



Lakeside Buzz



December 2020

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT (Jim McMinn)



Who can believe that 2020 is almost over, the Christmas/holiday season is upon us and this is the last Buzz of the year? 2020 has certainly been an extremely challenging and life changing year for all of us and we can only hope that 2021 brings some semblance of normalcy back into our lives. I must say though that I'm very proud of how Lakeside has adapted to the new norm as we've strived to stay connected using Zoom for our monthly meetings and various activities and, as long as we have our volunteers, we will continue with this format until we can go back to

meeting in person, whenever that may be.

It will be a very different Christmas season this year as most of us won't be travelling far to be with loved ones but we're resilient and will do whatever it takes to make it as merry and bright as possible. It's still the most wonderful time of the year, but reaching out to those who may be alone is especially important at this time. I believe we have all found our inner strength this year as we've learned to cope with the trials and tribulations put upon us by the pandemic but unexpected, positive outcomes have actually resulted for many people.

Our featured management team member this month is Laura Green, our Speakers' Coordinator, and I hope to connect with many of you at our special Christmas Zoom general meeting on Wednesday, December 16 where she has a very entertaining speaker planned for us. In closing, the Management Team wishes all of you a very Merry Christmas, Hanukkah and holiday season, keep well, stay safe, wear your mask, keep your distance, and I hope that 2021 will bring much brighter and happier times.

HELLO FROM THE SPEAKERS' COORDINATOR (Laura Green)



My name is Laura Green, and when a close relative in another city introduced PROBUS to my husband and I several years ago, we decided to check it out. We were, and I should say still are, very impressed with the variety of activities and opportunities it provided to us, plus we now have numerous great new friends we have met since joining PROBUS.

I was particularly impressed with how amazing the speakers were and the variety of topics they presented. I even sat and cried while listening to one of the speaker's presentations as I was so moved. So when it was necessary for Pickering to start a new club I jumped at the opportunity to get involved and became the Speakers' Coordinator. I thought that if there were people like him willing to share experiences and knowledge, then I was totally on board with tackling the job of bringing them to us. As a heads up, this speaker is presenting to us in the near future so have your hankies ready!

DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Even though we had to cancel our Christmas lunch at Deer Creek, the show must go on, so our December 16 virtual meeting will be very exciting and one you won't want to miss, so be sure to [register here](#). It will be our annual Christmas celebration but via Zoom this year and, because we will be in party mode, we've changed the start time to 4 p.m. which is not too early to enjoy your favourite beverage and some appetizers as you join in the fun! By now you will have received the official invitation from Laura Green and you can dress up in your holiday season finery, or choose to wear your ugly Christmas sweater as you party and make merry with all your Lakeside friends. Our guest speaker, [Deidrey Francois](#), will add to the excitement as she sings and performs for us, so check her out, then come one, come all and make it a Christmas party to remember!



"Hogmanay" is the Scottish word for the last day of the year and synonymous with the celebration of the new year. As I'm sure we're all glad to see the back of 2020, we're having our last Lakeside "get together" for Hogmanay on Thursday, December 31. It will be far from just a party, so stay tuned for further details!

GOODBYE 2020 FROM THE SECRETARY/NEWSLETTER EDITOR (Vicki Samson)



I wanted to end 2020 and the last Buzz of the year by saying what a rollercoaster year it's been, as Editor of the newsletter, to keep you up-to-date with our club, while making it informative, entertaining and a quick read. We decided to shorten it from 4 pages to 2 in May when it was obvious that our meetings and activities would be on hold for a while and there would be nothing much to report, although still realizing it was very important to continue with it. That seemed like quite a challenge at the time but, after revising the format, it became easier to fill the space with information and laughs to keep the Buzz going. I really enjoy putting it together but doing it every month seems like I just finish one edition when I have to start the next, and therefore this year to me has gone in a flash, despite the upheaval that's going on around us.

With that being said, I do hope you enjoy reading it every month and I encourage you to feel free to give [me](#) feedback or any suggestions you might have as I hope to continue sending it your way in 2021. As a bonus, you will see that for our Buzz 2020 grand finale edition we have enough information and fun stuff to revert to 4 pages, so happy reading and I hope you enjoy what we've put together for you.

Don't forget also that our [website](#) always contains up-to-date information on everything you need to know, so please get into the habit of checking in regularly as we never want you to miss out on anything going on in Lakeside Land!

In closing, I thought it's a good time to share some inspirational quotes I've come across and I hope you will enjoy them too:

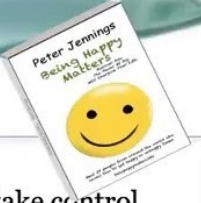
- "It's a rough road that leads to the heights of greatness".
- "If the path be beautiful, let us not ask where it leads".
- "No love, no friendship can cross the path of our destiny without leaving some mark on it forever".
- "The imagination is the golden pathway to everywhere".
- "If you obey all the rules, you miss all the fun".
- "Light tomorrow with today".

CALENDAR DECEMBER 2020

Here is the calendar showing the current listing of December activities. Click on any box to get more details or to register for anything and be sure to [check the website](#) throughout the month for any updates.

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| | 1 1:00 PM Pop-Up Craft 10:30 AM Easy Hiking - TBD | 2 | 3 | 4 2:00 PM Lakeside SPA Hour 5:00 PM Lakeside Cocktail ... |
| 7 3:30 PM On-line Trivia | 8 10:30 AM Easy Hiking - TBD | 9 | 19 | 11 |
| 14 | 15 10:30 AM Easy Hiking - TBD | 16 4:00 PM Christmas Party | 17 | 18 |
| 21 3:30 PM On-line Trivia | 22 10:30 AM Easy Hiking - TBD | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 5:00 PM New Year's Eve Ge... | |

HAPPINESS SECRETS



7 Secrets of Happiness That Can Change Your Life

- 1) We are each accountable for our own happiness; it's up to us to take control of how we feel. We have the power to *choose* happiness for ourselves. Happiness is a decision that you make.
- 2) Hang out with happy people: it's contagious. Absorb their habits to become even happier while enjoying simplicity: take pleasure in the ordinary things in life.
- 3) Happiness comes from helping others. Don't forget to give back: Volunteer.
- 4) Be loving. You'll get love back. Happiness grows when you do what you love in life.
- 5) Be grateful: focus on what you have, *not* on what you don't have.
- 6) Simplify! Practice saying "No" to others to create time for yourself.
- 7) Learn how not to take stuff personally: a sense of humour is an incredible skill for happiness.

At our last General Meeting, author and 'Happiness Expert' Peter Jennings gave a wonderful talk about "Why Happiness Matters". If you missed it, you can see a recording of it on our [Members Page](#).

During the talk Peter shared these 7 happiness secrets

T'WAS A MONTH BEFORE CHRISTMAS 2020 (Author unknown)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>T'was a month before Christmas, And all through the town, People wore masks, That covered their frown. The frown had begun Way back in the Spring, When a global pandemic Changed everything. They called it corona, But unlike the beer, It didn't bring good times, It didn't bring cheer. Contagious and deadly, This virus spread fast, Like a wildfire that starts When fueled by gas. Airplanes were grounded, Travel was banned. Borders were closed Across air, sea and land. As the world entered lockdown To flatten the curve,</p> | <p>The economy halted, And folks lost their verve. From March to July We rode the first wave, People stayed home, They tried to behave. When summer emerged The lockdown was lifted. But away from caution, Many folks drifted. Now it's November And cases are spiking, Wave two has arrived, Much to our disliking. Frontline workers, Doctors and nurses, Try to save people, From riding in hearses. This virus is awful, This COVID-19. There isn't a cure. There is no vaccine. It's true that this year</p> | <p>Has had sadness a plenty, We'll never forget The year 2020. And just 'round the corner - The holiday season, But why be merry? Is there even one reason? To decorate the house And put up the tree, When no one will see it, No-one but me. But outside my window The snow gently falls, And I think to myself, Let's deck the halls! So, I gather the ribbon, The garland and bows, As I play those old carols, My happiness grows. Christmas ain't cancelled And neither is hope. If we lean on each other, I know we can cope.</p> |
|--|--|--|

LAST LAUGHS

