

PROBUS CLUB OF TRENT HILLS

OCTOBER 2013

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE ONE



*-Trent Hills Town Crier
Tom Kerr
-Keynote Speaker
Keith Stainton
-our information meeting
was well attended*

TRENT HILLS INFORMATION MEETING A RACING START

“Great Feedback from meeting attendees”

Nearly 100 people attended the “information meeting” on September 11th to learn about Probus, meet the steering committee and listen to Keith Stainton, guest speaker. Attendees were warmly received and favourably impressed by what they heard and saw. After about 30 minutes of background piano by Westben’s remarkable Brian Finley, Tom Kerr, Campbellford’s town crier proclaimed the meeting officially open. Ross Cotton then led in



the singing of our national anthem. For the next two hours representatives of sponsoring probus clubs from Brighton and Ganaraska Valley spoke, responded to questions and exchanged information over coffee with those in attendance. Several commented on the “happy buzz” throughout the audience. The registration table was busy. Sixty Probians are now on board with many others intent on joining at the October 9th Foundation Meeting. Those joining at that time will become “charter members” of the Probus Club of Trent Hills. The club’s first special event - a bus tour to the Trenton RCAF Base - planned for late October

was sold out in less than 24 hours.
Excitement is in the air.

Trent Hills Probus Club has received generous support!



The Rotary Club of Campbellford has provided \$400 in funding to match the \$200 the Brighton and Ganaraska Probus clubs each provided as sponsors. Steering Committee members Bill Hogle and Bob Bennett receive a cheque from Jim Ashman and Marion Fennel of the Rotary Club.

"We Have Liftoff"

Foundation Meeting Oct 9/13

Over 140 residents of Trent Hills and area crowded into the Auditorium at St. Johns United Church, Campbellford on October 9, 2013 to participate in an historic event, the Foundation Meeting for the Probus Club of Trent Hills. 120 charter members approved the Constitution and Bylaws and elected by acclamation an executive for 2013/2014 for the new Probus Club, the eighth such club in Northumberland County.

Jean Finkle, immediate past president, Brighton Probus Club chaired the business portion of the foundation meeting and quickly led the charter members through a series of motions to bring the local club into being. This now allows newly elected President Bill Hogle to submit an accreditation package to Probus Central to complete the formalities of establishing the club.

The meeting of October 9 was the culmination of 10 months of work by the local steering committee and sponsorship support by the Brighton Probus Club, Ganaraska Valley Probus Club and the Campbellford Rotary Club. Members of the steering committee commented that they were overwhelmed by the response to what was a fledgling idea only last January.



Jean Finkle - Past President Brighton Probus Club



Dennis Carter-Edwards - Keynote Speaker

Guest Speaker #1.

Dennis Carter-Edwards, Historian Emeritus for the Trent-Severn Waterway, was guest speaker number 1 in more ways than one. Mr. Carter-Edwards for 45 minutes captured the undivided attention of the 140 people who attended the first official meeting of the Probus Club of Trent Hills as he spoke about the history of Trent-Severn Waterway. Dennis' enthusiasm for his topic got his audience involved as he immediately established that he was going to do more than give a chronological history of the building of the Waterway. He connected events from the past to touchstones of today and challenged his audience to recall historic events that repeat themselves such as the establishment of Royal Commissions that seem to get few, if any, lasting results. Also, connecting the establishment of a temporary income tax to the building period of the Waterway created a buzz in the audience. Questions following his presentation showed a real interest and concern for the future of the Trent-Severn.

The bar for future speakers was set high on October 9. Art Linton who seeks out our guest speakers assures us that the quality of topic will continue. Don't miss Fairmile Cruisers - Warships in Campbellford presented by Professor Al Brunger on November 13.

Speakers

Dennis Carter-Edwards (October 9)

Historian Emeritus for the Trent Severn Waterway, Dennis will speak on the history, construction, and future of our beautiful Canal. His presentation covers all of this and more - a fascinating story.

Professor Alan Brunger (November 13)

What on earth is a Fairmile Cruiser? Professor Brunger will explain how these WW2 small ships came to be, how they served the United Kingdom during the war, and their connection to Campbellford.

Karen Cofield (January 8)

Several of our members attended a presentation by Karen at the July Brighton Meeting. We were so impressed that we invited her to speak to our club. Cofield Home Inspections is her business, and she will tell us about how important it is, especially when putting your house on the market, to have your home professionally inspected. You will enjoy her information and advice.

Probus Club of Trent Hills

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Fairmile Cruisers

Warships in Campbellford?



Photo taken by the late Frank Linton

Professor Alan Brunger of Trent University has a very interesting story to tell us about these Cruisers some of which were built just north of here in Orillia during the second world war.

In 1939, when the Canadian government began to gear up for the war effort, nobody was more ready than Orillia's Hunter Boats. They constructed a number of 112-foot, fast motor patrol boats of a class called "Fairmiles."

Substantial numbers of Fairmiles were built in Ontario (approx. 80) for the RCN. They were parcelled out to the various shipyards around the province, including Hunter Boat works in Orillia, Greavette, Grew, Minett-Shields.

The Fairmiles were taken out of Orillia down the Trent-Severn Canal.

They passed through Hastings and Campbellford on their way to Halifax.

*** Events ***

Wednesday October 23rd

Trenton Air Force Base Tour

Wednesday November 13th

Regular Meeting

Speaker: Alan Brunger

Wednesday December 11th

A meeting Christmas

Celebration

Wednesday, December 11th

New Event

RAPUNZEL

A naughty Panto at the

Stirling Theatre

(See next page for details)

NEW EVENT

STIRLING FESTIVAL THEATRE
NAUGHTY PANTO PRODUCTION
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11 - 8 PM

We have reserved a block of tickets just for Trent Hills Probus Club Members

Sign up now for your tickets and experience a memorable night of comedy

This is a drive yourself Event so you are free to make plans with friends for carpooling or dining out before the Theatre.

Cheques will be collected at the November Meeting.



A Christmas Celebration

Our Meeting on December 11 will celebrate the holiday season. The highlight of the get together will be entertainment by the **Campbellford Citizen's Choir**. The Choir led by Probus member Ross Cotton, will present a varied program of Christmas music and encourage you all to join in the singing of Christmas Carols.

It should be just the ticket to get you all into the Christmas spirit.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to fill two Management Positions and a number of committees. These are not difficult or time consuming positions as your steering committee has already done the start up work required for these positions.

Please make yourselves known to us at the next meeting if you are interested in becoming part of the organization team of this wonderful Club.

MEMBERS OF YOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Bill Hogle - President

Art Linton - Vice President

Alan Appleby - Secretary

Bob Bennett - Treasurer

Dave MacDougall - Communications Manager

Anne Linton - Events Manager

Meeting Manager - to be determined

Membership Manager - to be determined

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