

# The PROBUS Club of Bradford



**January 2014**

**Issue 36**

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## **Management Committee:**

<b>President:</b>	<b>Brenda Andrews</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Peter Liukaitis</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Patricia Dion</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Dave Martin</b>
<b>Social Chair:</b>	<b>Peggy Michaud</b>
<b>Speakers Chair:</b>	<b>Brian Fuller</b>
<b>Members Chair:</b>	<b>Deb Liukaitis</b>
<b>Newsletter:</b>	<b>Jayne Greer</b>

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## **Upcoming Events:**

- ❖ **January 14 - General meeting**  
Guest Speaker – Marianne Ford,  
Nordixx Walking
- ❖ **Walks on the Wild Side with**  
Cathryn Rees
- ❖ **Life Saver/CPR/AED-DEFIB**  
Program
- ❖ **February 7<sup>th</sup> - Theatre: 'London**  
Suite'
- ❖ **April 15<sup>th</sup> - Honey House Tour by**  
Peter Dickey
- ❖ **May 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> - Washington Trip**
- ❖ **June 2<sup>nd</sup> - The McMichael Art**  
Gallery Tour
- ❖ **June 17<sup>th</sup> - International Tai Chi**  
Centre Tour

## *December General Meeting Highlights:*

The General Meeting of the Probus Club of Bradford was called to order at 10:16 a.m. at St. John's Presbyterian Church by President Brenda Andrews.

Three new members, Anne McCourtney, Clair Barrey-Junop and Philip Junop were presented with the Probus rules and pins.

The members who brought goodies for coffee break were mentioned and thanked.

Cathryn Rees -Walks on the Wild Side will start again in January.

Peggy Michaud, Social Chair, mentioned that there are currently 18 members signed up to take the lifesaver course and that there is room for more. There is a trip to the Simcoe Theater planned for Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> to see 'London Suite'. The cost is \$18.00 per person. Dinner is arranged for 5:00 p.m. at the Whistle Stop in Beeton. Payment and dinner confirmation due January 14<sup>th</sup>.

There will be a Honey House Tour by Peter Dickey on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The cost is \$5.00 per person, which includes a two-hour tour and small gift. Lunch afterwards will be arranged at Hot Stacks in Cookstown. Payment is due by April 8<sup>th</sup>.

A \$100.00 per person deposit for the Washington trip is due in January. A trip to Gettysburg with a self-guided tour is being planned for the third day of the trip.

An excursion to the McMichael Art Gallery in Kleinburg is planned for Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The cost is still to be determined. John and Helene have offered to guide us through the gallery.

A tour of the local Bradford Fire Station in October is being organized. More details are to follow.

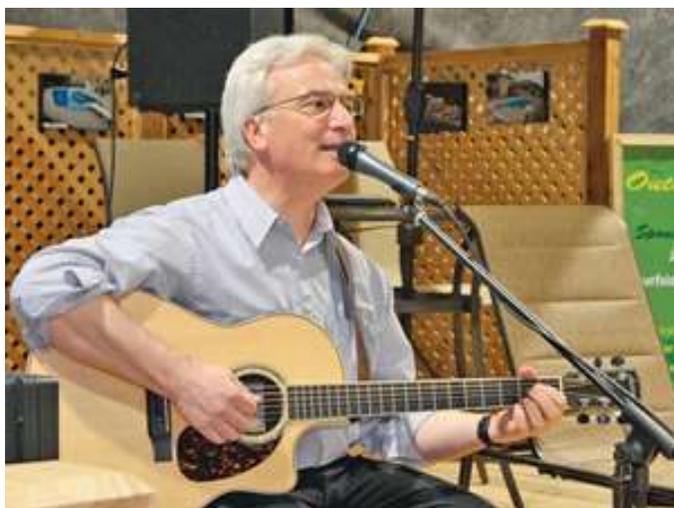
On 10:00 a.m. on June 17<sup>th</sup> there is a tour and demonstration booked at the International TaiChi Center. The cost is \$7.00 per person, which includes the tour, demonstration and a traditional, vegetarian or non-vegetarian Chinese meal.

Pete Liukaitis, Vice President, mentioned that a New England/Canada Cruise in the Fall is being planned and a sign-up sheet is available.

Pete discussed information and prices for three possible cruises.

**50/50 Draw:** Pete Liukaitis won \$57.00

3



Margo McNamara thanked John for his enjoyable and entertaining performance.

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. and was followed by a Christmas Luncheon, which included turkey and all the fixings and a variety of pies for dessert. Everyone received a box of delicious cookies and a visit from Santa.

**Peggy introduced our Christmas Luncheon entertainer John Lemme.**

**John is a local entertainer who lives with his family in Newmarket.**

**He played guitar and sang a variety of songs from the 40's to date, including classic, country and folk tunes. He encouraged sing-alongs and had two of our members come up and dance while he sang "The Twist".**

## Walks on the Wild Side

In spite of the early snow, the stalwart regulars valiantly tramped our local forests. John Zima and his technology confirmed distances for Simcoe County Trails. Boughs were gathered at Cathryn's for Christmas decorating.

We have had a hiatus for the holidays and healing. Bill's shoulder surgery was not too invasive, and the shoulder, along with Cathryn's knee, are strengthening.

Many of us have cross-country skis and snow shoes from Santa. We thought we would try them out once conditions improve. The trails are so icy now, that poles barely break the surface, the skis slip, and Cathryn has had two 'face plants' when the toe of her snow shoe caught under the ice. The ice tracks that many have were surely necessary for this ice storm. Hopefully none of us have fallen.

Be careful everyone! See you on the trails soon,

Cathryn Rees





## **PROBUS Book Club**

We met at Peggy's just before Christmas. Her home was so beautifully decorated that the holiday spirit came down on us all. She fed us treats to be dreamed of, dancing in our heads.

And, can you believe it? No one thought to take a photo of this Probus activity. What a missed opportunity! Thank you Peggy and Earl for contributing to the festivities.

The book for the night was especially inspirational. 'The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind' by William Kamkwamba.

**By Cathryn Rees:**

## SKIING ANYONE?



If you are interested in having an opportunity to ski at the private clubs, mostly at Osler, in Collingwood this winter, [Rick Wright](#), one of the members of PROBUS, is running group trips there over the winter. Dates are as follows: [Jan. 8, 15, 22 \(Osler\)](#), [Jan. 29 \(Craigleith\)](#), [Feb. 5, 12, 19 \(Osler\)](#) and [Feb. 26 \(Devil's Glen\)](#). You must get their on your own, though we can car pool, and pay the cost of the lift ticket. It is not easy to gain access to these clubs, so this is your opportunity to see what these places are like. If you are interested, in some or all of the dates, please [contact him at 905-775-6933 or richardwright0@hotmail.com](#). Rick must know in advance of each date whether you will be going as each club wants a list of visitors before hand.

## Computer Corner by Pet Liukaitis



### **The five most dangerous email subjects to watch for.**

Remember the talk we had about fraud? The presenter mentioned phishing as a way for the bad guys to get personal information from us.

Phishing campaigns are constantly evolving and it can be too easy to fall for them — so what types of email should you stay vigilant against?

What subject lines are most likely to dupe an individual or business in to falling for a phishing campaign? Based on the researchers' findings, the top five which are most likely to be clicked upon are:

1. Invitation to connect on LinkedIn
2. Mail delivery failed: returning message to sender
3. Dear Customer
4. Comunicazione importante
5. Undelivered Mail Returned to Sender

Read the details here: [http://www.zdnet.com/the-five-most-dangerous-email-subjects-to-watch-for-7000024221/?s\\_cid=e539&ttag=e539](http://www.zdnet.com/the-five-most-dangerous-email-subjects-to-watch-for-7000024221/?s_cid=e539&ttag=e539)

### **Mac Users: Emoji emoticons added to special characters**

This tip actually works from any app that uses the Edit menu. To get your Emoji on, simply go to Edit > Special Characters (OS X Mavericks can use **Command-Control-Space**) and browse to the new Emoji section of the sidebar. Double-click or drag a selection to insert it into the active text field.

### **Windows XP End of Life Date: April 2014**

If you are using a Mac or are running Windows Vista or newer, you can cheerfully ignore this.

Some of you may have heard the Windows XP is reaching it's End of Life Date, it's 'Best Before Date' in other words. It's true, as of April 8, 2014, Microsoft will no longer be providing support for the Windows XP Operating System. What I have written here is not meant to scare anyone, just to make you aware of what is happening and the risks involved. I've gathered a bunch of information from various places, summarized into what I hope is a clear and simple explanation.

So what does Windows XP End of Life mean? Well, first off, on April 8, 2014, your computer; laptop or desktop; will not blow-up into a mushroom cloud on your desk or your lap. It will continue to work, you can surf the net, you can check your email. You can do all the things you used to do.

## 8

What will happen is Microsoft will stop providing patches to fix errors in the product, or patches to eliminate any security issues that are found; trojans, viruses, etc. Any security flaws exposed by hackers will no longer be resolved and fixes (patches) issued. In addition, once Microsoft stops supporting XP, other software companies will follow suit with their own products.

So, what can you do? There are a number of things.

1. You can do nothing. This is not recommended, but since your computer still keeps working as it did, you can continue as you have been. The reasons this is not recommended are several:

(This information is from here: <http://www.pcworld.com/article/2068300/windows-xp-holdouts-3-reasons-you-must-upgrade-now-yes-now-.html>)

- When you step back, Windows XP seems productive enough. It runs the applications you need it to run. It checks email. It surfs the Web. When you take a closer look, though, the newer versions of Windows have features that help you work more efficiently.
- Using an operating system that's more than a decade old can also paint you into a corner when it comes to the peripherals and devices you can use with it. As new technologies are developed, they're generally engineered with the latest operating systems in mind, and unlikely to be supported on Windows XP. Whether you're looking at wireless printers, Bluetooth keyboards, or 4K monitors, it will be challenging if not impossible to find drivers and support to make new technologies work with Windows XP.
- This is the big one. Windows XP is inherently more risky even now, and when Microsoft stops supporting the venerable OS next April, your PC will be virtually defenseless. Security experts believe that cybercriminals may already be hoarding Windows XP flaws, waiting hungrily for the expiration of Microsoft support. At that point, there will be no more Patch Tuesday security bulletins, and no patches or updates from Microsoft to address critical security concerns in Windows XP. It will be open season.
- Attackers often wait for a vendor to release a patch and then reverse-engineer it to discover the flaw and craft an exploit to take advantage of it. Once Microsoft support for Windows XP expires, malware developers will reverse-engineer Microsoft's Windows 7 and Windows 8 patches and then verify whether those

## 9

same flaws exist in Windows XP. In many cases, they will—and there will be no patch available to protect Windows XP.

Have a look at this short video for some further explanation:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=nKafJ19\\_Lg0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=nKafJ19_Lg0)

### 2. Migrate to Windows 7

If you're still using Windows XP, then Windows 7 will be familiar to you, its interface is much like Windows XP. Windows 7 isn't the latest, but it's the most widely used version of Windows and will be supported until January 14, 2020. Even today, many people are upgrading from Windows XP to Windows 7 — not Windows 8.

If you're a typical home user, getting Windows 7 may take a bit of extra footwork. If you want to get a boxed copy of Windows 7 to upgrade to, you may want to get it online — boxed copies of Windows 7 are still sold on websites like Amazon, although you probably won't find them in many PC stores.

Unfortunately, it's not possible to perform an upgrade install from Windows XP to Windows 7 or Windows 8. You'll have to perform a clean install. Luckily, clean installs are the ideal way to install a new operating system.

It will take time to migrate from Windows XP to Windows 7, there are many steps involved, from backing up your data, to doing the actual install, to restoring your programs and you data. It is not a trivial task.

Microsoft does provide guidance on how to proceed:

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-CA/windows7/help/upgrading-from-windows-xp-to-windows-7#T1=tab01>

### 3. Migrate to Windows 8

Windows 8 can be rather awkward on traditional PCs without touch screens, especially at first. That said, it's not completely unbearable. It actually offers many desktop features that are an upgrade over Windows 7 and you can hide much of the new "Modern" environment. Microsoft has recently released Windows 8.1 and it's much more comfortable to use on a more traditional desktop or laptop PC. Microsoft has also made Windows 8.1 a free upgrade, sort of like a Service Pack. I've gone through the installation of Windows 8.1 on a brand new PC, it's fairly easy to do, it just took all day from start to finish. Lots of watching paint dry and waiting.

4. Purchase a new PC or Laptop

This is the simplest, but the most expensive. You can purchase a new PC or Laptop with Windows 7 or Windows 8, then you can move your data over at your leisure, with less worry. Depending on where you purchase a new PC, they may help you move your data to the new computer.

For further reading, have a look at these links:

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/enterprise/endofsupport.aspx>

<http://windows.microsoft.com/eos>

Here's a metaphor. You might be able to drive a car that was built years and years ago, and even keep it in good working condition if you were a clever mechanic. But that car was made in a time when fewer people drove the roads and had less safety features to keep drivers and families safe on more crowded roads. Newer cars also benefit from years of engineering knowledge built on top of the mistakes of those older cars, and have safety features and more fuel efficient engines for a world with rising gasoline prices. XP fits into the computing world in much the same way—it doesn't properly address the problems of today and can pose a definite danger to the user, while giving an illusion of security.

The choice is up to you to decide the course of action to take. I hope this helps you make a decision, one way or the other.

Feel free to email me if you have any questions; [pliukait@sympatico.ca](mailto:pliukait@sympatico.ca) .

**CHECK OUT THE NEW BRADFORD PROBUS CLUB  
WEBSITE BROUGHT TO YOU BY PETER...DETAILS TO  
FOLLOW!**

# Dinner Club at Amy & Rick Wrights



The computer swallowed Grandma,  
 Yes, honestly it's true!  
 She pressed 'control and 'enter'  
 And disappeared from view.  
 It devoured her completely,  
 The thought just makes me squirm.  
 She must have caught a virus  
 Or been eaten by a worm.  
 I've searched through the recycle bin  
 And files of every kind;  
 I've even used the Internet,  
 But nothing did I find.  
 In desperation, I asked Mr. Google  
 My searches to refine.  
 The reply from him was negative,  
 Not a thing was found 'online.'  
 So, if inside your 'Inbox,'  
 My Grandma you should see,  
 Please 'Copy, Scan' and 'Paste' her,  
 And send her back to me.

Next newsletter January 27, 2014

**Editor, Jayne Greer**