



PROBUS Club of Cambridge Newsletter

September 5, 2023

The weather on the day of our August monthly meeting reminded us that fall would soon be with us. The attendance was 73 including a guest of Norm Steele as well as some special guests.

Two new members, Tim Chelli and Dan Costello were inducted.

Special guests at the meeting included Councilor Corey Kimpson (representing the city of Cambridge), Martin Capper (representing PROBUS Canada) and Sibylle Jasin who accompanied the man of the day, John Neu who celebrated his 100th birthday earlier in August. Certificates recognizing this special milestone were presented to John and a cake that was shared with everyone.



Miles Lauzon reported on the golf tournament where heavy rain prevented golfing. The positives from the day were the treatment of the participants by the course, the fact that all the participants returned for the dinner and fellowship and that five people were participating for the first time in the tournament.

Norm Steele reported that the initial 20 spots for the War Plane Museum outing had been filled, but Norm has wrangled 10 more, so registration has resumed until our additional block is filled up.

Norm is also organizing the Whiskey Tasting Event. To encourage early sign-ups Norm is offering a book prize. To earn a ballot in the draw for the book you need to register before September 15.

Peter Hunton promoted the latest upcoming production by the Cambridge Community Players, Jenny's Place.

In preparing the members for the annual meeting in September, Ron Woynarski introduced the proposed slate of members who will comprise the new Management Committee.

Following the break, as has been the custom in recent years, we enjoyed 3 vignettes. Ross Earnshaw led off, followed by John Edgar and Rick Thomas. All approached their talks in different styles, but all 3 were interesting and entertaining, and done in a timely fashion.

September 27th the general meeting will include our annual meeting as well a guest speaker, Dr. Asa Ahimbisibwe. There are no vignettes next month due to the time needed for the annual meeting.

I hope all of you enjoy the next month.

. . . Bob Howison, President

Feel free to forward this newsletter to a friend who may be a prospective future member. Consider also providing your friend's email address to Bob McBlain, our Membership Chair, for further follow-up.

Recording of August 30 Meeting

Click on the button below to view the recording of our meeting.

[Watch the Meeting Recording](#)

The vignettes start at the following times:

Ross Earnshaw 30:15 minutes

John Edgar 55:25 minutes

Rich Thomas 1:22:21 minutes

Ross Earnshaw presented his Vignette

Ross was born in St. Thomas, Ontario, December 26, 1952, the eldest child of Kenneth and Frances Earnshaw who married in 1947. He grew up with two younger siblings, Robert and Janice, on a country property/hobby farm.

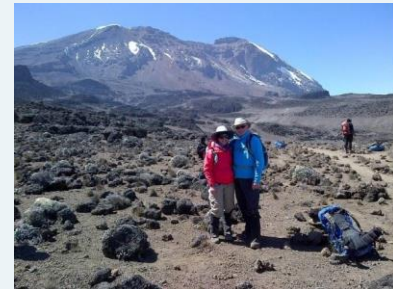
He married three times - first to Christina (1980), then to Shannon (1993) who is mother of his sons, and then Suzanne (2012 - present). His son Cameron (1993) is a professional musician and Reid (1995) is a business management/accountant and they now reside together in Ottawa.

Ross earned an Associate of Music degree in piano performance from University of Western Ontario (1973), Bachelor of Science degree from York (1974) and a law degree from Osgoode Hall Law School (1977).

He came to Cambridge in 1977 to article with the Simmers, Edwards, Jenkins law firm where he was hired back in 1979 when he was called to the bar. That led to a forty year career in commercial and estate litigation there before retiring December 31, 2019, by which time the firm was known as Gowling WLG and had offices in 18 cities in ten countries around the world.

Ross served as elected Bencher of the Law Society of Ontario (2012 - 2019) and as President of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada (2018-2019).

He sings in two choirs and maintains a large vegetable garden located in Hockley Valley. Ross and Suzanne enjoy active holidays including climbing Mount Kilimanjaro (2014), trekking in Mongolia (2017), cycling, and hiking.



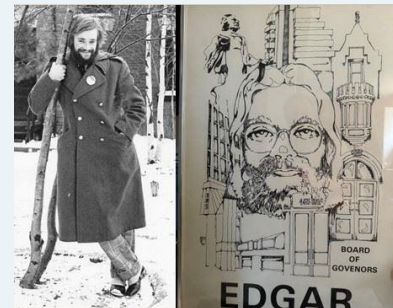
John Edgar presented his Vignette

John's vignette explored a life as "Water Under the Bridge". He grew up next to the Grand River in Preston and spent summers at the cottage on Lake of Bays which started a love of being near water. Later in life, as a Building Scientist, the dark side of water intrusion as a destroyer of buildings became a more central theme.

Although genetic testing suggested 3% Neanderthal DNA, John started his origin story with his great grandparent's home on King Street in Preston. The home still stands as it did when the family of 12 children posed for a photograph on the front steps in the late 19th century. His parents, second cousins, met in New York City, married in 1939, with three children, Harry, Mary and John following. John married Nancy Willson in September 1991 – the smartest life decision he ever made.

John studied Architectural Technology – Building Science at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute (now Toronto Metropolitan University) in Toronto. From there his career started in insurance, surveying insured risks in Ontario and the Atlantic provinces. From there, a jump into sales of construction materials followed with positions in Toronto and Calgary. During his position in sales, he was introduced to Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS) which became his career focus from there to retirement.

He worked for 24 years for Sto Corp., a German based company that was the largest supplier of EIFS in the world. John spent a good deal of his career there doing research, achieving two patents, and working with



industry to develop codes and standards at national and international levels. John ended his working career as an independent consultant and Chairman of ISO Insulation material standards.

[View John Edgar's Vignette](#)



Rick Thomas presented his Vignette

Rick's story started with his early life in London, Ontario, including time spent on a campground, built up from an empty field, by Rick's parents and his family.

His education at the University of Western Ontario was interrupted by a year spent travelling on an exchange program, taking him to several locations in Canada, followed by several months in the Fiji Islands, in the South Pacific.

On his return to Canada, he started work in the plumbing and heating industry, concentrating on Pipe, Valves and Fittings (the PVF industry). He worked at locations in London and Sarnia, before coming to Cambridge. Thanks to a busy construction industry in the Cambridge and KW area, he has enjoyed a busy career in the PVF Industry.

In addition to his work life, he has played an active role in the growth and development of his church, Westside Presbyterian Church.



Since retiring in 2020, Rick has also enjoyed travelling in his newly purchased travel trailer, visiting the North shore of Lake Superior (2022), and travelling across Newfoundland (2023), where he was 'screeched in'.

Rick Joined Probus in 2021, sponsored by Murray Mills. Rick has enjoyed meeting other Probus members and is looking forward to meeting more of you.

[View Rick Thomas' Vignette](#)



Induction of New Members



Welcome to our club!



Tim Chelli

Tim Chelli sponsored by Dan Clements

Tim turned his passion for motorcycles in his youth into a life-long career. Beginning as a dealership mechanic he quickly moved to Corporate, becoming National Manager of Regulatory Affairs for Yamaha Motor Canada and currently continues to consult in that same capacity.

Product compliance to Provincial and Federal Regulatory Requirements, and Intellectual property were some of his responsibilities. He also determined when to call in the Lawyers!

Tim and his wife Michelle live in Dan's condominium building and recently he has taken a leadership role on the Condo Board.

Welcome to our club!



Dan Costello

Dan Costello sponsored by Dave Ottenbrite

Born and raised in London Ontario, followed by a stint in Mississauga, Dan has called Cambridge home since 2003.

In 1981, he completed studies at Sheridan College and was recruited out of school by Defence Contractor Litton Industries and spent 14 years as a weapons tracking officer for the US Department of Defence.

In 1996, Dan moved into Banking at CIBC as a Senior Leader supporting the National branch network of over 1100 branches in client support and new product development.

He moved to BMO as the Senior Leader for the Ontario Regional Division supporting new product development and BMO Economics data in 2006 and retired in 2021.

Dan and his wife Helen of 36 years have a son Mark who lives in Victoria BC.

Milestones



We celebrated John Neu's 100th Birthday

John Neu joins Ivan Robinson as our second centenarian in the club.

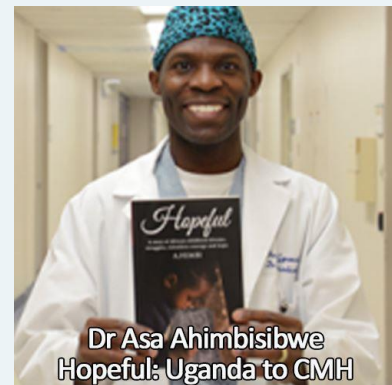
Guests included Sibylle Jasin (with John Neu), Councilor Corey Simpson (City of Cambridge) and Martin Capper (PROBUS Canada).



Our September 27 speaker will be Dr. Asa Ahimbisibwe

Dr. Ahimbisibwe is a Cambridge Memorial Hospital Obstetrician. He could have easily not become a doctor. Growing up in Uganda, Africa, the young professional always had the world pushing against him, but his desire to obtain an education persisted until he found success.

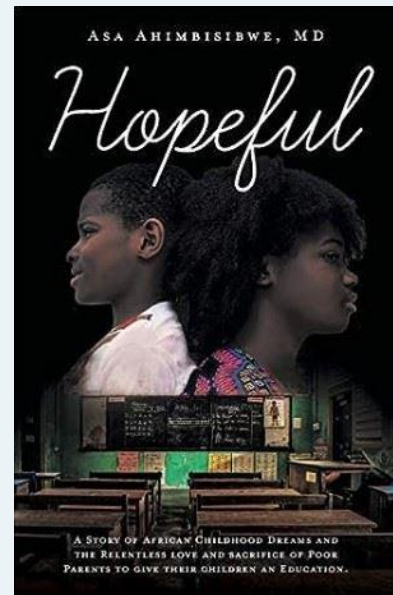
Even though his dream of becoming a medical professional came true, his female family members have not been as fortunate due to the lack of support



for women's health and education in developing countries.

Dr. Ahimbisibwe recently published 'Hopeful', a book about the challenges of the many children growing up in developing countries who yearn to have an education. Hopeful is an account of Dr. Ahimbisibwe and his cousin who, born in disadvantaged villages in Uganda, embark on the uphill task of changing their lives, but end up in completely different places.

Dr. Ahimbisibwe has set a goal of raising \$10,000 for CMHF through his book proceeds.



Golf Tournament

The golfing portion of the Tournament, did not happen due to rain, but spirits remained high as people came back for the dinner at the Puslinch Golf Course. Costs for golf were refunded to the participants.



Upcoming Activities:

Register online or see Mark Maloney at our next meeting.

Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum

On September 20, 2023 we will have a guided tour of the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum.

In addition to the regular Museum guide, we will have "colour commentary" from Lieutenant Colonel (ret) Wes Allen.

For more information you can visit our website, click on the "Warplane Heritage Museum" button or contact:

Norm Steel, steelenorm013@gmail.com

(519) 212-0303

Cambridge Community Players - Jenny's Place

Join us October 1 at 2 pm and bring a guest for a fun play performed by our own Cambridge Community Players. After the play, meet the cast in the Green Room if you wish.

For help or more information, please contact:

Peter Hunton, peter.tunton@rogers.com

(519) 267-6712

Whiskey Tasting

October 17, 2023 starting at 1 pm in Tapestry Hall we will have whiskey tasting.

Register before September 15th, and you will earn a ballot in the draw for a book. "Single Malt & Scotch Whisky" by Daniel Lener.

For more information you can visit our website, click on the "Whiskey Tasting" button or contact:



Warplane Heritage
Museum



JENNY'S PLACE
BY DON VAN GALEN
Sept 22-Oct 1, 2023

Cambridge Community
Players

WHISKEY
Tasting



Norm Steel, steelenorm013@gmail.com

(519) 212-0303

Whiskey Tasting

Other Upcoming Activities:

[Billiards Tournament](#)

[Christmas Gala](#)

To see all activities, go to our website:

Activities



PROBUS Canada Connections

Check out the latest PROBUS Canada Newsletter:

[July 2023 Canada Newsletter](#)



PROBUS Global Newsletter



Check out the latest PROBUS Global Newsletter:

[September 2023 Global Newsletter](#)

In Memoriam

Don Disher passed away peacefully on August 10, 2023 in London surrounded by most of his family.

Don was a member of our club until recently. His wife Helen Stoesz is a Past President of the ladies PROBUS club.

Obituary



You are receiving this email because you are a club member or have expressed an interest in the past.

PROBUS Club of Cambridge
P.O. Box 22011, Water Street RO
Cambridge, Ontario N1R 3E0

info@probuscambridge.org
probuscambridge.org
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