

The PROBUS Club of Bradford



August 2014

Issue 42

Management Committee:

President: Brenda Andrews

Vice President: Peter Liukaitis

Secretary: Patricia Dion

Treasurer: Dave Martin

Social Chair: Peggy Michaud

Speakers Chair: Brian Fuller

Members Chair: Deb Liukaitis

Newsletter: Jayne Greer

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Upcoming Events:

- ❖ August 19 – General Meeting: Kevin Gallant – Fire Safety in the Home
- ❖ Sept 13 – Car Rally and BBQ \$25.00 members, \$28.00 non-members
- ❖ Sept. 30 – Island Queen boat tour out of Parry Sound a 3 hour tour, \$30.00
- ❖ Oct. 8th - Holland Marsh Wineries Tour
- ❖ Oct. 24th Fire and Emergency Services Tour

July General Meeting Highlights:

Brenda Andrew's, President, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.. Brenda congratulated Jim Walker on receiving the Bradford 'Citizen of the Year' award.

Deb Liukaitis, Member's Chair, welcomed two guests.

Brenda thanked Monica Heron, Venita Lovelace, Lynda Usher and Jean Keffer for providing snacks.

Next month's refreshments will be provided by Barbara Russell, Rose Bradshaw, Patricia Durkin and Connie MacKenzie-Morgan.

Brenda announced that it is soon to be election time for executive positions and that there is one position, that of treasurer, open. One person has come forth to accept this position and it will be given to her unless someone else is interested. Deb went over the new membership renewal form. The annual fee has not yet been established as it will have to reflect the upcoming cost of the hall rental.

Members are being asked to fill out personal information forms so that Deb can verify the current information on file. Members were assured that personal information is not shared outside the club. The second part of the form asks members to add their birthday month so that we can acknowledge their birthdays at our general meetings.

Members are also asked to indicate if there are roles in the club that they may be interested in assuming in the future.

The form will be posted on our PROBUS website and will also be e-mailed out to everyone.

Linda Usher announced that on September 7th there will be an event in Bondhead, called, 'Music in the Park' that runs from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be continual music being played, an antique car show and a BBQ put on by the Lions Club.

Peggy Michaud, Social Chair, reviewed upcoming events as outlined under **Upcoming Events** in this newsletter and on our website <http://bradfordprobus.weebly.com>

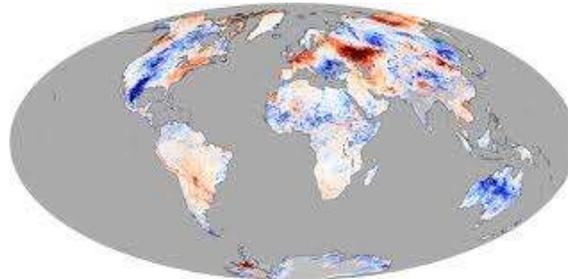
50/50 Draw: Cheryl Blair won \$46.00

Guest Speaker: Dr. Hans Martin

Brian Fuller introduced Dr. Hans Martin who spoke passionately on the subject of 'Climate Change'.

Dr. Martin is a scientist from Manitoba who has continued throughout his career to work in various capacities on environmental issues.

He has received numerous awards for his work and has twice received the Governor General's Medal.



Dr. Martin explained that Canada was once a leading nation in the study of climate change but withdrew from the international framework in the mid 1990s.

Dr. Martin believes that Canada walked away from a reliable instrument to tell us how to prevent climate change.

Canadian scientists attend scientific conferences but are no longer invited to policy conferences.

Dr. Martin believes that our government is generally interested in prosperity gained by selling raw materials, such as in the oil sands, as opposed to its impact on the environment.

He tells us that the permafrost is melting and roads are dropping in the far north and when permafrost starts to melt methane gas is emitted.

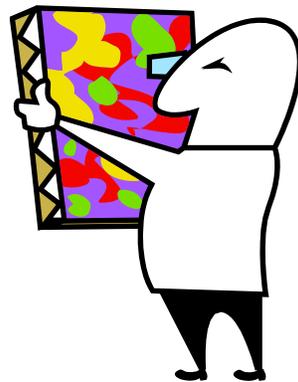
Dr. Martin explained that climate change is a case of who lives and dies and scientists know what is coming, namely our vulnerability. We need to have adaptation measures.

Carbon dioxide in the earth's atmosphere doesn't let the earth's energy out so extremes in weather will occur.

Dr. Martin advised that we should read the book, 'The War on Science' and stressed that it is time to pay attention, get informed, learn, protest and act.

Margo MacNamara thanked Dr. Martin for taking the time to come and talk to us today on this interesting and thought-provoking topic.

McMichael Art Gallery Tour, Kleinburg



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Keewatin Boat Tour, Port McNicoll



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We will miss you, Ron Simpson.

Nine Things That Will Disappear In Our Lifetime

Whether these changes are good or bad depends in part on how we adapt to them. But, ready or not, here they come.

1. The Post Office

Get ready to imagine a world without the post office. They are so deeply in financial trouble that there is probably no way to sustain it long term. Email, Fed Ex, and UPS have just about wiped out the minimum revenue needed to keep the post office alive. Most of your mail every day is junk mail and bills.

2. The Cheque

Britain is already laying the groundwork to do away with cheque by 2018. It costs the financial system billions of dollars a year to process cheques. Plastic cards and online transactions will lead to the eventual demise of the cheque. This plays right into the death of the post office. If you never paid your bills by mail and never received them by mail, the post office would absolutely go out of business.

3. The Newspaper

The younger generation simply doesn't read the newspaper. They certainly don't subscribe to a daily delivered print edition. That may go the way of the milkman and the laundry man. As for reading the paper online, get ready to pay for it. The rise in mobile Internet devices and e-readers has caused all the newspaper and magazine publishers to form an alliance. They have met with Apple, Amazon, and the major cell phone companies to develop a model for paid subscription services.

4. The Book

You say you will never give up the physical book that you hold in your hand and turn the literal pages. I said the same thing about downloading music from iTunes. I wanted my hard copy CD. But I quickly changed my mind when I discovered that I could get albums for half the price without ever leaving home to get the latest music. The same thing will happen with books. You can browse a bookstore online and even read a preview chapter before you buy. And the price is less than half that of a real book. And think of the convenience! Once you start flicking your fingers on the screen instead of the book, you find that you are lost in the story, can't wait to see what happens next, and you forget that you're holding a gadget instead of a book.

5. The Land Line Telephone -

Unless you have a large family and make a lot of local calls, you don't need it anymore. Most people keep it simply because they've always had it. But you are paying double charges for that extra service. All the cell phone companies will let you call customers using the same cell provider for no charge against your minutes

6. Music

This is one of the saddest parts of the change story. The music industry is dying a slow death. Not just because of illegal downloading. It's the lack of innovative new music being given a chance to get to the people who would like to hear it. Greed and corruption is the problem. The record labels and the radio conglomerates are simply self-destructing. Over 40% of the music purchased today is "catalogue items," meaning traditional music that the public is familiar with. Older established artists. This is also true on the live concert circuit. To explore this fascinating and disturbing topic further, check out the book, "Appetite for Self-Destruction" by Steve Knopper, and the video documentary, "Before the Music Dies."

7. Television

Revenues to the networks are down dramatically. Not just because of the economy. People are watching TV and movies streamed from their computers. And they're playing games and doing lots of other things that take up the time that used to be spent watching TV. Prime time shows have degenerated down to lower than the lowest common denominator. Cable rates are skyrocketing and commercials run about every 4 minutes and 30 seconds. I say good riddance to most of it.. It's time for the cable companies to be put out of our misery. Let the people choose what they want to watch online and through Netflix.

8. The "Things" That You Own

Many of the very possessions that we used to own are still in our lives, but we may not actually own them in the future. They may simply reside in "the cloud." Today your computer has a hard drive and you store your pictures, music, movies, and documents. Your software is on a CD or DVD, and you can always re-install it if need be. But all of that is changing. Apple, Microsoft, and Google are all finishing up their latest "cloud services." That means that when you turn on a computer, the Internet will be built into the operating system. So, Windows, Google, and the Mac OS will be tied straight into the Internet. If you click an icon, it will open something in the Internet cloud. If you save something, it will be saved to the cloud. And you may pay a monthly subscription fee to the cloud provider. In this virtual world, you can access your music or your books, or your whatever from any laptop or handheld device. That's the good news.

But, will you actually own any of this "stuff" or will it all be able to disappear at any moment in a big "Poof?"

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Will most of the things in our lives be disposable and whimsical? It makes you want to run to the closet and pull out that photo album, grab a book from the shelf, or open up a CD case and pull out the insert.

9. Privacy

Soon there will be no secrets! If there ever was a concept that we can look back on nostalgically, it would be privacy. That's gone. It's been gone for a long time anyway.. There are cameras on the street, in most of the buildings, and even built into your computer and cell phone. But you can be sure that 24/7, "They" know who you are and where you are, right down to the GPS coordinates, and the Google Street View. If you buy something, your habit is put into a zillion profiles, and your ads will change to reflect those habits. "They" will try to get you to buy something else. Again and again.

Next Newsletter Sept. 02, 2014

Jayne Greer, Editor



