



# PROBUS CLUB OF TRENT HILLS

NOVEMBER - 2015

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3, ISSUE ONE



**Alan Appleby - President**

## The President's Voice

"Still round the corner there may wait, a new road or a secret gate."  
- J. R. R. Tolkien -

It is an honour to serve as your President for 2015-2016, our third year. Our management team has welcomed two new members, Bev McComb as our Membership Manager, and Judy Pearce as our Vice President and Program Manager. We will benefit from the fact that just a few weeks before our new Prime Minister appointed a Cabinet with gender balance, our membership accomplished the same task with our Management Committee. At the same time we thank former members Bill Hogle and Brian Muir for their service, wisdom and congeniality. And we thank Anne Linton for putting up with so many men for so long.

The continuing success of our Probus Club would not be possible without the participation of all of our members. And it would not have happened without the special insight and hard work of two members: Bob Bennett and Bill Hogle. As I said in my opening remarks at the AGM, I would probably still not have heard of Probus if Bob Bennett had not phoned me in December 2012. Thank you Bob for that call and for all your work in getting the pieces together.

Bob had the idea and worked tirelessly on our original 2013 Steering Committee along with Bill Hogle, who chaired that group as we explored Probus with help from other Northumberland clubs, and came to form Probus Club #623 in Canada, and number 8 in Northumberland County in October 2013. Bob is now our first Life Member, and Bill is the first "graduate" of our Management Committee, serving as President and Past President. Thank you both for your work and wise counsel.

So what will 2016 bring for the Probus Club of Trent Hills? We are working on a "member satisfaction" survey. What can we do better, and what new or different experiences would you like to see? That survey will be available online early in 2016 and all members will get an email reminder. This is your club, it is here for your enjoyment, and we are looking forward to your new ideas for events, clubs, speakers and other essential parts of the Probus experience.

Another project we have been working on is to purchase audio visual equipment to make our meetings more colourful and good sounding as well as self-reliant. We now have our own digital projector and audio PA system which can also play music from several sources. Based on your feedback we have overcome some of the physical issues of bright crisp pictures and clear sound.

Our 2015 Christmas meeting will be a time for some fun and entertainment, leading in to a 2016 with more great presentations, trips, events and just plain old fashioned good times with friends new and old. On behalf of our Management Committee we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



# Past Speakers



Jenna Misener, Member Julie Hallett and Don Cooper

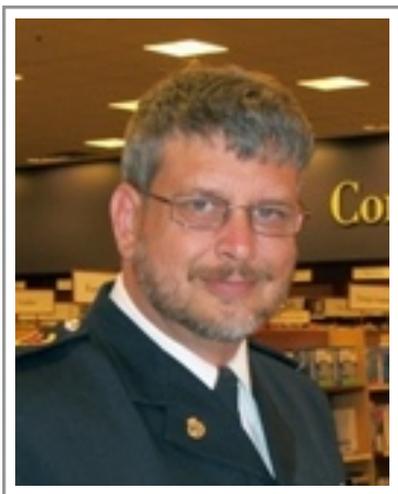
**October 13, 2015 Don Cooper and Jenna Misener**

## Juno Beach Centre

Don Cooper, president of the Juno Beach Centre in France and Jenna Misener, the centre's executive director presented interesting and inspirational information on the history and operation of the centre. The centre, a private, non-profit organization which opened on June 6, 2003 was built as a permanent memorial and education centre dedicated to Canada's contribution to World War 2. The land is located on the site where Canadians landed on D-Day and was donated by the mayor of Courseulles sur Mer who noted that "Canadian blood has been spent on my beach". A video presentation showed parts of the Atlantic wall defenses which have been uncovered revealing bunkers and many historical artifacts.

The centre operates many educational programs including a student guide program, year round special events, a summer institute for history teachers, the Lest We Forget program, conducting primary research on WW1 and WW2 soldiers, and a national education program in Canada. The centre also has a commemorative brick program which serves as a fundraiser, allowing families, schools or communities to purchase individual titanium "bricks" to honour a soldier or veteran. More than 12,000 of these bricks have been sold. The centre features 359 tribute markers, one for each Canadian killed on the beach during D-Day, and also honours every soldier killed in Afghanistan. The 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day was remembered at the centre with a ceremony attended by over 5000 people including more than 200 veterans and Queen Elizabeth II.

The centre was featured in an television episode of The Amazing Race Canada, introducing the centre to many Canadians. Don encouraged members to visit the centre if they were near Paris or London, noting that many tour groups include the centre in their itineraries. Our guests were beautifully thanked by member, Julie Hallett, a former WREN, who shared a few personal memories. It was a truly memorable and inspirational morning for our members.



**ROGER LITWILLER**

**MEETING - NOV 12, 2015**



This painting of the Trentonian is the work of Bill McMurray and was presented to Tom Butler, Able Seaman, RCNVR, survivor of HMCS TRENTONIAN. It is now at the Army, Navy and Air Force Association #284 in Stevenson, BC

Roger Litwiller was our guest speaker at our November meeting. He is an author, historian, and lecturer of Canada's proud Naval heritage.. He has written the books, White Ensign Flying and Warships of the Bay of Quinte as well as articles for magazines and newspapers. For the past 33 years, Roger Litwiller has been a Paramedic in the Quinte area of Eastern Ontario and was decorated by the Governor General of Canada with the Exemplary Service Medal. Roger, with his wife Rhonda reside near Trenton, Ontario and together they enjoy travel and photography.

Roger was a Naval Officer in the Canadian Armed Forces Reserve. His interest in the Royal Canadian Navy began as a Sea Cadet in Kitchener. Later he volunteered with the Navy League of Canada, becoming the Area Officer for Eastern Ontario.

His talk focused on two areas of World War 2, the Battle of the Atlantic and the HMCS Trentonian, one of the Corvettes built in Canada.

Roger described the Battle of the Atlantic as the largest single battle of World War II. It was the longest continuous military campaign in World War II, running from 1939 to the defeat of Germany in 1945. At its core was the Allied naval blockade of Germany, announced the day after the declaration of war, and Germany's subsequent counter-blockade. A great portion of the battle was fought within Canada's borders and 30 ships were lost in the St. Lawrence alone. Many Canadian built warships were involved and acted as escorts for merchant ships delivering goods to European Allies.

Churchill most feared the loss of the Battle of the Atlantic because it meant the severance of the supply lines of which the allies were so dependent. He is quoted as having said "The Battle of the Atlantic was the dominating factor all through the war. Never for one moment could we forget that everything happening elsewhere, on land, at sea or in the air depended ultimately on its outcome".

Corvettes commissioned by the Royal Canadian Navy during the Second World War were named after communities for the most part, to better represent the people who took part in building them. The Trentonian was built in Kingston and commissioned into the Royal Canadian Navy in 1943.

She was further fitted out at Liverpool, N.S., and Halifax, left the latter port for Bermuda. Returning at the beginning of March, she was assigned to Western Approaches Command and left for Londonderry on April 23 to join. For three months she carried out escort duty in connection with the invasion and on June 13, while escorting the cable vessel St. Margaret off Normandy, she was shelled in error by a U.S. destroyer. The shell, fortunately a dud, passed through her engine room and did little damage. Late in August she escorted Channel convoys. While so engaged on February 22, 1945, she was torpedoed and sunk near Falmouth by a German U boat with the loss of six lives.

Roger's talk was most engaging and informative - and afterward, followed by many questions. He was thanked afterward by member Jim Surrey. There are many more stories and daily postings of pictures on Roger's Website...[www.rogerlitwiller.com](http://www.rogerlitwiller.com)

Submitted by Anne Linton

**HELP! ELVES WANTED!!**

**VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED  
TO HELP WITH THE SET-UP OF  
OUR AUDIO/VISUAL EQUIPMENT.**

**The job is not difficult and requires setting up  
and putting away our A/V equipment  
at each meeting. Instructions will be given and  
help will also be available while  
learning the procedure.**



## PAST EVENTS



# Harvey

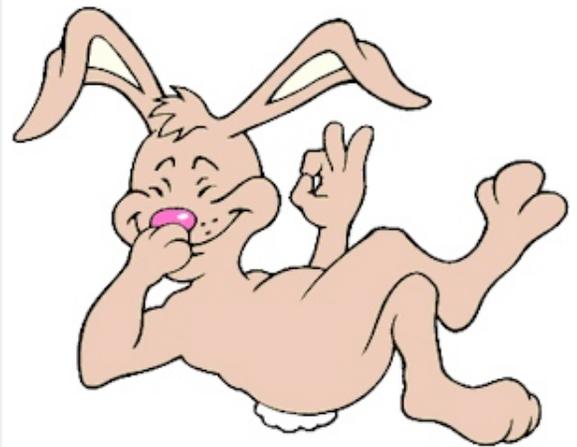


Elwood P. Dowd is a mild drunk and town character who sees a six foot tall white rabbit named Harvey, who follows Elwood everywhere he goes. The situation has become more than his sister Veta and niece Myrtle Mae can stand, and after Elwood causes social disaster by introducing Harvey to guests at a formal tea, Veta decides to have Elwood committed. Unfortunately, when Veta takes Elwood to Chumley's Rest, the doctors commit her and release Elwood, who promptly goes off on another toot--this time with Dr. Chumley himself, who is shocked when he himself begins to see Harvey.

Anyone interested in watching the Movie starring Jimmy Stewart can find it on: [http://original.livestream.com/harvey\\_1950](http://original.livestream.com/harvey_1950). Give it a few minutes to download.

38 Members attended this dinner/theatre and I am pleased to say it was most enjoyable. It was well cast, and the players suited their roles remarkably well.





Submitted by Anne Linton  
Photos by Anne Linton



## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### Annual Dues - Reminder - Last Chance

The December meeting is your last chance to pay your Annual dues. Avoid being taken off the membership list and make sure your dues are in the hands of the membership manager, Bev McComb by the end of the meeting.

The renewal fee is \$40.00 per member and your cheque should be made out to the Probus Club of Trent Hills. It would be most helpful if your cheque is made out in advance of the meeting to help speed up the process.

# Our Christmas meeting

December 9, 2015



**THE AMAZING RANDY  
THE MENTALIST  
WILL ENTERTAIN US**



*Prepare  
to be  
astounded!*



*Free draws for beautiful  
Gift Baskets*

**AND MUCH MORE - DON'T MISS OUT!!!!**



## **RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS**

If you have any friends or acquaintances who have expressed an interest in our Probus Club, invite them to a meeting so that they can see first hand what the Club is all about.

**Members recruiting members - the best way to build our membership numbers.**

The Probus Club  
Management Committee  
Wishes to extend to our members

*The Merriest Christmas*

*And*

*The Happiest New Year ever!*



**MEMBERS OF YOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Alan Appleby - President**  
**Judy Pearce - Vice President and Program Manager**  
**Art Linton - Past President**  
**Diane Williamson - Secretary**  
**Steve Wood - Treasurer**  
**Jim Kelleher - Communications Manager**  
**Anne Linton - Events and Special Interests Manager  
and Newsletter Editor**  
**Bev McComb - Membership Manager**  
**Jerry Hazlitt - Meeting Manager**

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