GRIMSBY PROBUS NEWSLETTER

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

End of Year President's Message

As we continue our journey together let's remember that staying connected is what makes our club special. Of course, our club thrives thanks to the wonderful volunteers who help manage everything behind the scenes. If you are interested in contributing your skills or just lending a helping hand, we'd love to have you involved.

I would like to acknowledge the management team for all the work they do to keep our club interesting and thriving in the face of an aging membership.

We also want to take a moment to remember our friends who have passed away this past year. Their presence and contributions will always be cherished. It's a gentle reminder that the club is a community of people who care about each other.

I would like to extend my thanks to Geoff Curtis, our past president, for his guidance the last two years, preparing me to lead the club for the next two years and to David Shaw for volunteering to take on the role of vice president. Also, a huge thank you to John Murphy for his gentle guiding hand keeping the wheels on the bus.

My wife, Deborah, and I would like to wish you and yours a healthy and safe New Year.

Mike Firmin, President
Grimsby Probus Club

A NEW BEGIN…….. WHAT WILL THE NEW YEAR BRING?

Celebrating or quietly contemplating the first day of the year, you may ask yourself what this new 2026 will bring. Some of it is already known and planned. Others, in these sometimes anxious and uncertain times, we will not know. What we do know is that it will be a year of significant anniversaries, such as the 25th anniversary of the first Canadian spacewalk and the 25th anniversary of Canada's response to the September 11, 2001 attacks, and the 50th anniversary of Canada hosting its first Olympic Games. In the sports world Canada will co-host the FIFA World Cup.

How ever with all these events in the future, have you ever asked yourself how the New Year's Day, as we know it. began? Civilizations around the world, believe it or not, have been celebrating the start of each new year for at least four millennia. The earliest record of a new year celebration was in Mesopotamia around 2000 B.C; and later by the Egyptians, Phoenicians and Persians. It all had to do with the "equinox", when the sun crosses the celestial equator, and day and night are of equal length.

Today's New Year's Day stems from an old Roman custom, the feast of the god Janus who had two faces, one looking back to the past, and the other looking forward in the future. In 45 B.C and following years Julius Ceasar did a calendar reform, starting with January 1. Around the Middle Ages, in many places, the new year began in March, but in the 16th century the first day of the year was restored to January 1. Now, in the Northern Hemisphere, each year during summer solstice and the winter solstice the sun reaches its highest or lowest point in the sky, marked by the longest (June 21) and shortest (December 21) days, Today New Year's festivities begin on December 31 - New Year's Eve -, the last day of the Gregorian calendar, and continue into the early hours of January 1 - New Year's Day.

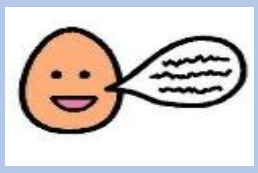
So mix into each day one part each of faith, patience, courage and work. And add each day one part of hope, faithfulness, generosity, and kindness, blend with one part of prayer, one part of meditation, and one good deed. You're bound to have a happy new year.

Another Chance

A bright, shiny new year,
empty, neat, pristine,
waiting, ready
for us to get it right.
Another chance
to love and forgive.
Another chance
to make a real effort
to give more than we get.
Another chance
to make a difference.
A good new year.
A Happy New Year

Joanna Fuchs

So They Say



"Every man has two ends – one to think with and one to sit with. What he accomplishes depends on which he chooses: heads he wins, tails he loses." -

Bits & Pieces

A 90-year -old man was asked to what he attributed his longevity. "I reckon," he said, "it' because most nights I went to bed and slep when I should have sat and worried."

Kent (1961-1990)

"It's not generous, nor glory, nor love that re flects the greatness of human soul.
It is kindness".

Jean-Batiste-Henry Lacordiere