



The PROBUS Pilot



Probus Club of Western Ottawa – serving the western half of the National Capital Region

October 2020

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The Prez Sez

To all members of Probus Western Ottawa.

As we move through September, the cooler nights and a few frosts remind us that the weather is normal for the time of year. If only the rest of things in our lives were as normal. However, we will move on and deal with things as they are presented to us.

One of the few things available to us is outdoor walks, with social distancing of course, and we are planning one around Beaverbrook pond on October 13 (details on page 2). Organized by Peter van Boeschoten it is one of our first outings since March. The leaves and nature are so pretty in the fall.

Another venture was a speaker meeting via Zoom organized by our neighboring Alta Vista club held on September 23. They invited our group to join and while the initial response was positive, the actual attendance was low, possibly due to a speaker change. Our management team will evaluate the event and make decisions regarding future Zoom presentations, realizing that the Zoom environment is not as socially friendly as we would like things to be.



Our management team is so happy to have Pam Reynolds join in helping Barb Stafford in Membership.

We are still waiting for someone to step forward to help with Outings. With current restrictions, choices are very limited but we need someone to energize us during this time of Covid. Several members on the management team have been on this committee and would be a great resource.

In the meantime, stay safe and think positive!

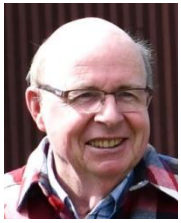
Ron Armstrong, President

Making it Official

This is a photo of our current president, Ron Armstrong, receiving his President's pin on September 15 from our past President, Marg Demers.



October Outing – October 13



While COVID has prevented us from having a regular meeting in October, we are instead proposing to conduct a walking tour on our regular meeting day.

Although we still have no volunteers for Outings, our Vice-President, Peter van Boeschoten, has kindly offered to lead a stroll around the Beaver Pond in Kanata to view the fall colours..

Beaver Pond Walking Tour – Please meet at the parking lot at the North end of Walden Drive at **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 13.**

Join us for a leisurely 3 Km walk on a smooth trail to take us fully around the Beaver Pond. There should be lots of fall colours.

Bring your camera.

We will go rain or shine, so dress appropriately.

Please observe COVID protocols and ensure physical distancing.



Welcome to the following new member who joined in September

Colin Billowes

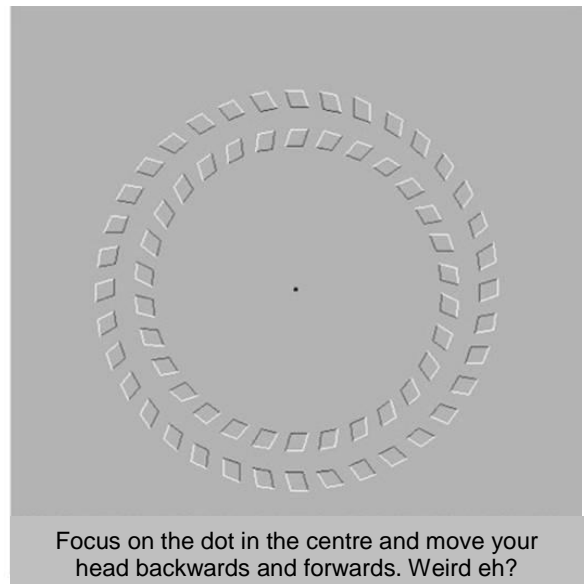
Quote of the Month

"Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans."
- John Lennon

Tricks of the Mind



Do you see the baby?



Focus on the dot in the centre and move your head backwards and forwards. Weird eh?

Chuckle Corner

The Darwin awards

Yes, it's that magical time of year again when the Darwin Awards are bestowed, honoring the least evolved among us. Here is the glorious WINNER:

1. When his 38 caliber revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach , California, would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked.

And now, the HONORABLE MENTIONS:

2. The chef at a hotel in Switzerland lost a finger in a meat cutting machine and after a little shopping around, submitted a claim to his insurance company. The company expecting negligence sent out one of its men to have a look for himself. He tried the machine and he also lost a finger. The chef's claim was approved.
3. A man who shoveled snow for an hour to clear a space for his car during a blizzard in Chicago returned with his vehicle to find a woman had taken the space. Understandably, he shot her.
4. After stopping for drinks at an illegal bar, a Zimbabwean bus driver found that the 20 mental patients he was supposed to be transporting from Harare to Bulawayo had escaped. Not wanting to admit his incompetence, the driver went to a nearby bus stop and offered everyone waiting there a free ride. He then delivered the passengers to the mental hospital, telling the staff that the patients were very excitable and prone to bizarre fantasies.. The deception wasn't discovered for 3 days.
5. An American teenager was in the hospital recovering from serious head wounds received from an oncoming train. When asked how he received the injuries, the lad told police that he was simply trying to see how close he could get his head to a moving train before he was hit.
6. A man walked into a Louisiana Circle-K, put a \$20 bill on the counter, and asked for change. When the clerk opened the cash drawer, the man pulled a gun and asked for all the cash in the register, which the clerk promptly provided. The man took the cash from the clerk and fled, leaving the \$20 bill on the counter. The total amount of cash he got from the drawer... \$15. [If someone points a gun at you and gives you money, is a crime committed?]
7. Seems an Arkansas guy wanted some beer pretty badly.. He decided that he'd just throw a cinder block through a liquor store window, grab some booze, and run. So he lifted the cinder block and heaved it over his head at the window. The cinder block bounced back and hit the would-be thief on the head, knocking him unconscious. The liquor store window was made of Plexiglas. The whole event was caught on videotape.
8. As a female shopper exited a New York convenience store, a man grabbed her purse and ran. The clerk called 911 immediately, and the woman was able to give them a detailed description of the snatcher. Within minutes, the police apprehended the snatcher. They put him in the car and drove back to the store. The thief was then taken out of the car and told to stand there for a positive ID. To which he replied, "Yes, officer, that's her. That's the lady I stole the purse from."
9. The Ann Arbor News crime column reported that a man walked into a Burger King in Ypsilanti, Michigan, at 5 a.m., flashed a gun, and demanded cash. The clerk turned him down because he said he couldn't open the cash register without a food order. When the man ordered onion rings, the clerk said they weren't available for breakfast... The man, frustrated, walked away. [*A 5-STAR STUPIDITY AWARD WINNER]
10. When a man attempted to siphon gasoline from a motor home parked on a Seattle street by sucking on a hose, he got much more than he bargained for.. Police arrived at the scene to find a very sick man curled up next to a motor home near spilled sewage. A police spokesman said that the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline, but he plugged his siphon hose into the motor home's sewage tank by mistake. The owner of the vehicle declined to press charges saying that it was the best laugh he'd ever had.