

P.O. Box 1941, Brockville, ON K6V 6N4

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Newsletter

January 2009

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This newsletter can be found each month
online at: <http://www.probus.org/8brocknw.pdf>

Next Regular Meeting
Monday, January 19th
 Brockville Country Club
 10 am

Guest Speakers:
LYNDA & DAVE CAVANAGH

describing their recent trip from

**"St. Petersburg to Beijing
 on the Trans-Siberian
 Railway"**

by A. Nominus

To all the kids who survived the 1930s, 40s, 50s, and 60s.

First, we survived being born to mothers who smoked and drank, while they carried us. They took aspirin, ate blue cheese dressing, tuna from a can, and didn't get tested for diabetes.

Then after that trauma, our baby cribs were covered with bright coloured lead-based paints.

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets, not to mention, the risks we took hitchhiking. As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags. Riding in the back of a pick up on a warm day was always a special treat.

We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle. We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle, and no one actually died from this. We ate cupcakes, white bread and real butter and drank soda pop with sugar in it, but we weren't overweight because we were always outside playing!

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the street lights came on. No one was able to reach us all day, and we were OK.

We would spend hours building our go-carts out of scraps and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few times, we learned to solve the problem.

We did not have Playstations, Nintendo's, X-boxes, no video games at all, no 99 channels on cable, no video tape movies, no surround sound, no cell phones, no personal computers, no Internet or Internet chat rooms.....We had friends, and we went outside and found them!

We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no lawsuits from these accidents. We ate worms and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever.

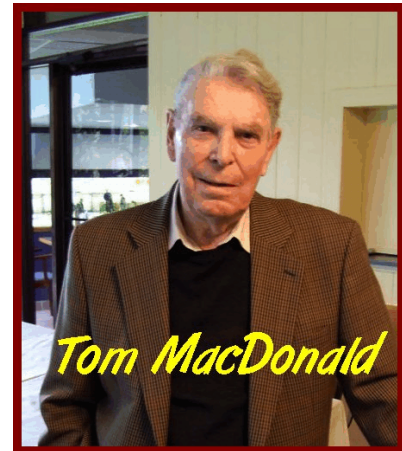


PHOTO BY GEOFF CHITTENDEN

We were given BB guns for our 10th birthdays, made up games with sticks and tennis balls and although we were told it would happen, we did not put out very many eyes.

We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just walked in and talked to them! Some of us did pop-wheelies with our bikes and never got caught by our parents. Others got hurt. But life went on...and the next week your hurt was a memory.

Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!!

The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law! This generation has produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers and inventors ever!

The past 60 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all!

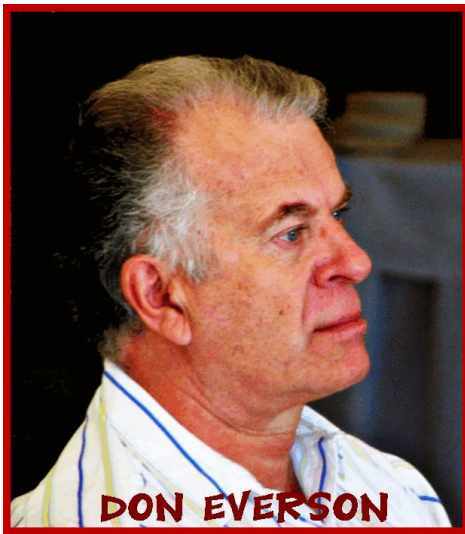
And YOU are one of them!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Membership - Bob Clarke

Our club membership is now holding at about 108 with a few resignations. Our latest new member is **Gabby Nault**, who came earlier as a guest. We welcome Gabby to the club.

Unfortunately, we also have to regrettably announce that members, **John Mackenzie** and **Harry Miller** have passed away recently.



Upcoming Probus Events - Roy Millier

Two Out-of-town Excursions have been organized:

1. **ORILLIA** Wed. June 17th & Thurs. June 18th
Evening performance at the **Orillia Opera House** of "Knickers". Dinner at the **Ossawippi Express**. Staying one night at the Stonegate Inn. Thurs. Morning exploring Orillia, lunch at the King's Buffet, 2-hour afternoon cruise on Lake Couchiching on board the "Princess".

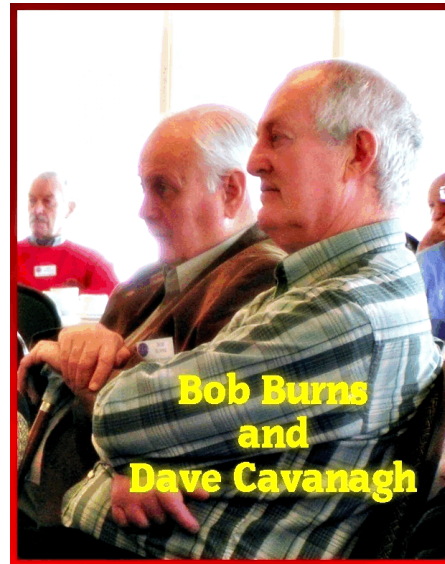
Cost: \$189 per person, double, \$239 single, \$175 triple, includes all taxes and gratuities.

2. **STRATFORD** Wed. Sept. 9th to Fri. Sept. 11th
Two-night stay at the Shakespeare Inn. Theatre performances of "West Side Story" and "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum". Dinner in Stratford and Lunch at the Mandarin restaurant on the way home.

Cost: \$398 per person, double, includes all taxes and gratuities.

An application form for these last trips is enclosed with this newsletter. Fill it out and present it with your deposit to Roy Millier at the next meeting.

3. A day trip to the **HOUSE OF COMMONS** in Ottawa in the Spring. Details of this visit will be announced later.



Executive Team Members

President:
1st Vice-president:
2nd Vice-president:
Secretary:
Treasurer:
Past-president:
Program:

Membership:
Fellowship:
Newsletter:

Archivist:

Earl Nielsen 613-345-3079
Bob King 613-345-5493
George Smith 613-342-3677
Raul Cirne 613-342-3181
Evert Van Bolhuis 613-342-2687
Bob Hemmings 613-342-3193
Roy Millier 613-345-5052, Doug Burns,
John Green, and Norm Kearney
Bob Clarke 613-925-1369
Bob Burns 613-342-7856
Doug Grant 613-345-0891
Geoff Chittenden 613-342-9393
Doug Cook 613-342-9777



The next **Management Team Meeting** will be held at the **First Baptist Church** on **Wednesday, February 4, at 9:00 am.**

