



Chapter # 185
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The Men's Probus Club of Lindsay Probus Banner Newsletter

EDITION 41

AUGUST, 2011

Management Committee



Stewart Kell
President and
Program Chair



Bruce Faulkner
Past President and
Director, Special Projects



Max Radiff
Vice President



Ron Chartrand
Club Treasurer



Jim Torrie
Club Secretary



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Director, Club Services



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Director, Membership



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Health and Welfare
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Health and Welfare

Tom Crowe and Gord Sloan were both in attendance at our meeting and were genuinely welcomed back after their lengthy absences due to health issues.



Next Month's Guest Speaker

Next month's guest speaker will be John Bennett, who presently is on the Board of Directors of the Academy Theatre. His presentation will pertain to the history of this well known entertainment facility in the City of the Kawartha Lakes.

Meeting Highlights :

- President Stewart called the meeting to order (10:30am).
- The meeting started with the singing of our National Anthem – O'Canada.
- Next Milt Battersby informed the group that he was happy to announce that he had no health issues to report to the membership at that time.
- President Stewart called upon three of our club members to introduce their guests who were in attendance :
 - Stan Hill introduced Bruce Taylor;
 - Ron Baldwin introduced Vince Duke;
 - Ted Howes introduced George McCubin.
- President Stewart directed everyone's attention to a new lectern. He stated the new lectern was crafted and donated to the club by member Reid Watson and the Probus logo attached to this unit was created by member Jim Buchanan. He also informed the group that Reid Watson had also created and crafted the Past Presidents Shield displayed at the front of hall during each meeting.
- Next a head count was taken of those who wished to attend the luncheon at The Cat and Fiddle Restaurant after the meeting.
- Next President Stewart stated that he was pleased to announce yet another first for our club. At today's meeting, we would be addressed by not one but two guest speakers regarding the Wilson Estate Foundation. The first speaker would be one of our members Bob Puffer and next his co-presenter Scott McLeod. President Stewart presented a brief background history of the speakers.
- A brief outline of Bob's presentation :
 - George Henry Wilson was the father of Leroy Percival ;
 - his background history always involved the paper industry right from his early years through-out different parts of the country;
 - eventually he purchased the Lindsay Post in the year 1893;
 - he was a quiet, polite, private and quite a very strong religious man involved in the United Church;
 - strong supporter of the Liberal government;
 - died in the year of 1938;
 - that same year after his death, his son Leroy (Roy) took over from his dad as manager of the Lindsay Daily Post newspaper and the associate church envelope printing business;
 - Roy was a bit of a mechanical genius and held or controlled many complex/elaborate patents pertaining to the printing industry (equipment, systems, etc.) over the years;
 - he carried on printing the daily newspaper utilizing the same format that his dad had been using for over 40 years;
 - later on, he decided that he no longer wanted to be so involved in the everyday operation of the newspaper and envelope business; so he decided to split the two operations. After this transaction was finalized, he appointed a management committee to over-see the operations on his behalf.
 - this change in structure, allowed him more time for his hobby which was boating and his pride and joy, his wooden crated boat which he named the "Skylark".



Past President Bruce Faulkner (far right) thanking co-guest speakers Bob Puffer and Scott McLeod (centre) and presenting them with a Probus stein.



Picture image of the new lectern that was hand crafted and donated to the club by two of our own members.

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Reid Watson hand crafted the wooden lectern and the attached Probus logo was created by **Jim Buchanan**.

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

Just a reminder that next meeting will be held at the Masonic Hall, but a back stage tour will take place at the Academy Theatre sometime during the meeting time frame.

JUST A LITTLE REMINDER

We have golf caps and golf shirts for sale and members can get them by contacting the Club Treasurer, Ron Chartrand.

- o He died on March 04, 1981 and left the bulk of his large estate to the citizens of the Town of Lindsay. He stated that an estate foundation was to be created and utilized for the creation of park lands and recreation facilities within its boundaries/limits.
 - o The original value of this estate was valued at approximately three million dollars;
 - o During the early stages of forming the Wilson Estate Foundation, a lot of problems were occurring regarding the unusual terms of his will and the inherent problems in settling the estate. To help eliminate this state of affairs, a decision was made to name the Victoria and Grey Trust (presently the Bank of Nova Scotia) as the executor of this estate.
 - o In June, 1999, the Town Council of Lindsay named three trustees to help manage or control the functions of this fund on their behalf:
 - National Trust;
 - Bob Puffer;
 - Scott McLeod.
 - o Estate funding of \$100,000 was to be allotted for the purchase of land adjacent to the Scugog River within the town limits, create a park area development and name it in memory of his wife "Rivera" (presently located south-east section of Lindsay on the river).
 - o He also gave direction that a large boat was to be purchased and a river passenger service was to be put into place. Funding amounting to \$100,000 was to be set aside for this feat and a 56 passenger boat, which was given the name of Skylard "8", was purchased in 1985 and put into service shortly thereafter.
- A brief outline of Scott's presentation :
 - o The Wilson Estate Foundation was set-up as specific Trust Beneficiary Document (no named beneficiaries);
 - o fund is set-up in such a way that money should never totally be depreciate and be made available for many more years to come;
 - o the fund was set-up to help cover the cost of recreational projects, both new and old (maintenance, appearance, etc.) that the town of Lindsay's could not afford to cover through its' financial budgets at any given time;
 - o Roy's original will was drafted by John Walden;
 - o John arranged to have the estate established as Registered Charitable Trust Fund;
 - o an advisory committee was always to be appointed and put in place to help deal with funding requests issued to foundation;
 - o today's estimated value of this estate is 7 million dollars;
 - o direction and allotted funding for major projects in the future :
 - o main focus on the existing park lands and their overall appearance and up-keep;
 - o Mill Park - \$500,000 dedicated for revamping existing area;
 - o a sum of \$70,000 is dedicated every year for maintenance and up-keep at all the parks that were established using funding through the Wilson Estate Foundation over the years.
 - Upon completion of their presentations, they were thanked by past president Bruce Faulkner on behalf of the membership and were presented with a Probus crystal stein.
 - Next order of business, a discussion was conducted by Vice President Max referring to the handout material (that was provided to the group before the meeting) regarding the up-coming Christmas Party for 2011 (location, menu, costs).
 - President Stewart adjourned the meeting as the last order of business and then a large number of members ventured to Cat and Fiddle for an enjoyable luncheon.

Any corrections, comments or additions regarding this banner can be forwarded to the attention of the editor at : gerald.brown@plornet.com