



The Beachcomber



NOVEMBER 2016

Official Newsletter of The PROBUS Canada of
Wasaga Beach,
P.O.B. 481, Wasaga Beach, Ontario,
Canada, L9Z 1A5

International Web Site:
www.probus.org

National Web Site:
www.probus.org/canada.htm

Newsletter Website:
<http://mensprobuswasaga.org>

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To advise the Club of any illness or bereavement situation affecting a member, please contact:

mensprobuswasagabeach@gmail.com

"We only need to look at what we are really doing in the world and at home and we'll know what it is to be Canadian"

Adrienne Clarkson

**Thursday, November 10th, 10:00 a.m.
at the Wasaga Stars Arena**



**Our Speaker and Topic
MWO Claude Pelletier
(CFB Borden)**

Arrive at 9:30 a.m. meet someone new and enjoy coffee with your friends



SOCIAL EVENTS

NOVEMBER



WHAT: Creemore Springs Guided Tour

WHERE: Creemore

WHEN: November 15, 2016

COST: BYO lunch

See Social Committee

DECEMBER



WHAT: Christmas Lunch

WHERE: Marlwood Golf Course

WHEN: December 7, 2016 @ 11:30 am

COST: \$30.00 pp

See Social Committee

JANUARY

**T
B
A**



The President's Corner

While growing up I had the opportunity to talk to a lot of veterans. Most said little of their war experiences, preferring to keep the horrors that they had seen and experienced to themselves. Some, like my previous father-in-law, would talk openly about their time overseas. Coming over for Sunday dinners, talk would inevitably turn to his war stories. With a mind that remembered every small detail, it was a fascinating glimpse into that part of history.

I also had the opportunity to meet a veteran of the Boer War and the First and Second World Wars. He told of marching in a line of fellow British soldiers during the Boer War, and how the men on each side of him dropped dead and yet he had to keep marching into the volley of bullets. After the carnage of the Boer and First World War, he returned home unscathed physically but scarred inside from the death of so many comrades.

In conclusion, I will leave you with this thought.

WHY REMEMBER

We must remember. If we do not, the sacrifice of those one hundred thousand Canadian lives will be meaningless. They died for us, for their homes and families and friends, for a collection of traditions they cherished and a future they believed in; they died for Canada. The meaning of their sacrifice rests with our collective national consciousness; our future is their monument.

Heather Robertson, A Terrible Beauty, The Art of Canada at War.

LAST MONTH'S MEETING AND OTHER BUSINESS

	<div style="background-color: #ADD8E6; padding: 10px; text-align: center;">Attendance</div>		
<p>AUGUST 31, 2016 Bank Balance: \$4,047.48</p> <p>Social Committee: \$643.86</p> <p>Uncommitted Net Balance: \$2,629.62</p> <p>Social Fund Reserve: \$500.00 (Refer also Page 3 for more current info)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Attendance: 52</p> <p style="text-align: center;">% of total membership: 47</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Current Membership: 114</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Life Members: 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Members' Guests: 0</p>	<p><i>There were 3 errant members badgeless and \$3.00 was coughed up to acting Deputy Finemaster George Howie</i></p>	<p>1st - Bruce Kurtz - \$50</p> <p>2nd - Lee Huish - \$37.50</p> <p>3rd - Two Theatre tickets - Brian Bermingham</p> <p>4th - Swag Bags - Peter Grell, Bob Wheeler, Peter Willmott, Mike Guy</p>

November's Birthdays

Rod Arnold, Lloyd Burton, Paolo Dorazio, Alan Gluck, Brian Kirkwood,
Rolf Rummeda, Bill Snooks, Paul Thompson

Many Happy Returns to all of you!



UPCOMING GUEST SPEAKER



NOVEMBER

MWO Claude Pelletier
Canadian Forces

DECEMBER

Alan Mallory, Author
The Family That Con-
quered Everest

JANUARY

Guy Chartrand
Collingwood G&M Hospital
Redeployment

OCTOBER'S GUEST SPEAKER

David Cubitt and Peter Wilkins
Wasaga Beach Brewing Company

Speaker Co-Chair John McCartney introduced the guest speakers David Cubitt and Peter Wilkins from the Wasaga Beach Brewing Company. For further information please go to www.wasaga.beer

FORGETTABLE/UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS IN LIFEMOMENT

Everyone in life has a story of an forgettable/unforgettable moment in life You know...that moment when you come to a crossroads and either which way you go will change your life forever. I would like to publish that moment. All you have to do is send a short Microsoft Word document to our web site and I'll publish it. Here is Lloyd Burton's unforgettable moment:

For me it took place in 1955. A colleague at The Telegram newspaper was the "Umpire in Charge for the Detonia Fastball League in the east end of Toronto. It was his job to make sure there was two umpires for each game.

He came to me one day and said "would you do me a favour"? He was short one umpire for that night's game and would I help him out. Replying that I had never umpired a game in my life, he said it paid \$5.00. Having been married a little over one year and expecting our first child and making only \$34.50 per week, I said sure! Why not! \$5.00 was a lot of money back then.

He gave me all the information, and I went home to tell my wife the good news. A quick supper and off we went to the ball park. Shaking hands with my fellow umpire he handed me a wire face mask and a small plastic thing that I understood you used to keep track of the balls and strikes. I explained my inexperience and he said "on the job training was the best experience" and he took his place on the bases.

Now, this wire mask, which was to protect my face, was not like the ones used today that are shaped more like a hockey masks. The wire was thin and bent out of shape in several locations (I assumed from balls hitting it) and the padding was not very thick. That was all the protection I was provided! Hoping it would be enough I shouted in my loudest, but quivering, voice "PLAY BALL"! It was the last calm thing I was to hear that night.

Nobody told me that these two teams had a history of hatred towards each other. It didn't take long to determine that they felt the same way towards me as well. It seemed that after every pitch one of the coaches was yelling at me to get it right.

And the fans (amazing how much noise 50 people can make) were as bad as the teams. However, we managed to make it through to the ninth inning without anyone getting hurt. And this is where my Unforgettable Moment actually happened. Bottom of the ninth, two out, bases loaded, team at the bat was behind by two runs. The angry coaches both left their benches over a close call on a foul ball. After a period of time, my

fellow umpire restored order and we resumed play. Now, I had forgotten the count. I knew a number of pitches had been thrown, but I had forgotten the actual count. No problem! I would look at that plastic thing they gave me to keep track of the balls and strikes. The plastic thing said 0...0. Trying not to show the terror that was running through my body I whispered to myself " Batter, please hit this pitch" (or words to that effect)!. He did and was thrown out at first. Game over!

I threw the mask and the plastic thing at my fellow umpire, gathered up my wife, and we ran for our car.

The next morning I collected my \$5.00 and told my colleague that I was never going to do that again. He said "I wasn't planning on asking you".

THE SOCIAL JUNCTION

November 15th – Creemore Springs guided tour. Lunch at the Old Mill at noon followed by the tour at 2 p.m.

December 7th – Christmas Lunch at the Marlwood Golf Club. Cost is \$30 per person. Arrive by 11.30 for a turkey lunch at noon. There will be 3 draw prizes and a 50: 50 draw. Tickets for the 50:50 draw will be 1 for \$2 and 3 for \$5. Entertainment will be provided by Adrien Robitaille who is a singer/guitar player.

PAYMENT FOR EVENTS: Cheques only, no cash and no post-dated cheques please.

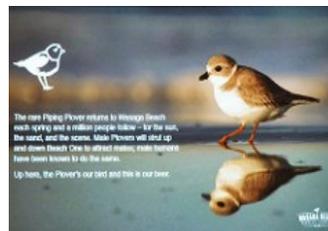
Thank you Social Team for doing such a great

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report prepared by Al Chambers was also posted on the bulletin board. It showed a bank balance of \$4339.21 of which \$714.86 was the balance in the Social Committee Account. \$500.00 is also aside as an Emergency Social Fund Reserve, with an uncommitted net balance of \$2850.35 as at September 30th, 2016. This report is subject to approval by Club membership at the November 10th General Meeting.

OUR PHOTOS/OUR MEMBERS

The Wasaga Beach Brewing Company





guest speakers David Cubitt and Peter Wilkins

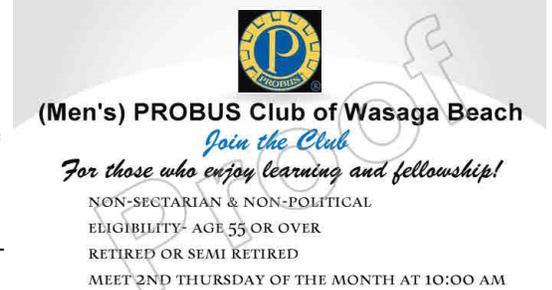


George Howie presented Brian Bermingham and Paul England their 15 year pins. Congratulations to both of you!

A large gathering of members outside the Dufferin County Museum for a tour. Thanks again Social Committee for a great day.



Newsletter Editor, Jim Desormeaux spoke to members in the September meeting about the recently produced business cards which are designed to promote the club and the benefits of membership. Members were provided with several of the cards and urged to distribute them amongst their contacts. I realized the font size is too small and the problem was rectified. This is the front of the business card and below the back of the card.



TID BITS

The Club Banner is available for loan to display at one of your events other than PROBUS. Please contact **George Potopynk** at mensprobuswasagabeach@gmail.com

We encourage members to seek out opportunities to display the banner at various venues in the community, e.g., other Clubs, Garden Shows, Community events, etc.

ROMEO BREAKFAST – will be held Friday September 9th at 9.00 a.m. at YAMMAS Restaurant. Please confirm attendance with **Tom Parkes**.

THE SIDE-SPLITTING CORNER

A bookseller conducting a market survey asked a Woman – “Which book has helped you most in your life?” The woman replied – “My husband’s cheque book !!”

A man in Hell asked the Devil: Can I make a call to my wife? After making the call he asked how much he had to pay. Devil: Nothing. Hell to hell is Free.

HEY! WHAT IS THAT?



So you think you know what this is. Good. Tell me the common name of this tool and email the answer to mensprobuswasagabeach@gmail.com

First one to answer correctly will win a prize, so give it a try.....what do you have to loose.

<http://mensprobuswasaga.org>

On our web site has further information on the topics below:

- Lt. General (retired) Romeo Delaire will speaking at the Meaford Hall on October 25th. Cost is \$35 which includes a signed copy of his latest book.
- Wasaga Beach Community Theatre announcing upcoming performances of Monty Python’s Spamalot.
- More photos of our social events and our general meeting
- And remember if you want to get in touch with your club just send an email to mensprobuswasagabeach@gmail.com

We now have our very own Wasaga Beach Men’s PROBUS web site. Please check it out for even more information on our club’s activities, more pictures and articles. The site is <http://mensprobuswasaga.org>
Please send your comments, ideas or articles of interest to newsletter editor at mensprobuswasagabeach@gmail.com