

**PROBUS CLUB OF SAINT JOHN
MONTHLY MEETING
17 DECEMBER 2008**

The monthly meeting was convened at 10 am at the Boys and Girls Club by Richard Burpee, President, with about 45 members in attendance, although about 65 had registered, but many did not brave the stormy weather. Following "O Canada", Clarence Blois led and Don Tompkins accompanied Christmas carols.

Minutes of November 19th were read by the Secretary and approved on a motion by him and Brian Mitchell.

Members: Kit Payne (introduced last month) has joined. There were no reports of sickness, deceased, birthdays, new members or guests.

Rendezvous 2008: The usual lengthy report from Bill Brydges was absent.

Finances: Don Mitchener is still away, and we trust in his wise use of our money! Robert collected dues from two members.

Membership: There was no report, as Ed O'Keefe is also away.

House: Gordon Mouland counted 40 for lunch. He failed to mention decals.

Phoghorn: Ralph Wood reported that three e-mailed copies bounced back. To those who claimed they got only one page, he explained that there were two attachments.

Nominations for 2nd Vice President: The committee has not yet met; they suggested Christmas Day might be a good time to get them all together!

By-Laws and Duties: Ron Lister reports that he has the new By-Law proposals ready. Duties of Officers were circulated to the Executive and will be reviewed.

Program Committee: Brian Mitchell reported that Don MacGowan will speak in January. He also received a letter from Bev and Percy Cooper, Australian delegates at Rendezvous '08. They wrote about their Canadian tour, and Percy reported that he did some research for one of his books on World War II while in Saint John. They will be doing a writeup on Rendezvous for the Australian Probus newsletter.

Web Site: Richard Burpee reported he has been in contact with Robert Lockhart, who has asked, does the Club, one of the first in Canada to launch a web site, want to see it continue? If so, he needs to be fed information to keep the site updated. Tom Jarrett pointed this out as an example of our somewhat lax housekeeping. Ralph Wood stated we need a communications person to keep in touch with the web-master. Lou Duffley used to be the Club photographer and historian, but wants someone else to take over, and

Don Tompkins volunteered to coordinate, with backup assistance when needed. Robert agreed to send Don the Club Minutes once they have been approved.

60/40 Draw: Bill Bishop won \$102, and donated it to the Boys and Girls Club. David Fraser kindly donated a bottle of rum for a special draw, and it was won by Graydon Chiarella, with a further \$44 raised.

Presentation: The President presented a \$500 cheque to Debbie Cooper, Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club.

Program: The Saint John String Quartet (David and Sonia Adams, Chris Buckley, and Christine Gail-Harrison) were introduced by Carl Tompkins. They played a medley of Christmas music, and were thanked by Richard Burpee.

Dinner: A turkey dinner was served by Boys and Girls Club staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Taylor, Secretary.