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THE PREZ SEZ:

MISSING! - This may seem like an unusual opening for the President's remarks, but it is a matter of critical importance for our Club.

What we are missing is a member willing to assume the role of Club Vice President, effective Sept. 1, for our 2014-15 Club Year. I encourage you to seriously consider serving in this position. Please contact Peter van Boeschoten or myself to indicate your interest. We will be pleased to provide further information.

Also missing, as of this coming September, is one or more Members to prepare/coordinate coffee for the social time preceding each meeting. If we have no one willing to do this, we will be unable to provide coffee at our September meeting. Again, please contact either Peter van Boeschoten or myself if you are willing to help out.

Spring is a time for more social activities. The Spring Fling, hosted by the Rideau Valley PROBUS Club, occurs on May 27 at the Orchard View Conference Centre, Deermeadow Drive, Greely, south of Manotick. There are 34 members of our Club attending. I expect many have already looked at Google maps to find directions, as I have done. There will be maps available at our May 13 Club meeting. To further assist attendees, here are the directions which I have prepared from looking at the map:

- Highway 416 south to Bankfield , also Regional Rd. 8

- east on Bankfield to Rideau Valley Drive, also Regional Road 13

-right on Rideau Valley Drive into Manotick - left on Bridge St., which becomes Mitch Owens Road(also RR 8)

- right on Manotick Station Rd.

- left on Deermeadow Drive, to Orchard View

After our Tuesday, June 10 Club meeting, there will be a light, catered lunch (not the finger food potluck we have had in previous years). The cost is \$5.00 per attendee and tickets must be bought in advance in order to assist the caterer's planning. So far, about 60 members have bought tickets. Others may purchase them at our Tuesday, May 13 meeting.

I look forward to seeing you at our Spring Activities.

Peter Doyle President

> This month's meeting: Tues., May 13

THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER:

Guy Thatcher



His topic: "Mud, Mountains and Mindfulness on the Camino de Saint-Jacques"

Join Guy Thatcher on this inspirational journey of self-discovery as he leaves his comfortable North American home to walk 800 kilometres across France on an ancient pilgrimage path - le Chemin de Saint-Jacques – that leads over the Pyrenees to Spain to connect to the Camino de Santiago. After 130 kilometres on the heights of the Massif Central, he abandons the attempt because of illness. It's a disaster. The following year he returns to where he left off and succeeds in making his way across France, climbs the Pyrenees and walks to Pamplona – in spite of altitude, difficult terrain, illness, appalling weather, mud, age and getting off-trail for three days, all while carrying his backpack and water.

Guy Thatcher served 25 years in the Canadian army as a tank officer, helicopter pilot, anti-tank missile instructor, and computer analyst, serving in Germany, Belgium, Cyprus, Texas, and Alabama, as well as at various bases in Canada. He pursued a second career for a further twentyfive years as a management consultant.

He holds a degree in Computing and Information Systems from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, is a Fellow of the International Facility Management Association and is a lifetime Certified Management Consultant.

Guy is married to Carroll Thatcher, with whom he has four grown children and two grandchildren. Since 1991, he has been a home support volunteer for the Hospice at May Court.

OK...LET'S EAT! Let's all get together at The Brew Table restaurant right after the meeting... (corner of Robertson Road and Moodie Drive in Bell's Corners.)

June's Guest Speaker: Terrence Currie "The Great Fire of 1870 which devastated the Ottawa Valley"

Management Committee for 2014-15 is almost complete

The team to look after our Club next year is almost ready for the election at our June meeting. We are now only short 2 positions:

<u>Vice President.</u> This is a one year term to be followed by another year as President. The role is primarily a coordinating function as there is a great team of volunteers who do much of the actual work. <u>Coffee Coordinator.</u> To enhance our social half-hour prior to each meeting we would like to have coffee and tea available. Without someone willing to coordinate this activity we may need to forego having a hot beverage prior to our meetings.

If you are willing to step up and take on one of these positions please advise a member of the Management Committee.



PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE

Be sure to visit our unique web site to get information on upcoming speakers and events. The web site can be found at <u>www.probuswesternottawa.ca</u> or just Google "Ottawa Probus" and it should be the first entry. When you find the web site be sure to add it to your "bookmarks" or "favourites".

IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of Elizabeth (Betty) McElligott who passed away April 21 and wish to extend sincere condolences to Joseph, her beloved husband of 54 years, as well as her four children, grandchildren and family. Betty's presence at our meetings and events will be missed by all her friends of the PROBUS Club of Western Ottawa.

UPCOMING FUN EVENTS

On <u>Monday, May 19th</u> you are invited to a special cooking demonstration by the chef which will include a four course meal with accompanying wine for \$65/person. Where? At Cabotto's, 6:30 pm at 5816 Hazeldean Rd. in Kanata. (613-592-3097)

We welcome and encourage members to suggest events they think would be of interest to our members at large. Please contact us at either: <u>sponech@rogers.com</u> or <u>mickywalker@rogers.com</u>

Lunch Outs

<u>On Thursday, May 22</u> we will gather at the Canal Ritz on Queen Elizabeth Drive for our lunch out. Sign-up sheets will be available at the May meeting.

<u>The June lunch out</u> is being replaced with a year-end wrap up event following the June meeting. We plan to bring in finger food on platters rather than ask members to contribute to a pot luck as has been done in the past. The cost will be \$5.00 per person and a sign-up sheet will be available at this month's meeting. This will save members from spending time preparing and/or buying food for the lunch.

Please Email Beth Sweetnam if you have any suggestions for upcoming speakers or email pictures that can be used as part of a backup speech in case a speaker cannot attend our meeting. <u>beth@pbcsweetnam.com.</u>

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. Why not come out and join us on Friday, May 2 and, except for July and August, each month thereafter? For further information please contact Pat Stoate at 613-820-0174.



The Chuckle Corner

5 Really Bad Puns

- 1. Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.
- 2. A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."
- 3. Two peanuts walk into a bar, and one was a salted.
- 4. A dyslexic man walks into a bra.
- 5. A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm and says: "A beer please, and one for the road".

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.