

# ProBUZZ

Don Blain - Editor

## 27 January Meeting

### COMING EVENTS IN 2015

**Feb. 24**

K-W Jazz  
Society

Stephen  
Preece

Lunch Bunch

**Benny's**

---

**March 31**

Cardio  
Centre

Dr. John  
Schaman

## Kim Linfield – Hear For Life

In order to understand hearing loss, it is important to first have a basic understanding of the anatomy of the ear. The ear is made up of three parts: the Outer Ear, the Middle Ear, and the Inner Ear. All sound sources send sound waves, or vibrations, into the air, and these are funneled into the ear canal by the Outer Ear. Once the sound waves reach the eardrum, they pass into the Middle Ear, where they are conducted by small bones to the Inner Ear. The Inner Ear contains the auditory nerve, and this is where sound vibrations are processed into sound our brain can understand.

This is the natural function of a working ear, but damage or irregularity in any of these three parts can result in a hearing loss. Listed below are the basic questions that are frequently discussed when learning about hearing loss. What are the causes of hearing loss?

Hearing loss may be caused by a variety of factors, ranging from the accumulation of earwax and the perforation of the eardrum to excessive exposure to noise, hereditary factors and age. Other causes include previous ear infections, colds and respiratory issues, childhood diseases and head traumas. The only way to be certain about a hearing loss, and its causes, is to have a certified hearing healthcare professional conduct a complete hearing test.

Are there different types of hearing loss? Yes, there are two types, conductive hearing loss and sensorineural hearing loss. Conductive hearing loss originates from problems occurring in the Outer Ear or the Middle Ear, such as excessive earwax and infection. Sensorineural hearing loss results from problems in the Inner Ear, which tend to be caused by factors such as head injuries and, most frequently, age.

There are also four designated levels of hearing loss: mild, moderate, severe and profound. These are categorized based on the decibel level the person with hearing loss is unable to hear. For example, those with a mild hearing loss will be unable to hear sounds between 26dB and 40dB – these are sounds like birds chirping or leaves rustling in the trees. Someone with a profound hearing loss cannot hear sounds below 81dB of volume, which would include the sounds of a truck rumbling down a street, a rock band or the sound of a gunshot. These designations are instrumental in determining the kind of hearing aid that is appropriate in solving each person's loss.

# Club NEWS

## Membership

We currently have 121 members, 4 honorary members with room for 19 more.

Three applications for membership have been put forward by Bob Schmidt our Membership Chair.

Mike Campbell a retired teacher, sponsored by Don Grant.

Marc Verhoeve a retired teacher sponsored by Doug Sullivan

Kerry Long a retired financial consultant sponsored by Brian Hendley

Any comments contact Bob Schmidt - 519-576-9994 or [bobteddy@sentex.net](mailto:bobteddy@sentex.net)

Nov... 50/50 Draw

1. Kerry Long (Guest)
2. Jim Isreal

January Attendance

81 Members     3 Guests

Duty Roster

February 24, 2015

Intro: Gordon Coyne  
Thank: Don Willcox

Who Am I?

February – Don Fiskin

Lunch Bunch

February – Benny's

## Wellness Report

If you know of a member who is ill, please advise **Paul Kett** (Health and Wellness Chair) so he can follow up . 519-725-4994 or [exuxrev@rogers.com](mailto:exuxrev@rogers.com)

## FROM THE EDITOR

Last meeting the Management Committee tried something new to get men to mix with new people by placing a dot on your name tag. Management Committee feels it was positive and will try it again in the future.

President Bruce has accepted the resignation of **Ron Dodds** as Director at Large. He will be out of the country for 5 months. He enjoyed working with our group , but feels he can't do justice to the job, being away.

**Karl Kaufman** has accepted the offer to replace Ron as Director at Large. We welcome him and he is a fine addition to the Management Committee

If you know someone who has not been attending, contact them to see if they need transportation to the meeting.

Car Rally is October 22, 2015

Don't forget your books for the Book Exchange Table

# Who Am I

## **Bill Cunningham**

I was born and raised in Prince Edward County. It was rural and a bit isolated, essentially a peninsula in eastern Lake Ontario. Its residents refer to it as “The County”. After my father returned from war service in the RCAF in late 1945, my parents took over the family grocery store in Picton. I was born in November 1946. I have two older sisters and a younger brother. When I was 12, my parents sold the store and bought a farm. I loved the farm life. I spent a lot of time working beside my father. We had long conversations, about sports, politics, and much else, including the breeding of Holstein dairy cattle. I was recently reminded of this, when stories appeared in the media about a famous Canadian Holstein bull, Rosafe Signet, which was sold to Cuba in 1961. He had a huge impact on that country’s dairy industry. In Cuba, it is said, every school child knows his name, and the recent stories described a campaign to construct a statue of him. His name and those of several of his relatives were familiar to me from more than 50 years ago.

Let me tell you how I went from farm boy to mathematician. My high school math teacher had connections with mathematicians at the University of Waterloo. When I was in grade 11, he convinced the local school board to bus a dozen students to Waterloo for a two-day visit. We stayed in professors’ homes. Perhaps I was easy to impress, but I was impressed, and immediately decided that I was going to study mathematics at Waterloo. Through the remaining two or three years, I stuck to that decision. While writing my thesis, I was fortunate to spend four months at Cornell University in New York state. It was a great experience. My hosts at Cornell knew about an opening at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and encouraged me to apply. I did get the job.

Our time in Baltimore was short, only three and a half years, but it was eventful. We were raising a family and living in a big American city while the Vietnam War and the Watergate scandal were going on. While we were in Baltimore, I continued to look for an opportunity to return to Canada. Eventually, I was offered a position at Carleton University in Ottawa. It wasn’t an easy decision—we were happy in Baltimore—but it was closer to the extended family, and closer to my dream job in Waterloo.

It was during my time at Carleton that I had the opportunity to spend three years at a research institute in Bonn, West Germany. It was very exciting. There were visitors from all over the world, and I had research collaborations with several. It was a great adventure for our family too. We were able to see a lot of Europe, mostly travelling in old cars. We returned to Canada with many fond memories and a number of stories, often about language problems or car problems, but all with happy endings.

In 1990, IBM Research in New York hired three senior people from the optimization group at Waterloo. That left a big gap. It led to an open senior position, and I was hired. At last I had my dream job! We moved to Waterloo in 1991, and in some ways it has felt as though I never left. I have been very happy here, with outstanding colleagues, excellent students, and highly competent leadership.

But by far the most significant task, was serving as chair of my department, which I did for eight years. It was challenging, requiring a different skill set, but ultimately very satisfying. One interesting aspect of the chair position was that, for five of those years, my wife Pat was alumni officer for the math faculty.

Speaking of Pat, we have been married for 46 years. We met in high school, we were married while we were undergraduate students, we had our first child when I was a graduate student, and the second when we were living in Baltimore. Our son Michael is a librarian in Cambridge, and our son Adrian is a pharmacist in Peterborough. Adrian and his wife Robyn have twin nine-year-old daughters. And of course we are very proud parents and grandparents.

**Editors Note:** This is a very condensed version of Bill's Who Am I. See the Probuzz Web Page under [Historic Who Am I](#) for the full text.

# Meeting Pictures

Thanks – Dolf Bogad



Ray Millard Thanks Kim Linfield



Bill Cunningham



# Back PAGE



## True Embarassing Medical Exams

A man comes into the ER and yells....'My wife's going to have her baby in the cab.'  
I grabbed my stuff, rushed out to the cab, lifted the lady's dress and began to take off  
her underwear. Suddenly I noticed that there were several cabs and I was in the  
wrong one.

*Submitted by Dr. Mark MacDonald ,  
San Francisco*

At the beginning of my shift I placed a stethoscope on an elderly and slightly  
deaf female patient's anterior chest wall. 'Big breaths,' . . . I instructed.  
'Yes, they used to be,' . . . replied the patient.

*Submitted by Dr. Richard Byrnes ,  
Seattle , WA*