



# The PROBUS Pilot

Published by the PROBUS Club of Western Ottawa – serving the western half of the National Capital Region  
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## THE VICE PREZ SEZ:

For those of you that think the winter is hanging around....take heart! They have started cutting the keys on the Rideau River so Spring is not that far away. That means that our annual Spring Fling will soon be here. You can read more about this enjoyable day out activity in this newsletter.

Also included in the newsletter is an indication of how you might be able to help in the month to month operation of your PROBUS club. We all enjoy the social contact and stimulating talks of the monthly meetings, together with the opportunities to have new experiences of Ottawa and surroundings with the activities that the club organizes. This would not happen without the behind-the-scenes work of a number of people. We are fortunate in the PROBUS Ottawa West club that we have the volunteers to keep these activities going. As we look forward to next year, starting in the Fall of 2014, we can see opportunities for new people to assist in some areas. There is more information on these opportunities elsewhere in the

newsletter.

I look forward to seeing all those that come to this month's meeting on March 11 to learn more about the ins and outs, challenges and problems of the Canada/US border.

Vernon Sulway,  
Vice-President.

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**This month's meeting: Tues., Mar. 11**

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Right after our meeting.....

**Let's get together at The  
Brew Table restaurant**  
(corner of Robertson Road and  
Moodie Drive in Bell's Corners.)

Please email Beth Sweetnam if you have any suggestions for upcoming speakers or email pictures that can be used as part of a backup speech in case a speaker cannot attend our meeting.  
[beth@pbcsweetnam.com](mailto:beth@pbcsweetnam.com)

## Upcoming Fun Events

### Lunch Outs

The MARCH LUNCH OUT will take place at MOXIE'S GRILL & BAR on Thursday, March 20th at noon. Moxie's is an upscale but casual dining experience and is located at 601 Earl Grey Drive in the Centrum Complex (just west of the Landmark Cinemas.)

The APRIL LUNCH OUT is at the Panda Garden Buffet at 420 Hazeldean Road on Thursday, April 17.

The MAY LUNCH OUT will be at the CANAL RITZ on Thursday, May 22. Details will be in future newsletters.

- In **May** we are planning a cooking class at Cabotto's where the chef prepares a four course meal for us. The cost is \$65/person. For more information, check out the website: <http://cabottos.com/cooking-classes.aspx>. An 'interest' sign-up sheet will be available at this month's meeting. Time and date TBA.
- For **June** we are looking into a boat tour of the Rideau Canal with Paul's Boat Lines. Details to follow.

We welcome and encourage members to suggest events they think would be of interest to our members at large. Please contact us at either: [sponech@rogers.com](mailto:sponech@rogers.com) or [mickywalker@rogers.com](mailto:mickywalker@rogers.com)

## Upcoming Activities

### **SUGAR BUSH OUTING**

**On Thursday, March 27, we will meet at Temple's Sugar Bush (1700 Ferguson Falls Road (County Rd. 15, Lanark, Ontario at 10:30 a.m.**

Located within a working sugar bush the restaurant located there is in a spectacular timber frame building and offers a wide variety of breakfast and brunch selections. You can also enjoy their gift shop and/or take a walk on the sugar bush trail either before or after brunch.

More information and sign-up sheets are available at this month's meeting.

- We will try to arrange a tour of the Queensway Carleton Hospital in **April** – see the Activities desk at this month's meeting!

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**GUEST SPEAKER THIS MONTH**

**BARRY RISK**

Customs Officer (retired)



His topic:  
“The Thinner Blue  
Line”

Barry Risk will speak on Border protection and you. His interactive speech mostly follows the line of questioning raised by the audience.

Born in Bristol, England and immigrating to Canada, Barry Risk has enjoyed all the riches that Canada can provide. A 35 year career in Customs has made him aware of the vastness and wealth of this country. Barry has lived and seen many changes to his area of expertise, border protection. Having attended Carleton University, studying history and English, he joined the Federal Civil Service in 1975. His career began in Toronto and finished off at CBSA headquarters, from field officer to Counter-Terrorism intelligence Officer, but in between he has visited or worked in many parts of Canada.

Winner of many awards of excellence and Ministerial award, Barry has taken particular pride in the receiving of medals, Peacekeeper, Peace Officers, and the 125 medal. Barry has always been proud of the Custom Service and the dedicated people who work there."

Barry Risk is the recent author of the book "The Thinner Blue Line" published by General Store Publishing House. It is a journey through thirty five years of border protection with the intent to educate the public into the complexity that is Customs.

Part biography, part history book, The Thinner Blue Line is a sneak peek into the realities of the life of custom officers and the border they protect. Liberally peppered with personal anecdotes, court cases and images, Risk takes the reader into a literary ride in a typically unknown world

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Join our speaker for lunch after our March meeting. This restaurant is in the location of the former D'Arcy McGee's now known as "The Brew Table". **The Brew Table restaurant** in Bell's Corners strives to deliver a refined casual atmosphere coupled with outstanding food and attentive genuine service.

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**APRIL'S GUEST SPEAKER:**  
Tuesday, April 8th  
Retired Ottawa Citizen Columnist  
**Dave Brown**

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### **The 2014 Spring Fling**

This year the annual Spring Fling is being organized by the Ottawa - Rideau Valley PROBUS club. It will be held on Tuesday, May 27 at the beautiful Orchard View Conference Center just east of Manotick south off Mitch Owens road. This is a chance to meet and socialize with members of PROBUS clubs across Eastern Ontario. You can be sure of an enjoyable day out with an excellent lunch (choice of salmon, or chicken in a white wine sauce, or top sirloin of beef) in splendid surroundings.

The cost for this is \$35 per person and a sign-up sheet will be available at the March and April meetings. Make checks payable to "PROBUS Ottawa West" and the club will send one check and the sign-up sheet to the Ottawa - Rideau Valley club.

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### **WELCOME NEW MEMBER!!**

We have a new member in our club.... please welcome **Mary Lou Levisky!**

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**Some opportunities for you to play a part in the smooth running of our club.....**

Although the snow is still on the ground, your Executive Committee is thinking about the operation of our club for our new year starting this Fall. This is an opportunity to bring in new people with new ideas for the following four positions:

**Recording Secretary** - to take the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings that take place each month one week after the club meeting;

**Activities Organiser(s)** - one or more people to organise the visits to various places that club members enjoy about once per month while the club is meeting;

**Vice President** - help out at meetings, look after things if the President is away and (hopefully) become Club President in the following year.

There is also one other vital job that really helps the social aspect of our club and that is around the **organisation and preparation of coffee** for the monthly meeting. Ruth Howes has done an excellent job of this for a number of years and now feels it is time to give someone else a chance.

If you think that you might be able to play a part in any of these opportunities please talk to anyone on the Executive Committee to get more information.

The PROBUS Web Site

Our club has a web site to keep you up to date on speakers, activities, photos, our organization and other information. It can be found at:

[www.probuswesternottawa.ca](http://www.probuswesternottawa.ca)

Make sure to bookmark this location so that you don't have to keep typing it in. The left side menu lets you go to any of the featured pages.

**Are you a Euchre or Bridge player?  
Or would you like to be?**

PROBUS Club members host a Euchre and Bridge group on the first Friday of each month at 1 p.m. at Bell's Corners United Church.

Why not come out and join us on Friday, March 7, and each month thereafter? Bridge and Euchre is a lot of fun and you also get to meet and chat with other members. The games are open to all - - beginners to expert. For more information please contact Pat Stoate at 613-820-0174.

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**VISITORS WILL ALWAYS RECEIVE A WARM WELCOME**

The PROBUS Club of Western Ottawa meets on the second Tuesday of each month, September through June, at the Kanata United Church, 33 Leacock Drive in Kanata.

- 10:00: coffee and social time
- 10:30: VERY brief business meeting
- 10:45: speaker

Exit Highway 417 at Eagleson/March Road. Just north of the exit take Campeau Drive west. At the first light turn right (north) onto Teron Road. At the first light, turn left (west) onto The Parkway. At the first (and only) stop sign, turn right onto Leacock Way. Follow Leacock Way to its end at Leacock Drive. Kanata United Church is in front of you, across the street.

**PARKING** at the church is limited. If full, please park in the large lot of the school next to the church or on the side of Leacock Drive where parking is permitted.