



PROBUS CLUB OF TRENT HILLS

JUNE 2016

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3, ISSUE FOUR



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 -

One of the features of Probus is the galaxy of excellent speakers we have been able to bring to our meetings. Last month we were so fortunate to hear from Lee-Anne Quinn, a retired armed forces major and nurse-practitioner who served with peacekeeping missions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Somalia, Rwanda, and Afghanistan. There's an article further on about her special presentation.

In looking over our speaker's list it is amazing to realize that only a small number, you can count them on one hand, came from outside our local area. One of our speakers actually walked to the meeting from home three blocks away. The farthest afield came from Hamilton.

And what a variety of topics we've had, from local and Canadian history, to natural history. A round the world travelogue by sailboat, and a tale of an 18th century gunboat sinking in nearby Lake Ontario. We've heard of murders and scams and had a little magic performed before our eyes. We've had tales of orphans from Vietnam and orphans from Great Britain. And we've had information on local institutions like the Community Foundation and Hospital. To top it off, we've had some good music too.

Our 33 presenters and performers have added a lot to the experience of Probus- and at our upcoming Picnic, we'll be making our own fun. There's lots more to come, but if you hear of a special presentation you believe we would all enjoy, please mention it to one of our Management Committee members.



Past Speakers

April 13, 2016

DAWN CAMPBELL

Twoloom Alpaca Farms



Dawn Campbell, from Twoloom Alpaca Farms on County Road 35, gave an interesting presentation to members at our April meeting. She outlined how she and her partner, Melody Macdonald, saw alpaca at a fair and became fascinated by these endearing creatures. They visited alpaca farms for the following year, volunteering their labour and learning about breeding and raising alpaca. They started their own venture in 2003 with two males and four females. Their 12 acre farm is now home to 40 alpaca.

Alpaca, a member of the camel family, originate in the highlands of Peru, Bolivia and Chile. They were imported into North America in three phases - first in 1984 from Chile, next in 1988 from Bolivia and lastly, in 1992 from Peru. Importers became more selective with each group imported, with the result that Peruvian alpaca tend to have a higher quality fleece. Alpaca have a 345 day gestation period. After a 15 minute labour, the young, called "cria", are born. They are walking around in about an hour and are trying to run within 2 hours. Intelligent and trainable, alpaca are fully mature by the age of three and have a 40 year lifespan.

Shearing takes place in early May and the animals are bred from May to July. After shearing, the fleece is cleaned (skirted), checked for length and density, and then sent to the mill. The "rovings" which come back from the mill are used for spinning and then made into duvet bats or clothing. Fibre varies from grade 1 (very fine) to grade 6. Usage varies depending on the grade of the fibre: coarser fibre, grades 5 and 6, is used for insoles and rug yarn; grade 3 is a universal fibre, used for hats and socks; grades 1 and 2 are very fine.

Alpaca products and various grades of fibre were circulated through the audience. Dawn noted that there is a high demand for both the fleece and the products. Members were invited to attend an open house at the farm to see the alpaca shearing. She also shared many interesting anecdotes as a result of questions from interested members. Dawn was graciously thanked by Dave MacDougall.



**MAJOR (RET)
LEE-ANNE QUINN**

**Canada: A Privileged Place; Our Cultural
Diversity**



Members at the May meeting were treated to what was, in this author's humble opinion, one of the most inspiring and moving presentations in the history of our club. Major Lee-Anne Quinn spoke to us about her many experiences during her 23 year career as a nurse in the Canadian armed forces. A graduate of Seneca college, she has received many awards for her work, including the Nightingale Award, the Governor General's Award of Merit and the Queen's Jubilee Medal.

Major Quinn's over-riding message to us was simple - we won the ultimate lottery being born in Canada. As she narrated her slide presentation, she demonstrated living and working conditions in the military hospital in Kandahar, Afghanistan. She described the 13 trauma bays as organized chaos treating 45 casualties at a time. Triage was all important, as major injuries with a chance to survive were treated first. She also talked of the incredibly difficult circumstances war creates for children and women. She spoke of children risking life and limb, quite literally, by digging up unexploded ordinances so that they might be paid one cent for each one. She spoke of the need to be culturally sensitive and to provide hope in order to make connections and relieve despair. In her words, "The children of Afghanistan are cultural miracles"

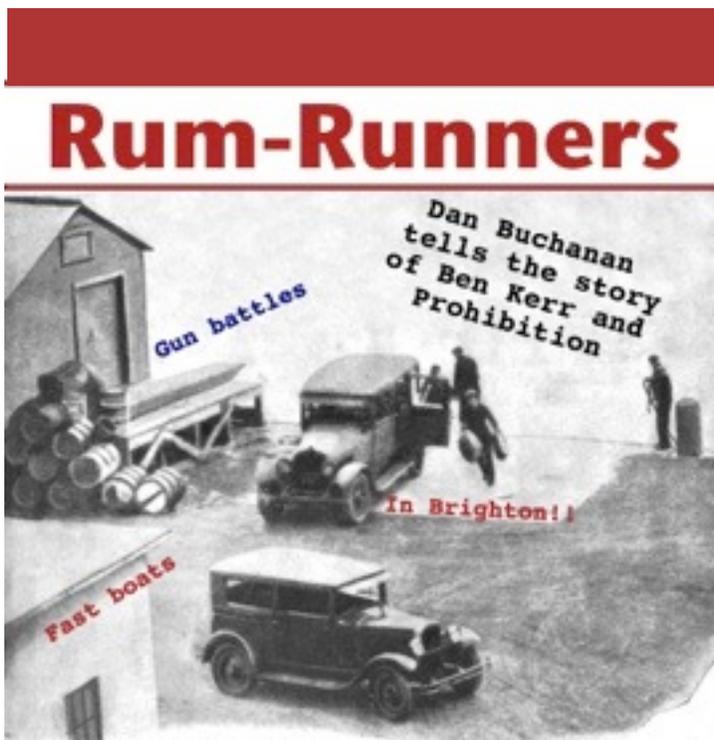
The major recounted experiences in Rwanda, getting used to working with different nationalities and how they do things. She also told of being stationed in Deer Lake for 7 months where she (an avid hockey and baseball player) "saw a nice ice surface and started shovelling". Kids there have no recreational facilities, so she created a rink and got in touch with the NHLPA, who flew in pucks, skates, jerseys and sticks, so they could create a team. Once again, collaboration with the elders about culture was important: "Care is negotiated rather than imposed."

Major Quinn shared so many more anecdotes with us including how she was "hopeless" with a rifle, but great with a grenade (baseball experience), how she sat on her ballistic vest while in aircraft so she wouldn't get shot through the seat by ground to air missiles and how British tanks lined up for 4 hours for an "Iced Capp" at the Tim Horton's in Kandahar.

Haunted by many of these experiences, Major Quinn deals with PTSD by giving these presentations which, she says, helps to hand off some of the trauma. "It's all in how you handle it and get your brain around it. It's important to get the correct help." Retired, Major Quinn is now a nurse practitioner in Peterborough where she is also a proud Syrian refugee family sponsor. As befits National Nursing Week, Major Quinn was introduced by member Maureen Dikun and was thanked by Judy Pearce, both former nurses.

Future Speaker

The speaker regularly scheduled for this month was not able to speak to us, so our capable VP Judy Pearce scrambled and found that Dan Buchanan was available on short notice to present to us his latest foray into the area's History. His presentation is based on the book Whisky and Ice by C.W. Hunt. It is the saga of Ben Kerr, Canada's most daring Rumrunner.



Rum-Runners

Dan Buchanan tells the story of Ben Kerr and Prohibition

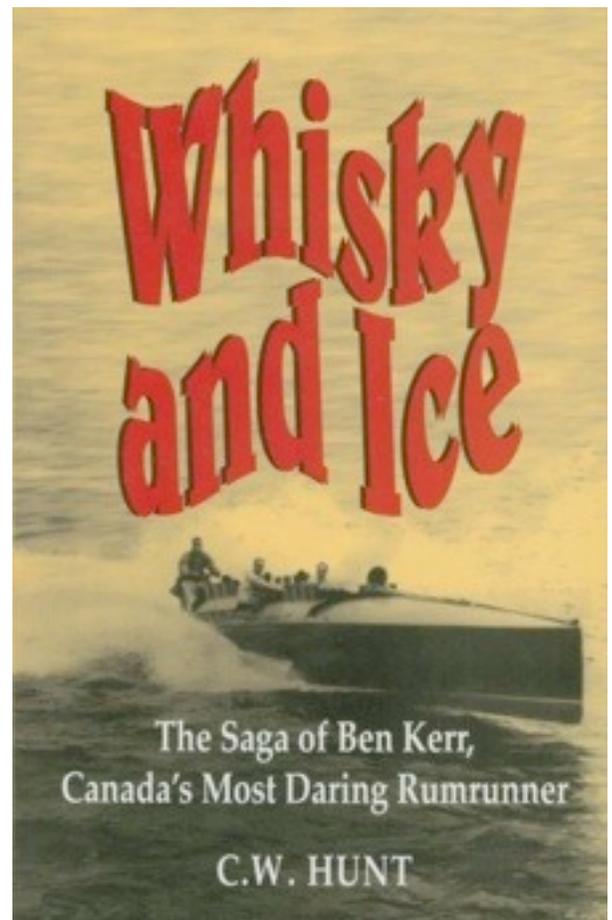
Gun battles

In Brighton!

Fast boats

SPEAKER FOR OUR JUNE 8 MEETING

DAN "THE HISTORY MAN" BUCHANAN



Whisky and Ice

The Saga of Ben Kerr,
Canada's Most Daring Rumrunner

C.W. HUNT

Upcoming Events



PROBUS CLUB OF TRENT HILLS

PICNIC

Wednesday July 13

11 AM to 4 PM

LANG PIONEER
VILLAGE

Picnic Notes for Members

- * Set up for our picnic will be from 10 AM - 11 AM
- * Members can tour the Village at the low cost of \$4.00 p.p. between 10 AM and 11 AM
- * Tickets for door prizes will be handed out as you arrive
- * 11AM to Noon is a social Hour - Food will be served at Noon
- * Bring lawn chairs - the picnic benches are not comfortable
- * ******DO NOT FORGET YOUR NAME TAGS******
- * After lunch various games are planned and prizes will be awarded - start training now!

**There is no charge to members for the picnic
so attendance is limited to MEMBERS ONLY**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY FOOD ALLERGIES, INTOLERANCES OR ANY OTHER FOOD CONCERNS.

EMAIL - trenthillsprobus@gmail.com

**PLEASE SIGN UP
FOR
THE PICNIC**

**WE NEED TO KNOW HOW MANY ARE ATTENDING
SO THAT WE CAN ORDER THE PROPER AMOUNT OF FOOD!**



**IF YOU ARE NOT ON THE
LIST - YOU MAY GO
HUNGRY!!**

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP NEWS

**THE WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB is still looking for a few more members - Call
Mona Cooper 653-5215**

**THE PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP has visited Prince Edward Point and Presqu'ile
and are holding their meetings on the last Wednesday of the month.**

SCOTCH TASTING is deferred until the Fall.

FISHING CHARTERS - TBA

**The
Rotary Club
of
Campbellford**



**The
Warkworth
Service
Club**



Sunday, September 18, 2:00 PM at The Westben Barn

Building on more than three generations of renowned Leahy musicianship, Doug Leahy, together with his wife Jennifer and their children, keep the tradition alive through music, song, and dance. An exciting afternoon of fiddle, step dance, cello, accordion and vocals. What could possibly be next?!

Tickets for the show are \$45 p.p. and are available now at the meeting.

Please make cheques payable to the Rotary Club of Campbellford.

Tickets for the pre-show barbecue, \$8 per person, are available in person at the Westben Box Office, from Rotary Club Members or at the door before the show



Announcements

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED

Volunteer sheets will be circulated at our next meeting. Five different positions are outlined. Several volunteers for one of the positions can then be called upon on a shared schedule.

These are easy positions and do not require much time or effort.

Please sign up and be a part of the team. Your Management Committee needs your help.

CHANGES TO PERSONAL INFORMATION

If you have had any changes to your address, telephone, email etc., please keep us informed. We want to make sure you are receiving all notices and email messages as well as this newsletter.

Send info to: Attn. Bev McComb - trenthillsprobus@gmail.com

A VOLUNTEER IS NEEDED TO LOOK AFTER OUR ARCHIVES.

We are pleased to announce that a new Archivist, in the person of LIN BROOKE, has come forward to volunteer her services. Bev McComb, our membership manager is pleased to have this help. Thank you so very much Lin.

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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