



PROBUS CLUB OF COLLINGWOOD

Contact: collingwoodprobus @gmail.com

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER, 2017

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY OCTOBER 5, 2017 – BEAR ESTATE HALL – 9.45 A.M. – 11.45 A.M.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: RUBEN ROSEN

SECRETARY: AL WALLACE

MEMBERSHIP: JOHN MEGARRY

VICE PRESIDENT GREG GEEN

TREASURER: MIKE MARTYNUIK

NEWSLETTER: ERIC SKEOCH

SOCIAL: SANDY WHITE

SPEAKERS; PAUL TRANQUADA

I.T. CHAIR HAL KEISER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bob MacNair tolled the bell for the last time and immediately called upon Ian Godwin to lead us in the National Anthem.

The following guests were recognized and welcomed: Richard MacNally, John McMillan, Earl Downer, Michael Slokum, and Dean Hartley.

Then things became very serious as we entered into the legalities of the National Probus Annual General Meeting protocol. It was pointed out that although the proceedings had been somewhat streamlined, it was nevertheless appropriate for any member to interrupt at any time to question or to get clarification on any item.

When we got to the Treasurer's report there were in fact several questions posed to Treasurer Mike Martynuik. The questions focused on the new credit card system recently introduced, the projected deficit of \$1600, and the issue of venue when the Bear Estate convention center closes for renovations. Of course Mike had all the answers. Mike also added that Ken Adolphe has agreed to act as auditor next year.

The slate of officers nominated for the Management Team was presented and accepted.

Past President Bob MacNair thanked all members of the Management team, committee members and the membership in general for their support and hard work during the past year.

Under new business, Scott Russell informed the members that Meals on Wheels is in need of volunteers. Interested members should contact Scott or Past President Bob MacNair.

President elect Ruben Rosen then took the chair, quoting Alfred Lord Tennyson's famous line

“...The old order changeth, yielding place to the new...” He wished Bob the best in his future endeavours, and hoped that one of those endeavours would see him in a leadership role on the area Probus executive. If elected, Bob would be able to bring news of his knee operations to a wider and more sympathetic audience. [Ed. Note; Bob was successful in his election as a Probus Canada Director. Congratulations Bob.]

Ruben personally thanked Bob for his leadership during the past year and presented him with the gold name badge awarded to all past Presidents. There was of course thunderous applause.

Ruben reminded us of the wise comment made by former Prime Minister Jean Chretien, who said that “once elected you simply do whatever you want”.

New members Elgin Wolfe, Marv Cohen, and Victor Gauci were welcomed, anointed, badged and told to behave appropriately or else.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Outgoing Social Committee Chair Greg Geen introduced the new guy Sandy White and then went into his final “five minute” summary of recent events and his description of what's coming. There was a good bike ride with George, a good time at King's Wharf with Joseph, and a good round of golf at Camp Borden.

And here's what' coming up.

- Sept. 18 rides around Collingwood with George Christie.

- Sept. 20 Golf at Shelburne-Oct 11 – Mystery Theatre in Wasaga Beach.

-Oct. 18 –Fall colours train ride and lunch out of Orangeville (Richard Isaacson)

-November 13 – Tour of Homes in the Community

-December 7 –December Luncheon for \$50 (Sandy White)

-John Housser reminded members that the Ski Legends crowd is going to Val D’Isere this winter and there are 6 spots left.

MINISTER OF CULTURE

The Minister was alive and as usual in great form.

SPEAKERS CHAIR

Ruben welcomed Paul Tranquada to the committee as co-chair and informed us that in October we will have Air Canada Captain Peter Lang, in November author and journalist Ted Barris, and in December Trinh Campbell, author of Orphan 32.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION FRED HOLMES

Yesterday was a memorable day to all who are interested in eventful events on the shores of Georgian Bay. This was the reason for Fred Holmes’ special presentation .

On September 14, one hundred and 135 years ago, the ASIA foundered while en route to the French River lumber camps. It was Georgian Bay’s worst marine disaster.

These were the days of wooden ships, burning cordwood, and using kerosene fueled lights. The ASIA had been put into service to replace the Manitoulin which had been beached by its captain “Black Pete” Campbell with a loss of 25 lives. It was a profitable route and the Asia was quickly acquired to replace the lost boat. Fred had some photos to show the Asia, and it was not a pretty sight, a very high center of gravity and as Fred pointed out, “travelling mostly in a beam sea, and reminding me of the grandkids bath toys, destined to go quickly to the bottom.”

And that appears to be exactly what happened. The ASIA departed on a calm night bound for the lumber mill town of French River. It never arrived. There was no passenger manifest, so it is

not clear how many lives were lost, though it is known that there were six horses on board.

The wreck has never been found, though the cottagers of Pointe Au Baril are all aware it is probably not far from their shore. The mystery remains. Two survivors, Christie Ann Morrisson and Douglas Tinkis are buried in Owen Sound and Little Current respectively.

It is hard to imagine the terror of those on board the ASIA on that night 135 years ago.

SPEAKER OPP INSP. MARY SHANNON

Inspector Shannon comes to us as the newly appointed OPP Commander in Collingwood. She presented a very detailed description of the make-up of the Collingwood/Blue Mountain detachment and the 3-year plan currently being implemented.

The priorities for the next 3 years will focus on Domestic violence, Property Crimes, Traffic, and Crime Abatement. Much attention is paid to an “analytic” approach, ie. Find out where the statistics show there are needs and apply resources to those areas. Here are some details Inspector Shannon shared with us:

-Missing some property? “Lock it or lose it.”

-Fraudsters move fast and are very, very creative.

-Drugs are extremely lucrative for local criminals.

-House visits to previous offenders pay off in the long run by keeping them away from the bad guys.

-In 2016 there were 664 non-emergency 911 calls!

-Traffic circles are safer because roundabout accidents are usually low speed fender bender types rather than serious crashes.

--In 2016, there were 5700 charges laid.

-Cycling is a growing concern, primarily because there is a reluctance to “share the road”.

There were lots of questions and Inspector Shannon clearly knows what’s she’s doing.

Ruben asked if she would let our club know in advance where the Ride checks would be in place.

The Inspector appeared to be amused. Ruben went on to thank her for her very informative presentation and presented her with a Gerry DeLeskie pen and pencil set.

The 50 50 winners were Steve Hawker and Brian Lucas.

