

**PROBUS CLUB OF SAINT JOHN**  
**MONTHLY MEETING**  
**October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009**

The regular meeting was held at the Boys and Girls Club and convened at 10 a.m. with President Brian Mitchell chairing and about 45 members in attendance. Following welcome and O Canada, Clarence Blois led a sing-along, accompanied by Don Tompkins. Brian announced the donation of new Club letterhead.

**Minutes** of September 16<sup>th</sup> (monthly and annual meetings) were summarized by the Secretary and adopted by motion (Robert Taylor / Clarence Blois).

**Guests:** Peter Jolly introduced Tom Neill, a member of the Oakville Probus Club. Also Tor Bordevik introduced Vijay Kawatra, former manager of the Hilton. Both took out memberships, and will receive pins at the next meeting.

**Member News:** Blake McCullough was in hospital but is back home.

**Finances:** Treasurer Don Mitchener was absent, so there was no report.

**Membership:** Ed O'Keefe reported that eight Phoghorns were returned, and six of these were traced. Twenty-seven members paid their dues today. We now have 144 members. Ed circulated a list to check information.

**Phone Committee:** Duane Lister was absent.

**House Committee:** Gordon Mouland counted 25 for turkey pot pie lunch.

**Phoghorn:** Ralph Wood reported himself to be "deep in the phog".

**Speakers:** Bob Capson reported we are set until January. He asked to be notified of good speakers that members have heard or can recommend.

**Trips:** In answer to an inquiry from Gordon Mouland, Brian Mitchell reported that several possibilities are being explored.

**Potential Travel:** Reay Wallace spoke about Freedom Travel offering a European river cruise with 40 spots available to Probus members. Also he mentioned a possible tour to include Oberammergau in September, and short cruises such as to Bermuda from Boston in May.

The meeting adjourned for coffee and conversation.

**Boys and Girls Club:** Debbie Cooper spoke about a difficult financial position, and pointed out a new monthly donation program to sponsor a child. See attached form.

**60/40 Draw:** Dave Spragg drew Bob Capson's name, and Bob donated his \$124 to the Boys and Girls Club.

**Speaker:** Bob Capson introduced Murray Driscoll, Mayor of Quispamsis, and Vaughn McIntyre, fundraising chair for the Q-Plex. They termed the Q-Plex more than just a hockey rink; it is a facility for all ages. They noted that people come to a community for its health, education and recreation facilities. The Q-Plex will feature "green" heating, recapture of rainwater, a wireless conference centre for up to 500, a Junior Olympic heated pool, heated seats for up to 1200, and an enclosed off-leash dog park. Estimated cost is \$24 million: about ¼ from Federal and Provincial Governments, about \$15 million from Quispamsis, and the rest from fundraising. Any resulting increase in property tax due to the Q-Plex will be minimal.

Following a question and answer period, Bob Capson thanked the speakers and gave them a token gift. He mentioned the possibility of a Club tour of the Q-Plex.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 11:45 to November 18<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Taylor, Secretary.