**Phil Dunbar**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *A Woodstock kid, he grew up in the east end of Woodstock in the area around Massey-Ferguson and Harvey Woods and was a member of the "Princess Street Gang". He married a Woodstock girl, Cris Croxford, who retired after29 years in the Nursing Profession. Their daughter Theresa lives in Oshawa and has 2 children.* | E:\2013 12 Probus booklet Photos\Dunbar, Phil.jpg |

His formal training was varied, including Princess, Central and Huron park schools in Woodstock Sonar and Demolition schools while serving in the military, Barber school, Fanshawe College for Graphic Design and Audio visual, and Coastal School of Deep Sea Diving in San Francisco, California.

One day in school, a friend Bob Tonner suggested they skip class and investigate a military recruitment office that had opened in Woodstock. Bob went back to school but Phil signed up, He completed military schooling and became Sonar Operator. He sailed on the HMCS Buckingham, a WW2 Frigate, where he trained Officer cadets and Reservists. Ports of Call included all provinces except 3, trips to

Britain & Ireland, Europe and the east coast of the United States. Also, during a one year period, he was back and forth to Bermuda 13 times. Lasting memories include North Sea Storms, Atlantic Hurricanes, first motorcycle and Cuban Crisis.

After the Navy, he had jingle in his pocket and was in no hurry to get a job. His folks had a different view, so he worked for Metropolitan store, Woodstock Lamp,

Woodstock General Hospital and Searle Fur store in Stratford. None were a fit, so he went to Barber school in London and started work at Mayberry's Barber Shop, which he later purchased and moved to a new shop across from Williams Coffee shop called Phil's Barber shop, with 4 barbers on the floor.

Another career change saw him head to Caledonia and the Coastal School of Deep

Sea Diving where he trained with Vietnam veterans. Jobs included underwater pipe lines, Bridge abutment work in the Welland Canal, Search & Rescue, including 5 body recoveries and $10,000 in diamonds from Pittock Lake. He was a scuba instructor at the local YMCA, at the University of 'Waterloo, with the RCMP in Ottawa and for the RCR's in London. He has also presented papers at Underwater Conferences in San Diego, Miami, Chicago and Toronto.

Back to school at Fanshawe to finish high school and study Graphics and Audio-

Visual, after which he landed a job at the Oxford Regional Center as Publicity Photographer in the Audio-Visual department.

Phil's next venture was in ballooning. He bought his first one in 1978 while his wife was visiting her sister in North Carolina. His current balloon is his fourth and he is one of only 6 qualified balloonists over the age of 60 in Canada, where there are approximately 1,000 balloonists" He helped start the Ontario Ballooning

Association and co-ordinate the first safety seminars in Kingston, Galt and

'Woodstock.

Other hobbies include Photography, Motorcycles, Tai chi, and curling. He has spent life at 3 levels - the majority on the ground a few thousand hours underwater and over 1,000 hours above ground.