



The Probian

from the Probus Club of Perth October 2017

The Speaker's Committee

The Speaker's Committee is responsible for seeking out the high-quality speakers that we enjoy each month. The Committee is chaired by David Farquharson: the members are Gardner Church, Brian O'Conner, Derek Cooke, Arlene Dickson and Gail Read.

At the June 2017 meeting, members of the Club were asked to complete a brief survey and suggest future subjects and speakers of interest to them. The Committee compiled the results and is exploring the potential for arranging for speakers in the future.

The Committee received suggestions from 30 members, with 27 specific speaker suggestions and 68 proposed topics. The most frequently mentioned topics were stories of local industries and employers, diplomats and others speaking on topical countries, indigenous peoples issues and concerns; local history, current public affairs and political issues, issues associated with mental health and trade and financial regulation.

The Speakers Committee is following up with nominated speakers, with potential speakers for subjects of interest and in some cases with the Probus members.

The Committee appreciates the thoughtful and sometimes creative suggestions. It once again illustrated the great depth of knowledge and interest held by Probian.

Coming Events:

Lunch after the November meeting: A no-host lunch will be held at **East Meets West** following the November Meeting.

Nov. 2 Dinner Theatre: Take a trip down memory lane with the Marvellous Marvellettes at Studio Theatre. This is a fundraiser for YAK. Tickets \$30. Dinner at Michael's Table at **5 pm Thursday, Nov. 2**. Showtime 7:30 pm at Studio Theatre.

The Christmas Dinner/Dance will be held at the Lions Hall on **Thursday, Dec. 14**, at 5:30 pm. Features glazed ham dinner and the return of "Touch of Class" (Simon Clark, ex-"Freddie and the Dreamers.") Information and tickets will be available at the November meeting. Cost: \$36/person.

Robbie Burns Dinner/Dance: Plan to be at this event at the Legion on Jan 20, 2018. Details to follow next month.

November Speaker:

The November speaker will be a resident of Perth, **James Bartleman**, career diplomat, author, and former Lt. Governor of Ontario. His writings include memoirs of growing up as a First Nations member in Muskoka, memoirs of his professional career, and three social justice novels.

For more information visit the Club's website at www.probusperth.ca
The Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month, at 10:00 am, (coffee/social time at 9:30) at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, 26 Beckwith St., Perth.
Visitors from other Probus Clubs and guests of members are welcome to attend.

2017/18 Membership Fees: Your 2017/18 Membership Fees are due now (\$25 per person). Members who have not paid by December 1 will be struck from the list of members. Please give your cheque, payable to The Probus Club of Perth, to the Treasurer, or mail it to the Club at Box 20131, Perth, ON, K7H 3M6

Sept 30th (Sat) Fall Trip to Oktoberfest in Ladysmith, Quebec – Mary Kilgour reports that 45 members enjoyed a great trip. Some were disappointed that there were not all of the German costumes and music that they would have liked. Many enjoyed the tractor and truck pull, some for the first time. We were blessed with beautiful weather, We also enjoyed a drive up the main street of Shawville with some personal stories from our own tour guide, Mary.



Ruth and Ray Fortune enjoy a dance at Oktoberfest.

John Byers presented his personal profile. John is a resident of Perth, having migrated from Ottawa (where he was born). After attending university (Carleton and McMaster) he ventured into the automotive junk yard business, and then, in the early 1980's, into computer programming, which led to a 30-year career in the information technology industry. A brush with Revenue Canada after the crash of '87 led him to a lawyer in Perth (Jocelyn Gordon). They were married in '93. John then commuted to Ottawa to work until his retirement.



Bruce Di Labio

Membership: The Club has 178 members as of the October meeting. However, the membership will likely decline when those who have not paid for 2017/18 are struck off the list. **Please welcome the following new members who joined in October:**

- Frank and Jean Hirst
- Dale and Susan Lingard
- Deloros Davis
- Geoff Stimpson
- Leonard Modderman

Bruce Di Labio spoke on the birds of Eastern Ontario, past and present. Our area is located on a major flyway that goes from Hudsons Bay to the Atlantic, which accounts in part for the large number of unusual birds seen in our area. There are over 460 types of birds that frequent the area. He illustrated many of them with vibrant pictures, and discussed the impact of habitat changes (good and bad). A lively question period followed the presentation.

Contacts: President David Batchelor (613-264-1559), Vice-President Craig Greenwood (613-267-4694), Special Events Mary Kilgour (613-264-0024 and 613-264-6244), Newsletter Bill Kennedy (613-207-0037), Webmaster Colin Stephenson (613-264-2609).