



The PHOGHORN

Published by the PROBUS CLUB of Saint John N.B.—*Tom Craig*
A Professional and Business Retirees 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.sjprobus.ca/>



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MAY 11, 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gentlemen:

As we approach the end of the 2017-18 **PHROBUS** year there are several accomplishments worth noting.

I want to thank the entire membership for your efforts in increasing our membership. We had a goal of 25 and so far, we have 12 new members and equally important was the return of 7 former members.

So, lets keep the effort alive and by Sept 18, 2018 we can reach that goal. **Dale Stevens and Willard Buckley** have stayed on top of all the changes and kept everything up to date.

Partly because of the increase in membership but mostly due to the excellent efforts of our Telephone Committee of **George McCaughey** (who started this group going last September)- **Dale Stevens -Don Leblanc- Tom Craig**. We have seen a great increase in our attendance at the month

We have seen a great increase in our attendance at the monthly meetings. The return of **Murray Driscoll** and the excellent use of the piano has given a major boost to the singing and the enjoyment part of the meeting. Not to be overlooked and of great importance has been the excellent selection of our guest speakers that **John Doyle** has provided. He has committed to continue this for us next year (thanks John). Also, while on the subject I want on your behalf want to give a special thanks to **Tom Craig** and his committee for making sure that we have everything in place for and after the meetings. So much of his work goes un-noticed because it goes off without a hitch. He also has produced an excellent publication of the **PHOGHORN** each month. (outstanding effort). I am happy to say he is planning to continue his great work next season.

Our keeper of the MINUTES has been doing this now for over three years and has kept everything in line. Even when I kept trying to stray, he was there to pull me back in line (thanks). Willard also has kept the list of our members updated and has provided a list of years of service which we will be using to help celebrate the years of service starting in September. Since Willard will not be re-offering. I want to say Thanks for all your help and hope you will continue in some roll with your excellent abilities in the future. So now is the time for one of you to step-up and continue his great work.

Finally, **Don Mitchener** has provided not only great leadership for our finances but has given excellent talks each year during the tax time and his advice has always been there for each member seeking help on those matters. We need someone to step up and take over for Don. It would be great if one of our new members would take on the task. We also have a few openings on the executive so if you want to help let **Robert Taylor, Ralph Wood** or myself know and we will outline the openings.

We are all better enlightened now because of the monthly readings given by **Bill Covert** on the history of the Saint John area, even before going on vacation he remembered to ask **Michael England** to keep his tradition going. I hope you will keep this going in the new year (thanks Bill).

My thanks to all and have a great summer!

ED O'KEEFE, President



President **Ed O'Keefe** calling the meeting to order with recording secretary, **Willard Buckley**, on the right

PROBUS CLUB OF SAINT JOHN

Monthly Meeting

April 18, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the PROBUS Club of Saint John was held Wednesday, April 18th, 2018, at the Boys and Girls Club. **President Ed O'Keefe** called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., with some 30 members and guests in attendance.

Gordon Mouland, with Murray Driscoll at the piano, led us in singing “*O Canada*”. We stood for a moment of silence in memory of long time member and former President **Dave Fraser**.

The sing-a-long followed, with Birthday greetings sung to **Gordon Mouland – 95, and David Flewelling, not 95.**

Secretary **Willard Buckley** asked for approval of the Minutes of our March 21, 2018 meeting as published in “**The Phoghorn**”, pending any errors or omissions. Motion by **Gordon Dempsey** to accept, seconded by **George McCaughey**, approved by the membership.

Treasurer **Don Mitchener** presented his Financial Report, showing receipts since June 1, 2017 of \$2,134.55, and Expenses of \$2,167.94, for a deficiency of \$33.39, and closing cash of \$1,575.76.

Chip Lawton introduced his guest, **Howard Pearn**. We welcomed back **David Flewelling** following his recent surgery.

Bill Covert read 3 passages from “*Saint John Snippets*”, by David Goss: April 18, 1824, concerning “grave” matters; April 17, 1851, concerning the “**Marco Polo**”; and April 19, 1945, about **Walter Golding**.

John Doyle reminded us that **Bernard Cormier**, would be our Speaker at the May meeting, and would be trying for **Jim Wilson** at the September meeting.

President Ed asked the members to volunteer for the several positions that would be opening at the May meeting, as the **President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary** posts would be required to be filled. He also mentioned that long service pins, for 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years, would be issued at the September meeting.

Murray Driscoll treated us to a bit of history and a joke.

Guest speaker **Beverly Franklin** drew the winning ticket worth \$78.00 (\$98.00 less \$20.00 withheld), and claimed by Jim Shillington, who donated the entire sum to the **Boys and Girls Club**.

Chip Lawton formally introduced **Beverly Franklin**, Director of Special Events and Tours, at the **Fundy Trail**. She is carrying on the tradition started by her father, **Mitchell Franklin**. Further information can be found at www.fundytrail.com. Chip Lawton thanked Ms. Franklin, presenting her with our 25th anniversary mug in appreciation.

Jim Shillington mentioned that 8 artists would be doing their stone sculptures this summer. Previous works include one now at St. Martins.

About 19 members stayed for optional lunch of shepherd's pie, salad, rolls, and cookies.
Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted
Willard Buckley
Secretary



What do you think will happen next?

Information you may use sometime!

Are your writing skills important?

Did I read that sign right?

TOILET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE USE FLOOR BELOW

In a Laundromat:

AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES: PLEASE REMOVE ALL YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT

In a London Department store:

BARGAIN BASEMENT UPSTAIRS

In an office:

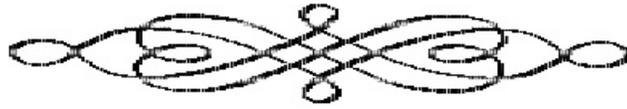
WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE STEP LADDER YESTERDAY PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN

Notice in health food shop window:

CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS

On a repair shop door:

**WE CAN REPAIR ANYTHING.
(PLEASE KNOCK HARD - THE BELL DOESN'T WORK)**



Yes, it's that magical time of year again when the *Darwin Awards* are bestowed, honoring the least evolved among us.

Here is the glorious winner:

When his .38 caliber revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked.

The chef at a hotel in Switzerland lost a finger in a meat cutting machine and after a little shopping round, submitted a claim to his insurance company. The company expecting negligence sent out one of its men to have a look for himself. He tried the machine and he also lost a finger. The Chef's' claim was approved.

After stopping for drinks at an illegal bar, a Zimbabwean bus driver found that the 20 mental patients he was supposed to be transporting from Harare to Bulawayo had escaped. Not wanting to admit his incompetence, the driver went to a nearby bus stop and offered everyone waiting there a free ride. He then delivered the passengers to the mental hospital, telling the staff That the patients were very excitable and prone to bizarre fantasies. The Deception wasn't discovered for 3 days.

A man walked into a Louisiana Circle-K, put a \$20 bill on the counter, and asked for change. When the clerk opened the cash drawer, the man pulled a gun and asked for all the cash in the register, which the clerk promptly provided the man took the cash from the clerk and fled, leaving the \$20 bill on the counter. The total amount of cash he got from the drawer.... \$15. [If someone points a gun at you and gives you money, is a crime committed?]

As a female shopper exited a New York convenience store, a man grabbed her purse and ran. The clerk called 911 immediately, and the woman was able to give them a detailed description of the snatcher. Within minutes, the police apprehended the snatcher. They put him in the car and drove back to the store. The thief was then taken out of the car and told to stand there for a positive ID. To which he replied, Yes, officer, that's her. That's the lady I stole the purse from."

The Ann Arbor News crime column reported that a man walked into a Burger King in Ypsilanti, Michigan at 5 A.M., flashed a gun, and demanded cash. The clerk turned him down because he said he couldn't open the cash register without a food order When the

man ordered onion rings, the clerk said they weren't available for breakfast.... The frustrated gunman walked away.

*[*A 5-STAR STUPIDITY AWARD WINNER]*

When a man attempted to siphon gasoline from a motor home parked on a Seattle street by sucking on a hose, he got much more than he bargained for. Police arrived at the scene to find a very sick man curled up next to a motor home near spilled sewage. A police spokesman said that the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline, but he plugged his siphon hose into the motor home's sewage tank by mistake. The owner of the vehicle declined to press charges saying that it was the best laugh he'd ever had and the perp had been punished enough!

***Remember...
They walk among us!***

SPRING HAS COME!

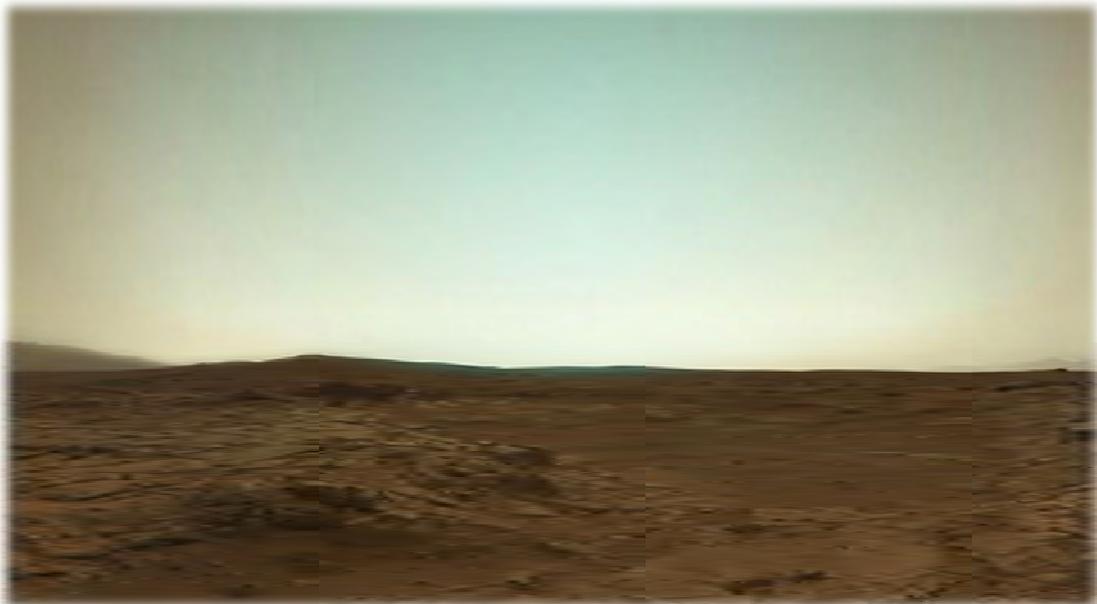


*Spring has come when you see the waters as calm as can be and reflecting the clouds above.
This is the Kennebecasis river at Renforth on April 12, 2018*

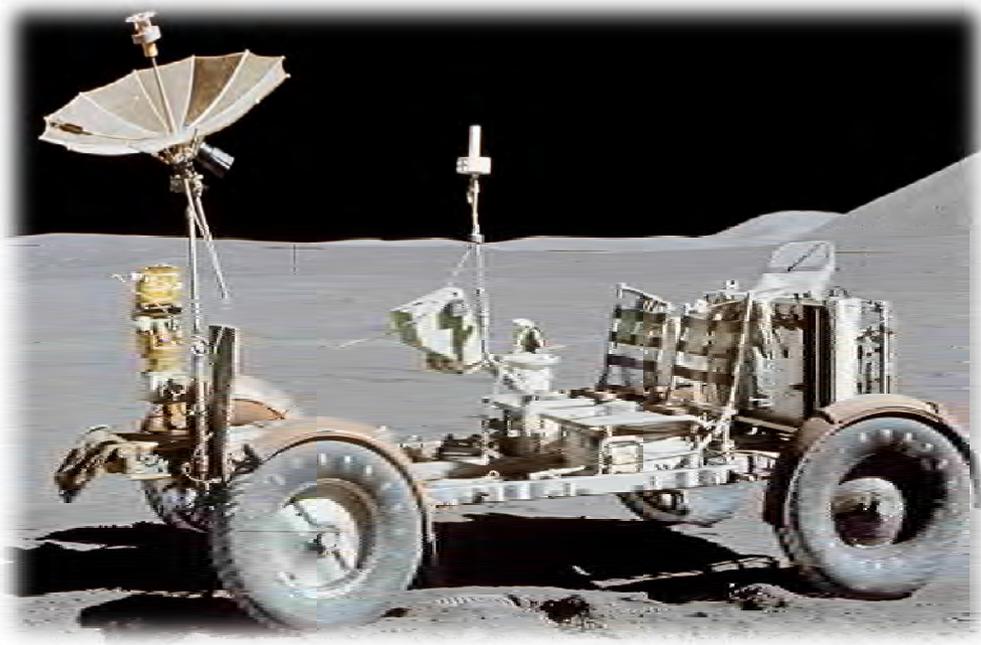
Interesting items that were in the newspapers and you may have missed.



The **French Army** have trained bald eagles to attack unidentified “**flying drones**” that have flowed over restricted areas. Program has been deemed very effective.



This is one of the first clear photos taken by the **Curiosity Mars Rover** on the Planet **MARS** on August 21, 2015. Any volunteers?



Curiosity Mars Rover as landed on August 2012
Interesting item, no seat belts!

TOM CRAIG