



**THE PROBUS CLUB
OF PERTH**

P. O. Box 20131,
Perth, Ontario
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www.probusperth.ca
 Probus meets the first
Wednesday of each month,
Sept. to June.

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Apropos

With all the myriad of interesting groups and organizations a retired person can join and volunteer for in the greater Perth area, where does Probus fit? Is there anything special about Probus? Our National President, Steve Campbell from Moncton N.B. really nailed it. Realizing that our members contribute to our community as individuals and as part of other organizations he stated as follows:

“ Probus is a refuge from those who would have our support for a cause, including political and religious, and from anyone who would promote a program or *product*. *The key issue is no Probus member should, as a Probus member, be put in a position of having to comply with or refuse requests for money or political or religious support for a cause no matter how worthy the cause may be. We shouldn't have to say 'yes' or 'no'.* This basic principle, together with our notions of fellowship and remaining connected to the world through our speakers, is the underpinning of Probus.”

David O'Blenis Takes Us On An African Safari



Lt. General (Ret'd) David O'Blenis, CMM, CD, Legion of Merit, had a distinguished career in the RCAF ultimately commanding Canada's fighter and surveillance forces, then becoming Deputy Commander of NORAD. Following his retirement from the military he served in a variety of senior corporate positions becoming the Executive Chairman of Allen Vanguard Ltd., a Canadian Company specializing in counter terrorism equipment, retiring in 2010. Today he serves as the President of the Smith Falls Flying Club and Chief Flying Instructor of the Russ Beach Airport Flying School — he delights in teaching young and old how to fly.

But, with all this background, his presentation to us showed us another side, another talent, that of photographer. He and his wife Loreen took us on an amazing safari in four sites in Kenya and two in

Tanzania. They had great praise for a company called Monogram who made all the arrangements for their trips. They gave us a window into the way in which so much of the economies of these areas depend on tourism and the great differences between how you live in the special areas devoted to tourist accommodation and the way most Africans do.

What riveted our attention were the magnificent pictures of African wild life. Antelopes, zebras, giraffes, elephants, lions, tigers, birds, cheetahs, gazelles, hyenas, water buffaloes, crocodiles, impalas, Cape buffalo, ostriches, jackals, willobys, and pictures of overwhelming beauty of landscapes, mountains, Mt. Kilimanjaro, and breathtaking sunsets. There were many pictures of the different peoples and tribes they met — beautiful and proud people who still live on and treasure the land. Of course cities like Nairobi are chaotic by our standards, and the roads sometimes little more than pathways, but due to good guides, well maintained vehicles and good radio connections, safety was never an issue. A rule on safari is that you do not leave your vehicle.

We learned much about the habits and lives of both the native tribes and animals. In our North American society still struggling with the equality of the sexes, it was amusing to be told that male lions do not hunt, the females do it for them. For sheer enjoyment, David and Loreen's time with us was a great way to begin our fall season.

Special Future Events



- **September 27** – Peterborough Lift Lock Lunch Cruise. Tour the world's highest hydraulic lift lock and part of the Trent-Severn Waterway. Price is \$96.50 including transportation, morning coffee break, Lift Lock Cruise, lunch, admission to the museum, all taxes. [Details.](#)
- **Fall** – local dinner theatre event will likely be scheduled.
- **December 6** – Christmas Party at Lion's Hall, with appetizers and drinks from 6-7, dinner 7-8, and dancing 8-10. Music 6-7 and 8-10 is by "[Touch of Class](#)" which is described as 'A self-contained tribute to the 50/60/70's featuring multi-instrumentalist Simon Clark, ex-"Freddie and the Dreamers"'. This is a repeat performance by popular request.

Management Team Notes



- Fees for 2013-14 are now due. Please fill out the renewal form attached to the Summer edition and send it together with your cheque to Probus Box 20131, Perth, Ont., K7H 3M6. The renewal form is also available on our website at www.probusperth.ca/membership.htm.

Speakers' Corner



George Addy, our October speaker, has already had a distinguished career as a lawyer specializing in trade and investment issues. He is a senior partner of Ward Phillips & Vineberg, a former head of the Canadian Competition Bureau, later

Executive VP and Chief General Council for TELUS. He is sought after by Canadian and foreign-based clients in relation to mergers, acquisitions and joint ventures as they are impacted by regulations for foreign investment in Canada. With investment in Canada now coming from far away countries like China, India and the Middle East, we are fortunate to have a speaker who can give us an expanded appreciation of this important area.

Quote for the Month

“One way of examining our dynamics and how they might be changed is to ask ourselves what is it that we reward and punish in our society.”

John Raulston Saul, 'The Unconscious Civilization' p. 183

Lunch After October 2nd Meeting

@ “Around the Corner” – 40 Foster Street

Personal Profile ~ Jim Gilmour

Starting a new season, it was helpful to have our new President, Jim Gilmour, give the personal profile.



Here is the story of a young engineering student marrying in his final year, then going on to graduate and post doctoral work all in metals technology. This all led to many years' service in metallurgical research at Energy Mines and Resources (now Natural Resources Canada) working on materials for the hydrofoil program, H.M.C.S. Bras d'Or, stress corrosion testing of steels

for our heavy-water plants, and weld corrosion of icebreakers. Then he moved into various management roles. Jim has a delightfully dry sense of humour, never taking himself too seriously. This was evident as he described the change of management in 1993 that allowed him to take early retirement in 1994.

During these years he and Mary had two daughters and now have one granddaughter. They came to the Perth area by buying 100 acres north west of Watson's Corners in 1974, initially having a small cabin in the woods, adding another 200 acres and then building their retirement home years later. Not only is Jim active in Probus, he has been involved in the Stewardship Council of Lanark County, the Eastern Ontario Model Forest, and the Eastern Ontario Certified Forest Owners, and produced maple syrup for over 20 years drawing sap from 675 taps.

AGM Notes

- The financial report included in the Summer Probian was accepted and Don Sherwin, Treasurer, and Don McNaughton, Financial Reviewer were both thanked and re-appointed.
- The new slate of officers, as proposed in the Summer edition, was elected and is shown below:



Management Team 2013-14

Don Sherwin (Treasurer), David Farquharson (Program), Don McDiarmid (Membership), Jim Gilmour (President), Jean Crowley (Vice-President), Richard Thomson (Past President), Mary Kilgour (Special Events), Dan Murphy (former Past President), David Alcock (Secretary), Missing Colin Stephenson (Webmaster & Probian Editor)