



Chapter # 185

Charter Date  
February 23, 2007

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

EDITION 133

August 2019



John Sale  
President



Sal Polito  
Vice President



Harry Newton  
Secretary



Eric Lansdell  
Treasurer



Ron Wallace  
Program



Bob Whitfield  
Membership



Hans de Visser  
Corp. Services



Ron Morgan  
Health & Welfare



John Saunders  
Communications

## August Meeting

The club held its August meeting on Tuesday 13th. After a 30 minute social time, Club President **John Sale** opened the meeting at 10:30am, with those in attendance singing 'Oh Canada'. John announced that the **optional lunch** following the meeting would be held at the **Neabor's** restaurant.

Members welcomed **guests** – **Mike Green** guest of Jim Buchanan, and **Bill Thompson** guest of Bert Blackwood.

**Health and Welfare** - Ron Morgan informed members that **John Hunter & Rich Graham** are both suffering ill health, and we should remember them both in our thoughts and prayers.

Several items of importance were determined at the recent **Management Committee** meeting - namely :-

- President John and Vice President Sal Polito met with the Masonic Temple Board, our landlords, to discuss future rental charges. The outcome was that our rental will remain as at present for 2020. We were assured that the cleaning of the hall and snow clearance in the car park will be improved going forward.
- We have agreed to adopt a self catering option for pre-meeting refreshments. We felt that we could respond better to members tastes and save money in the process. Under the auspices of our set-up team the coffee and boiling water for tea will be set up in good time. Treats and other consumables will be purchased initially by Hans deVisser, our Corporate Services Director; and in due course a couple of additional members of the set up team will be required. All members will be invited to contribute to this change by providing written observations on this provision to ensure we get it right as we go along.
- As requested by Treasurer Eric, two suitable members were 'voluntold' by Sal that they will be auditing our accounts during the last week of September, prior to our AGM in October.

**"Share the Wealth"** – John Saunders reported that we sold \$164 worth of tickets prior to the meeting.

Continued on page 2...

## Next Meeting

**Tuesday September 10th 2019**

**"Michelle Davis – Medical Cannabis"**

## Health and Welfare

Please notify **Ron Morgan (705) 324-2318**  
If you have knowledge of a member who is  
experiencing health issues at any time.

## August Meeting...continued

Our **guest speaker David Homer** was introduced by Chris Guillard and received a warm welcome from the members.

David started his talk by describing what an Alvar is and why its important as a unique habit for a large variety of plants, insects and birds. He told us about the Couchiching Conservancy and its mission and progress in acquiring land on the Alvar and closed by showing numerous pictures of bird sightings both commonplace and rare throughout the seasons on the Carden Alvar.

*"In an area east of Orillia and northwest of Lindsay, a flat limestone landscape called the Carden Plain harbours rare habitats known as alvars. Alvars occur only on limestone bedrock with little or no soil, where spring floods and summer droughts create harsh conditions. Many of the wildflowers, native grasses and invertebrate species found on alvars normally occur in the western provinces, and many are rare. These habitats are globally imperiled, occurring only in the south of Sweden and scattered around the Great Lakes Basin. Carden Township's alvars are thought to be among the richest in the province, with a great diversity of alvar species.*

*In 1996, The Couchiching Conservancy began a project to identify the locations and extent of these rare habitats. After the alvars were mapped and the vegetation communities and plant species were identified, we shared this information with the landowners and encouraged individuals to ensure long term protection of these unique areas. Today, over 7,500 acres of land containing alvar habitat has been protected on the Carden Plain through productive partnerships between the Nature Conservancy of Canada, The Couchiching Conservancy, Ontario Parks, Ontario Field Ornithologists, Toronto Ornithological Club, the Carden Field Naturalists and hundreds of volunteers and donors."*

David provided brochures for members to learn more about this interesting area and additional information is available on their web site; <http://www.couchichingconserv.ca/>

Our guest speaker then drew the winning ticket for "Share the Wealth" which was purchased by **Jack Fisher** (\$82). The meeting was adjourned at about 11:50am.

## PHOTO's



Guest speaker David Homer delivers an enthusiastic and energetic talk.



Chris Guillard thanks guest speaker David Homer for his informative talk and slide presentation.

## Our Advertisers

**Custom Group Travel**  
 Let us create a customized tour for your group.



**DeNureTours**  
 World of Inspiration  
 1-855-268-6101  
 denuretours.com  
 71 Mount Hope St., Lindsay

**MEAT**  
**◆ NESBITT'S ◆**  
**MARKET**

18 Cambridge St. S.  
 Lindsay, ON K9V 3B6

705-324-7574

**ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS**



**FAMILY DENTISTRY**  
 Dr. Victor Sun & Associates



**4 Russell St. E., Lindsay**  
[www.drVictorsun.com](http://www.drVictorsun.com)  
**705 324-0050**

**LINDSAY EAR CLINIC**  **BOBCAYCEON HEARING SERVICE**

[www.lindsayearclinic.com](http://www.lindsayearclinic.com)

10 - 65 Angeline St. N  
 705-340-5050

90 Bolton St.  
 705-738-1752



Registered Audiologists

- Complimentary Hearing Tests
- Dizziness & Tinnitus Treatment
- Earwax Removal
- Hearing Aid Sales and Services
- All makes and models
- 3 Year Warranty and 90 Day Trials

**CALL TO TRY OUR REAL LIFE ASSESSMENT**  
 100% Canadian Family Owned Clinics

**Meet Linden Mackey**  
 Funeral Director

For all of life's celebrations  
[www.mackeys.ca](http://www.mackeys.ca)  
[www.celebrationslindsay.com](http://www.celebrationslindsay.com)



 Mackey Funeral Home Inc.  
 Celebrations Inc.

Mark V Wilson, P.Eng, President

 **MVW Construction & Engineering Inc.**

245 Kent St West, Lindsay ON K9V 2Z3

Phone: (705) 324-7281 x202  
 Fax: (705) 324-1268  
 Email: [mark.w@mvwconstruction.com](mailto:mark.w@mvwconstruction.com)

Mark V Wilson Builder/Contractor Co. Ltd.

**We hope that Probus club members will give consideration to and support our advertisers should you require any of the services they offer.**

**Featured advertiser next page >>>**

# The Story behind Mackey's Century-long Success.

Linden (Lindy) Mackey's grandfather had a vision, to not only improve and expand his business horizons, but be on the forefront of life celebrations for his friends and neighbours in Lindsay, Ontario.

The founder of Mackey Funeral Home Inc. in 1916, James Mackey believed there needed to be more options for celebrating the life of a deceased person – even to celebrate life and family in more general terms – in a comfortable setting that mixed the traditional needs of a family during a time of grieving, with changing desires for how those occasions should be marked.

It was in 1941 that Lindy's grandfather decided to open a chapel in the funeral home. It was part of a dream that he originally had when he started years ago. He wanted to create a space where people didn't have to go to someone's home, so he created the chapel at the funeral home and had it designated and consecrated at a ceremony in May of 1941.

Lindy has recently done something similar with "Celebrations", acquiring the former Queen Street United Church building, and changing it into this special facility which can accommodate anything and everything regarding life and celebration – weddings, funerals, birthday parties, fashion shows, dinner theatre. Basically, you tell them what you want and they will put it there.

A trio of key factors have contributed to the success and growth of Mackey Funeral Home over the past century.

**Number One** is the extraordinary level of dedication of the staff, and their commitment to serving the approximately 280 families who come through the doors during an average year. There are currently three, full-time Class 1 funeral directors on staff, three administrative staff and three part-time assistant funeral directors.

The staff are very dynamic and energized in what they do. They believe in the philosophy of customer service which is based on the ability to say, 'we can look after that for you,' as opposed to 'oh, I don't think we can do that.' They have staff on call 24 hours a day. They are a very dedicated group of people who are willing to go above and beyond and make sure all aspects and needs are looked after. Linden believes that's what makes Mackey's different from other service providers."

**Number two** is the fact that Mackey's is still a family-owned and operated business, serving essentially their friends, neighbours and colleagues for a 103 years.

**And thirdly**, it's the forward-thinking nature of the Mackey's themselves, from grandfather, through to father, uncles and now to Lindy, whereby they strive to meet the changing needs and desires of families in the 21st century.

## Lindy explains –

"What we did 100 years ago is a light year from what we do today when it comes to tradition. I think people need to know that we can accommodate their needs; and that while we respect the traditional approach, new traditions are whatever people want to make them. People are not selecting visitations much anymore, and we don't have many traditional sombre funerals anymore; it's more of a celebration event where you have videos of family and memorabilia. We have put a canoe and a motorcycle in the visitation room.

We're even discussing an occasion for someone who has not passed away yet to have, for lack of a better term, a wonderful 'going away party.' There is a completely different philosophy towards end of life these days."

"Religion isn't necessarily as significant and there are also varying types of faith groups, varying types of alternative spiritualities and non-spiritual people; and because the region is growing and becoming more diverse, we need to be able to welcome, people and adapt to their family's needs."

## What Sets Us Apart?

"We are proud to embrace traditional values, diversity and innovation in honouring the spirit and life of each person we serve."

- **We offer a full selection of:**
- **Funeral and Memorial Services**, ranging from traditional to uniquely innovative and personal.
- **Burial services and Cremation options.**
- **Celebration of Life Services.**

"Letting go of a loved one is usually a very difficult process. In order to provide your family peace-of-mind, our funeral home offers complete care, so you can focus on comforting each other as you prepare to say goodbye to someone dear to you."

"Although there are many decisions you may have to make, we assure you that we will guide you through the entire process every step of the way."