



PROBUS CLUB OF COLLINGWOOD

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NEWSLETTER

APRIL, 2018

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY MAY 2, 2018 – WATTS ROOM CRANBERRY ESTATE – 9.45 A.M.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: RUBEN ROSEN

PAST PRESIDENT BOB MACNAIR

VICE PRESIDENT GREG GEEN

SOCIAL: SANDY WHITE

SECRETARY: AL WALLACE

TREASURER: MIKE MARTYNUK

SPEAKERS; PAUL TRANQUADA

MEMBERSHIP: JOHN MEGARRY

NEWSLETTER: ERIC SKEOCH

I.T. CHAIR HAL KEISER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The meeting began when a kilted Al Wallace wishing us a “Happy Tartan Day” and reminding us that in 1320,

“...from the countless deeds of cruelty, massacre, violence, pillage, arson, imprisoning prelates, burning down monasteries, robbing and killing monks and nuns, and yet other outrages without number which [King Edward II] committed against our people, sparing neither sex, religion nor rank, we were set free by our most tireless Prince, King and Lord, the Lord Robert [the Bruce].”
Declaration of Arbroath 1320

Al didn't really say all that, but I was intrigued by his reference to 1320 and went to Sir Google for more information.

We then went to Sir Ian Godwin for the National Anthem.

The following guests were introduced and welcomed by Ruben: Murray Morrison, John Driscoll, Pierre Tousignant, Rob Morton, John Loundes, and Jim Theobalds.

New member Ken Hadfield was badged, photographed and embraced by Ruben and Wayne Caswill.

Bob MacNair brought news from HQ regarding Probus month celebrations, an update on license plate frame sales (70 ordered, we need 150), and some details regarding a new Probus web site.

Ruben reminded the members that he would be overjoyed to hear from members wishing do their profiles.

CLUB NEWS

Please make a note our May meeting will be held at the Watts room at Cranberry on the first Wednesday of the month (May 2) rather than on

our usual Thursday. In June we will again meet at the Watts Room, but on our usual Thursday.

The colourful and informative events card which Jack Marley has prepared for us in the past will now be retired and replaced by an email sent out each month. There is still some tweaking to be done on this new venture so as to make it of a size that will be printed on one page. This change saves us the cost of printing the cards, and more significantly gets the information into the hands of everyone rather than just those who attended the meeting. It also enables us to make last minute changes when necessary. Thanks were extended to Jack for his hard work in carding things in the past. He uttered a loud oath in response.

In response to many queries, Ruben brought us up to date on the continuing saga of the local lady who converses with dogs. Most recently she reported that Ruben's dog confided to her that Ruben had been suffering from constipation.

EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Gary Holzendorff reported on the following activities looming on the horizon:

April 18 –The Blue Jay game is sold out, but there is a waiting list.

June 16 – Trip to Georgian Downs. Richard Isaacson is the contact.

June 20 –Cruise on Collingwood Harbour. Captain Jack Marley is the contact person.

May 23 – Golf begins at Shelburne provided this damn snow is gone by then. Mike Lee is in charge. Bike rides are scheduled for July so get in shape.

August 16 – Hairspray at King’s Wharf
October 10-*Come From Away* trip to Toronto

Our Special Interest Groups are moving along quite nicely. I will be sending some information from Terry Billo in a separate email.

Mike Martynuik presented a brief financial report which was highlighted by the news of a slight budget deficit of \$300. He also stressed that membership fees are due at a rate of \$55 up until June 30th and \$60 afterwards. Please be prompt on this and help Mike not face with chasing members for the next six months. The July 5 meeting should be looked upon as an absolute deadline.

SPECIAL STORY OF INTEREST

John Housser recounted an event at his Huntsville cottage on “a nice day in August” last year. Out of the blue, the CBC announced that there are tornadoes in the area and they were right. In 30 seconds a category 2 storm with 200 km per hour winds descended on a narrow stretch of land and within 30 seconds leveled 15 cottages, including John’s, snapped off trees, and sent terrified cottagers to huddle around the fireplace. Amazingly, there were no injuries.

John had an excellent collection of photos which showed the damage and the efforts of 100 volunteers who surfaced and began the work of restoring some semblance of normality.

After what John referred to 4 or 5 days of depression, he and his family decided that rebuilding rather than vacating was the only choice, and that’s what they did.

John’s message to all of us was that having a 72 hour survival kit is an excellent idea. He had a pile of Simcoe County Emergency Preparedness Guides for distribution. Nice presentation John.

SPEAKER Dr. JOHN FERNANDES

Forensic pathologist Dr. John Fernandes was introduced by his cousin Paul Tranquada.

After practicing in the U.S. for a while, John returned to Canada in 2010 to take a position at McMaster University and the Hamilton Health Services.

He began his presentation by providing us with some facts about how one becomes a forensic pathologist and what the job entails in Ontario.

After a B.A. of four years, there is a medical degree of another 3 to 3, a post-grad degree of another 2 to 5, and then specialization for 2 more. John was 45 when he began his first job.

A pathologist diagnoses disease and cause of death; a *forensic* pathologist deals with deaths which are sudden or unpredictable.

John was fast to inform us that it is not the process usually portrayed on television. It is a highly scientific, based on empirical evidence; it follows a careful step by step process, articulates limited conclusions, is independently reviewed by others, and objectively says “here is what the science shows”. Supported by a variety of interesting photos John took us through the procedures he followed in the visual examination of a corpse (fingerprints, dental evidence, devices like implants etc,) and also presumptive evidence (personal effects, circumstances etc.)

Here are some highlights of John’s presentation.

-There are 24 forensic pathologists in Ontario.

-Deaths related to Fentanyl have increased forensic work significantly. In patch form, Fentanyl provides a low dosage over a long period of time. But the patches can be cut up, soaked and injected or drunk. This can lead to death.

-When John did a young offender presentation on cocaine, a group of 12 year olds were immediately able to identify cocaine packets- a scary fact.

-John has visited many crack houses and this means an immediate shower. One member asked why an autopsy would be done on an obvious drug death. Apparently one can’t assume the death is due to the drug.

-The job takes a toll on your personal life. In the U.S. the burn-out rate averages 4 years.

The expectation is that a forensic pathologist has 200 cases per year; John did 400 last year!

The presentation was one of our most fascinating. Ruben thanked John and presented him with a Gerry DeLeskie pen and pencil set.

The 50 50 winners were Fred Promoli and Pierre Tousignant.

