



The PROBIAN ~ December 2011 Edition

~ Editor: Dennis Dwyer ~



THE PROBUS CLUB OF PERTH

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to June.

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Apropos.....

The great majority of our members are retired. That doesn't mean we don't work, it is just that we work in our community in surprisingly eclectic ways and we do it because we want to. In this Year of Our Lord 2011 we must not lose sight of the fact that most of this "pro bono" work is *necessary*. Without it, much that is wonderful about Perth would not survive. The average family household debt in Canada is at a record — higher even than in the USA or Britain. Pensions and portfolios are not as robust as they used to be and the outlook for 2012 and beyond is cloudy at best. There is a mood of anxiety in our community.

So, as Probians, let's keep our eyes and hearts open to our neighbours. A good resolution for 2012 might be just to keep track of each other a little more often. Oh, and with all the wonders of the internet, let's not forget the telephone.

The Craigs of Perth Manor



"Summertime", from Porgy & Bess.

Linda and Gordon Craig and their daughter Tyanna, accompanied on the piano by Brad Mills, gave us a wonderful mini-concert. Their offerings were a Concert Piece for two clarinets by Mendelssohn played by Gordon & Linda, followed by a sparkling violin solo by Tyanna of Bohm's "Perpetual Motion". Gordon and Brad then teamed up playing Gordon's somber yet joyful arrangement of "Amazing Grace" and brought the house down with

The Craigs are the new owners of the Perth Manor Boutique Hotel. They outlined their plans for the Manor and in particular their intention to offer musical events to the community beginning in the near future. Gordon is a professor of music at Queen's University, Music Director of the Kingston Symphony and teaches mathematics as well. Linda did teach and is a concert-level clarinetist.

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The Craigs...continued

Gordon & Linda also treated us to an interesting and humorous journey with them as they decided to purchase the Manor and move to Perth. On top of all this wonderful gain to our musical community, Tyanna, now at school in Kingston, will ultimately be living here too. As hoteliers, and managers, Gordon & Linda are also cordon bleu chefs and so the guests at the Perth Manor as well as those attending special musical events will benefit from these talents as well.



A warm welcome to all the Craigs.

Speakers' Corner



January 4 ~ Bennie Beattie, a long – time summer resident of the Saguenay Lac St. Jean area of Quebec will speak on Whales of the St. Lawrence and St. Lawrence River Estuary. There are more varieties of whales in this area than any other place in the world.

February 1 – Dr. Diana Beresford-Kroeger, medical biochemist, world-traveler and author and well-known independent academic who describes herself as a “renegade scientist”, will discuss the Arboretum Borealis and its relation to climate change.

March 7 – Dr. David Turner, a Perthite (his father was Managing Editor of the Perth Courier) who is a recently retired anthropologist from the U of T ---- will talk on his experiences with aboriginals in Australia. This is timely, as our aboriginal communities in Canada are on the front burner again — even in Ontario. Caledonia anyone!

New Members



Dr. Tim Murray (with the beard) and Bill Kennedy two new members of Probus are flanked by Dan Murphy and David Crowley. We are now at 113 members.

Lunch on Jan 4th - @ Michael's Table

A Thought From the Sea

“FOR PERSEVERENCE”

“Too slow” you say? And I admit,
I sometimes think the same myself.
Five knots — or six or seven when the going’s
good—
is no great speed.
But what’s the use of double digits and a planning
hull
when you must shout above the roar,
and throttle back in any kind of sea?
Afloat, ashore, we journey
by perseverance, not by speed.
From far-off childhood I recall the tale
of how the tortoise raced the hare
and won because he never quit.
The snail too reached the ark by perseverance.
So with five knots I’ll be content
And grateful to the One who shapes my
course,
And whom I hope to meet
At journey’s end.

From “Sea Psalms” , by John Jay

Hughes

Management Team Notes

Our President's term of office



One of our members has suggested that "the president's term of office should be two years". The idea being that a good portion of the first year is learning and so two years would provide an easier and more efficient period for the incumbent and Management Team. Our members will be asked to vote on this change at a future meeting.

Special Future Events



21 January ~ Robbie Burns Dinner & Dance At the Perth Legion. \$20 per person. Reserve & pay at the 4th Jan meeting.

Late March – plans are afoot for a Dinner & Theatre.

Christmas Dinner Party A BIG THANK-YOU !



Mary Kilgour & Glen Pettinger deserve a very big round of applause for pulling off a wonderful Christmas Dinner Dance. All the arrangements were delightful and well over 90 people attended. Pictures of this event follow.





Pictures thanks to Mary Kilgour and Ernie Trischuk

Seasons Greetings
and
very best wishes
for 2012

