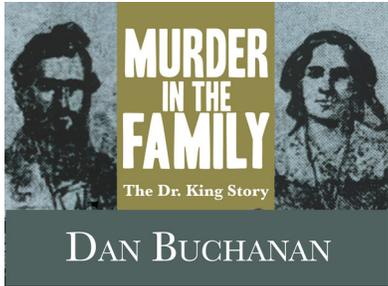


The ProBuzz



Newsletter of the PROBUS Club of Northumberland – October 2015



“It was a good hanging!”

That’s how Dan Buchanan, the author of “Murder in the Family”, described the execution, in 1859, when 10,000 people gathered at the corner of Elgin and Burnham to witness the last time a hanging took place in Cobourg.

In an energetic, lively presentation to over 100 members and guests attending on August 27th, Dan recounted the story of Dr. William H. King, a 26 year-old physician who was convicted of murdering his young wife, by administering lethal doses of arsenic, and then chloroform, while she was under his professional care. A jury had recommended mercy along with their guilty verdict, but the judge told Dr. King that he would “hang by the neck until you are dead”.

Dan Buchanan, in noting how you can pick your friends, but not your relatives, also explained his distant relationship to Dr. King, who was buried in the same yard where Dan played as a young boy. With his keen interest in history and genealogy, he was able to trace family lineage back through his mother, her father, then his mother (so Dan’s great-grandmother) who turned out to be the niece of Dr. King. And he also shared how his grandfather eventually destroyed the buried gravestone of Dr. King.

Thanks to Dan the story has not only been unearthed, but recorded in posterity in his new book, on sale now for \$24.99. As one member of the enraptured audience noted in the preamble to his question, maybe what Cobourg needs now is another “good hanging”.

~ Fred Luken

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“Sweet Charity”

Early on August 27, 2015, a bus filled with Probus members and guests left Cobourg for a day at Niagara-on-the-Lake, and a visit to the **Shaw Festival**. Jennie Herniak had organized an exceptional luncheon at Queen’s Landing Resort, where everything to see and do

was nearby. People enjoyed their meal, then browsed in shops, and walked to the theatre.

Sweet Charity

The performance of the musical, “**Sweet Charity**”, was wonderfully lively with dancing and fun. As by magic, the bus awaited us at the front door of the theatre. A swift stop was made at a local fruit market and then on to St. Catharine’s. At the Swiss Chalet we were expected and quickly served our supper. All this and then a smooth trip home to Cobourg. A good day!

~ Nan Orser

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.

Errol Markle (1930-2015)

When Errol’s Probus clothing was offered to our club members, we were gently reminded of a great gentleman and a founding member of our chapter. Errol passed away May 4th, 2015, in his 85th year. He was a dedicated Probian and was especially valued as a resource person, with his great knowledge of Probus history, both at the National and at the Club level. Errol, you are fondly remembered and sadly missed. Our sincerest condolences go out to Errol’s wife Ruth, and to their children, Errol Bruce and Deborah Anne.

~ Your many Northumberland Probus Friends

Marie Dressler (1869-1935)

Much to his surprise, Michael Hanlon was called upon to introduce Cathie Houston, the Chair of the Vintage Film Festival, our speaker for September 10th. This festival, which is run by an 11-member committee, is an annual venture of the **Marie Dressler Foundation**. The vintage film group was formed in 1992 to save and preserve the Marie Dressler House, and to provide scholarships to deserving students.

Marie Dressler, born Leila Marie Koerber in 1869, became one of the great Hollywood movie stars of her time. Her heritage home on King Street, Cobourg, now houses a small museum of artifacts about her life and career. After comedic roles on the Broadway stage, and a successful start in silent movies, she was contracted by MGM to perform in talkies and was described as the



Number One film performer until her death at age 65.

Though clearly no classic beauty, Dressler was widely respected for her fine acting ability and she won the Oscar for "Best Actress" in 1930-31 for her role in "Min and Bill", co-starring with Wallace Beery.

One of Marie Dressler's films is now shown at the Vintage Film Festival ever other year.

~ Ron Sargent & Ossie Tee

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Vintage Film Festival

Movies you haven't seen since you were courting, even some that may have charmed your parents in their youth. The cinematic feast that is the Marie Dressler Foundation Vintage Film Festival was set before us by its committee chair, long-time Universal Pictures executive, Cathie Houston, at our September 10th meeting.

Using stills and film clips, as well as Hollywood reminiscences, Cathie extolled the magic of early cinema, particularly when shared with an audience in a crowded movie theatre.

This year's festival, which opens at Cobourg's Victoria Hall Friday, Oct. 23, and then moves to Port Hope's Capitol Theatre for two days of screenings, features 12 films, two of them silent, with live piano accompanists.

The program includes "Babes in Toyland" (1935), with Laurel and Hardy; "The Picture of Dorian Gray" (1945); "Gulliver's Travels" (1939), the second full-length animated film ever created (after Disney's Snow White); Orson Welles's "The Magnificent Ambersons"; the musical "The Band Wagon" (1953), with Fred Astaire and Cyd Charisse; Vittorio De Sica's "The Bicycle Thieves".

Sunday is devoted to the works of the great director John Ford, with screenings of "Bucking Broadway", a silent film from 1917; "Judge Priest" (1934), with Will Rogers and Anita Louise; "Stagecoach" (1939), with John Wayne and Claire Trevor; and "How Green Was My Valley", with Walter Pidgeon and Maureen O'Hara. For the complete schedule, go to <www.vintagefilmfestival.ca>

~ Michael Hanlon



Golf in Shelter Valley

On **September 14th**, eighteen golfers showed up at Shelter Valley Pines Golf Club to play on a fresh, sunny morning that was a welcome change after two days of rain. Following 9 holes of fun, and some decent golf, bragging rights went to Doug Lloyd, Gladys Maggs, Don Tappscott, and Jim O'Shea for their best ball score of 36.

~ Sue Tee



The Year-End Golf & Dinner

The final golf event was held on **September 28th** at Port Hope. We had a shotgun start at 1 pm, and were very happy the rain had stopped by then. A fun time was had by all, with a toss of the dice to determine whose drive would be used on each hole. We had 30 golfers and 12 others joined us for a delicious steak or chicken BBQ dinner, afterwards.

Closest to the Pin was won by Pat Robertson for the ladies and Don Tapscott for the men. Longest drive was won by Evril Alls for the ladies and Fred Cooke for the men. Nine Holes of golf donated by the Port Hope Golf Club was randomly won by Heather Touchburn, Errol Wood, Sue Tee and Walt Smith.

Lynn Ramsey and Eric Carlton thanked George Lawrence and Fred Cooke for organizing our day, and said that everyone appreciated their efforts, and that we look forward to more great golf season, next year.

~ Donna Cooke

Social Calendar

~ Mary Dunphy, Social Coordinator

Murder Mystery: To celebrate Halloween the Comedy Conspiracy Co. of Ray James is hosting a production of "Young Frankenstein" for us at the RAILSIDE Restaurant on **Wednesday, October 28th**. Cost is \$65.00 per person. Cheques are payable to Probus Northumberland. Cocktails 5 pm. Show 6 pm. Conclusion 8:30 pm. Contact person is Sue Vivian: <suemv43@gmail.com>

Our Annual Christmas Party is planned for **December 10th**. Tickets for this evening of socializing, dinner, music and fun will be approximately \$48.00 per person. **Mark your calendar**. Further details will be available soon.

Ideas for Trips & Events: Please let Mary Dunphy know if you have any ideas for future events. Her e-mail address is <mbdunphy51@gmail.com>. She would be very interested in hearing from you.

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Cyber Crime

The speaker on September 24th was Detective Const. Mat Lawrence of the Port Hope Police Service's Cyber Crime Unit. His goal in speaking to our Probus club was to make everyone aware of the rather astonishing variety of cons and scams that target the more trusting members of the community. Everything from internet-based 'phishing' attacks to false emergency telephone calls to over-aggressive salesmen at our doors was covered. One takeaway from his presentation was that we should be a little more vigilant in looking after our personal information in order to prevent identity theft, always verifying the source of requests for personal details or for money. The many questions and comments from our members indicated lots of interest and personal experience with this problem.

~ Helen Beaton



New Ventures Band

This new adult band was formed last year by retired music teacher Glenn Bailey. It meets on Wednesday evenings from September to June at the Concert Band of Rehearsal Hall, at 612 D'Arcy St., Cobourg. The beginner band is designed for adults who have little or no experience, or those who have not played for many years. Further information is on the website: <www.newventuresband.com>

Contact Glenn at <newventures@cogeco.ca> or call him at (289) 252 2020.

~ George Lawrence

Officers & Committee Chairs, 2015-2016

The following slate of officers was voted in at our meeting of September 24.

Officers:

Past President	Lynn Ramsay
President	Barb Lawrence
Vice President	Doug Lloyd
Secretary (General Meetings)	Linda Nash
Secretary (Management Meetings)	Marg Denny
Treasurer	Ron Coleman
Ex-officio non-voting advisor	Marg Denny

Committee Chairs:

Social Co-ordinator	Mary Dunphy
Membership	Dianne & Gord Graham
ProBuzz	Ossie & Sue Tee
Speakers	George Lawrence & Michael Hanlon
House Liaison	Stan Maggs
Lunch Bunch	Marion Boys
Purchasing	Gladys Maggs
Photography	Heather Jansen & Janet Taylor
Scrapbook	Patricia Noble
Golf	Danny Robertson
Singles Group	Louise Barraclough
Greeters	Lynn Wallace
Sunshine	Dianna Flynn & Nan Orser
Share the Wealth	Joan Wilkinson & Trish Morgan
Ride Committee	Brian & Doreen Scott
Auditor	Shirley Erskine

Speakers Corner

~ George Lawrence & Michael Hanlon

Oct 8, Lydia Smith, Cobourg Tax Payers Assoc.

Oct 22, Dr. Peter Herron, Chiropractor

Nov 12, Remembrance Day Service

Nov 26, New Venture Band

Lunch Bunch

~ Marion Boys

October 22nd:

Kelly's Home Like Inn
205 Third St., Cobourg.

November : T.B.A.

