



PROBUS CLUB OF BRACEBRIDGE

www.probusbracebridge.ca

P.O. Box 55, Bracebridge, ON P1L 1T5
Club No. 69, Founded September 11, 1996

Volume XX

Issue 6

March 2, 2016

THIS MONTH

Greeters: **Ginette Grewal and Toni Dilabbio**

O Canada: **Mary Lou Chuter**

Welcome: **Members and Guests**

President's Remarks: **Nancy Thompson**

Reports:

Social - Frances Balodis

Activities - Gunars Balodis

Membership - Jim Gould

Management Presentation

BIO: **Albert Eatock - Wooden Rowboats**

SOCIAL BREAK

Speaker: **Steven Duff -Make the Most of Your Retirement**

COMING EVENTS

April BIO:..Rudy Hrdlicka - Canoe Tripping

April Speaker: David Morris, CEO - Habitat Gateway North "New Developments at Habitat for Humanity"

LAST MONTH

Last month's meeting numbers on vacation.

Our Care Bear reports that get well wishes were sent to Ron Broadworth, Don McDowall and Brian Thompson.

Bio: Carol Renton

Born in Welland, Ontario and raised in Fonthill, Carol (so named as she was born on Christmas Eve) still retains some of the influences of the Niagara Peninsula that had an impact on her life.



Her family had a market gardening business when she was young where she and an older brother would help with the chores. Carol holds fond memories of going out on cold evenings to heat the boilers to

prevent the plants from being frostbitten. And Carol still appreciates the rich loamy smell of garden soil and continues to enjoy gardening to this day.

As a young girl Carol and her friends would swim in the Welland Canal, getting out of the water in time to let the large ships pass by. The ship's sailors would toss coins of their local currency to the waving kids at canals edge. Carol didn't indicate what kind of fortune she amassed but she did decide to become a cook on one of those great ships one day.

The family learned to waste nothing. Carol's father was an avid hunter and provided much food for the table. The rest of the family also contributed in the same manner.

(cont. on page 3.....)

Probus Club of Bracebridge 2016

March

Sign Up	Date	Event	Location	Time	Contact
Yes	Tues 1 st	Social	Sugar Bush Hill tour in Port Sydney + Lunch at Trillium Resort & Spa - \$35	10:30 am	Tom Krawczyk 766-9026
Yes	Wed 2 nd	Probus	Rotary Centre for Youth	10:00 am	
	Weekly Mondays	Fabric Engineering	Phone for location	10:00 am	Carol Renton 644-7719
	Weekly Fridays	Outdoors	Various locations	10:00 am	Andrea Kier 646-2955
	Thurs 3 rd	Investment Club	RBC Investments lower level (near old Zellers store). Park on street.	9:30 am	Alan Clark 242-8772
	Tues 8 th	Wine Group	"Blind tasting of new world wines" at home of Nancy and Brian Thompson	3:00 pm	Al McLeod 637-0609
	Wed 9 th	Happy Cookers	Theme TBA at home of Lynn and Bob Jacob	6:00 pm	Lynn Jacob 646-0129
	Thurs 17 th	Food for Thought	Irish Theme at home of Lois Ratchford	5:30 pm	Lois Ratchford 645-3135
	Tues 15 th	Dining Out	TBD	5:30 pm	Brian Brocklehurst 645-6549
	Tues 22 nd	Issues Group	"Effect of Climate Change on Ancient Civilizations" by Gunars Balodis	10:00 am	Peter Sale 764-3359
	Thurs 24 th	Happy Bookers	"The Massey Murder" by Charlotte Gray at Bev Baxter's home	10:00 am	Susan Shaw 385-3713
	Thurs 24 th	Book Club	"Heretic" by Hirsi Ali at Lynn McNeice's home	10:00 am	Linda Genser 416-488-8405
	Wed 30 th	Cooking Group # 1	"Maui in March" at home of Al & Mary McLeod	5:00 pm	Hilda Brown 765-6064

** If you feel a new group should be started, call or email Gunars at 769-3449 or GBalodis@C-L-U.ca

April

Sign Up	Date	Event	Location	Time	Contact
Yes	Wed 6 th	Probus	Rotary Centre for Youth	10:00 am	
	Weekly Mondays	Fabric Engineering	Phone for location	10:00 am	Carol Renton 644-7719
	Weekly Fridays	Outdoors	Various locations	10:00 am	Andrea Kier 646-2955
	Thurs 7 th	Investment Club	RBC Investments lower level (near old Zellers store). Park on street.	9:30 am	Alan Clark 242-8772
	Tues 12 th	Wine Group	"Tasting of non-commercially made wines" at home of John Bowser	3:00 pm	Al McLeod 637-0609
	Tues 26 th	Issues Group	"Achieving a Stable Human Population + a Zero-growth Economy" by Peter Sale	10:00 am	Peter Sale 764-3359
Yes	Tues 19 th	Dining Out	Bo's Thai Cuisine, Bracebridge (\$35 all inclusive, set menu – not spicy)	5:30 pm	Marianne Meeuwisse 645-6549
	TBD	Cooking Group # 1	TBD	5:00 pm	Hilda Brown 765-6064
Yes	Tues 26 th	Social	Bus trip – Ripley's Aquarium + St. Lawrence Market \$60 not including meal (with Probus Club of Central Muskoka)	TBD	Joanne Krawczyk 766-9026
xx	Thurs 28 th	Happy Bookers	"Arrival City" by Doug Saunders at Peter & Donna Sale's home	10:00 am	Susan Shaw 385-3713
	Thurs 28 th	Book Club	"Sweetlands" by Crummey at Elizabeth McMillan's home	10:00 am	Linda Genser 416-488-8405
	TBA	Happy Cookers	TBA	6:00 pm	Donna Sale 764-3359

HAPPY PROBUS MONTH

President's Message

Greetings and Salutations

I do hope you are enjoying our mild end of winter and keeping busy with interesting projects and travels. Have you used any “paraprosdokians” since our last meeting?

March is PROBUS Month when we are supposed to toot our own horn, so here goes:

Did you know:

- The purpose of Probus is to stimulate thought, interest and participation in activities at a time in life when it is easy to become complacent and self-centred.
- *Probus Clubs* are non-political; non-sectarian; non-profit making and non-fundraising.
- The first PROBUS Club, specifically for active retirees, was formed in 1966 by the Rotary Club of Caterham, England to allow retired professionals to continue to meet together for fellowship.
- On March 17, 1987 the first Probus Club in Canada was started in Cambridge.
- Our Probus Club of Bracebridge was the first in Muskoka. It started in 1996.
- As of March, 2015 there were 236 active Probus Clubs in Canada with 32,735 members.
- There are 7 PROBUS Clubs in Muskoka with about 1200 members.
- The worldwide web page (www.probus.org), contains essential information on PROBUS plus chat groups and contacts for PROBUS Clubs around the world.

In honour of PROBUS Month we have a Word Find containing all the countries in which PROBUS is active. If you solve the puzzle there is a secret message. If you get the message, you win a prize.

Are there any Welsh members that celebrate St. David's Day on March 1??

Hope to see you March 2.

Keep smiling, Nancy

PROBUS Clubs in Muskoka

Bracebridge has 136 members

South Muskoka has 127 members

Muskoka Lakes has 168 members

Central Muskoka has 166 members

Huntsville has 200 members

Huntsville Lakes has 155 members

Muskoka North has 220 members

Total 1172

(...BIO cont. from page 1) .

At sixteen years of age Carol graduated grade 13 and began her working life and started her family. She also completed the 4 year Canadian Institute of Management and Administration program.

Carol began a career in Municipal Government and time flew. Thirty years later she retired to commence life's more important pursuits. During this period Carol received the Award of Valour, twice, for lifesaving.

Carol was a Brown Owl with the Girl Guides, a parental support committee member with the 68th Army Cadet Corp, taught first aid and coached soccer. She has also served on various volunteer and professional boards.

Scuba diving became a passion and this has been enjoyed in Georgian Bay, the Bahamas, the Florida Keys and the Caribbean.

Horses also became a passion and keeping her own horses and training new horses became a full time job. Carol competed quite successfully in Competitive and Endurance long distance riding in races up to 75 miles in length. A Silver Medal at the National Canadian Competitive Trail Riding Championship in 2002 was a highlight. During this time Carol met her husband and also Tina and Rae Fyfe who introduced Carol to Probus

After retiring from competitive riding and the last horse passed on the farm was sold and a move made to a townhouse on the Muskoka River in Bracebridge was made.

Carol has a blended family of 5 children and 8 grandchildren which are priority one. Other

priorities include sewing, painting, reading, cooking, skiing, hiking, boating and travel.

Carol recounted her recent boat journey on their 43 foot trawler that completed the "Great Circle Loop". Briefly, a start in Georgian Bay to Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River, south to the Gulf of Mexico across Florida waterways, up the eastern seaboard to the Hudson River to the St. Lawrence River and finally through the Rideau and Trent waterways home to Georgian Bay. A remarkable journey with more on the horizon.

Speaker - Chris Litschko - CEO Lakeland Holding Ltd. and Team

Mr. Litschko and his team presented a topic dear to many of our hearts. The rollout of high speed fibre optic internet infrastructure and services in both rural and urban Muskoka.



Left to Right: Bill Gispen, Chris Litschko, Vince Kulchycki and Ian Cameron.

Lakeland Holding Ltd. (LHL) which is owned by the six municipalities of Bracebridge, Huntsville, Parry Sound, Burk's Falls, Sundridge and Magnetawan decided several years ago to leverage some of their existing infrastructure to initiate a new program of installing fibre optic internet distribution services. A large part of the decision to proceed was the successful application for partial project funding from the Small Communities Fund Project overseen by Infrastructure Canada, a federal program.

A plan to install 215 kilometres between Bracebridge and Huntsville over five years has been embarked upon where the new service could be available to 3300 households. LHL has

projected an 1200-2000 new customers in their business plan. They have managed a sales success rate of over 70% which far exceeds their projections. Hopefully this will encourage LHL to address more marginal rural addresses in their upgrade plans.

Those of us who are saddled with Xplorment (snail satellite) Vianet, and the expense of Bell are keen to see LHL blanket the entire region with their service. It will take time as the company has to apply on an annual basis for new SCF grants which support the expansion. Many of us will have to be patient.

Hopefully the new federal government will continue and even enhance the Canada Infrastructure fund which would hopefully allow LHL to see their grants increase and accelerate the building of their fibre optic network.

It does appear that no matter how well the business develops for LHL that many in the rural part of Muskoka will miss out. This is unfortunate, as has been observed by LHL having or not having advanced internet services does affect property values. This issue has not yet been addressed by MPAC in their current assessment process. Perhaps this point could be used as leverage with the municipal shareholders of LHL to have the network expanded beyond what is planned.

In any event we all wish LHL the best in their exciting endeavor.



Excited Probians rushing to place their order for Fibre Optic.

Countries with PROBUS Clubs Word Find

Find the following words in straight lines in the puzzles. They may be backwards, forwards, up, down or diagonal. If you are really good – write down the secret message made up of the letters not used in the puzzle.

Argentina	Australia	Belgium	Bermuda	Canada
Chile	Cyprus	France	Germany	India
Ireland	Japan	Malaysia	Mexico	Netherlands
New Zealand	Portugal	South Africa	Spain	Sweden
United Kingdom	United States	Zimbabwe		

T	H	E	P	U	D	N	A	L	A	E	Z	W	E	N	R
P	O	A	R	G	E	N	T	I	N	A	I	S	E	O	F
S	U	R	P	Y	C	P	R	O	B	U	M	S	I	S	T
O	O	N	H	E	L	H	P	M	E	M	B	B	E	R	S
U	T	I	I	O	K	E	I	N	D	I	A	E	P	T	H
T	E	A	I	T	R	M	I	L	N	D	B	A	C	T	I
H	V	P	E	E	E	X	P	A	E	S	W	E	D	E	N
A	N	S	D	I	S	D	N	A	L	R	E	H	T	E	N
F	R	A	N	C	E	N	K	T	E	R	E	O	S	Y	T
R	S	A	A	B	E	L	G	I	U	M	N	C	D	N	T
I	O	M	P	A	K	E	N	D	N	E	W	I	F	A	R
C	A	N	A	D	A	I	E	N	N	G	D	X	S	M	D
A	O	S	J	T	A	Y	H	A	E	A	D	E	L	R	T
H	P	O	R	T	U	G	A	L	A	D	U	O	R	E	B
Y	S	E	T	A	T	S	D	E	T	I	N	U	M	G	A
C	T	I	V	A	U	S	T	R	A	L	I	A	E	A	N
D	H	A	P	P	Y	N	A	I	S	Y	A	L	A	M	T

MESSAGE: _____
