



The ProBuzz



Newsletter of the PROBUS Club of Northumberland – February 2015

JANUARY 8TH MEETING The Shelter of Hope



Elizabeth McKinley introduced by Errol Markle

Elizabeth McKinley, the Manager of The Shelter of Hope, gave a heartwarming review of the activities of The Shelter starting with a brief review of its history beginning in 2003, the growth of the facility and their plans for the future which include a larger play area for the dogs, and isolation room for new arrivals as well as making the building and grounds wheelchair accessible.

Of particular interest, she described the set-up for caring for both dogs and cats. The Shelter is well designed to allow the cats to be socialized and able to go outside if they wish. The dogs are exercised regularly by volunteers who are able to walk them safely on the pathways developed throughout the property.

Her talk would not have been complete without telling of a few of their many successes; stories of the dogs Arthur and Ewok, and Thor and Alfie, rescued cats, among others. Many of these animals required expensive emergency medical care on arrival. Ms. McKinley stressed that much of this care would not have happened without the generous donations they receive from the public. As well as donations, she explained how their major source of funding is received from the four municipalities which the Shelter serves.

She concluded her presentation by answering questions from the floor and added that the Shelter is also well supported by the local pet stores and that they are always looking for clean old towels and blankets as well.

~ Nancy Logan

JANUARY 22ND MEETING Another McGeachy Miracle !



Not only did Maura McGeachy prepare and cook the haggis from a recently discovered recipe found on papyrus hidden in a sarcophagus alongside King Tut's Tomb, but our Robbie Burns celebration also featured a world-wide literary premiere in Archie's rendition of the Scottish bard's "Address to a Haggis."

Few among us, whose spirits had soared as Bill Ruttie piped in the "great chieftain o the puddin'-race", recognised that Archie was giving the very first ever anywhere recitation of the address in Esperanto. This breakthrough in bringing Burns' famed work to an even larger worldwide audience was possible through the work of our own Barry Hollis, who'd made the Esperanto project his New Year's Resolution.

"I thought it was about time someone took this on," said Hollis, who was unable to be present, having fallen into a well-earned stupor after finishing the translation only minutes before the Probus meeting began. *"I'd started at the beginning of The Complete Poetical Work and didn't get to page 264 until Wednesday morning. But I had to carry on without sleep as I knew Archie depended on me."*

And there was yet more Scottish culture on the menu after Harry Nash had carried in the haggis and he and Bill and Archie – all kilts and sporrans – had each downed a dram which was, in fact, apple juice. For as our meeting lurched to a close, Harry gave us a reading from *The Moon*, by William Topaz McGonagall, generally regarded as the world's greatest bad poet. *"I felt perhaps we should have a McGonagall Day as well as a Burns Day,"* Harry said.

~ Michael Hanlon

**Welcome New Members
Inducted on February 8th**



Susan Vivian sponsored by Mary Wilson



Joan Wilkinson sponsored by Verna Templer



**Sue Davies sponsored by
Brenda Larsen and Patricia Noble.**



**Doug Davies sponsored by
Brenda Larsen and Patricia Noble**

Membership Address Changes

**Gord & Dianne Graham
803 Lees Avenue
Cobourg K9A 0G4
289-252-0418
(same e-mail)**

Valentine's Day Quiz
(answers at the back)



1. What is the most popular way of saying "Be Mine" on Valentine's Day? Flowers, cards or candy?
2. What fruit is known as the "Love Apple"?
3. What % of flowers bought on Valentine's Day are bought by men? 65%, 75%, 92% ?
4. Between girlfriends, wives, mothers and teachers who receives the most cards?
5. What colour M&M is considered to be an aphrodisiac?
6. Including children, how many Valentines are bought each year in North America? 700 million, 900 million, 1 billion, 2 billion?
7. Valentine's Day is the largest card giving day of the year. True or false?
8. How much does the average North American spend on Valentine's Day? \$50, \$75, \$100+?
9. What percent of women send themselves flowers on Valentine's Day?
10. What percent of pet owners give their pets a gift on Valentine's Day?
11. How many different cards does Hallmark make for Valentine's Day? 1100, 1250, 1310, 1330?
12. How many boxes of chocolate were sold for Valentine's Day last year? 17 million, 24 million, 32 million, or 38 million?
13. What country began the tradition? England, Italy, France, or Ireland?
14. An ancient Celtic tradition was giving what item with a carved heart on it? Jewel box, wooden spoon, signet ring?
15. In what Shakespeare play is St. Valentine's Day mentioned? Romeo & Juliette, Midsummer's Night Dream, or Hamlet?

Presqu'ile Accreditation



Past President Jamie Doolittle, on behalf of President Lynn Ramsey, presents Liz Riel, President of the PROBUS Club of Presqu'ile with their accreditation certificate issued by PROBUS Canada.

NEED A RIDE?



If you need a ride to a meeting or event, please call Brian or Doreen Scott at (905) 377-0103 and they will arrange to have you picked up and returned home.

**★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!**

**MAY BIRTHDAY PARTY &
BREAKFAST---OOPS!**

Sorry to have given you the wrong date for this celebration. Due to a variety of reasons the event will be on Thursday, May 14, 2015.

Tickets and more details will be available in March

~Jamie Doolittle

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH
ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 28TH.
IF YOU CAN SEND IT SOONER IT IS MUCH
APPRECIATED. THANKS FOR YOUR
COOPERATION AS ALWAYS.**

SOCIAL CALENDAR

Drinkin' Alone

As this report goes to press, tickets are still being sold for the Dinner Theatre at the Best Western on Friday, January 30th. Many thanks to Marg Hannah for managing the event again this year.

Les Miserables

Northumberland Players are presenting the above performance at the Capitol Theatre in Port Hope from the 27th of February to the 8th of March. Cost of tickets is between \$27.25 to \$32.00 per person. Tickets can be purchased at the box-office or on-line.

Dame Edna

Ten tickets are available for Sunday, April 12, 2015 at 2 p.m. This production will take place at the Royal Alexandra Theatre at a cost of \$130. Dinner at the Mandarin Restaurant is included in the price. *Our Probus meeting on February 12th is the deadline for payment.* Cheques are payable to Probus Northumberland. This trip has been opened up to other Probus Club members as well as friends and family. Please contact Jan Lundbohm for information about this hilarious performance, and/or ticket sales.

Saint Valentine's Day

Our celebration on February 12th will include wearing 'red', a social mixer involving Valentine cards, and a luncheon at The Mill Restaurant after the meeting. Lots of love to all our members!

Ideas for Trips and Events

Please let me know if you have any ideas for trips or events. My e-mail address is roslynn211@gmail.com. I would be very interested in hearing from you. More activities and fun events to be announced in February

~ Roslynn Cooke for Marilyn Csefko

Answers to Valentine Quiz

1. Flowers
2. Tomato
3. 65%
4. Teachers
5. Green
6. One billion
7. False, it's still Christmas
8. \$75
9. 15%
10. 3%
11. 1330
12. 38 million
13. England in 1537
14. Wooden spoon
15. Hamlet

SPEAKERS' CORNER.

February 12, 2015

Lynda Syrota
Canadian Red Cross

February 26, 2015

Mandy Robinson
Cobourg's new Town Crier

~ Harry Nash

LUNCH BUNCH

February 26, 2015

Boston Pizza,
Northumberland Mall, Cobourg

March 26, 2015

The Red Lantern
777 William Street, Cobourg

~ Marian Boys

SINGLES CLUB

Tuesday, February 17
The Rail Side, Port Hope

Wednesday, March 18, 2015
The Mill, Cobourg

~ Louise Baraclough



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Note: Past issues of Pro-Buzz are available at
<www.probusnorthumberland.com>