



Phoghorn

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Happy New Year

Next Meeting Wednesday February, 18th 10am at
Saint John Boys & Girls Club.

The speaker for this month will be Major Stephan Laplante from the Canadian Army who will be telling us all about the Dart system which Canada deploys to world disasters. It is quite a comprehensive operation involving water purification, medical assistance, engineering, and other relief services needed in a disaster area. Last deployed to the Philippines after a disastrous hurricane

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**

Minutes of January's Meeting

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 Probuss 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.

Meeting adjourned at 1035 till 1100 for Coffee and social time.

Q: How come it takes so long to build a blonde snowman?

A: Because you have to hollow out the head!

You know you're in Canada when:

- Your snow blower gets stuck on the roof.
- You find -40C a little chilly.
- The trunk of your car doubles as a deep freezer.
- The municipality buys a Zamboni before a bus
- Finally, a chance to say, "Yeah, but it's a dry cold."

Q: What happened when the snow girl fell out with the snow boy?

A: She gave him the cold shoulder!

Q: What's an ig?

A: A snow house without a loo!

Q: What did the big furry hat say to the warm woolly scarf?

A: "You hang around while I go on ahead".

Now at last what you've been waiting all month for, yes yes its....

FABULOUS FUNNIES FIESTA TIME

Seeing as we've been blessed with so much snow I took this as a the theme for this month.

- Chionophobia is a fear of snow. Apparently, it seems that one in five Londoners have it.
- In 1864 the Thames froze for even longer. It was solid for two months as average January temperatures dipped to -3 degrees Celsius.
- If you think you're having a hard time of it, think again. Around 12% of the Earth's land surface is covered in permanent snow and ice.
- Starting in the morning rush hour, it has already brought commuter chaos, causing some schools to close, Heathrow to cancel 70 flights, and widespread delays on the trains. Up to 2.5in are expected to fall today, with a total 3.1in falling over the weekend.

So bundle up people – it's blizzard time! Rush home, buy emergency supplies, stock up on firewood, medicines and charge all your electronic devices just in case London freezes in the snow.

- Mount Baker, in the North Cascades of Washington State, holds the world record for the most snow falling in a year. A reported 1,140 inches fell during in 1998.
- The Wapusk Trail road is the longest winter road in the world according to the Guinness World Records. It is 467 miles long and links Gillam, Manitoba with Peawanuk, Ontario, Canada.
- The largest snowman was a woman. Built by the residents of Bethel, Maine, she was 122ft tall, with 30 ft spruce trees for arms and skis for eyelashes.
- Japanese scientists have developed a snow-eating robot, fitted with GPS, which shovels snow from the drive and compacts it into ice bricks.
- The coldest temperature ever recorded in the world was -128 degrees Celsius, in Vostok Station in Antarctica in 1983.
- The all-time world record for the largest snowfall in a single day was set in the United States on December 4, 1913, when Georgetown, Colorado received a staggering 63 inches of snow – more than five feet.
- An Arctic explorer came face to face with a polar bear. Afraid of being eaten, he fell to his knees and started praying. When the polar bear knelt down beside him and started praying too, the man shouted, "It's a miracle!" The polar bear opened one eye and said "Don't talk while I'm saying grace."



Now to cheer you up Friday, March 20

The First Day of Spring (Spring Equinox) 2015 that's in just 30 days' time as of our meeting datetime for about 4 more blizzards