



Probus Club of Ottawa-Rideau Valley ~ *A Meeting of Minds*

**February 1, 2012 (10 a.m.)**

**Tomkins Hall, St. James Anglican Church**

**1188 Bridge Street, Manotick, Ontario, K4M 1A4**

**Website: [www.probusorv.org](http://www.probusorv.org)**

**The Sinai Surgeon**

**Speaker: Dr. R. Mervyn Letts**

In 1966/67, Dr. Letts was an RCAF medical officer serving as a surgical resident at the National Defence Medical Centre in Ottawa when he was posted with the United Nations Emergency Force to the Sinai in the run-up to the Six Day War. As well as caring for Canadian troops, he made many trips into the desert to care for Bedouin tribesmen and their families. He subsequently wrote a book about his experiences, titled *The Sinai Surgeon*. On his return to Canada, Dr. Letts sub-specialized in pediatric orthopedic surgery and was appointed Head of Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Manitoba and then at the University of Ottawa. He also served as Head of Surgery at the Winnipeg Children's Hospital and at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. In 2003, Dr. Letts stepped down from the latter post and was asked to set up a pediatric orthopedic program by the United Arab Emirates government in Abu Dhabi. He is now retired and living in Ottawa.

**Refreshments will be available from 9.30 a.m. Don't forget your nametags!**

**Lunch following the February meeting:** The Pearl House Chinese Restaurant, Manotick.

**Coffee volunteers:** Willing to serve coffee at a meeting? Call Fanny Afshar at 613-596-6679 or e-mail her at [secretary@probusorv.org](mailto:secretary@probusorv.org)

**Special events:** A visit to the Library and Archives Canada Preservation Centre at 625 du Carrefour Blvd. in Gatineau is planned for Thursday, February 16, at 11 a.m. The guided tour will take two hours. Parking is limited, so carpooling is recommended. Sign up at the February meeting, or phone Ben Sorensen at 613-692-9966.

**March guest speaker:** Liz Ballantyne-Jackson will talk about the Guatemala Stove Project.

**Striders and Gliders:** The next ski trip is on Friday, February 17, at 10 a.m. at the Nepean Sportsplex (east side of Woodrooffe Avenue, just south of Hunt Club Road). Park near the bush, not near the Sportsplex. If you are unsure of the location, meet Brian Sawyer at the Manotick Public Library parking lot at 9.20 a.m. Brian will send out a reminder two days beforehand. For more information, call him at 613-692-6300.

**Website:** Links to the slide shows and, in most cases, the audios of all our latest talks (up to January 2012) have been added to the *Past Speakers Events and Activities* page. The *Home* page now contains a link to the website of our host facility, St. James Anglican Church.

**Changing your mailing or e-mail address?** Call Jeff at 613-692-6273 to ensure continued delivery of this newsletter.

**Know a Probus member who is ill?** Call Kathy Pitcher (613-822-8739). She will send a card.