



The Probus Club of Burlington Lakeshore

Hi-Lites - August 2022

Mon., August 8
10:00 am

At the AGB

James Stewart
Canada's Prime Ministers
behind the Scenes

Management Committee 2021-2022

Malcolm Ramsay, President
(905) 681-8109
Jim Thurston, Past-President
(905) 319-9352
Ken Medland, 1st Vice Pres.
(905) 818-2902
John McArthur, 2nd Vice Pres.
(905) 631-7162
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

Malcolm Ramsay's Presidential Message

What an extraordinary story we listened to on July 7th as John Boyko shared with us material from his book "The Devil's Trick: How Canada fought the Vietnam War". We all lived through that era, and I venture to say that other than the stories about draft dodgers arriving in Canada most of us were unaware of any involvement by our Government in that conflict.

Through the lens of six remarkable people, some well-known, others obscure, John Boyko recounted Canada's often-overlooked involvement in that conflict as peacemaker, combatant, and provider of weapons and sanctuary. To name just two, Brigadier General Sherwood Lett arrived in Vietnam over a decade before American troops, he and the Canadians under his command risked their lives trying to enforce an unstable peace while questioning whether they were merely handmaidens to a new war. As American battleships steamed across the Pacific, Canadian diplomat Blair Seaborn was meeting secretly in Hanoi with North Vietnam's prime minister; if American leaders accepted his roadmap to peace, those ships could be turned around before war began.

I recommend his book *The Devil's Trick: How Canada Fought the Vietnam War*. published by Knopf Penguin Random House in Canada and available in your favourite bookstore. You might also be interested in visiting his web site, <https://johnboyko.com/>

Thanks to the efforts of Ken Medland and his "merry men", we welcomed five new members this month. Murray Devine, John McKechnie and Dan Lawrie were introduced at the July 7th meeting, and we enjoyed hearing from each of them. Bryan Clarke and Bob Elliot will make their debut on August 8th. We continue to challenge everyone to bring a guest, those invitations invariably result in the guest becoming a member.

We continue to reach two thirds of our membership each month through the AGB, Zoom and You Tube. The challenge is to increase that level of participation. That will help us secure renewals in November and provide a solid membership base going forward. We look forward to seeing as many in person that are able, and we will continue to serve the absentees through the other media.

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Hi-Lites - August 2022

... Malcolm Continued

At our August meeting we will be recognizing 24 gentlemen who have been members for at least 20 years and four who were founding members of our club, including Ed Taylor our inaugural President. We have invited Brenda Andrews, President of Probus Canada to attend our meeting and make the presentation to our long serving members. Ken Medland has put in considerable work on this initiative, so please come out, add your congratulations and “meet the boss!”

Dave Little, our Treasurer, and the Management Committee have begun the forecasting process which will culminate on October 17th at the Annual General Meeting when we adopt a budget for the 2022/23 fiscal year. Membership is a key component in this process as we move into the “post Covid” era. We will be facing increased cost next year for our meeting space and will be challenged to present a fair, and hopefully balanced budget. I have great faith in our team to achieve this.

Mike Hill with the assistance of Bob Miller has organized a tour of the former Power Station at Niagara Falls on September 15th. This facility is recently opened to the public and has been extensively advertised. The initial tour was sold out, however, as there appears to be significant interest from our members, Bob and Mike are looking into the possibility of a second group. Stay tuned for further information. The Event Committee continue to sell tickets for the September 8th production of Damn Yankees, and they are working on a car rally for October. Our thanks to them for their hard work. October is Probus month. Mike Hill and Ken Medland have arranged for a special flag raising at City Hall which will help to raise the awareness of Probus in our community.

The nominating Committee under the leadership of Jim Thurston is nearing completion of its work and will be presenting a slate of candidates to join the Management Committee on September 12th. Further nominations from the membership are welcomed and the final slate will be presented for approval at the AGM on October 17th.

So, with all the foregoing news you can see the Management Committee continues working like a “well-oiled machine” to produce the best possible experience for our members. I look forward to seeing you on August 8th when our guest speaker JDM Stewart, will regale us with “Behind the Scenes Stories of Canada’s Prime Ministers.

This from our District 3 Director, Bill Willson: PROBUS CANADA has started a search for a new General Manager. I have attached the position description and advertisement. If you know of any of your members who would be interested in this position, please pass this along to them and encourage them to apply. Click here to see the position description [POSITION](#)

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Guest Speaker - James Stewart



James Stewart has been a Canadian history teacher for 28 years and has written in newspapers across Canada for most of that time. He is the author of the 2018 book *Being Prime Minister* which was listed as one of the top 100 books of the year by The Hill Times newspaper the year the book was published.

James is a recipient of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for his contribution to history in Canada. He lives in Toronto and continues to comment on issues of historical importance on various media platforms.

Danny Kraftcheck
Speakers' Committee

Events Committee

Damn Yankees - Thursday, September 8 2022 at 2:00 pm. Price \$82.00 each Tickets are still on sale for Damn Yankees. You can order tickets at the meeting on August 8th or contact Mike Hill at 905-467-2223 or mhill2@cogeco.ca.

Power House Tour - We have over 20 registered for this event so it will go on as planned on Thursday, September 15th. We have a waiting list and are attempting to get another group together. If you want to attend, register and pay before or at our August 8th meeting. Tickets are \$41.00 per person. Register at the Events Table at our August meeting, or send e-mail to Bob Miller at rmiller@cogeco.ca

Probus Month Flag Raising – Put Oct 3rd at 9:30 am in your calendar to attend the raising of our Probus flag at City Hall. Invitations to the other Burlington clubs went out the first week of June and response has been very positive.

Holiday Lunch – Planning for this year's special lunch has begun and details will be released as our plans progress.

Mike Hill, Events Committee

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Membership

We want to express our sincere Thanks for a solid 3 years of supporting our great club by continuing to bring new members to Probus Burlington Lakeshore!

You've made it very easy to be part of your Management Team, by introducing amazing new members to Probus.

You have been doing it so well, that we are introducing a new theme....." **Be a Friend, Bring a Friend!**", It's easy, ask a friend to join, send us his contact information and we will complete all the details. On that note, we would like to welcome our newest members, **Bryan Clarke, Bob Elliot, Dan Lawrie, John McKechnie, and Murray Irvine**. Please be sure to find them at the August meeting and say Hello and Welcome!!

New members are always welcome, but we wouldn't have survived and thrived without the support of some very special members. Following our August meeting, we intend to honour and recognize 3 of our FOUNGING MEMBERS and Twenty of our 20-year members! We encourage all to stay and acknowledge this group of VERY special "pioneers"...Thanks from all of us at Probus Lakeshore!

Ken Medland,
Membership Chair
kenmed1620@gmail.com



Notes from the House

COVID continues to hang around. It would appear it will be with us for the foreseeable future in its various iterations. While mask mandates have been eliminated in most public settings, your Management Committee continues to encourage members to wear a mask while attending our in person meetings. If you can't make it to the meetings, you can attend via Zoom. Watch for an invitation to join us.

A big thank you to our greeters at the July meeting, Guido Steinnagel and Grant Baxter. Thanks as well to Jim Dyer for selling the 50/50 tickets. I would encourage our newer members to get involved. One of the easiest ways is to help out at our meetings as a greeter or 50/50 ticket salesman. It's a great way to meet other members and it only takes 30 minutes of your time. Once the meeting has started, your job is finished. You can sit down and enjoy the meeting. Please consider helping us out. Contact me and I'll get you set up.

Jim Gilleland
House Committee Chair
jgilleland@cogeco.ca

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More Golf.....

We are planning to have a 2022 Fall Golf Tournament for members of the Burlington Lakeshore Probus Club.

We have contacted several local courses and found that they are very busy and as a result also a bit pricey. So, we have looked further afield and decided to hold our tournament at Rockway Vineyards Golf Club on the west side of St Catharines. It is a nice course, surrounded by vineyards and great scenery. We have booked a block of mid-day tee times, starting at 11:30 AM on Wednesday, September 21st to accommodate 32 golfers. The cost of green fees with a cart will be \$55.00 each, payable at check-in at the course. Rockway Vineyards GC is at 3290 Ninth St in St Catharines, and you exit the QEW at Seventh St to reach the course. It is about 50 minutes from Burlington.

At our August 8th meeting, Bill O'Brien will be taking sign-ups for this tournament. You may sign up individually but if you wish to golf with other members, we will endeavour to accommodate these requests. We only have 32 spots reserved so it will be a first come, first served arrangement. Also, since the spots are limited, we ask that all golfers signing up honour that commitment. If you do sign up and later have a conflict, we ask that you notify Bill as soon as possible so that the spot can be filled. He can be contacted by e-mail at nancybill60@gmail.com.

Bill O'Brien for the Golf Committee
Cell phone 905 577 7846

Cheer Committee

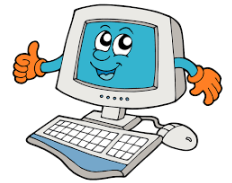
The Cheer Committee will contact or visit members or spouses who are ill. In the event of bereavement, a card of condolence will be sent to the family, and for a member, a memorial donation will be made to a charity of their choice.

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

Computer Interest Group



We are in summer hiatus,
returning in September

We are a joint, Burlington and Lakeshore Probus Club group, who get together to discuss current developments in the computer fields and help solve each other's computer related issues. We meet the fourth Thursday of the month at 10 am. The cost is free until we go to live meetings. If you would like to join us, please email Bob Dickison at rgdickison@gmail.com and he will add you to our email list.

Next Month's Regular Meeting

Monday, September 12, 2022

Speaker: Tim Speed

Topic: Battle of Britain