



Ganaraska Currents
**GANARASKA VALLEY
 PROBUS CLUB**



Our Newsletter

March 2008

Volume 2 Number 3

CONGRATULATIONS

50-50 winners!

28 Feb – John Wright

won \$36.00

13 Mar – Betty Watson

won \$24.00

APRIL CREW

Caterers:

Captain.....Anita Cotter

10 Apr....Marion & Frank
 Griffin
 John Kurowski

24 Apr.....Rosalie & Willy
 Jakobi
 Ken Tancock

If unavailable please find a
 substitute or call

905-885-7443

Greeters:

10 Apr.....Felicity Corelli
 Felicity King

24 Apr.....Muriel & Ross
 Cornelius

If unavailable please find a
 substitute or call

905-797-2555 or
905-885-2368

**EMAIL
 NEWSLETTER**

If you would like to have
 your very own website
 style newsletter in full
colour emailed to you in
pdf format, email or
 phone the editor.

Contact info:

905-885-1594

georgegrimes@kos.net

PATSY CLINE TRIBUTE
 at the
CAPITOL THEATRE



"SWEET DREAMS" a tribute to **Patsy Cline** at the **Capitol Arts Centre** was a great success. On February 23rd, twenty-nine of our members enjoyed a wonderful concert performed by **Leisa Way** and her band. Leisa Way has enjoyed a 25 year career that has taken her to countries all over the world and she certainly sang her heart out for the performance. After the show our group had coffee and desserts upstairs in the new conference room and Leisa came by for a while to chat with us. We thank Leisa for being so gracious and kudos go to **Uwe Meyer** and **Louise Weldon** at the Capitol Theatre who helped make our event very enjoyable and problem free.
 By Joan O'Grady.

**ALMA DRAPER
 wins civic awards**

Congratulations to **Alma Draper** for winning civic awards for community service from both Port Hope and Cobourg.



Don Morrison presents a Lloyd Stinson Memorial Award to Alma Draper.

Alma was honoured for her civic contributions including the breakfast program at Terry Fox School, work with Northumberland Film Sundays and the Vintage Film Festival, volunteering at the Cobourg Public Library and Port Hope's Capitol Theatre, membership in the **Probus Club** and the Northumberland Hills Hospital auxiliary, and as organizer of Northumberland's Biggest Coffee Mornina. Well done, Alma!

**WELCOME to the new and improved,
 bigger and better Ganaraska Currents!**

The newsletter was first improved at the start of the new year with a new masthead featuring our new name, "Ganaraska Currents," and now, with this issue, it is expanding to **FOUR PAGES** for the first time as news of importance for club members grows in volume.

Generally speaking, the first two pages review speakers and activities that have already occurred while the third page brings news about upcoming events so that club members can learn about these activities in order to choose and to sign up for them in a timely manner. News of upcoming speakers will be grouped together with reviews of past speakers, however, for the readers' convenience. And finally some photos and jokes. Enjoy.

The Channel Islands During WWII



The 28 February speaker was **Jeanette Etter** who is a member of the Port Hope Probus Club. She was born in the Channel Islands off the coast of France and she gave an illustrated talk describing the German occupation of these islands during World War II. These seven islands were the only part of the British Isles to be invaded and occupied by the German army during the war. The occupation lasted from 30 June 1940 until the Liberation on 9 May 1945. Her photographs showed the peaceful, rural landscape of the islands before the arrival of the Germans as well as the changes that were brought by the German occupiers such as anti-aircraft gun bunkers and a seawall along what was once a beautiful, open beach. Jeanette and her family did their best to live as well as they could under harsh conditions. Her father, for example, developed a method of fishing that would camouflage what he was doing as he kept an eye open for German patrols. When the islands were finally liberated, the British troops captured the German occupiers and delivered much needed supplies from Canada.

APRIL SPEAKERS

10 Apr. Elizabeth Kellogg, born and raised in Port Hope, is best known for her contributions to the Port Hope Field Naturalists, Friends of Music and her columns in the Port Hope Evening Guide. Her talk will be on her experiences with banding birds. She will answer questions about bird life.

24 Apr. Heather Mackinnon has a background in fine arts and landscape design and her passion is gardening as well as history and politics. Her talk will be on Islamic gardens.

NOT FEELING SO WELL...

One of our members is currently in **Northumberland Hills Hospital (905-372-6811)** and would like to hear a kind word of encouragement from his friends:

Don Ballantyne – extension 2204

Don is undergoing testing and will be in the hospital for several weeks.

Richard Looye was also recently in the hospital for testing, but is now recuperating at home. So give them a call or a visit to pick up their spirits and to let them know that we are thinking about them.

BOWLING UPDATE

The ten club members listed below had a great time on 3 March when we met with nine members of the Port Hope Probus Club for a fun afternoon of bowling. The scores below show how well we did. The first score is for our best game and the second score is for a total of three games:

Ken O'Neill	204	602
Marshall Johnstone	248	565
Wilson Caudion	184	495
Kathy Wallace	231	484
John Wright	163	407
Betsy Wright	144	403
John Kurowski	129	336
George Grimes	104	293
Georgina Rose	146	288
Marilynn Dunne	100	276

We were not competing against the Port Hope club. In fact, we were mixed together with them on a number of teams. But it is interesting to note that the highest total Port Hope score was 462 and the lowest total Port Hope score was 234. So we are in no danger of inheriting the toilet seat award just yet.

If you would like to join us, our next afternoon of bowling will be at 1:30 PM on Monday, 7 April, at Northumberland Lanes in the Northumberland Mall in Cobourg. Shoes cost 50 cents and three games of bowling cost \$8.00. See you there...

CANADA and the UNDERGROUND RAILROAD



The 13 March speaker, **Larry Hall**, is the great grandson of a fugitive slave who came to Canada on the Underground Railroad and his presentation was entitled "What Does It Mean To Own Yourself?" Mr. Hall was born in Toronto and raised in Garden Hill and his family can be traced back to a life of slavery in North Carolina. His great grandfather came to Canada on the underground railroad and settled in Montreal. Mr. Hall described why and how the institution of slavery operated in the United States and the effects that slavery had on both the slaves and the slave owners. He also pointed out that there was slavery in Canada because the United Empire Loyalists brought slaves with them. Port Hope's founder, Elias Smith brought two slaves with him when he landed in Montreal, but they ran away. The court did not support Smith in his slave ownership thus establishing Montreal as a place of freedom for slaves. This was before slavery was legally abolished in the rest of Canada and the British Empire. He showed a DVD that described the lives of the fugitive slaves in Canada. Both the spoken and the visual presentations were very informative and interesting.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SWING INTO SPRING FLING

Spring Fling is the annual gathering of all fourteen District 1 Probus Clubs. This year it will be hosted by the Port Hope Probus Club and will be held at the Jack Burger Sports Complex on Highland Drive in Port Hope on Wednesday, 28 May, from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM. There will be a catered **luncheon**, musical **entertainment** and **door prizes**. **Marina Nemat**, author of *Prisoner Of Tehran*, will speak about *The Power of Love in the Face of Evil and Injustice*. Tickets can be purchased for \$28.00 by cheque at any of our regular meetings beginning in April.

Welcome Spring in the company of five hundred fellow Probians!

Rendezvous 2008

The annual Canadian Probus Club Conference takes place in **Saint John, New Brunswick** this fall.

- **Thursday, Sept. 25th.** Everyone meets at the Maritime Kitchen Welcome Party.
- **Friday, Sept. 26th.** Morning workshop followed by sightseeing and Lobster Supper at Lily Lake.
- **Saturday, Sept. 27th.** Morning workshop followed by sightseeing and Closing Gala and Dinner.

A **coach**, hired and driven by **Bill Minion** of the Port Hope Probus Club, will **leave Port Hope on Sept. 24th**, stopping **overnight in Quebec City**. After three days in St. John, the coach will return home stopping **overnight in Burlington, Vermont**, (passports required) **arriving home on Sept. 29th**. Other transportation arrangements may be made on an individual basis.

Total cost for the six-day trip is \$742.66, per person, double occupancy, including the Port Hope Club coach, although payment must be made in these three ways:

1. To Port Hope Probus Club the amount of **\$319.00 no later than June 30th** (\$50.00 down payment) Includes coach to St. John and both en route hotels as well as tours while in St. John. Call **Bill Minion** at **905-342-3264** to arrange to make this payment. His email address is billminion@airnet.ca. 42 of the 54 coach seats have already been taken, so book soon if you plan to travel on this bus. This payment will not be made if other transportation is arranged individually.

2. To Rendezvous 2008 the amount of **\$205.00** per person **no later than Aug. 24th**. Includes Registration (\$100.00), the Kitchen Party, the Lobster Dinner (\$45.00) and the Closing Gala (\$60.00). All persons attending must mail a **cheque** with their **registration form**. Other options on the registration are at your own discretion. The Port Hope Club bus will go on sightseeing tours chosen by the group traveling in the bus at no extra cost.

3. To the St. John Hilton the amount of **\$218.66** on check-out, per person for a double room, 3 nights September 25 – 27. **Reservations: 1-800-561-8282**. Other accommodations, single or upgraded, for example, are extra. Check for the early bird special offer. Rooms have been booked at the Hilton for people traveling on the Port Hope Probus Club coach.

OTTAWA TULIP FESTIVAL



Joan O'Grady is planning a one day bus trip to Ottawa for club members to view the tulips. 40 seats will be available for this trip. The cost will be \$60.00 per person plus meals. The exact date is not yet known, but will be confirmed after April 17th. It will be on a weekday between May 2nd and the 15th. Talk to Joan if you have any further questions.

OUR SUMMER PICNIC



Our club management committee will sponsor a catered club picnic from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM on July 24th at the Ganaraska Forest Centre. This event will be in place of our regular Thursday meeting. The only cost will be \$5.00 worth of 50/50 tickets. Guests will pay \$10.00. The catered lunch will include hotdogs, hamburgers and picnic salads. Due to liability issues, alcoholic beverages will not be permitted. There will be no rain date because we will have access to the indoor gym and the outdoor shelter. Bring your own folding chairs and have a great time in the warm summer weather with your club friends.

Thanks to our...



Greeters



50/50 collectors



Caterers



Speaker introducers

The Last Laugh

Only in Canada...

...do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway and put our useless junk in the garage...

Only in Canada...

...do we buy hot dogs in packages of 12 and buns in packages of 8...

Only in Canada...

...do we use answering machines to screen calls and then have call waiting so we won't miss a call from someone we didn't want to talk to in the first place...

Only in Canada...

...do we use the word "politics" to describe the process so well, "Poli" in Latin meaning many and "tics" meaning bloodsucking creatures...

Only in Canada...

...is the Senate of Canada sustained by protocol, alcohol and Geritol...

Only in Canada...

...do people order double cheese burgers, large fries, and a diet coke...

Thanks to Barb Tiffin.