



The PHOGHORN

Published by the PROBUS CLUB of Saint John N.B.—*Tom Craig*
A Professional and Business Retires Club
Monthly meetings at the Saint John BOYS & GIRLS Club located on Paul Harris Street
Every third Wednesday of the month
Saint John, N.B. E2L 3V9 Website <http://www.sjprob>



Volume 25.... #6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gentlemen,

So far, we have had a great start and we have increased our membership by 13 since September. Our Goal is 25 new members by the end of May.

The best way to do this is to use **our PROBUS Invitation cards**. It's easy to ask a friend to come and try a meeting without committing themselves. That's how you were able to get so many new members to date. With everybody's help, we can reach this goal. The most important thing is that with a total membership of 65, our club will be solvent financially. Keep up the great work.

I also want to say a special thanks to our "**stay in touch committee**" as they have made the attendance so great.

Best regards,
Ed

PS: the piano is now in tune this was done at no cost to us as the **Boy's & Girl's** paid for it.
With our thanks.

Monthly minutes from January 17th, 2018

PROBUS CLUB of Saint John.

The regular monthly of the **PROBUS Club** of Saint John was held Wednesday, January 17th, 2018, at the Boys and Girls Club. President **Ed O'Keefe** called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m., with about 35 members and guests in attendance. With special guest *Barry Snodgrass* at the piano, a very nattily attired *Gordon Moulard* led us in the singing of "O Canada", and 4 sing-a-longs, (without the usual 'one, two, three') culminating in a solo by Gordon.

President Ed mentioned the need for a sick and visiting committee and asked the members to consider volunteering. It was mentioned Len Kinsella, a previous member, had back surgery, but is walking again; Bill Bambury and Wes Cosman were recuperating at home. Fenton Keirstead thanked the membership for sending him a “Get Well” card the previous month.

The guests were welcomed by **President Ed** into the Club as members; **Chip Lawton**, sponsored by George McCaughey; **Bob Bustin**, sponsored by Tom Craig; **Clayton Daye**, sponsored by Mack Pike; and **John Johnson**, sponsored by Chip Lawton. All were presented with a New Member binder, name tag, and car decal.

Secretary Willard Buckley asked for approval of the Minutes of the December 13th, 2017, meeting, as issued in “**The Phoghorn**” pending any errors or omission. Motion by Gordon Dempsey, seconded by Fenton Keirstead, passed by the membership.

Bill Covert read a January 17, 1879 article from “*Saint John Snippets*”, by David Goss, following up with an item on the opening of the Saint John Harbour Bridge, September 28, 1968.

Seventeen members responded to the lunch count, with ham, scalloped potatoes and veggies, and dessert of carrot cake being offered.

Treasurer Don Mitchener presented the Financial Statement, complete with 2 trivia questions. David Flewelling is to be paid for the cost of providing the new member name tags to date. The Club has a current excess of Disbursements over Receipts for the year of \$53.19. Motion by Fred Shillington to accept, seconded by John Doyle, passed by the membership.

First Vice President John Doyle reminded us of the speakers for the next four months; February – PROBUS member Keith Dow; March – Harold Wright; April – Beverly Franklin; May – Bernie Cormier.

A truncated version of “*Allegedly Fabulous Funnies*” was presented by President Ed.

The Club Draw of \$95.00 (\$115.00 less \$20.00 withheld) was won by ticket seller Ralph Murray. Ralph Wood introduced our guest speaker, Victoria Clarke, Executive Director of Discover Saint John, although she stated it should be “Greater Saint John” based on what was involved. An e-mail was sent after the meeting to the membership, providing links to items in her talk. John Doyle thanked Ms. Clarke for her talk, presenting her with our Club Anniversary mug.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m. for the optional lunch.

Respectfully submitted
Willard Buckley
Secretary



NEW MEMBERS IN JANUARY



President Ed O'Keefe opening the meeting with our *Illustrious Treasurer*, "Willard Buckley" on the right.



New Member Chip Lawson, center, with George McCaughey on the left and President Ed on the right.



New member Robert, Bob, Bustin center, with President Ed on the left and Tom Craig on the right.



Another new member for Probus, Clayton Day with Mack Pike on the left and president Ed on the right.



New member John Johnson in the center with Chip Lawton on the left and President Ed on the right.



Members enjoying a coffee break over conversation.



Coffee break time and time to catch up on the news.

With 4 new members welcomed in January, it has been suggested that all regular members introduce themselves to the new members and make them feel welcome.



Ralph Wood introducing our guest speaker for January Ms. Victoria Clarke of Enterprise Saint John



Guest speaker Ms. Victoria Clarke



John Doyle thanking Victoria Clarke for her presentation. John also presented her with one of Probus's 25 yr. anniversary mug.



The plaque with past Presidents of Probus Club has been updated to 2017. It is located on the back wall.

A different commentary this month or some education on someone from many years ago with the same name as our **“PROBUS”**.

A short time ago I purchased a few coins from a fellow collector. In that lot were a few coins know as **“Ancients Coins”**. I knew little about them, so some research was in order. One of the coins I obtained has the marking of a fellow by the name **“Probus”**. This was a surprise to me.

Up to this point I thought **Probus** was the name of our worldwide club for **Retired Professional Business People**.

Much to my surprise, the name **PROBUS** is very famous from days gone by, 276—282 AD. Now, not being a history fancier, when one day, a fellow Probus member, *Willard Buckley*, mentioned this fact, that the name **“Probus”** is indeed very famous.

This lead me to look up on the web to see what was printed out there. A student from New York University, **Mr. Robin McMahon** has written the following:

Probus (276-282 A.D.) and Rival Claimants (Proculus, Bonosus, and Saturninus) of the 280s

**Composed by:
Robin Mc Mahon
New York University**

“Probus”

Saturninus

Probus's Background

M. Aurelius Probus was most likely born in Sirmium in 232 A.D. It is difficult to reconstruct Probus' career before he became emperor because of the unreliable nature of the account in the *Historia Augusta*, but it is certainly possible that he was a tribune under Valerian. Perhaps all that can be said with any reliability is that he served in the military and was on Aurelian's staff during his Eastern campaigns.[[1]] There is a certain amount of confusion in the sources about him because of the fact that he has often been confused with a certain Tenagino Probus, who served as prefect in Egypt under Claudius II Gothicus.[[2]]

Accession to Power

After the murder of Aurelian, the Senate chose as his successor the septuagenarian senator, Tacitus, who took up the burdens of state and headed with the army to the East.

The Eruli had overrun Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia and finally Cilicia, where Tacitus, with help from his half-brother Florianus, defeated them.[[3]] Tacitus, however, either died of an illness or was killed by his own troops; he was succeeded by Florianus.[[4]] In the meantime, Probus had been declared Emperor by his own troops in mid-276, and prepared to meet Florianus, who was marching from the Bosporus, having broken off his victorious engagement against the Eruli. Florianus was acknowledged in Rome and was supported by Gaul, Spain, Britain, and Italy; Probus was supported by Syria, Phoenicia, Palestine and Egypt. The two fought a desultory campaign near Tarsus. With a much smaller force, Probus decided his best strategy would be to avoid a pitched battle and let the heat overcome the troops of Florianus. The latter, having reigned barely two months, was murdered by his own troops.[[5]] Probus became sole Emperor, possibly by August 276.[[6]]

Probus in the West: 276-279

His first order of business was to punish the murderers of Aurelian, who may have also had a hand in the murder of Tacitus.[[7]] On the basis of numismatic evidence, Probus appears to have traveled from the east across the Propontis, and then through the provinces of Thrace, Moesia and Pannonia. It is at this time that he must have defeated the Goths because he already had the title Gothicus by 277 A.D. Shortly after he arrived at the Rhine River he made a trip to Rome to have his powers ratified by the Senate.[[8]]

Probus is next reported to have fought victoriously against the Burgundians and to have secured his victory with some ingenuity. Because his forces were smaller than those of the invaders, he wanted to engage the enemy on terms as favorable as possible; the Romans were on one side of the river and the barbarians were on the other. Probus was able to induce them to cross the river by having his soldiers hurl insults at them, and being enraged, they began crossing the river. Before the barbarians were able to organize themselves, the Roman army soundly routed them. Smarting from their defeat, the enemy did not live up to their end of the treaty, with the result that, in a second battle, they were again worsted by Probus.[[9]] The barbarians who were taken prisoner were enrolled in the Roman Army and sent to Britain.

Not content with merely defeating the barbarians along the Rhine, Probus took important steps to secure the boundary for the future. He planned and constructed a series of forts and depots on the German side of the Rhine at various crossing points, which he garrisoned with troops. Further, Probus apparently took measures to restore economic stability to Gaul by encouraging the planting of vineyards. Probus' titles Gothicus

Probus's Military and Economic Activities In Egypt

Meanwhile, Probus had sent his generals to Egypt, where the Blemmyes were stirring up trouble in 280; they had broken through the border, advanced up the Nile, and, in league with the city of Ptolemais, captured the city of Koptus. They were eventually expelled and order was restored by Probus' generals. Once Probus had

restored order, he set about the task of a large-scale reconstruction of the dikes, canals, and bridges along the Nile, something which not been done since it had been undertaken by Augustus in the years 27-25 B.C. More specifically, the Vita Probi notes, "On the Nile, moreover, he did so much that his sole efforts added greatly to the tithes of grain. He constructed bridges and temples porticos and basilicas, all by the labour of the soldiers, he opened up many river mouths, and drained many marshes, and put in their place grain-fields and farms"(9.3-4). The importance of this type of work cannot be underestimated since a large percentage of the food supply for Rome came from Egypt and the African provinces. [[12]]

The Revolts of Proculus, Bonosus, and Saturninus

The writer of the Vita Probi in the Historia Augusta indicates that in 280 A.D. Proculus revolted in the vicinity of the city of Lugdunum, which had been severely dealt with by Aurelian and, for reasons not given, spurred on by this fear, had adopted a hostile attitude towards Probus. Proculus apparently had some connections to the Franks and he had hoped to rally them to his cause. They appear, however, to have handed him over to Probus when he arrived on the scene. [[14]] Probably at the same time, Bonosus revolted. His rebellion seems to have been serious as it appears to have required considerable force to be suppressed. Bonosus, an officer in charge of the Rhine fleet, had somehow let the Germans slip over the border and burn the fleet. Fearful of retribution, he apparently took shelter in proclaiming himself emperor. He was, in spite of his lapse with the fleet, an excellent soldier. The fighting was only stopped when Bonosus, despairing of his position, hanged himself. Probus spared the lives of his sons as well as that of his wife. [[15]]

Julius Saturninus, one of Probus 's commanders in Syria, probably seized power in the year 281. A close friend and associate of Probus, he may have been compelled to adopt the purple by his unruly troops. Although he initially rejected a request of the people of Alexandria to put on the purple, he later changed his mind and proclaimed himself Augustus. In any case, Probus planned to put down the rebellion. However, Saturninus was killed by his own troops before Probus had a chance to act. [[16]]

In 281 Probus was in Rome to celebrate his victories. Although the Historia Augusta goes into great detail to describe the events of Probus's triumph and celebrations of his victories in respect to the number of animals and prisoners involved, there may be some truth to its description because Zosimus states there was a uprising which at this time required a force of soldiers to suppress. On a more substantial note, Probus completed the wall around Rome which had been begun by Aurelian. [[18]]

Probus' Assassination

Probus was too anxious to push ahead with his plans for an invasion of Persia, which had been postponed due to the revolts and unrest in the West, and, to this end, he left Rome in 282 and proceeded first to his native town of Sirmium when news came that M. Aurelius Carus, Perfect of the Guard, had been proclaimed emperor. When troops sent by Probus to quell the rebellion went over to Carus, Probus' remaining troops killed the emperor. His death occurred sometime between September or October 282. [[19]]

This presentation has been edited because of its length.

This is one of several coins Ancient Coins with **Probus's** likeness on it.



HUMOROUS PICTURES.



"Be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The road of life is paved with flat squirrels who couldn't make a decision."
~Unknown~

SHARED ON I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD.COM

POLITICS

I TOLD MY SON, "***YOU WILL MARRY THE GIRL I CHOOSE.***"
HE SAID, "**NO.**"

I TOLD HIM, "***SHE IS BILL GATES' DAUGHTER.***"
HE SAID, "**YES.**"

I CALLED BILL GATES AND SAID, "***I WANT YOUR DAUGHTER TO MARRY MY SON.***"
BILL GATES SAID, "**NO.**"

I TOLD BILL GATES, "***MY SON IS THE CEO OF THE WORLD BANK.***"
BILL GATES SAID, "**OK.**"

I CALLED THE PRESIDENT OF WORLD BANK AND ASKED HIM ***TO MAKE MY SON THE CEO.***
HE SAID, "**NO.**"

I TOLD HIM, "***MY SON IS BILL GATES' SON-IN-LAW.***"
HE SAID, "**OK.**"

AND THAT'S EXACTLY HOW POLITICS WORKS!

SIMPLE HOME REMEDIES : THESE REALLY WORK!

1. TO AVOID CUTTING YOURSELF WHEN SLICING VEGETABLES, GET SOMEONE ELSE TO HOLD THE VEGETABLES WHILE YOU CHOP.
- 2 TO AVOID ARGUMENTS WITH THE FEMALES ABOUT LIFTING THE TOILET SEAT- USE THE SINK.
3. FOR HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE SUFFERERS ~ SIMPLY CUT YOURSELF AND BLEED FOR A FEW MINUTES, THUS REDUCING THE PRESSURE ON YOUR VEINS. [REMEMBER TO USE A TIMER.]
4. A MOUSE TRAP PLACED ON TOP OF YOUR ALARM CLOCK WILL PREVENT YOU FROM ROLLING OVER AND GOING BACK TO SLEEP AFTER YOU HIT THE SNOOZE BUTTON.
5. IF YOU HAVE A BAD COUGH, TAKE A LARGE DOSE OF LAXATIVES - YOU'LL BE AFRAID TO COUGH.
6. YOU ONLY NEED TWO TOOLS IN LIFE - WD-40 (Oil) AND DUCT TAPE. IF IT DOESN'T MOVE AND SHOULD, USE THE WD-40. IF IT SHOULDN'T MOVE AND DOES, USE THE DUCT TAPE.
7. IF YOU CAN'T FIX IT WITH A HAMMER, YOU'VE GOT AN ELECTRICAL PROBLEM.

Have a great day!

THE CYNICAL PHILOSOPHER

◆ I read that 4,153,237 people got married last year. Not to cause any trouble, but shouldn't that be an even number?

◆ I find it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.

◆ When wearing a bikini, women reveal 90% of their body. Men are so polite they only look at the covered parts.

Relationships are a lot like algebra. Have you ever looked at your X and wondered Y?

◆ America is a country which produces citizens who will cross the ocean to fight for democracy but won't cross the street to vote.

◆ You know that tingly little feeling you get when you love someone? That's your common sense leaving your body.

◆ My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that.

◆ I think my neighbor is stalking me as she's been Googling my name on her computer. I saw it through my telescope last night.

◆ Money talks ... but all mine ever says is good-bye.

February 20, 2018

Tom Craig

