



The Probust 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, 2006

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Beth Hickerson
President**

December means many things to many people. Cool weather settling in, the holidays approaching and of course winter being just around the corner.

My sincere greetings to all Probust members across Canada. 2007 marks the twentieth anniversary of Probust Clubs in Canada. The first Club in Canada was a Men's club and was sponsored by Rotary Galt, District 7080. The Probust Club of Cambridge was chartered on March 17, 1987 with fifty-two members and its President was Bert Klinkhammer.

The first Probust Canada President was John Morris of Alliston Ontario. The first Women's Club was the Probust Women's Club of Burlington. They received their charter October 10, 1990 and had 45 charter members. The Club was sponsored by Rotary Burlington.

During March 2007 it would be appropriate to celebrate this special 20th anniversary of Probust Canada. What better way to celebrate than by organizing another Club in your area? It would also be a good time to concentrate on developing more fun and fellowship in your Club. Get rid of the cliques and make new members welcome. Volunteer to help whether it is as a greeter or a member of the management team. You will be glad you did. If your Club has been established for several years, have some of the Charter Members talk about some of the changes which have taken place since the Club was chartered. If you have pictures of Club activities, display them and have members talk about "remember when". One Club I visited recently had converted their event pictures to DVD and presented a showing for all.

Let us all celebrate and be proud of those who paved the way to today's Probust success. Our web master Bernie Nadeau is working with a number of others at compiling a brief history of Probust Canada. It should be on the website before the year's end. (Editor: see note on Page 2.)

Rendezvous 2008 – September 25-27, 2008 – St. John N.B. – mark that date on your calendar and plan to attend. (Much more information to follow.)

Club renewals are now due prior to December 31, 2006. Your \$2.50 per member supports Probust Centre Canada Inc. in promoting the growth of Probust in Canada, its provision of support and services to existing Clubs, operation of the Probust website and Club liability insurance. Also, please complete the membership listing. Information received is used to update the website and printing of the Directory of Probust Clubs in Canada which will be distributed in January of the new year..

We now have 181 clubs in Canada with over 23,100 members. Let's make 2007 a year to remember by reaching a goal of 200 Clubs and 25,000 members. Your local Director is available to assist in this goal and contact names and numbers are included in this newsletter.

Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday and all is well. May God Bless You Always !

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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 or pocket crests please contact the Managing Director.

PROBUS CANADA HISTORY

With the 20th Anniversary of Probus in Canada coming up in March 2007 , Maureen Huismans, during her term as President, asked for a volunteer to co-ordinate the assembly of materials available to formulate a History of Probus in Canada. In response to her request, Mr. Bernard (Bernie) Nadeau, Publisher of the Probus web pages, and an appointee to the national Board, offered to undertake the task.

After considerable contact with a number of the “Pioneers”, persons who were directly involved with the introduction of Probus into Canada , as well as a number who have been involved with the building and advancement of our great organization throughout these past years, a document is now available for viewing by all on the Probus Canada web site. Go to ... www.probus.org ... click on “**National Pages and Contacts**” ... then on “**Canada**” and look to the column on the left side and click on the heading “**History of Probus in Canada**”

You will find it to be very interesting reading as well as good information to download and share with your Club Members.

Assisting Bernie on this project were John Morris, our Founder and President Emeritus; his wife Doris, also very instrumental in the early formation; Bud Crookes, a Past Director, Chairman of the Board, Financial Manager and the Co-Publisher of the first Probus International web site and our now Past President Maureen Huismans.....

Thanks to Bernie and all who contributed !

CAN YOU TOP THIS ??

Your newsletter editor has been saving the following “unbelievable” item from a past newsletter of the Probus Club of Shuswap , B.C. It is printed at this time as the event took place on a special holiday and we are now heading into a new holiday season, thus the challenge ! I swear I did not just “make this up” ...it’s real and names have been hidden to protect the responsible parties.

“ With many thanks to Anne for her reporting on our Dining Group. Anne says Sixteen intrepid gourmands sailed into the home of Sandra and Harry on St. Patrick’s day for a Maritime Feast. And I do mean feast – crab dip, dulce, shrimp rings, seafood stuffed mushrooms , followed by fish cakes, baked sole fillets, garlic shrimp, stir fried veggies, coquilles sans jacques (if that’s not spelled right it doesn’t matter as it sure tasted right) and rice. 3 salads, buns and Maritime bread came onboard. To top it all off was pumpkin cheesecake and bananoffee. Green was displayed somewhere on everyone’s attire. Also was noted a rain hat with flaps and Nova Scotia shirts.”

(Got an item ---- send it to the Managing Director and watch for future editions of the newsletter.)

WHERE ARE WE NOW ?

The new Membership Directory of Probus Clubs in Canada will be distributed to all Probus Clubs with updated information in January of 2007. We have now chartered 184 Probus Clubs in Canada and 181 are still active and well with just over 23,200 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.

Probus Liability Insurance

The current Probus Liability Insurance covering all Probus Clubs who are members of Probus Canada is in effect until the end of 2006 at which time it will have been renewed for the year 2007 so coverage is continuous. Shortly after the new year, a renewal certificate will be issued to Probus Centre Canada and copies will be mailed to all Clubs immediately thereafter. This renewal certificate should be kept in a safe place along with the copy of the policy which has been distributed to all Clubs in the past.

From Around the Clubs

Probus Club of Camrose, Ab a warning about those electronic cards that have replaced the old keys for hotel rooms. We should never return them to the hotel but should cut them up and destroy them as they contain our names and credit card numbers and could be a target for identity theft.

Probus Club of Cambridge, Ont. "We will celebrate our 20th Anniversary at our March 28th Meeting. A special luncheon is being planned." (**Probus Cambridge was the first Probud Club in Canada and this is a major milestone for them and all of us. Perhaps a special message of "Congratulations" from your Club would be in order. I'm certain they would welcome your short note.**)

Constitution and Bylaws

You will recall that a proposal for a couple of changes in the Bylaws of Probud Centre-Canada, Inc. was circulated to all Clubs recently and the support for change from the Clubs across the country was most positive with over 97% of the votes received being for the change. The proposal is now in the hands of the Government of Canada and, if the changes receive their approval, the revised document will be circulated to all Clubs in the new year. At the same time, it is planned that the Suggested Constitution & Bylaws for local Clubs (guidelines) will be updated to reflect the changes and will be distributed as well.

Probus Pins & Pocket Crests

Regular Probud 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 \$5.50 each regardless of number ordered and the President pin, the Probud 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 or by phone at (250) 757-8026.



POCKET CRESTS

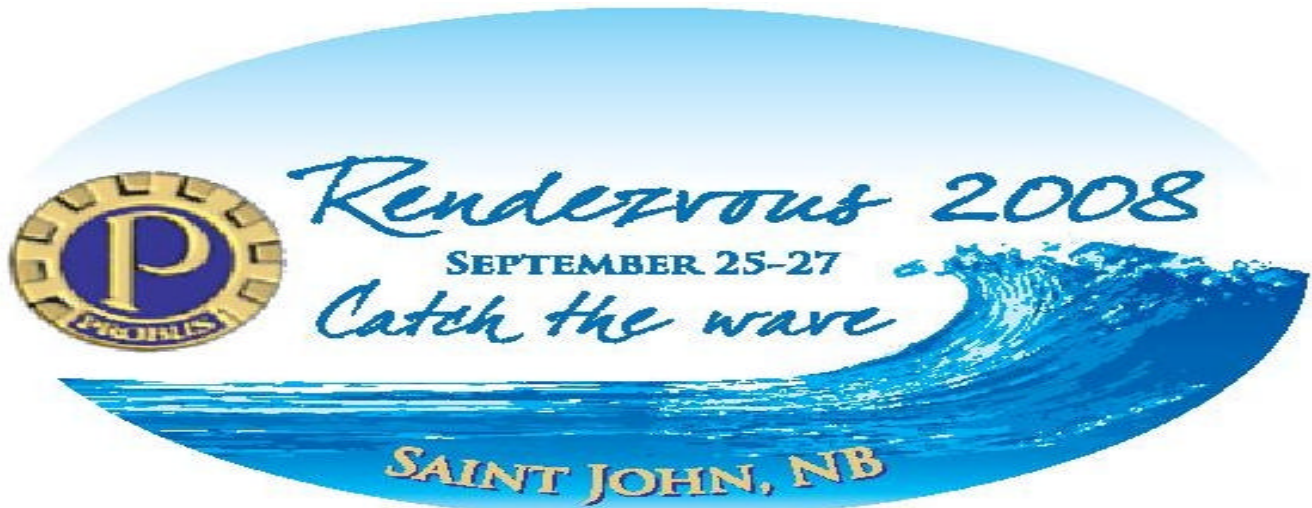
As advised earlier, Probud Centre-Canada is now offering a beautiful sew-on pocket crest for those who would like to add one to their blazer or vest to show their affiliation with Probud in Canada. The crest (shown below) is in the familiar blue and gold of Probud and the actual circle logo is approximately 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 Probud website www.probus.org Click on "National Pages and Contacts" ... then on "Canada" and look down the left side for Probud Merchandise and click "Pocket Crest".

“RENDEZVOUS 2008”

Please note the information on Page 4 of this newsletter and if your Club has not returned the survey to the Saint John Club please do so at your earliest convenience. It is very important to the host Club in their planning for this major event and your co-operation is appreciated.



The picture below includes some of the many members of the Saint John, N.B. Probus Clubs who are already working to prepare an interesting program for Probus Members from coast to coast in 2008 .

According to early comments from clubs who have completed and returned their survey forms, practically everyone wishes to go whale watching! Historically September is a great month to see plenty of whales so we should be OK for that activity .

An Australian Probus Club group of approximately 40 members have indicated they plan to attend Rendezvous 2008. It will be interesting to show them the “highest tides in the world” easily observed from the wharf just below our reserved accommodations at the Hilton and Delta hotels .Special group prices are being negotiated for Probus members at several hotels in the downtown area including the above.

Probus clubs in Fredericton , Moncton and Charlottetown, just a relatively short drive from Saint John, are planning interesting “follow on” activities should you plan on extending your visit in the Maritimes.

If you have not yet completed your “Rendezvous 2008 Survey” would you send your comments and program interests to us in Saint John as soon as possible.

Very shortly we will have a Rendezvous 2008 web page as part of our club website, both of which will be linked to the Probus national site ...www.probus.org . On this page we will keep you informed and updated on everything to do with Rendezvous 2008 including, at a later date, on line registration and a few surprises, so visit often and “Catch the Wave” for 2008 !

