



Probis Club of Central Edmonton

May 2017

Editor: Ken Hoffman

Speaker: May 23,– Fern Jean, “Haying in the 30’s”

On May 23rd, we enjoyed a presentation from Fern Jean on “Haying in the 30’s” this event is put on to raise money to “...to provide financial assistance to those faced with cancer...” They do their “...best to help out with costs such as transportation, fuel, lodging, etc.”

Haying in the 30’s is a festival that takes place on the August long weekend of each year. It started in 1999. The festival is held by Mallaig, Alberta which is 2.5 hours north east of Edmonton past Ashmont. Three important points to note are:

1. Festival workers are all volunteers
2. All funds raised at the Festival are used to aid cancer patients
3. Every part of the festival is free
4. People are asked for donations.

We saw an extensive slide show containing pictures from the event. The pictures illustrate the many events and attractions. Such as:

- building from the era, including a church, blacksmith shop, carpentry shop, saloon and many others
- horse teams
- various activities which illustrate working horses
- live band
- community meals

Also, it was clear that it was a very family friendly event. One members noted that it looked better than Fort Edmonton.

Some statistics from last year are 380 campers were provided spaces and they fed 2300 people. The festival benefits from up to a hundred volunteers. Since inception it has raised about \$4.5 million.

For more information check the website <http://www.hayinginthe30s.com/>.

Tour: June 7– Diane David, Whitemud Equine Learning Centre

Well, we had great weather for the tour of the Whitemud Equine Learning Centre Association on June 7th. Our tour guide, Executive Director, started us right on time at 10:30 a.m. taking us to the log cabin. She then provided an informative talk covering the history, services, horses, new building, and other information. Members asked numerous questions which she ably answered. With respect to history, it started in 1915 with Captain Frederick Anson Keillor, M.D. purchasing the land (61 acres) which is now the Equine Centre. He and his family built the house on the land and ran a farm until 1950 when it was leased as the Leecall riding area. The City acquired parts of the land for various reasons through to the mid 1970’s when it finalized the acquisition of all the remaining land. It was renamed then Whitemud Riding Academy later in the 1970’s. It is now the

home of Whitemud Equine Learning Centre Association which leases it from the City. The Association is helping to "...develop people of strength and contributors to the Edmonton community. Through our equine-related activities, we will increase our role in creating a better quality of life for all Edmontonians." Services available include: horse riding lessons, Therapeutic Riding, training for high school students, and veterinary students. Recently, it has provided riding experience to the homeless and youth at risk.

This picture shows the attendees checking out the site. You can see the new arena in the background. It will be available for use in July.



If you are wondering what has captured attention of some, here it is. It is one of the 35 owned the Association. The remaining horses to a total of 59 on site are boarded by private owners.



Next, we were taken to the Keillor buildings, which is in the picture below:



The next picture is the interior of the building. The individual David is looking at is our tour guide.



Finally, two pictures of the interior of the current arena which will be demolished when the new one opens.



As noted a great day for all and a special thanks to the Association and our tour guide.