**Art Jones**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| I was born at Grace hospital in Windsor on Dec 5, 1940 and raised in Amherstburg where I attended public and high school. While at General Amherst High School I was juvenile track and field champion for two years. During the summers I worked at Boblo Island, an amusement park on the Detroit River. I operated some of the amusement rides and I also had the exciting job of mowing the grass. Best of all, sometimes I would drive the little passenger train that hugged the island’s  | E:\2013 12 Probus booklet Photos\Jones, Art.tif |

shoreline.

After High School I attended the Western Ontario Institute of Technology (now St Clair College). In June of 1963 I graduated in mechanical engineering technology and I was hired by Timberland-Ellicott (Timberjack). I moved to Woodstock and started working as a design draftsman in the Engineering Department. In 1968 I moved over to Research and Development.

My wife Elizabeth was from Windsor as well. We were married on October 10th 1964. Liz graduated from Windsor Teachers College and started her teaching career at Tollgate Central School. We have two boys: Brian, born on Feb 22 (George Washington’s Birthday), 1967, and Brent, born on March 3rd, 1972. We are lucky as both live nearby: Brian in Simcoe, and Brent in Hickson.

In the seventies I helped develop a program called Mobile Equipment Technology at Fanshawe College. In 1977 the College asked me to assist in teaching a part of that program. On leave from Timberjack, I taught applied engineering mechanics and mobile hydraulics for two and a half years.

I returned fulltime to Timberjack in 1980 and shortly after I was appointed Service Manager. In 1989 a Finnish company, Rauma-Repola, acquired Timberjack. This was an exciting time for us as the Finns introduced new forestry technology. I was appointed technical training manager with the responsibility of training North American dealers on the new equipment. During this time I traveled extensively in Canada and the US: the only states I didn’t get to, didn’t grow trees. I also visited Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Indonesia and Iran (Iran isn’t all desert! There are extensive forests near the Caspian Sea). In 2000, the company was bought by John Deere and from that time until I retired in 2004 I was responsible for training John Deere dealers on Timberjack products.

Since retiring I have spent a lot of time at Craigowan (we’ve been members since 1977) and I have been enjoying woodworking in a lovely new workshop in our new home. Elizabeth and I are both active members at the Church of the Epiphany. In the past, I have served as Church Warden and I am currently Deputy Church Warden. As an aside, I draw your attention to Epiphany’s rose window restoration project. The rose window is a memorial to all in our community who served in the First Great War. Please consider making a donation to this worthy cause.

I volunteer at Northdale Public School where my grandson attends. This year, I was lucky enough to mentor a young boy from Jamaica. He was in grade eight and I had the satisfaction of helping him improve his skills to a level where he was able to graduate and move on to grade nine. In addition, I have in the past driven for the VON Meals on Wheels program.

Seeing Keith Latter, Bob Beattie, Don Post, Keith Thompson, Ted Young, John Cook and others in today’s crowd brought back memories of the Y’s Men’s Club that we all belonged to in the late sixties and seventies. I feel, in a way, we’ve come full circle.