

PROBUS CLUB OF SAINT JOHN
MONTHLY MEETING
January 21st, 2015

The first monthly meeting of 2015 was held at 10 am at the Boys and Girls Club, with President Ralph Wood chairing and about 25 members in attendance. Ralph wished members a Happy New Year. Following O Canada, a **moment of silence** was held in memory of Clive Douthwright who passed away December 14th. Gordon Mouland led a Scottish sing-along in honour of Robbie Burns Day.

Minutes of the December 10th meeting were read by the Secretary because the Phoghorn where they are normally published was just e-mailed by the Boys and Girls Club this morning. The minutes were adopted on motion by Robert Taylor, seconded by Tor Bordevik.

President's Comments:

- Sampling of New Years Resolutions and jokes, rapidly abandoned as there were almost immediate rumblings of another mutiny.
- March will be Probus Month. The CBC has rejected an interview opportunity. We'll see if the Telegraph Journal will do a feature, also see if we can design a flag for the City to fly for a day.
- We need a new NB flag and staff, which Ralph will furnish if Boys and Girls Club hasn't got on hand.
- Atlantic Regional Meeting to be hosted by the Ladies Club on May 4th. Each Club can send two delegates and observers.
- The Executive decided that the \$1000 bequest from Ross Coates will be kept on hand for now.
- Looking for suggestions for speakers for March onward. In February we have Major Stephan Laplante from DART (Disaster Assistance Response Team).

Member News: Ian Thompson had a stroke in December but is doing well in Rehab. Fenton Keirstead has the flu. Len Kinsella had leg surgery.

Guest: John Doyle introduced Mark Brewer.

Phoghorn: Ralph conveyed apologies for it not being sent out. The next edition will carry a notice that members who haven't paid will not be receiving the Phoghorn.

Foundation: John McMillan spoke on behalf of the John T. McMillan Memorial Foundation, set up in memory of his son John who died of leukemia in 2005 after an illness of just over 50 days.

60/40 Draw: After coffee, the guest speaker did the draw. George McCaughey won the \$84 purse. Wonder how much he paid for his ticket?

Guest Speaker: John Doyle introduced David Nickerson, Preplanning Consultant at Brenan's Funeral Home. David noted the advantages of planning ahead of time details related to disposition of the body, visitation, funeral service, reception, etc. He spoke about insurance which would look after increases in future costs. His presentation was brief and was followed by extensive questions and answers.

Meeting adjourned at noon. The Boys and Girls Club catered a chicken dinner plate. Next meeting February 18th.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Taylor, Secretary.