

FORUM



Volume 8 — Issue 3 — July 2020

President's Message:

Let's Zoom Together!



I hope the warm and sunny weather has been bringing a smile to your faces. I'm sure we're all glad that Halton is now in Stage 2 of the COVID-19 protocols. Cliff and I are walking with friends while continuing to stay two metres apart. There is always a supply of face masks and hand sanitizer by the door as we head out for errands. And we are working on forming a circle of ten people who we'll be connecting with. But we certainly do miss face to face connections with PROBUS friends.

Our management team has been planning so we can hold virtual general meetings through Zoom. Our first one will be held on Wednesday, July 15 at 9:30 a.m. During the meeting, each member of the Escarpment PROBUS team will speak. You'll find out about membership renewals, and what is happening with the hall rental. We will not have a guest speaker but we will have breakout sessions at the conclusion of the meeting that will allow you to greet other members in a small group setting.

You'll be invited by an email blast before the meeting, and we'll be asking all participants to register ahead of time. In order to become familiar with the program, please check out the Zoom information on our Escarpment website. All the information you need to use Zoom is there - how to connect using your device, how to turn on your audio and video, and how to see other participants. We'll be asking you to join in 15 minutes ahead of the start time and to mute your microphones once you're connected. Consider this a test run for the next meeting in August and probably many more afterward until it's safe for us all to meet again.

— Liz Read

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**THANK YOU
FOR KEEPING US SAFE**



Over 40,000 seniors who gather in friendship and learning in the 256 PROBUS clubs across Canada want to express our heartfelt appreciation to the front line and essential workers keeping us safe during the current pandemic.

Our thanks to all members of the medical community who are placing themselves at risk, those who provide the services to keep our homes functioning, and those who maintain the food supply chain without which we could not survive. Our thanks also to the combined efforts of every level of government and the companies who have collaborated to ease the financial burdens faced by so many at this time.

You make us incredibly proud and grateful to be Canadians

PROBUS CANADA Get connected - Stay connected
for further information www.probus.org

Editor's Note:

The Escarpment PROBUS website has been modified to suit the current situation. I have temporarily hidden the Activities and Calendar pages, and have added a Zoom information page.

Thanks to the Cambridge PROBUS Club we have lots of information available on using Zoom for meetings and club events -- videos, tutorials, cheat sheets, and more.

Just open the webpage www.escarpmentprobus.com/zoom and select the links to open files.

— David Boss

Escarpment PROBUS Home Zoom Clubs Forum About Contact


Zoom Info Page

Thanks to the members of the Cambridge PROBUS Club we have lots of information available on using Zoom for meetings and club events. Just select the link to open the PDF file or video.

Here's a link to a great YouTube recording from their June 9 ZOOM meeting. Lots of info, tips and tricks on using Zoom: https://youtu.be/yW_mmOWi7mc

- [Installation instructions for smartphones and tablets](#) (PDF)
- [Create an account](#) (PDF)
- [Account settings](#) (PDF)
- [Tutorial on using Zoom side-by-side mode](#) (video)
- [Zoom meeting protocol](#) (PDF)
- [Host-Moderator pointers](#) (PDF)
- [Guide to installing Zoom software updates on laptop and desktop computers](#) (PDF)
- [Cheat sheet for laptop or desktop computer](#) (PDF)
- [Cheat sheet for smartphone](#) (PDF)
- [Cheat sheet for tablet](#) (PDF)

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Carole Pond and Gillian Reynolds are taking no chances:





PROBUS CANADA

JAMIE DOOLITTLE , PRESIDENT

1302 – 120 University Ave. (E), Cobourg, Ontario K9A 0A9

Tel: (905) 372-6465 Email: probus1@cogeco.ca

June 5, 2020

Greetings, Presidents of Clubs in PROBUS CANADA,

Recently one of our Directors received a note from his Club advising that they were thinking of starting back their Bicycle Group in Ontario. This was due to many restrictions being eased in stages across Canada. The question raised was whether our insurance policy would cover a claim from a member who became ill from COVID-19 transmitted from another member of the group.

This scenario would probably apply to any of our groups starting up again that were unable to maintain social distancing.

We posed the question to our PROBUS CANADA insurance provider and received the following reply:

“ The complex part of this is that PROBUS Clubs are so spread out across Canada and different provinces are at different stages of reopening. The underwriter will not specifically answer questions regarding individual activities but did mention that there are no specific exclusions relating to Pandemic. So, depending on allegations made against a Club, coverage will respond as it normally would if there are negligence allegations against an insured for which claimant is seeking compensatory damages.

With this being said, I think we should be telling Clubs to follow the direction and rules in place from your respective provinces. Using the example above, I would not suggest the bicycle group get together. Ontario still has our declaration of emergency rules in place until the end of the month at least. This includes no gathering of I believe 6 or more people. If the Club were to go against this and the rules of the province, I could see the insurance company denying a claim if something were to arise as they did not take all the necessary steps.

“GET CONNECTED – STAY CONNECTED”



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Overall, I hesitate having a Club sanction any events unless the rules in their province have been relaxed. If members of a Club get together of their own volition that is one thing but having a Club set up a meeting or activity might still be an issue.

This might be seen as a cautious approach but I still think it is best to follow the rules and guidelines set out by the respective provinces.”

In view of this response I ask you to ensure your Management Committee and the Chair of any of your Club Activity Groups be made aware of this writing. Further to be pro-active in your Club and to deter questions from many of your members, it might be a good idea to publish these recommendations in your Club newsletter.

In view of the serious nature of this writing, please ensure you confirm to your District Director that you have received same.

Please be careful with your health and stay safe.

Yours in PROBUS,

*Jamie Doolittle
President PROBUS CANADA*

“GET CONNECTED – STAY CONNECTED”

Sisters lost, found, now lost again.

By Auriel Halliday

In July 2018, our phone rang....a long distance call. When I answered, a very English voice asked a simple question. Are you Auriel Halliday and was your mother called Maud Mary Cotton Roberts? Yes and yes. "Then I think that you are my half sister," the English voice replied.

My first response was that this was some sort of scam and I nearly hung up! But how did this person know my mother's name? So I stayed on the line and from that moment a whole new part of my life opened up. We talked till our voices were rasping, exchanged emails and hung up. As I joined friends that were staying with us I was shaking and crying and jumping over the moon, but then crashing down in denial.

I soon received an email, with a photo attached. Jacqueline Perry was definitely related to me; my mother's face looked at me and I knew we were at least half sisters.

Jacquie was born when I was three years old, even though I had no idea that mum was pregnant. I lived in Suffolk with my mum and younger sister. With no husband and no money, my mother apparently felt that she wasn't in a position to raise three young girls in the awful apres-war years. She did try apparently, but before Jacquie was 6 months old mum had placed her for adoption with the then named Waifs and Strays Society. How scary is that?

My Mother, younger sister Cherriel, and I then moved across England to the small Devon town of Ilfracombe and the secret was buried in my mum's heart.

Over two months Jacquie and I talked on the phone a lot and in October of that year she flew to Toronto. Waiting at the airport arrival lounge, clutching a sign that said "Sister Jacquie", I was still not totally convinced that this was really happening. But, as a lady looking so much like my mother 30 years ago walked towards us, I knew! We were half sisters without a doubt. We did have DNA tests that proved it, but really that was not necessary. We just knew that we shared the same birth mother.

Over the next ten days we spent hours catching up on the last seventy years. Jacquie was particularly interested to see old photos of her maternal family. We could see likenesses in almost every picture.

Jacquie had known nothing about her family, whilst I had all the documents and history that my mother had left. Nothing about Jacquie, but a lot about our grandparents. Jacquie could now find out that she had quite an interesting history in her new relations. For someone who knew nothing about her family she discovered that she is related to Captain Bligh of the Bounty and that our great, great aunt, Amelia B. Edwards, was the first woman Egyptologist and a renowned author. Also, our grandmother often had tea with Queen Victoria.



Jacquie also found that she has two nieces and one nephew who live in England, and is a great-aunt to their six young children.

Her family has tripled in size and Jacquie's grandson now has six new relatives his own age. They all live in England and most of them have now met and become friends.

You may be wondering how Jacquie finally located her birth mother and then me. She was adopted by a lovely couple and spent her youth happily in London. She then married and had two children, Emma and Spencer. Although she often thought about her real family, she was happy with her life and it was only when her adoptive parents died that she decided to research her roots. With the help of a friend and documents that were released from The Waifs and Strays Society, she found her mother's real name and a heartbreaking letter written by our mother that explained why Jacquie was being placed for adoption. From then on, it was quite simple to find me in Canada. In fact she found my whole life history with the help of a genealogy website. Simple when you know how!

Jacquie has visited us in Canada twice now and we have stayed with her in Norfolk, U.K. We are so very lucky that we instantly bonded. We like the same things, well mostly, and I was really looking forward to her visiting us again this Spring. Of course that didn't happen and now we are wondering when we will see each other again. We need both of our countries to smarten up, and obey the COVID rules, if we are to be able to spend time together again. How ironic that after all these years and with so much to catch up on, that a virus has put a hold on most of the world. We pray that by next year it will be safe to travel again and we can enjoy our new-found sisterhood and catch up on so many missed years.



Why I Don't Smoke

By Wayne Herder

I was one of those Quebec boys who went “west” to pick tobacco. One of my older brothers was an OPP officer stationed in Tillsonburg, ON. He mentioned he could get my younger brother and me summer jobs picking tobacco. He made sure we were employed with a share cropper who supplied good meals. Word had it some farmers were feeding their workers poorly.

Days started early at 5 am. First job was emptying the kiln. When that was finished it was time for a hearty breakfast and a quick bathroom break. Back out to the fields by 7:30 am.

We were lucky that our farm had a mechanical ride-on. My brother's farm still used horse-drawn boats. We started with topping the plants and removing the suckers. At 10 am we stopped at the end of the row for a coffee break and snack. We continued working until 12:30 then headed to the farm house for lunch. It was a substantial meal, more like a huge dinner.

Picking the sand-leaves at the very bottom of the tobacco plant was back breaking. These leaves were quite cold if picked first thing in the morning due to the early morning dew. When collected they were brought to the sewing table and sown together in bunches. This was usually done by the female members of the family who were also responsible for preparing all meals and snacks. Then it was time for the most dangerous task of all – hanging the leaves up in the kiln to dry. Many a worker suffered severe fractures and injuries falling from the rafters.

At the end of the day, dinner was served in the bunkhouse after an enjoyable shower. Scrubbing your hands of the nicotine was quite the chore. In all fairness we all received a bottle of “Champlain” porter with our dinner. My brother suggested to the farmer that perhaps the boys would prefer a real beer. We were asleep by 9 pm and started the process over the next day.

On Saturday night there was usually a barn dance in town or at another farm. Most locals kept their daughters home. I never understood why!

Tillsonburg? My back still aches when I hear that word! (Stompin' Tom Connors)

SPECIAL: TRAVEL TALES

Transylvania

By Michael (the Still Happy) Hooker

In 2016 I took a small group (seven people) on a tour of Transylvania, the western province of Romania, best known as the home turf of Dracula! Transylvania has a long and fascinating history; up to the end of the First World War it was part of Hungary, but was “awarded” to Romania, who fought on the Allied side, as part of the “spoils of war”. Many towns in Transylvania have two completely different names – one Romanian and one Hungarian, and in many of the smaller towns Hungarian is the main language.

Near the end of the tour we spent two nights in the village of Torockoszentgyorgy (or Coltesti). After dinner, two of us felt like a walk, so we wandered up to the small main street. We noticed that in front of every house, people were sitting or standing around, not talking to each other, but just waiting. Then we heard the sound of bells from the top of the road, and down came all the goats in the village. Everybody grabbed their own goats as they went by, and shooed them inside. Then, a few minutes later, more bells – and down came all the cows. Most of the cows knew their owners (or their front door), and headed into the right yard without help. The story is: two men in the village collect all the goats and cows every morning, take them up to the lush meadows above the village to graze during the day, and deliver them back in the evening.

At breakfast the next morning we recounted our discovery to our fellow travellers; and we decided we would all go back that evening. Our guide, who was Hungarian, got into conversation with one of the ladies waiting for her animals, and after we witnessed the return of the cows and goats, we were all invited to come in to her house to see how they lived – which we did. We were offered shots of home-made plum brandy and pieces of home-made fresh cheese, and had a tour of their property. They are pretty self-reliant, with a vegetable garden, henhouse (where her husband was collecting the day’s eggs, putting them in his hat), the cow barn, and the sties for the pigs and goats. Their daughter, who is a pharmacist in a nearby town, was getting married the following weekend, and it was made plain that if we would have been there then, we would all have been invited to the wedding! So to make up for that, we later did a whip-around and put together some cash and other contributions, and the next morning before we left we visited them again to present the gift. Much surprise, hugs and enjoyment! This is the type of unexpected event that can make travelling such a joy.

Romania is a fascinating country, with several unique cultures. It’s one of the least-advanced parts of Europe, where you can still see many horse-drawn carts on the roads and people harvesting fields with long scythes. The Painted Monasteries of Bucovina are another amazing gem; dating back to the 15th or 16th century. Their exterior walls are covered with elaborate religious frescoes designed to make the stories of the Bible and the lives of Orthodox Saints visible to the villagers.



Losing myself in Ljubljana

By Gillian Reynolds

It's hard to pick your favourite vacation, but for me the 2017 PROBUS tour of Northern Italy and Austria would be a strong contender. There was hardly a moment when I wasn't enjoying myself, but the day that I remember most was the day we visited Slovenia. It was not the happiest, it was the scariest -- the day when I got lost and nobody missed me.

After we crossed the border from Austria our first stop was Maribor, an impressive Medieval town where we had a guided walking tour and lunch. We were amazed how cheap everything was, compared to the other countries we had visited, especially Switzerland.

Everything was going according to plan, until we got stuck in a major traffic jam on the highway to Ljubljana, the capital city, known as "the jewel of Slovenia". After about an hour of going nowhere, our trusted guide Gord had a consultation with Joanne and we decided to get off at the next intersection and rejoin the highway further down the road. It was 4:30 before we finally arrived in Ljubljana.

Before we got off the bus Gord said, "We have a dinner reservation so we must leave here at 6 o'clock. This means we'll have to miss out on the church." No one complained about that! If you've ever been on an ABC tour you'll know what I'm talking about.

The heart of this beautiful ancient city is for pedestrians and cyclists only. Outdoor cafes line the river and accordion music completes the idyllic scene. After crossing the Dragon Bridge we finally end up back in the main square where several roads meet. There are hundreds of people milling about. I decide to stop off for some hot chestnuts (without telling anyone). It takes longer than I think. When I turn round I can no longer see our group, although I can still hear our guide Sybille through the one-way radio. I think I spot Ron Johnson's red cap so I head in that direction. When I get there it's not him and now Sybille's voice sounds farther away. I decide to head back the way we came, but as I do so her voice is getting fainter. I return to the main square. Now all I hear is crackling... and then silence. I start to go down another road but still no sound. Now I am panicking. Should I wait here or should I try to find my way back to the bus and get lost? Either way I'm screwed. I am going to make us so late that we'll end up missing dinner and it will be all my fault.



I decide to try and remember the way we came. After fifteen very tense moments, I see some trees in the distance and hope that it's the park. I'm relieved when I get there, but I don't know which way the bus is parked. I choose right. Suddenly I hear crackling sounds on the radio and Sybille's voice is getting louder and louder. I turn the corner and there coming towards the park is the group! I don't tell Sybille that I was lost, because I am too embarrassed. She probably thinks I decided to take a short cut. I think that Bryan must be worried sick. I find him ambling along at the rear of the pack. "I got lost" I say. "Oh", he replied nonchalantly, "I couldn't see you. I thought you were way up front."

Although we didn't leave till 6:30 we were not too late for dinner, so all's well that ends well and I learned my lesson. Always stay with the group!

We got back to the hotel just before 10 o'clock - a long day and one I will never forget. The day I got lost and nobody missed me.

Pashupatinath Temple of Life & Death

By Christy Babcock

Visiting the Crematorium at the Pashupatinath Temple of Life & Death on the banks of the Bagmati River in Kathmandu, Nepal, was one of the most interesting experiences I've ever had. The temple and the grounds are sacred so tourists watch from the other side of the river.

After paying our admission fee we walked past stalls selling a variety of objects including powders in an array of colours.



Boothbay, Maine

By Maggie Boothe

Hi everyone, hope all is well with you and your families. While the weather is warming up we are all dreaming of travel plans and possibility of getting away for a few days.

Michael and I traveled to Boothbay, Maine, U.S.A., two years ago and thought you might enjoy the pictures of warm weather and sparkling water, and the thoughts of new places. Boothbay (although it isn't spelled the same way we spell our name) is a beautiful place to relax, shop, take a boat ride and enjoy the little town.



There is a little eatery right on the water. The gentleman who owns it is a Canadian who enjoys a good banter using the word "eh" in his sentences. He was lots of fun and the food was great - gotta love those lobster rolls.

Something to dream about for the next few months if you are looking for some adventure.

Stay well!"

ACTIVITIES: ON HOLD

SOCIAL CLUBS

Club	Date/Time	Convenor	Telephone	Email
Board Games - <i>Bee Gees</i>	2nd Wed. - 1 pm	Stephen Comstock	905-876-4909	scomstoc@sympatico.ca
Board Games - <i>Jokers</i>	2nd Thurs. - 1:30 pm	Auriel Halliday	905-336-2430	aurielh@gmail.com
Board Games - <i>Jokers</i>	4th Wed. - 1 pm	Auriel Halliday	905-336-2430	aurielh@gmail.com
Book Club - <i>First Edition</i>	2nd Mon. - 1 pm	Paul Crawford	289-878-4968	paulellencrawford@gmail.com
Book Club - <i>Happy Bookers</i>	4th Thurs. - 12:30 pm	Judy Wallace	905-878-3374	lollipops@sympatico.ca
Book Club - <i>Ravenous Readers Recycling</i>	3rd Wed. - Probus meeting	Ellen Crawford	289-878-4968	paulellencrawford@gmail.com
Book Club - <i>Sequel</i>	2nd Wed. - 10 am	Catherine Parr	289-971-9214	4catparr@gmail.com
Book Club - <i>Trilogy</i>	2nd Wed. - 10 am	Linda Green	289-851-8655	klgreen@sympatico.ca
Cards - <i>Bid Euchre</i>	3rd Thurs. - 1:15 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Cards - <i>Bridge</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 - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>	2nd Mon. - 7 pm	Martin Capper	905-693-0354	martin@martincapper.com
Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>	Tues. after the 2nd Mon. - 1:30 pm	Martin Capper	905-693-0354	martin@martincapper.com
Cards - <i>Euchre</i>	3rd Tues. - 1 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>	4th Tues. - 1:30 pm	Michael Hooker	905-878-8953	mhooker10@bell.net
Club <i>Français</i>	2nd Wed. - 10 am / 11 am	Anne-Françoise Gibbard	905-854-3781	anne@gibbard.net
Crafts - Knitting - <i>Chicks with Sticks</i>	3rd Thurs. - 10:30 am	Christine Willekes	905-820-0269	chriswillekes@gmail.com
Crafts - Quilting - <i>Piece Makers</i>	1st Tues. - 1 pm	Diane Comstock	905-876-4909	meijenscc@sympatico.ca
Dining - <i>Appy Hour</i>	Last Sat. - 6:30 pm	Mary Cousins	416-628-6275	mlecousins@outlook.com
Dining - <i>Lunch Bunch</i>	3rd Wed. - noon	Bonnie Lennox	416-899-7727	bblennox@live.ca
Dining - <i>Nosh 'N' Natter</i>	1st Fri. - 5:30 pm	Gillian Reynolds	905-878-1636	gilliana@cogeco.ca
Dining - <i>Nosh 'N' Natter</i>	2nd Fri. - 5:30 pm	Gillian Reynolds	905-878-1636	gilliana@cogeco.ca
Dining - <i>Nosh@Nite</i>	4th Fri. - 5:30 pm	Paul & Ellen Crawford	289-878-4968	paulellencrawford@gmail.com
Dining - <i>Saturday Night Lives</i>	1st Sat. - 6 pm	Anna Strachan	905-878-0812	annastrachan1945@gmail.com
Dining - <i>Skip the Dishes</i>	3rd Thurs. - 6 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Dining - <i>Supper/Dinner Club</i>	<i>Scheduled by convenor</i>	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	Theresa Spano	416-618-2955	1tspano@gmail.com
Probus Info Exchange - <i>PIE</i>	Online only - no meetings	Cliff Read	905-864-1565	cliff.read@cogeco.ca
Sports - Bowling - <i>10 Pin</i>	2nd Tues. - 4 pm	Michelle Tschirhart	416-668-9083	mltschirhart55@gmail.com
Sports - Bowling - <i>10 Pin</i>	Last Wed. - 4 pm	Michelle Tschirhart	416-668-9083	mltschirhart55@gmail.com
Sports - Golf - <i>Pin Seekers</i>	TBA	TBA		
Tastings - Beer - <i>Suds and Buds</i>	4th Thurs. - 7 pm	Pete Shermet	905-878-1293	peteshermet@gmail.com
Tastings - Whisky - <i>D'Stillers</i>	1st Wed. - 7 pm	Chris Strachan	905-878-0812	strachan.chris1944@yahoo.ca
Tastings - Wine - <i>Grapenuts</i>	1st Mon. - 7 pm	Jim Tschirhart	647-648-8231	jim.tschirhart@gmail.com
Tastings - Wine - <i>Grapenuts</i>	1st Thurs. - 7 pm	Jim Tschirhart	647-648-8231	jim.tschirhart@gmail.com
Tastings - Wine - <i>Grapenuts</i>	2nd Wed. - 7 pm	Jim Tschirhart	647-648-8231	jim.tschirhart@gmail.com
Travel - <i>Annual Trip</i>	<i>Scheduled by convenor</i>	Joanne Millichamp	289-878-2969	jmillichamp@hotmail.com
Travel - <i>Wanderlust</i>	2nd Thurs. - 7 pm (bi-monthly)	Gloria Pennycook	905-659-7789	gpennycook@icloud.com
Walkers - <i>Trail Walkers</i>	Every Tues. - 1:30 pm	Ronald Flannagan	905-332-6310	rflannagan@cogeco.ca
New information	Temporary change			

Social plans still on hold

Your social committee is anxiously awaiting the time when we can plan a social event to give us all something to look forward to. In the meantime, stay safe and well, enjoying the great weather that has finally arrived.

— Pat Vogt, Social Chair

At PROBUS we want to keep in touch, we are all friends. If you know of anyone who is ill, moving away, lost a loved one, etc., or someone with a new grandchild, great grandchild or special anniversary, please let Lorrette Shermet know and she will gladly send a greeting card (contact lorrette@sympatico.ca or 905-878-1293).

RECENT EVENTS

Clubs: Food and Drink

COVID-19 Wine Tasting and Future Invitation

by Jim Tschirhart, Convenor

Initial COVID-19 Wine Tasting Results

Theme: The Best of 2019

Liz and Cliff Read, Maggie and David Boss, Auriel Halliday and Don Evans, and Joanne and Ron Millichamp, each hosted two other couples in their back yards for our inaugural COVID-19 wine tasting. One white and two reds were picked based on availability and their ratings during 2019 tastings.

Stoneleigh Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc (LCBO #293043)

Looking for something to please everyone? This famed New Zealand white has classic Sauvignon Blanc flavours of gooseberry, herbs and tropical fruit. It's excellent with scallops and chorizo bites.

This wine was actually the 8th best white of 2019. The seven before are harder to obtain or no longer available.

It was originally tasted at Ellen and Paul Crawford's on November 4th and scored 15.0. With the beautiful hot sunny weather and high scores from the Bosses' contingent, the average score increased to 16.1.

Josh Cellars Legacy Red (LCBO 507467)

Named after the founder and his father, Josh Cellars sources its fruit from various premium sites across California. This blended wine exudes aromas of blue fruit, plum, blackberry and dark spices. In the mouth, it's bold and juicy with supple tannins and added flavours of toasted almonds and hazelnuts on a long finish.

This wine originally scored 16.1 on January 7th at Ellen and Paul Crawford's. Its average score increased to 16.8.

Carnivor Zinfandel (LCBO 569905)

With a vine-friendly Mediterranean climate, California's Lodi region has earned its reputation with full-bodied zinfandels. Flavours of black fruit, vanilla, toasted oak and spice are complemented by a silky texture. Carnivor wines pair well with meats, but keep them in mind for roasted vegetables or pasta dishes as well.

On March 7th this wine scored a whopping 16.5 at Auriel Halliday and Don Evans'.

This wine broke the streak of the first two and actually decreased to an overall average of 15.7. This wine seemed to have a love/hate relationship. The Reads' and Bosses' groups rated it 17.0 and 17.8 respectively, while the Millichamps' and Halliday/Evans only gave it 14.8 and 13.2 respectively.

By the comments I received, I would have to say the evening was a great success. Thank you to the four hosts and all that participated.

Future invitation:

The Grapenutters who hosted and attended the inaugural tasting included only those folks who answered my original email. For you winers who did not respond but would be interested in attending any future tastings, please email me at jim.tschirhart@gmail.com to let me know as there will not be any blast announcements.

PROBUS
grape
-nuts
WINE TASTING CLUB



Clubs: Books, Hobbies, Games

Locked-down Mozart

by Michael Hooker, Convenor

Mozart doesn't take kindly to quarantine, so not much going on. However one of our group, Beth Barnes, sent me this note: "Here's one of my musical highlights. Cheng2 Duo, a remarkable sister and brother duo from Ottawa (Bryan on cello and Silvie on piano), are fast becoming international stars with their musical virtuosity and ability to communicate. I heard them in 2016 at the Festival of the Sound in Parry Sound and continue to follow them today. They also perform as soloists and 22 year old Bryan was the invited soloist with the Orchestre Symphonique de Montreal performing Dvorak Cello Concerto earlier this year. Fortunately, this performance is being rebroadcast until July 2nd for all those interested."



I've been working through a project I've put off for a long time. I'm a big folk music fan and have dozens of folk LPs, mostly bought in the early 60s and not played for years. So this last month I've been playing one or two of the LPs most days. Some great old stuff, really enjoyable (a good popular counterpart to Mozart). I realize that likely many of the performers on these records have been dead for years; often they were well along in years when they made them.

Zooming Dice Again

by Diane Comstock, Correspondent

The May dice games were a success - so we did it again in June (using the Escarpment PROBUS Zoom account). The group pictured played Farkle on June 10th. Barb mastered the first game by twice capitalizing on Diane's points and also rolling straights and triple pairs. Since we had time we played a second game, setting the limit to 7000. Lorhel had a slow start but made up for it by using and adding to Lorrette's points.



On June 17th, seven members rolled their dice in a Yahtzee game. Barb managed to score the elusive Yahtzee (5 of a kind). After some debate, she opted to score it for her sixes at the top, enabling her to receive the 35 bonus points. This, however, was not enough to beat Diane and Lorhel, who both also scored the 35 bonus points, but had better scores for the 3 and 4 of a kind.

If you would like to join the July dice games, let me know.



Together Again yet Apart

by Diane Comstock, Convenor

On June 4th, the Piece Makers gathered in Carol Anne's spacious and absolutely stunning backyard. As you can see from the pictures, we did follow social distancing protocols. Judy showed us her beautiful black and white quilt top that she had been working on. Wendy brought her latest table runner made with coffee themed fabrics. Carol Ann showed us a bed runner and a pillow case made from her "Shop Hop" maple leaves. She also had completed two quilt tops, one with various star patterns and one made with strips. Stay tuned for pictures when she has completed the quilting. Diane brought her completed Sorority Friendship quilt and the ornaments she made from the various fabrics donated by her sorority sisters.



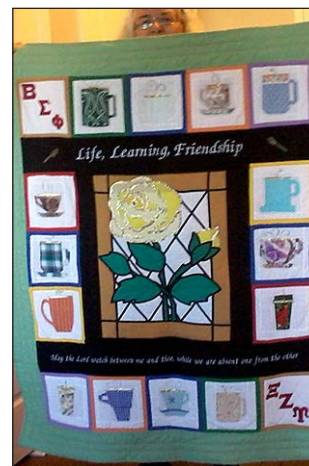
Quilting Terms of the Month:

Shop Hop – An event where participating quilt shops in a specific area offer free block patterns and fabric to shoppers. The blocks and fabric follow a pre-determined theme. A quilter visits the individual shops, receives a stamp on their "Shop Hop" passport, and picks up the shop's block pattern and fabric. They then piece the blocks and complete the quilt using their own layout.

Layout – The process of arranging and rearranging your blocks or pieced units in a quilt top to come up with completely different looks.

Judy Osman has graciously offered her back yard as the venue for our meeting in July. Let's hope the weather co-operates on Tuesday July 7th.

Anyone interested in quilting, consider joining the group.



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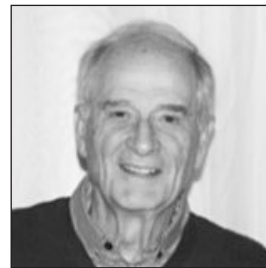
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Membership

Some of you may recall that we usually begin collecting annual membership dues at the June meeting. Because of COVID-19 we are not sure when we will be able to meet again so the Management Committee decided to postpone collection of dues until we resume monthly meetings. Fees at that time will be pro-rated for the remainder of the membership year. Not to worry, you are considered members in good standing until meetings start again.

You should have recently received the current Membership List a few days ago. If you have not received it or if there's an error or omission in your listing please let me know. And stay safe until we meet again!

Penny McIlwaine, Membership Chair
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FORUM - THE ESCARPMENT PROBUS CLUB NEWSMAGAZINE

This newsletter is published monthly in PDF format. If you know someone who you feel might be interested in joining the Escarpment PROBUS Club, please forward this publication with our compliments.

FORUM Deadline

The editor notifies the management team and all convenors of the deadline for articles and pictures for publication for each issue. Stories and articles may be emailed to the editor or submitted to any member of the management team. Escarpment PROBUS Club reserves the right to refuse, edit, or change any copy or image submitted.