

*Merry Christmas!*  
 ... *and a Happy New Year*



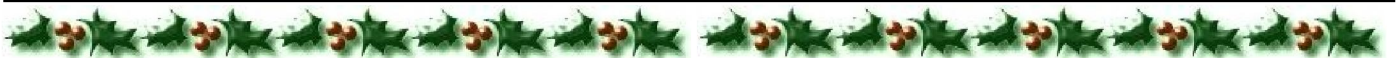
Newsletter of the PROBUS Club of Ottawa Alta Vista

# The Probe

Est. September 1999

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ottawa

December 2015, #89



## A Bagful of Hands

James Jordan was born missing his left arm below the elbow. From 6 months to adulthood he has been involved with the WarAmps/Champs program and is now an embodiment of their ethos, "Amputees helping Amputees".

In his talk, James covered the origin of the program after WW I and its extension from a veterans' organization to a much wider reach with child amputees as a key focus, as well as his own experience.

James wore his 'Sunday Best' myoelectric arm and hand, a \$25,000 unit. The muscles in his upper arm control his hand so that he can move his fingers and thumb. He soon put it aside and showed his daily use arm. The basis is a forearm to which a range of hands can be attached. Reaching into his bagful of hands he pulled out a fist with a rectangular grip – this one holds a hockey stick. James loves hockey and plays regularly. Another hand is designed to hold the bar when he is working out with weights. Another is a hand with a simple harness which grips by a shoulder movement. This one was without the little finger – it's 8 years old and he uses it around the house for jobs like plumbing or hammering nails. Like most of us, he sometimes misses the nail. Another has a flat pad for push-ups (with demonstration!), Yet another has a Velcro strap for adjusting to anything. "I have a device for everything I do."

Soldiers returning from WW I wanted to lead as normal a life as possible, and the many amputees among them were no different, but there was no support and no help.

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## The Beauty Has Come ...



... which is a translation of 'Nefertiti'.

John Kruithof introduced our Egyptologist, Hassan Eltaher (one of the shortest introductions we have ever heard), and Hassan immediately launched into his talk on Queen Nefertiti. In the first part he gave the story of the bust and then went on to Nefertiti's life and times.

The bust was discovered on December 6th, 1912, in an excavation at Amarna. The point of excavations was the workshop of Thutmose where several busts of Nefertiti were found. The lead archaeologist was Ludwig Borchardt and the expedition was sponsored by James Simon. After the bust had been shipped to Germany, Simon kept it at his residence for a few months and then

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So they turned to each other and started their own organization of amputees helping amputees. By the end of WW II the '14-'18 veterans had built up 20+ years experience and met new amputees at the dockside to take them 'under my wing'. "I've been there. I know what it's like and I'm here to help."

The Champs program was started in 1975 by Cliff Chadderton to help child amputees. James showed some clips of youngsters getting on with their lives. Ellen declared, "I'm 8 years old and I can do anything!"

WarAmps/Champs is a registered charity but their main source of income is the 'Key Tags' program. So far they have returned about 1.5 million sets of keys. Your key code is activated as soon as you receive the tags in the mail, even before you send a donation. The organization receives no government funding and financial aid for amputees varies from province to province. A child in the Champs program pays nothing. Once any provincial aid is used up (\$10,000 in Ontario) the WarAmps pay the rest.

James has been working at WarAmps for 7 years and is now their Safety Events Coordinator. James' lifelong dedication to the War Amps and helping to meet the needs of amputees and their families made him one of the most appreciated speakers the club has ever had.

## Annual General Meeting November 25, 2015

The AGM was convened at the start of our Club Meeting with sufficient members to form a quorum, **Lynne Bond** (President) in the chair.

The key issues covered included the declining bank balance, which will be partly redressed by the increase in fees approved in 2014 (\$25 individual and \$40 couple).

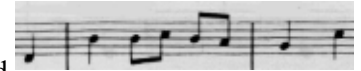
In her report, Lynne thanked everyone for their support during her year as President, and noted the resignation of **Patt Macpherson** in the early spring, with committee members stepping in to fill the position of program convener.

**Elections ...** are covered on page 4.

Allan Porter voiced appreciation from all members to Lynne for her efforts over the past year.

**Wib Neal** presented **Lynne Bond** with a Past-president's pin and **Keith Walker** with a President's pin. Formal minutes are available from the Secretary.

## President's Notes



Year end is always a good time to look back and review the progress we continue to accomplish. First to bring the Probus motto "Our Strength is Fellowship - Our Success is Participation" which demonstrates the ongoing success in developing along these lines.

Over the year we have enjoyed the fellowship of close to 100 members who participate in the activities of Probus Alta Vista. It is these folks who keep us motivated and directed. Providing leadership to all of the club, our Management Committee has been diligent in their contributions. I would like to take this opportunity to extend gratitude to each of those who undertook roles this year. First a big thank you to **Patt Macpherson** our former Program Convenor, who had to step aside earlier in the year due to health concerns. We all wish you well, **Patt**, and appreciate all the material you compiled to turn over to the Committee. As Past President, **Robin Rousham** has kept his concern to keep us abreast of current topics and also co-ordinate with Rotary Ottawa; **John Wright** our Communications director keeps us all on track, in addition to publishing the monthly "Probe" or "Flyer", he can be counted on to provide the wizardry to keep our technical systems operational; **Wib Neal**, that familiar face at the membership table, deserves a medal for long-standing service and alongside him we find our Membership Convenor, **Bob Atchison**, whose loyalty and long term contributions in many roles cannot be overlooked; **Barb Wilson**, our Telephone Convenor, manages to ensure that members are kept in touch with current activities by organizing her team of callers; **Allan Porter**, our Treasurer with a sense of humour, keeps all the finances in order; **Marie-Neige de Cabanoux-Atchison**, our Goodwill and Special Events Co-ordinator, never fails to attend all meetings and keeps on smiling, **Bonnie Barber**, as Secretary, records all Management Committee minutes plus the added duties of Hospitality Convenor; and our Vice-president, **Keith Walker**, who brings his practical and helpful Australian style to all of us. A huge thank you to all.

As we head into our 16th year as a club, I look forward to continued fellowship and participation, the motto which defines our positive organization. I'll toss out a challenge – let's bring in new members to prove that our motto is, in fact a living entity.

Best of luck to **Keith Walker** for a stimulating and inspiring year in 2016.

*Lynne Bond*

loaned it to the Berlin Museum and made it a donation in 1920. Its presence was not made public until 1923, when it immediately caused a sensation. It was displayed at the Neues Museum until 1939. During the war it was moved several times for safekeeping and even after the war it had several homes, including the U.S. Central Collecting Point in Wiesbaden. In 1956 it was returned to Berlin and finally to the Neues Museum in 2009.

Nefertiti lived from about 1370 BC to 1330 BC. She was the wife of the Pharaoh Akhenaten and had six daughters. Some of the fascinating slides Hassan showed had reliefs of the family group in limestone or metal. One showing them eating shish-kabob! The sun was at the top of most of these portraits with its rays beaming down on the people. Akhenaten and Nefertiti converted Egypt from polytheism to worship of the Sun God. As High Priest, anything Akhenaten decreed became the law of the land.

Other slides showed some of the archaeological work at the temple of Aten - apart from the foundations only two partial columns remain.

Of Nefertiti's daughters, one seems to have died while young and another married her half-brother, Tutankhamen. Nefertiti, herself disappeared from the records (the records were extensive - they wrote everything down) in the 12th year of Akhenaten's reign. This was the time of a plague to which she may have fallen victim. Akhenaten's death is a mystery. He had become hated and may have been done away with.

In his introduction, John Kruthof told us that not only was Mr. Eltaher an Egyptologist, but had had a career with the Government of Canada and retired as Chief of Civil Aviation Intelligence and Chief of Maritime Security Strategic Planning. He is the founder and President of the Forum of Alexandria and a member of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities.

## First Christmases

At our first Christmas, December 1999, Rev. Joe Burke and Rev. Allan Mac Lennan, of Pleasant Park Baptist Church, talked about 'Maritime Christmas Traditions'. In November 2000, Rabbi Reuven Bulka spoke on a Christmas theme and in December, Gary Lindberg gave us a talk on the Canadarm. 2001 saw the first of our continuing social events.



*"God bless us, every one"*

## Poetry Corner



Akhenaten's *Hymn to the Sun*. As you can see, Mr. Eltaher quoted from about line 40, covering the Sun's role in conception, gestation, partum and post-partum.

## Speakers 2014

As well as Hassan Eltaher and James Jordan, written up in this issue, our 2015 speakers were:

- Dr. Michael Rudniki - Stem Cell Research
- J. Young & B. Mortimer - Barrack Hill Cemetery
- Judith Brown - Black History 101
- Doreen Larsen Reidel - Henry Larsen and the St Roch
- Brian Hartley - Building Bridges between Canada and First Nations
- Alan Neal - All in a Day's Work
- Rosemary Bender - Statistics Canada
- Dr. Irena Makaryk - Shakespeare in Canada

as well as our 5 'In-house', July speakers, Robin Rousham, John Wright, Joan Evans, Keith Walker and Lenore Porter.

If you would like a reminder of these talks, check out the past issues of *The Probe* on our web site.

## How to find us

We meet at 9:30 for 10 on the 4th Wednesday of each month except December (2nd Wednesday), at Gloucester Presbyterian Church, **91 Pike Street**.

You can also find us on the web at:

**[www.probusaltavista.ca](http://www.probusaltavista.ca)**



## Management Committee 2016



At the AGM in November, the Club elected **Keith Walker** as President. Colin Galigan was elected to the Committee and will take on Program duties. **Bonnie Barber** and **Allan Porter** were re-elected as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

Re-elected Management Committee members are:

**Marie-Neige Atchison** (“Goodwill”)

**Bob Atchison** (Membership)

**Wib Neal** (Membership)

**Barbara Wilson** (Telephone)

**John Wright** (Editor)

In addition there are two ex-officio committee members:

**Eva Hammond** (Rotary Liaison)

**Lynne Bond** (Past-president)

Bob and Robin will handle Audio/Visual needs. Bonnie will coordinate Hospitality (but we really would like someone to take it on on a regular basis).

## Probus Calling!

An essential part of our Club’s operations is our team of telephone callers.

**Lorraine Balderson**   **Judy & Derry Foreman**

**Jean Saldanha**   **Gerri Doherty**

**Ada McEwen**   **Margery Larsen**

**Allen Taylor**   **Dorothy MacIntosh**

**Joyce Walker**   **Cathy Borza**

- are the friendly voices who call every month to make sure everyone knows about our upcoming meetings. We owe them all a big vote of thanks.

By the way, if you do not get called it may be that we have incorrectly copied your telephone number from your membership form. Give **Barbara Wilson** a call (613-837-2377) and it will get corrected quickly.

Barbara is looking for one or two more ‘friendly voices’ to help out.

## Let's Hear from You

It's your turn to give a talk at our July meeting - travel, hobby, vocation, interests - the field is wide open. We can help by turning photos into presentations.

[www.probusaltavista.ca](http://www.probusaltavista.ca)

Check our website for future and past talks.



## January 27<sup>th</sup> - Peter Callinan - Pacemakers

Peter Callinan will give us the inside information on pacemakers - what they do, how they work and the way they control the heart. Peter is the author or co-author of several conference papers and reports on pacemakers and interactions with other medical procedures. He has worked in this area for many years and is often called upon to advise doctors and hospitals.

There will be at least one active pacemaker in the audience.

## February 24<sup>th</sup> - Kerry-Leigh Burchill Agriculture and Food Museum

Kerry-Leigh Burchill is the Director General of the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum at the Experimental Farm. For the last 21 years Ms Burchill has worked for the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation in the areas of policy, strategic planning, internal communications, corporate development and commercial operations.

Her talk will be on the museum and its current focus on food literacy to promote a better understanding of the production, processing, preserving and distribution of food as it relates to food safety, nutrition, environmental sustainability and food security.

Possibly she will mention the 120 domesticated animals at the farm.

## Web Stats

Between Oct/27 and Dec/7 we had 1116 visits to our web site including 35 to the new page, *What is Probus?*

## World Views - Winter 2016 Program

**Free Monthly Photo Evenings**

**St Paul’s Presbyterian Church**

971 Woodroffe (just north of the Queensway)

Programs begin at 7:30 p.m. - All welcome

Saturday Jan 23 Michele Baddoo “Scotland & Tuscany – Following the Light”

Saturday Feb 20 Dave Sangster “Turkey – Old & New”

Saturday Mar 19 Ed Overstreet “Medieval & Renaissance Switzerland”

Saturday Apr 23 Barbara Adams “Colourful Morocco”

For more information call Sholto Cole at 613-721-3367.

[www.worldviewsphotography.ca](http://www.worldviewsphotography.ca)

(Information courtesy of **John Kruthof**)