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The Men's Probus Club of Lindsay Probus Banner Newsletter

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Mike Catling
President



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Vice - President



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Meeting Highlights :

- President Mike Catling called the meeting to order; followed by a group singing of "O Canada".
- He questioned the group to see who was interested in attending the luncheon after the meeting at the new Symposium Restaurant.
- Mike continued by introducing the morning's guest speaker, Rae Fleming.
- Rae makes the village of Argyle, Ontario, his home. He is a biographer and historian whose published works include two local histories, *Eldon Connections* (1975) and *Argyle, A Pioneer Village* (1976); a biography of a Sir William Mackenzie (*The Railway King of Canada*, 1991); a picture book about Canadians who came out to see King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1939 (*The Royal Tour of Canada*, 2002); and a well illustrated book about Canadian general stores called *General Stores of Canada: Merchants General Stores of Canada: Merchants and Memories*. For the last three decades, Fleming has travelled across Canada and to the UK for reading and speaking engagements to historical societies, Canadian Clubs, conferences, libraries, the Arts & Letters Club of Toronto, Rotary Clubs and so on. He has also been interviewed countless times on radio and television re his books.
- Rae's presentation concerned the railroads systems that served Lindsay and surrounding areas and here is a brief summary or outline of it :
 - He started his presentation by showing a short video called, "Last Winter Train Ride - 1959" which started at the station in Lindsay and ended in Gelert;
 - stating that Lindsay was the division point for 5 different railway lines;
 - Rae went on and presented information concerning all the Canadian railways;
 - today the remaining major railways are the CNR and the CPR;
 - CPR was the first big one, and there were a number of small railway lines which were combined under the CNR title in 1917 by the federal government;
 - the railway system made Lindsay a very prosperous city by creating many businesses and employment opportunities;
 - displayed an old map of Victoria County which illustrated all the existing rail lines at that time;
 - displayed a blueprint drawing of a railway station that was constructed in the little stop at Manilla;
 - the Lindsay train station was the brain, and the control centre of a giant spider, whose legs spread out in all directions;
 - talked about the CPR Eldon station that was located just north of Argyle;
 - the railroad Royal Tour that passed through the town of Beaverton in 1939;
 - talked about the late 1850s; the Port Hope, Lindsay, Beaverton, Midland Railway to water at Georgian Bay;
 - Bobcaygeon line via Lindsay/Pontypool opened in 1904, a later part of the CPR;
 - not every line came to Lindsay. The Toronto/Nipissing and the Toronto to Cobocok lines, via important places like Argyle and connected to Lindsay via the Port Hope system at Lorneville;
 - explained the procedure how private land was purchased at the time of all the railway construction and how there was very few regulations in place to protect the land owners;
 - Rae told a story that took place in 1928 about a local artist who lived in Haliburton at the time, invited a fellow female artist from Toronto to visit him and spend Christmas holidays painting local landscapes. The humorous tale or story followed her journey travelling the existing railway systems from Toronto through to the Haliburton station.

Health and Welfare

Please notify
RON MORGAN

(705) 324 - 2318

**if you have knowledge of a member
that is experiencing health issues
at any time....**

Next Guest Speaker

TUESDAY, August 09th



JOHN CLARKE
CSCP, CPIM
Distribution Manager
Crayola Canada



President Mike (L) and Club Member Hector McNeill (R) thanking Rae Fleming for his informative and interesting presentation.



President Mike (L) and club member Ron Baldwin (M) officially welcoming new member Wayne Alldred into our Club .



President Mike (L) and club member Don Rutherford (far R) officially welcoming new member Michael Todoroff into our Club .

Any corrections, comments or additions regarding this banner can be forwarded to the attention of the editor at :

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- Rae concluded his presentation by informing the membership if they wished to see a very interesting display of the old railway systems/lines, to visit the Settler's Village location in Bobcaygeon.

- Mike called upon club member Hector McNeill to come forward to thank Rae on behalf of the Club members, for his very informative presentation.
- Next President Mike called upon Ted Abbot to talk about the up-coming Probus Club 4th Annual Fall Social.
- Following a short break, Mike proceeded with the "Club Business" part of the meeting.
- Mike called upon Ron Morgan, Health and Welfare, to talk about any health issues concerning our membership at the present time.
- Ron informed the membership that he had to pass on some sad news concerning one of our members. He told them George Sweetnam had passed away that morning and talked a little about George's personal and professional history in our area. He also informed the membership that club member Don Holbrook was scheduled to undergo a medical procedure and would pass on additional information when available.
- Mike continued by calling upon Program Director Richard Graham to come forward and talk about some of their committee's agenda items.
- Richard informed the membership that all the guest speakers for the rest of 2016 are confirmed and slotted into their particular time frame. He continued by stating there is a need to take a look at group tours for our club in the future. He continued on this subject by stressing, that due to the lack of interest from the majority of our membership, arranging these trips was very difficult in the past.
- Mike informed the group no Management Committee meeting was held in July, therefore he had nothing to pass on.
- Mike informed the membership that there were two members to be inducted into our club and called upon their sponsors to come forward and introduce these individuals :
 - Ron Baldwin introduced Wayne Alldred;
 - Don Rutherford introduced Michael Todoroff.
- After their introduction, President Mike officially welcomed these two new members into our club and will present them with the Probus Club's blue binder and pin at the August meeting.
- Before adjourning the meeting and the members making their way to the Symposium Restaurant for the luncheon, Mike read a little humorous story regarding a very bad luck tale.

(G1b / July / 2016)