



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

EDITION 68

NOVEMBER, 2013

## Meeting Highlights :

- President Ted Abbot 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 St. Dave's Diner and BBQ which is located on Highway #36 (16 attended).
- Then he informed the membership that on November 11<sup>th</sup>, along with Past President Max Radiff, he laid a wreath on behalf of our Club during the Remembrance Day Service at the Cenotaph.
- Next Ted read an article, which he considered was a topic of timeless quality, that was published many years ago in an edition of the Sunday Telegraph of London, England. This particular reporter's article was written about how the Canadian identity or recognition has been over-looked or not well documented in regards to our involvement in many armed conflicts over the span of many years.
- Ted called upon member Bill Coe to come forward and introduce our guest speaker Martin Pick :
  - his father and mother, Otto and Marie Pick, immigrated to Canada from Czechoslovakia (Bohemia) in 1938. They both came from agricultural backgrounds and initially farmed in southern Ontario. After the war, Otto briefly represented a fledgling seed enterprise and in 1947, established Otto Pick, Agricultural Service, which became the initial legal entity within the PICKSEED Companies Group (the "Group"). This business focused on direct sales of improved forage crop seeds, along with the delivery of the appropriate agronomic technology to Ontario livestock producers.
  - after completing his Grade 13 at Richmond Hill High School, Martin joined his father's company, Otto Pick Agricultural Service Limited on August 01<sup>st</sup>, 1958;
  - after the death of his father in 1959, with the aid of his mother and brother, Tom, he assumed direction of the company in March of 1959;
  - he married his wife, Denise Ouellet, in 1965 and they raised two sons, Charles and George;
  - this private owned operation or business was recognized as a leader in the development, producer and distributor of turf grass and forage crop seed worldwide;
  - recognized as one of the top turfgrass and forage crop seed companies in the world;
  - seven processing/warehouse locations in Canada; two in the US; employing approximately 150 employees.
  - **Two legal entities: Pickseed Canada and Pickseed USA**
    - **Pickseed Canada** distributes a variety of forage crop seed for the Canadian and international markets, as well as professional and consumer turfgrass seed and hybrid corn for the Canadian market
    - **Pickseed USA** develops professional turfgrass varieties and services regional distributors in the North American and International professional turfgrass seed markets
  - The "Pickseed" brand is well recognized in the global turfgrass and forage crop seed markets, along with other brand names "Mapleseed", "Turf One" and "Royal".



Ted Abbot  
President



Bruce Taylor  
Vice - President



Wayne Brumwell  
Treasurer



Don Holbrook  
Secretary



Stan Hill  
Director, Membership



Sal Polito  
Director, Programs



Bob Barkwell  
Director,  
Club Services



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## MEETING NOTICE

THERE WILL BE  
**"NO" MEETING IN  
DECEMBER**  
DUE TO OUR ANNUAL  
CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AT  
LAKEVIEW ARTS BARN  
ON  
**TUESDAY,  
DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**





Past President Max thanking Martin Pick (L) for his presentation.



Club member Rodger Smith welcoming transfer member Wilson Stoddard (R) into of our club.



Membership Director, Stan Hill (L) and club member Ted Howes (M) officially welcoming new member Dick Corner (R) into of our club.



Membership Director, Stan Hill (L) and club member Irwin Brown (R) officially welcoming new member Hector McNeill (M) into of our club.

Any corrections, comments or additions regarding this banner can be forwarded to the attention of the editor at : [gerald.brown@xplornet.com](mailto:gerald.brown@xplornet.com)

- o The Group's headquarters was moved to Lindsay, Ontario in 1993.
- o A list of a few of the companies that was purchased and become a part of this mass organization over the years :
  - o Agribiotech Canada Ltd.,nited Grain Growers in Dawson Creek, British Columbia, Seed Research of Oregon (with facilities in Corvallis, Oregon) from Land O'Lakes, Inc., alliance with Evergro Inc. in British Columbia and acquired FarmPure Seeds (with facilities in Nipawin, Saskatchewan). FarmPure was the successor entity to SW Seeds and Newfield Seeds.
  - o Pickseed has one of most extensive private forage testing program in Canada and conducts replicated trials at the following locations:
    - Ontario – Lindsay, Port Hope and Woodstock
    - Quebec – St. Hyacinthe, La Visitation, Richmond
    - Western – Portage La Prairie Manitoba, Taber Alberta, Josephburg, Alberta
  - o List of facilities of Pickseed Canada and USA :
    - Lindsay, Ontario, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Nipawin, Saskatchewan, Sherwood Park, Alberta, Dawson Creek, and Abbotsford, British Columbia, and St. Hyacinthe, Quebec;
    - Tangent and Corvallis, Oregon, USA.
  - o Conducts International sales and licensing activity to Europe, Asia (China, Japan), Australia and South America
- Past President Max Radiff thanked Martin for his presentation and presented him with an honorarium.
- Next Ted informed the group that there are two members leaving our club due to movement away from our area, Jack Chessman (to London, Ontario) and Bob Demcoe (to Athabasca, Alberta). He also stated that we had a transfer membership, Wilson Stoddard, from one of our other Probus charter/branch,
- Ted then called upon Membership Director, Stan Hill, to come forward and carry out the induction process of the three new members into our group.
- Stan informed the group, that before he started his first function as Membership Director, he wanted to thank Rodger Smith, on behalf of the membership, for his years of service acting as the Director of Membership.
- Next Stan asked the three new members and their sponsors to come forward for their induction and to receive their official name badges, blue folders and Probus pins which would be presented by President Ted :
  - Ray Smith (sponsor Don Rutherford), Hector McNeil (sponsor Irwin Brown) and Dick Corner (sponsor Ted Homes).
- Ted informed the group that the Management Committee did not hold a meeting in November; therefore there were no items of interest to report at that time.
- Next he discussed the up-coming Christmas luncheon and show at the Lakeview Arts Barn :
  - o **Christmas Luncheon date Is TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> ;**
  - o cost per person is \$60.00;
  - o tickets sales will be open to any quests after today's meeting;
  - o **only** one bus will be made available to the **first 44 people** who wish a ride to Lakeview Arts Barn (loading at the Masonic Hall);
  - o name of the panto being presented after the luncheon is called "Mother Goose".
- Ted informed the group of a new opening of a Habitat For Humanity store that is located on Mary Street, right next to the Vicky's Values outlet location.
- Next he called upon Ron Morgan, Health and Welfare, to come forward and informed the membership regarding any health and welfare issues concerning membership at the present time. Ron informed the group that Milt Battersby was hospitalized due to a recent car accident but he has been released and now is recuperating at home. He also passed on some sad news regarding the recent death of Ron Richards' brother-in-law,
- President Ted then adjourned meeting and the members attending the luncheon, made their way to the Dave's Diner.

( Glb/November/2013 )



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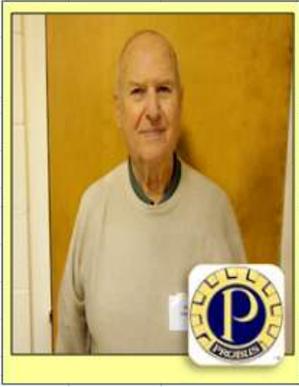
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## **“ WHO AM I MEMBERS OF THE MONTH ”**



My name is : **Richard Corner.**

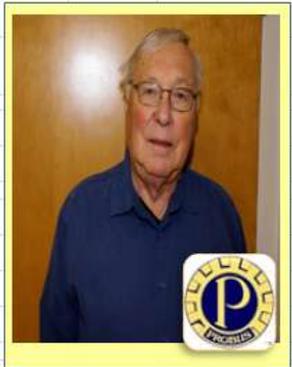
My wife Shirley and I reside at 50 Rivermill Blvd. in Lindsay, Ontario.

We have raised three children and presently have an extended family of eight grandchildren,

I was born in 1933, and grew up and was educated in Sutton, Ontario Region. I entered the working world with Bell Canada and that career extended over 37 years. During that time, I held many supervisory positions as the Tech Industry began its tremendous growth period.

I have been active in community service work over the years in the various locations that my career took me. Newmarket, Barrie and Oshawa Lions Clubs, Oshawa Minor Hockey Association, Oshawa Curling Club and Bayshore Village, Board of Directors to name a few.

In my retirement, I enjoy woodworking, fishing, golf and travel.



My name is : **Hector McNeill.**

My wife Lois and I reside at 53 Broad Street, in Lindsay, Ontario.

As far as my working career, I have been activity involved in the education profession or system of a number of years right up until my retirement.

As for my retirement, I enjoy political sniping, music, just as a listener, being Big Brother school mentor and environmental issues.



My name is : **Wilson Stoddard.**

My wife Vera and I reside at 14 Walker Street in Lindsay, Ontario.

We have raised two children and presently have an extended family of seven grandchildren,

I was born in 1933, and grew up In Saginaw, Michigan in the United States of America.

Over the course of my working career, I have been a farmer, snow plow driver, school bus driver, and custodian for the Simcoe County District School Board.

In the past, I have been member of the Bond Head Lions Club and also the Probud Club of Bradford.