



# The PROBIAN ~ March 2013 Edition

~ Editors: Dennis Dwyer & Colin Stephenson ~



## THE PROBUS CLUB OF PERTH

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

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## Apropos ....

Springtime is a time of hope. When we read newspapers, listen to the radio or watch TV, we're assaulted by descriptions of disasters and potential catastrophes. So watching the election and enthronement of Pope Francis has been an uplifting experience. Only the future will tell of his ability to bring one of the great and powerful institutions of our world into a better relationship with the people it serves. Nevertheless, beginning his pontificate by challenging all people, especially leaders, by his courage, personal simplicity and compassion, is a sign of hope. He is indeed encouraging us to greet the future with enthusiasm.

*Dennis Dwyer & Colin Stephenson*

*(Apropos reflects the views of the Editors but not necessarily those of the Club.)*

## Cheri Barton on Organ Donation



Ralph Fish thanks Cheri Barton

Cheri Barton did us all a great favour by helping us understand how crucially important it is for every one of us to register ourselves as an organ donor. We can do this by informing ourselves by visiting the web site of the *Trillium Gift of Life Network* at [www.giftoflife.on.ca](http://www.giftoflife.on.ca) then accessing [beadonor.ca](http://beadonor.ca) and becoming a donor. Cheri, married to a farmer, mom to three kids, involved in 4-H clubs, a community volunteer, and is especially a most active and capable ambassador for communicating the need for more organ donors in Ontario. Due to her own medical history, she will eventually need a liver transplant — maybe a kidney as well. Within her own family, there may also be the need for an

organ transplant. To see her make a presentation and in meeting her, you would never suspect that in order to be the kind of representative of Gift of Life she has become, she needs a lot of courage. She downplays all that.

What she does want us to know is that it is absolutely necessary for each of us, whatever age we are and even if we think we're "over the hill", that we REGISTER with Trillium Gift of Life Network and commit to donate our organs upon death. It is not sufficient to carry a donor card in our wallets. Why? Because by registering our consent to donate our organs at the time of death, it ensures our wishes will be followed and save our loved ones from having to make that decision. When not registered, only 50% of families consent to organ and tissue donation. And currently only 22% of Ontarians have registered their donation decision in the registry. If any of us cannot register on-line, then by going to a ServiceOntario office we can obtain a registration form and then mail it in. By the way, both of your editors used [beadonor.ca](http://beadonor.ca) recently and the whole process took just 4 minutes and 40 seconds.

Cheri gave us a most complete run-down of the trends in organ donation, where Ontario is at present and the fact that one donor can save up to eight lives and enhance as many as 75 more just by donating. Ontario leads this field in Canada.

## Organ Donations ~ continued

Cheri outlined some common misconceptions about organ donation and explained how the Gift of Life agency collaborates with the various faith communities. A common concern is that there be fairness in how organs and tissue are allocated and this was addressed. There was an active question period after her presentation and we can all refresh our memories by going to the website at [www.giftoflife.on.ca](http://www.giftoflife.on.ca). If you want to volunteer or donate funds or even propose and sponsor a community event, then follow the links on the web site or telephone 1-800-263 – 2833. We have also placed a link up on our website to make it easy for members who wish to register for organ donation ~ [please click here](#).

Thanks Cheri for helping us understand how important be a donor is.

## Special Future Events



- **March 23** ~ Senators hockey game vs. Tampa Bay Lightning ~ 2:00 pm at Scotiabank Place ~ \$37.50 including tickets, \$8.50 hot dog & drink voucher and bus transportation. The bus will leave the LCBO back door at 12:30 sharp, so please be there at 12:15. Trip organised by Sherle Perkins and Mary Kilgour. [More information](#)
- **April 18** – Dinner / Theatre Event ~ Dinner 6:00pm at Michael's Table and 8:00pm at the Full Circle Theatre to see the musical "Jacques Brel is alive and well and living in Paris". Sign-up at April meeting ~ \$16 for the play, cheques payable to Probus Perth; pay for dinner on the night for prime rib, chicken supreme, curry stir fry, pork schnitzel or sesame salmon. [More information](#).
- **May 7** – Spring Fling, Tudor Hall 3750 North Bowesville Road, Ottawa ON. Sign-up sheet available at February and March meetings. [More information](#).
- **May 29** – Gananoque Theatre ~ "Suds ~ the Rocking 60's Musical Soap Opera" ~ [More information](#)

## Management Team Notes



- Probus Central has asked clubs to poll their members to see what interest there may be in participating in the Rendezvous National Probus Conference in Ontario in 2014/15. We will be doing that via email.
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## Quote for the Month :

**"For once, just once, it would be exhilarating to see the church greet the future with enthusiasm rather than to follow our usual pattern of being dragged, screaming and kicking into it."**

John Shelby Spong --- 1988 --- Bishop of the Episcopal Church USA.

## Speakers' Corner - Mystery Guest Speaker

**April 3** ~ We have a special speaker lined up for the April meeting and he is someone we know you won't want to miss, but you will just have to come to the meeting to see who it is.



**MYSTERY GUEST**

## Self Introduction ~ Tony Nichols



By agreeing to do his personal profile on the same day as Cheri's presentation, Tony Nichols, her dad, help to turn our morning into a family affair. Moving to a new country takes courage and so Cheri's must have been inherited from her grandparents who

arrived at Pier 21 in Halifax with baby Tony in tow and then again from her dad. He started off in school at West Toronto and ended up at Royal Roads Military College in Victoria B.C. then on to RMC in Kingston, graduating with a BSc and commissioned in the RCAF as a Flying Officer. Of interest to all our members, he was given his first promotion by the then Sq.Ldr. Don McNaughton in Gimli, and after 28 years service with the RCAF retired and given a send off by MGen. Don McNaughton.

From there Tony flew in the left seat as Captain in DC 8s, 747s, C 130 Hercules and did 13 years in National Defense Headquarters. In that period on a memorable 19 day trip around the world piloting a C 130 he was actually in 55 countries. As he put it, "lots of airports and lots of hotel rooms". He and his wife Jeannie of 49 years (yes he did marry a nurse he met on a blind date in 1962) have three children and five grandchildren. For 17 years prior to moving to Perth three years ago, the Nichols enjoyed cottage life close by. Like so many Probians Tony is active community member — at St. Paul's United Church, singing in their choir and serving on some committees. He also sings in the Men of the Tay.

## Lunch After April 3rd Meeting

@ the Stone Cellar, 71 Gore St. East.