

Monthly Newsletter of the
Probus Club of South Muskoka

March 2012



Club No. 119,
Chartered June 12,
2001

www.smprobust.ca

This Month's Meeting: March 13th, 2012 @ 10:00 A.M.

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

Greeters: Linda and Bob Doig

Attendance: Jim and Thelma Marrin

Tickets: Bette Sweatman

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|-------------|---|
| 10:00 | President's Remarks and announcements |
| 10:20 | Presentation – to be announced |
| 10:35 or so | Social Time (* see below) |
| 11:00 | Guest Speaker: Dr. Peter Sale – "Why I decided to
write 'Our Dying Planet' " |
| 12:00 | Adjourn |

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

Greeters: Lynda and Bob Doig

Guest Speaker: To be announced

* The "New Lunch Bunch" goes to a restaurant after the monthly Probus meeting. At the break, let Cathy Turley know if you are interested, and she will contact the restaurant to reserve enough places.

Words of Wit and Wisdom

When a man retires, his wife gets twice the husband but only half the income.

- **Chi Chi Rodriguez** (*Professional Golfer, 1935 -*)

My mother always told me I wouldn't amount to anything because I procrastinate. I said, 'Just you wait'.

- **Judy Tenuta** (*Comedian, 1956 -*)



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)

At Our Last Meeting ...

Meeting Chair Perry Bowker welcomed everyone, and hoped the Truscotts are enjoying their time off.

New Members - Jim and Jan Davidson - welcome !!

At the start of the meeting, the members of the Management Committee came forward to welcome new members Jan and Jim. Be sure to say hello when you next see them !



The "Auto-Biography"

After the usual announcements, Perry mentioned the difficulty we have getting members to give a biography, and proposed a partial solution. He led the group in raising their hands as he called out a number of possibilities for their former professions, birthplace, hobby, travel highlights, favorite sports, bucket list items, grandchildren, and so forth. Hopefully this sparked some further discussion at the coffee break.

Jason Swain - "Seniors: Some Legal Issues of Importance"

Joe Ursano introduced Jason, who is a lawyer with the Lake Country Community Legal Clinic. Jason explained that he intends to highlight several key legal issues that all seniors should be sure they have covered, and some of the problems that can arise if they don't, or don't do it right.



He described the "Substitute Decisions Act" and the two types of Power of Attorney (POA) it provides. He began by clarifying that these apply only to living people and should be supported with a proper will. A POA for Property assigns the right to manage one's property if you were to become unable to – say, because of infirmity, or mental disability. It can, and should, have specific provisions for under what conditions it applies, for what property, for how long, and so forth. A POA for Personal Care (also called a "living will") allows someone to make health and care decisions on your behalf if you are unable to. Importantly, it also should specify your wishes for things such as organ donation or medical intervention.

Jason then related a number of cases he's aware of, to highlight some of the problems that can arise, and how to avoid them. Most often, other family members are involved, disputing the validity of the POA itself, or the actions of the executor. And so it is important to anticipate these, if possible, when creating the POA.

He then had a few words to say about elder abuse. He pointed out that abuse can be physical or emotional; that it may be perpetrated (possibly even unintentionally) by family, by caregivers, even by strangers (various phone and internet scams). These situations can be difficult to recognize, and even more difficult to resolve - especially if recourse to the law becomes necessary.

Finally, he had some words to say about passing on a cottage. It's very important to explain to your heirs what decision you've made, and why, because this can be a very touchy issue. Then, it's wise to have expert advice to deal with tax considerations, legal paperwork, and so forth.

After a question and answer session, Ron Dyer thanked Jason for his talk and presented the usual honorarium.

Reminder:

Our 2012-13 Probus year starts on June 1st. Dues remain unchanged at \$35. Please give or send a cheque to our club Treasurer Bonnie Christie (PO Box 591, Bracebridge, P1L 1T8) by May 31st to confirm your continuing membership. But please date your cheque for June 1st or later.

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: Susan and Ted Daglish, Donna and Burt Worth, and Adele Allan will present the SOUTH AMERICAN ODYSSEY on Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the Bracebridge United Church. EVERYONE and guests are invited. Contact ADELE ALLAN at (705) 767-3728 or adelalla@yahoo.com for information.

Book Club: We meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Next meeting is Tuesday March 27th at 1:00 p.m. at Irene Green's home, to discuss "The Fall of the Giants" by Ken Follett. Contact MARILYN CROFT at 705-764-0099 or cro55@on.aibn.com for details.

Bowling Club: Contact LYNDA DOIG at (705) 645-0391 or past.tense@sympatico.ca. Our next date will be Friday March 23rd. 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, so please contact Rena if you are interested in joining. Our next dinner is on Thursday March 29th at the Liebsters.

New Lunch Bunch: After each Probus Meeting. Contact DICK and MARLENE ROBINSON - richard@artinmuskoka.com

Out To Lunch Bunch: THELMA MARRIN at (705) 645-9760 or jtmarrin@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 11:45 AM at Nick's Restaurant on Wednesday, March 21st. 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, but won't meet until April - too many are away on vacation.

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

Hiking and Walking Club: We are taking a rest until Spring. See you in April! JAN SHARMAN and ED KAPUSNIAK

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 March 12th. 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

Music Appreciation: RENA LIEBSTER at (705) 646-8909 or renarno@sympatico.ca. The next meeting will be in April. Everyone is welcome. Please contact Rena for information.

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.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES and EVENTS

RAMA - Thursday, March 29th - Cancelled !

Unfortunately we were not able to get enough attendees.

MUSKOKA WILDLIFE CENTRE - Thursday, April 19th

Join this popular tour and demonstration of animals at the Centre, followed by lunch at the Farmer's Plate in Gravenhurst. Meet at the Centre on Highway 11 starting at 10 AM. Cost will be \$32 for admission and lunch. Further details still to come. Contact Marg McLaren, mpmclaren@sympatico.ca or (705) 645-1015.

WAR HORSE EXCURSION - Wednesday, May 2nd - Sold Out!!

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. If you'd like to get on a waiting list just in case a spot comes open, please email Adele Allan at adelalla@yahoo.com.

Niagara Wine Tour - Thursday, June 7th (see the attached flyer)

You are invited to join the Gravenhurst and South Muskoka Probus Clubs for the Niagara College Wine Tour followed by a sumptuous WINE MAKERS' LUNCH. We will then make our way for a tour of the Upper Canada Cheese Company. On our way back to Muskoka, we will have dinner at the Mandarin Restaurant. All these events for only \$125. per person - taxes and tips included. **This trip is selling out fast!**

To reserve your spot, please email Adele Allan adelalla@yahoo.com or call 705-767-3728.

Club Picnic - Tuesday, July 10th

Join us in Annie Williams Park at 12:30 P.M. for a good old-fashioned BBQ catered by Fresh Kutz. They will be serving hamburgers & sausages with fixings, potato & caesar salads, desserts, hot and cold drinks – all for \$25. For information, Elizabeth Northey at (705) 645-2057 or buscentr@sympatico.ca.

Summer Theatre Series

Back by popular demand! Stay tuned for details... Jan and Ed Kapusniak.

And, in the planning stages ... (tentative ... would you like to help?)

August: Boat Cruise

September: Taste of the World

October: Car Rally

December: Christmas Dinner Dance on December 5th; Christmas Luncheon on December 10th.

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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



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

March 12	Investment Club - 10:00 A.M. at the Edward Jones office
March 13	Probus Regular Meeting at the Rotary Centre for Youth - coffee and conversation at 9:30 A.M., Meeting starts at 10:00 A.M.
March 14	Armchair Travellers - 1:00 P.M. at the Bracebridge United Church
March 17	♣ ♣ Saint Patrick's Day ♣ ♣
March 21	Out-To-Lunch Bunch - Nick's Restaurant at 11:45 AM
March 23	Bowling Club - 7:00 PM at the Riverside Inn
March 27	South Muskoka Probus Management Committee meets at 9:30 AM at the Rotary Centre
March 29	Book Club - 1:00 PM at Irene Green's home.
March 29	Easy Diners - 5:30 PM at Rena and Arno Liebster's home.
April 9	Investment Club - 10:00 A.M. at the Edward Jones office
April 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.
April 19	Muskoka Wildlife Centre Visit - 10:00 AM
April 20	Bowling Club - 7:00 PM at the Riverside Inn
April 24	South Muskoka Probus Management Committee meets at 9:30 AM at the Rotary Centre
May 2	Excursion to Toronto - War Horse and Picasso Exhibit
June 7	Niagara Wine Tour

Website: www.smprobud.ca

GRAVENHURST PROBUS AND SOUTH MUSKOKA PROBUS CLUBS

See how it is made
and then sample the goods!!

NIAGARA COLLEGE WINE TOUR

Followed by a Sumptuous Wine Makers' Lunch
& then a tour of

UPPER CANADA CHEESE COMPANY

Buffet Dinner on the way Home at the Mandarin

THURS JUNE 7, 2012

ONLY \$125.00 PER PERSON

includes lecture at Niagara College, Wine Makers' Lunch at their Benchmark Restaurant, tour of The Upper Canada Cheese Company, perhaps another wine stop, dinner somewhere (perhaps the Mandarin), bus, taxes and tips –

PROBUS CLUB OF SOUTH MUSKOKA
Management Committee Meeting
Held at Rotary Centre for Youth
January 24, 2012

Meeting Chaired by Perry Bowker. Called to Order at 9.30a.m.

1. PRESENT: Perry Bowker; Don Nikiforuk; Bonnie Christie; Cathy Turley; Donna Worth; Adele Allan; Ron Dyer; Elizabeth Northey.
REGRETS: Paul & Wendy Truscott; Rena Leibster; John Vellinga
2. AGENDA approved as circulated.
3. MOTION to accept the Minutes of the November 22, 2011 Management Committee Meeting made by Ron Dyer, seconded Don Nikiforuk. CARRIED
4. BUSINESS ARISING:
 - 4.1 INSURANCE: email received from Probus Central outlining coverage. Copy confirming Rotary's coverage has been received and attached to our contract. Members are covered but we have no Directors Liability and it was decided that this was not needed.
 - 4.2 MARKETING PLAN: Ron is still working with Cable TV; we will be listed in Bracebridge, Gravenhurst & Huntsville Leisure Guides; Perry has approached Muskoka Lakes about inclusion in theirs; some items have been put on hold until we finalize where and when we will meet after June. We are looking for someone to place ad weekly in coming events newspaper section.
 - 4.3 WEBSITE is up and running. Suggested we add application form and photos of executive so new members can recognize management committee. Bert Worth will be asked to take the photos so they are consistent.
 - 4.4 Donna Worth will follow up with Habitat regarding a speaker.
5. CORRESPONDENCE:
New member application (given to Don Nikiforuk) and various promotion of events (given to Adele Allan)
6. REPORTS:
 - 6.1 PRESIDENT: Paul & Wendy Truscott have been in touch with everyone via email.
 - 6.2 SECRETARY: No Report
 - 6.3 TREASURER: Bonnie Christie presented the Treasurers Report for November and December. Moved By Bonnie Christie, seconded by Adele Allan that these reports be accepted as circulated. CARRIED
 - 6.4 MEMBERSHIP: Our membership now stands at 146. Applications for membership from Jan & Jim Davidson were approved. Application forms will be emailed to all members with newsletter. Don Nikiforuk will investigate if it is possible to hold AGM in August at Regatta again.
 - 6.5 SPEAKERS: John Vellinga reported that he has filled the time slot for March and April and is working on other ideas. We do not have anything for February as yet. Donna Worth reported on her speakers report (see attached). It was felt we need speaker at AGM and she was given list of people the committee felt would be appropriate.
 - 6.6 NEWSLETTER: Perry has most of the information he needs for the next newsletter.
 - 6.7 SOCIAL: Adele Allan outlined her plans for the year. There has been a good response to Valentine's Lunch in February; space still available for Warhorse in May; a few new ideas were given to her for new events and members of the Management Committee will investigate and get back to her.

6.8 MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Cathy Turley went round some of the tables at our last meeting to get some feedback from members. Some ideas were to re-introduce Biographies and a trip to the races.

6.9 PAST PRESIDENT: Firstly, Ron Dyer was thanked for producing a directory of all Probus Clubs in our area and it was suggested we should all make use of this by contacting our counterparts in the other Clubs.

Ron has again visited Central Muskoka Probus who now meet at the Sportsplex and shared his experiences with us. (We also received feedback from Rena & Arno Leibster who have also visited that Club).

Motion by Ron Dyer, seconded by Adele Allan that the Club purchase a wireless mike at a cost of approximately \$250.00 for use by our speakers. CARRIED.

Perry Bowker will look after this.

6.10 CARE BEARS: Sandy Snelling is not well.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 GENERAL MEETINGS LOCATION: Ron Dyer has spent a lot of time researching other locations for our General Meetings and the 2 possibilities are to stay at Rotary Centre for Youth or move to the Sportsplex. The Management Committee have exchanged many emails outlining the pros and cons of each location and much debate has ensued.

Moved by Adele Allan, seconded by Cathy Turley that we change our venue from Rotary Centre for Youth to the Sportsplex and change the day of our meeting to the first Wednesday of the month. CARRIED

(NOTE: the first Wednesday is now confirmed with the Sportsplex)

Perry Bowker thanked everyone for their participation in this decision. Ron Dyer will announce this change at February General Meeting and answer questions from the membership.

7.2 GUEST SPEAKER POLICY: Probus policy does not allow members or speakers to promote or solicit for personal interests. These items should be placed on table at door. A disclaimer will be created and attached to confirmation sent to each speaker. Perry Bowker and Donna Worth will work on the wording of this.

7.3 CURLING: Need someone to coordinate this activity with Gravenhurst rather than individuals contacting Gravenhurst Club.

7.4 ADVERTISING: Some hotels are advertising events as being for Probus members when they are actually open to the public and anyone can attend. We reconfirmed that only Probus Events can be promoted through the Club.

8. NEXT MEETINGS:

General Meeting will take place on February 14th, 2012, chaired by Perry Bowker and followed by our Valentine Lunch, and the next Management Committee meeting will take place on February 28, 2012, chaired by Ron Dyer

9. Meeting adjourned at 11.50a.m.