



The Probus Club of Burlington Lakeshore

Hi-Lites - February 2021

Monday, Feb. 8
10:00 am

ZOOM Meeting

David Chapman
Wild, Wierd and Wacky
Weather

Management **Committee** **2020-2021**

Jim Thurston, President
(905) 319-9352
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President
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Bill Willson, Past-President
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Al Ayre, Secretary
(905) 632-6736
Dave Little, Treasurer
(905) 681-6147
John McArthur, Speakers
(905) 631-7162
Ken Medland, Membership
(905) 818-2902
Dave McKenzie, Hi-Lites
(905) 639-7529
Mike Hill, Special Events
(905) 467-2223
Jim Gilleland, House
(905) 634-6490
John Hughes, Cheer
(905) 333-4910
Ken Medland, Ext. Publicity
(905) 818-2902
Dennis Colameco, Golf
(905) 639-7921
Jim Barnett, Curling
(905) 639-8624

President's Message



Did you ever wonder why Spencer Smith Park on Burlington Lakeshore had a series of bollards next to the shore line? Well, if you had heard our January speaker Commander Robert Williamson (retired), you would have heard about the importance of naval control for Lake Ontario and the sinking of the "U.S.S. Scourge" and "U.S.S. Hamilton". The outcome of the War of 1812-14 hung on a naval battle. Who knew? The Americans, after their retreat from the Battle of Stoney Creek, sent a fleet of 12 ships to attack the British fleet stationed in Toronto (York). If they could immobilize these 5 British ships, then the Americans could control Lake Ontario and be free to support the next land invasion across the Niagara Peninsula from Lewiston, New York. Seeing the larger American fleet bearing down on them, the British fleet set sail for the head of the Lake (Burlington). The American fleet gave chase and cornered the British fleet at the Beach Strip. Expecting a quick victory, the Americans were, however, met with the 5 British ships anchored broadside to the shore. Because the anchor line was run astern, they were able to fire a volley, and then quickly swing around and present the opposite broadside and its fully loaded battery. As a result, they sent the badly damaged American fleet sailing home to Lewiston on the American side. There is a plaque at the Beach Strip commemorating the skirmish entitled "Burlington Races". From that time, WE held the Lake and its valuable supply chain. Next time the British Fleet needs to defend the Lake, instead of anchoring they can use the bollards. Now you know! If you missed the excellent presentation, you can catch it on YouTube. However, the two American ships, "Scourge" and "Hamilton", that sank did not sink because of the battle, but because of the weather. What a great lead-in to our February 8 speaker. David Chapman's topic is "Weather Phenomena". More about him and his topic further on in Hi-Lites.



My heart and arrow are a gentle reminder to all my fellow members that Valentine's Day is right around the corner and with lockdown still with us, it will take some planning so as not to forget your sweetie.

Jim Thurston, President

Guest Speaker – David T. Chapman



David T. Chapman started doing photography at the age of 16. He is self-taught in the art of photography and has been pursuing his career professionally since the age of eighteen. He learned at a very young age from his father to appreciate his environment in the surrounding countryside. He enjoys taking photographs of weather phenomena, especially lightning, as well as scenery and nature. David likes to seek out unusual examples of nature such as albino robins, ice crystal formations and frozen water droplets.

To date he has found multi-petalled Ontario trilliums, the highest of which had 33 petals. David is also a professional speaker and enjoys entertaining and educating a good crowd. His main areas of expertise are Weather/Aurora Borealis, Local Interests and Ontario Scenery, Birds and Wildlife.

John McArthur
Speakers' Committee

ZOOM Meeting

Our February meeting will, again, be via ZOOM. You may be an old ZOOM pro by now after so many months of the pandemic, so you will have no problems joining in. We have had about 50 participants in the past few months so there is room for many more.

I will be our meeting host and will email you the link for the ZOOM meeting on Sunday, February 7, so that it will be reasonably fresh in your inbox.

If you do not have the computing power, you can still call into the meeting by phone - I'll provide the number in the email I send the day before the meeting.



Come Early and Visit

We will try something new for the February meeting. When you join the meeting, you will be assigned to a small breakout room of 6-8 fellow members. Enjoy some fellowship time in a small group before the meeting starts. The rooms will be open for you beginning at 9:30 am, so come early.

Our ZOOM meetings will be recorded and posted to our private YouTube channel. Recordings will be available for one month for the convenience of members who may have missed the live virtual meeting. To view the January meeting featuring Cdr. Robert Williams click on the following link:

<https://youtu.be/ujhufG6zoBg>

Should the link not connect properly, copy and paste the link into your browser.

Dave McKenzie, Hi-Lites Editor

Membership

The draw was held at our January meeting to declare the winner of the 20 in 20 Membership contest. Congratulations to John McArther - our 20 in 20 winner.



Now - introducing our newest promotion for 2021!

Following the success of our recent membership contest, we are introducing our newest contest for 2021!!



Entitled "TWO NEW", the contest enables all existing members to nominate a friend, family member or acquaintance to join the best men's club in Burlington!

Our goal is TWO NEW members each month with an opportunity to win for all participants.

What do I win? The contest will run until the end of December and for each new member submitted, we will add TWO chances for the nominating member and ONE opportunity for the new member. We feel strongly that the nominating member is the key to success of the drive and this increases his odds of winning!

The winner will receive a \$150 gift card for the establishment of his choosing, giving him the opportunity to dine and support our fine local establishments.

NEWS FLASH - we have received our first two entries!!

Ken Medland
Membership Chair
mederman@cogeco.ca

Events Committee

The Events Committee has no events scheduled due to the province wide lockdown. A notice regarding on-line card playing was sent out, with Mike Cioici offering to set up a Probus league. If you are interested, please drop Mike an email at mcioci@hotmail.com



Mike Hill

Events Committee

Activities

Computer Interest Group



The next meeting will be via Zoom **on February 25** at 10 am. If you would like to join in on this virtual experience, please send an email to Robert Lalonde and he will be sure to include you in the Zoom Meeting invitation.

You can reach Robert at: robert.lalonde@me.com

Cheer Committee

The Cheer Committee will contact or visit members or spouses who are ill. In the event of bereavement, a card of condolence will be sent to the family and, for a member, a memorial donation made to a charity of their choice. No mention of the situation will be made in the newsletter in order to maintain privacy.

Please inform John Hughes, if you are aware of anyone who has an illness or bereavement, for appropriate action:

John Hughes - (905) 333-4910
johnhiltonhughes@gmail.com

John Hughes, Cheer Committee



Next Month's Meeting

Monday, March 8, 2021

Speaker: **Dr. Paul Evans**

Topic: **Rise of China and World Order**

♥ Happy Valentines Day ♥