



PROBUS News.....

PROBUS Club of Bradford

Volume 112, Published August 2020



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear PROBUS Members:

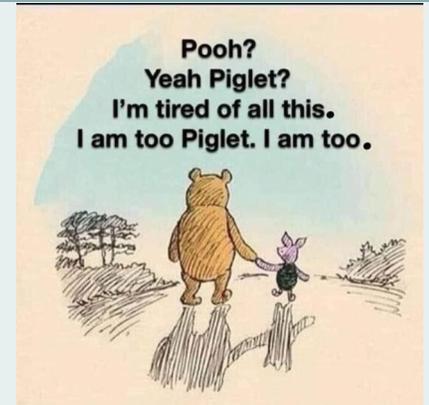
I hope that you are continuing to enjoy the beautiful weather and spending more time outdoors.

It is difficult to believe that our last General Meeting was almost 6 months ago on March 10th. As you are aware, our world is opening up. Let's hope this continues. Ontario has moved into Phase 3 of the pandemic recovery plan which allows for 100 people in an outside setting and 50 people inside setting. We have decided that it is still too early for any PROBUS physical get togethers, but we will continue to monitor the situation closely and keep you posted. Meanwhile, we are delighted that Pete, Deb, Dale, and Philip continue to do an outstanding job of presenting our monthly General Meetings via ZOOM and Pat continues to create awesome newsletters. Plus, I am sure everyone is keen for some of our internal clubs to commence their ZOOM meetings in September.

We are really looking forward to our next guest speaker, Lianne Harris Racioppo as she "tiptoes around the European courts with lick-chopping anticipation and uncovering those true scandals that really did change history". History buffs especially will not want to miss her presentation.

As I mentioned last month, we typically collect your annual PROBUS Membership fees July through to the September's General Meeting. We have decided to defer collecting 2020/2021 PROBUS Membership fees until further notice. However, if you plan on leaving the club or have a change in email, home address or phone number, kindly advise Patricia Dion of your intentions or your new contact information.

I would like to extend our sincere condolences to the Andrews family. Don was a wonderful person and we will all miss him so much. My favorite memory with Don is sitting in our living room (TV and radio both off) and just talking. We enjoyed a wonderful evening just chatting about what was going on in our lives. Our thoughts and prayers are with Brenda and her family. Until next time,
Dave



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2020 Executive Committee:

President: *Dave McMillan*

Vice President: *Bob Watt*

Secretaries:

Eleanor Watt and Cheryl Blair

Treasurer: *Lorna Foti*

Social Chair: *Wendy Van Straten*

Communication Chair:

Deborah Liukaitis

Technical Chair: *Pete Liukaitis*

Speakers' Chair: *Philip Junop*

Members Chair: *Patricia Dion*

Major Events:

*Brenda Andrews and
Peggy Michaud*

Members at Large:

Dale Tasker and Pat Mohren

Past President: *Dave Martin*

HIGHLIGHTS FROM AUGUST ZOOM MEETING!



Amy Wright has relinquished her term as Social Chair to Wendy Van Straten. Thank you Amy for a job well done.

Welcome Wendy ! Our new Social Chair.

Our ZOOM guests for the meeting were visiting friends of Susanne's. Welcome Gail and Marion. One of them might be a "birthday girl"?



Happy 50th Anniversary to Bob and Janet!

This young looking couple celebrated their golden wedding day anniversary dining out in style with family via limo to Mrs. Mitchell's Restaurant.

[Here is the link to the Bradford Today article.](#)



Reminder...Membership fees for 2020/21 are deferred until further notice. Any contact information, changes or cancellations, contact Patricia Dion.



This **Dinner Club** group found a way to take advantage of the warm weather and enjoyed a wonderful evening dining on a patio!

Guest Speaker...Dr. Ken Shonk "Laughter is a Universal Uniter!"

Dr. Ken Shonk is a retired Family Practitioner of 40 years. He believes that laughter is important to leading a joyful life to maintain health and well being.

"There ain't much fun in medicine but there is a lot of medicine in fun!"

Dr. Shonk entertained us with many witty anecdotes and jokes that I'm sure kept many members chuckling well into our day.



Next PROBUS meeting will be Tuesday, September 8! See you all then!

www.bradfordprobust.weebly.com/activityclubs.html

FUTURE SPEAKERS



SEPTEMBER SPEAKER... *Lianne Harris Racioppo*

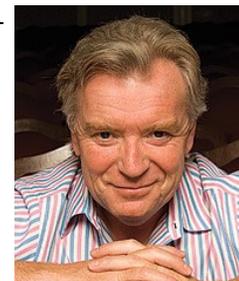
Tiptoe around the European courts with Lianne, and with lick-chopping anticipation, uncover those true scandals that really did change history.

Lianne is the History, Culture and Social Studies Resource Specialist Consultant with the Toronto District School Board. She is also the curriculum advisor for Upper Canada College and has taught over 80,000 teachers and students (usually in period costume).

OCTOBER SPEAKER... *David Nairn, Artistic Director, Theatre Orangeville*

From Page to Stage - how the written play is transformed to a theatrical production

David is currently enjoying his 20th season as Artistic Director. He remains passionately dedicated to the creation, development and production of Canadian plays and musicals that enrich, entertain and deepen our understanding of ourselves as a community, as a people and as a nation. He has directed over 65 plays at Theatre Orangeville.



AUGUST 14, 2003 WHERE WERE YOU WHE THE LIGHTS WENT OUT?



August 14 is the anniversary of the Northeast Blackout of 2003, when at 4:10 pm EST the lights went out in all of Ontario and the Northeastern and Midwestern United States.

It was the world's second most widespread blackout in history, affecting an estimated 10 million people in southern and central Ontario, and 45 million people in eight U.S. states. Power was restored within 7 hours and in some areas 2 hours.

The blackout's cause was a software bug in the alarm system at the control room of FirstEnergy, an Akron, Ohio-based company, which rendered operators un-

aware of the need to redistribute load after overloaded transmission lines drooped into foliage. What should have been a manageable local blackout cascaded into the collapse of the entire Northeast region.

Commuters took HOURS to get home from work (I for one) and when cell phones lost power you were out of luck unless you were lucky enough to have a landline phone in your home.

That evening people on our street all congregated out in the front of our homes. No TV's, stereos, street lights, traffic noise or any other modern distractions. You could see the stars! Just eerily quiet. It felt almost isolating.

THANKS TO OUR PROBUS VOLUNTEERS

Courtesy of Bradford Today News

Leila and Edgar Lloyd have had a very active year. They celebrated their 60th anniversary and were awarded "Citizen of the Year" last month. Bradford Today has run a wonderful article on Leila's (and partner Edgar) volunteer activities. [Follow this link to their story.](#)



PICTURE PUZZLES....



Look at these pictures and see what songs come to mind.

If you must, answers on back page.



AUGUST SKYS PUT ON A SHOW

The Perseid meteor shower...one of the most stunning celestial events of the year. Starting in late July the meteors start streaking across the night sky and peak in the pre-dawn hours of August 12th. Depending on the brightness of the moon, anywhere from 50 to 100 meteors can be seen streaking across the sky every hour. Longer and brighter blasts of light and colour are called fireballs. In the pre-dawn hours of August 12th one can be seen every 2 minutes.

If you missed them this year, make a point to set your alarm (or when you wake for the nightly trek to the porcelain) find a comfy deck chair where there are no street lights and look to the heavens for the show.

You won't be disappointed.





LOVE IS—As Told By Children



"Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other." Karl - age 5

"Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs." Chrissy - age 6

"Once I'm done with kindergarten, I'm going to find me a wife." - Tom, age 5

"I think you're supposed to get shot with an arrow or something, but the rest of it isn't supposed to be so painful." - Manuel, age 8

"Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing, you still want to be together and you talk more. My Mommy and Daddy are like that. They look gross when they kiss" Emily - age 8

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen." Bobby - age 7 (Wow!)

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate," Nikka - age 6 (we need a few million more Nikka's on this planet)

"Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it everyday." Noelle - age 7

"My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night." Clare - age 6

"I'm in favor of love as long as it doesn't happen when *Dinosaurs* is on television." - Jill, age 6

"Love is when Mommy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford." Chris - age 7

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day." Mary Ann - age 4

"If falling in love is anything like learning how to spell, I don't want to do it. It takes too long." - Glenn, age 7

"Love is when Mommy sees Daddy on the toilet and she doesn't think it's gross." Mark - age 6

"Love is like an avalanche where you have to run for your life." - John, age 9



CANADA'S KEY ROLE IN CREATING A ONCE AWAITED VACCINE...CAN WE DO IT AGAIN?

Canadians don't have to go back to the start of the Spanish flu pandemic to find an analogy for today.

As recently as the 1950s, and previous decades, polio outbreaks gripped the country with fear, death and at times caused Canada to limit travel from the United States. Special hospitals were set up to help children paralyzed by polio and the iron lung to assist patient's breathing. Ultimately, 50,000 children were infected with polio during four major epidemics, and 4,000 of them died.



During the 1940s and '50s, before publicly funded health care, Canadian federal and provincial governments poured money and resources into eliminating polio through a vaccine.

An American, Dr. Jonas Salk, developed the vaccine but the Connaught Laboratories in Toronto and Dr. Leone N. Farrell, one of the researchers, played a key role in making testing and mass production of that vaccine a reality.

Dr. Salk was only able to safely create a few grams of virus at a time by growing the virus in cultures of monkey kidney cells.

It was Dr. Farrell, one of a very small number of women then working as research chemists in Canada, who figured out and developed a specially designed machine to safely produce vast quantities of virus in Medium 199.

Her creation made enough virus for the tests in the United States, Canada and Finland and created enough vaccine to inoculate all of Canada's children.

The Canadian government gambled and placed an order with Connaught before knowing if the vaccine would prove safe and effective in tests. It paid off.

Variations of Dr. Farrell's polio vaccine producing method were used until the 1970s. Connaught Laboratories decided not to patent the process.

Before retiring in 1969, Dr. Farrell took on several other major projects including one that greatly increased penicillin production.

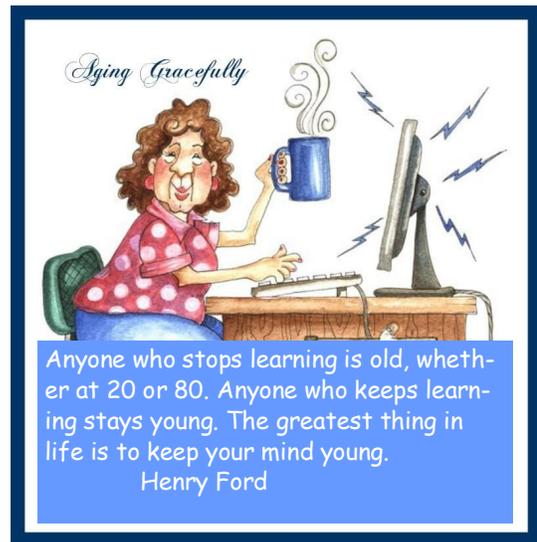


Excerpts taken from The New York Times

July 31, 2020, Author Ian Austen

And then there's this...Who's first?

First Photo Of The Russian Vaccine



In 1913, two children were mailed by post and rail. (In other words, someone put a stamp on their kids and sent them to another location.) Soon after, this was outlawed by the parcel post.



Surprise for Grandma!

SATELLITE DISHES FOR BEAVERS?!

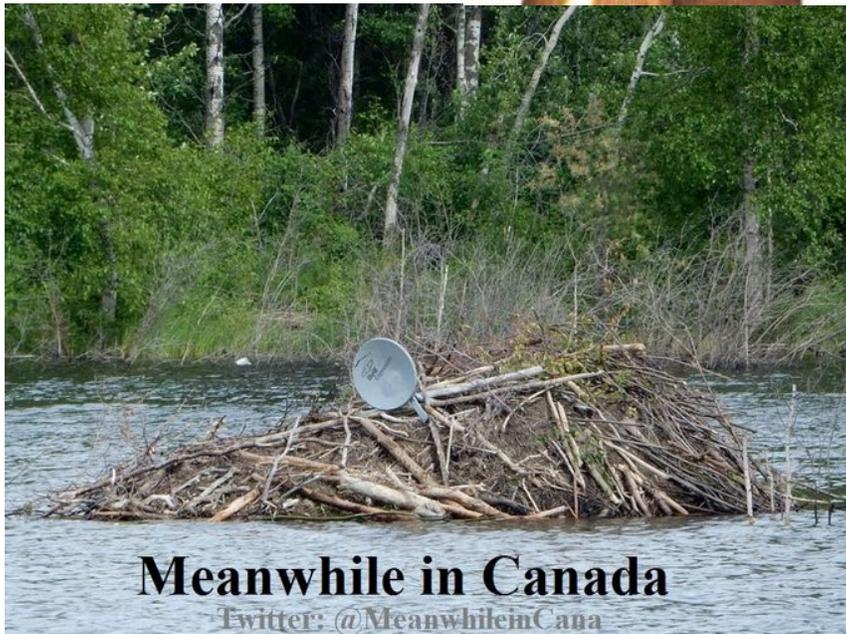
HOCKEY HAS STARTED AND THERE IS NO REASON ANYONE NEEDS TO MISS OUT!

Beaver lodges equipped with satellite dishes dot the Canadian landscape—CBC News · Posted: Aug 10, 2020

Have you spotted a satellite dish on a beaver lodge?

[Here is why it is happening...full story](#)

Now Frank and Gordon (the Bell beaver mascots) were retired 12 years ago. Maybe this is part of their retirement package?



Gotta love our quirky Canadian humour!



HOUSEHOLD TIPS

Hot water mixed with vinegar & baking soda, 2 cups of Coca-Cola, a dishwashing tablet & half a lemon. Swirl it for 3 minutes, place the pan in the solution for 45 minutes.

I then brush it with a toothbrush, I rinsed it & it still looked the same. So I went & bought a new one.

Follow me for more tips.



LAUGH RELIEF...



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.



SEEING HOW
SOME PEOPLE
WEAR THEIR
MASKS, I NOW
UNDERSTAND HOW
CONTRACEPTIVES
FAIL.

An old man, Mr. Wallace, was living in a nursing home.

One day he appeared to be very sad and depressed.

Nurse Tracy asked him if there was anything wrong.

'Yes, Nurse Tracy,' said Mr. Wallace. 'My Private Part died today, and I am very sad.'

Knowing her patients were a little forgetful and sometimes a little crazy, she replied, 'Oh, I'm so sorry, Mr. Wallace. Please accept my condolences.'

The following day, Mr. Wallace was walking down the hall with his Private Part hanging out of his pajamas.

He met Nurse Tracy. 'Mr. Wallace!' she said, 'You shouldn't be walking down the hall like that. Please put your Private Part back inside your pajamas.'

'But, Nurse Tracy I can't,' replied Mr. Wallace. 'I told you yesterday that my Private Part died.'

'Yes,' said Nurse Tracy, 'you did tell me that, but why is it hanging out of your pajamas?'

'Well,' he replied, 'Today is the viewing.'

Someone posted they had just baked some synonym buns. I replied, you mean just like the ones grammar use to make? Now I'm blocked.

LAUGH RELIEF...



My 72 year-old mother just informed me she is going to her first “sex party” and doesn’t know what to bring.

After some delicate questioning,..
“Gender Reveal, Mom. It’s called a Gender Reveal.”



God: you’re about to get your wings.

Me: garlic Parmesan or honey bbq?

God: get out.

Remember how when you were little you could just rip off your diaper and run around naked and everyone thought it was so cute and funny?

Anyway, I need bail money.

124 DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS! PUT THIS ON YOUR LIST



Dust up your Christmas giving list...this could be a gift for that someone who has everything!

Big Mouth Billy Bass, the singing fish (one of the tackiest gifts to hit the stores) has been around for 20 years. We are all familiar with the turning fish head and flopping tail singing “Don’t Worry, Be Happy” and “Take Me to the River” when you walked by.

Inventor Joe Pellettieri says that back in 1998 he came up with the kitschy concept while brainstorming ideas with his wife for his then job with novelty products company, Gemmy. The couple were driving past a Bass Pro Shop store in Texas when his wife suggested a singing fish mounted on a plaque.

By 2000, Big Mouth Billy Bass quickly became *the* novelty gift to give to friends (and possibly enemies). Bill Clinton once gave one to his vice president, Al Gore, and Queen Elizabeth reportedly had one mounted next to a piano at Balmoral Castle.

He started making cameos in a variety of movies and TV shows, including the animated movie *WALL-E* and the hit series, *The Sopranos*, when Tony Soprano started having visions of talking fish heads after he sent one of his associates to swim with the fishes. McDonald’s even ran a spoof ad for their Filet-O-Fish sandwich.

The tacky Pisces is having a bit of a renaissance. For example, a bar in Chicago installed 75 Big Mouth Billy Bases along a stairway leading to their rooftop patio. They hired a designer to program them to sing in harmony, including The Bee Gees “Staying Alive” and The Talking Heads, “Once in a Lifetime,” that includes the lyrics, “How did I get here?”

For all you techies there is even an Alexa-enabled Billy Bass on Amazon. Or if you want to do the socially conscious giving, The Flying Fish restaurant in Memphis set up the Billy Bass Adoption Center, where patrons have donated hundreds of their under-appreciated Billys.

Excerpts taken from Cottage Life, August 2020

**It turns out that when asked who your favourite child is, you’re supposed to pick one of your own.
I know that now.**



And you thought beauty contests were only for woman!

Men's beautify contest 1920



If you ever feel like your brain is inadequate... Think of this guy!



Answers to song pictures.

Left "Lime in the Coconut" by Harry Nilsson

Right: "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" by The Beatles

**We all have the power to change at least one thing a day...
Please make it your underwear!
Have a great day!**