



The Wasagan



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Official Newsletter of
Beachcombers PROBUS, Wasaga
Beach, Ontario

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FEBRUARY'S GENERAL MEETING

Speaker: Christine Holroyd speaks about special education

MARCH is PROBUS month: Come out for the breakfast next month.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of long time PROBUS member Judith Harrison. Judith had some mobility issues in recent years, but remained very positive and enjoyed the activities offered by our club. Judith will be missed.



Ross Dawe

Winter continues to move along. Many of our members are down south in sunnier climes. However, the rest of us are enjoying winter right here in Wasaga Beach. If you stop to think about it, being in Wasaga Beach in the winter can be like living in a post card. Our natural surroundings truly are beautiful. In addition, so far we have not experienced the frigid temperatures and large snowfalls that continued for most of last winter. Every sunny day without snow is a bonus to be enjoyed and appreciated. The days are getting longer and winter activities are keeping most of us pleasantly occupied. Our social committee continues to provide the members of our club with wonderful opportunities for enjoyment and social contacts over the winter months.

We are really fortunate to have so many talented members in our club. Over the last few months, we have all enjoyed our guest humourists, Christina Armstrong, Betty Baker, and Bob Bowyer, as well as people like Dave Robbins and Lance Wright who have been our guest speakers. If you know of anyone who has a special talent,

please let us know and we'll try to persuade that person to share that talent with us. We are stronger together.

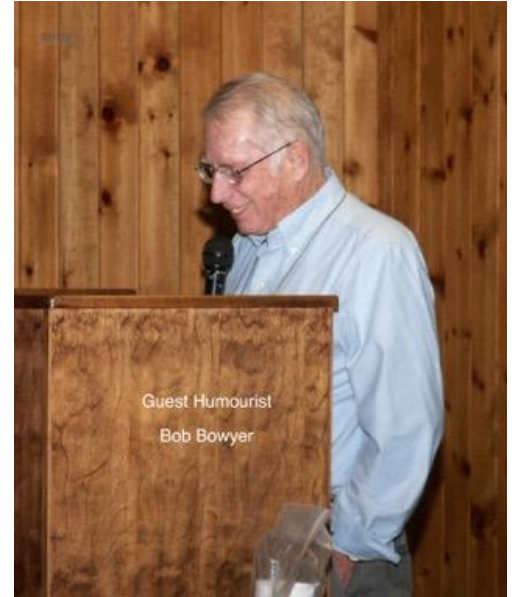
March is **PROBUS month** and to celebrate we are serving a special subsidized catered breakfast which will be enjoyed on the morning of our next meeting at 9:00 am on March 3. There is only a \$5.00 per member charge. All are welcome. Sign up today for your pancakes, bacon, fruit, juice, etc.

JANUARY'S MEETING

Greeters: THANK YOU TO OUR GREETERS FOR DECEMBER: Stan and Joanne Scruton. If you wish to be a greeter, please speak to **Ron Hanson**.



Ambiance: Thanks were given to: **Joan Smith** for her table décor and **Lyn and George Rice** for the coffee and goodies. **Bob Bowyer** was guest humorist for the meeting.



Speaker: Doug McCullough introduced our guest speaker, Michelle Falone, who warned us of all the various ways the bad guys out there can trick us out of our money. Various scams like identity theft, car repairs, door to door sales, telemarketing, etc. were discussed and we were instructed on how to recognize them and what to do about them. Certainly it is important to shred all personal identification pieces before placing them in the garbage. We should get a free credit report yearly and visit the Consumer Protection branch of the government of Ontario to learn much more.



Lucky Draw: Joan Maloney

1st PRIZE: \$49.00 Jack Benedet

2nd PRIZE: \$33.00 Brian Armstrong

3rd PRIZE: \$27.00 Olga Yates

Speakers' Fund: \$36.00

PLEASE BRING COINS TO THE LUCKY DRAW TABLE AND BUY TICKETS BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS.

I'd like the memory of me
To be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an afterglow
Of smiles when life is done.

I'd like to leave an echo
Whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times,
and bright and sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who
grieve to dry before the sun, of
happy memories, that I leave
When life is done.

~unknown

Judith Anne Harrison

nee Sawerthal



March 26, 1932 ~ January 8, 2015

Rest in Peace, Judith

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Our potluck / games day in January was a great success. We had approximately 50 people who enjoyed delicious food and an afternoon of fun and games.



Here is a summary of our upcoming events that we hope you all will take advantage of.

FEBRUARY 16th 2015



The date for the "swingin' jazz lunch" at the Donato House Hotel has been changed from February 16th to February 17th. (Feb. 16th is a holiday....family day). So far we have 34 people who have signed up for this event and we can still accommodate more, so you can still sign up at the February meeting. **Please remember to bring your cheques to the February meeting.** The cost is \$25.00 pp. The promoter of this event is going to contact other PROBUS clubs to see if they want to participate as well, in an effort to increase the number of people to about 50.

March 10th, 11th 2015

At the January general meeting we had put out an interest sheet for a bus/theatre trip to Toronto.....Angela Lansbury in Blythe Spirit. The cost seemed to be prohibitive (\$165.00pp), as only 4 people had shown interest. This event has been cancelled.



Instead we have planned a special private tasting party at "The Lively Olive" in Collingwood. There have been 2 dates planned for this event (March 10th and March 11th). The reason for the 2 dates is that the store can only accommodate around 20 people at a time, and I suspect that we will get a greater response from the membership than just 20 people. The tasting will begin at 6:00 pm. and last for about 90 minutes.

We can then go out for dinner as a group to Tesoro's Italian restaurant which is in the same area as The Lively Olive. I have been advised that should you wish to bring your own wine or beer to drink during this event that you can do that. There will be snacks that the store will provide for our tasting experience. It is important that when you are signing up for this activity that you indicate which of the 2 dates and as to whether you want to be included in the dinner plans.

There is no cost for the event.....dinner cost would be at the members expense.



April, 2015

For April we will

be planning a tour of the Base Borden museum and hangers. We will confirm the date towards the end of February. However, we are tentatively looking at April 14th/ 15th / or 16th. The cost of the tour will be \$2.00 pp. We can plan on going for either lunch or dinner after the tour. Lunch or dinner will depend upon whether we schedule the tour for the morning or the afternoon. A sign-up sheet will be available at the February meeting. This will allow the membership 3 months to indicate their participation, prior to going on the tour. There does not seem to be a limit as to the number of people that they can accommodate.

That's all for now....your social committee

MEMBERSHIP

For those of you who haven't yet picked up a copy - please be aware that the new Membership list (as of October) is available on the Membership table. One per couple please.



If you have a spreadsheet program (in Numbers or Excel) on your computer and are moderately familiar with using it please talk to Judy Morrison. Thank you.

GOODWILL AND TELEPHONE COMMITTEE



Vincy Stephenson sent out cards: sympathy to the sisters of **Judith Harrison** at her Celebration of Life and to **Bob Harasowsky** on the death of his Mother. Please pass information regarding illness, hospital stays or death of a member to our Goodwill Convener, **Vincy Stephenson**.

Birthdays/Anniversaries

Best wishes to those who celebrate a special day in February, 2015.



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

If you want to join a group, call the convener listed below. If you wish to start a new group, speak to the Management Team.

PM Luncheon Cuisiners:

Joan Porter - 429-9260

Genealogy:

Sandra Hanson - 422-0227

Daytrippers:

June Davidson - 422-0960

Dinner at our Place:

Diane Nagel - 422-0835

First Edition:

Rickey Lemire - 422-1738

Happy Bookers:

Jan Bivall - 429-7584

Kitchen Bridge:

Betty Keyes - 429-6064

Men's Breakfast:

Bob Bowyer - 429-0579

MEN'S BREAKFAST



The **ROMEO MEN'S** Breakfast group gathers on the **last Wednesday of each month** for fellowship, and breakfast. In January a small group met for

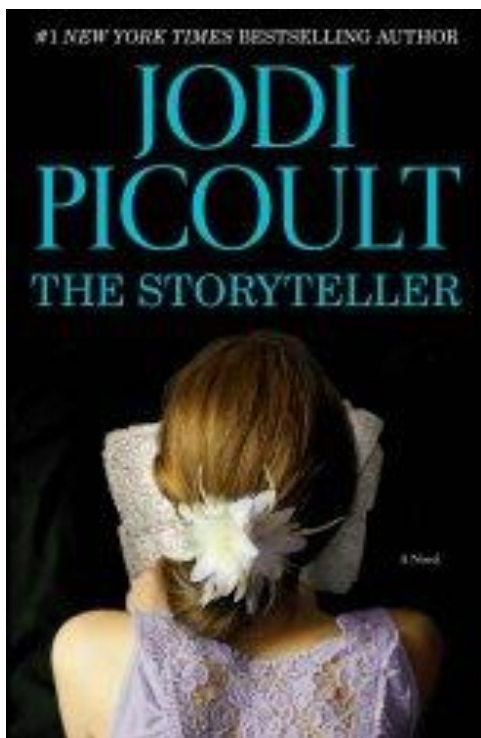
breakfast and conversation at **YAMMAS GRILL**. We have quite a few who are away enjoying some milder weather in various regions of the globe.

We now have 29 serious **ROMEO'S** on our list, who enjoy breakfast and stimulating conversation. We average about 18 for breakfast. If you wish to join us for the first time, contact **Bob Bowyer** at 705-429-0579 to get on the list. We send out a reminder a few days ahead to find out how many can make it. We try to give the restaurant an approximate count a few days before as to how many will be attending.

Our next breakfast will be on **Wednesday February 25, 2015, 9:00AM at Mosley Street Grill**.

Thanks go out to **Ross Dawe** for looking after January's breakfast while **Joan** and I take a short holiday. We will be back for February breakfast.

HAPPY BOOKERS



Sage is a baker of artisan breads who likes the night shifts that allow her to work alone and avoid most people. She is scarred, both mentally and physically from an accident in her past. Her life as a recluse is threatened, however, when Sage and an older man, Josef, become friends. Josef confesses to Sage that he was an S.S. officer at a concentration camp and suffers such guilt that he requests that she put him out his misery by killing him. Sage needs to confirm the man's story and confront the moral dilemmas involved in his request, not the least of which is that her own grandmother is a survivor of Auschwitz. We eventually hear Josef's history and Sage's grandmother's history and how she used her own stories to entertain an S.S. officer so that he would let her live. This Jodi Picoult novel, The Storyteller approaches the facts of the holocaust from a different perspective which makes for interesting reading and, typically for Picoult, there's an unexpected ending. We rated this novel a 3.75/4.

First Edition Book Club Review

In January, the First Edition Book Club read The Best of Me by Nicholas Sparks. This is basically a romantic novel with a twist in the story. Amanda Collier and Dawson Cole grew up in the small town of Oriental, North Carolina and fell in love when they were high school students. Unfortunately their families were from very different backgrounds and Amanda and Dawson would be separated and set out in very divergent paths. When they meet again, twenty five years later, to attend the funeral of a dear friend from their past, their love is rekindled. However their lives have been very different from what they imagined and they soon realized that they had to confront reality. Dawson's violent family out for revenge and Amanda's concern for her husband and children force their future decision. Our members enjoyed the book but thought the conclusion was quite predictable. It was rated 3.75 out of 5.



NEWS FROM THE SOUTH

One of our members sent this item from the southern climes and although edited for length, I thought a few of us could close our eyes and visualize being there. If you are a member down south and wish to send a small piece about where you are, it would be most welcome, I think. Here is the report:



Dennis and Barb in the lobby of the Polynesian Hotel at Disneyworld

Hello to all the Beachcombers PROBUS members from the sunny south. My wife, Barb, and I miss joining you for the monthly get together in the frozen north of Wasaga Beach but we decided to once again escape the winter months for a warmer and sunnier climate of Orlando, Florida. I confess we are not skiers and we sold our snowmobile years ago but we do own sandals and beach towels and suntan lotion so here we are.

The weather here in Florida follows the same pattern as Wasaga Beach in the winter, but with a higher average temperature. Most days we enjoy 70 to 80F (20 to 25C) but it is still the Florida version of winter. All the leaves have fallen from the trees and the lawns all look very poor but the sun is out and shining almost all the time. Feels warm on my old bones.

It is amazing how many Canadians are here. Every second license plate is either from Ontario or Quebec. Almost makes you feel like you are still at home. Renting a whole house for a week or a month is such a common thing to do here, many Canadians come down for long periods of time and the cost is very reasonable unlike hotels and resorts. If you haven't looked into house rental in Florida, you owe it to yourself to check it out.

Stay warm my friends and enjoy the winter in your own way. We will see you again for the meeting in May.

Regards, Dennis & Barb Moise



The Mystery Picture is
Luci Worch



Do You Recognize This Member? - NOT this time!

Last month's mystery photo person was Lucy Worch who seemed to fool all of you even though she wore the same piece of jewellery as she wore in the photo as a young girl (Can you see it?). This month's photo star was not available to come to the meeting and this little quiz item may have run its course unless someone sneaks me a photo or two. So please consider emailing a copy to t.donohue@rocketmail.com

AND send it as a jpeg not a pdf file

NEXT GENERAL **MEETING**

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2015

Wasaga Stars Arena

See you at 9:00 for the wonderful
PROBUS breakfast