



PROBUS CLUB OF TRENT HILLS

OCTOBER, 2015

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE SEVEN



Art Linton - President

The President's Voice

The ornament of a house is the friends who frequent it.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

The upcoming Probud Annual General Meeting, October 14, 2015, marks the end of our second year as a Club. I am going to reiterate here the message I gave at the September meeting, mainly because we did not have full attendance, and I want to express my gratitude to all members for their faith in the Club over these past months, and to the few dedicated members who have contributed so much of their time and talents to the Club's success over the years.

Your management committee is to be commended on their efforts of promoting the Probud theme of fun, friendship and learning. Many members have expressed their appreciation for the fun they have had and the many new friendships that have been made.

Vice President Alan Appleby has done an excellent job in selecting speakers who have provided us with many ideas and good entertainment. Many of whom reside in or near our community. I am continually amazed at the diversity of talent available in this area.

I would be remiss if I did not comment on the fantastic job that our special events manager Anne Linton has done in providing events that are well supported and enjoyed.

Our current membership manager, Brian Muir, sadly, will be leaving our management team. His excellent organizational skills will be missed. He and his wife Christine have been dependable fixtures at the front desk for the past year, working as a team.

And let's not forget our meeting manager, Jerry Hazlitt, who every month creates a congenial atmosphere in the set up of the auditorium. Jerry is also responsible for selecting our greeters, and the fact that not one of them has turned him down speaks well for our members.

A big thank you to our treasurer Steve Wood for keeping our finances in order and who can always be relied upon for his insightful comments.

Our unflappable secretary Diane Williamson is doing a commendable job in recording our management committee minutes and looking after all communications with the members at large.

A tip of the hat to our communications manager Jim Kelleher. Jim keeps the press informed regarding our meetings and our speakers and he updates our website on a regular basis. Our newsletter is also part of Jim's portfolio, and for now is edited by Anne Linton.

Last, but not least, recognition goes to Bill Hogle in the position of past president. His insightful reasoning has helped us reach some major decisions throughout the year that have benefited the club immensely. A committee chaired by Bill Hogle has developed a strategic plan, together with a mechanism for its monitoring and evaluation.

As your president for this past year, I want to say that it has been an honour and privilege to serve.

The job is much easier because of the high caliber of the members of our management committee. They are all competent, congenial and reliable - it doesn't get any better than that!



Lynda Langford and Alan Appleby

In 1989 at a staff retirement party Lynda and Alan found they had past experience and an ongoing interest in ecology, specifically in aquatic insects, and almost inconceivably in Stoneflies. Yes, thanks in part to Stoneflies, in 1993 they tied the knot on the front porch of the family farm in Percy Township.

Lynda grew up on a farm near Oak Heights, west of Warkworth, and after CDHS went to Fleming College for a Fish and Wildlife Technology Diploma, followed by a BSc at Trent University. She worked for several local Conservation Authorities including Lower Trent, and then moved to Saskatchewan in 1981 to take a job as a park planner and ended up as Director of Air and Land in the Environment Department.

Alan grew up in East York (Toronto) and went to the University of Toronto for degrees in Life Sciences and Aquatic Ecology. After working for an international consulting company doing water pollution monitoring, he spent four years in the Ontario Ministry of Environment working in Environmental Assessment. In 1977 he migrated to Saskatchewan to work for the Province in regional planning and natural resource management for 16 years, and later spent 18 years in his own consulting business.

Lynda and Alan bought a house in Campbellford in 1994 and finally moved back in 2006. Since then Lynda has completed an MA at Trent University in Canadian and Indigenous Studies and is involved as a director and volunteer with an aboriginal non-profit organization in Regina. Alan has been involved in local political affairs, and has a folk music show on our local radio station, CKOL 93.7fm.

So, what is a Stonefly? Insects in the Order Plecoptera spend most of their lives (up to 5 years) on the bottom of streams, while the winged adults live for only a few days or weeks. Stoneflies are considered to be important indicators of good water quality. It seems they may also be indicators of good quality relationships.



Past Speakers



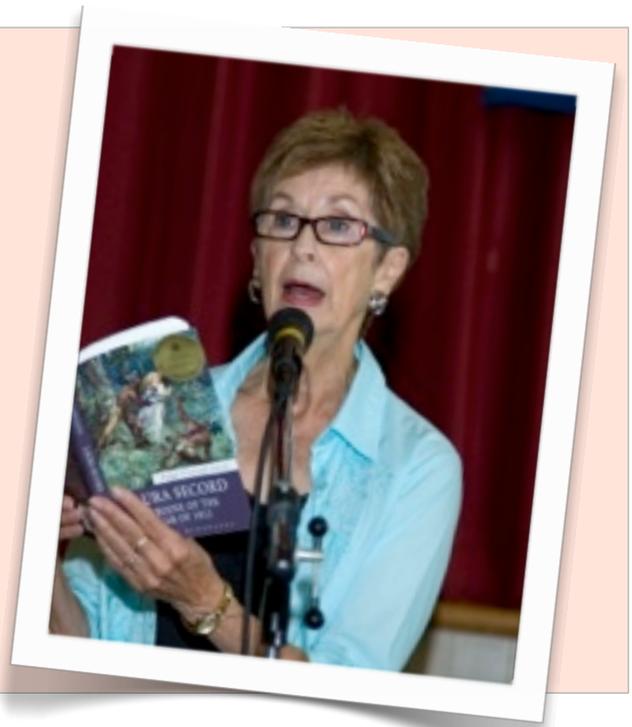
**Probus Meeting, August 12, 2015
Skye Morrison**

The Partisan Artisan – A journey to make handmade real

Members were treated to a fascinating presentation by fellow member, Dr. Skye Morrison, who revealed herself to be a woman of many interests and talents. Skye was educated at Sheridan College, Cornell University and the University of Pennsylvania. She is an educator, a designer, a published author, a volunteer extraordinaire and the owner of The Doors Guest House in Hastings. Believing that “whatever you do out in the world, you should do in your own backyard”, Skye is very involved with Lang Pioneer Village and AH (The Arts and Heritage Centre) in Warkworth.

The focus of her presentation was her annual visit to India, which she has been making since 1996. Skye presented beautiful and informative images from India, as well as other places her passion has taken her. As she recounted her experiences teaching in India and Canada, her passion for textiles, honouring tradition and the value of hand-made articles was very evident. She enjoys teaching people how to do things they have never done before and is currently teaching others how to write about their craft. In addition to her photographs, Skye brought a number of beautiful handmade artifacts for us to admire. The talents and accomplishments of our Probus members continues to be an inspiration. She was ably thanked by Christine Muir.

Peggy Dymond Leavey speaks about Laura Secord



Reading from her book "Laura Secord: Heroine of the War of 1812," Peggy gave us a close look at this young woman who risked her life, during a very dangerous time in the History of Upper Canada.

Laura Ingersoll was born in Massachusetts but her father refused to live under the US government so they went to live in Upper Canada (Southern Ontario.) They were given a land grant near a town called Queenstown near Niagara Falls.

Laura married James Secord who was a merchant in Queenstown. James was also a volunteer in the militia artillery. He was wounded during the Battle of Queenston Heights, in the shoulder and the knee.

Laura found her husband and dragged him off the battlefield and got him home. The Secords were then forced to house American soldiers for financial support while she nursed him back to health. It was during this time that she overheard the American plan to ambush British troops at Beaverdams, (today's Thorold).

Through an outstanding act of perseverance and courage in 1813, Laura walked an astonishing 30 kilometers from her home to a British outpost at Beaverdams to warn Lieutenant James FitzGibbon, commander of the Green Tigers.

Despite facing rough terrain, the ever-present danger of being caught by American troops, and encounters with Native forces, Laura reached FitzGibbon just in time for the British to prepare and execute an ambush on the American military nearby. His troops and a group of Native warriors forced the U.S. General Charles Boerstler to surrender.

Laura lived a very long time, dying at the age of 93. In her lifetime the government never formally recognized her singular feat of bravery, and much controversy still envelops her legacy. There is a monument dedicated to her at Queenston Heights, not far from General Brock's.

After fielding a few questions Peggy was able to autograph copies of her many books that she brought with her for sale to members.

Peggy Dymond Leavey is the author of 12 published books as well as the writer of many poems and short stories. She lives with her husband in Trenton, Ontario.

PAST EVENTS

Twenty Probus members met at Elmhirst Resort to have the Monday Lakeside Lunch, a sumptuous buffet in The Hearthside Dining Room that overlooks Rice Lake and features daily dining with the freshest of ingredients, grown on site, including Elmhirst Own Black Angus Beef. From appetizers to desserts the repast was great and all for \$15 plus tax! Several Probus members stayed on to take the wagon ride with the Clydesdale Horses led by Peter Elmhirst. He toured the entire family owned resort pointing out everything from the vegetable gardens to the airstrip and many more surprises than just cottages. All of this is included in the lunch but you have to book ahead because it gets filled. The Lunch runs on Mondays from April until late October with one or two at Christmastime. From Elmhirst it is a ten-minute drive to Keene and Lang Pioneer Village Museum. We each arrived at the open-air museum that features self-guided touring where costumed interpreters demonstrate woodworking, blacksmithing, gardening, the needle arts and the newest feature the Weaver's Shop. We were treated to a complete demonstration of weaving from two harnesses to the 'first computer' the jacquard loom. The Weaver's shop has two jacquard looms, one restored to work with a surrounding stairway to take visitors up to the top of the operation and see it 'from the air.' Beautiful examples of jacquard blankets and rugs fill the meeting room where the working loom lives. There are other developments from the punch card technology including a player piano in the display. The day was delightful, great weather, a relaxed and informative atmosphere, good food, and a chance to 'walk it off' in a step back in time.





IN MEMORIUM



It is with much sadness that we acknowledge the passing in June of this year, of member JACK BARRETT, Much loved husband of member Carole Barrett Our condolences to the family.



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CONDOLENCE AND GET WELL PROCEDURE

Members are asked to inform any of the Management team regarding the passing of a member or the member's immediate family.

The Management Committee member so notified, will pass this information on to the member responsible for implementing our Condolence Policy. If the deceased is a member or a member's spouse, an "In Memorium" will be sent to the Campbellford Memorial Hospital Foundation by our Treasurer.

Members are also asked to inform us of any Member's illness so that a get well card may be sent.

The Management Committee can be informed directly or by sending an email to our gmail address found on the back page of the newsletter. We are concerned that we have missed some of this information in the past, and would like to be able to respond more quickly.

SPEAKER FOR OUR AGM IS DON COOPER

DON COOPER is the President, and was the Project Manager for the design and construction, of the Juno Beach Centre in Courseulles-sur-Mer, France, the Canadian memorial to D-Day and the war in Europe.



UPCOMING EVENTS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

POMPEII IN THE SHADOW OF THE VOLCANO



**THIS TRIP SLATED FOR
OCTOBER 29TH
HAS BEEN
CANCELED**

**ALL PAYMENTS THAT
HAVE BEEN MADE WILL
BE RETURNED TO MEMBERS
AT THE AGM**

Harvey



The story of Elwood P. Dowd and his imaginary rabbit friend, Harvey, described as a six-foot-three-and-a-half-inch *Pooka*, has delighted audiences since its Broadway premiere in 1944. Elwood and the “invisible” Harvey so disturb his social-climbing sister that she decides to have Elwood committed to a sanitarium. Of course, hilarity ensues.

Dinner/Theatre at the Best Western Inn

930 Burnham Street, Cobourg, ON

Sunday November 1st
Show starts at 5:00 pm

A Drive yourself Event

Price \$45.00 per person - this includes gratuities

THIS UPCOMING MEETING, OUR AGM, WILL BE YOUR LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP FOR THE BEST WESTERN DINNER/THEATRE - *HARVEY!* PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHEQUES MADE OUT IN ADVANCE - TO HELP SPEED UP THE PROCESS.

HELP HELP HELP HELP

Need volunteers to help with the Christmas meeting. Have one already on board, but need a couple more. Not too much to do, but it does have to be done.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Annual Dues - Reminder

It's that time of year again. We will be collecting annual dues at the October 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.

CHANGE OF DATE FOR NOVEMBER MEETING

Our regular Wednesday meeting day for November has been changed to Thursday, November 12. The church has an ongoing yearly commitment to the Legion on Remembrance Day. Please mark this date on your calendar.

MEMBERS OF YOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Art Linton- President
Alan Appleby - Vice President and Program Manager
Bill Hogle - Past President
Diane Williamson - Secretary
Steve Wood - Treasurer
Jim Kelleher - Communications Manager
Anne Linton -Events and Special Interests Manager
and Newsletter Editor
Brian Muir - Membership Manager
Jerry Hazlitt - Meeting Manager

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