

PROBUS

The

“PHOGHORN Newsletter”

Saint John, NB -CANADA

OCTOBER—2020

Monthly Edition

Next Meeting October 21st



28 YEARS



“THE PHOGHORN”



A Professional and Business Retirees Club.

PROBUS Monthly Newsletter

PROBUS Club Membership #026. Published by *PROBUS Club* of Saint John, NB E2L 3V9

Meetings are at the *Canada Best Value Inn on Main St, next to the Lord Beaverbrook Arena*, every third Wednesday of the month, 10:00 am. Website <http://www.sjprobus.ca> --- *PROBUS CANADA* website www.probus.org

Volume 28—#2...OCTOBER 2020

2020—2021 Executive members

Don LeBlanc -----President

Ed O’Keefe ----- Past president

John Andrews -----1st Vice President

Peter Morris -----2nd Vice President

Robert Taylor -----Treasurer

Vacant-----Secretary



President Don LeBlanc

Presidents’ Report.

Hello Fellow Probus Members.

We have successfully RE instituted our live “physical” meeting schedule on Sept 16th! With grateful thanks to our Committee chairmen *Tom Craig & Ron Pierce* (proto -call Committee) as well as *John Doyle* on securing a location. We had 25 attendees and held our AGM - Reinstating (electing) all Officers and two new VPs. *John Anderson* (1st) & *Peter Morris* (2nd VP) ... *Willard Buckley* filled in as Secretary.

Thank you to all Committee Chairs and Executive for offering and RE offering!

Dues will be reduced and held to \$20 this year 2020-21 (new member entry fee will remain unchanged). All members are asked to bring you Dues to next meeting if possible or forward thru a fellow member.

Our Speaker program will be re instituted for October meeting and our *Christmas meeting* will take place at *Villa Madonna*. (further details to follow.

For September Meeting, *Robert Taylor* presented info on the *Connector Club in England*. PROBUS member *Bill Covert* reported on his travel adventures in Australia visiting his daughter this Spring & Summer.

Lunch was served in a timely manner and everyone was generally pleased.

It was great to get together again! We hope to see everyone on October 21st!

Best regards *Don*

PROBUS CLUB OF SAINT JOHN, N.B.
MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 16th, 2020

The 28th Annual General Meeting of **PROBUS** was held at the *Canada's Best Value Inn*, 10 Portland St., Saint John, N.B. The venue was changed due to the *COVID-19 pandemic*. All future meeting will be held at this location until further notice.

With the *House Committee of Tom Craig and Ron Pearce* ensuring all proper protocols for the venue was in place, and *Wes Cosman* at the door checking all members were wearing face masks, and had signed in.

President *Don LeBlanc* called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. welcoming about 24 members. After the singing of "*O Canada*", *David Flewelling* informed us that *P.P. Bill Bambury* was now at Shannex. There was not any other member news, nor any guests, but *John Doyle* hopes to have *Pat Gallagher* as a guest at our next meeting.

President Don mentioned that the *Management Committee* met this past June, discussing among other things the required protocols for upcoming meetings.

Bill Covert was welcomed to the meeting, having recently returned from an Australia trip that was expected to be 5 weeks, but stretched to about 6 months due to the pandemic, and required 2 weeks isolation upon his return to home.

15 members indicated they would be staying for the non-obligatory lunch, with 18 actually participating.

ANNUAL MEETING

President *Don* thanked all those that were on the past Management Committee.

Treasurer *Robert Taylor* present his *Annual Financial Report*, showing an opening balance of \$1,247.98, income of \$1,800.00, expenses of \$1,374.58, closing balance of \$1,673.40. *Sherman Palmer* seconded *Treasurer Robert's* request for acceptance, passed by the members unanimously.

Treasurer *Robert* also requested authority to issue a check to *The Boys and Girls Club*, Saint John, for \$200.00, representing the January and February 2020, meetings at their premises, seconded by *David Flewelling*, passed.

Treasurer *Robert* also proposed the reduction in *Annual Dues*, for this year only, from \$30.00 to \$20.00 due to expected reduced expenses, seconded by *Tom Craig*, passed. Initiation fees of \$ 20.00 to remain in place.

The expenditure of \$370.28 for the purchase of a required speaker system was also approved.

After the call for further nominations, the Acting Secretary cast the deciding vote for the incoming President *Don Leblanc*, and incoming Treasurer *Robert Taylor*. The position of Secretary was not filled. Members accepted the nomination for 1st Vice President of *John Andrews*, and 2nd Vice President of *Peter Morris*.

John Doyle advised that future speakers would be *David Goss* for October. And *Jim Wilson* for November and hoped for the return of the *Saint John String Quartet* for December, which *Carl Tompkins* will arrange.

For our *Annual Christmas Dinner*, *Tom Craig* requested the members to consider the *Villa Madonna Complex*, Renforth. They have a large meeting room, adequate free parking, and round 8 foot tables for adequate personal distancing, The room rate would be \$75.00, to be paid by our Club, with the sit down meal to be \$25.00 The motion to accept, with the meeting to be December 16th, by *David Flewelling*, seconded by *Ron Pearce*, was approved.

President *Don* is to investigate getting the *Saint John Ladies Probus Club* to refund the \$16.00 spent by several member for a special joint meeting that was cancelled.

John Doyle asked if the members would be interested in a special outing to the new *Field House*, in November, on a non-meeting day. Further information to be provided at the October meeting, *Robert Taylor* spoke of reaching out to an *English PROBUS Club*, Sale, to provide greetings and best wished from our Club, They quickly responded, advising that they meet twice monthly, the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, were established in 1973, meet

at the *Sale's Sport Club*, and during the pandemic closure, met by Zoom presentations.

The ticket winner for the draw of \$46.00 was *Dale Stevens*.

Meeting closed at 11:30 a.m., as the meal, choice of 3 entrees, was served.

Next meeting – October 21st, 2020, again at the *Canada's Best Value Inn*.

Respectively Submitted

Willard Buckley

Acting Secretary

| PROBUS Club of Saint John | |
|---|------------------|
| FINANCIAL REPORT | |
| 2019 – 2020 SEASON | |
| Opening Balance May 15 th , 2019 | \$1247.98 |
| Plus Income : Dues for 56 members | <u>\$1800.00</u> |
| Equals Funds Available | \$3047.98 |
| Less Expenses: | |
| Atlantic Regional Workshop, Halifax | \$ 191.00 |
| PROBUS Canada : Dues for 50 members | 125.00 |
| Pins | 41.00 |
| Supplies: name tags, mugs, etc. | 208.73 |
| Phoghorn: printing + ink | 299.50 |
| Boys and Girls Club | 400.00 |
| Flag repair | 33.35 |
| BMO deposit error | 1.00 |
| 5 Gift Cards for Speakers | <u>75.00</u> |
| Total Expenses | <u>\$1374.58</u> |
| Equals Closing Balance August 31 st , 2020 | \$1673.40 |
| (includes \$1000 bequest from former member Ross Coates) | |
| Liability: \$200? To Boys & Girls Club for Jan. – Feb. Meetings | <u>Passed</u> |

Respectfully submitted

Robert Taylor, Treasurer

Sept. 16th, 2020.

The financial report for last season, is above. Three motions relating to the report were adopted at our Club meeting on September 16th. (1) To give *the Boys and Girls Club* \$200 for our *January and February* 2020 meetings. This will be counted as an additional expense for 2019-20, so our starting balance for 2020-21 will reduce to \$1473.40. (2) To reduce our membership dues for this season to \$20, which helps compensate members for missed meetings, and because our facility expenses will be less this season. The initial joining fee will remain at \$20. (3) To buy a speaker system at a cost of \$370. This expense will be assigned to the 2020-21 season. Thanks to *Tom Craig* for arranging this.

At the September 16th meeting, sixteen members paid their \$20 dues. Others can pay when you come on October 21st, or you can mail a cheque (made out to **PROBUS Saint John**) to **Robert Taylor at 31-2865 Rothesay Road, Rothesay, NB, E2E-5V1**.

**Moments from our 28th A.G.M. and
first meeting since February, start of COVID-19**



8-foot diameter tables enable social distancing.



Wes Cosman ensures to have everyone sign in and offering a mask if needed.



Treasurer *Robert Taylor* delivers his annual report.



On the left, *David, Fenton, Ron, Wes and John*, enjoy their lunch.



Dale Somerville, on the left, *Carl White*, President *Don Leblanc* and *Robert Taylor* enjoy their dinner.



David Flewelling and *Fenton Keirstead*.

Annual Christmas Dinner

Ron Pearce suggested a reminder to all **PROBUS** members for the **Annual Christmas Turkey Dinner**. It will take place after the December meeting of **PROBUS**. The meeting will take place on the **16th of December** at the usual time of 10:00am. The dinner will follow around 11:30am.

This should be treated as an “outing” by the whole group and will be held at the **Villa Madonna Complex** at Renforth. I believe this may be a first time that our dinner was held elsewhere than the B & G Club. Direction will be provided for those who need it, but it is extremely easy to locate.

In talking to a few members, **PROBUS**, years ago, never even had coffee or a break time. Times have changed.

The cost will be \$25.00 all inclusive at a sit-down meal served by the staff. Maybe the big guy with the Red Suit may show up.

So.... It is encouraged that all members try to attend this event. A head count will take place in November and this will allow the staff to order sufficient food for the dinner.

Social distancing will be in effect with the 8-foot round tables.

BIRTHDAYS.... If you know of any **PROBUS** members having a birthday soon, let me know so it can be written up in the **PHOGHORN**.

TOM CRAIG—OCTOBER 05

HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU -- THE END OF AN ERA

The young guns may not understand the meaning of this, but you will. The Roy Rogers Museum in Branson, MO has closed its doors forever. The contents of the museum were sold at a public auction. Roy Rogers told his son, if the museum ever operates at a loss, close it, and sell the contents. He complied. Note the follow-on article truly the end of an era

Here is a partial listing of some of the items that were sold at auction:

Roy's 1964 Bonneville (Pontiac) sold for \$254,500. It was estimated to sell between 100 and 150 thousand dollars.

His script book from the January 14, 1953 episode of This Is Your Life sold for \$10,000 (EST. \$800-\$1,000).

A collection of signed baseballs (Pete Rose, Duke Snider, and other greats) sold for \$3,750.

A collection of signed bats (Yogi Berra, Enos Slaughter, Bob Feller, and others) sold for \$2,750

Trigger 's saddle and bridle sold for \$386,500.

One of many of Roy's shirts sold for \$16,250 and one of his many cowboy hats sold for \$17,500.

One set of boot spurs sold for \$10,625. (He never used a set of spurs on Trigger)

His flight jacket sold for \$7,500

His set of dinnerware plates and silverware sold for \$11,875.

The Bible they used at the dinner table every night sold for \$8,750.

One of several of his guitars sold for \$27,500.

Nellybelle (the Jeep) sold for \$116,500.\

Bullet (stuffed) sold for \$35,000 (EST. 10-15 K). He was their real pet. Dale's parade saddle, estimated to sell between 20-30 K, sold for \$104,500.

One of many pairs of Roy's boots sold for \$21,250.

Trigger (stuffed) sold for \$266,500.

Do you remember the 1938 movie The Adventures of Robinhood, With Errol Flynn and Olivia de Havilland? Well, Olivia rode Trigger in that movie. Trigger was bred on a farm co-owned by Bing Crosby. Roy bought Trigger on a time payment plan for \$2,500. Roy and Trigger made 188 movies together. Trigger even outdid Bob Hope by winning an Oscar in the movie Son of Paleface in 1953.

It is extremely sad to see this era lost forever. Even though Gene and Roy's movies, as well as those of other great characters, can be bought or rented for viewing, today's kids would rather spend their time playing video games. Today it takes a very special pair of parents to raise their kids with the right values and morals. These were the great heroes of our childhood, and they did teach us right from wrong, and how to have and show respect for each other and the animals that share this earth.

You and I were born at the right time. We were able to grow up with these great people even if we never met them. In their own way they taught us patriotism and honor. We learned that lying and cheating were bad, and that sex was not as important as love. We learned how to suffer through disappointment and failure and work through it. Our lives were drug free.

So, it is good-bye to Roy and Dale, Gene and Hoppy (Hop-a-long Cassidy), the Lone Ranger and Tonto. Farewell to Sky King (and Penny) and Superman and (Dragnet) Sgt Friday. Thanks to Capt. Kangaroo, Mr. Rogers, and Capt. Noah and all those people whose lives touched ours and made them better.

Happy Trails... It was a great ride through childhood

The problem with
the world is that
the intelligent people
are full of doubts, while
the stupid ones are
full of confidence.

Charles Bukowski



Isn't that the truth!

While at a flea market, I saw a large car attempting to park next to a display table. Executing a bad turn, the driver smashed a tray the vendor had on the ground beside his table. "Honey" the dealer yelled to his wife, "we finally sold something

My son Gord's landlord left his garage door unlocked and told Gord that he could borrow the lawn mover anytime. The arrangement worked well, and the lawn was kept trimmed. One day Gord discovered a new shiny model had replaced the old one. After he used it a few times, Gord met the landlord on the street and told him the mover was a pleasure to use. His landlord looked puzzled and then sheepish. Did I forget to tell you I moved?

Five of my in-laws were traveling from Trenton, NS to the village of Lochaber and were lost. Finally, my father-in-law said "I know where it is. You will come to a fork in the road up ahead. Turn left." They turned left and ended up in the town of Antigonish. Retracing their journey, they again reached the fork. "It must be that we should have turned right" said my father-in-law. I remember there was a red barn. When we reached it, we are near the church. They turned, but there was no red barn. "Dad" said the son, "when was the last time you were through here?"

"Let me see. I helped my father take a team of horses through here in 1926"

History is not there for you to like or dislike. It is there for you to learn from it. And if it offends you, even better. Because then you are less likely to repeat it. It's not yours to erase. It belongs to all of us!

"BIG CHAINSAW"



This person piles his supply of firewood in a different fashion each year. This is his / hers best to date.

As our president of **PROBUS Canada** states **"Be a friend...Bring a friend"**