

PROBUS CLUB OF SAINT JOHN
ANNUAL MEETING
September 18th, 2013

The first meeting of the new season was held as usual at the Boys and Girls Club at 10 am, with Acting President Tor Bordevik chairing and about 35 members in attendance. The national anthem was followed by a sing-along led by Gordon Mouland, who at the end sang the first two verses of “Squid Jiggin’ Ground” – he threatened to sing all 16 verses!

Minutes of June 19th were highlighted by Secretary Robert Taylor who moved their acceptance and George McCaughey seconded.

Guests: Ed O’Keefe introduced Gordon Dempsey of Rotary.

Member News: Clive Douthwright has been in hospital, and is off driving until November. Rev. Lloyd Lake is at St. Joseph’s. Congratulations to Wes Cosman who received the Governor General’s Caring Canadian Award in June, in recognition of his volunteering in many ways in the community.

Program Committee: Jim Shillington reported that his committee has come up with a number of ideas for speakers, and will be seeking input from members also. The committee feels it is important to publish the upcoming speakers to encourage a strong turnout. They may invite local mayors, fire and police chiefs, etc. They are also looking into possible field trips.

Finances: Treasurer Don Mitchener circulated a report showing a bank balance at the end of August of \$236.03, and an operating deficit of \$73.65 for the past season. He noted that Probus National is offering insurance programs.

Phone Committee: Gordon Graham reported he sent notice of the Atlantic Regional Meeting being held at Moncton Coliseum on October 8th. The official Club delegates will be Ralph Wood and Ed O’Keefe, and Dave Fraser and Robert Taylor also agreed to attend, paying their own lunch if requested.

Phoghorn: Ralph Wood replaced his usual low-grade stories with an actual report. The Phoghorn is our 2nd biggest expense item, and he is looking at having it published on the website, e-mailing it to all except 18 members who have no e-mail, and making copies available at meetings for those 18. Ralph would like someone else to take over as Phoghorn coordinator.

Nominations Committee: Bob Capson presented the following slate of officers for 2013-14: Ralph Wood for President, Willard Buckley for Vice President, Robert Taylor for Secretary, and Don Mitchener for Treasurer. There being no further nominations, Ralph Murray moved and Brian Mitchell seconded that these be declared elected; motion

carried. Brian Mitchell expressed thanks to Tor for his leadership and patience. Tor gave Ralph his President's Pin. A Past Presidents Pin is needed for Tor.

Signing Officers: It was moved by Don Mitchener and seconded by Robert Taylor that any two of the four above-named officers be authorized to sign cheques; motion carried.

Ralph Wood took over as chairman. He thanked the Executive who are staying on, committee heads, and the new Program Committee. He noted that several lapsed members have decided to rejoin.

House Committee: Twenty were booked for shepherd's pie for lunch.

After a short break, guest speaker Sheri Somerville drew the **60/40 Prize**. \$115 went to Ron Lister who, in true Probian fashion, donated his winnings to the Boys and Girls Club.

Guest Speaker: Jim Shillington introduced Sheri Somerville, NB Advisor on Natural Gas. She spoke about hydraulic fracking and made some literature available. Company focus, she said, is on the 3 E's of Energy, Enterprise, and Environment. Natural gas is the cleanest fossil fuel. Deposits around North America contain upwards of 100 or more trillions of cubic feet of natural gas each. Most shale formations are buried 2-3 km underground. Pipes (casings) are connected as they drill down. Hundreds of millions of litres of water is shot down into each well; most is recovered over the 20-year life of the well. Liquid propane can also be used to frack through a rocky well if water won't crack through. \$10 to 15 million is spent on each well.

Following a question and answer period, Ralph Wood thanked the speaker. The meeting adjourned at noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Taylor, Secretary.