

WHITBY/BROOKLIN PROBUS CLUB

General Meeting #5

Westminster United Church, Whitby

February 26th, 2014

Acting Chair: Russ Caple

Acting Secretary: Maria Upton

AGENDA: The Acting Chair, Russ Caple, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The Agenda was reviewed and it was noted that both the President, Bob Ashdown and Vice President, Terry Brown were currently on vacation – both enjoying a game of golf and a well earned holiday. Members were also advised that there are several badges still to be picked up.

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Moved by Carol Cadan and seconded by Pat Caple that the minutes of the January 22, 2014 meeting be approved as posted. CARRIED.

REPORTS:

Interest Groups by Chair Catherine Frost (Catherine asked members to make sure they e-mail her at the correct address as some e-mails have been going to another lady who is not too happy about it.)

Two new groups are starting up and she invited the co-ordinators of these two groups to speak to their activity:

Yoga and Lunch – Ruth Fox.

This activity will take place on the second Wednesday of each month beginning in March until June at Three Steps Up in Whitby. The cost is \$10.00 for the Yoga Instructor and does not include lunch. Yoga will be from 10:00 – 11:30 with lunch to follow (it is gentle yoga). You can sign up for all 4 months or just come when you can. There will be a sign-up sheet at the desk during the break and info sheets are available.

Bowling – Nancy Lucas

Bowling takes place at Neb's Bowling Alley in Oshawa on Tuesdays from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. and finishes at the end of April. The cost is \$10.00 for three games + shoe rental. It is pay as you go and bowling experience is not required. This is not a league – there are no prizes and no banquet!

Other Interest Groups:

Art Appreciation – Donna George

Liz Gilbert chairs this group but is away this month. They meet the 2nd Monday of the month in member's homes and at Art Galleries at a time of their choosing. There is no charge and no lunch. The group is currently full but a second group may be started up in the fall.

Book Clubs – It was noted that the two book clubs have been amalgamated into one. In Sept. we will try again for a second club.

People Meeting People - there is a sign-up sheet at the desk – Oshawa had a 'Circle of Friends' group for people on their own (or not) – discuss how to set up this type of group.

Lunch Group- Will be meeting next at the 1847 Wine and Bar Bistro. Please check off your name when you come into the Restaurant and please phone them if you have signed up to attend but find you are unable to make the lunch. Catherine will be in the hall at break if anyone has any questions.

Social Events – Co-chairs Patricia Caple and Carol Cadan

Updates:

A **Wine Tasting Event** was held in February and hosted by Pauline Ordanis – guests brought

wine and an appetizer or dessert. It was a fun evening with entertainment provided by a story teller. Thanks for your hospitality, Pauline.

Olive Oil Tasting Event – held Feb. 11/14 – learned a lot about olive oils and balsamic vinegars.

Wingfest Fundraising Event – Feb. 22/14 – 15 members attended. In April there will be a dinner/dance at the Jubilee Pavilion in Oshawa and Lorraine will have more information about this event next month. There is a sign-up sheet available. Lorraine will be sending out information about future upcoming events.

Car Rally Event to be held in May. Terry B. will have more information about this event next month.

Trivia Night – we need a suitable location – any ideas?

Liveant Theatre (formerly Class Act Theatre) – March 30/14 – We have tickets for the 1:00 p.m. show – a Neil Diamond tribute. Members need to pay today as all unsold tickets will be returned to the theatre following today's meeting.

Westben Theatre in Campbellford – July 25/14 – sign-up sheet available. This is a 400 seat open-air theatre with amazing entertainers. The music they will be presenting is from the Phantom of the Opera (and a few members will be at our meeting next month). The cost is \$32.00 for the show and a Turkey Dinner is available at a local Church for \$15.00.

Spring Fling – there was not enough interest (we need 100 people) so this event will not be taking place. A suggestion sheet is available at the desk.

Golf Tournament in June – still in discussion stage.

House Report – Jackie Finn

She had a bone china mug available that had been left at the Nov. meeting – please see her if it belongs to you. She pointed out that the \$2.00 donation helps defray the costs for the coffee/tea/sugar/goodies provided at each meeting. Do you still wish to continue with the 'goodies'? The majority said 'yes'. She expressed her thanks to her committee members, Barb, Les, Diane, Alice, Brian and Val for all their help. She couldn't do it without them.

Break at 10:30 a.m.

Guest Speaker: John Arkelian, an International Affairs Analyst.

Russ Caple introduced Mr. Arkelian as one who has constantly 're-invented' himself and has followed many careers – law, journalism, the arts, etc. He currently runs Film Chats at Durham/UOIT on a weekly basis.

John indicated he always thought 'if we live only one part of our lives – what happens to the rest of it?' We have to re-invent ourselves on a continuing basis and that is what he has done. Were we aware that we have one of the best symphony orchestras in Canada right here in Durham Region? Who would know – he sits on their Board of Directors, is their legal staff

member and has redesigned their logo and letterhead.

He has also created a not-for-profit Arts Magazine that he is very proud of – the Artsform – there are no staff and he borrows equipment to produce it. He has world class professionals contributing original pieces to his paper and it actually won an arts award of which he is very proud.

He founded ‘Cinechats’ in March, 2005 and since that time has shown 343 live feature films plus approx. 30 short films. The presentations are held every Thursday evening at Durham College at 6:30 p.m. in the Gordon Wiley Bldg. (Rm. C-113). He only takes 2 weeks off over Christmas. The films are shown and then an analysis of the movie is done. His inspiration for Cinechats was Elwy Yost who many had seen on TV with Saturday Night at the Movies on Channel 2. The demographics of the audience is 35 yrs of age and up. Even though this is held on a campus shared with college and university aged kids – they don’t come out to see the movies shown! He discussed several of the movies and reactions that have taken place over the years.

The next film being shown is on Feb. 27th and it is a film from Saudi Arabia made by a female director (who wasn’t allowed to interact with men). It is about a 10 yr. old girl who wants a bicycle in order to race a male friend. Let him know if you are interested in attending. The cost is \$3.00 (best deal in town) + \$2.00 for parking.

He ended his talk with the following statement ‘We need to embrace paths less travelled that appear before us!’

He answered some questions from the audience. What did you think about the movie ‘Her’? He had mixed feelings. He does try to show well known movies from time to time and he showed Captain Phillips a few weeks ago.

Russ Caple thanked John on behalf of Whitby/Brooklin PROBUS and a small honorarium was presented to him. Russ attends Cinechats and mentioned that it is nice to chat about the films after they’re over and hear everyone’s opinion. The information about Cinechats will be put into the Newsletter

Speaker Series –

March Speaker: Martin Galloway – Spring Gardening Theme

May Speaker: Bobby Baun – Former Hockey Player

50/50 DRAW: by Speaker John Arkelian and the winner of \$35.00 was Linda Stratten.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 26 2014

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

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