOLK, ONT. (Combined) # 181**

P.O.Box 651, Port Dover, Ont. N0A 1N0  
[BAcarmichael@gmail.com](mailto:BAcarmichael@gmail.com) Fax: none  
 88 Members (Sponsor Rotary Norfolk Sunrise, District 7090)  
 Charter Members 88 4/20/06  
 NORFOLK MEET Erie Beach Hotel, Port Dover , 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. 10:00 AM  
 President Brian Carmichael (519) 583-3100  
 Secretary Janice Stacey (519) 583-0534

## “RENDEZVOUS 2008”

**“Late Breaking News” --- the Board of Directors of Probus Centre-Canada, Inc. have accepted a submission from the Probus Club of Saint John, New Brunswick to schedule “Rendezvous 2008” for their community on the dates of Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of that year. The initial submission from the Probus Club is truly exciting and holds a number of interesting events and outings for all. Watch for further “direct to you” news from the Saint John Club in the near future !!!**

## Probus Pins Price Adjustment

For the first time since the introduction of Probus lapel pins the Board of Directors of Probus Canada have found it necessary to introduce a price increase for all purchases. This is as a result of increased costs from the supplier and also to cover the number of increases we have all experienced in postal rates over these past years.

Regular Probus lapel pins are \$5.50 each in orders of less than 25 but only \$4.50 each in orders of 25 or more.

The 5, 10 and 15 year pins are now \$5.50 each regardless of number ordered and the President pin, the Probus Canada pin and the Past President pin are \$8.00 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](mailto:rwhynott@nanaimo.ark.com).... or by phone at (250) 757-8026.



## POCKET CRESTS NOW AVAILABLE

As advised earlier, Probus Centre-Canada is now able to offer a beautiful sew-on pocket crest for those who would like to add one to their blazer or vest to show their affiliation with Probus in Canada. The crest (shown below) is in the familiar blue and gold of Probus and the actual circle logo is approximately two and a half inches across. Price, tax and shipping included is only \$15.00 and they can be ordered through the Managing Director Reg Whynott at the same address as the pins (see above).



Note: To see the crest in living color go to the Probus website .... [www.probus.org](http://www.probus.org) .... Click on “National Pages and Contacts” ... then on “Canada” and look down the left side for Probus Merchandise and click “Pocket Crest”.