



Chapter # 185
Charter Date
February 23, 2007

The Men's Probud Club of Lindsay

Probud Banner Newsletter

EDITION 113

November 2017



Bert
Blackwood
President



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Vice-President



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Membership



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Program



Bob Barkwell
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Ron Morgan
Health &
Welfare



Dennis Eaton
Communications

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 Meeting

Tuesday December 5



Christmas Luncheon

Lindsay Golf and Country Club

Meeting Highlights

Opening and Announcements:

President Bert Blackwood called the meeting to order and asked the members to stand for the singing of O Canada. Bert surveyed the members about their attendance at the Swiss Chalet Restaurant for the optional lunch. He called upon Mike Catling to introduce our guest speaker, Ted Barris.

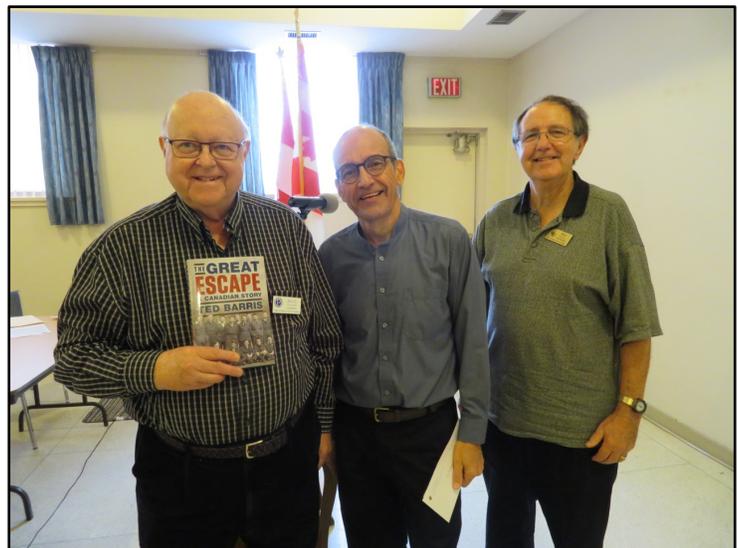
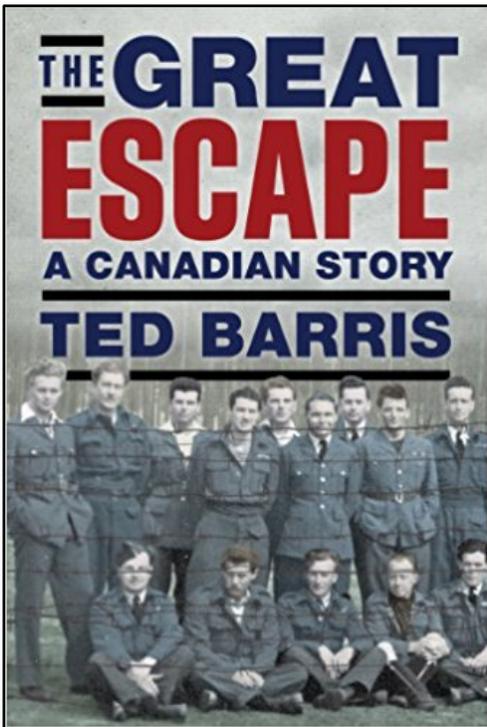
Ted Barris is an award-winning journalist, author and broadcaster for more than 40 years. His writing regularly appears in the national press and numerous magazines. He has also been the host of several CBC radio programs and a TV Ontario host. He is a full time professor of journalism at Centennial College in Toronto. He is the author of 18 best-selling books. In 2014, his book *The Great Escape: A Canadian Story* won the Non-Friction Book of the Year Award. Ted Barris is also the recipient of Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee Award, among other awards.

Guest Speakers: Ted Barris



Ted began his presentation by recognizing the veterans in our club. He noted that without the memories of living veterans, he would have nothing to write about.

Regarding the movie, *The Great Escape*, he apologized to any Americans in the audience, explaining that the movie falsely portrayed Americans as the heroes. In reality, Americans did not play a role in the Great Escape. The story is totally about the exploits of Canadian airmen. The prisoners in Stalag Luft III were all airmen who were repeat offenders. They had all attempted to escape in other camps from across Europe. The German military decided to put all these airmen in a camp that was considered impossible to escape from. At its peak, there were 5000 prisoners in Stalag Luft. Because the prisoners were all officers, they were not expected to work during the day. They had lots of time to plan their escape. The prison camp was considered escape proof because of 3 features. The barracks were positioned on stilts so that so-called ferret guards could monitor beneath the barracks. Listening devices had been inserted into the ground to detect digging. Lastly, there were two 10 foot fences surrounding the camp.



Bruce Faulkner (L) and Mike Catling (R) thank Ted Barris (C) for his presentation.

On March 25, 1944, 80 Canadian officers escaped over a period of 7 hours. Unfortunately, all but 3 were captured. 50 were executed. Only 3 managed to escape to Britain.

Following a brief break, Ted Abbot introduced his guest, Bruce Glass. Ron Wallace introduced his guest, Jim Bartlett. President Bert Blackwood reported that he and Bob Doran presented a wreath at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day. Ted Abbot mentioned that Max Radiff expressed his disappointment that the Park Proposal was not able to be supported by the club due to the concerns raised at the last meeting. Bert recognized the efforts of Bruce Faulkner and Bob Doran in setting up the Probus Club in Fenelon Falls. The Fenelon Falls executive will be attending our regular meeting in January. It was announced that Probus Canada will be selling licence plate frames for \$3.00. Bert asked for a show of hands of how many people would be interested in purchasing the frames. Bert also announced that Bruce Faulkner, Dom Fox and Nama Tummon (Clarke Tummon's mother) were recipients of the Canada 150 award this month for their contributions to the community. The Christmas Luncheon is scheduled for December 5 with about 70 people attending. Tickets are \$39.00 each and are available until November 25. Entertainment will be provided by two musicians.



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

denniseaton@xplornet.com

