



The Phoghorn



Published by PROBUS
A Professional and Business Retirees Club

Probus Club of Saint John
c/o Boys and Girls Club, Paul Harris Street, Saint John, NB E2L 3V9
Website Address: <http://www.sjprobus.ca>

Volume 15 – No. 1 – September, 2007

Next Meeting - To be held Wednesday Sept 19th 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at the Boys and Girls Club. The speaker will be Ms. Susan Harley from Aliant, who will tell us all that is new in the Telephone and allied businesses.

Last Meeting - President Dave Fraser opened the meeting at 10 a.m. with the singing of O Canada, followed by Clarence Blois leading a summer orientated sing along.

President's Remarks - President Dave Fraser announced that George McCaughey had undergone heart surgery and was doing well. We all wish George a speedy recovery. Dave asked for volunteers to serve as Club Officers for the 2007/2008 year. Anyone interested should contact President Dave.

Minutes of the Last Meeting were duly read by acting Secretary Pat Toole and approved unanimously as per usual.

Treasurers Report - Ed Creaser reported that we had a positive balance at the bank but there were some outstanding accounts payable expected soon. After some discussion it was unanimously agreed to present the B&G Club with \$500. Members are reminded that this is the start of a new year for Probus. Members can pay their dues by mail by mailing them to the Treasurer at the address below the Phoghorn masthead. Cheques only please as this obviates making receipts.

Rendezvous 2008 - The organizing committees have been busy. Co Chair Bill Brydges reported that besides the Rotary Club donation announced in May we now have a commitment from the Royal Bank group for \$2000. He also said the programme is shaping up well. We can now report that the full schedule of events has been finalized and that the Registration forms and Brochure will be going to the printers very shortly and the website will be updated so members will be able to register on line. Over the summer the various committees have been meeting frequently and things are coming along very well. A great effort has been put in to making this convention a rip roaring success which I am sure it will be with your help and support. Every effort has been made to keep costs to a minimum so members and our guests can look forward to a fun time next September. So mark the dates of Sept 25th to the 27th and volunteer to help in the many necessary tasks. The Saint John Rotary Club has made a very generous grant of \$2000.00 to Rendezvous 2008. Thank you Rotarians.

Shaggy Dog Story Competition - Despite only receiving six entries in total, last year's winner George McCaughey was a repeat winner as chosen by those present. George has duly received his allegedly fabulous prize and says he's shooting for the triple crown now!

Lunch - House Manager Gordon Mouland (acting unpaid) solicited for lunch and got 15 responses. Gordon was also presented with a spirit level by President Dave so he can keep the pictures that adorn the club room walls straight and level. It's said Gordon would have preferred a level of spirits, preferably Screech, but no one listened. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 for members to fulfill their coffee craving. After Coffee the 60/40 draw resulted in Lorne McGuigan donating \$103 to the B&G Club.

Our Speaker - Lorne McGuigan introduced his guest, Don Michner - President of the Imperial Theatre Trustees. Mr. Michner gave us some background on the theatre's business and financial side and introduced Mr Peter Smith - The General Manager of Saint John's Cultural Jewel. Peter gave us more information on all aspects of The Imperial's operation, from box office to balcony and all in between. He also outlined the programme for the next several months and emphasized the important role that volunteers contribute in making the Imperial such a first class asset to the Community. There were numerous questions on this informative presentation. The speakers were thanked by President Dave who then wished all members a pleasant and healthy, relaxing summer.

New Executive Slate

Unfortunately the club is losing a long time member. Vice President Lorne McGuigan is leaving to take up residence in Prince Edward Island. I'm sure we all wish Lorne and his family well in their new location. He will now be able to play a different course every day of the week. Our club will miss him. Rendezvous 2008 will miss Lorne's help and guidance. He has been appointed Rendezvous 2008 Ambassador in PEI so we hope to see a large delegation coming from the Island. This has subsequently meant a major reshuffle of the new executive slate which won't be brought before the Club till our October meeting.

And Now At Last The Funnies

(The part of the Phoghorn you all turn to first to read the latest cutting edge humor (come on guys this is supposed to be humorous!)

This months theme seeing as its almost FallSummer Jokes.

One of the favoured Summer occupations is Gardening...

Why are husbands like lawn mowers?

They are difficult to get started, emit foul smells, and don't work half the time.

What would summer be without a Shaggy Dog story?

There was a snake called Nate. His purpose in life was to stay in the desert and guard the lever. This lever was no ordinary lever. It was the lever that if moved would destroy the world. Nate took his job very seriously. He let nothing get close to the lever. One day off in the distance he saw a cloud of dust. He kept his eye on it because he was guarding the lever. The dust cloud continued to move closer to the lever. Nate saw that it was a huge boulder and it was heading straight for the lever! Nate thought about what he could do to save the world. He decided if he could get in front of the boulder he could deflect it and it would miss the lever. Nate slithered quickly to intersect the boulder. The boulder ran over Nate, but it was in fact, deflected, leaving history to conclude that is was better Nate than lever.

And what better than a Fishing joke

Four married guys go fishing. After an hour, the following conversation took place. First guy: " You have no idea what I had to do to be able to come out fishing this weekend. I had to promise my wife that I will paint every room in the house next weekend." Second guy: " That's nothing, I had to promise my wife that I will build her a new deck for the pool." Third guy: " Man, you both have it easy! I had to promise my wife that I will remodel the kitchen for her." They continue to fish when they realized that the fourth guy has not said a word. So they asked him. You haven't said anything about what you had to do to be able to come fishing this weekend. " What's the deal?" Fourth guy: " I just set my alarm for 5:30 am. When it went off, I shut off my alarm, gave the wife a nudge and said, " Fishing or Sex" and she said, "Wear a Sweater."

"Welcome Back!"