

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

Founded on October 21, 1992 as Probus Club No. 27

Newsletter

November 2009

Vol. 17 - No. 11

Editor - **Doug Grant** - 613-345-0891

dmgrant@storm.ca

Photography - **Geoff Chittenden**

This newsletter can be found each month online at: <http://www.probus.org/9brocknw.pdf>

Next Regular Meeting
MONDAY NOVEMBER 16TH
 Brockville Country Club,
 10 am

Guest Speaker:
GARY BUFFETT
**The South-East
 Community Care Access Centre**

www.communitycareinfo.ca

Last Meeting Report - Raul Cirne

October 19, 2009

Our October meeting was attended by 54 members and we welcomed two guests. **Peter Sampson** introduced **Paul Sheppard**, and **Norm Spraggs** brought **Ray Berry**.

President **Bob King** presented **Earl Nielsen** with his Past-Presidents pin, and then expressed thanks to him and to the retiring members of last year's management team.

Treasurer **Evert Van Bolhuis** gave his treasurer's report. The bank balance stands at \$3,687, with \$695 in the Special Events account, leaving an operating balance of \$2,992. Ninety-five dollars, plus a \$.05 Canadian Tire bill, was collected from 47 in attendance at the September meeting, resulting in a surplus of one dollar. \$1,900 has been collected in membership fees.



Bob King

Earl Nielsen

PHOTO BY GEOFF CHITTENDEN

Evert explained, in great detail, the extensive process he went through to return the 250 Guilder note, handed in at a previous meeting. He determined that the note was worth 125 Euros or \$193, and, allowing for the expenses he incurred in the process, it would have a net worth of \$188.60. Regrettably, the correspondence, that he got back from the Dutch authorities, contained the statement that they considered the note to be a fake, and that they don't exchange counterfeit money.

Second vice-president **Doug Burns** summarized the details of the joint **Christmas Luncheon** being held at CJ's on **Dec 14th**, at a cost of \$22 per person. Social time starts at 11.30, with a full turkey dinner being served at 12 noon. Students from the St. Lawrence Theatre Arts program will again provide the after-dinner entertainment. Tickets will be available at the November meeting.

Tom Low, our new speakers' convenor announced that November's speaker will be Rebecca Phillips (*later changed to Gary Buffett*) explaining the range of services provided by the COMMUNITY CARE ACCESS CENTRE.

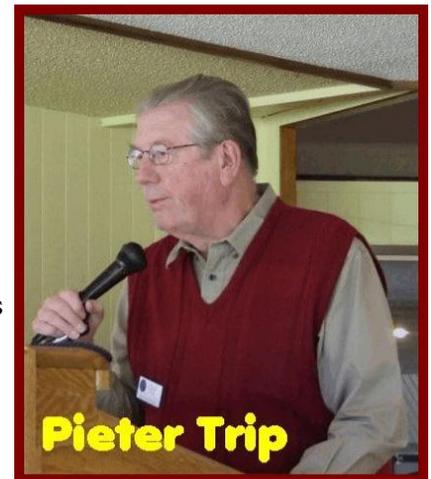
Who am I speaker:

Pieter Trip, who practiced medicine for 30 years, until heart problems led to his retirement, explained that he later went back to his first training and love. He has embarked on a personal project on his own property, that of growing healthier trees.

After our break, **Ken Pattenden** introduced **Bob Slack**, our guest speaker. Bob was born and raised in Lyn, before moving away to begin his teaching career.

He is now the 1st VP of the **CANADIAN SNOWBIRD ASSOCIATION**, a 17-year old organization that got its start at a meeting in Lakeland, Florida, initiated by Jack Perry. Perry later became the founding president. Over 1,000 Canadians gathered to discuss common problems encountered by those who winter there.

One of the principal ones was getting better 'out of Province' insurance. Several quotations were obtained, with the lowest being submitted by **MEDIPAC TRAVEL INSURANCE**, who are still the favoured company.



Pieter Trip

PHOTO BY GEOFF CHITTENDEN

While the initial purpose was to assist those who winter in Florida, the association now provides help to Canadians who winter in several other southern states, and even those travel world-wide, be it short or long term.

There are now over 70,000 members, served by a head office, located in Toronto, with about 65% of them living in Ontario.

The current major problem that the association is tackling, is overcoming the difficulties being experienced by Ontario members who need to be tested in-car to renew their driving licences. This problem is due to the current strike by the examiners in Ontario.

Another recent and successful lobby has been to convince the Canadian government to extend the life of a passport to 10 years. This change will be implemented with passports issued after 2011.

Other lobbies under way include: getting the Canadian government to oppose the US government's attempt to reduce the permitted length of stay in the US from 182 days in a 12 month period to 30 days; getting the maximum period for prescriptions extended to match the OHIP's limit on the 'out of Province' time; seeking government opposition to the ability of US border guards to ban a person from entering the US for up to 3 years, which decision can not be appealed, and making a presentation to the Florida Government, in Tallahassee, to amend the statute that causes a major difference between the property tax paid by Floridians and those who aren't.

Bob made several suggestions to help overcome US rules and regulations, particularly the tendency of the IRS to try to impose US taxes on monies received during one's stay in the US.

A comprehensive package of information, on the Association, was given to every one in attendance, and a draw saw 5 lucky members receive a package that included a household annual membership, worth \$25.

Bob answered several questions from the floor and even offered to take further questions, by phone at his home (613-928-2302).

John Klassen thanked him for his address and presented him with a Probus pen and a Certificate of Appreciation.

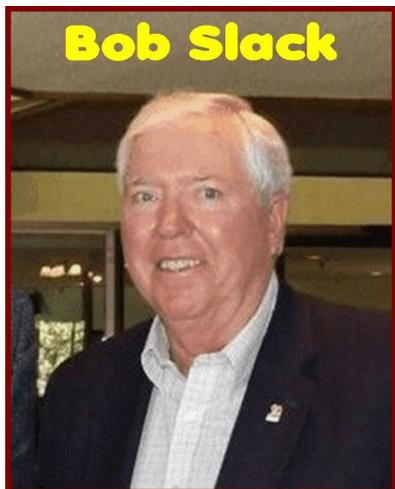


PHOTO BY GEOFF CHITTENDEN

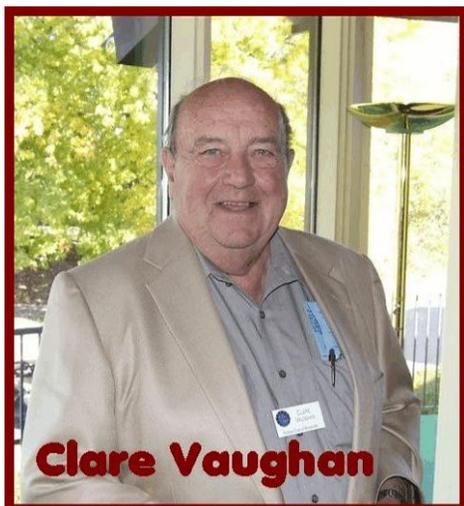


PHOTO BY GEOFF CHITTENDEN

Upcoming Probus Events

MOSCOW BOYS CHOIR

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD TOUR

Brockville Arts Centre, Tuesday Dec 8th, 8 pm

TICKETS FOR THIS PRODUCTION ARE SELLING NORMALLY AT \$ 35. WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN A LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS AT THE GROUP PRICE OF \$ 25 PER PERSON FOR PROBUS MEMBERS AND SPOUSES, ETC.

MEMBERS INTERESTED SHOULD BRING THEIR CHEQUES, PAYABLE TO PROBUS CLUB OF BROCKVILLE, TO THE NOVEMBER 16TH MEETING. ALL OUR SEATS ARE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, AND SUBJECT TO A MINIMUM OF 10 PERSONS.

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS AND GET FURTHER INFO FROM ROY MILLIER AT 613-345-5052.

Christmas Luncheon

(a joint event with the Probus Club of Leeds & Grenville)

Monday, December 14th

CJ's Banquet Hall, 803 Chelsea Dr

11:30 am Social - 1:30 pm.

\$ 22. per person

Tickets are now available from **Doug Burns** (613-498-3376). Get a couple at the next meeting.

Don't disappoint your date by forgetting to get a ticket. The dining area will have limited space because of attendance by our two clubs.

Inter-Club Probus Spring Luncheon

Tuesday, May 18th, 2010

NavCan Conference Centre, Cornwall

More information in the Spring, but mark your calendar now.

Membership - Bob Clarke

We have now received 90 membership renewals from our 107 members. This is a very good response. It is also time to consider bringing a guest to our next meeting. Many guests follow up by becoming members.

Executive Team Members

President:	Bob King	613-345-5493
1 st Vice-president:	George Smith	613-342-3677
2 nd Vice-president:	Doug Burns	613-498-3376
Secretary:	Raul Cirne	613-342-3181
Treasurer:	Evert Van Bolhuis	613-342-2687
Past-president:	Earl Nielsen	613-345-3079
Program:	Tom Low	613-498-0229, & Walter Taylor
Membership:	Bob Clarke	613-925-1369
Fellowship:	Bob Hersey	613-342-7856
Newsletter:	Doug Grant	613-345-0891
	Geoff Chittenden	613-342-9393
Archivist:	Doug Cook	613-342-9777

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