



# THE PRO-BUZZ

May 2012

## LOOKING BACK

On May 12, 2012, Northumberland Probus will celebrate its 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Looking back on the Club's origins, the picture below, taken on April 20, 2000, shows the first Management Committee. More birthday celebration news will be featured in the next Pro-Buzz issue.



*Front Row:* Ron Templer (Chairperson), Gwen Darling (Secretary), Ella Chambers (Membership), William Nason (Newsletter), and Bob Reid (Photographer)

*Middle Row:* Don Murray (Vice Chair), Rus Donaldson (President, Probus Club of Cobourg), Roy Thorneycroft (Social & 50/50), Ron Coleman (Treasurer), and Bill Moore (President, Rotary Club of Cobourg)

*Back Row:* Tim Hope (Technical Support), Errol Markle (House Liaison), Charles Van Dusen (Speakers), and Ross Adams (Past President, Rotary Club of Cobourg)

*Absent:* Allan Levitt (Speakers), John McDougal (Publicity/Correspondence)

*Submitted by: Errol Markle*



## **THINGS YOU MAY OR MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT PROBUS**

The first Probus Club in North America was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Galt in Cambridge, Ontario, in 1987.

Probus Northumberland was sponsored by the Probus Club of Cobourg, as well as the Rotary Club of Cobourg which gave our Club a start-up fund of \$500.

The Northumberland Probus Club became the 106th Probus Club in Canada.

There are over 4000 Probus Clubs around the world with over 300,000 members.

With the recent addition of five new members identified below, our Club membership now stands at 193. This includes honorary members Millie Hill, Harold Coward and Fred Wilson as well as life members Ron and Verna Templer.

Probus Clubs worldwide are not service organizations and are non-sectarian and non-political.

Probus Clubs are formed to provide social events and schedule speakers to keep members up-to-date with community issues and ongoing activities.

Lindsay, Ontario has a newly established Probus Club – FOR WOMEN ONLY!

Probus has a song, appropriately called *The Probus Song*, written by George Main.

On April 27, 2012, the Probus Canada Board of Directors held its Annual General Meeting in Toronto. Peter Boyle, from Ontario District 1 was named President.

The Probus Canada website is [www.probus.org/canada.htm](http://www.probus.org/canada.htm). Brian Kirkwood, web page publisher, reminds Probus members that they can access lots of useful information on this website.

The website for all of the Probus Clubs in Northumberland County is [www.probusnorthumberland.com](http://www.probusnorthumberland.com). You can retrieve past issues of Pro-Buzz at this site.

### **NOTES OF INTEREST**

*Five new members who have been inducted into our Club recently are Jack and Ev Reid, Trevor McDowell, Gary Bennett, and Gladys DeLong.*

*FOR SALE: A lady's Probus vest plus a long sleeved white Probus sweater, both sized small. Please see Ted McDonald or contact him at (905) 885-4764.*

*FREE: Ink for Lexmark (cartridge #32) and Canon (cartridge #PIXMA 225) printers. Please see Jamie Doolittle.*



## **NIAGARA FALLS 2012**

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, fourteen of us set off for Niagara Falls. We noticed, as we got closer to St. Catherines, that the trees were greener than in Cobourg, and when we arrived in Niagara Falls the tulips and daffodils were in full bloom. We had dinner that night at Coco's Restaurant in the Holiday Inn and afterwards several of us went across the road to the Fallsview Casino. The casino is huge, with hundreds of slot machines, plus poker and blackjack tables.



After breakfast at the hotel the next morning, everyone did their own thing. The activities included golf, visiting Niagara-on-the-Lake or the Butterfly Conservatory, wine tasting, walking to the Falls, shopping at the Outlet Mall or in the States, and of course, there was the casino. That evening, we met at the Skylon for dinner. It was a perfect, clear night for viewing the Falls and the surrounding area. Most of us ordered the French onion soup and prime rib of beef which were excellent.

Thursday, our departure day, was beautiful with temperatures that reached 22 degrees. We all met at Coco's for breakfast, then made the best of the time we had left before beginning our journey home.

The one disappointment was that the pool, hot tub and sauna area was closed for most of our stay, due to a leaking roof.

All in all, we had a great time and the weather was perfect. The \$345.68 per couple was well worth it – the only extras were gratuities at the Skylon and Coco's Restaurant.

*Submitted by: Jan Lundbohm*

## **STANDING 'O' FOR OKLAHOMA**

Rogers' and Hammerstein's first official collaboration in 1943, Oklahoma, is a very lively show and was very well presented by VOS and the orchestra, which was small yet excellent. Blue sky, fluffy clouds and golden cornfields made a lovely backdrop for 27 talented players singing the well-known and loved songs. The choreography was masterfully performed, each scene change was efficient, and there was even a "surrey with a fringe on top". The varied personalities were convincingly portrayed and enhanced by the choice of costumes.

The finale, with the entire cast on stage singing and dancing, brought the show to a lively end!

*Submitted by: Janet Burgess*



## WAR HORSE

With a bus filled to capacity, 56 of us motored to downtown Toronto to the Princess of Wales Theatre on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> to see the much anticipated production of War Horse.

The absolute madness of war, the remarkable friendship between a boy and his horse, the extreme puppetry by elite athletes, all join forces to create a unique stage production.

War Horse is set during World War I, based on the book of the same name by Michael Morpurgo. The stage production follows the life of Joey, a horse once owned by Albert Narracott. As they both go to war, we experience the desperation that only war can bring, and yet the humanity of individuals shines through. We all know that the puppets are not real, but we also know that the tears that we shed are, and this is a testament to the puppeteers' skills.

These, to us, are living, breathing animals taking us on a whirlwind of emotions which run the gamut. The swallows that fly, the goose that attacks anyone in its way, the interaction as the players and horse come into the audience, all make for a unique experience. Throw in a loving mother, a drunkard father, discord with the neighboring relatives and we have all the elements of a production filled with frailties and strengths.

After the show, we proceeded to the Mandarin Restaurant in Pickering for a sumptuous buffet which we all enjoyed immensely. The consensus of the day seemed to be that this was one of the best outings that Verna Templer has ever organized.

*Submitted by Gary Bennett*

## THE LUNCH BUNCH

Twenty-five of our members met at the Matterhorn after our April 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. The menu consisting of schnitzel, spatzl and salad was wonderful as usual. There was lots of friendly banter and laughter – all in all, a delightful outing.

*Submitted by: Marcie, Doris & Vivian*



*I felt like my body had gotten totally out of shape, so I got my doctor's permission to join a fitness club and start exercising. I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour, but by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over.*



## COMING EVENTS

### **SOCIAL** by Verna Templer

July 20<sup>th</sup> Queen Marie - 4<sup>th</sup> Line Theatre: This is the story of Cobourg's Marie Dressler. Make your cheque for \$27.50 payable to Probus Northumberland. Please make arrangements for your own transportation.

July 27<sup>th</sup> Julie & Friends on Broadway - Westben: A medley of songs sung by Julie Andrews in Mary Poppins, Camelot, My Fair Lady, Sound of Music, etc. Cost is approximately \$30.00. You must provide your own transportation.

**Coming Soon ...** Based on the overwhelming success of War Horse, we are planning more bus trips to Toronto over the next year. Stay tuned for details.

Oct/Nov. 2012 Sister Act - theatre TBA

Jan/Feb. 2013 Wizard of Oz (new edition) - theatre TBA

May/June 2013 The Book of Mormon - theatre TBA

### **THE LUNCH BUNCH** by Marcie, Doris & Vivian

May 24<sup>th</sup> Swiss Chalet

June 28<sup>th</sup> Picnic in the Park

Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> Oasis

### **THE SPEAKER'S CORNER** by Anne Grant

May 10<sup>th</sup> Breakfast - Barry Hollis and his Band

May 24<sup>th</sup> Trevor McDowell - Avro Arrow

June 14<sup>th</sup> No Speaker - Round Table Discussions

June 28<sup>th</sup> No Speaker - Picnic in the Park

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