

# FORUM

MONTHLY NEWSMAGAZINE  
FOR MEMBERS OF THE  
ESCARPMENT PROBUS CLUB  
MILTON, ONTARIO, CANADA

30+ YEARS OF PROBUS IN CANADA

VOLUME 6 - ISSUE 03 - MARCH 2018



**Robyn Balfour**  
*President*

## *The Story of the Probus 'P'*

*Canada Probus month is March... let's celebrate with cake.*

**T**he word Probus is an abbreviation of the words, PROfessional and BUSiness however membership is not restricted to these two groups. The concept of Probus was born in the UK over 40 years ago. The idea was conceived by a Rotarian Ralph Harper. Probus is now a worldwide success. One Australian gentlemen said to Ralph Harper, in the seventies, that "Probus is the best export the UK has ever had".



**RALPH HARPER**  
1928 - 2010



It was decided early on that the logo had to be based around a 'P' in a circle. 'P' for "Probus", encompassed by a circle, representing the circle of friends and companions gathered together as a club. The 'P' had to be original (as was Probus) and to fit inside the circle, to be rounded, pleasing, proud and outstanding.

The surround takes a strong influence from the high and low sections of a castle wall. This is set within a complete circle to denote the strength of friendship and sense of belonging that must be a true and generous desire of every Probian badge wearer, to promote their Club with pride.

At Escarpment Probus, we are proud to celebrate Probus Canada Month in March with "Member's Time to Shine". Joanne Millichamp, our founder member will talk on how we got started as a club with interesting information of milestone achievements over the past 4 and half years. Paul Crawford will lead the Travelogue Group, who will share their wonderful time spent on the International Escarpment Probus Travel to Austria and Italy last year. A meeting not to be missed.



— THE SOCIAL SCENE —

## *Summer Picnic*

Save the Date! July 12, 2018

Where: Lowville Park

Stay tuned for details in upcoming months

Reach us on the web at - [www.escarpmentprobus.com](http://www.escarpmentprobus.com)

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**FORUM - ESCARPMENT PROBUS CLUB NEWSMAGAZINE**



This PROBUS Club is open to both ladies and gentlemen members.  
The newsmagazine is published monthly in PDF format on our website. There are a limited number of printed copies that may be picked up at the monthly meeting.  
Our web site is: [www.escarpmentprobuss.com](http://www.escarpmentprobuss.com)  
Annual Membership is \$45 per person - One time only fee of \$20 for your name badge.  
**Meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month at 9:30am at the Conference & Event Centre, 121 Chisholm Dr., Milton, Ontario, L9T 4A6**

**FORUM Deadlines**

Articles and pictures for publication should be received no later than seven days after the regular monthly meeting.  
Stories and articles may be emailed to the Editor or submitted to any member of the Management Committee.  
Escarpment PROBUS Club reserves the right to refuse, edit, or change any copy or pictures submitted.

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If you know someone who you feel would be interested in joining the Escarpment PROBUS Club please forward this newsmagazine with our compliments.

**ACTIVITIES AND SOCIAL EVENTS CONVENOR'S INFORMATION**

Board Games - <i>Joker Club</i>	2nd Thurs. - 1:30 pm & 4th Wed. - 1 pm	Auriel Halliday	905-336-2430	aurielh@gmail.com
Board Games - <i>Scrabble</i>	2nd Wed. - 1 pm	Petra Halk	905-876-0248	petra.halk@gmail.com
Book Club - <i>First Edition</i>	2nd Mon. - 1 pm	Paul Crawford	289-878-4968	pauellencrawford@gmail.com
Book Club - <i>Ravenous Readers Recycle</i>	3rd Wed. - Probuss Meeting	Ellen Crawford	289-878-4968	pauellencrawford@gmail.com
Book Club - <i>Sequel</i>	2nd Wed. - 10 am	Catherine Parr	289-878-5550	4catparr@gmail.com
Book Club - <i>Trilogy</i>	2nd Wed. - 10 am	Linda Green	289-851-8655	lgreen@sympatico.ca
Cards - <i>Bid Euchre</i>	3rd Thurs. - 1:30 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Cards - <i>Bridge Club</i>	1st Tues. - 1 pm	Jeanne Reid	289-878-9920	jreid345@cogeco.ca
Cards - <i>Canasta</i>	4th Mon. - 7 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Cards - <i>Cribbage - Card Sharps</i>	2nd Mon. - 7 pm	Martin Capper	905-693-0354	martin@martincapper.com
Cards - <i>Euchre</i>	3rd Tues. - 1:15 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Club Français	TBD	Anne-Françoise Gibbard	905-854-3781	anne@gibbard.net
Crafts - Knitting Club - <i>Chicks with Sticks</i>	<b>Thurs. after Probuss meeting - 10:30 am</b>	Chris Willekes	905-820-0269	chriswillekes@gmail.com
Crafts - Quilting Club - <i>Piece Makers</i>	1st Mon. - 1 pm	Diane Comstock	905-876-4909	meljenscc@sympatico.ca
Dining - <i>Lunch Bunch</i>	3rd Wed. - Probuss Meeting	Bonnie Lennox	416-899-7727	bblennox@live.ca
Dining - <i>Nosh@Nite</i>	4th Fri. - 5:30 pm	Paul & Ellen Crawford	289-878-4968	pauellencrawford@gmail.com
Dining - <i>Nosh+Natter</i>	1st & 2nd Fri. - 5:30 pm	Gillian Reynolds	905-878-1636	gilliana@cogeco.ca
Dining - <i>Nosh+Natter</i>	1st & 2nd Fri. - 5:30 pm	Gillian Reynolds	905-878-1636	gilliana@cogeco.ca
Dining - <i>The Supper Club</i>	Scheduled by convenor	Auriel Halliday	905-336-2430	aurielh@gmail.com
Friendship Club	4th Wed. - 10 am	Judy Krauss	289-878-8194	judykrauss@gmail.com
Movie Club - <i>Oscar Nights</i>	2nd Tues. - 7 pm	Marilyn Armstrong	905-875-7336	Marilyn.Armstrong12@gmail.com
Sports - Bowling - <i>10 Pin</i>	Last Wed. - 3 pm	Stephanie Hamnett	905-299-7200	shamnett1@hotmail.com
Sports - Golf Club - <i>Pin Seekers</i>	May - Sept.	Harold O'Brien	289-851-8477	harold0727@rogers.com
Walkers - <i>Track &amp; Nordic Pole</i>	Every Mon. & Fri. - 11 am	Liz & Cliff Read	905-864-1565	cliff.read@cogeco.ca
Walkers - <i>Trail Walkers</i>	Every Tues. - 1:30 pm	Ronald Flannagan	905-332-6310	rflannagan@cogeco.ca
Whisky Club - <i>The D'stillers</i>	1st Wed. - 7 pm	Chris Strachan	905-878-0812	anstrac1945@yahoo.ca
Wine Tasting - <i>Grapenuts</i>	1st Mon. & Thurs., 2nd Wed. - 7 pm	Michael Hooker	905-878-8953	mhooker10@bell.net
Wine Tasting - <i>Grapenuts</i>	1st Mon. & Thurs., 2nd Wed. - 7 pm	Michael Hooker	905-878-8953	mhooker10@bell.net
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**New date and/or time**

*Photographer at large:*  
Lorrette Shermet

## Our March Speakers

### Member's Time to Shine!

Joanne Millichamp, the Founding Member of Escarpment Probus, will enlighten us with a brief history of how our club was formed and our activities to-date.



Paul Crawford and his fellow travellers will be sharing their delights from the recent Probus trip to Austria and Italy.

## Our April Speaker

### Eric Conroy and the S.S. Keewatin



**E**ric Conroy has achieved many things in his 50+ year career... but his first job, and his current job, may be the most notable.

In 1963 and 1964 teenager Eric Conroy worked summers as a waiter aboard one of the last ships of the Canadian Pacific Great Lakes Fleet, the S.S. Keewatin, and found it to be the defining experience of his life. In July 2011 newly retired Eric Conroy undertook the return of the century-old ship to her home port, which he completed in June 2012, and now acts as captain of the charity which operates her as an historical attraction.

Eric was awarded The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for the historic task of returning Keewatin to Canada from the United States. He is a "DISTINGUISHED MEMBER" of the ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE Officers and NCO Messes, a "LIFETIME HONORARY MEMBER" of THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE. He has also been awarded the "ORDER OF BULGARIA" and is an active member of "THE APOSTLES OF IRELAND".

"A STEAK IN THE DRAWER" is Eric's first-person recollection of experiences as a waiter on a Canadian Pacific Railways Great Lakes ship at 17 and 18. Sold out in Michigan where it was originally published in 2010 to great reviews, it was revised and republished in Canada in June 2012, and has since sold over 10,000 copies.

The story of the seemingly impossible task of extricating the 350 foot, 3 story high, 8 million pound Keewatin from the mud of the Kalamazoo River in Michigan, and returning her to her home port of Port McNicoll, Ontario, is the subject of BRING HER ON HOME, irregularly shown on CBC's documentary channel. But nothing can equate to that same story told by the person who lived the experience...

“

*The great difference between voyages rests not with the ships, but with the people you meet on them.*

”

*Amelia Barr*



# The Piano Maker

By Joy Castello - Correspondent

On Monday, February 12th, The First Edition Book Club met at Joy Castello's home to discuss "The Piano Maker" by Kurt Palka.



The story takes place in the 1930s in Saint Homais, a fictional French-speaking town in Nova Scotia. H el ene Giroux, a woman in her 40s, arrives alone in her car with all her belongings. Here she hopes to find refuge and an escape from traumas of her past. She enters the Catholic church and sees a Molnar piano, a fine old grand piano that was manufactured by her family in France before the great war. H el ene becomes the new church pianist and choir accompanist and it's not long before everyone discovers she is a woman of mystery and dark secrets. Through her friendships with Mildred the innkeeper and David the shoemaker, details of H el ene's past are slowly revealed. Flashbacks tell of the tragedies of H el ene's earlier life: the death of her soldier husband, the hardships of war and later the death of her mother. H el ene eventually must sell her piano factory and in order for her and her young daughter to survive, she decides to be a business partner with Nathan Homewood, an American and former suitor with questionable business practices. It is Nathan who haunts her still and when the RCMP arrest H el ene and charge her with his murder, the true events are told. Suspense and mystery follow H el ene through France and World War I, to the forests of Indochina in search of ancient relics, to the harshness of the Canadian North and finally to the courtroom in Saint Homais.

The group enjoyed the book and gave an average rating of 7.5 - 8 out of 10. Some of the criticism stems from the unlikely exploits of H el ene who could manage a piano factory and command a team of sled dogs with equally effortless skill. H el ene Giroux is another example of a strong female protagonist that Palka often features in his novels.

The next meeting will be held at Lorette Shermet's home on March 12th.

# Mexican Train and Five Crowns

by Stephen Comstock - Convenor

Jenny O'Brien was the hostess for our board game afternoon on February 14. Five members played several rounds of "Mexican Train". Lorette showed us how to play "Five Crowns".

Afterwards we celebrated Valentine's Day with a scrumptious "Heart" cake baked by Jenny.

The next get-together will be March 14 at 1pm at Grace Anglican Church. Steve and Diane will be hosting, and will bring the game "Ticket to Ride".

If you have a favourite game, bring it along and join us!!





**April 6, 2018**

6:30 - 10:30pm

Banquet Hall Royal Canadian Legion Branch 136!

Team registration at 6:45pm

Quiz starts 7:00pm

**\$25** per person (includes food)

Cash bar - Legion prices

Come out and enjoy a fun evening of challenging questions and playful competition

There will be a cash bar, a pub style meal, and a number of prizes.

Arrange your team of 2-5 players with a unique name - Prize for the best name!

Individuals who have not prearranged teams can do so at registration.

Surplus after paying for food & hall will be the prize fund to be divided

50% to winning team

30% to second place

20% to third

In the event of a tie - prize will be divided equally between tied teams!

## Animal Groups

*Courtesy of Michelle Tschirhart and Princess Cruises*

**E**veryone knows a Gaggle of Geese, but do you know what you call groups in the rest of the animal kingdom? Fill in the blanks with the appropriate group name (to help you they are listed below)

- |                       |                         |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| A _____ of Apes       | A _____ of Pigs         | A _____ of Finches      |
| A _____ of Bass       | A _____ of Porpoises    | A _____ of Foxes        |
| A _____ of Boars      | A _____ of Ravens       | A _____ of Hens         |
| A _____ of Clams      | A _____ of Sparrows     | A _____ of Lions        |
| A _____ of Coyote     | A _____ of Storks       | A _____ of Moles        |
| A _____ of Crows      | A _____ of Toads        | A _____ of Oxen         |
| A _____ of Doves      | A _____ of Turkeys      | A _____ of Pheasants    |
| A _____ of Emus       | A _____ of Babboons     | A _____ of Ponies       |
| A _____ of Flies      | A _____ of Beavers      | A _____ of Rattlesnakes |
| A _____ of Greyhounds | A _____ of Caterpillars | A _____ of Seals        |
| A _____ of Jellyfish  | A _____ of Cobras       | A _____ of Squirrels    |
| A _____ of Magpies    | A _____ of Crocodiles   | A _____ of Swallows     |
| A _____ of Owls       | A _____ of Dogs         | A _____ of Trout        |
| A _____ of Parrots    | A _____ of Elks         | A _____ of Turtles      |

*Answers in the  
April Forum*

Army - Bale - Band - Bed - Brood - Charm - Colony - Company - Dray - Dule - Flight - Float - Gang - Herd - Host - Hover - Knot - Labour - Leach - Litter - Mob - Murder - Mustering - Nest - Pack - Parliament - Pod - Pride - Quiver - Rafter - Rhumba - Shoal - Shrewdness - Skulk - Smack - Sounder - String - Swarm - Tiding - Troop - Unkindness - Yoke

# Oh Look, Fabric

by Diane Comstock - Convenor

Since the new fabric shop in town is closed on Mondays, our February meeting was postponed to later in the week. On Friday, Feb. 9, four members of the Piece Makers explored Oh Look, Fabric on Main



Street. We found some unique fabrics, handmade gifts, and the possibility of attending a workshop. We all loved the manner in which she had arranged the displays, it made it easy to imagine how a quilt would look using a combination of fabrics. We then had a lovely lunch at Bistro On Main.

Quilting Term of the month:  
*Pre-Cut Fabric* – Types of coordinating

fabric bundles that are pre-cut by the manufacturer. Charm Packs, Jelly Rolls, Fat Quarters, and Layer Cakes are some examples of pre-cuts.



Our next meeting is Monday, Mar. 5 at 1pm and will be hosted by Diane Comstock. New members, whether you are an experienced quilter or would like to learn, are always welcome.

*By Bonnie Lennox — Convenor*

Please join the Lunch Bunch after the Probus meeting at Bryden's Pub and Restaurant - 270 Main St East

Menu available on line (<http://www.brydenspub.com>)



*If you plan to attend, please sign the sheet on the table at the meeting before the break.*

“

*It is more fun to talk with someone who doesn't use long, difficult words but rather short, easy words, like 'What about lunch?'*

”

A. A. Milne

## SPRING INTO LUNCH

Tuesday March 27<sup>th</sup> 1 – 3 PM

PC Cooking School 820 Main St. E., Milton, On



Menu: Bruschetta Bread with Roasted Peppers  
Lemon Chicken with Greek Bulgur Farmer Salad  
Peanut Butter Blondie

Price: \$17.00

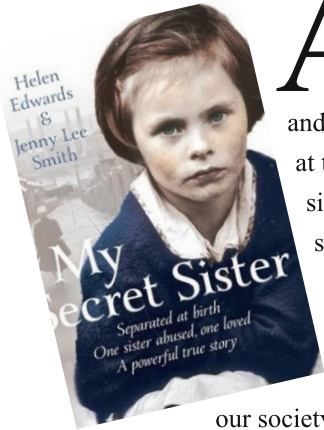
Escarpment Probus





# My Secret Sister

by Avril O'Reilly - Correspondent



A fantastic group of people met on February 14th to discuss the book "My Secret Sister" by Helen Edwards. This is a true story of twins separated at birth. One went to a loving family and the other one remained with her mother and suffered extreme abuse at the hands of both her mother and step father for most of her life. The sisters didn't know about the existence of the other until they were in their 50's. The story tells of how they found each other and went on to reveal many dark secrets.

The book kept the reader captivated from beginning to the end. The group felt sadness, anger, and disgust at what happened to these two women growing up.

The book also led to discussions about the many related social issues going on in our society today. A page turner.



## Bring a Book - Take a Book

By Ellen Crawford - Convenor

Remember to bring in your bestseller for others to enjoy

*Happy Reading!*



## Basic and Conversational Groups

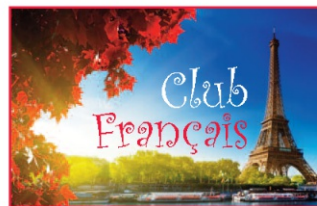
by Anne Gibbard - Convenor

Unfortunately, we have been unable to take major steps with the organization of the meetings due to illness in both of our houses, but we have taken some small ones. We have now 26

registered members, who have been divided (on the basis of stated preference) into two groups, Basic and Conversational. Members shall, of course, have the option of transferring from one group to the other if they feel that this will suit them better. By the next Probus general meeting, barring illness, we should be able to discuss our first meeting(s).

Pour la premiere reunion, j'ai achete quelques livres pour le niveau debutant et avec le conseil d'une directrice de lycee retraitee nous avons pris une methode pour les enfants faisant de l'immersion mais j'ai aussi une methode plus serieuse pour adulte et bien-sur un livre de grammaire mais tout cela sera discute lors de notre premiere rencontre.

*Dans le Plaisir de vous voir bientot  
Amicalement  
Anne et John*



“

*I'm quite into the French way - simple elegance with just a suggestion of sexiness, nothing vulgar.*

”

*Michelle Dockery*

## Wedding Photos

by Gillian Reynolds - Convenor



**C**arole and Alan Pond's decision to postpone their February Nosh Natter for a week due to sickness and bad weather turned out to be a good one. The weather was fine and everyone had a good time. Their house was decked out for



the Valentine's Day theme with splashes of red everywhere (not the wine, fortunately!) We had fun sharing our wedding photos, which we had been asked to bring along. Later in the evening, Anne Marie (a former Marriage Officiant) conducted a group renewal of wedding vows ceremony, although the interruptions and rude remarks made it hard for us to take the matter seriously. Lots of good food and wine topped off the fun event.



## Plenty of Laughter

by Maggie Boothe - Correspondent

**N**osh was held at the home of Michael and Maggie Boothe on February 2nd where plenty of laughter ensued along with the consumption of copious amounts of food. There was lots of talk about all the adventurous trips that were planned for the coming months and a great time was

had by all.



## Keeping our Membership Up-to-Date

By Maggie Boothe - Membership Chair

**P**lease let me know of any changes to your contact information (address, phone number, email) so I can keep our records up-to-date. Email me at [mbdice5@gmail.com](mailto:mbdice5@gmail.com).



# Cards in the Country

By Jeanne Reid - Convenor

**O**n Tuesday, Feb. 6 our bridge club met in Campbellville at the home of Bev and Jack Moreland. It was a beautiful, sunny winter day in the country. 12 avid bridge players enjoyed the afternoon and the tasty treats.



Jeanne Reid came first with Eleanor Shannon in second place. Our next bridge will be at the home of Vicky Lenarduzzi on March 6th. It will be hosted by Ginny and Vicky.

# Olympic Whiskey Tasting

By Chris Strachan - Convenor

**T**he second D'Stillers meeting for 2018 was held at my home where I supplied five whiskeys from five different countries for our tasting pleasure, they were rated as follows:



The winning whiskey of the evening was 'Paul John Brilliance' single malt, from of all places 'India'. This whiskey scored 78%, has an alcohol by volume (ABV) of 46%, and cost \$52. I purchased this in the UK, but I have been told that this whiskey is now available for sale in Canada. The Paul John barley comes from the foothills of the Himalayan mountains. This whiskey is distilled, matured, and bottled in Goa. Goa has the highest GDP per capita among all the Indian states. Goa is a former Portuguese province; the overseas territory of Portuguese India existed for about 450 years until it was annexed by India in 1961.



 'Brexit' made in Austria. According to the labels' graphics this was a snub to Britain for opting out of the European Union. This whiskey scored 75%, is 43.3% ABV, and cost \$60, needless to say it is not available for sale in Canada. The EU countries import 1/3rd of all Scotch whiskeys distilled. If and when Britain eventually leaves the EU perhaps this will affect the importation of whisky.



'Rebel Yell' a Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey with a score of 67%, is 40% ABV, and it was on sale for \$28 regularly \$40. This whiskey is made from wheat instead of rye for a lighter taste. Maybe in the future the 'Rebel Yell' name will go the way of the Rebel Flag....we'll just have to wait and see. The Rolling Stones, Britain's music rebels, have been know to drink 'Rebel Yell'.



'West Cork Bourbon Cask', an Irish Blended whiskey. It scored 65%, has an ABV of 40%, and costs \$45. Ireland's last Independent Distillery and the only distillery to malt it's own barley onsite.



'Glen Ardoch' single malt whisky with a score of 62%, is 40% ABV, and was purchased in Austria for 11 Euros approx. \$16.50. This is an export version of Deanston single malt distributed in France, Austria, Germany, and Italy. Not available in Canada.



Oops, I erred last month, I inadvertantly reported that 'Kavalan' whisky was from South Korean when in fact is was from Taiwan.

Thanks to Anna for hosting the DD's and the DD's for getting my whiskey aficionados home safe and sound. The March 7th meeting will be held at the home of Barb and Al Finnie.

# Busy Schedule

by Anne Marie Stockley - Chair



**Y**our Activity Committee is making sure that you have a busy schedule for the Spring, Summer, and into the Fall months. There are just a couple of housekeeping comments that I need to make.

Please try to pay for the events you are signing up for when you register. This allows us to make the necessary deposits to the venues we are booking. If you are paying in cash, please be sure to get a receipt from the Activity Committee. Also, we want to remind everyone that we have a column on the sign-up sheets that you can check off if you need a ride to an event.

We had our Bowling Tournament on Wednesday, February 28th. You'll hear more about that at our general meeting on March 21st.

Next up is our SPRING INTO LUNCH, Tuesday, March 27th. We start at 1:00 and the chef cooks us a full lunch. For your Spring menu you will learn how to create Bruschetta with Roasted Peppers as an appetizer and Lemon Chicken will be the entrée. You won't need dinner after this event. The chef is happy to answer questions and you will go home with the recipes to try yourself. \$17.00, 1-3 pm in the Upstairs Kitchen of Superstore. Payment will be due at our March General meeting.

*Details on page 6*

QUIZ AND PUB NIGHT on Friday, April 6th, at the Royal Canadian Legion, 21 Charles Street, Milton. Doors open at 6:30 and we expect the Quiz to run until 10:00. Teams of 4-5 can be entered, but if you are not part of a team we match you up. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams and there is a prize for the best name of a Team. Every Team must have a name. \$25 includes the evening's events and a light lunch. The cash bar will be open at 6:30.

*Details on page 5*

"The Odd Couple" on Sunday, May 6th at 2pm presented by The Milton Players @ the Milton Arts Centre followed by drinks/dinner. Cost of the show is \$29. Details in the upcoming months.

In honour of the Royal Wedding, HIGH TEA is being served on Thursday, May 17th at the Escarpment Tea Room, 104 Tremaine Road North, Milton. Cost is \$32, and the doors open at 12:00 noon. We would like to have one or two on the wait list so feel free to register. Payment for this event is due at the March General Meeting.

*Details on page 13*

Two Garden events are planned for the summer. On Wednesday, June 27th we will be going to PLANT PARADISE COUNTRY GARDENS, in Caledon. Final arrangements are being made at this time, but I can tell you that the guided tour of the 24 acres of botanical gardens is about \$12. Lunch at a local restaurant in Alton Mills will follow. This will be a car pool event.

A visit to WHISTLING GARDENS, in Brantford, on Thursday, July 19th starting at 10:00 am. Entrance to the Gardens and tour will be about \$14.00. Arrangements for lunch are still being made, but keep the date open if you are a gardening fan.

Other activities we are scheduling for the summer include MINI-PUTT at Rock Chapel, Bocce, and for the golfers and anyone who would like to give it a try, a NINE AND DINE evening. A local theatre afternoon is in the works.

A tour of THE WEATHER NETWORK is planned on October 16 and we will be going to the RACES again this fall. A train ride through the Fall colours in late October is also in the works.

# Noshing at the Shermet's

by Paul & Ellen Crawford - Convenor

The Nosh at Night group met at the Shermet's house with a strong contingent of 22 Probians on hand. Discussions on the past, present, and future configuration of the group were quite illuminating and productive in reaching resolution to carry on as we have been. The topic of "Outlanders" brought a lively discussion of "Hotness" (not related to the weather). Many topics were covered in small and larger groups throughout the evening with the increasing decibel level attesting to the energy of the moment.



Next Nosh: Robyn and Sandy - March 23



# Chicks with Sticks is Growing!

by Christine Willekes - Convenor

On Thursday February 22 the knitting/crochet group met at the home of Theresa Spano. Thank you Theresa for all of your wonderful homemade treats. We welcomed three new members, Josie Bruno, June Rushak, Gerry Kennedy.



The group has decided that we will hold our meetings on the day after a Probus meeting at 10:30am. The next four dates will be Thursday March 22, Thursday April 19, Thursday May 17, and Thursday June 21. The location is yet to be determined.

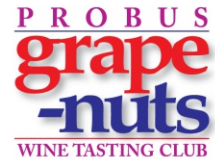
*Enjoy your needle work ladies.*





# Game Shows, Wine Sing-alongs, Lots of Other Goodies.

by Michael Hooker - Convenor



## **Petra Halk and Stephanie Hamnett** **Theme: "Obscure and Unknown" Wines**

Best White: El Camino Rectoral do Umia Albarino 2015, Spain, LCBO 492629, \$15.95, Score 12.9

Best Red: United Stars Kindzmarauli 2014, Georgia, LCBO 13961, \$15.95, Score 12.4



After we'd tasted all the wines, Petra and Stephanie challenged us to guess the theme of the evening via a game of "Guess the Phrase (Wheel of Fortune)" – she gave us the number of words and letters in each word, then each of us in turn picked a letter. Eventual winner was Ron Millichamp. And as part of the "revealing" of the wines, guests were asked to volunteer to recite or preferably sing the printed description of each wine!

## **Michelle and Jim Tschirhart** **Theme: Mediterranean Wines – France, Sicily, Spain**

Best White: Fazio Aegades Grillo 2015, Sicily, LCBO 388637, \$17.95, Score 13.2

Best Red: Feudo Maccari Noto Neso d"Avola, Sicily, LCBO 339101, \$18.95, Score 15.5



## **Auriel Halliday and Don Evans** **Theme: Italy – Chianti and Prosecco**

Best White: Ruffino Prosecco, LCBO 407811, \$18.70, Score: 14.5

Best Red (a tie): Vinetti de Fiorini Chianti Superior DOCG. LCBO 488577, \$14.95 / Ruffino Chianti Classico Riserva Ducale, LCBO 45195, \$24.90, Score 13.2

Auriel changed the wine order around – first the Chiantis and then the Proseccos – which were accompanied by Valentines Day-influenced goodies – chocolate covered strawberries, melted Brie, and cherry chocolate mousse. Auriel also mentioned that worldwide, Prosecco is at least as popular as Champagne – at a fraction of the price!

More details on  
next page



# Valentine's Day = Italian Wine

by Auriel Halliday - Correspondent

**W**hat better day to have a wine tasting than Valentines Day? Which country to feature was an easy question....Italy of course. Wonderful wine, food and romance hiding in every nook and cranny.

Don and I chose to feature Chianti and, of course, Prosecco.

We know the Romans drank Chianti but it was not until three hundred years ago that the Grand Duke of Tuscany decreed that Chianti Wine could only be produced in the area between Florence and Sienna. Thus the world's first legally enforceable wine appellation was born.

We tasted three Chiantis, in a varied price range. There was a tie for favourite. Vinetti De Fiorini Chianti Superior Docg. priced at \$14.95 and the most expensive wine Ruffino Chianti Classico Riserva Ducale, at \$24.90 a bottle. Both scored an average of 13.18. In third place, but very close, was Melini Chianti Docg, at 12.45 points. It cost only \$11.95.

Now we came to the romantic part of the evening! Chocolate covered strawberries, melted brie and cherry chocolate mousse accompanied our bubbles. Prosecco also has an ancient history and it was mentioned by Pliny the Elder in 79 A.D. It is produced in the area north of Venice and because it uses the Tank method as opposed to the Methode Champenoise, it is far more inexpensive than Champagne. According to the Sparkling Wine Observatory, (yes there is such a thing) 307 million bottles of Prosecco were sold in 2013, compared to 304 million bottles of champagne. Please note also that the original Bellini was made in Harry's Bar, Venice in 1948, using Prosecco, not Champagne.

The three Proseccos we tasted were very similar and scored within 1.2 points of each other. The top bottle was Ruffino Prosecco at \$16.70, and scored 14.45 points. This was followed by the Villa Sandi Prosecco Il Fresco Doc, at \$14.95, with an average score of 14.45. The least popular, as so often happens, was the most expensive....Bisol Crede Brut Di Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore. It cost \$19.70 and scored 13.2.

So, you can picture us with thoughts of sitting in a Trattoria overlooking the Trevi Fountain in our minds and love in our hearts. Yes, a fun night. Thank you Michael for organizing the "Best Probus Club"

Thank you to our guests for making this evening so enjoyable. Saluti! Auriel and Don

PROBUS  
**grape**  
**-nuts**  
WINE TASTING CLUB

“

*Well, you know, when you go into a restaurant, one of the scariest things is the wine list, so whenever I'm really feeling intimidated, I'll just pick a wine type, like a Chianti or Brunello or a Burgundy, and I'll pick a year that's missing and ask for that one.*

”

Alton Brown

## Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's Royal Wedding

Escarpment Tea Room

Thursday May 17 @ Noon

Milton Italian Canadian Club, 104 Tremaine Road,  
north of Steeles.

Hats, Fascinators, and Cummerbunds are encouraged!

The lunch will include appetizers, a variety of finger sandwiches, mini 3 cheese Quiche, scones with warm brie, clotted cream, and several different desserts, plus tea of course - all for \$32.



## It is Not Too Late

by Harold Grace - Vice-President

The initial order of Escarpment Probus jackets has been sent to the supplier. But you can still order a jacket for yourself. Go to The Key Centre/KCK Teamwear located on 100 Nipissing Road, Unit 13, Milton, Ontario.



The price of the jacket, inclusive of tax, is \$50.

- Lightweight Softshell Jacket - Women's jackets are slightly tapered more than the Men's jacket.
- 100% polyester mechanical stretch jacket with inner fleece collar.
- YKK Front and pocket zipper closures.
- Adjustable tab closure on cuffs.
- Available Sizes XS - 4XL
- The jackets are water repellent and breathable.



“

*It is easier for a man to be loyal to his club than to his planet; the bylaws are shorter, and he is personally acquainted with the other members.*

”

*E. B. White*

## Voting at March Meeting

by Martin Capper - Past President

Management is proposing changes to the By-laws. Martin Capper, Past President, presented the changes at the February Probus meeting. There will be a vote taken at the March meeting. To view the proposed by-laws, go to our website: <https://www.escarpmentprobus.com> and click the ByLaws link found at the bottom of the home page.

## Morph a Word

by Alan Jordan - Occasional Correspondent

When you rearrange the letters of a word or phrase, or sentence, they become quite different. Some become funny, others not so much.

**Election Results** - When you rearrange the letters: **Lies - Let's Recount**

**Eleven Plus Two** - When you redo the math: **Twelve Plus One**

**The Morse Code** - When you rearrange the letters: **Here Comes Dots**

**A Decimal Point** - Change to: **I'm a Dot in Place**

**The Eyes** - When you review the letters: **They See**

## Greeting Cards

If you know of a member who is ill, hospitalized, or moving out of the area and not re-joining our club, please advise Lorette Shermet at [lorrette@sympatico.ca](mailto:lorrette@sympatico.ca) or 905-878-1293.





# Unusual flags of the world

By Alan Jordan - Vexillologist

There are five "Flag Design Rules" which every designer should obey. Here is an examination of some flags, past and present, designed by people who did not get the memo or email:

- 1. Keep it Simple:** A flag should be so simple that a child can draw it from memory.
- 2. Use Meaningful Symbolism:** A Star of David in Israel's

- flag carries great meaning; however, the symbol of the rifle found on Hezbollah flag may not be the most positive icon.
- 3. Use Two or Three Basic Colours:** Most flags get this right. Clearly South Africa didn't - it has six colours on its flag.
- 4. No Lettering or Seals:** Mexico has incorporated an extremely complicated seal into its flag - an eagle holding a serpent, perched atop a prickly pear cactus, atop a rock that hovers over a lake. Too much!
- 5. Be Distinctive or Be Related:** I understand why the Scandinavian flags are part of a family, but Indonesia and Monaco flags are identical - see below.



**Antarctica**  
It's a landmass. It's white. It's literally Antarctica, surrounded by ocean. No thought here. Hard for the kiddies to make out of construction paper in school, what with all 11,000 miles of coastland, detailed to the last inlet, sound and fjord.



**Wallonia**  
Yes, it's the French-speaking region of southern Belgium. Wallons have a deep reverence for that saucy Chanticleer - a name given to a rooster in fairy tales.



**Mauensee**  
Points for originality go to Mauensee, a picturesque lakeside town in the Swiss canton of Lucerne, which scorns the usual golden lions and eagles and skips right to the flag equivalent of a flying lobster, or is that a bird.



**Hezbollah**  
Hard to parse the subtlety. As if the red Arabic slogans weren't enough, the letters of Allah morph into a hand holding an AK-47.



**Volga German Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic**  
What? You've never heard of the Volga German Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic? Yes, I had to look it up too! You would think a country with such talent for self-expression would be in every school-child's textbook. Simply put, this is not a flag, this is, at best, a letterhead.



**Sicily**  
The triskelion, a symbolic figure consisting of three legs, arms, or branches radiating from a common centre, is also the device used on the flags of Sicily and the Isle of Man.



**Libya**  
Clearly, Libya wanted to immortalize the Green Revolution in flag form, but came up short on the "revolution" side, leaving a blank green field.



**Indonesia and Monaco and Poland**  
Okay, get ready for this: red bar, white bar! Let the rest of the world mess around with stars and triangles and more than two hues. The death of originality.

## Lunch Bunch at Kelsey's



## Thrillers & Heroes

by Marilyn Armstrong - Convenor



**T**he Post - starring Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks, is a thrilling drama about the unlikely partnership between The Washington Post's Katharine Graham (Streep), the first female publisher of a major American newspaper, and editor Ben Bradlee (Hanks), as they race to catch up with The New York Times to expose a massive cover-up of government secrets that spanned three decades and four U.S. Presidents. The two must overcome their differences as they risk their careers -- and their very freedom -- to help bring long-buried truths to light.



The acting was superb in the movie and we gave it a \* \* \* \* \* rating.

From Clint Eastwood comes THE 15:17 TO PARIS, which tells the real-life story of three men whose brave act turned them into heroes during a highspeed railway ride. In the early evening of August 21, 2015, the world watched in stunned silence as the media reported a thwarted terrorist attack on Thalys train #9364 bound for Paris--an attempt prevented by three courageous young Americans traveling through Europe. The film follows the course of the friends' lives, from the struggles of childhood through finding their footing in life, to the series of unlikely events leading up to the attack. Throughout the harrowing ordeal, their friendship never wavers, making it their greatest weapon and allowing them to save the lives of the more than 500 passengers on board.



The rating for this movie was \* \* \* / 5

Our next movie night is Tuesday, March 13.



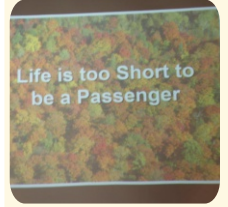
# Our February Meeting



*Sporting Olympic colours, Liz and Cliff Read welcomed us as we entered the meeting hall*



*Enjoying coffee at the break: Kate, Patrick, Chris, Gloria, and Michael*



*Our newest members received their pins: Gerry Kennedy & June Rushak*



*New members signing up Louise Wells above Bertha Barnes below*



## Cheque us out!

*Please remember to bring your cheque book to all the Probus meetings if you would like to sign up for any of the activities. Thank you*



*Lesley Page speaking about her life-changing decision to leave corporate life and learn how to fly!*



*And the lucky 50/50 Draw winner is..... Sandy Ewing who took home \$154.50 Accepting on her behalf is Bill Woodcock*



*Two questions for Lorrette:*

*1 - How did you know to take Sandy's picture when she was buying her ticket?*

*2 - Can you take mine next month?*



## Escarpment PROBUS Club - Calendar of Events

EVENT	DAY OF MONTH	MEET AT	CONVENOR
<b>Activities</b>			
Management Meeting	14 March - 7 pm	Comstock home	Robyn Balfour
<b>Escarpment PROBUS</b>	<b>21 March - 9:30am</b>	<b>Milton Bible Church</b>	<b>Robyn Balfour</b>
Lunch Bunch	21 March - noon	Bryden's Pub	Bonnie Lennox
<b>Clubs</b>			
Walkers - <i>Track &amp; Nordic Pole</i>	Every Mon. & Fri. - 10:30 am	Milton Sports Centre*	Liz & Cliff Read
Walkers - <i>Trail Walkers</i>	Every Tues. - 1:30 pm	<i>as per email</i>	Ronald Flannagan
Dining - <i>Nosh+Natter</i>	Mar. 2 - 5:30 pm	Shellard home	Gillian Reynolds
Crafts - Quilting Club - <i>Piece Makers</i>	Mar. 5 - 1 pm	Comstock home	Diane Comstock
Wine Tasting - <i>Grapenuts</i>	Mar. 5 - 7 pm	Shermet home	Michael Hooker
Cards - <i>Bridge Club</i>	Mar. 6 - 1 pm	Lenarduzzi home	Jeanne Reid
Whisky Club - <i>The D'stillers</i>	Mar. 7 - 7 pm	Finnie home	Chris Strachan
Board Games - <i>Joker Club - Thurs</i>	Mar. 8 - 1:30 pm	Boothe home	Auriel Halliday
Wine Tasting - <i>Grapenuts</i>	Mar. 8 - 7 pm	Tomson home	Michael Hooker
Dining - <i>Nosh+Natter</i>	Mar. 9 - 5:30 pm	Randall home	Gillian Reynolds
Book Club - <i>First Edition</i>	Mar. 12 - 1 pm	Shermet home	Paul Crawford
Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>	Mar. 12 - 7 pm	Capper home*	Martin Capper
Movie Club - <i>Oscar Nights</i>	Mar. 13 - 7 pm	Milton Cineplex Cinemas*	Marilyn Armstrong
Book Club - <i>Sequel</i>	Mar. 14 - 10 am	Nelson home	Catherine Parr
Board Games - <i>Bee Gees</i>	Mar. 14 - 1 pm	Grace Anglican Church*	Stephen Comstock
Board Games - <i>Scrabble</i>	Mar. 14 - 1 pm	Grace Anglican Church*	Petra Halk
Book Club - <i>Trilogy</i>	Mar. 14 - 10 am	Mathews home	Linda Green
Wine Tasting - <i>Grapenuts</i>	Mar. 14 - 7 pm	Millichamp home	Michael Hooker
Cards - <i>Bid Euchre</i>	Mar. 15 - 1:30 pm	Grace Anglican Church*	Lorette Shermet
Cards - <i>Euchre</i>	Mar. 20 - 1:15 pm	Shermet home	Lorette Shermet
Book Club - Ravenous Readers Recycle	Mar. 21 - 9:30am	Milton Bible Church*	Ellen Crawford
Crafts - Knitting Club - <i>Chicks with Sticks</i>	Mar. 22 - 10:30 am	TBD	Chris Willekes
Dining - <i>Nosh@Nite</i>	Mar. 23 - 5:30 pm	Balfour/Cannell home	Paul & Ellen Crawford
Cards - <i>Canasta</i>	Mar. 26 - 7 pm	Boothe home	Lorette Shermet
Friendship Club	Mar. 28 - 10 am	Season's Retirement Home*	Judy Krauss
Board Games - <i>Joker Club - Wed</i>	Mar. 28 - 1 pm	Millichamp home	Auriel Halliday
Bowling - <i>10 Pin</i>	Mar. 28 - 3 pm	Champs Bowling*	Stephanie Hamnett
<b>Activities</b>			
Pub Quiz Night	6 April - 7 pm	Milton Legion	Martin Capper
Management Meeting	11 April - 7 pm	Tomson home	Robyn Balfour
<b>Escarpment PROBUS</b>	<b>18 April - 9:30am</b>	<b>Milton Bible Church</b>	<b>Robyn Balfour</b>
Lunch Bunch	18 April - noon	TBD	Bonnie Lennox
<b>Clubs</b>			
Walkers - <i>Track &amp; Nordic Pole</i>	Every Mon. & Fri. - 10:30 am	Milton Sports Centre*	Liz & Cliff Read
Walkers - <i>Trail Walkers</i>	Every Tues. - 1:30 pm	<i>as per email</i>	Ronald Flannagan
Crafts - Quilting Club - <i>Piece Makers</i>	Apr. 2 - 1 pm	TBD	Diane Comstock
Cards - <i>Bridge Club</i>	Apr. 3 - 1 pm	TBD	Jeanne Reid
Whisky Club - <i>The D'stillers</i>	Apr. 4 - 7 pm	TBD	Chris Strachan
Wine Tasting - <i>Grapenuts</i>	Apr. 5 - 7 pm	Flannagan home	Michael Hooker
Book Club - <i>First Edition</i>	Apr. 9 - 1 pm	Crawford home	Paul Crawford
Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>	Apr. 9 - 7 pm	Capper home*	Martin Capper
Wine Tasting - <i>Grapenuts</i>	Apr. 9 - 7 pm	Strachan home	Michael Hooker
Movie Club - <i>Oscar Nights</i>	Apr. 10 - 7 pm	Milton Cineplex Cinemas*	Marilyn Armstrong
Book Club - <i>Sequel</i>	Apr. 11 - 10 am	TBD	Catherine Parr
Book Club - <i>Trilogy</i>	Apr. 11 - 10 am	TBD	Linda Green
Board Games - <i>Bee Gees</i>	Apr. 11 - 1 pm	Grace Anglican Church*	Stephen Comstock
Board Games - <i>Scrabble</i>	Apr. 11 - 1 pm	Grace Anglican Church*	Petra Halk
Wine Tasting - <i>Grapenuts</i>	Apr. 11 - 7 pm	Randall home	Michael Hooker
Board Games - <i>Joker Club - Thurs</i>	Apr. 12 - 1:30 pm	Capper home	Auriel Halliday
Dining - <i>Nosh+Natter</i>	Apr. 13 - 5:30 pm	Gibbard home	Gillian Reynolds
Cards - <i>Euchre</i>	Apr. 17 - 1:15 pm	TBD	Lorette Shermet
Book Club - Ravenous Readers Recycle	Apr. 18 - 9:30am	Milton Bible Church*	Ellen Crawford
Crafts - Knitting Club - <i>Chicks with Sticks</i>	Apr. 19 - 10:30 am	TBD	Chris Willekes
Cards - <i>Bid Euchre</i>	Apr. 19 - 1:30 pm	Grace Anglican Church*	Lorette Shermet
Dining - <i>Nosh+Natter</i>	Apr. 20 - 5:30 pm	Flynn home	Gillian Reynolds
Cards - <i>Canasta</i>	Apr. 23 - 7 pm	TBD	Lorette Shermet
Friendship Club	Apr. 25 - 10 am	Season's Retirement Home*	Judy Krauss
Board Games - <i>Joker Club - Wed</i>	Apr. 25 - 3 pm	Crawford home	Auriel Halliday
Bowling - <i>10 Pin</i>	Apr. 25 - 3 pm	Champs Bowling*	Stephanie Hamnett
Dining - <i>Nosh@Nite</i>	Apr. 27 - 5:30 pm	Sandhu/Lasota	Paul & Ellen Crawford
New date and/or time		Temporary Change	* Always held at this location