

VOL. 1 | ISSUE 4 | FEB. 2025

BATTLEFORDS PROBUS CLUB

Official Newsletter of the Battlefords Probud Club



www.battlefordsprobud.ca | battlefordsprobud@gmail.com | Facebook: Battlefords Probud Club

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Our Probud club has made giant steps in the past five months since we began last September, thanks mostly to the volunteers who have provided the leadership and hard work to turn our club into a warm inviting place to be once a month.

Dozens of small details that we are already taking for granted have shaped the character of our group into a functioning Probud club that would be the envy of any startup across Canada. These things can go unappreciated but no group can function well without the individuals who take an interest in our club and work to make it happen.

I know I may sound like an alarmist with my frequent comments about scams and the harm they can do but it concerns me that we all work hard over many, many years to get where we are and the thought that someone can steal our money from us because we are trusting sort of people is infuriating.

If we were held up at gunpoint all the crook would get is what is in our pocket, or if they broke into our home they might get our computer or television but telephone and on-line scams can be much more devastating, sometimes to the tune of thousands of dollars. The only tool we have to fight this kind of crime is knowledge.

I encourage you to think about how secure your on-line activities are, how secure your password is, how often you change it and how often you use it. Be aware of the latest scam that is making the rounds and take steps to protect yourself.

Gerry Walker



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Gerry Walker
President

George Plews
Vice President

Deb Breiman
Secretary

Johanne Stolz
Treasurer

Becky Stroo
Membership Chair

Chris Pollard
Speaker Chair

Susan McLean Tady
Events and Activities

George Plews
Lane Jackson
Webmasters

Vacant
Past President

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SECRETARYS BIO



The next introductions from our Management Committee will be Deb Breiman and Johanne Stolz. Their bio's will also be available to view on our Probud Members webpage.

I had a great life growing up on a farm near Mayfair, SK. Following High School I went to Kelsey to become an Animal Health Technician and got my first job at the Veterinary Clinic in Leader, SK. After 4 years I moved to Battleford and enrolled in Business College. I graduated with a Legal Secretary Diploma.

I worked in the office at Battleford's District Care Centre until I got married and moved to the farm near Cando. I went to work at Cando School, first as an EA, then a Speech/Language Aide and finally as the cook for the large

nutrition program. I made 100 – 150 breakfasts, lunches and snacks every day.

In 2006 disaster struck and I lost my husband of 20 years in an ATV accident. That left me a single mom to my two wonderful kids, Erin and Dayne. They have been two of the biggest blessings in my life and I am so lucky to be their mom. Two and a half years ago, Erin (Mitch) had a baby boy, Gavin, who is the light of my life. I love being a Gramma!

I am now retired after 30 years at Cando School and I am loving it! The main thing that keeps me busy is doing stained glass but I dabble in all kinds of arts and crafts. I love gardening and that's what fills my summers other than a few weeks camping and random road trips visiting friends and family.

I am happy to have joined Probud. What a great way to meet new people and to learn and do new things.

Deb Breiman

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TREASURERS BIO



Being the oldest of 7 children with one sister and 5 brothers, growing up on a farm near Gronlid, was always an adventure mixed with the many chores that had to be done.

After graduation, I headed to Saskatoon where I worked at the University Hospital and Sears Canada part time while attending Business College and the University of Saskatchewan.

My career started with the federal Department of Agriculture as the data conversion supervisor at Canfarm Data Systems. I transferred to Revenue Canada in 1973 where I worked in several different departments ending in Audit.

Our two children Shaun and Shelley were born in Saskatoon. They are both married and I am blessed with 5 precious grandchildren.

In 1978 our little family moved to Battleford where my husband and I operated a service station "Len's Harmony Gulf". In 1980 I started a tax preparation business which later became Pro-File Tax Services – a Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping, Business

services operation. I very much enjoyed my work, my dedicated employees and the many clients that we served. In 2015 after 35 years I sold the business and retired.

Traveling, golf, walking, entertaining, dancing and spending time with my family are some of the things I'm enjoying in retirement.

Some other clubs that I have enjoyed being a member of are Kinettes/Kinsmen, Rotary, Amgits, and Friendship Force International.

Through friends in the Saskatoon Probus Clubs, I was fortunate to connect with Gerald, who, with his previous Probus experience was enthusiastic to start a Probus Club in the Battlefords. The two of us embarked on a mission to form a club. The friendship and fun is just beginning and enthusiasm is contagious. What a great club!

Johanne Stolz

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FEBRUARY GUEST SPEAKER

Chris introduced our February guest speaker, Linda Machniak, ACE, Chief Operating Officer Chamber of Commerce. Linda, who joined the Chamber in 2001, leads operations and supports the Board. Passionate about community growth, she focuses on connecting and supporting local businesses. After her presentation, a brief Q&A was held, and Chris gifted Linda a stained glasstiger lily created by Probus member Deb Breiman.



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FEBRUARY MEETING

At our February meeting we had some invited guests, 2 chapters from the Beta Sigma Phi.

A big milestone occurred as Battlefords Probus Club members had their name tags handed out. There were compliments on how nice they looked. Thanks to Becky for getting the name tags out to the members.

It was also announced that the Probus club is organizing a Prairie Lily Cruise on June 10 at 4 pm in Saskatoon. There was some discussion about the possibility of having a lunch before the cruise. If there is enough interest, a bus or vans could be rented. There are also options of members driving themselves or car pooling. An email was sent out to get members to sign up.

George passed around some speaker survey sheets to see who the club wants to hear from next. Chris has done a great job getting these names together but would like to hear from members too. A binder with all the newsletters printed will be out at the next meeting, should our members or guests want to look at them.

We'd also like to welcome one new member, Lynda Wagner!



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FEBRUARY 50/50

The second Probud North Battleford 50/50 draw event in February was another success! Congratulations to our lucky winner, Kim Berger, who walked away with a prize of \$70. Thanks to everyone who participated to make it a success.

Total cash entries was \$140, with \$70 to the club.



The goal of the Probud organization is to provide Fellowship, Friendship, and Fun for all men and women in their retirement and semi-retirement years. Our clubs are all about encouraging healthy minds and bodies and socializing with other retirees in the community. This can't be more evident than Carol and Deb getting together.

Deb is our member who is makes the stained glass tiger lilies for our guest speakers. I saw on our Facebook page that Carol wanted to learn how to make one and Deb had her over and they made a tiger lily. The smile on Carol's facesays it all.

