



The Wasagan



Official Newsletter of Beachcombers Probus – Wasaga Beach, Ontario
International Website: www.probus.org Newsletter Site: www.probus.org/7wasbcrn.pdf
September 4, 2007

Volume 5, Issue 2

Newsletter Editors: Maggie Higgins & Ken Wong 422-1338 kemala@rogers.com

**SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING
TODAY'S SPEAKER: DOUG GARRAWAY
STATION MANAGER (RETIRED) OF BARRIE CHANNEL A**

Your annual membership dues must be paid today or you will be considered to have resigned from your membership. Membership is \$25 per person. Please make your check out to "**Beachcombers Probus**" and give it to Linda Willis who you will find at the "sign in" table as you enter the meeting room.

VOLUNTEERS DESPERATELY NEEDED!

The social committee needs your help to make the coming year a success. Please step up and make our club a success! Men as well as women are welcome. If you don't want to commit for a whole year, why not volunteer to help out with one or two events only?

Call Irene Donohue @ 429-0644. She is waiting to hear from you!

PROBUS BULLETIN BOARD

A new bulletin board posting is on the Probus Canada website. This page is available to all Canadian Probus Clubs wanting to make other Clubs aware of new ideas, upcoming events and any other information they would like to share. The address is www.probus.org/bulletin.htm

As always, you can access the latest addition of the Wasagan @ www.probus.org/7wasbcrn.pdf

JULY SPEAKER

Our speaker was Professor Larry Black, Director of the Centre for Research on Canadian – Russian Relations. Professor Black gave a fascinating talk on Russia's progress in the last 15 years. Previous to 15 years ago political and religious freedom as well as freedom of the press did not exist. There were no meetings, free enterprise, owned land or freedom of speech. That has changed but there still exists a huge level of corruption and bribes are still common in the business world.

Russia is struggling to become a democracy. In 1998, 40% of the population was below the poverty line and today it is at 9%. The President is now elected directly by the people and can only serve 2 terms. Freedom of the press is very open now. Russia has come a long way in a short time and should be commended for its efforts.

Professor Black informed us of an upcoming exhibition of photographs which will be a retrospective on the Soviet Union. At the same time other events and exhibits will be taking place. This event is being planned for the last week of September and through October at the McLaren Art Gallery in Barrie.

Professor Black is the author of 35 books. His most recent are:

"Vladimir Putin and The New World Order" (2004)

"Russia faces NATO Expansion" (2000)

"The Gouzenko Affair. Canada and the Beginnings of Cold War Counter-Espionage (2006)

8 books were generously donated by Professor Black and these were won by:

Robin Nagel, Pat Caron, Joanne Scruton, Nel Holowachuk, Lucy Worch, Susan Passmore, Irma Koch, Betty Baker.

PAST SOCIAL EVENT:

GOLF TOURNAMENT AT WASAGA SANDS GOLF COURSE ON AUGUST 15

On August 15th, 41 golfers enjoyed a perfect day at the Wasaga Sands Golf and Country for a Best Ball tournament. They were joined by 21 other members for a scrumptious steak/chicken dinner.

The putting contest was won by Rod Ranta and Larry Ruse.

Although Larry was running the contest with Joanne, his win was witnessed by several people.

The winning team after a tie was broken: Reg Bail, Ron Hanson, Helena Aherne and Susan Passmore. They were tied with Larry Ruse, Joanne Scruton and Brian Passmore.

Closest to the hole for the men was Ron Hanson and for the ladies was Joanne Scruton. The longest drive for the men was Hugh Brown and for the ladies was Joanne Scruton (when you're hot, you're hot).

Congratulations to all the winners. All participants went home with a prize.

Many thanks to all the members who donated prizes. Also, prizes were obtained from several businesses: Major's Pharmacy, IDA Drugstore, Pedro's Gift Shop, Sunshine on a Cloudy Day, Superstore, Town of Wasaga Beach, Marlwood Golf, Jen Scholte Century 21, TD Bank(45th st) and the Georgian Auto Group, Barrie.

Thanks to all the helpers and attendees who made the day another memorable Probus Event.

Reported by Marilyn Ruse, Golf Organizer

(Marilyn, who did a fantastic job organizing the tournament, wrote the above report with a dislocated shoulder. What dedication!)

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS – FROM YOUR SOCIAL COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 18th - FALL LUNCH CRUISE

TICKETS ON SALE TODAY

Picture the beauty of a lake cruise on the Island Princess while enjoying a hot buffet lunch on the heated enclosed main deck. After lunch we will make our way to the Orillia Opera House for a performance of **"Stage Door Canteen"** – *the year is 1944, New York City, Broadway's brightest stars have banded together and opened a night club to give the troops a great send off. Music of the 40's, "Sunny Side of the Street", "In the Mood", Moonlight Serenade and "Kiss Me Good Night Sergeant Major"* will be performed.

Meet at Orillia's Town Dock at 11:30 a.m. – sail at 12:00 p.m. sharp!

Cost: \$50.00 per person – includes cruise, lunch and show.

OCTOBER 17th – CAR RALLY

Tickets for this event will be on sale during today's meeting and during the October 2nd meeting. The car rally is a fun-filled event which challenges both your powers of observation and the driver's skillful operation of a motor vehicle while following detailed directions through the pretty Ontario countryside. A rest stop is planned for the half way mark and dinner will be, as usual, at a surprise location at the conclusion of the rally. A wonderful menu is planned. It is advised that members car pool (the more, the merrier) for this fun and memorable event.

NOVEMBER 20th – SILENT AUCTION AND LUNCH

Members are asked to bring any new or gently used items you wish to donate to this event to our October and November club meetings. You will be able to purchase tickets for the silent auction at the next Probus meeting. The price includes silent auction tickets and a lunch. Please phone any member of the social committee if you need something picked up.

DECEMBER 7th – CHRISTMAS DINNER/DANCE.

Tickets for this annual event will be sold during our October and November club meetings. The social committee is in need of empty baskets to fill with special prizes. Please bring baskets you wish to donate to our Probus meetings in either October or November or contact a member of the social committee.

AUGUST LUCKY DRAW WINNERS

1st Prize of \$67.00 was won by Velvet Ravenstein

2nd Prize of \$42.00 was won by Lyn Rice

3rd Prize of \$33.00 was won by Velvet Ravenstein

4th Prize of \$25.00 was won by Brian Passmore

Gift certificate for the Bradford Garden Gallery was won by Nell Holowachuk

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

(If you are considering organizing any type of interest group, please approach the Executive Committee.)

The special interest groups are open to Probus members only.

* Book Club, "Spin off" group.	Contact Lucille Mancer	422-0143
Happy Bookers original group-membership full.	Contact Mary Barnes	429-2142
* Dinner at our Place	Contact Betty Keyes	429-6064
* Afternoon Luncheon Cuisiners	Contact Maggie Higgins	422-1338
* Restaurant Dinner Club	Contact Diane Nagel	428-3209
* Fair Weather Walkers	Contact Gary Willis	429-7835
* YOYO's	Contact Joan Maloney	422-0573

The **YOYO's** (You're On Your Own) are a group of individuals wanting to share in good fellowship, potlucks and amusing activities. We meet on the 4th Wednesday morning of the month. Call Joan Maloney @ 422-0573

Dinner at Our Place: TO ALL MEMBERS

We have a great need to start a new house in our dinner club. I need 4 more people to make this happen. Also, if you don't wish to be on our permanent roster, why not go on our "Substitute" list? Does this fit your description?

1. I like to cook and prepare favorite dishes as well as try new recipes.
2. I like to have fun, share a lot of laughs and get to know members over the course of an evening.
3. I enjoy the experience of welcoming people to my home and entertaining.
4. I like the fact that others are responsible for preparing courses which they bring to my home that evening.
5. I like the fact that I will only host once every 4 months.
6. I like the fact that the other 3 months I will be a guest in another member's home.
7. Finally, I would love to attend the group socials: the Christmas party in December and the barbecue in August.

After you finish reading the above, why don't you seek me out at a meeting or give me a call?

Betty Keyes 429-6064 keyes1@sympatico.ca

The Happy Bookers Club has been on summer hiatus and will start up again this month. Because of the popularity of the book club, a 2nd new group is now forming. If you are interested in joining the **new group** please call **Lucille Mancer @ 422-0143**. (The original Happy Bookers is run by Mary Barnes. Their membership is full.)

The Fair Weather Walkers, as the name implies, walk when the weather co operates. However we have been caught in downpours and blizzards but have always managed to complete the course. The route begins at the Powerline Road Skidoo trail and except for two small hills, is easy to walk. Our pace is unhurried yet steady and gives us plenty of time (about an hour) to observe the ever changing world around us. We have been known to see deer, a variety of birds, the occasional porcupine and even a black bear. (But he was too far away to cause us too much worry!) Please join our friendly group any Friday at 1:30. We enjoy laughter and good conversation which always carries to Tim Horton's afterwards.

The **Afternoon Luncheon Cuisiners** meet every 2nd Monday of the month at 11:30 am. Members take turns hosting the lunch, which is an organized pot luck. It is a time of good food, laughter and gossip. We are now at our maximum membership limit of 12 ladies. Call Maggie Higgins @ 422-1338 if you want to be on our "wait" list.

The **Restaurant Dinner Club** is a group of some 60 members dedicated to the proposition that retirement is more than cooking. They go to different restaurants in the area every other month. Call Diane Nagel @ 428-3209 if you are interested in joining the group or you can recommend a good restaurant in the area.

JUST FOR LAUGHS!

Cinderella is now 95 years old. After a fulfilling life with the now dead prince, she happily sits upon her rocking chair, watching the world go by from her front porch, with a cat name Bob for companionship. One sunny afternoon out of nowhere, appeared the fairy godmother. Cinderella said, "Fairy Godmother, what are you doing here after all these years?" The fairy godmother replied, "Cinderella, you have lived an exemplary life since I last saw you. Is there anything for which your heart still yearns?" Cinderella was taken aback, overjoyed, and after some thoughtful consideration, she uttered her first wish. "The prince was wonderful, but not much of an investor. I'm living hand to mouth on my disability checks and I wish I were wealthy beyond comprehension." Instantly her rocking chair turned into solid gold. Cinderella said "Ooh, thank you Fairy Godmother." The fairy godmother replied "It is the least that

I can do. What do you want for your second wish?" Cinderella looked down at her frail body and said "I wish I were young and full of the beauty and youth I once had." At once her wish became reality and her beautiful young visage returned. Cinderella felt stirrings inside of her that had been dormant for years. And then the fairy godmother spoke once more: "You have one more wish, what shall it be?" Cinderella looked over to the frightened cat in the corner and said "I wish for you to transform Bob, my old cat, into a kind and handsome young man." Magically Bob suddenly underwent so fundamental a change in his biological make-up that, when he stood before her, he was a man so beautiful the likes of him neither she nor the world had ever seen. The fairy godmother said, "Congratulations Cinderella, enjoy your new life." With a blazing shock of bright blue electricity, the fairy godmother was gone as suddenly as she had appeared. For a few eerie moments Bob and Cinderella looked into each other's eyes. Cinderella sat breathless, gazing at the most beautiful, stunningly perfect man she had ever seen. Then Bob walked over to Cinderella, who sat transfixed in her rocking chair, and held her close in his young muscular arms. He leaned in close, blowing her golden hair with his warm breath as he whispered....."Bet you're sorry you neutered me."

BEACHCOMBERS SELLERS PAGE

Sellers must be members of Probus Beachcombers. Email your submission to Joanne Scruton (stan.scruton@sympatico.ca) or add your submission to the list which is posted on the bulletin board at each meeting. Please notify Joanne immediately when your item has been sold. Items will be listed for a maximum of **3 months**.

1. Sears Treadmill with weights, bench press and monitor \$250. Call Aeron Raab @ 429-4965
2. Stationary Bike with tension control \$75. Call Aeron Raab @ 429-4965
3. Electric Organ \$175. Call Aeron Raab @ 429-4965
4. Matching 3 piece chesterfield, love seat and chair. Gray floral pattern with wine and green flowing through it. Very pretty, all three in good condition. \$300 for all 3 pieces. Call Shirley Brett @ 429-8907

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES: Best wishes to those who celebrated in August!

DON'T FORGET:

- The Secretary's Minutes of the last General Meeting and the Treasurer's Summary of the Club's finances are posted on the Bulletin Board. Please read them! These Bulletin Boards often have details of other Community Events and Happenings in the area. We do this as an information service to our members, but we do not promote such things.
- Please notify the Membership Convener (Linda Willis @ 429-0467) of any changes to your address, phone number etc. We realize this is a continuing reminder, but it is very important!
- Wear your name tag to all Probus meetings and events.
- Please pass the information on sickness, hospital stays, or deaths of our members to our Goodwill Convener (Marilyn Ruse @ 422-0271). If you don't tell us, we may miss sending out a card. Get-well Wishes, Best Wishes, and Condolences to anyone we may have missed.
- Our New Member Ambassador, Betty Keyes, is always available to give you information about our Club and its activities. Betty can be reached @ 429-6064.

NEXT MEETING:

OCTOBER 8

ALL STARS ARENA

Arrive at 9:30 to enjoy coffee and tea with your friends prior to the meeting at 10:00 am.

When you are unable to attend a meeting, you can access your copy of The Wasagan at www.probus.org/7wasbcn.pdf (Please contact the Editors if you do not have a computer)

Please note that the **address changes** every January to reflect the new year.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

President:	Tom Donohue	429-0644	Refreshments:	Susan & Brian Passmore	422-1956
Vice-President:	Betty Baker	422-1909	Membership:	Linda Willis	429-0467
Treasurer:	Kathy Zack	429-0033	Social:	Irene Donohue	429-0644
Secretary:	Joanne Scruton	422-0976	60/40 Draw:	Kay Knab	429-5547
Past President:	Christina Armstrong	429-7805	New Member Ambassador:		
Speakers:	Jan Bivall	429-7584		Betty Keyes	429-6064
	Diane Nagel	428-3209	Goodwill:	Marilyn Ruse	422-0271
			Newsletter:	Maggie Higgins	
				& Ken Wong	422-1338