



PROBUS CLUB OF WOODSTOCK-OXFORD



Box 20052, Woodstock, Ontario N4S 8X8

Web Site woodstockprobus.ca

We Meet monthly – 2nd Tuesday at 9:45 A.M. Quality Hotel - Woodstock

President - Dave King	Vice President - Jerry Klages	2 nd Vice President - Bill Weir
Past President Phil Thorne	Secretary + Get Well Robert Ball	Treasurer Ken Shrubsall
Membership Richard Orton, Larry Asp	Financial Oversight - Phil Thorne	
Archives Bob McTavish	Probus Website Chris Hannon	
Audio/Visual John Richardson	Who Am I - David Palmer	Club Services - David Tabor
Speakers - Peter Harrison Ian Clark		
Special Events Bob Axon, Rob Bryant, John Carley, Dave Hay, Bill Meek, Tony Sheldon		

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President's Message



So now its mid January 2019 and most New Years resolutions have been broken. Snow to date has been minimal; my snow blower is sitting in my garage rusting. Thanks to our Probus special events committee for a Christmas lunch and a wonderful British breakfast at Dickens pub. Special thanks to the two Phil's for their presentation, also to John Richardson for the technical assistance for the International FaceTime. Special thanks to Bob Axon for engineering this event and also for coordinating with Chris Hannon to update and modernizing the web site. Thank you to Bill Weir for the December Newsletter. We also desperately need a NEWSLETTER creator/Editor.

Dave King

NEXT MEETING TUES. FEBRUARY 12th 9:45 am

SCIENCE CLUB

We are now meeting every month at 8:30am - Join us
 February Topic with Power point – ' Medical Challenges in Wartime'



Who Am I? William E. (Bill) Mackesy

The FULL version is available on the Probus Website

“I was born in 1949, the first child of seven, to James and Leota Mackesy in Sarnia General Hospital. My dad’s family were of Irish decent.” Bill’s younger years were spent on their family farm at RR# 3 Oil Springs Ontario where his dad farmed from dawn to dusk. Summers were spent working long hours at their harvest. The elementary years were rustic attending a one room school with 27 to 30 students every year.

In 1962 he started high school at Lambton Central Collegiate and Vocational Institute in Petrolia. High School was a huge change for him from a school of 30 kids to a school of 1,300. There were 10 grade 9 classes and Bill’s class had 40 kids.

After Grade 13 Bill went off to Western University, and had “the best, most educational years of his life”. Unfortunately, when final marks came out, he was not invited to come back for another year. So he began working at 3M in London.

Bill started in the mailroom but the money was not very good. So, he applied to Dow Chemical in Sarnia and soon money started rolling in due to lots of overtime. Bill really wanted to be a school teacher, and decided to apply at Western again. In the next 2 years he worked a lot harder and achieved 11 credits out of the 15 needed for a degree.

One of his roommates was applying to London Teachers College, so he did too. A year later he was an elementary school teacher. His sweetheart Mary, got a teaching job in Guelph, and he got one here in Woodstock with the separate board. They decided to get married, and finalized it on Dec 30, 1972. . For the next year and a half they lived in Guelph and commuted to Woodstock. In 1974 Mary applied for a job with the Oxford County Board of Ed, got interviewed, and accepted a position in Princeton.

Bill soon decided that a teaching career was not for him. After a few months, along came Gene Lawrence, a supervisor with Northern Life Insurance. He convinced Bill to try selling insurance and that led to being financial advisors and a few years later they became equal partners in Oxford Annuity Services. After 40 years, they have both retired from Oxford Annuity Services which still lives on as Investment Planning Counsel on Light Street.

Mary left teaching in 1981 when their son was born, but ramped up her private piano teaching at that time. Their daughter came along in 1985. .

Bill’s retirement years have been filled with Grandchildren, travel, computes and reading. As well as travelling with Mary, he enjoys spending time at their cottage near Port Franks. Over the years he served on the United Way Board, the VON Board, the Woodstock East Oxford Optimists, The Woodstock General Hospital Board of Trust, the Woodstock Hospital Foundation, and now Probus. His latest involvement is with the Oxford Community Foundation, where he is soon to be the chair, and a passionate job for this future.

GREAT JOB BILL

[February “Who am I”](#) - Keith Reibling from Innerkip

[Special Events Calendar - Winter/Spring 2019](#)

An Historic Woodstock Walk will be led by Murray Coulter and Dave Hay in the Spring. A one hour mystery walk to explore the stories and little-known secrets of four of Woodstock’s Famous Historical Buildings..

Members News

Guests Ed Donmoyer,
Membership numbers on the roll - are 121
New Inductees
Paul Smith, Dick Hewitt & Keith Reibling



February Birthday Boys

Graham Brown Mike Connell Doug Eckel Bob McTavish
Balwant Rai Keith Reibling Ken Riehl Terry Wallace



February Greeters Dave Palmer & John Farley

January Speakers: Phil Thorne and Phil Dunbar Celebrating Woodstock UK

Our two travelled Probus members (one in the sky and one on the ocean) shared the spotlight at our January meeting by speaking on their contributions and contact with the Probus Club in Woodstock, Britain.

PHIL THORNE travelled with his wife Brenda to Britain last summer to conduct an ancestry search for a relative. On their trip they planned to meet some members of the exceptional crew from Woodstock UK Men's Probus Club. Phil and Brenda got a tour, wined and dined and the unique opportunity of visiting Blemheim Palace.

Phil presented slides and information of his visit to London and Woodstock that were extremely interesting and informative. PHIL DUNBAR used his section of the program to repeat the amazing Power-Point that was transmitted to our colleagues in the UK on December 21st. Phil is an avid balloonist who has captured Woodstock from the air for years and the picture below one of dozens that thrilled the Brits.

Blenheim Palace Oxfordshire England



Speakers

February 12 Science Club 8:30 am Al Driedger
Medicine Issues in War

Main Speaker 10:30 am Amanda Oliver
The history of John Labatt's

March 12 Osteoporosis Canada
What is Osteoporosis, risk factors, What we can do to maintain
healthy bones

April 9 Drew Symons His path to Professional golf

Future Speakers

Pork Producers
Medical Cannabis
Cannabis uses and legislation



DUES

Please make your cheques payable to
Probus Club Woodstock Oxford
Fee is remaining the same as last year
\$55.00 for email \$65.00 for snail mail

Please prepare separate cheques for social events which are due this coming meeting



Always Leave Them Laughing



A Guy Sits Down In A Diner And Asks For A Bowl Of Hot Chili...The waitress says, "Sorry, but the guy next to you got the last bowl." He looks over and sees that the guy's finished his meal, but the bowl of chili is still full. He asks, "Are you going to eat that chili?" The other guy says, "No. Help yourself." He slides the bowl of chili over and starts to eat. When he gets about half way down, his spoon hits something. He looks down sees a dead mouse and immediately pukes all the chili back into the bowl. The other guy says, "Yeah, that's about as far as I got, too."



"What the hell are you doing?! I drink out of there!"