



# The PROBIAN ~ April 2010 Edition

~ Contributing Editors: Donald and Frances McNaughton ~



## THE PROBUS CLUB OF PERTH

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Probus meets the first  
Wednesday of each month,  
Sept. to June.

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## Pro-bites.....

The May 5th Probus meeting will feature a creative collaboration of groups from both ends of the demographic spectrum. We will be treated to a re-enactment of the War of 1812 by 20 or so students taking part in the Perth Regional Heritage Fair. Ian suggests that we might want to let the students take over the first 2 or 3 rows of the hall during their presentation. The Perth Regional Heritage Fair (formerly known as Historica) is a wonderful program which encourages students to explore Canadian heritage in a hands-on learning environment. Several of our Probus members are involved with this program as volunteers and John Gittens has created an excellent related website [www.prhf.org](http://www.prhf.org), which is worth visiting.

Helen and Bob Black have indicated that more than 50 people have signed up so far for the annual trek to the 1000 Islands Playhouse in Gananoque on May 27th to see the "39 Steps". It is great to see such interest being shown in our special activities! **The May meeting will be your last chance to sign up and pay for this event** ~ \$22 for the play and \$12 for the optional gourmet box lunch (cheques payable to Perth Probus Club). More details are available below under [Special Activities](#), or in the [March Probian](#), as well as the [Theatre website](#). Ride sharing can be arranged.

## Traveling With Exploritas

*By Donald McNaughton*



Ian Doig & Bob Pearson

The speaker for April was Bob Pearson, a program coordinator for Routes, which provides programs for Exploritas, the new name for Elderhostel. Bob worked as a sales representative for an international medical company until retirement to Kingston Ontario in the 1980's so he has traveled widely. He says that Perth is the most beautiful town he has seen!

Elderhostel was started in 1975 to combine travel with education and learning and at first used campuses, which were vacant in the summertime for rooms and programs. Today there are 12,000 programs world wide, with 200 in Canada. Routes lifelong learning adventures, is the main

provider of programs to Exploritas.

The learning programs are mainly pitched to the 55+ age group but are diversified and available to anyone who can travel. There are six different levels of physical capabilities so you can choose a program to suit your energy level. The size of the Traveling group is kept small so that everyone can hear the excellent lecture/discussions that will be enjoyed on the trip. Most trips are a minimum of 5 days and a maximum of 14.

Bob then took us through a sample program of a VIA rail trip from Montreal to Vancouver with overnight stops in Toronto and Jasper – 14 days and 13 nights. Members of a group are looked after extremely well and are exposed to many interesting events and learning experiences by the largest Travel Company in the world.



## Speakers' Corner

- **May** - the Perth Regional Heritage Fair Re-enactment of the War of 1812.
- **June** - Jim Gilpin on his experiences in World War II.

## Special Events

- **May 18, 2010** ~ Spring Fling (the annual regional Probus social event) will be held at the Best Western Parkway Inn in Cornwall. Registration at 10:30 a.m. and meal at noon. The entertainment will be [The Brigadoons](#), a popular local Celtic singing group. It will be the Cornwall Probus Club's 15th Anniversary, so they are inviting us to celebrate with them. There will be entertainment & lucky draws too. Reminder: Each Club is asked to provide its payment with a single cheque payable to Probus Club of Cornwall & Area by Friday, April 16, 2010.
- **May 27, 2010** ~ Trip to see "[The 39 Steps](#)" at 1,000 Island Playhouse in Gananoque. Matinee performance, gourmet boxed lunch on the deck. Cheques should be made out to the Perth Probus Club for \$22. p.p. for the ticket and \$12. p.p. for the box lunch and pre-show chat, if that is desired.
- **June 21, 2010** ~ Annual Golf Tournament, Book Exchange and dinner to be organized again by Glen Pettinger by popular demand. Every player will be asked to bring a cherished (slightly used paperbacks are fine) favourite book for the Prize Table.



## Management Team Notes

- Probus has recently been approached by several different groups to ask if they might sell tickets at our monthly meetings. To avoid possible "ticket fatigue" and confusion between Probus-sponsored events and other events of interest in the community, the Management Team has decided that it would be best if we reserved ticket sales tables for Probus-sponsored events only. That said, we are happy to continue the practice of providing members with the opportunity to make short public announcements about events of interest and to mention where tickets may be purchased. Where possible we will try to help publicize outside events of significant interest to our members through our website and The Probian.
- Many thanks to Don and Fran McNaughton for their contributions to this edition. The contributing editor for the May Bulletin will be Carol Trischuk, with pictures by her partner Ernie.
- We are considering converting to magnetic name tags, but we would like to know what you think.

## Classic Theatre Festival

By Frances McNaughton

We heard a brief presentation from Laurel Smith the director and producer of the Classic Theatre Festival a new theatre company in Perth.



Laurel Smith

They will present two plays this summer season, "Blithe Spirit" from July 9 – August 1 and "The Voice of the Turtle" from August 6 – August 29. The plays will be held at the Perth Studio Theatre, 63 Gore St. E. Perth Ontario. The actresses and actors are mainly from Toronto and the set designer and costume designer are from Ottawa. They are all professional.

The company hopes to attract tourists to Perth and they have Theatre Getaway Packages and have partnered with several restaurants and B&B's in town. They also plan to partner with six local groups on Wednesday nights e.g. 14 May Big Band Night at Civitan, 21 May Rotary Night and 28 May Kiwanis night where the community organisations receive half of the proceeds.

They are a registered charity and they are looking for billets for performers. Tickets and information at 1-877-283-1283 or [www.classictheatre.ca](http://www.classictheatre.ca)



New members welcomed by Bruce and David.

Wonder what is playing in Perth? Go to: [www.perthentertainmentnow.net](http://www.perthentertainmentnow.net)

Follow the heart warming adventures of fellow Probus members at the Guatemala Eye Clinic [www.perthrotaryeyes.blogspot.com/](http://www.perthrotaryeyes.blogspot.com/)