



The **P**ROBIAN ~ *March 2011 Edition*
~ Contributing Editor: Orion Clark ~



**THE PROBUS CLUB
OF PERTH**

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

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The Marvelous Wonderettes ~ May 25th

Join us at the Thousand Islands Playhouse in Gananoque to view "[The Marvelous Wonderettes](#)", a musical with four young women from the "class of '58" singing songs from the 50's and 60's. Sort of a female version of "Forever Plaid". Tickets will cost \$25 per person for the 2:30 pm matinee performance and there is an optional box lunch (\$14) on the deck at 1:30, with a "deck-talk" involving some of the actors. The deck talk is contingent on a reasonable number choosing the box lunch. Last year's deck talk by a couple of the actors was very entertaining and enjoyed by all. We suggest carpooling from the Legion parking lot around noon. Please bring your cheques (\$25 per person for musical only or \$39 including the box lunch) to the **April** meeting made out to the Probus Club of Perth and sign up with Mary or Glen.



Images of Biodiversity

by Orion Clark



Simon Lunn with his Screech Owl and Red Squirrel

At our March meeting, Simon Lunn, having an involvement in wildlife conservation as a naturalist and field interpreter in the Maritimes, Alberta and Ontario for several agencies including Parks Canada, challenged us to investigate our surroundings with family, friends and grandchildren to avoid the dreaded 'nature deficit disorder'. This investigation can always be enhanced with your camera. In this regard, Simon provided photographic guidance through 13 considerations. i) Light; ii) Composition; iii) Tell a Story; iv) Capture a moment; v) Opportunity- Do it now; vi) Anticipation- plan for the moment; vii) Have Patience & Stealth; viii) Perspective; ix) Simplicity; x) The right equipment; xi) Special Techniques- exposures, focusing; xii) Don't overlook the luck of the Irish; and xiii) Learn to play detective.

The many photographic tips coupled with both audio and video recordings presented a great educational and inspirational experience to all Probiens. Even the interpretation of behaviours by selected species in our own backyard should constitute enough incentive to become more familiar with our rich biodiversity before these species become extinct.

This was a presentation that had a message for all present. Given the buzz in the room afterwards, it was clear that it was enjoyed by all as well.

Special Events



- **Mar. 31, 2011** ~ Dinner & theatre evening ~ "You Say Tomatoes" at the Studio Theatre and dinner at the Stone Cellar ~ see detailed information below.
- **May 17, 2011** ~ Spring Fling to be held at the Italian Club north of the 401 in Kingston. Anyone interested, please bring cheque for \$30 / person payable to Probus Perth to the April meeting.
- **May 25, 2011** ~ The Marvelous Wonderettes at the Thousand Islands Playhouse ~ see details on page 1.
- **June 1, 2011** ~ The Executive is considering combining our last meeting with a light luncheon. We would like to know if the Probus membership would be in favour and where they might like to enjoy such a function. Suggestions so far include: [Links o' Tay Golf Club in Perth](#), [Lanark Timber Run Golf Club](#) and [Temples Sugar Camp in Ferguson's Falls](#). Please let Mary, Glen or any member of the Executive know how you feel about this and where we might hold such an event. This luncheon could precede a Golf Tournament if members still wanted it.

Probus Dinner & Theatre Evening ~ Mar 31

Probusians and their guests are invited to dine at The Stone Cellar at **6pm**, followed by the Studio Theatre production, "You Say Tomatoes" at **8pm**. So far, 31 people have indicated that they plan to participate. Mary has made special arrangements so that others may attend by contacting her before March 25th at 613-264-0024 or mkilgour@superaje.com.



"You Say Tomatoes" is a very funny, perceptive play, with plenty of biting wit and humour as the two somewhat dated transatlantic cultures are contrasted. Tickets are \$15 payable to the Studio Theatre, if ordered from Mary by March 25th. Season Ticket holders can come for dinner with the group by making a meal choice by March 25th.

Dinner will be a choice of four entrees:

1. Pork Medallions - \$19.
2. Beef Filet - \$27.
3. Chicken - \$23.
4. Fish - \$27.

Drinks, salads, dessert, and coffee can be ordered for an extra charge.

There will be no tax on your meal, but there is a 15% gratuity. Dinner will be paid at The Stone Cellar, but must be pre-ordered.



Self-introduction ~ Richard Thomson

by Orion Clark



Richard immigrated with his parents from Diddington, England to Canada in 1949. At Western Technical and Commercial School he received a rich educational programme which introduced him to many lifelong skills. His education continued to include a BSc (1973) and BEd. (1975). Only while he was working on his PhD degree in Renal Physiology did he realize that teaching was more enjoyable than research.

Hence, he spent 33 years in Cochrane Ontario, with his wife Dorothy, as a Grade 7&8 teacher (Science, Mathematics, Special Education), Consultant, Coordinator, and Principal. In 2008, they returned to Perth, an area they were familiar with since Dorothy's parents lived on Pike Lake. Their two sons live and study in the Ottawa area. Richard continued to be active in service club work, church committees as well as enjoying painting, travelling, fishing, golf, tennis and cooking.

Speakers' Corner



- **April** - Todd Stepanuik, President and CEO of the [Perth & Smiths Falls District Hospital](#) to share insights on the evolution of this institution.
- **May** ~ Cliff Bennett, one of the driving forces in the [Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists](#) to talk about loons.
- **June 1** ~ John Chattoe on Seniors and Technology.

Management Team Notes

- **Donations to the Food Bank** will be accepted at the April Probus meeting. Please make cheques payable directly to "Perth & District Food Bank", and expect to receive your charitable contribution receipt in February 2012. At the March meeting \$475 was donated.
- George McClure is scheduled to present his self-introduction at the April meeting.
- Thanks to Orion Clark for his contributions to this edition. Dennis Dwyer is scheduled to be the contributing editor in April.
- Probus Canada Rendezvous is September 13 to 15, 2011 in Vancouver ([details](#)). Several Perth Probusians are planning to go.
- **Wanted: contributing editors for May and Summer Probusians, as well as Probus team leader for 2011-12.** Please contact Colin.

