

# FORUM



Volume 9 — Issue 9 — September 2021

## President's Message:

### I could not have done it without you!



As my term ends as President, I would like to thank all the management team members who have given so much of themselves to make Escarpment PROBUS such a great success. It was a tough year as we had to deal with some new challenges: Covid, Zoom and Wild Apricot. Liz Read extended her term and started getting us set up with Zoom. A short-term fix, we had all thought. Eighteen months later we are still adjusting to the day-to-day challenges. Thanks so much Liz for your hard work and ingenuity.

Leaving us this year are Penny McIlwaine – Membership Chair, David Boss – Forum/Web Editor, and Ted Chliszczyk – Treasurer. Ruth Gagnon – Activities Chair has kindly committed to another two-year term.

Staying on will be former Vice-President Diane Comstock, Secretary Barb Campbell, Program Chair Chris Wallhouse and Social Committee Chair Marg Jones. All members of your management team are not restricted to their own mandates but are fully involved with all decisions of the club. I must admit it was difficult for me at times due to my poor computer skills and a very strong team with opinions. Having had your best interest in mind, all decisions were unanimous. Dedication to improving your enjoyment is what makes our club so strong.

Our District Director, Martin Capper, always kept us informed on ongoing changes in other clubs. This helped so much with our Zoom procedures. Thank you as well to Lorrette Shermet who helped out in so many ways, including scheduling Zoom meetings.

Club convenors took the initiative to keep their clubs running smoothly in all ways with imagination and keeping with health directives.

I am humbled by all their support as well as with all PROBUS members for your participation and encouragement. Your smiles when joining us online made it all worthwhile!!!

I know the new management team will continue working on your behalf. You are in good hands with Diane Comstock, our new President. Thank you all so very much and looking forward to seeing you soon either in person or online. Special thanks to The First Lady, Suzanne, for proof reading and keeping me out of trouble.

**YOU ARE THE CLUB'S STRENGTH – YOU ARE ESCARPMENT PROBUS**

— *Wayne Herder*

## Contents:

|                              |    |
|------------------------------|----|
| Activities.....              | 4  |
| Upcoming Meeting .....       | 8  |
| September Calendar.....      | 8  |
| Club List .....              | 9  |
| Recent Events                |    |
| August Meeting and Events .. | 10 |
| Clubs .....                  | 11 |
| News and Views.....          | 17 |
| Management Page .....        | 18 |

***A life so beautifully lived deserves to be beautifully remembered!***



Earlier this summer, we were saddened to share with you the passing of our member, Wendy Stringer. Given COVID restrictions in place at that time, Bob was unable to welcome friends to celebrate her life. With reduced restrictions now in place, Bob and family invite you to join them:

**Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup> between 1 - 3 pm  
at the Milton Banquet & Conference Centre  
3090 Steeles Avenue West, Milton  
Lower Level, Courtyard Room**

Light refreshments will be served, as we remember the laughter and abundant talents and gifts Wendy shared with so many.

If you are able to attend, please RSVP by September 16<sup>th</sup> to Jenny O'Brien ([jenny0103@rogers.com](mailto:jenny0103@rogers.com)), who will consolidate PROBUS numbers for the family.

## **Islands of the Mediterranean**

*by Joanne Millichamp*

After a couple of postponements due to Covid, we are optimistic that our Mediterranean trip will happen next year from May 26<sup>th</sup> to June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The itinerary includes three nights on the island of Sicily, four nights on Malta, four nights on Cyprus, and a day in Athens (with an option for two additional nights). There will be many exciting excursions and events – for more details see the article on page 4 of the July Forum.

Price is \$6,090 per person and the single supplement \$1,590. This includes all flights, accommodation, and gratuities. Not included is the airport tax, currently \$730. This trip is first come, first served for club members only at this time.

Brochures with daily itineraries are available. For further information, please contact Joanne Millichamp at 289/878-2969 or [jmillichamp@hotmail.com](mailto:jmillichamp@hotmail.com).



## **Management candidates**

*by Liz Read, Past President*

Every year, our Escarpment PROBUS club looks for people who will take on responsibilities for running our organization. We are fortunate to have so many members with the necessary skills and the willingness to volunteer their time. At our annual general meeting in September, we will be voting on accepting the following slate:

Vice-president – Russ Cousins

Treasurer – Deb Harrold

Membership – Dawn Ross

Forum Editor – Peter Lasota

Activities – Ruth Gagnon

And in a non-management but vital role, Joe Oatman as auditor.

Diane Comstock will transition into the role of president and Wayne Herder will become the past president. Barbara Campbell will remain as the secretary and Marg Jones will still oversee the social clubs. Our program chair, Chris Wallhouse will continue to find interesting monthly speakers.

Thank you to all these members who help us to meet our goal to live, laugh and learn together.

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## Membership

by Penny McIlwaine, Membership Chair

By now you have received email notification that annual dues for the membership year October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 are now payable. Notices were sent to all members on August 1<sup>st</sup> by our new software system; payment is by credit card online. Over half of you have paid to date – thank you. The Wild Apricot software is being used by at least 20 PROBUS Clubs in Canada and is a safe and tested system that meets our needs. That said, many of us are on a learning curve as we renew our membership or register for activities! Some members have experienced challenges working through the renewal process. If you need technical help please reach out to a member of the technical support group, which is listed on the last page of this Forum. They are there for all of us.

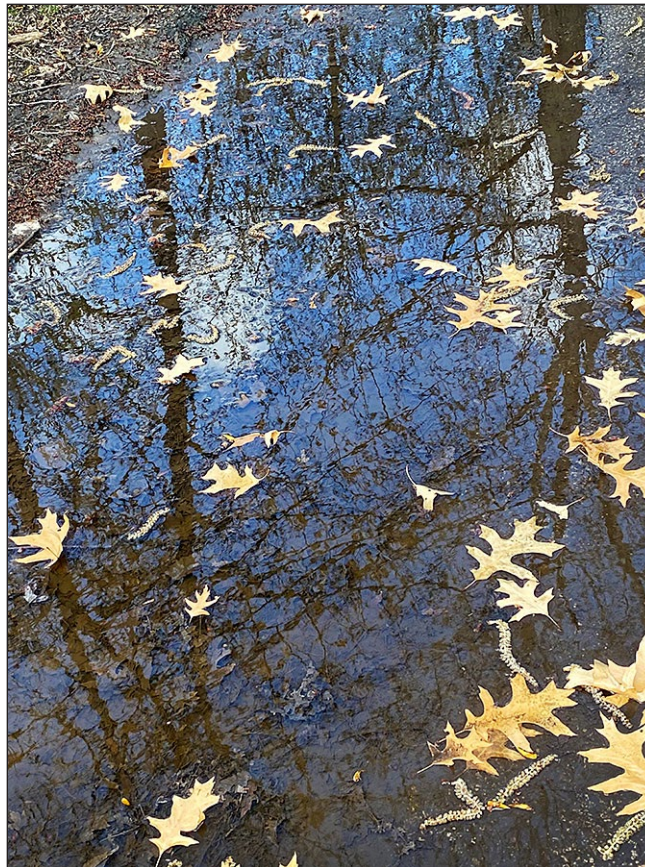
For those who have not yet paid, a second notice was sent on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Please be assured that the Membership Chair will be following up with members who have not paid by early October to ensure you get any support you need.

Many of you look for, and even print for reference, the membership list that the Membership Chair has been sending out twice yearly to current members. Member information will now be maintained by the software system and you will be responsible for updating your own profile, i.e., changing your address or phone number as appropriate. The technical group is working on a way to provide a list that you can access and print. You will be notified when this is ready.

Thanks to all of you for your support during my term as Membership Chair; I have truly enjoyed the experience. If you have any questions this month please email me at [pennymcilw@gmail.com](mailto:pennymcilw@gmail.com). And - remember to keep safe and keep in touch.

## Photo of the Month

This month's photo by Kelly Ground is a reminder to look down, you might be standing on a great image!





# ACTIVITIES

## More Activities Are Coming Your Way!

by Ruth Gagnon, Activities Chair

There was a blast of activities announced after our last general meeting. Now that they are out of the way, there won't be the same onslaught of Activity emails. It was absolutely great to see all the members who enrolled in activities. I want to thank you for bearing with us as we worked out some Wild Apricot kinks and challenges. We've come a long way in a very short time and you are doing an amazing job at registering! Just a reminder that when you are signing up as a couple ensure both of you are registered.

If you can't make it to an activity, please let the convener (or myself) know as soon as possible. It helps us with planning and may allow someone on the wait list to go.

Next month we will have an article on all the Milton Historical Walks that have been going on. In the meantime, check out the article on the Car Rally – oh what fun!! Don't forget to check out the new activities coming your way!!!

## SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES:

### Mini Golf at Adventure Village, Hamilton – Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am

Convenor: Kelly Ground

Come join in the fun! Adventure Village is 32 minutes or 38 km away, just off the QEW. We will meet there at 11:30 am for some challenging mini golf and head out for a lunch after. Are you up for the challenge? Cost is \$10/member.

We will head to Kelsey's in Milton for a late lunch following our mini golf.

### Play Day at Rotary Park – Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm

Convenors: Kelly Ground & Ruth Gagnon

**This event is currently full!** Join us for an action packed Play Day! Let's bring out your youthful side and see how you roll. We will meet Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm at **Rotary Park** and play a variety of games like Yardzee, Bean Bag Toss, Lawn Darts, Ladder Ball, Washer Toss and the recently added **Axe Throwing!** The afternoon will take you on a Poker Run to see who has the best hand and ultimately our first Play Day winner! Once we have finished our play day, we will be heading to Keenan's Irish Pub for an early dinner. Keenan's is located at 51 James Snow Parkway North. Don't miss out! **Cost is \$5/member** to cover the cost of park rental, supplies and prizes! Please bring your cheque to the park. This event is limited to 25 members and will be on a first come, first serve basis. To hold your spot, please register by sending an email to [kmground@gmail.com](mailto:kmground@gmail.com) or [gagnonruth@gmail.com](mailto:gagnonruth@gmail.com). Please indicate if you are joining us for a drink as well. **Remember to bring a chair!!**

Activities Committee Members:

Ruth Gagnon

Anne Gibbard

Kelly Ground

Irene Hiebert

Joanne Millichamp

Ron Millichamp

Dawn Ross



Please note that any activity we plan will adhere to any provincial guidelines and restrictions due to COVID.

## **Milton Historical Society Walking Tour of Martin Street – Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm**

*Convenor: Kelly Ground*

Explore one of Milton's oldest neighborhoods on this guided tour of the historic Martin Street. It's a perfect introduction for new and older residents of Milton. The cost for this event is \$10/member and is limited to 10 members. Rain date is Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Face masks are recommended.

## **Milton Historical Society Walking Tour of Martin Street – Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 pm**

*Convenor: Kelly Ground*

Explore one of Milton's oldest neighborhoods on this guided tour of the historic Martin Street. It's a perfect introduction for new and older residents of Milton. The cost for this event is \$10/member and is limited to 10 members. Rain date is Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Face masks are recommended.

## **OCTOBER ACTIVITIES:**

### **Andrews Farm & Winery – Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm**

*Convenors: Dawn Ross & Ruth Gagnon*

Andrews Farm is 165 acres of beautiful escarpment countryside. Come and join us for a wagon ride followed by sampling the farm's wine and cheese. The cost for this event is \$30/member and is limited to 30 members. You will be given an opportunity to purchase their wine and check out their bakery! You will also be able to pick some raspberries, pumpkins and grapes! Cost for whatever you pick is by the pound. Andrew's Farm & Winery is located at 9365 10 Side Road in Milton. Register and pay via Wild Apricot!

### **Scams Presentation by the Halton Regional Police – Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 am**

*Convenors: Dawn Ross, Ron Millichamp & Ruth Gagnon*

Join us for an eye opening presentation on cyber safety. Two Halton Regional Police officers will share what the police are seeing, how to deal with various scams, and cyber security tips. Both officers are older adult abuse investigators and also deal in financial crime and with vulnerable persons.



Here is an excerpt from their website on what we will be hearing about:

**The internet and social media have become permanent fixtures in our lives. While no online security system is perfect, the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS) has developed some simple tips and steps you can take to protect you, and your information, while online.**

**Criminals are inventive and adapt their methods in order to identify potential victims and access their personal information. Most online criminals are scammers trying to trick people into giving them money or account access.**

**Many of the current frauds and scams including on-line relationships, banking tips and on-line shopping will be discussed.**

We will hear a wide range of tips, including smart social media practices, Wi-Fi security, online safety for children, computer security and much more! The presentation will be held at the Grace Anglican Church on Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. The cost for this event is \$5/member. Register and pay using Wild Apricot. This event is restricted to 30 members.

## **iPhone – Hints, Hacks and How Tos - Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am**

*Convenor: Kelly Ground*

Learn how to get the most out of your Apple iPhone. We'll look at how to effectively use SIRI and how to take better pictures and keep them organized for easy retrieval.

As with most technology, as the saying goes, 'if you don't use it, you'll lose it', so come out (again) and review, practice or just learn some new tricks.

**This event is limited to 25 members. Register on Wild Apricot to hold your spot! The cost for this event is \$2/member at the door. Please have the exact amount, change will not be available.**

Please note that the tips and tricks work better with iPhone 6 and above and are for Apple products only.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Kelly at [kmground@gmail.com](mailto:kmground@gmail.com).

## **NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES:**

### **Birds of Prey Photography Session & Lunch at the Beach House (Port Dover) – Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 am**

*Convenor: Cliff Read*

Calling all photographers and wanna be photographers!! Have you ever wanted an opportunity to photograph birds of prey up close and personal? Take advantage of this opportunity! We are organizing an excursion to Port Dover on November 3<sup>rd</sup> to visit the Canadian Raptor Conservancy (<https://canadianraptorconservancy.com/>). Cliff Read has graciously offered to organize this event for us!



The two hour morning session allows you to see and photograph 10 different birds of prey - 6 flying birds and 4 static birds. Please note that group size is limited to 12 people with a minimum of 10 participants for the trip to go ahead. Our group will be led by Marcel Painchaud, an award winning Oakville photographer. Variable weather conditions can contribute to some unique photo shots so rain or shine we are going!

The cost for this unique photographic experience is \$60.00. Please register and pay using Wild Apricot. Payment is required to hold your spot and must be made no later than **October 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

Plans are also underway to incorporate a delicious lunchtime meal of yellow perch at the well-known Beach House Restaurant if you so choose. Details about cost and options regarding the meal will be sent to participants at a later time.

Please note that it usually takes about an hour and a half to drive to Port Dover and all participants will be responsible for arranging their own transportation.

## Muse Studio & Market (Craft Workshop) – Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 - 1:30 pm

Convenor: Kelly Ground

This event is full but we will add another date if there is enough interest so make sure you add your name to the waitlist.

Join us for a Muse DIY Workshop! In time for the holidays!! Make a sign for yourself or as a gift. Many options are available!

Cost is \$45 for a 12 x 12 wooden sign board (extra costs for larger signs which you would pay for onsite). If you need more information, please reach out to Kelly. Once you have registered on Wild Apricot you will be provided with the registration form for Muse. Muse Studio & Market is located at 207 Main Street in Milton.



Please let Kelly know your choice of craft by October 15<sup>th</sup> ([kmground@gmail.com](mailto:kmground@gmail.com)). Check out this Pinterest link for ideas: <https://pin.it/b7hvr6koawnjzd>. Choose one of their ideas or your favourite saying. Here are some random ideas to think about:



## **NEW!** Murders Tastefully Executed - Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm

Convenor: Ruth Gagnon

Come on out and see who is the murderer among us! Murders Tastefully Executed is Niagara's Premier Interactive Dinner Theatre. This is a participatory interactive dinner with preset dinner options at The Grand Chalet (324 Steeles Avenue East). The cost is \$63/person and is restricted to 35 members.

The dinner options are listed below and I will reach out to you closer to the date to get your selections:

- Fresh baked breads
- Appetizer: fresh baby spinach salad or soup of the day
- Main course: veal scallopine, chicken parmigiana, agnollotti rosé or filet of salmon
- Dessert: New York cheesecake or chocolate tartufo
- Coffee or tea



## **NEW!** Escape Rooms at Champs – Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm

Convenor: Kelly Ground

How good are you? Can you solve the puzzles within the allotted time? Join us and find out!! Then join us for a social time of drinks and a bite afterwards! Be creative! Put your thinking caps on! Think outside the box! Get busy! Themed rooms available to play are the Wizarding World and Tomb Raiders.

Champs is located at 300 Bronte Street South, Milton.

Please contact Kelly at [kmground@gmail.com](mailto:kmground@gmail.com) if you have any questions.



# MEETING: SEPTEMBER



## The sensual world of the seasons

George Sanford has been a teacher all his life. Whether leading opera and art tours to Europe, teaching seniors the beauty of the world at various locations, or presenting with his unique approach to his idea of the world, he is a teacher, musician, dancer, writer, and creative explorer who gives back in many ways to those that want to listen. George hopes you will enjoy the sensual world of the seasons with images and music. Our world in all of its glory.

# SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

| EVENT                                                   | DATE         | TIME     | LOCATION           | CONVENOR                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Activities</b>                                       |              |          |                    |                          |
| Mini Golf at Adventure Village                          | September 8  | 11:30 AM | Hamilton           | Kelly Ground             |
| Executive Meeting                                       | September 8  | 7:00 PM  | Zoom               | Wayne Herder             |
| Play Day                                                | September 14 | 1:30 PM  | Rotary Park        | Kelly Ground/Ruth Gagnon |
| Escarpment PROBUS monthly meeting                       | September 15 | 9:30 AM  | Zoom               | Wayne Herder             |
| Milton Historical Society Walking Tour of Martin Street | September 15 | 1:30 PM  | Martin Street      | Kelly Ground             |
| Milton Historical Society Walking Tour of Martin Street | September 22 | 1:30 PM  | Martin Street      | Kelly Ground             |
| <b>Clubs</b>                                            |              |          |                    |                          |
| Probus Info Exchange - PIE                              | Online only  |          |                    | Cliff Read               |
| Tastings - Whisky - <i>D'Stillers</i>                   | September 1  | 7:00 PM  | Flowers home       | Chris Strachan           |
| Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>             | September 2  | 2:00 PM  | Zoom               | Michael Hooker           |
| Saturday Night Lives                                    | September 4  | 6:00 PM  | Keenan's Irish Pub | Anna Strachan            |
| Crafts - Quilting - <i>Piece Makers</i>                 | September 7  | 1:00 PM  | Comstock home      | Diane Comstock           |
| Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>                   | September 13 | 7:00 PM  | Capper home*       | Martin Capper            |
| Board Games (Yahtzee) - <i>Bee Gees</i>                 | September 14 | 10:00 AM | Zoom               | Diane Comstock           |
| Crafts - Knitting - <i>Chicks with Sticks</i>           | September 16 | 10:30 AM | Willekes home      | Christine Willekes       |
| Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>             | September 16 | 2:00 PM  | Zoom               | Michael Hooker           |
| Dining - <i>Skip the Dishes</i>                         | September 16 | 6:00 PM  | Pasqualino         | Lorette Shermet          |
| Friendship Club                                         | September 22 | 10:00 AM | Zoom               | Judy Krauss              |
| Board Games (Farkle) - <i>Bee Gees</i>                  | September 22 | 1:00 PM  | Zoom               | Diane Comstock           |
| Tastings - Beer - <i>Suds and Buds</i>                  | September 23 | 7:00 PM  | TBA                | Pete Shermet             |

## Special invitation:

The Sunshine Women's PROBUS Club in Waterloo has invited our entire club to attend a special Zoom meeting on September 9, 2021 at 9:30 am where Dr. David Johnston (former Governor General) and Sharon Johnston, now authors, are their guest speakers. For more information see

[A Special Event to Open the Probus Program for 2021.pdf](#)



# 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 | paullelencrawford@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 | paullelencrawford@gmail.com |
| Book Club - <i>Sequel</i>                     | 2nd Wed. - 10 am                   | Carolyn Rumley         | 905-302-0442 | carolynrumley@sympatico.ca  |
| 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 | meljenscc@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 | paullelencrawford@gmail.com |
| Dining - Saturday Night Lives                 | 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 | judyckrauss@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 | peteshermett@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        |

## Convenors and anyone else intending to use the Escarpment PROBUS Zoom account for an event:

The account allows the operation of one event at a time with up to 100 participants. To avoid scheduling conflicts, please contact our Zoom coordinator Lorrette Shermett ([lorrette@sympatico.ca](mailto:lorrette@sympatico.ca)) before planning your event.

If you need help with the Zoom program, check out our Zoom page at <https://www.escarpmentprobus.com/zoom>. All the information you need to use Zoom is there.

**Rmember:** Under the Escarpment Probus Bylaws Article 2 – Membership – Members must not use other member's email addresses for their own personal use such as fundraising.

# RECENT EVENTS

## August Meeting

Our August Zoom General Meeting was held on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Here's the link to the recording of the meeting and guest speaker Michael Gemmell, who spoke about the history of Georgian Bay Islands National Park.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/tc4geahX3yYBYJhvCMsJ8YicxvIRcCQGmkMf5T4vnk-ANYLd6u7VPtgPci6O2Doh.Cfc2ll\\_uEbcDOyYc](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/tc4geahX3yYBYJhvCMsJ8YicxvIRcCQGmkMf5T4vnk-ANYLd6u7VPtgPci6O2Doh.Cfc2ll_uEbcDOyYc)

Passcode: 6^83E1UD

## Car Rally

*by Kelly Ground, Activities Committee*

A gorgeous day saw 50 Probians, in sixteen cars, participate in our second car rally. For two hours people followed clues and scurried all over town taking pictures of their teams at their destinations (or what they hoped was the desired spot).

Some things they were asked to do were to take a photo where the 15th Prime Minister of Canada meets Canada's youngest PM; or where you can't get clam chowder but can get pizza; or a photo where calendar boys can be found.

A special shout out to Chris and Ellen Wallhouse and teammates Alan and Rosalind Jordan for taking great pictures with all four members in every one. Yes they followed the instructions!

Points were assigned for each of the 30 items on the list and team scores ranged from 40 to 155.

Third place team with 130 points was Barb Finnie, Fred Ground, Wilma Peer and Jack Hanna. Second place team had 150 points, they were Liz and Cliff Read with teammates David and Maggie Boss. First place was won by only five more points for a total of 155, they were Jenny and Harold O'Brien with Jim and Barb Campbell.

Dinner afterwards was a pre-selected menu at Ned Devine's; the food, the friends and the smiles were plentiful. Everyone seemed to have a wonderful time, and we're all looking forward to the next event!





## Eye Spy II

by Kelly Ground, Activities Committee

Eye spy with my little eye, a VP. Twenty-four people braved the heat and searched the old town for landmarks around the neighbourhood. Our powers of observation were tested along with our stamina, exploring old streets like King, Queen, Thomas, Sarah and all the way down to Charles, looking for specific windows, garden rocks, mailboxes and decorative eaves.

Barb Finnie and Diane Comstock were the clear winners with 150 out of 160 points, missing only one of the twenty-seven items. Second place finishers were Oakville residents and Milton tourists, Walt and Andrea Ruediger with 135 points. Two other teams, Marg Jones and Frank Dawe and Martin and Norma Capper were tied at 130 points so just missed.

All in attendance concluded the afternoon with cocktails and/or dinner at Ned Devine's. It is really wonderful being able to get out and socialize again.



## Clubs: Food and Drink

### Rad Brothers

By Lorette Shermet, Convenor

On August 19<sup>th</sup>, 35 Probians met for dinner at Rad Brothers and had a great meal under the big tent. The weather cooperated and it did not rain. The only complaint I heard was that most peoples' rear end was a little sore as we sat at picnic tables.

The service was excellent and there was plenty of food.

September 16<sup>th</sup> we will venture to Pasqualino on Main Street for 6 pm. It will be a pre-set menu. Once a menu is set up, an email will be sent out via Wild Apricot. If you are not on the skip the dishes email list and would like to be, please email me and let me know ([lorrette@sympatico.ca](mailto:lorrette@sympatico.ca)).



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# Champs

by Anna Strachan, Convenor

After a fifteen-month hiatus due to Covid, the first Saturday Night Live meeting of 2021 was held on August 7<sup>th</sup> on the Patio at Champs. It turned out to be a beautiful evening despite the severe rainstorm we had in the afternoon, which unfortunately caused some people to cancel. As it was, eleven hearty souls came and enjoyed each other's company, as one usually does at PROBUS events. Everyone enjoyed the food they had ordered and we had a wonderful young man as our server. Sorry, there are no photos showing us having a good time! Unfortunately I didn't think of it until I got home, a bit rusty for sure. Next time I'll be sure to take some pictures.

The next SNL meeting will be held at 6 pm on September 4<sup>th</sup> at Keenan's Irish Pub, 51 James Snow Pkwy. Hope to see many SNL's there.

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## Ontario Amber Beers

by Catherine Parr, Correspondent

Our August meeting sought to taste three Ontario Amber beers, Rattle 'N' Nemo Amber Ale by Orange Snail Brewers, Barking Squirrel Amber Lager by Hop City Brewing Company and Country Vibes Amber Lagered Ale by Beau's Brewing Company.



This proved to be a daunting task as Beau's Country Vibes had sold out everywhere and only 4 of our 8 tasters were able to find it. When pouring Rattle 'N' Nemo, it turned out to be an Irish Red Ale, distinctly different from an Amber as in the title on the label. Such fun. Thankfully, those present at our Zoom meeting were good humoured and patient and we had an enjoyable evening regardless.



First Place: Rattle 'N' Nemo (brewed in Milton)  
IBU 24 (International Bitterness Unit)  
8 Tasters - Average Score 78.4

Second Place: Barking Squirrel (brewed in Brampton)  
IBU 24  
7 Tasters - Average Score 76.0

Absolutely Last Place: Country Vibes Amber Ale (brewed in Vankleek Hill, near Ottawa)  
IBU 27  
4 Tasters - Average Score 54.2 (most would not buy it again)

Most enjoyed but did not love the top two beers, Rattle 'N' Nemo and Barking Squirrel, and agreed that although they would not likely purchase either brew, they could and would drink them if served to them. Country Vibes, from the producers of the very popular Lug Tread Lagered Ale, was quite a surprise. It was a disappointment and none of our tasters would purchase it again. I speculate it was largely unavailable because it was not restocked.

The two top beers had close scores and the same IBU of 24. The last place beer with a much lower score had an IBU of 27. Comparably, the very popular Lug Tread (not tasted here) has an IBU of 21. It would seem that amber beers are most enjoyable when smooth to the taste and not overly bitter.

The evening was lovely regardless of the beer! I thoroughly enjoyed the banter and lively exchange between our exceptionally knowledgeable members. I learn a lot at our meetings, not only about beer, but also about the interesting travels and experiences of our wonderful beer tasters.



## Scottish water

by Chris Strachan, Convenor

Hello Probians. On a lovely summer evening the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the D'Stillers was held in my backyard to sample Scottish water, otherwise known as Scotch whiskey.

The whiskies I supplied were Glenfiddich Select Cask, Compass Box Hedonism, Glenmorangie The Original 10yr old, Lagavulin 8yr old, and Jura 12yr old.

We rated them as follows: The Glenfiddich Select Cask single malt and the Glenmorangie 10yr old single malt tied for 1st place. In second place was Jura 12 yr old single malt. The third was Compass Box Hedonism, which is a grain blended whiskey. Bringing up the rear was Lagavulin 8yr old single malt.

Thanks to Suzanne Herder for hosting the DDs in her backyard and our DDs for getting us all home safe and sound.

The September 1<sup>st</sup> meeting will be in the Flowers home in Oakville and we are hoping for another lovely evening. Our October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting is back to Milton at Pete and Lorette Shermet's home.



## Clubs: Books, Hobbies, Games

### Pat was VERY Hot!!

by Diane Comstock, Correspondent

On a very hot Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, six BeeGees played Yahtzee. Pat informed us that her air conditioner was broken and she was sweating in the heat. This did not seem to affect her dice throwing, however, as she managed to score 65 in the upper section providing her with 35 bonus points. She also scored high points for her 3 and 4 of a kind and her chance. Despite not having a Yahtzee, she rolled the highest score of 273. Beth came second with 234.



### Farkle

by Pat Vogt, Correspondent

We had three players this month for Farkle, Beth Barnes, Marg Jones and myself. This was a very quick game going 20 rounds in less than an hour.

The scores were very close all the way through even though one of us farkled nine times (what happens at Farkle stays with the Farklettes). The scores were 8400, 9100 and 11150. A fun afternoon and a good visit after the game.



Anyone interested in joining our dice games, drop Diane an email ([meljenscc@sympatico.ca](mailto:meljenscc@sympatico.ca)) to be added to the club list.

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## Cribbage Club resumes in person meetings!

by *Martin Capper, Convenor*

The second Monday in August proved to be an ideal time for the Cribbage Club to resume in person, al fresco meetings, or at least so thought the 15 members who attended. Numbers had been restricted to 16, well down from the 20 to 30 that we were used to - but then times have changed for all of us. What hasn't changed is the competitiveness and sense of fun.



We didn't hear any cries of really big scores. In fact at my table it was the 2<sup>nd</sup> game before we got into double figures. We had a few clean sheets, sadly, on both sides of that term! Most players got in three games with some managing a fourth. Maybe not having the app do the scoring for you made a difference to the speed of play!



Perhaps in September if there is interest we will also resume the Tuesday afternoon sessions to ensure that everyone who wants to gets a chance to participate!

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## Two Zoom meetings - “America” and “Concertos”

by *Michael Hooker, Convenor*

I presented the second (and final) part of “Roots of American Folk Music”, this one concentrating on specific sub-groups: New England witches; America's wars; tough times, including the 1930s Dust Bowl; Texas songs; Black prison farm songs; white religious songs; “The Days of '49” – California gold rush.



Looking back at both American Folk programs, what struck us listeners was the number of songs inspired by real people and real events; it was in many ways a random tour through American history (particularly some darker sides) at ground level.

Here are two YouTube songs from this Zoom, both of which you may remember from when you were in your teens or twenties, but the originals. Click on the links to hear the songs.

“So long, it's been good to know yuh” – Woody Guthrie (from his Dust Bowl Ballads album). The “Dust Bowl” was the drought-stricken Southern U.S. Plains region in the 1930s. As high winds and choking dust devastated the farmland from Texas to Nebraska, people and livestock died and crops failed, and thousands of families were forced to pack up and leave for an uncertain future somewhere else. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vixnSMircuA&list=PLdxzX400QUYMBM8Vs6zJPKO6Olwf3pinr&index=11>

“Rock Island Line” – Kelly Pace and Black convicts. Recorded by John A. Lomax in 1934 at the Cummins (Arkansas) prison farm. A tall tale in rhyme, the subject is a train so fast it arrives at its destination in Little Rock (at 8:49) before it departs Memphis (at “half past nine”). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0NTa7ps6sNU&list=PLdxzX400QUYMBM8Vs6zJPKO6Olwf3pinr&index=20>

Asoka Yapa brought us back to our classical roots with the program “Three Brilliant Piano Concertos”. A piano concerto is a musical work with the piano both blended with the orchestra and (on occasion) a solo instrument. It's also a substantial work, usually with three distinct sections (movements), each with its own melodies and musical atmosphere. All three are from the “Romantic” period of European classical music, the 19th century. All are masterpieces, but very different in musical style and mood.

- John Field's Piano Concerto No. 1 (1799)
- Ludwig van Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5 (often called “Emperor” - 1809)
- Edvard Grieg's Piano Concerto (1868)



# It wasn't RAINING!

by Diane Comstock, Convenor

On Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, the PieceMakers finally were able to gather together in person for their monthly quilting meeting. Carol Ann, Dawn, and Judy joined Diane outside of her condo for a long awaited in person meeting. Diane set up a table so members could display their items that previously were only viewed over Zoom. It was so nice to be able to appreciate these projects up close. Carol Ann also showed us her Thanksgiving table runner using orange felt for her applique pumpkins. Diane showed the wonky blocks she had made out of men's shirts.



On Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, the PieceMakers met at Barbara Alderson's house to go on a "shopping" spree. Barbara is moving and invited us to come and help her reduce her extensive fabric stash. Thanks so much Barbara, some of your stash is now our stash – LOL.



## Quilting Terms of the Month:

**Chain Piecing** – A sewing technique that is basically an assembly line for your quilt, sewing block after block without cutting your thread in between each set. This method of piecing is wonderful for many reasons, and its advantages include:

- Saving time. No need to constantly stop and start your machine.
- Saving thread. There is no thread waste between pieces.
- Saving headache. Does your seam ever bunch or pucker when you start to sew? Chain piecing eliminates that issue, and you only have to use a leader piece of fabric at the very beginning.
- Keeping you organized and consistent. You can keep your pieces in the right order very easily.



**Wonky** – A style of imperfect patchwork in which fabrics are cut at awkward angles and sewn together with no rhyme or reason. It is a liberal and improvisational style of quilting.

On Tuesday September 7<sup>th</sup>, we plan to meet again in person, weather permitting. Carol Ann has offered her backyard for our gathering.

Anyone interested in quilting, whether it is large bed-size quilts or small table runners, consider joining the club.

# Clubs: Travel

## Kolkata, Bhutan, Nepal, Turkey

by Gloria Pennycook, Convenor

This month Judith Mitchell shared her pictures and memories of a wonderful Asian and Turkey trip. Here is her write-up.

In 2019, the bi-annual international Anglican mission team went to work at the Catholic Mother Teresa home for ill underprivileged adults in Kolkata, India. As with prior trips, some group members took side trips. Optional trips were to Bhutan and Nepal. Then returning to Toronto, airlines were changed in Istanbul, Turkey. Naturally, I stopped over for a few days, after all Istanbul and Cappadocia were on my bucket list of places to visit.

In Kolkata, the team met with other international volunteers. Men and women separated to attend to the residents of their sex, but met over laundry and again over tea. Daily, they stripped beds, washed bedding and floors, helped feed and interacted with the residents. Exchanges, even friendships were developed, despite language barriers. The staff asked that future volunteers come during the school year, as then is when they have very few helpers.

Next was Thimphu, Bhutan, the "Happiness Kingdom", where Gross Domestic Happiness, (GDH, not GDP) is the key measure. Mountains, valleys, the rivers, prayer flags and wheels, and air so fresh. Smoking is banned, alcohol consumption discouraged, slaughtering not allowed. A rich and orderly culture, beautiful architecture, numerous Buddhist temples, unique clothing and beautiful beliefs around death. Any image can be issued to postage stamps! Paro town is home to the world's most hazardous airport runway, and to the cliff side Tiger's Nest monastery. Yak cheese, salty tea, and dinner with a local family while sitting on the floor are some of the memorable experiences.

Kathmandu, Nepal, is a metropolis of over 1.5 million in the Himalayan foothills. Numerous ancient palaces, temples and museums were damaged during the severe 2015 earthquake, yet there is still much beautiful architecture to see. Food is very similar to Indian, except that with no chili, it is mild. Open Hindu cremations (30-100+ daily) take place at the Pashupatinath Temple, on the banks of the Bagmati river. Buddhist and Hindu religions cooperate to enable the practice of living goddess worshiping. The Kumari Devi (living goddess) thought fortunate to be chosen for the task, is dressed but not allowed to talk, walk or to play with others, which seems unlucky when compared to happy, polite, friendly underprivileged children at Bamboo school wearing colourful uniforms and bursting with energy.

Istanbul, the city spanning Europe and Asia, is primarily Muslim. Staying in the old town at a B&B, the Palace, museums, temples, and markets are all within walking distance. Food is now as available outside Turkey. One has to be there, however, to experience the vastness of the temples and other structures; the vibrancy; sounds; scents of roasting coffee, flowers and European cigarettes; and hospitality first hand.

A domestic flight to Cappadocia and a 40km drive leads to the "fairy rocks", the eroding sedentary and volcanic rock formations, and to the ancient cave churches of early Christians where Frescos of Christ and his Disciples can be seen in some. Hikers too should find this region very interesting. If flying in a hot air balloon at sunrise is appealing, then an overnight stay is necessary, perhaps in a cave hotel.

And once back in Istanbul, on the final night, the experience of a Turkish bath at an old Hamam is not to be missed! It is better than... ah hem... Turkish delight, some of which must taken home.

Our next meeting via Zoom is Oct 14<sup>th</sup>, when Dawn Ross will be sharing her trip to the Dolomites in Italy. If you are interested in joining Wanderlust and sharing your travel pictures, please let me know.







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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](mailto:lorrette@sympatico.ca) or 905-878-1293).

## 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.