



The PROBUS Pilot



Probus Club of Western Ottawa – serving the western half of the National Capital Region

APRIL 2016

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The Prez Sez

Volunteers needed

Probus Western Ottawa continues to be a busy and vibrant club with well-attended meetings, visits to interesting locations, and social gatherings for cards and meals out.

To keep this going we have an organising committee that is working well, but we are now reaching the time of year when a number of those on the committee feel the time has come to give someone else a chance to bring new thoughts and ideas to the mix.

Barbara Bole has done sterling work looking after membership but is stepping down. If you feel that you would like to consider this job, please talk to Barbara to find out what is involved.

For many years Pat Thompson has coordinated our publicity, informing local publications of our monthly speakers. Again, Pat now feels that someone else may wish to take this on.

And last but not least, we need a Vice President for 2016-17 who would take on the role of President for 2017-18 -- a one-year term.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities please talk to me, or any member of the executive.

A positive response will enable us to go forward into the new year with the ability to maintain and enhance our Probus club.

Vernon Sulway, President.

Tuesday 12 April

Helping newcomers make Canada their homeland

Long before the most recent Syrian Refugee program, Canadian organizations have been instrumental in arranging and welcoming refugees and immigrants to our shores.

Working through the bureaucracy and making all the arrangements for the new families can be daunting. Gerda Kraft has been doing this for a long time and she has been advising other organizations as well.

Gerda is a lifelong Lutheran who first became involved with refugee sponsorship through her church. She is Chair of the Ottawa Lutheran Refugee Sponsorship Committee for the last 30 years and a member of the Board of the Cornerstone Housing for Women Foundation where she is chair of their Fund Raising Events Planning committee.

Gerda is the daughter of two immigrants; her father immigrated in 1929 and her mother was a displaced person who arrived in 1949. She was raised on a 100 acre mixed farm in Southwestern Ontario. She has been married to Rick for 41 years.

Gerda is a graduate of the University of Waterloo in Mathematics in the area of statistics. She worked



Gerda Kraft

with the Federal Government for 37 years primarily in computer programming and business systems analysis for the Canadian Coast Guard.

Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) was founded in 1946 with a very specific mandate: to respond to the needs of refugees in war-torn Europe. While its programming has expanded thematically and geographically, CLWR's commitment to displaced persons continues today through refugee sponsorship.

The Probus Club of Western Ottawa is part of the international organization of Probus Clubs designed to serve retired and semi-retired professional, business and like-minded people. The morning begins at 10:00 am with a time for coffee and socialization followed by a guest speaker.

**Western Ottawa Probus meets at
Kanata United Church, 33 Leacock Dr., Kanata**



“Sooner or Later” was the topic of Robert Hannaberry’s presentation at our March meeting. He emphasized the need to think ahead about future living options to include retirement homes and long term care.

Thursday 7 April

Temple’s sugar bush visit and lunch

Join us on Thursday 7 April for another sugar bush visit and lunch at Temple’s. We plan to meet for lunch at noon.

There is also a nature trail onsite with a brochure and map to guide you.

If you have not signed up, give Ron Armstrong a call at 613-831-0547 so that he can pass on numbers to Temple’s.

<http://www.templeessugarbush.ca> (613) 253-7000

1700 Ferguson's Falls Rd (Regional Rd 15) Lanark (between Carleton Place and Perth) Lanark, ON.

(There is a map on our website probuswesternottawa.ca/social/index.htm)



We go out for lunch

Tuesday 24 May

Won Ton House Restaurant

1300 Wellington Street West

Established Chinese restaurant preparing traditional cuisine in an old-fashioned setting.

There is a lot of free parking in the rear and it is close to a lot of shops on Wellington and the Parkdale market for flowers and vegetables.

www.wontonhouse.com

Sign up at the April or May meeting



Year-end luncheon after our June meeting now features catered meal

After our June meeting we will again have a luncheon to wrap up the year.

This year we will be using a caterer for a more substantive menu and to reduce the organizational load on our volunteers.

Since we have limited seating we have had to cap the number of tickets. In order to break even on cost we have had to raise the ticket price to \$11.00. When you consider that it includes the meal, desert as well as hot and cold beverages it is still a good deal.

This event is a great opportunity to

close out our year and socialize with other club members before we break for the summer.

Since tickets are limited you should sign up and pay at the May meeting.



Welcome to the following new members who joined in our Probus Club in February and March:

Isabel Barnes
Tony Barnes
Michele Leboldus
Marten Ternan
Ian White



Our February speaker, Michele Leboldus focused on youth and heritage and how we can ensure that young people can become more aware of their history.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“The road to success is always under construction”

Arnold Palmer

Thursday 28 April

Beaverpond Walking Tour

Meet at the parking lot
at the North end of Walden Drive
10:00 a.m.

Join us for a leisurely 90 minute walk on a smooth trail to take us fully around the pond. There should be lots of spring flowers, trilliums and hopefully some goslings.

Sign up at the April meeting or just show up. Bring your camera.

We will go rain or shine.



Euchre and Bridge remain popular

Probus has an active euchre and bridge group. They meet monthly at the Bells

Corners United Church, 3955 Old Richmond Road (at Moodie). Meetings are usually held on the first Friday of the month at 1 p.m.

This is mostly a casual and social occasion and some players play both euchre and bridge and fill in where needed.

Following are the dates for our upcoming meetings:

Friday, 6 May

Friday, 3 June

For further information call Pat Stoute at 613-820-0174

Thursday 19 May at 10:30

Beechwood cemetery tour planned

Join us on Thursday 19 May for a visit to the Beechwood Cemetery.

We will gather in the Sacred Space (main building) for an interesting talk about the history of Beechwood – Canada's National Cemetery and a National Historic Site, which has been in existence for 140 years. Weather permitting, there will be a short walking tour, and hopefully the beautiful spring flowers in the botanical gardens (35,000 tulips!) will all be blooming.



Beechwood Cemetery, 280 Beechwood Ave

<http://www.beechwoodottawa.ca/> (map at bottom of the web page)

Please arrive by 10:20 a.m. for a 10:30 a.m. start. There is ample parking at the side of the building.

If you wish to join us on this visit, please register at the April 10th meeting, or contact Judy Makin - Judy.Makin@opera.ncf.ca

Probus has a 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

Make sure that you 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. Links are also provided for our photo page.



The Gen Scottish Restaurant and Pub in Stittsville was the venue for our March luncheon with members enthusiastically recommending it for another visit.



Our February luncheon at the Big Rig kitchen and Brewery was highly enjoyable and very well attended. This photo only shows some of the group.

Mint, Gallery tour a huge success

Driving downtown was a real challenge, as we had received a record snowfall of 52 cm. the day before our planned tour of the National Mint, but 24 of us managed to (eventually!) arrive for our guided tour.

We were led through the building along an elevated walkway and saw the entire procedure of the making of coins, from gold and silver bars, through the furnace, rolling coils, stamping, etc. It's a fascinating process, utilizing old and new technology, and very interesting to see how the various sizes and types of coins and medals are manufactured.

Lunch was at the Cafeteria at the Gallery - lots of selection, and a bright, sunny spot to relax.

Our guided tour focused on the Candian collections, starting with an amazing carving (by Jackaposie Oopakak) from a giant set of caribou antlers in the Inuit collection. Then we proceeded chronologically through the early Canadian works. The "Daguerreotypes" photos from the mid 1800's (currently on load from Archives Canada) were astonishing in their clarity. Then through the displays of works by Emily Carr, Group of 7, and finally the Contemporary section.

We finished our tour in the Rideau Chapel, dated 1888, which was preserved from a convent chapel on Rideau Street. Wonderful opportunity to learn about the art and the artists from an enthusiastic and well-informed guide.

After the meeting

We go out for lunch

Join us for lunch after our meetings to socialize and discuss the meeting topic.

Often our speaker is able to join with us.

This month we will be at:

The Brew Table

NW corner of Robertson and Moodie



Despite the snowstorm a large group was still able to participate in the combined tour of the Royal Canadian Mint and the National Gallery of Canada on 17 February.



Andrew Glenn tried in vain to secure a souvenir of the Mint tour.

Exec team needs new volunteers

To keep our Probus Club going we have an organising committee that is working well, but we are now reaching the time of year when a number of those on the committee feel the time has come to give someone else a chance to bring new thoughts and ideas to the mix.

Specifically we need to fill the following spots at our June meeting.

- **Vice President**
- **Membership Coordinator**
- **Publicity Coordinator**

Please let any member of the executive know if you are interested or if you know of someone who might be.

Group travel insurance available

Did you know that as a member of Probus you are eligible for Group Travel insurance through the MEDOC program from Johnson Inc.

Find out more by going to our club web page and click on links or go directly to <http://www.probus.org/instrvl2.pdf>

Chuckle Corner



Seeing her friend Sally wearing a new locket, Meg asks if there is a memento of some sort inside.

"Yes," says Sally, "a lock of my husband's hair."

"But Larry's still alive."

"I know, but his hair is gone."