

PROBUS CLUB OF SAINT JOHN
ANNUAL MEETING
Sept. 17th, 2014

The first monthly meeting of the new season was held at the Boys and Girls Club at 10 am, with President Ralph Wood chairing and about 30 members in attendance. Following welcome back by the President, O Canada was sung.

In Memoriam: A moment of silence was observed in memory of the following who died during the summer: Ron Doucet, Glen d'Arcy, Bill Bartlett, Ralph Fudge, Bill Nase, and Philip MacGillivray's wife.

Singalong was not held as Gordon Mouland was away in Newfoundland.

Minutes of May 21st were read by the Secretary and approved on motion of him and Gordon Graham.

President's Comments: Ralph highlighted activities of the past year:

- Attempts to build our membership back up;
- Excellent speakers gotten by Jim Shillington and his committee;
- Switching to an electronic Phoghorn and fine-tuning the e-mail system;
- Keeping up with photos and the website;
- Donations to Boys and Girls Club, SJHS Scholarship Fund, NB Symphony.

Ralph closed his report by thanking those willing to assume executive positions.

Finances: Treasurer Don Mitchener filed his annual report, showing a surplus of \$130.35 for the year and a closing balance of \$366.38. Moved by him and seconded by Richard Burpee that this report be accepted; motion carried. 20 members paid today.

Nominations: Ralph Wood called for interest or nominations for President and Vice President. Moved by Brian Mitchell and seconded by Ed O'Keefe that Ralph be President for one more year; motion carried. Other positions voted in with no further nominations: Willard Buckley as 1st VP (year 2), John Doyle as 2nd VP (Year 1), Robert Taylor as Secretary (Year 9!), Don Mitchener as Treasurer (Year ?), Gordon Mouland and Ralph Murray as House Committee. Willard will maintain the membership list.

- *Early warning: As of September 2015 the President may not serve more than two consecutive years, and other "Management Committee" more than three.*

Phoghorn: Ralph has published it for 9 years; Tom O'Neill started last year but had to drop it for health reasons; no volunteers today to take it over. Jim Shillington suggested someone at Boys and Girls Club might publish it if we supply the material; Amy Shanks later said she could get her Computer Club to do it.

Boys and Girls Club: \$500 was presented to Amy Shanks. She was thanked for a re-decorated room. We request that space be found to restore our banner.

Lunch: 20 booked for shepherd's pie.

60/40: Dave Sprague has health concerns and Ray Allan has just had a pacemaker; both want out of this long-time sales position. It was suggested and agreed that each winner sell tickets the next month. Today Frank Ervin won \$63.

Guest Speaker: Author Anne Raina assured us she's not the one you can Google who writes erotica! She spoke about her book "Clara's Rib", the story of her sister who spent her teenage years battling tuberculosis; she wasn't expected to see age 20 but lived to age 71. Her story illustrates how a positive attitude and strong faith can overcome disease. A question and answer period followed. Anne was not permitted to promote sale of her book, but individual members could approach her and buy a signed copy.

Adjournment followed at 12:00. Next meeting October 15th: Don Mitchener will take questions on financial planning in your senior years.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Taylor, Secretary.