



PROBUS Club of Cambridge Newsletter

November 1, 2023

On a beautiful fall morning we welcomed 114 “smiling faces” to our October PROBUS meeting.

We also welcomed Veteran Marion White of the Riverside Ladies PROBUS Club accompanied by three members of their management committee.

Bob Howison inducted me as President of our PROBUS Club for the 2023-2024 term. I complimented our Management Committee on their dedication and hard work and encouraged our members to actively seek out potential new members to provide others the opportunity to enjoy the many benefits of PROBUS.

We appreciated John Reid’s detailed information on each of our Veterans as their pictures appeared on the screen. We truly must not forget the sacrifices made.

Following John, our 101-year-old Probian, Ivan Robinson, gave a moving and heartfelt rendition of “In Flanders Fields”.

Our speaker, John Boyko, was dynamic and very engaging. We all learned a great deal about Canada’s involvement in the Vietnam War – part of it quite disturbing. Some of John’s stories were riveting and created vivid pictures.

If you have some good PROBUS photos, please see the article at the end of this newsletter and consider entering your photos in the PROBUS photo contest.



Ray inducted as President



Transfer of the gavel.



Ivan Robinson rendition of
"In Flanders Fields"

. . . Ray Miske, 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 October 25 Meeting

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

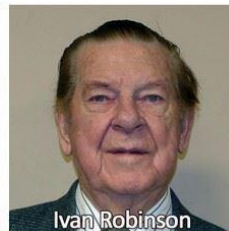
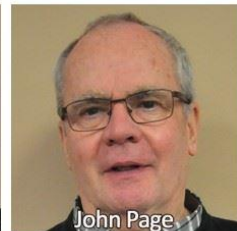
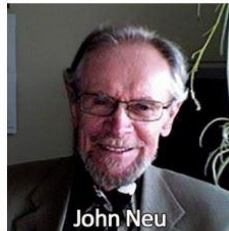
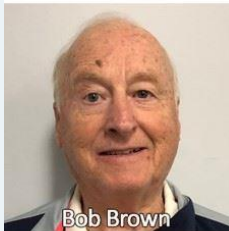
[Watch the Meeting Recording](#)

John Boyko's presentation starts at 38:20 minutes

John Reid presentation on veterans starts at 26:00 minutes

Ivan Robinson presentation of "In Flanders Fields" starts at 34:50 minutes

Recognizing Our Veterans



John Reid presented information on each of our veterans and we were happy that some were in attendance at the meeting. (starts at 26:00 minutes into the recording)

Ivan Robinson gave a moving and heartfelt rendition of “In Flanders Fields”. (starts at 34:50 minutes into the recording)

We also enjoyed two local videos that had been produced by David Menary.

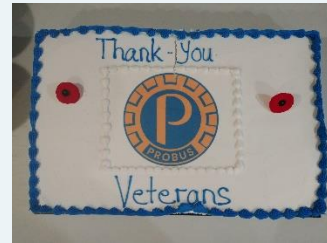
And...there was cake.

Men and Women
of November

Poem and video by
David Menary

Cambridge Galt
War Memorial

Video by David
Menary



Our October 25 meeting was our annual salute to Veterans and our speaker was John Boyko

We were informed and entertained by John’s presentation on the little-known, but amazing story of Canada's involvement in the American War in Vietnam.

He provided both a historic overview of Vietnam and many specific stories from his most recent book "The Devil's Trick: How Canada Fought the Vietnam War".

Through the lens of six remarkable people, some well-known, others obscure, bestselling historian John Boyko recounts Canada's often-overlooked involvement in that conflict as peacemaker, combatant, and provider of weapons and sanctuary.

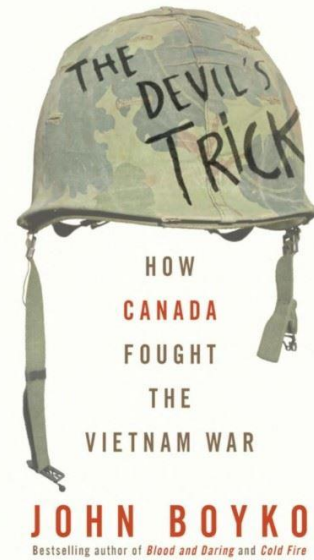
His presentation provided snapshots into the remarkable people in his book: Brigadier General Sherwood Lett, Blair Seaborn, Claire Culhane, Joe Erickson, Doug Carey and Rebecca Trinh.



John has seven previous books:

- *Cold Fire: Kennedy's Northern Front*
- *Sir John's Echo: The Voice for a Stronger Canada*
- *Blood and Daring: How Canada Fought the American Civil War and Forged a Nation*
- *Voisins et Ennemis, La Guerre De Sécession Et L'Invention Du Canada*
- *Bennett: The Rebel Who Challenged and Changed a Nation*
- *Into the Hurricane: Attacking Socialism and the CCF*
- *Last Steps to Freedom: The Evolution of Canadian Racism, Politics: Conflict and Compromise*

"Boyko lays bare the lies and lessons of a foreign war that bled into Canadian society"
TIM COOK



John Boyko Website

Membership Update

COVID is still a risk. If you have symptoms please send your regards and do not attend meetings.

Also, PROBUS is participating in 50+ Active Living Fair on November 9th and a big thankyou to the volunteers helping out.

. . . Bob McBlain, robertbmclain@gmail.com

519-621-9149



Dr. Christopher DiCarlo will be our guest speaker November 29th.

Dr. Christopher DiCarlo is a philosopher, educator, and author. He often teaches in the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Toronto (in Scarborough) and the Life Institute at Ryerson University in Toronto.

He is also a lifetime member of Humanist Canada and an Expert Advisor for the Centre for Inquiry Canada.

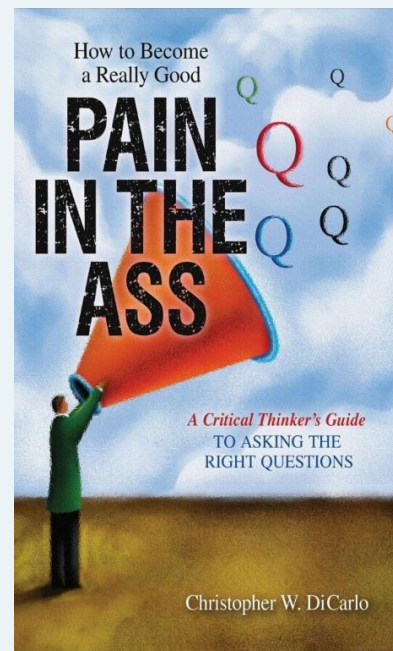
He has been invited to speak at numerous national and international conferences and written many scholarly papers ranging from bioethics to cognitive evolution.

His book entitled: *How to Become a Really Good Pain in the Ass: A Critical Thinker's Guide to Asking the Right Questions* is currently in its fifth printing and is a best-seller in Canada and the U.S.

His latest book: *So You Think You Can Think? Tools for Having Intelligent Conversations and Getting Along* was released in May, 2020.

In April 2008 he was awarded TV Ontario's Big Ideas Best Lecturer in Ontario Award. In August 2008 he was honored with the Canadian Humanist of the Year Award from the Humanist Association of Canada. In September 2008 he was awarded the UOIT Complementary Faculty Teaching Award.

Dr. DiCarlo is the Principal and Founder of Critical Thinking Solutions, a consulting business for individuals, corporations, and not-for-profits in both the private and public sectors. He is also the developer of the first Pilot Project in Canada to introduce Universal Critical Thinking skills into the Ontario Public High School curriculum which has begun in the Upper Grand District School Board.. Dr. DiCarlo is also the Ethics Chair for the Canadian Mental Health Association (Waterloo/Wellington) and the Critical Thinking Advisor and writer at Pixel Dreams Creative Agency in Toronto



November Vignette

Vignette presentations are a long-standing tradition in PROBUS that are an important part of enabling us to get to know something about our new members and broadening our network of PROBUS colleagues.

Jim Cook will share his background and past experiences with us when he presents his vignette at our next meeting.



. . . Mike Jeans, Vignette Chair

Whiskey Tasting

Over 10% of our membership enjoyed a Trip Around the World (so to speak) recently. They attended a Whisk(e)y tasting at the Tapestry Hall on Oct. 17th they sampled the "Whiskey" of Ireland and America, plus the "Whisky" of Canada, Japan and Scotland.

If you'd like to understand the Whisky versus the Whiskey, just ask around at one of our meetings, one of the participants would be more than delighted to demonstrate their knowledge.

The group enjoyed a sumptuous lunch in the heart of the Gaslight District and heard the tales and truths of Whisky making from Aaron Mole, the guru of Whisk(e)y provided by the folks at Beam Suntory, and coordinated by our local LCBO at South Cambridge.

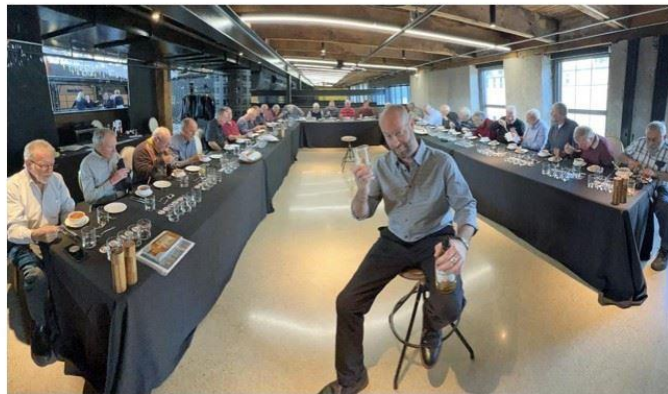
We are working on a tasting, or two, for 2024. Thanks are due to Tapestry Hall, Beam Suntory and the South Cambridge LCBO.

See you there next year!

. . . Norm Steele



**WHISK(EY)
OF THE WORLD**



Upcoming Activities:

Register online or see Mark Maloney at our next meeting.

Billiards Tournament

On November 17 from 1200 PM to 3:00 PM we will have our annual Billiards Tournament at Chicago Billiards.

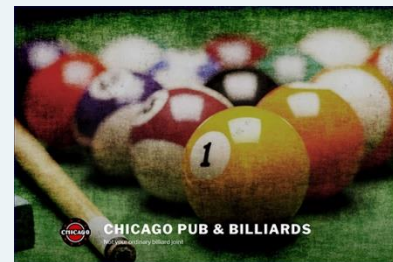
Come between 12 noon and 1 pm to register for the tournament. Only \$5.

This event is for all skill levels, we have them all!

Win (there are a couple trophies) or lose, it is a fun event!

. . . Bob Crawford, crawfordr812@gmail.com

519-621-1902



Christmas Gala

On December 8 we will have our Christmas Gala from 11 am to 3 pm at the Galt Country Club, 750 Coronation Boulevard. Register early, seating is limited.

We have a great live entertainment with one or two performers pre-meal and during dinner plus the Paul Mitchell Ensemble will perform after the meal.

Paul Mitchell Ensemble - Nicole Faye (singer), Paul Mitchell (trumpet), Robert Fekete (piano), Matthew Lima (bass), Mike Rajna (drummer)

If you wish, you can request to share a table with friends. Enjoy a traditional turkey meal, braised beef short rib, or butternut squash ravioli (vegan), a dessert and coffee/tea. Cash bar available.

Ongoing Activities:

[Computer Club](#), 2nd Tuesday each month on Zoom Sept to June

[Billiards Club](#), 3rd Friday monthly year round Chicago Billiards at the delta

[Trivia Contest](#), 3rd Wednesday each month on Zoom Sept to June

[Bridge Club](#), Tuesday every 2 weeks Sept to June



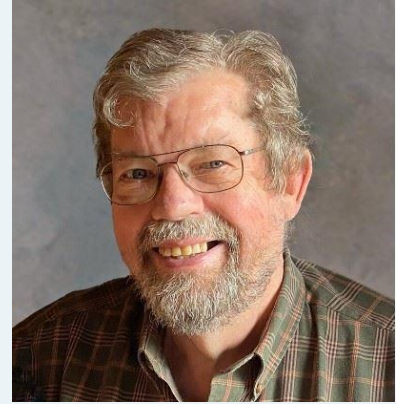
Register for Christmas
Gala

Visit here for more information about all Activities

In Memoriam

Robert Arthur "Bob" Coleman passed away peacefully on Friday, October 27, 2023 at the age of 79.

[Obituary information is available here](#)



PROBUS Canada

2023 Photo Contest

How better to show off our wonderful PROBUS organization than with photos demonstrating how our members create friendship, fellowship, and fun!

All PROBUS members are invited to go through their photo archives or to pick up their camera or phone to capture the best in PROBUS. Show their happy faces, in interesting settings, doing fun things, and with gorgeous colors!

We have only modest prizes to give but, of course, offer bragging rights for having your work used prominently in the PROBUS Canada website, in any club website, or in a variety of marketing material such as flyers and bookmarks.

We don't look for quantity but for quality, so be judicious in what you send us!

For the best photos we will need to come back to their photographers and ask them to provide names and email addresses of all identifiable persons. We will then reach out to them to get their consent.

You can upload your photos or email:

Upload Photos

You can email your photo(s) as email attachment(s) to photos@probuscanada.ca.

Your email provider likely limits the size of attachments, typically around 20 MB.

Recommendations

- Submit your photos in their highest resolution
- Do not crop or resize your photos
- Photos can only be accepted in standard image formats, e.g. JPEG, PNG, etc.
- Take note of names and email addresses of all identifiable people in your photo(s). We can only use your photo(s) after we have collected everyone's consent.

Submissions to this Photo Competition can be made until November 30, 2023!

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

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