

PROBUS

The

“PHOGHORN Newsletter”

Saint John, NB -CANADA

NOVEMBER —2020

Monthly Edition

Next Meeting NOVEMBER 18th

The Best Value Inn—Main Street, S.J.

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—#3...November 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

Chip Lawton-----Secretary



President Don LeBlanc

Presidents' Report.

Hello fellow PROBUS members! It is generally good news that **Covid-19** in NB is continuing to stabilize. The northern NB area and Moncton areas have returned to Yellow status. Federal Government is recommending improved masks. (extra lining, 3)

I attended the **Atlantic Canadian & State of Maine PROBUS** meeting in late October on behalf of our Club (by Zoom). Our incoming National President is from Ontario. He is exuberant and an "all in PROBUS" proponent and I think will be a good leader. Our Club is actually one of the smaller Clubs by membership- and that offers a "mixed blessing"- at this time since meeting venues are extremely challenging for Clubs over -100 & larger is restricting "live" meetings through the Country.

The National Club focus and priority therefore is on Zoom meeting training and promotion. There are several media/technology /engineering types of people who have stepped up and are available to assist any Clubs requiring assistance/training on how to host Zoom meetings effectively.

We look forward to our upcoming November speaker **Jim Wilson** and to our December **Christmas** meeting at **Villa Madonna!** Tickets for December will be available soon at \$25.00 and we thank our team led by **Tom Craig** and **Ron Pearce!**

As your President, I wish everyone "well being" and remember to: "**Stay active and Connected**"

PROBUS Minutes form the October meeting.

Call to Order 10:04 October 21, 2020 WELCOME – President **Don LeBlanc** chaired the meeting. Masks were worn as we sang Happy Birthday to **Wes Cosman** in addition to our national anthem, **O Canada**. Due to **Covid-19**, it was decided not to have our usual sing along. **Gord Mouland**, our song leader was not in attendance. It was reported that Gord is fine, just could not make meeting.

MEMORIALS FOR DEPARTED MEMBERS – **Tom Craig** reports that **Richard Burpee** had recent surgery and is recovering well. **Randy Giffin** is also recovering.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – A motion was made by **David Flewelling** and seconded by **Gord Dempsey** to accept the minutes as published in **The Phoghorn Newsletter** and to accept the **Treasurer's Report** which was presented at the meeting September 16, 2020.

TREASURER'S REPORT – **Robert Taylor** reported that 24 members have paid dues. The public address system has been paid for and \$200.00 was set aside to donate to the **Boys & Girls** club for January and February 2020.

MEMBERSHIP – Guests – **Don Mitchner** introduced **Paul Meier**, who recently moved back to Rothesay after 17 years in Halifax.

LUNCH COUNT – a show of hands indicated that 30 members present and 25 would stay for lunch.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS – **John Doyle** has **Jim Wilson**, the Naturalist, for a presentation in November. Also, **Pat Gallagher**, former owner of Shadow Lawn is to speak briefly. December will be **The String Quartet**.

A tour of the new **Field House** in East Saint John will be hosted by **Bill McMackin** on November 24 at 11am. Those attending may want to go somewhere for lunch after. This outing is separate from our meeting which will be November 18, 2020.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – **Don LeBlanc** has been in touch with the **Ladies PROBUS Group** regarding a refund for the cancelled luncheon. Funds will be available at the November meeting.

It was mentioned that during these uncertain times it would be a good idea to keep in touch with members by phone to encourage and keep up to date.

Long Service Pins were awarded to **Willard Buckley** (10 Years) and **Tom Craig** and **John Doyle** (5 years). We have pins for **Randy Giffin**, **Gord Mouland**, **George McCaughey** and **Richard Burpee** which will be presented when they next attend a meeting.

ALLEGEDLY FABULOUS FUNNIES – **Gord Dempsey** and **Carl Tompkins** contributed.

SNIPPETS – Since **David Goss** was our guest speaker no **Snippets** were read. President **Don LeBlanc** and **John Doyle** spoke about recent events in our area such as Port renovations on the West Side. Several of the Hazen Investment apartment buildings have just been sold to **Historical Developments**.

Break for coffee and conversation.

CLUB DRAW – **David Flewelling** was the winner of \$73.00 which he donated towards the purchase of the Public Address System. Thank you, David!

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS - **Bill Covert** introduced **David Goss** who has conducted **Walk & Talk Tours** of the City and surrounding area over the past 40 years. **David** has had several books published, **SNIPPETS** is one, mainly historical, about the Saint John area. The presentation was entertaining. **David** was thanked by **Robert Taylor** and presented with a small gift. The meeting adjourned for lunch at 11:45.

A FEW PICTURES FROM THE OCTOBER MEETING



Members getting ready for the meeting. Treasurer **Robert Taylor** renewing **PROBUS** memberships

Carl Thompson reading a few jokes.



President **Don** presents **John Doyle** his 5 year pin along with **Willard Buckley** receiving his 10 year pin.



Chip Lawton and **Don LeBlanc** enjoying a coffee break.

Guest speaker, **David Goss**. Well done.

Our Christmas Dinner planed for December 16th, 2020

Our **Christmas** dinner this year will take place at the **Villa Madonna Retreat House in Renforth**. The dinner will follow the monthly meeting. The monthly meeting will start at the usual time, 10:00am. It is expected that the dinner will be served around 11:45 am. **Saint John String Quartet** will provide the entertainment again this year.

The cost of the dinner will be \$25.00 which includes all taxes, etc. The meal will be served at your table by the staff. Social distancing and masks will be practiced.

To see what number of members that may attend, tickets will be sold starting at the November meeting. The cost is \$25.00 as mentioned.

This will indicate to the people putting this event on, the amount of food to prepare.

If for some reason you are unable to pay at the meeting, see **Ron Pearce or Tom Craig** and a ticket will be held. We do not want anyone to miss the event that wishes to come. Cash is preferred for the tickets.

Tom Craig & Ron Pierce.

A PLOTTER STORY

An elderly Italian man living alone in New Jersey wanted to plant his annual tomato garden, but it was very difficult work, since the ground was hard. His only son, Vincent, who used to help him, was in prison. The old man wrote a letter to his son and described his predicament:

Dear Vincent,
I am feeling pretty sad, because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. I know if you were here my troubles would be over.. I know you would be happy to dig the plot for me, like in the old days.
Love, Papa

A few days later he received a letter from his son.

Dear Pop,
Don't dig up that garden. That's where the bodies are buried.
Love,
Vinnie

At 4 a.m. the next morning, FBI agents and local police arrived and dug up the entire area without finding any bodies. They apologized to the old man and left. That same day the old man received another letter from his son.

Dear Pop,
Go ahead and plant the tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances.
Love you,

This never go out of style.

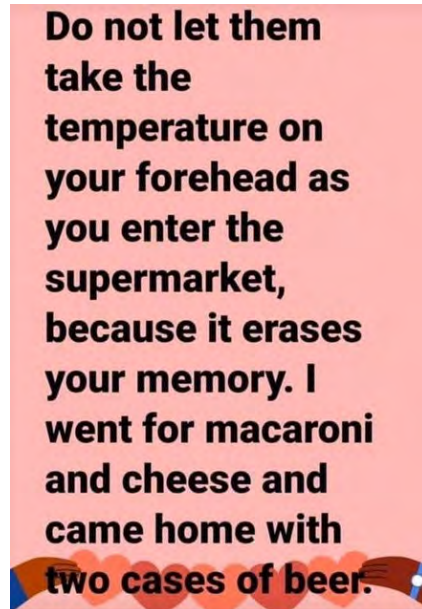
RED SKELTON'S RECIPE FOR THE PERFECT MARRIAGE

1. Two times a week we go to a nice restaurant, have a little beverage, good food and companionship. She goes on Tuesdays, I go on Fridays.
2. We also sleep in separate beds. Hers is in California and mine is in Texas.
3. I take my wife everywhere, but she keeps finding her way back.
4. I asked my wife where she wanted to go for our anniversary. "Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!" she said. So I suggested the kitchen.
5. We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.
6. She has an electric blender, electric toaster and electric bread maker. She said "There are too many gadgets, and no place to sit down!" So I bought her an electric chair.
7. My wife told me the car wasn't running well because there was water in the carburetor. I asked where the car was. She told me, "In the lake."
8. She got a mud pack and looked great for two days. Then the mud fell off.
9. She ran after the garbage truck, yelling, "Am I too late for the garbage?" The driver said, "No, jump in!"
10. Remember: Marriage is the number one cause of divorce.
11. I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first name was 'Always'.
12. I haven't spoken to my wife in 18 months. I don't like to interrupt her.
13. The last fight was my fault though. My wife asked, "What's on the TV?"

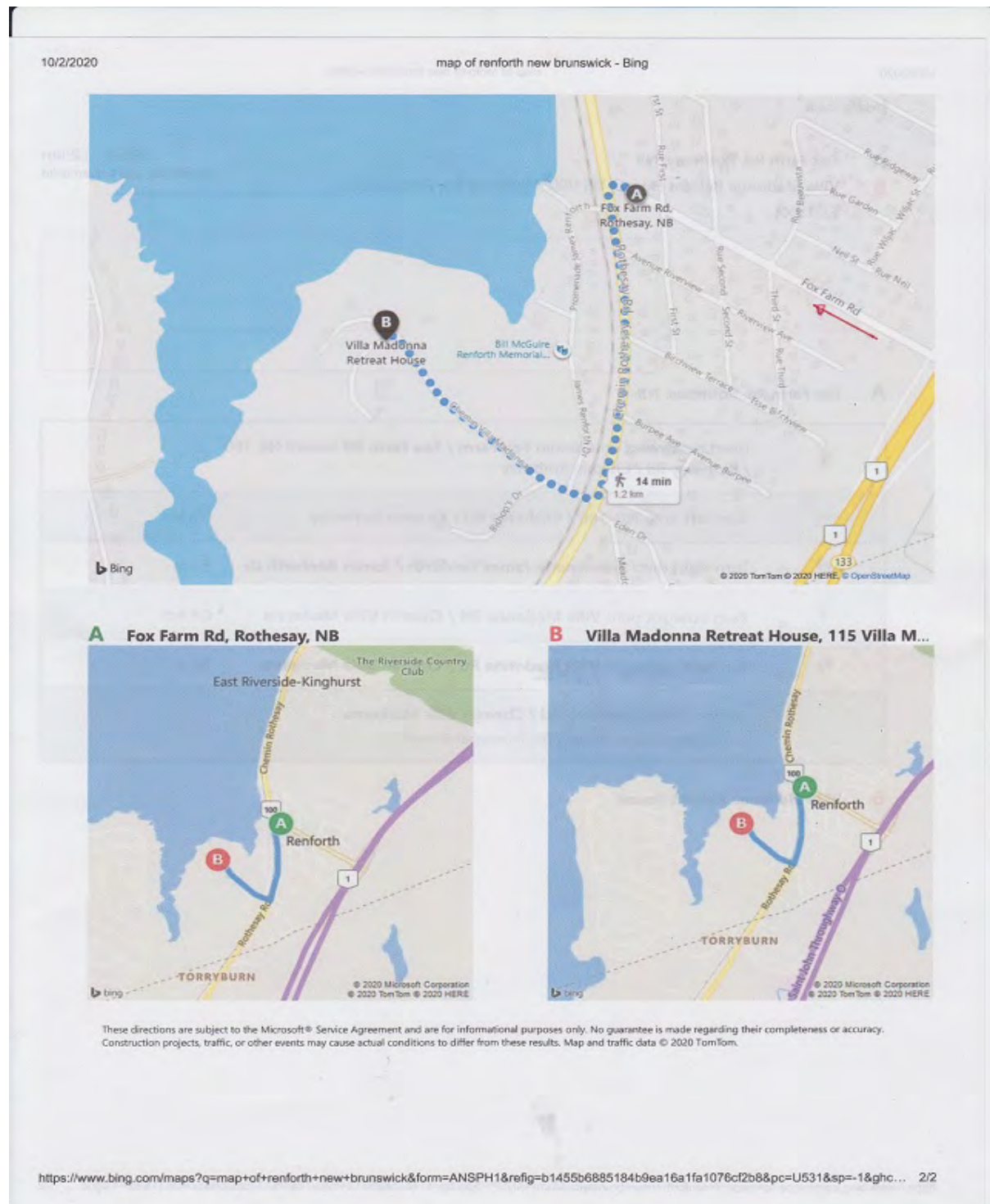
I said, "Dust!"

Can't you just hear him say all of these?

I love it. These were the good old days when humor didn't have to start with a four letter word. It was just clean and simple fun. And he always ended his programs with the words, "And May God Bless" with a big smile on his face



CHRISTMAS DINNER—VILLA MADONNA RETREAT HOUSE—RENFORTH



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

Tom Craig

The Phoghorn Newsletter.

NOVEMBER 12th, 2020