



Happy New Year!

Our next Probud Meeting
Will take place on Thursday,
January 20th, 2022
At 10:00 am,
via Zoom.

The Invitation & Link will be sent a day or two before the meeting, by email.

PLEASE NOTE!

Our invited speaker is;

Rick Laing

Topic:

Ridge Meadows Search and Rescue



Probus Club of Maple Ridge

President's Message and Program



Sam Lewindon, President



Probus Meeting, Program January 20th, 2022

9:45	Sign –in
10:00	Welcome
10:05	Introduction of Guest Speaker
10:10	Guest Speaker
10:40	Q & A
10:55	Thank you
11:00	Club speaker
11:20	Club business
11:45	Meeting closes

Welcome to 2022!

As we wish our members and their families a Safe, Happy and Healthy 2022, let us reflect on how our Probus Club has provided a Safe, Supportive and Stimulating meeting place, during a difficult year. We now look forward to a year where, perhaps, activities may reflect a more normal pattern. At first, we will still be conducting our membership meetings virtually, and if the circumstances allow, we hope to return to a new version of in-person meeting activities!

With this in mind, our 2022 annual Membership Dues will be \$40. - reflecting a \$10 reduction from our regular rate. And a reminder that our dues are payable by February 2022. Our Treasurer, Jason, will provide more detailed information on the process for this payment in an email to you in early January.

Our Annual General Meeting, will take place via Zoom, on Thursday **February 17th, 2022, at 10am**, and the list of Nominations for Management Committee positions is posted on page 9 of this newsletter. If you are interested in getting more involved in the planning activities of our club, please contact Skip Johnson, Chair of the Nominations Committee.

"To read a poem in January is as lovely as to go for a walk in June." — Jean-Paul Sartre



Introducing our Guest Speaker: Prepared by Laurie Freebairn



Rick Laing joined what was then known as Maple Ridge Search and Rescue in 1985 becoming a SAR Manager in 1990. He led the team as Team Manager for 20 years overseeing the construction of their SAR base in 1996 and the change of name to Ridge Meadows Search and Rescue reflecting the communities which we served - Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge. In 2018, Rick became one of 13 Level 2 SAR Managers in the province, assisting with searches through the province of BC. He currently works for the province at Emergency Management BC assisting with the Search and Rescue Program.

Ridge Meadows Search and Rescue is a volunteer SAR group based in Maple Ridge, British Columbia, Canada. As one of over 80 SAR groups in BC, we respond to calls from local law enforcement to wilderness and urban searches and rescues. Golden Ears Provincial Park, in our response area, is the location of many of our responses.



Christmas Memories!

There is no question that at this time of year we have clear memories of how we spent our childhood Christmases. My recollections span several continents and several cultures. The earliest ones were of German Christmases in China, where we lived. As you know, 'prime time' in Germanic cultures is Christmas Eve, not Christmas Day. All the special foods, presents and excitement happen then. I remember coming downstairs with my amah in the evening, bursting with anticipation. The living room door was opened to reveal a really tall (to me at least!) Christmas tree, covered with lights and tinsel -- but the lights were real small candles with real flames. Some apples might be hanging from the branches.

Magical!

And it never occurred to me to wonder where the tree came from; there were certainly were no firs or pines growing in Shanghai! In those Christmases children did not take part in decorating the tree. The surprise element of seeing it all aglow, presents under the branches, was all part of the fun. After present opening, there would be a festive supper, generally fancy cold cuts and cheeses and pastries - and of course marzipan. This was always the best treat of all: tiny figures of pigs and chickens, dwarves and trees, all various colours. The taste of that first golden bite will always remain with me! Although it was war-time, and Shanghai was being bombarded by first Japanese, then later American, bombs, Shanghai harbour was blockaded, and food shortages were such that I contracted TB for lack of an adequate diet, I have no memory of going hungry, and just recall the plentiful marzipan at Christmas. I'm sure the resourceful Chinese must have made that. After supper there was church - the only time of year we attended, as the entire German community did, and the nativity scene was admired, and carols were sung.

I still prefer to sing 'Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht', and 'O Tannenbaum' and 'Es ist ein Ros'Entsprungen' in my 'other language'. That was my Christmas Eve in China, and I cannot remember anything happier. Christmas Day was sort of a 'nothing' day. I was not to learn the joys of that day until my mother and I moved to England after the war, and I became acquainted with hanging my stocking over the fireplace, opening presents after breakfast, and smelling entrancing wafts of roast chicken coming from my grandmother's kitchen all day! Of course there were post-war food shortages there too, but we lived in the country, had plenty of milk and eggs and hand-picked mushrooms - and I don't remember ever being hungry!

Carla Reed



'Winter Blossoms', by Theo



'Winter Blossoms', by Sam

Photo Themes for 2022

January: Winter Scenes

February: Snow Scenes

March: Local Scenes

April: Spring Flowers

May: Gardens

June: Birds

July: Summer Flowers

August: Water (Lakes, Rivers, Falls etc)

September: Structures, (Buildings, Bridges etc)

October: Animals

November: People in action, (Fishing, Riding, Camping, Skiing etc)

December: Holiday Themes



'Winter Blossoms', by Theo

Probus Christmas Dinner—2021

**It was oh so quiet
Earlier that night
Until we all gathered
To make the time bright.**

**Pitt Meadows Golf Club
Was the place to be
To share in the happiness
With other Probusees.**

**We wine and we dined
Then listened to John Bale
As he reminisced by sharing
An early Christmas tale.**

**We had some quizzes
And boy, were they tough
The group I was with
Couldn't think fast enough.**

**And for music, yes there was music
too
We were serenaded by a marching
troop
And all around our dinner tables
They strolled, a festive, yet noisy
loop.**

**We were grateful to gather and
It was delightful and fun
Many thanks to Renate
For getting this done.**



Member Happenings

By Kathleen Spiess

Club Speaker— December

Laurie (Turbo) Freebairn was our recent, very inspirational **Club Speaker**, with an account of her career as a sports physiotherapist. Her first claim to fame was meeting the legendary Nancy Greene, when at age 14, Laurie attended a camp at which Nancy Greene was instructing. Later came many years of working with almost every sport imaginable - football, soccer, softball and wrestling to name a few, while serving as Head Physiotherapist at S.F.U. Many championships were competed in on the way, including the one we heard more details of from our recent speaker Lauren Regula.

Many of Laurie's travels came about during these competitions, and because she was kind of a team 'medic,' she always travelled with at least five suitcases! Since Laurie's retirement, there have been a host of other journeys through the world, and some photos of these were quite breathtaking. Active as our Speaker Convenor, she still finds time to spend on her hobby of gardening, though!

Reflections of 2021



Monthly Mirth



"Of course, when I first started here, the North Pole looked very different."



Santa's sexual harassment trial takes a dramatic change for the worse



My Living Will

Last night, my kids and I were sitting in the living room and I said to them,

'I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug.'

They got up, unplugged the computer and threw out my wine!!

The little bastards.

Geezer Planet

My Grandma is on speed dial now, I call her Instagram.

Probus Club of Maple Ridge

2022

Management Committee Nominations Slate

<u>Past President</u>	<u>Skip Johnson</u>
<u>President</u>	<u>Sam Lewindon</u>
<u>Vice President</u>	<u>Angie Hodgins</u>
<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Marie Slessor</u>
<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Jason Leemans</u>
<u>Historian & Archivist</u>	<u>Carla Reed</u>
<u>Membership Convenor</u>	<u>Kathleen Spiess</u>
<u>Speaker Convenor</u>	<u>Laurie Freebairn</u>
<u>Communications</u>	<u>Jean & George Crysler</u>
<u>Member at Large</u>	<u>Theo Rathonyi Reusz</u>
<u>Member at Large</u>	<u>Michael Buckingham</u>
<u>Member at Large</u>	<u>Dick Drew</u>
<u>Member at Large</u>	<u>John Bale</u>
<u>Member at Large</u>	<u>Josine Eikelenboom</u>

Your 2022 Membership Dues of \$40, are payable now!

*For this year, we are continuing to waive the Initiation fee
of \$40 for new members.*

**An email will be sent to members, by the Treasurer, outlining the
methods of payment for the coming year's dues. This includes the
option of payment by etransfer.**

Thank you for your continued support!

Messages, Notices and Information

Wanted:

Stories for:

Memory Lane:

Contact Josine at: eikelenboom@telus.net

Photos for: **Through the Lens**

Contact Rick at: micricgoingplaces@gmail.com

Probus 'Coffee Morning'

First Wednesday of the month, at 10am

Next meeting: via Zoom

January 5th

Our 2022 Annual General Meeting
will take place, via Zoom, on Thursday
February 17th at 10am.

A Slate of Nominations is shown on page
9 of this newsletter.

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All members in Good Standing are
eligible to run for office, and to vote in the
election of Officers.

Please mark your calendars!

Special Interest Groups:

Book Club: *Convenor, Bob Grist*

Meets 1:30pm, second Tuesday, monthly

Crafts: *Convenor, contact, Michaela*
micricgoingplaces@gmail.com

Computer/Photography: *Convenor: Sam*
Lewindon

Meets, 10am, last Wednesday, monthly.

Dining: *Convenors: Marie Slessor/Carla Reed*
Meets 6pm second Thursdays, monthly

Walking: *Convenor: Carla Reed*
Contact: carlar2@telus.net

Lunch: *Convenor. Aline Drew*
Meets, noon last Thursday, monthly

Cycling: *Convenor, Kathy Pierce*
Contact; prairiegirl60@gmail.com

Golf : *Convenor, Rick Howard*
Contact, rickhoward@shaw.ca

Bridge: *Convenor: Kathleen Spiess*
Meets, 2pm third Monday, monthly

Wine Club: *Convenor: Sam Lewindon*
Meets, 5pm last Friday, monthly

Origin of the Phrase:

Bury the hatchet

Definition: To forget an offense
and be reconciled.

Origin: Long ago, when the Puritans were fighting with the Native Americans, the Native Americans had a tradition of burying their hatchets, clubs, tomahawks, and knives during peace negotiations. The act of burying weapons and making them inaccessible was their sign for peace.

“Groaner” of the Month:

**Atheism is a non-prophet
organization.**