

The PHOGHORN

NEWSLETTER

2022

December Issue

Volume 30 -- #4, 2022



Donald Mitchener PROBUS President
Saint John PROBUS Club



Christmas Traditional Flower

Announcement that was sent out a few days ago:

Gentlemen. Here is the latest information of the *Christmas Dinner*, turkey dinner, to be held at the Villa Madonna retreat House in Rothesay, Renforth.

The date is December 14th, 2022, at 10:00 am. Events will consist of a normal meeting, coffee break followed by the Saint John String Quartet.

Dinner will follow at 11:45 am in the dining room hall which is to the left as you leave the meeting room.

Last year there was some confusion on the pricing but this year all charges are included in the price of the ticket at \$35.00 each.

Tickets are available at the NOVEMBER meeting from *Tom Craig* and maybe *Ed Creaser*. Cheque or cash is excepted. Cheques Payable to PROBUS Saint John.

You may attend the meeting and do not wish to stay for the meal and that is ok.

TOM CRAIG

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Greetings:

A brief follow up to, along with a thank you for Tom's timely notice.

December's meeting is on Wednesday, December 14th – the second rather than the third Wednesday this month.

10:00 AM Villa Madonna -- Lots of Parking. Please come a little early if you wish to get into the Christmas mood before the meeting starts. If you are staying for lunch and have not paid for your meal (\$35.00) , please bring cash. Paying electronically will not be an option. If you have not already done so, please advise Tom BY DECEMBER 12th if you are staying for lunch or if you have changed your mind and are not staying for lunch.

Sit where you want; no table number draws but still a 50/50 draw.

The meeting formalities are planned for between 10:00 and 10:30 or so; then a lengthy coffee break as the Symphony's string quartet sets up.

After the quartet and before lunch break, there will be a brief presentation (previously mentioned in our November meeting) on an important possibly broad initiative for which we would like your feedback during our January meeting.

Looking forward to the festivities. Don

MEMBERSHIP DUES for 2023

Just a note to any member of PROBUS that has not paid their 2023 dues and are not able to attend a few meetings, you can senit by mail to our treasure, Ed Creaser. His address is a follows.

ED CREASER 403-50 Noel Avenue Saint John NB E2K 0K1 Canada

Make cheque out to *PROBUS S J*

IN MEMORIAM



PROBUS Members wish to express their sincere condolences in the passing of PROBUS member “David Ellis’s” wife, LORNA ELLIS of Saint John which occurred on Sunday, November 20, 2022, at Bobby’s Hospice West Saint John.

May she rest in Peace.

Minutes from the November meeting

PROBUS Club of Saint John - November 16, 2022

Call to Order – 11:20am – **Don Mitchener**, President, opened the meeting. The meeting commenced with the signing of O Canada. There were 24 members in attendance.

Member Updates: It was reported that **Keith Dow** is recovering from a head injury. Keith also received a Platinum Jubilee Medal. **Gerry O’Brien** had a back operation and is recovering.

Minutes of last meeting – Assistant Secretary **Chip Lawton** made a motion seconded by Paul Meier to accept the minutes as presented in the latest Phoghorn.

Treasurer Report – **Ed Creaser** has no report this month.

Don Michener presented the Past President’s Plaque to **Don LeBlanc**, which had his name engraved on it.

Paul Meier told several funny stories. Paul also indicated that the Membership list will be forwarded to all members so we can get to know each other’s names. It was indicated that **Paul** and **Bob Purdy** have been working on the recruitment of new members which has resulted in 5 new members and nine potential recruits.

Upcoming Speakers Paul has the **Saint John String Quartet** for our December meeting. January will his wife **Liz** speaking on Nutrition and for February, **Alyssa Long** from the New Brunswick Medical Foundation will be the Speaker.

50/50 Draw – Won by **Bill Covert** - \$35.00

Break for Coffee

Guest Speaker – **Paul Meier** introduced the Speaker **Steve Palmer**, former Chief of the KV Police Department. Steve spoke about problems in the Police Forces due to changing regulations over the years and lack of funding. Steve was thanked by **Frank McCarey**, who presented him with a gift.

Paul spoke about briefly and provided a paragraph about a potential seminar regarding Retirement Success that will be forwarded to **Tom Craig** to include in the next edition of the Phoghorn,

After a brief introduction by Don Mitchener, Paul Meier gave an overview of a possible series of seminars on how to affect a successful retirement and maximize “wellness” in retirement. Broadly, the concept is to affect a successful retirement, it is necessary to consider physical health, mental health, spiritual health, and financial health.

Minutes Presented by:

Chip Lawton, Assistant Recording Secretary

There is a variety of topics that could be addressed under each of the above headings. In the December meeting, there will be a further elaboration of the concept and the reaction and degree of support from the members will be assessed as a basis for deciding whether to proceed. Members were asked to consider the concept and come to the December meeting with any questions and comments they may have.

PROBUS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD --- **Marlene Pearce**



TREASURERS REPORT

PROBUS CLUB OF SAINT JOHN			
FINANCIAL REPORT APRIL 30 TO NOV30/22			
Bank Balance April 30/22			\$745.41
Plus income:			
Dues 45@ \$35. 2 new	\$1,555.00		
Xmas dinners 20@ \$35.	700.00		
Donation -R. Lockhart	34.16	2,289.16	
50/50 Ticket draw		0	
Funds Available			\$3034.57
Less Expenses:			
PROBUS Canada 45 @ \$3.	\$135.00		
30 th Anniversary-			
guest meals	\$199.96		
Supplies	312.46		
Certificates	276.04		
Gifts	218.10	1006.56	
Pins & Name tags		100.75	
Speaker Gifts & Lunches		208.95	
Website License	34.16	1485.42	
Villa Madonna-Xmas. Dinners ____@ \$35.		?	
Bank Balance Nov.30/2022			\$1549.15

EH Creaser, Treasurer

Our music friends to retire.

Over the last number of years, the String Quartet played to our entertainment at the Christmas meeting of PROBUS.

As it turns out, two members are retiring from the Quartet but not giving up playing anytime soon.

David and Sonja Adams are pictured below. PROBUS wishes you all the best in the future and say

“Thank you” for your beautiful music over the years.



David and Sonja Adams say they've had some memorable moments in their careers which brought them to Saint John as stages around the world. (Submitted by Symphony New Brunswick)

David and Sonja Adams can recall the day 35 years ago when they were attending a summer music camp in Ontario and were asked by the director if they would be interested in going east to join ***Symphony New Brunswick***.

"We kind of knew where New Brunswick was," David said, but they weren't really familiar with the area since David grew up in Winnipeg and Sonja in Vancouver. They didn't give it much thought at first, said David, but after a while, they decided it would be a chance to work together in the music industry. So off they went to Saint John.

Reported by: [Hannah Rudderham](#) · CBC News · Posted: Nov 19, 2022, 8:00 AM AT | Last Updated: November 19

PICTURES From the NOVEMBER MEETING



President Don presents the past President's plaque with Don Leblanc's name added as past president.



Paul Meier update the members on Membership drive. Bob Purdy assisted.



Ed Creaser talking to Robert Taylor during the coffee break. Ed is current Treasurer and Robert was past Treasurer.



Coffee break time and conversations taking place.



Guest speaker Steve palmer, was this month was former police chief of the
Kennebecasis Regional Police Dept.

HUMOR SECTION



#trucker #truckingjobs #truckerlife #truckdriver #trucklife #trucking
#truckerslife



TESLA TRUCK

- 0-60 in 20 secs. hauling 80,000 lb. load
- Battery lasts 500 miles, recharges in 30 mins with portable charger when stopped
- 1 million mile drivetrain warranty
- Armor glass windshield
- 4 independent motors
- Auto jackknife prevention

TRUCK PATH

Ontario photographer captures 'perfect' face on Lake Erie during November gales

Waves were a result of gales which are common during seasonal transitions, meteorologist says

CBC
November 25, 2022



Photographer Cody Evans of Ingersoll, Ont., captured wave action that resembled a famous Greek God. (Submitted by Cody Evans)

Most people avoid the beach on a stormy day. Not Cody Evans.

The howling wind and churning waters are what draw the Ingersoll, Ont., photographer to Lake Erie regu-

A Feel-Good CHRISTMAS Story

I remember my first Christmas adventure with Grandma. I was just a kid. I remember tearing across town on my bike to visit her on the day my big sister dropped the bomb: "There is no Santa Claus," she jeered. "Even dummies know that!"

My Grandma was not the gushy kind, never had been. I fled to her that day because I knew she would be straight with me. I knew Grandma always told the truth, and I knew that the truth always went down a whole lot easier when swallowed with one of her "world-famous" cinnamon buns. I knew they were world-famous, because Grandma said so.

It had to be true.

Grandma was home, and the buns were still warm. Between bites, I told her everything. She was ready for me. "No Santa Claus?" She snorted.... "Ridiculous! Don't believe it. That rumor has been going around for years, and it makes me mad, plain mad!! Now, put on your coat, and let's go."

"Go? Go where, Grandma?" I asked. I hadn't even finished my second world-famous cinnamon bun.

"Where" turned out to be Kerby's General Store, the one store in town that had a little bit of just about everything. As we walked through its doors, Grandma handed me ten dollars.

That was a bundle in those days. "Take this money," she said, "and buy something for someone who needs it. I'll wait for you in the car." Then she turned and walked out of Kerby's.

I was only eight years old. I'd often gone shopping with my mother, but never had I shopped for anything all by myself.

The store seemed big and crowded, full of people scrambling to finish their Christmas shopping. For a few moments I just stood there, confused, clutching that ten-dollar bill, wondering what to buy, and who on earth to buy it for. I thought of everybody I knew: my family, my friends, my neighbors, the kids at school, and the people who went to my church.

I was just about thought out, when I suddenly thought of Bobby Decker. He was a kid with bad breath and messy hair, and he sat right behind me in Mrs. Pollock's grade-two class.

Bobby Decker didn't have a coat. I knew that because he never went out to recess during the winter. His mother always wrote a note, telling the teacher that he had a cough, but all we kids knew that Bobby Decker didn't have a cough; he didn't have a good coat. I fingered the ten-dollar bill with growing excitement. I would buy Bobby Decker a coat!

I settled on a red corduroy one that had a hood to it. It looked real warm, and he would like that.

"Is this a Christmas present for someone?" the lady behind the counter asked kindly, as I laid my ten dollars down.

"Yes, ma'am," I replied shyly. "It's for Bobby."

The nice lady smiled at me, as I told her about how Bobby really needed a good winter coat. I didn't get any change, but she put the coat in a bag, smiled again, and wished me a Merry Christmas.

That evening, Grandma helped me wrap the coat (a little tag fell out of the coat, and Grandma tucked it in her Bible) in Christmas paper and ribbons and wrote, "To Bobby, From Santa Claus" on it. Grandma said that Santa always insisted on secrecy. Then she drove me over to Bobby Decker's house, explaining as we went that I was now and forever officially, one of Santa's helpers.

Grandma parked down the street from Bobby's house, and she and I crept noiselessly and hid in the bushes by his front walk.

Then Grandma gave me a nudge. "All right, Santa Claus," she whispered, "get going."

I took a deep breath, dashed for his front door, threw the present down on his step, pounded his door and flew back to the safety of the bushes and Grandma.

Together we waited breathlessly in the darkness for the front door to open. Finally it did, and there stood Bobby.

Fifty years haven't dimmed the thrill of those moments spent shivering, beside my Grandma, in Bobby Decker's bushes.

That night, I realized that those awful rumors about Santa Claus were just what Grandma said they were – ridiculous. Santa was alive and well, and we were on his team. I still have the Bible, with the coat tag tucked inside it of \$19.95.



PROBUS

A Professional and Business Retirees Club.

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

Mail delivery; Canadas Best Value Inn, c/o PROBUS, 10 Portland St. Saint John NB E2K 4H8 CA.

Saint John PROBUS web site sjprobus.ca

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2022--2023 Executive members

Don Mitchner-----President

Don LeBlanc -----Past President

Frank McCarey----- 1st Vice President

Paul Meier----- 2nd Vice President

Ed Creaser----- Treasurer

Carl White –Secretary & Asst., **Chip Lawton**



President *Donald Mitchner*

TOM CRAIG Editor ***the Phoghorn Newsletter***. tec1942@rogers.com Dec.14, 2022

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL