



# The PROBUS Pilot

Published by the Probus Club of Western Ottawa – serving the western half of the National Capital Region  
Vol.5 No.2 – October, 2013

## THE VICE PREZ SEZ:

Our president, Peter, is enjoying Mediterranean breezes so I am filling in for him this month. I am a relative newcomer to Probus so this newsletter and our next meeting will be my baptism by fire!

Our new season got off to a flying start with Mac Evans presentation on the Canadian Space Program. We all enjoyed the information about the Canadian satellite program and, of course, our astronauts. We had an excellent turnout but still have some 10 year membership pins to award to those recipients who were not at the September meeting. Hopefully some of you that were away will be back for this month's meeting to find out more about the activities of the Canadian Snowbird Association to improve the rights and privileges of all Canadian travellers.

As noted in the last month's newsletter the window of opportunity (Sept 15 - Oct 31) during which Probus members under age 75 can apply to Johnson Insurance/Medoc and receive general health, dental and/or travel insurance without having to pass a medical test is still open. Further information is available from Johnson at [www.Johnson.ca/Probus](http://www.Johnson.ca/Probus) or by calling 1-888-412-8822.

I would like to thank the members of our Probus Management Committee for the

excellent work they have put in to running the club. Knowing I have that support behind me makes this job a lot easier.

Vernon Sulway, Vice-President

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## GUEST SPEAKER THIS MONTH

### Mr. Robert (Bob) Slack



President of the Canadian Snowbird Association

His topic:

***“The Voice of the Travelling Canadian”***

The Canadian Snowbird Association (CSA) is a 70,000 member national not-for-

profit advocacy organization. It is dedicated to actively defending and improving the rights and privileges of Canadian travellers.

Bob Slack has been President of the CSA since 2010.

Bob has had a long and distinguished career in education. As a teacher, principal and later supervisor of student teachers, he began his teaching career at the Galt Roman Catholic School Board, continued with the Carleton Roman Catholic School Board, and later the State University of New York. During his career in education he was actively involved in the establishment of classes and programs for dependently handicapped students. For over ten years Bob was a presenter of retirement planning workshops for the Ontario Teachers' Federation. He also served as an educational consultant for the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture. In addition to a regular teaching career, he was employed as a part-time lecturer at the University of Ottawa as well as serving as a municipal councillor for the Township of Goulbourn.

Bob has been a volunteer with several organizations. He has served in numerous capacities with the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario, including two terms as president. A past-president of the Richmond District Lions Club and Richmond Snowrovers Snowmobile Club, he has also been active in minor hockey.

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### UPCOMING SPEAKER:

Tuesday, November 12

Dr. Andrew Burch

Historian, Canadian War Museum

His topic:

*“A Forgotten War (The Korean War)”*

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**Right after our meeting this month let's all get together for lunch at **The Three Brewers Restaurant in Centrum** (near the theaters) for good food and interesting conversation. Hopefully Mr. Slack will be available to join us as well.**

### **MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE**

The annual cost for a PROBUS membership remains at **\$20 per person**.

Please visit the finance table during coffee and make appropriate arrangements as soon as possible.

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**This month's meeting: Tues., October 8**

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## Lunch Outs

This month's **lunch-out** will take place on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon. Why not come out to **“Lapointe's Restaurant”** at 1831 Robertson Road (This is their new location situated in Bell's Corners near The Butchery). A sign-up sheet will be available at the October PROBUS meeting.

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## The Probus Web Site

Our club has a web site to keep you up to date on speakers, activities, photos, our organization and other information. It can be found at:

**[www.probuswesternottawa.ca](http://www.probuswesternottawa.ca)**

Make sure to bookmark this location so that you don't have to keep typing it in. The left side menu lets you go to any of the featured pages.

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## **UPCOMING FUN EVENTS**

A visit to the **Alpaca Farm in Lanark** has been planned for **October 19th or 20th**. This is an opportunity to take a drive to Lanark and enjoy the fall colours at the same time. The **Victory Farm and Alpaca Store** will be celebrating their 10th anniversary. There will be spinning demonstrations, barn

tours, and opportunities to meet the alpacas. Local vendors will be there as well and the Farm store is offering 10% off everything in the store. Driving time to Lanark is approximately 2 hours. Driving directions will be available at the October 8th Probus meeting.

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On **November 20th at 6:30 pm** you are invited to join us for an excellent 3 course dinner in The Velvet Room. This is an **Eddie May Mystery** event and is held at 62 York Street (upstairs above Fat Tuesday's). During dinner someone will come to a violent (and always hilarious) end. You will participate in solving the mystery. You may even be the guilty party. The total price of \$68.00 per person includes dinner, taxes, tip and the entertainment. **If you plan to attend you must pay at the October 8th Probus meeting.** \*\* A sample menu will also be available for you to peruse.

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On **Sunday December 15th** we are offering a bus tour to **Upper Canada Village** for the **Alight at Night Festival**. A bus will take us to Morrisburg for a delicious festive buffet dinner at the McIntosh Country Inn. Following dinner we will have the chance to see Upper Canada Village with over a quarter million Xmas lights decorating the village. You can hop aboard a horse-drawn carriage for an old-fashioned ride through the village and visit the Village store for some last minute Christmas gifts or a warm-up beverage before returning to Ottawa. This is a very popular event and we have to book early. **If you wish to go on this trip you will have to make the non-refundable payment (\$110.00 per person) at the October 8th Probus meeting.** \*\*

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On **Sunday January 26th** you may wish to join us at **The Ottawa Little Theatre** for a **matinee presentation of Neil Simon's comedy - "Rumours"**. The performance will be followed by a backstage tour and a chat by the director of the play followed by some questions. Matinees sell out very quickly and we have been advised by OLT

that we should have a firm ticket count by October 8. Thus, **if you wish to attend, please be prepared to pay for your tickets (\$22/person) at this month's meeting.** \*\*

**\*\* [Please see a form on the last page for those who wish to attend but cannot make the Oct. 8 meeting or who have forgotten their cheque books.]**

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Are you a Euchre or Bridge player?  
Or would you like to be?

Probus Club members host a Euchre and Bridge group on the first Friday of each month at 1 p.m. at Bell's Corners United Church. October's Probus Euchre/bridge date is Friday, October 11 at 1:00 p.m. After that the dates will be Fridays, Nov. 1, and Dec. 6. (Dec. 6 is the Christmas Pot Luck Luncheon which starts at 11:30 with games starting at 1.)

It's fun and open to all - - - beginners to expert. For more information please contact **Pat Stoate** at 613-820-0174.

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## Ten Year Recognition

At our Sept. 10 meeting, the following members were recognized for their 10 years of membership in our Club:

Cathy and Larry Durst  
June and David Lanceman  
Elaine and Alan MacDonald  
Mae McCarthy  
Frank Smith  
Eula and John Smith  
Doris and Jim Stephenson  
Dawn and Peter Doyle

Those in attendance were presented with their 10 year pin, and the other pins will be presented at a future meeting.

We bid a reluctant farewell to Frank Smith, who is moving to Toronto at the end of September. Frank was a dedicated member of our Management Committee for several years, serving as Treasurer, Vice President, and President. We wish him well as he

moves much closer to his family, including grandchildren.

Peter Doyle, President

## The Chuckle Corner



In the 1700s, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are 'limbs,' therefore painting them would cost the buyer more.

Hence the expression, 'Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg.'

(Artists know hands and arms are more difficult to paint)

As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October). Women kept their hair covered while men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. They couldn't wash the wigs, so to clean them they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell, and bake it for 30 minutes. The heat would make the wig big and fluffy, hence the term big wig... today we often use the term 'here comes the Big Wig' because someone appears to be or is powerful and wealthy.

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## VISITORS WILL ALWAYS RECEIVE A WARM WELCOME

The PROBUS Club of Western Ottawa meets on the second Tuesday of each month, September through June, at the Kanata United Church, 33 Leacock Drive in Kanata.

- 10:00: coffee and social time
- 10:30: VERY brief business meeting
- 10:45: speaker

Exit Highway 417 at Eagleson/March Road. Just north of the exit take Campeau Drive west. At the first light turn right (north) onto Teron Road. At the first light, turn left (west) onto The Parkway. At the first (and only) stop sign, turn right onto Leacock Way. Follow Leacock Way to its end at Leacock Drive. Kanata United Church is in front of you, across the street.

PARKING at the church is limited. If full, please park in the large lot of the school next to the church or on the side of Leacock Drive where parking is permitted.

In fact, unless you have difficulty walking, please consider parking away from the front of the building in order to allow those who may be physically restricted easier access and exit. Thank you for your consideration.

**UPCOMING EVENT FORMS:**

Eddie May Mystery Dinner  
Wednesday, November 20th, 2013

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places. Enclosed is a cheque for \_\_\_ x \$68.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to **PROBUS CLUB OF WESTERN OTTAWA.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form and cheque to Sandra Ponech, 10A Stonehill Crt., Kanata K2M 1E5

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Alight at Night Festival  
Sunday, December 15th, 2013

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places. Enclosed is a cheque for \_\_\_ x \$110.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to **PROBUS CLUB OF WESTERN OTTAWA.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form and cheque to Sandra Ponech, 10A Stonehill Crt., Kanata K2M 1E5

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Ottawa Little Theatre Matinee  
Sunday, January 26th, 2014

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places. Enclosed is a cheque for \_\_\_ x \$22.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payable to **PROBUS CLUB OF WESTERN OTTAWA.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form and cheque to Sandra Ponech, 10A Stonehill Crt., Kanata K2M 1E5

ALL CHEQUES MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 10TH, 2013