

Monthly Newsletter of the
Probus Club of South Muskoka
January 2012



Club No.119,
Chartered June 12,
2001

happy new year !!

This Month's Meeting: January 10th, 2012 @ 10:00 A.M.

Come early for extra social time & coffee. The doors are open at 9:30

Greeters: Thorna and Walter Collis

Attendance: Jim and Thelma Marrin

Tickets: Bette Sweatman

10:00 President's Remarks and announcements

10:15 Presentation: "Rails to Trails" – Joe Ursano

10:35 or so Social Time

11:00 Guest Speaker: Brian McElwain – "The Muskoka Lakes Association"

12:00 Adjourn

Next Month: February 14th, 2012 @ 10:00 A.M.

Greeters: Thorna and Walter Collis

Guest Speaker: Jason Swain – "The Law and Seniors"

Words of Wit and Wisdom

Retirement has been a discovery of beauty for me. I never had the time before to notice the beauty of my grandkids, my wife, the tree outside my very own front door. And, the beauty of time itself.

- **Hartman Jule** (*Writer*)

Women don't want to hear what you think. They want to hear what they think, but in a deeper voice..

- **Bill Cosby** (*Comedian and actor, 1937 -*)



Care Bear:

If you know of anyone who is ill
or has suffered bereavement,
please call

Lynne Schroth 705- 765-7394 or
Marlene Robinson 705-767-3000

The newsletter is distributed in advance of each month's meeting to all members by e-mail or post. Please print a copy and bring to the meeting if you wish to take notes, as no extra copies will be available there. Be sure to let the Membership Director (Don Nikiforuk, 705-646-1452 or don.nansi@sympatico.ca.) know if your address (or any other contact information) has changed or is incorrect.

Send ideas, corrections, complaints, or praise to your Newsletter Editor at pbowker@sympatico.ca or 705-765-0242
(Your pictures of people and events are also welcome ... full-res jpegs please)

We are saddened to report the loss of two long-time members in December, when Peter Sale and John Soutar passed away. Our Care Bears have sent condolences and a memorial donation on behalf of the club.

At Our Last Meeting ...

Our annual Christmas meeting was a fun event, as usual. The meeting room was attractively decorated with red tablecloths and centerpieces. Most of the Management Committee, and many other members were dressed for the occasion, in both traditional and humorous attire. After the usual announcements, Perry Bowker conducted a Christmas Trivia contest, and "Designated Elves" Jim and Thelma Marrin passed out prizes for the correct answers. Queenie Reville read a memoir of earlier Christmases. Then came coffee break, and the cookie exchange.

After break, we were entertained by the Old Tyme Gospel Band, who performed a program of gospel tunes and Christmas favorites. As we prepared to depart, lucky winners at each table got to keep the centerpiece.



President Paul arrived from outer space



Special guest musician Judy Watson played the Jingle Bells

During the meeting, our own Poet Laureate created a special poem ...

South Muskoka Probus Club -- "Where Good Friends Meet"

**Probus is more than a monthly meeting with business to be done
It is more than fine dining, the arts and activities just for fun**

**It is a legacy of lasting friendship that we are bound to uphold
Quality time with good and youthful people that continues to unfold**

**It gives us reasons to celebrate with songs and lasting cheer
Bonding with caring friendship with those whom we hold dear**

**It is the proud Probus tradition of those who have gone before
Who have etched a rich legacy that challenges us to do even more**

**It is the magic of dream builders who refuse to be slowed by age
Touching the hearts of many as they walk on the Probus stage**

**Ever caring and ever sharing with the energy of their youthful fire
Living each day to the fullest as architects of hope that will inspire**

Ken R Estabrooks

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

These groups meet more or less regularly to pursue a common interest. While some may be full due to physical constraints, they will usually welcome guests to fill in when regular members are absent. If you are interested in forming an interest group (or if you just wish to share your ideas), Special Interests Chair Rena Liebster can help you get going - (705) 646-8909 or renarno@sympatico.ca.

Armchair Travel: The Bracebridge Probus Club invites us to join their meetings for the next two months – 2 P.M. at the Bracebridge Anglican Church (upstairs room). Monday January 9: Ian and Diane Turnbull present "Crossing Northern England By Foot". February 6: Sven and Marianne Meeuwisse presenting "Paris and Versailles". Contact ADELE ALLAN at (705) 767-3728 or adelalla@yahoo.com for information about the group.

Book Club: Contact MARILYN CROFT at 705-764-0099 or cro55@on.aibn.com. We meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Next meeting is Tuesday January 24th at 1:00 p.m. at Judy Watson's home, when we will discuss "The Sense of an Ending" by Julian Barnes. Contact Marilyn for details.

Bowling Club: Contact LYNDA DOIG at (705) 645-0391 or past.tense@sympatico.ca. On Friday January 20th, 2012, join us for some healthy fun at 7:00 p.m. at the Riverside Inn.

Bucket List Club: If anyone is interested in organizing an event, call MARGARET McLAREN at (705) 645-1015.

Cooking/Dining: Each of our dining groups has its own approach to the enjoyment of good food and fellowship.

Decadent Dining Out: THORNA and WALTER COLLIS at (705) 646-0613. We are a group of nine that meet on the fourth Thursday of each month to dine out at an area restaurant. Each member takes their turn to choose and arrange for the location. Sometimes we meet at a member's home to enjoy a libation prior to dinner. Guests are welcome if the dining facility can accommodate. Please call Thorna or Walter.

Dine and Unwind: DIANNE DARRAGH at (705) 765-0593 or diannedar@aol.com. Our casual dining evenings consist of 8 regular diners, but we like to seat ten, so we encourage anyone to call us and join us as our guest. We are a fun group who really enjoy company. We usually dine on the second Wednesday of the month. Please join the guest list.

Easy Diners: RENA AND ARNO LIEBSTER at (705) 646-8909 or renarno@sympatico.ca. We usually meet on the 3rd Thursday of alternate months. We meet in a member's home and invite a chef to prepare and serve appetizers and a full-course meal for us, at a fixed price, usually \$30 per person (including tax and gratuities, but BYOB). Dinners can be sit down or buffet style. We try to keep our numbers to 16 each time to make it worthwhile for the chef, and when some cannot come we have an on-call list. Our next meeting will be a bit of a change – a luncheon meeting on Friday January 20th. This would be a good chance for new members to give us a look. Please call or e-mail to join the on-call list.

Out To Lunch Bunch: THELMA MARRIN at (705) 645-9760 or jtmarrrin@hotmail.com. This group consists of anyone who likes to go out to an interesting place for lunch. Our next get together will be at 12 noon at Crabby Joe's on Wednesday, January 18th. Everyone is welcome, but please call or e-mail Thelma to so she can advise the restaurant of numbers expected.

Prestige Diners: BILL and PENNY BARKER at (705) 762-5524. The Prestige Dinners are 6 couples who enjoy Eating Out. Most of our group comes from Gravenhurst to Acton Island along Highway 169. We meet once a month if possible, and we chose a different restaurant in Muskoka or North Simcoe County. Each couple chooses an outing and sets the date. In the Winter months, 3 couples try to meet in South Florida to enjoy the Southern cuisine. For more information and to join our guest list, contact Bill or Penny.

Red Dragons: ELLEN KING at (705) 645-2305. Please join the guest list.

Computers: FREE WORKSHOPS are offered at the Bracebridge Library. Admission is on a first come first served basis. Please call Cathy Ashby at (705) 645 4171 to register.

Crafter's Circle: Contact ELIZABETH NORTHEY at (705) 645 2057 or email buscentr@sympatico.ca. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month – the next meeting will be January 17th, location TBA.

Curling: Currently inactive. Would someone like to organize this activity?

Hiking and Walking Club: We are taking a rest until Spring. See you then! JAN SHARMAN and ED KAPUSNI AK

Investment Club: Meetings are the day before the monthly Probus meeting, at 10:00 a.m. at the Edward Jones Office, 81 Manitoba Street, Bracebridge. Next meeting January 9th. New members welcome – no money involved. BILL DEDRICK will be convener for a couple of months: (705) 765-0536 or e-mail catd@sympatico.ca

Video Group: We meet on the fourth Thursday of the month in each other's homes to view and discuss interesting films – some new, some classics, some foreign. We are initiating two guest spots per month, when space allows. To sign up for this rotating guest list, call LYNDA and KEVIN McALLINDON at (705) 684-8456 or email kmcallindon1@coqeco.com. The next Video Night is Thursday February 23rd.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES and EVENTS

WAR HORSE EXCURSION – Wednesday, May 2nd, 2012

Excellent tickets have been obtained for the matinee performance of this critically-acclaimed show, which features life-sized horse puppets. We have a wonderful agenda starting with a private lecture and tour of the Picasso Exhibition at the AGO, followed by the show. After the show, we will walk across the street to Penelope's Greek Restaurant for our 3-course dinner. The cost is \$175 per person, which includes bus transportation, snacks, the Picasso Exhibition, War Horse, dinner, all taxes and gratuities.

(To get an idea of the show, see http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RMegBak1RQg&feature=player_embedded.)

Please email me - Adele Allan - adelalla@yahoo.com - to confirm your spot.

Could you please bring a cheque payable to the "Probus Club of South Muskoka" to the next meeting, or mail one to Treasurer Bonnie Christie, PO Box 591, Bracebridge, P1L 1T8.

YOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2010 – 2011

Co-Presidents:	Paul and Wendy Truscott	(705) 767-3420	pwtruscott@yahoo.com
Vice-President:	-- OPEN --		
Secretary:	Elizabeth Northey	(705) 645-2057	buscentr@sympatico.ca
Treasurer:	Bonnie Christie	(705) 646-2095	bngchristie@bell.net
Speakers:	Donna Worth	(705) 646-0050	donbur94@muskoka.com
Newsletter:	Perry Bowker	(705) 765-0242	pbowker@sympatico.ca
Membership:	Don Nikiforuk	(705) 646-1452	don.nansi@sympatico.ca
Special Interests:	Rena Liebster	(705) 646-8909	renarno@sympatico.ca
Social / Events:	Adele Allan	(705) 767-3728	adelealla@yahoo.com
	Dick Robinson	(705) 767-3000	marlenedick@hotmail.com
Members-at-Large:	Peter Milner	(705) 645-7980	jpmilner@sympatico.ca
	Cathy Turley	(705) 646-2370	
	John Vellinga	(705) 762-5115	jmvellinga@sympatico.ca
Care Bears	Marlene Robinson	(705) 767-3000	marlenedick@hotmail.com
	Lynne Scroth	(705) 765-7394	herlyn@muskoka.com
Past President:	Ron Dyer	(705) 645-0004	the.dyers@sympatico.ca

We are pleased to announce that Rena Liebster has taken the role of Special Interests chair; Dick Robinson will be assisting Adele Allan with Social Events; and that Peter Milner and John Vellinga are new Members-at-Large. All members are encouraged to get involved with one of the subcommittees. We are still looking for one, or two, or three people to fill the role of Vice-President.

Finally, in support of life long learning, Nipissing University (Muskoka Campus) is would like to find out what interests you and your family members may have. They have created a survey to gather ideas and would appreciate it if you would participate. The information gathered will help them to plan for future programs. Please complete the survey by Friday January 13th, 2012.


Click here to access the survey:

<http://app.fluidsurveys.com/surveys/nipissingcfl/continuing-learning-template/>

Our club website is getting into shape. Check it out at www.smprobust.ca and offer your comments and suggestions to the "webmaster" (click on the "Contact the Webmaster" link).



Month-At-A-Glance ... and More

January, 2012	 Happy New Year !!
January 9	Armchair Travellers – 2:00 P.M. at the Bracebridge Anglican Church
January 9	Investment Club – 10:00 A.M. at the Edward Jones office
January 10	Probus Regular Meeting at the Rotary Centre for Youth – coffee and conversation at 9:30 A.M., Meeting starts at 10:00 A.M.
January 17	Crafter's Circle – location TBA
January 18	Out-to-Lunch Bunch – Noon at Crabby Joe's
January 20	Easy Diners – Luncheon, location TBA
January 20	Bowling Club – 7:00 PM at the Riverside Inn
January 24	Book Club – Noon at Judy Watson's home
January 24	South Muskoka Probus Management Committee meets at 9:30 AM at the Rotary Centre
February 6	Armchair Travellers – 2:00 P.M. at the Bracebridge Anglican Church
February 13	Investment Club – 10:00 A.M. at the Edward Jones office
February 14	♥ ♥ ♥ Valentine's Day
February 14	Probus Regular Meeting at the Rotary Centre for Youth – coffee and conversation at 9:30 A.M., Meeting starts at 10:00 A.M.
February 21	Crafter's Circle – location TBA
February 17	Bowling Club – 7:00 PM at the Riverside Inn
February 28	Book Club Potluck – Noon at Judy Watson's home
February 28	South Muskoka Probus Management Committee meets at 9:30 AM at the Rotary Centre
February 29	Leap Year Day ... wait an extra day for your pension cheque !
May 2	War Horse Excursion to Toronto