



# PROBUS CLUB OF COLLINGWOOD

Contact: collingwoodprobus@gmail.com

## NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 2017

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY FEB. 2, 2017 – BEAR ESTATE HALL - 10 A.M. - 12 NOON

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: BOB MACNAIR

VICE PRESIDENT RUBEN ROSEN

SOCIAL: GREG GEEN

SECRETARY: AL WALLACE

TREASURER: MIKE MARTYNUK

SPEAKERS; RUBEN ROSEN

MEMBERSHIP AND PAST PRESIDENT: JOHN MEGARRY

NEWSLETTER:

ERIC SKEOCH

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Bob MacNair wasted no time in calling the meeting to order and calling on Ian Godwin to lead the way with his usual rousing rendition of the National Anthem. And away we went.

There were number of guests present, all of whom were welcomed and cordially invited to consider joining us on a more regular basis. The guests were Russ Talbot, Lee Huish, Adrian O'Connor, Jim Croft, Ian Hume, John Jeffs, and Bob Phillips. In addition to the guests mentioned above we welcomed new members Jim Bertram, Gerald Blundell, Tom Bell, Ron Smith, and Richard Felton. As the new members posed for a group photo, Past President John Megarry was heard to mutter from somewhere in the bad of the hall - "would you buy a used car from this crowd?"

Bob announced that a "support group" will be formed to receive contact information about members who are ill etc. More on this group will be available at a later date. (Perhaps hoping to get some tender loving care from this new support group, Bob mentioned that he would be undergoing knee surgery next month.)

Recognizing that there are always random photos taken at our various functions and it that these should not be lost, it has been suggested that we should create an "archive". Richard Rood is to be the contact person, with support from Hal Keiser and Steve Hawker. If you have items that you feel would be appropriate for this collection, please contact Richard.

At this point in the meeting Bob announced that our own Jack Marley has recently received the Order of Collingwood for his volunteer efforts.

There was of course richly deserved thunderous applause. "Ah shucks", says Jack.

### SPEAKERS REPORT

Ruben Rosen reported that our speaker in February will be Dr. Bob Galway who will speak on Early Toronto Airfields.

Going down rather than up, Steve Hawker will share his scuba-diving adventures with us.

A opening for a March speaker is available at this point, so if you have a suggestion please contact Ruben.

### SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

As Social Committee Chairman Greg Geen was just about to begin his report, an anonymous member from somewhere in the hall asked him why he was limping. Clearly caught off-guard by this intrusion, and visibly shaken, Greg immediately replied "I've got a sore hip, what's it to you?" The questioner, equally startled by Greg's retort and perhaps fearing violence, backed off immediately.

Now recovered emotionally, but still limping, Greg went on to give his report.

He informed us that the December luncheon was a great success thanks to the efforts of a number of our members and their spouses, all of whom were named and thanked. Once again, the meeting was rocked with thunderous applause.

Greg reported that the visit to the Bay Growers Apple plant visit was very successful. He mentioned in particular that as an apple proceeds through the plant, it is photographed 49 times! Apparently souvenir photographs of an apple were

available for those Probus members wishing to have mementos of their visit.

Future events include:

Jan 24 – Snow shoeing at Bud and Sue’s place

Feb. 7 – Tour of Snowmaking facility at Blue Mountain (NOTE CHANGE IN DATE)

Feb. 9 –Curling Bonspiel

Feb. 14 – Valentine’s Day dinner at Santini’s restaurant. (Jim Worts is the contact person).

March 8.-Tour of Agnora glass plant

May 16 – Blue Jay game against Atlanta

August 17 – Annual King’s Wharf outing and picnic lunch

#### MINISTER OF CULTURE

Wayne Caswill, our resident M. of C. provided us with a selection of his usual cultural anecdotes. And this month, thanks to the wizardry of Hal Keiser et al, we were shown a delightful videos of two Scots in communication with a voice coming from somewhere in a buttonless elevator.

#### SPECIAL PRESENTATION

John Houser reminded the members that bad things can happen sometimes when you travel without full knowledge of your insurance coverage. We all have heard or perhaps experienced firsthand shocking horror stories relating to medical bills south of the border.

Probus has an extremely good insurance plan available, and it can be booked without a medical if you sign up within 90 days after your work plan expires. The plan has some are some excellent features. John was impressed.

I won’t go into the specifics of the coverage, but if you are interested, check into the probus plan.

Contact John for further details, or more specifically go to the Probus Canada website.

#### PETER JENNINGS & NICOLE MOORE

Shark Attack is the name of the book by Peter Jennings which chronicles in vivid detail a day in 2011 when Nicole, having just completed a game of beach volleyball, waded into the water in Cancun Mexico. The beach volleyball game was of course a “sandy” experience and naturally getting clean

with a fast *splash* in the water made sense. What followed next was terrifying.

“A fast splash” is the operative expression for what happened next, because the sound of splashing sent a message to one of two bull sharks that had been spotted cruising the shallow waters just off the beach. To a shark splashes are “disorders in the sea”, and that means the possibility of defenseless prey.

The jet ski operators had successfully chased off one of the sharks, but only one. Their unsuccessful attempts at ramming the remaining one made it more aggressive. It approached Nicole and then, with amazing velocity, it attacked, its jaws tearing into her leg, through skin and flesh right to the bone. The water was “ablaze with blood”. Nicole attempted to head for shore, dragging a useless leg. Within seconds the shark came at her again, this time tearing into her left arm. One of the Jet Ski operators, though initially not knowing what to do, managed to get her to shore leaving a 30 foot trail of blood along the beach. Nicole soon lost 60% of her blood and her left arm was severed above the elbow.

The local hospital saved her life though to Peter the emergency treatment was sadly lacking. (One concern seemed to focus on whether or not insurance was going to cover the medical expenses –“\$20,000 *before we operate*”. After 5 days, Nicole, a trained nurse, realized that she had to get home or she will likely die. Thanks to expert help at Sunnybrook, she survived though she lost the arm. Peter read long sections of the book as part of his presentation and it was gripping.

The message was less about sharks than about Nicole’s amazing attitude. “She is inspirational!” Nicole answered a barrage of questions from the members. Her sense of humour intact, she commented that female audiences always ask how his puts on her bra. She told us.

It was an extremely interesting and inspiring talk. Nicole and Peter were thanked by Bob and presented with Gerry DeLeskie pen sets.

50 50 winners were Ruben Rosen and William Williams, who will person the table in February.



