

## WHITBY/BROOKLIN PROBUS CLUB

General Meeting #24  
Westminster United Church, Whitby  
Wednesday October 28, 2015

**Chair:** Terry Brown

**Secretary:** Dorothy Ferguson

**Agenda:** The President, Terry Brown, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **Introductory Remarks by the Chair:**

- The President welcomed 5 guests to the meeting and thanked to-day's greeters. In total 134 members were in attendance.
- The current status of the membership was reviewed, specifically there are 17 members who have not yet renewed. Members were advised that in order to maintain membership, their renewal is due by October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Reminder that sign-up for participation in events is available before the meetings, 09:30-10:00, as well as during the social time.
- Members were invited to provide their feedback on various meetings, events and interest groups to any member of the management team.

### **Report of the Past-president:**

- Webmaster – Bob Ashdown invited anyone interested in taking over the position of webmaster to please contact him.
- Bob noted that he is assisting with the initiation of a new club, either in the Clarington or Scugog area, and indicated that assistance would be welcome.

### **Social Events:**

- Pat Caple & Claire DeSousa, co-chairs of the social events, reviewed upcoming events. Details are available in the newsletter.
- Peter Garrett spoke to an additional trivia night planned for January 2016, the only opportunity to sign up will be at the next meeting in November.

### **Interest groups:**

- Jane Brown encouraged everyone to become involved in at least one of our 20 interest groups and welcomed any ideas for new groups, requesting that a co-coordinator be identified as well.
- Members were invited to review the interest groups storyboard that describes each of the existing groups & the contact person for those wishing to participate.

### **Speaker Series:**

- Russ Caple introduced Bev Fowler who was approved at the Management Committee to become the new chair responsible for researching and scheduling speakers for our general meetings. Bev thanked Russ Caple for all his work to develop the program and invited members to forward any ideas for speakers.

### **Cooper's Corner:**

- John Cooper entertained members with his light humour.

**Guest Speaker:**

Major Graham Bye, a Reservist in the Canadian Forces, was introduced by his mother & PROBUS member, Doreen Bye. Major Bye worked in South Sudan from April to December, 2014 where he participated in a UN stabilization mission, Operation Soprano. In a very interesting and unsettling presentation, Major Bye described his experiences in the very poor country of South Sudan where there is essentially no infrastructure and the average life expectancy is 42 years.

**50/50 Draw:**

Major Bye drew the 50/50 ticket, \$50.50 was won by Martha Longo.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 10:00 am. Greeters will be Judy McIntosh and Dale McLeod.

**Adjournment:** 12:00 pm.