



Beaver Valley Probus Club

The Grapevine for January 2014

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E-mail address: beavervalleyprobus@beavervalleyprobus.com

Web-Site: www.beavervalleyprobus.com

Current Activities

by Convener Viv Alper

[\(details\)](#)

Book Club Chapter One
Book Club Chapter Too
Book Club Chapter Three
Canasta
Casual Dining
Computer
Cooking Together
Cue Sports
Digital Photography
Dining About Town
Euchre
Euchre 2
Gourmet (not really)
Marsh Street Painters
Scrabble
Singles Gourmet
Ski Legends
Snowshoeing
Stitch & Bitch
Table Tennis
Travel
Wood Carving

Spanish Conversation seems to have died a natural death; should any signs of life become evident again, I will post a notice. Thanks to Ginny Green who started it up and those who kept it going.
Adios Amigos!

"Please be advised that all events and activities of the Beaver Valley Probus Club are organized for the benefit and enjoyment of its Members. Individuals who participate do so at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety".

President's Message

A Happy New Year to everyone. We hope that all of you had a good and "fulfilling" Christmas with family and friends. We are now experiencing one of the best winters on record for snow conditions, which have been providing excellent winter activities. We are fortunate to be living here, even at -20 degrees Celsius!

Many of us will recall that delightful old party song, "Oh me, oh my, wasn't that a Party". Well it certainly applied to our Christmas get together at the Georgian Bay Club on December 10. Thank you very much to our "2 party girls", Stella Zahradnik, Catharine Pepper and their team for providing such an excellent brunch – certainly a highlight of 2013.

Our January speaker is Ryan Mundle, a secondary High School teacher in Collingwood. Some of us have heard his excellent talk on the War of 1812 and the important role that the "Nancy" played in it. We thought his presentation was so unique that we should have him speak to us.

Your nominating committee, made up of Vicki Kellar, Catharine Pepper, and Peter Armstrong are currently preparing a slate of candidates for the 2014 management team, to be nominated at the Feb. AGM. In the meantime, nominations to any elected position can be submitted in writing to the nominating committee no later than Feb. 10. Please check the website for descriptions of the various position responsibilities.

We are looking forward to seeing you on January 28.

Peter Armstrong

Activity Group Update

DINING AROUND TOWN: Our first Dining around Town for 2014 is on January 15 at Sisi's in Thornbury. On February 12 we will be doing a Pub night at Pipers in Thornbury. On March 12 we are planning an evening at the Crystal Buffet in Collingwood. As this event will be around the March break when our members may have family visiting, we are inviting members to bring them along for a Chinese feast.

Co-ordinator for the January and February events is Phyllis Thomas.

Co-ordinator for March is Joan Uglow.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

At the March Activity Fair we welcome any member, who is interested in becoming co-ordinator for this event in October, to talk to Joan and Phyllis

SINGLES GOURMET: The "annual" cocktail party, hosted by Florence Farr, in Thornbury was delightful. Thanks Florence. I myself got caught in a squall and had to return home, but learned that the sun was shining at destination. There sure have been a lot of days this winter when one can't decide whether to get dressed or stay in the PJ's.

Our theme for lunch at 1pm, Sunday 26 January, is ITALIAN. The hosts are Dorothy Russell and Gloria Thompson. This is always exceptionally tasty. Salute!

SKI LEGENDS: Upcoming events:

Dinner Dance at TSC, Thursday, January 23rd, tickets must be purchased at least a week in advance.

Ski Day at Devil's Glen, Wednesday January 29th

Ski Day at Alpine Ski Club, Thursday, February 13th

See you on the slopes

Louise Donegani, Bob Muir, Wilf Phillips

Upcoming Club Events

Come and enjoy **Crazy For You**, the New Gershwin Musical, at the Festival Theatre in Stratford on Wed Oct 8, 2014, 2:00 pm.

Sent to Deadrock, Nevada, to foreclose on a derelict theatre, banker Bobby Child falls for its owner's daughter, Polly Baker. Can he reconcile the demands of duty and love – and his own dreams of dancing. "I Got Rhythm", "Nice Work if You Can Get it", and "Someone to Watch Over Me" are just some of the gems in this dynamic musical's dazzling score.

Ticket cost is \$112.00 which includes theatre, bus and lunch at Anna Mae's in Millbank.

Sign up sheets will be at the back of the room at our January 28th meeting.

Payment by cheque only.

Milestones

I Remember *Submitted by David Morgan*

Watching television programs such as Foyle's War and Wartime Farm I am reminded of my boyhood growing up in a south Hampshire village during the war years. In a way sheltered from the horrors of the Blitz but nevertheless acutely aware of it as the majority of my aunts, uncles and cousins lived in and around London. Except at weekends, when our tiny two bedroom bungalow would accommodate sometimes as many as eight or more additional bodies as they tried to get away from the constant bombing, for at least a short while. I got used to sleeping head to toe with cousins but where everyone else slept I have no idea. Rationing was a reality, not only for food but it seemed for everything. But as a small boy I was not really aware that this was something out of the ordinary. As we had a large garden we kept chickens, rabbits and at times pigs, which when slaughtered in the government abattoir, resulted in us getting only half of the animal back, the other half going to the Government. But most of those years I spent with my buddies exploring the countryside, hunting rabbits, but never catching one, climbing trees and spying on my older sister, her friends and their boyfriends, usually American or Canadian servicemen, who I pestered for chocolate or other treats. I really was a horrid little brother, although it didn't seem to spoil our close friendship in later life.

But the real milestone which marked the end of the war for me, although it had been over for months, was when someone ran past shouting that the local store had ice cream, this was the first time that I had every tasted it and I can still remember how good it tasted. The war in Europe changed the social structure of so many countries and their peoples but the only real difference to my young life was that cousins that I had known were not around anymore, and that my father was home all week, no longer working miles away on airfield or other "essential" construction projects.

Special testing for older drivers?

Some of you have possibly seen a notice that was e-mailed out towards the end of last year stating that the Ontario Ministry of Transportation would be introducing discriminatory restrictions and special testing for older drivers in Ontario, under the false pretension that older drivers constitute a significantly higher risk in traffic. The following is a précis of that notice.

"A charge was laid against the Ministry of Transportation, in November of 2012, under the Ontario Human Rights Act. After six months of intense correspondence, the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal dismissed this complaint, on the grounds that the Ministry and all its Agencies are exempt.

The writer of the e-mail continued his pursuit, by going directly to the Minister of Transportation. After hounding him for a number of weeks, he received an email, admitting that the Ministry did not have the statistical justification to enact the discriminatory legislation against the elderly drivers, but proceeded anyway.

This does not only make this law illegal, but it violates the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, The Human Rights Act, The Criminal Code on Elder Abuse, and the persons right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty.

If you are still feeling comfortable, consider what is coming. The Toronto Star recently featured an article called "Driving With Dementia, The New Impaired Driver". In this article, it states that 28% of drivers over 65 years of age and older, have dementia, and suggests that these people should be given a test, presently being used in Alberta, called the Simard MD Protocol. This test has no credibility with the Academics and Professional Organizations, who have come out, stating that they are surprised that a Government would use a test which is not scientific, unreliable, and sets the seniors up for failure. 20% fail, 20% cannot be determined. This test is paid for by the elderly \$250.00 each time tested, and paid to a private firm.

Rumour has it, that the Ontario Ministry of Transportation will be introducing the Simard test in April of 2014".

I forwarded a copy of the e-mail to our MPP Jim Wilson who responded that he had questioned the Ministry and was assured that Ontario is not planning to implement this testing.

A copy of that response can be viewed by [Clicking here](#)



Our Speaker for January

Ryan Mundle is a teacher at Collingwood Collegiate and Vice-President of the Friends of Nancy Island. His interest in local history during the War of 1812 era was inspired by his summers spent working at Discovery Island and Nancy Island Historic Site. The topic of his power point presentation is the life and times of H.M.S. Nancy, both during the fur trade and, more importantly during the War of 1812. The story of the Nancy is not well known today, but it was very important to the outcome of the war. During his very animated presentation Ryan will wear the Lieutenant Wosley costume and sword. Don't miss this extremely timely entertaining and educational presentation.



TRAVEL: In the past we have had some wonderful times travelling together, exploring new places and cultures. There are 2 trips planned for this year: Croatia/Slovenia in April and a Rhine River Cruise in September. The present co-ordinators are unable to continue in the role. If you are interested in assuming the role, planning future trips alone or with someone to assist you please contact Adrienne Corti - amrcorti@gmail.com Happy travels!



The Quiz this month has an international flavour but you might have an advantage if you read the newspapers. [Click here](#)

At the Christmas lunch the winner for 2013 was Murray Lamont congratulations and thanks to all who submitted during the past year

Support Group

Do you know of a member who needs encouragement to get through a difficult period?

Please do not hesitate to call Eileen Scott who is the contact for January or any one of the Management team.

February's contact is Louise Lamont

Look forward to seeing you at our next meeting
at the Community Centre
January 28th
Starting with Fellowship at 1-1:30

Newspaper Team

Editor

David Morgan

Reporter

Your name here??

Distribution

Barb Thompson

Website Maintenance

Sharon Black

Technical Advisor

Terry Kellar

The Last Word

Submitted by Past President Vicki Kellar

A thought for 2014

A fundamental concern for others in our individual and community lives would go a long way in making the world the better place we so passionately dream of.

*Nelson Mandela
1918-2013*