

FORUM



Volume 9 — Issue 6 — July 2021

President's Message:

Déjà vu



Halton Region has entered Stage 3 and now our PROBUS club can start to think about gradually returning to some of our activities. We need guidance on how to do this safely, and Martin Capper, our Ontario District 4 Director, is assisting presidents who have questions. *This may look familiar to you as it was written by Liz Read, our Past President, in our August Forum last year. Hopefully, this will be the last time it will appear in our Forum!*

An Important Message from the Management Committee about COVID Vaccinations

Most of us have been fully vaccinated and while there are no immediate plans to hold a hybrid general meeting, we do have Social and Activity Clubs resuming. As you are aware, our club adheres to any provincial restrictions and recommendations regarding COVID. To ensure the safety of all of us - especially immunocompromised friends and family - including all unvaccinated children, we request that any member participating in an in-person PROBUS Meeting, social club or activity be fully vaccinated. If you are not fully vaccinated, you are not permitted to participate. We will not be requesting proof of vaccination. PROBUS meetings, social clubs and activities will be held on the honour system. Please respect the safety of others. Let's continue to practice social distancing and keep safe and healthy!

Wild Apricot is your link to all activities and clubs for Escarpment PROBUS. Please update your profile and be counted.

— Wayne Herder

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 26th to June 8th, 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 last month's 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.

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New Website Is Live!

by Diane Comstock

Thanks to all members who have viewed our new website. As of July 31st, 200 of our 256 members have logged into the website, that is a whopping 78%. Please have a good look around as there is plenty to see. Ruth and her committee have been VERY busy posting upcoming activities – ten in fact – and to-date, over 90 members have registered online for at least one of them. Thanks Ruth for embracing this new technology. We have experienced a few hiccups, so please bear with us, as we all learning. FYI, for those members that opted to be bundled together, we are only sending the event invites to the designated “Bundle Admin” in order to reduce the number of emails being sent. This however does not stop the “Bundle Member” from registering for an event; they can log in themselves and register for any event or the “Bundle Admin” can register them. Please refer to the Events FAQ page (under Help & FAQ – Member FAQ) for instructions. Please note: We are working on an option that will allow members to register themselves and another member at the same time – even for those that are not “bundled”.

The Social Scene calendar is being updated with the various social club get-togethers that are currently meeting, either online via zoom or in-person – with some using the online Register button. Watch for the email invites! Check your profile to see which social clubs we have registered you with. If any are missing or you want to join a club, go to the applicable Social Clubs page (found under SOCIAL SCENE), click the convenor’s name link and send them a message.

Check out the DIRECTORY, where you will find the most up-to-date contact information for members. If you move or change your phone number please update your profile. While you are there, why not add a photo (refer to the Profile-FAQ page under Help & FAQ – Member FAQ).

The membership renewal emails have been sent out. If you did not receive one, please send me an email (meljenscc@sympatico.ca) so I can determine the problem. *Please note: If you are bundled, only the “Bundle Admin” receives the renewal email and pays for both members. Also we have a glitch with the renewal emails being read on phones and tablets, part of it is being shown with one letter per line. Sorry – still investigating what happened. Please scroll to the bottom where you will find the Renew Your Membership button.*

Photo of the Month

OK so it’s not an escarpment photo, but this great shot of the Toronto skyline from Toronto Island Marina was taken on Canada Day by Alan Jordan.

Send your photos to david@bosscommunications.com and one will be selected for inclusion each month.



ACTIVITIES

Welcome to Wild Apricot!

by Ruth Gagnon, Activities Chair

The Activities Committee is very excited to be planning events again. We have lots of great activities happening now and in the months ahead. Let's keep our fingers crossed that we progress on getting to our new normal!

As mentioned at our July Zoom General Meeting, all of our activities will be posted on Wild Apricot for registering and payment of activities. **For your spot to be reserved** you must pay for the activity in order to be registered. If an event is full I encourage you to go on the wait list as that is a good indication for us to plan another date for that event.

You will automatically be sent out a reminder email notification a few days prior to the activity. Any further instructions will be included. If you have any questions about an activity, please connect with the convenor.

You will get an email for each activity. If you don't want to receive the emails, all you have to do is unsubscribe.

I hope you join us for some activities. We are definitely ready for some fun!!

Don't forget to check out Kelly's article about our Trivia Night. The winners were given a bottle of Fantini Sangliovese....one of Kelly's favorites!

AUGUST ACTIVITIES:

Eye Spy Photo Scavenger Hunt – Tuesday, August 10th, 2:00 pm

Convenors: Kelly Ground & Ruth Gagnon

Here we go again! Let's see if we can make this happen!!! Come on out and join your PROBUS friends for a little fun! We will meet at 2 p.m. at **Victoria Park** to check in and start your Eye Spy Photo Scavenger Hunt. Whether you go "hunting" by yourself, with someone in your "bubble" or make a team, come on out and see a few friendly faces as we explore Old Milton. See what you can accomplish in two hours!! Remember social distancing and bring a mask!

Kelly and I will be waiting for you at Ned Devine's for happy hour drinks and dinner and to see your results!!

If you haven't already let us know you are coming and if you are "hunting" on your own, in a "bubble" or "team", please send us a quick email – kmgground@gmail.com or gagnonruth@gmail.com. This event is not on Wild Apricot for registration!

NEW! Milton Historical Society Walking Tour of Victoria Square – Tuesday, August 24th at 2 pm

Convenor: Kelly Ground

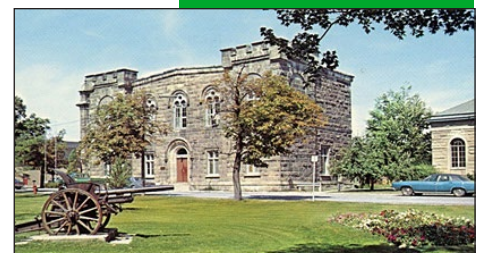
Explore the heart of Milton's civic precinct on this guided tour of the historic Victoria Park Square area. It's a perfect introduction for new and older residents of Milton. The cost for this event is \$10/member and is limited to 10 members. Rain date is Thursday, August 26th. Face masks are recommended. Meet at 16 James St.

This is a popular event and we have been able to add a 2nd tour date: Monday, August 16th at 1:30 pm. Rain date is Tuesday, August 17th at 1:30 pm.

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.



NEW! Car Rally & Dinner – Friday, August 27th at 3 pm

Convenors: Kelly Ground & Ruth Gagnon

It's time to get in your cars and see what you can find based on the clues you will be given! Take some time to strategize before you get out on the road! You'll need to take a picture at each spot you get to. Points will be awarded for each location you find. Stay safe!!

Our final spot will be the restaurant where we will have a happy hour drink and dinner! Details will be provided once we have a better idea of how many members will be participating.

There is no cost for this event and dinner will be at your own expense.

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES:

NEW! Mini Golf at Adventure Village, Hamilton – Wednesday, September 8th at 11:30 pm

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.

Play Day at Rotary Park – Tuesday, September 14th 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 14th 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 are done we plan to head to an outdoor terrace for a happy hour drink. Stay tuned for more details! 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 or gagnonruth@gmail.com. Please indicate if you are joining us for a drink as well. Remember to bring a chair!!

NEW! Milton Historical Society Walking Tour of Martin Street – Wednesday, September 22nd 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 23rd. Face masks are recommended. Meet at 16 James St.

This is a popular event and we have been able to add a 2nd tour date: Wednesday, September 15th at 1:30 pm. Rain date is Thursday, September 16th at 1:30 pm.

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES:

NEW! Andrews Farm & Winery – Tuesday, October 5th 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!

NEW! Scams Presentation by the Halton Regional Police – Monday, October 18th 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 be hearing a wide range of tips from 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 18th at 10 am. The cost for this event is \$5/member. Register and pay using Wild Apricot. This event is restricted to 30 members.

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES:

NEW! Birds of Prey Photography Session & Lunch at the Beach House (Port Dover) – Wednesday, November 3rd 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 3rd to visit the Canadian Raptor Conservancy. 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 22nd**.

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.

MEETING: AUGUST



The history of Georgian Bay Islands National Park: ecological studies and teachable information

Michael Gemmell grew up on the waters of Georgian Bay where he developed his passion for ecology and conservation. That passion led him to a BSc in biology, a diploma in GIS and remote sensing, and a MSc in applied geomatics. After working on the East Coast he is now a Resource Conservation Officer at Georgian Bay Islands National Park, where he is in charge of the Ecological Integrity Monitoring Program. He loves applying technology such as song meters, camera traps, and UAVs to ecological data collection that will inform conservation issues in the Parks Canada Agency.

AUGUST CALENDAR

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	CONVENOR
Activities				
Photo Scavenger Hunt	August 10	2:00 PM	Victoria Park	Kelly Ground/Ruth Gagnon
Executive Meeting	August 11	7:00 PM	Zoom	Wayne Herder
Escarpment PROBUS monthly meeting	August 18	9:30 AM	Zoom	Wayne Herder
Walking Tour of Victoria Park Square	August 24	2:00 PM	Victoria Park	Kelly Ground/Ruth Gagnon
Car Rally & Dinner	August 27	3:00 PM		Kelly Ground/Ruth Gagnon
Clubs				
Probus Info Exchange - PIE	Online only			Cliff Read
Crafts - Quilting - <i>Piece Makers</i>	August 3	1:00 PM	Comstock home	Diane Comstock
Tastings - Whisky - <i>D'Stillers</i>	August 4	7:00 PM	Strachan home	Chris Strachan
Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>	August 5	2:00 PM	Zoom	Michael Hooker
Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>	August 9	7:00 PM	Capper home	Martin Capper
Board Games (Yahtzee) - <i>Bee Gees</i>	August 10	10:00 AM	Zoom	Diane Comstock
Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>	August 19	2:00 PM	Zoom	Michael Hooker
Dining - <i>Skip the Dishes</i>	August 19	5:00 PM	Rad Brothers	Lorrette Shermet
Tastings - Beer - <i>Suds and Buds</i>	August 26	7:00 PM		Pete Shermet
Friendship Club	August 25	10:00 AM	Zoom	Judy Krauss
Board Games (Farkle) - <i>Bee Gees</i>	August 25	1:00 PM	Zoom	Diane Comstock

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	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

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) 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.

Rmmember: 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

July Meeting

Our July Zoom General Meeting was held on July 21th. Here's the link to the recording of the meeting and guest speaker Dr. Chris Decker, who spoke about Glenn Gould: His Life, His Cottage, His Orillia.

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/NfIR31BzoPGRjNKozyDPP0ZrPx8dVuYRV3GBZZcLKV8YVJ_UWuSHHa177OMDxsnv.CnO68xtY1KZHRwNy

Passcode: !J1\$jCc9

Trivia Night

by Kelly Ground, Activities Committee

Which country is considered the birthplace of ballet? a) France b) Italy c) Russia d) Austria

Our fourth go at trivia was another resounding success, once again it was lots of fun! We had fourteen teams and twenty-six participants. It was an agreed upon fact that husbands and wives often did not agree on the correct answers, as one would talk the other out of the correct answer.

Glad Dingo, aka Martin and Norma Capper, led for the first forty-five questions, however they lost the lead to Silver Newt who led the rest of the way. The final podium ended up with all three teams having each answered 66 out of the 100 questions correctly! Their final podium placement all came down to the speed with which they answered.

Third place finishers were Marg Jones and Frank Dawe with 59,915 points. In second place was the sister team of Stephanie Hamnett and Jacqui Gerrard with 60,029, just 114 points ahead of third. Returning to the first place podium were Liz and Cliff Read with 62,044 points, beating the second place team by 2,015 points.

Stay tuned as more exciting games of Zoom Trivia will be back in the fall.

[Italy is considered the birthplace of ballet]

Ned Devine's

By Lorraine Shermet, Convenor

On July 16th Ontario went into Stage 3. 37 Probians met for dinner at Ned Devine's and had a great meal in the lounge where only our group was served. It was great to be able to socialize in person after zooming for the last year and half. Seven chose to do take out.

August 19th we will venture to Rad Brothers at Derry and Hwy 25 for 6 p.m. They have a large outside tent patio which will house just our group. You need to pre-order your meal. Once a menu is set up, you will receive an email via Wild Apricot and you will have to respond. If you are not on the Skip the Dishes email list and would like to be please email me (lorrette@sympatico.ca).



Clubs: Food and Drink

Hallelujah!

by Chris Strachan, Correspondent

After meeting via Zoom for months the D'Stillers finally met in person for the June and July tastings in Martin Capper's back yard with the DDs meeting in my back yard.

June's host was Ron Millichamp. For our tasting pleasure, Ron supplied a Glenfiddich 12 yr old single malt, an Ardmore Legacy single malt, a Jameson Livery Irish blended whiskey and a Glenlivet Master Distillers Reserve, a single malt. We rated them as follows: Glenfiddich was number one, Glenlivet number two, and the other two were tied for third place. The Jameson and the Glenlivet are not available at the LCBO as they are Travelers Editions.

July was hosted by Bill Willcox. Bill supplied single malt whiskeys for our tasting pleasure. Four Glenfiddich whiskeys, a 12 yr old, 14 yr old, 15 yr old and an experimental IPA whiskey that was finished in IPA beer barrels. The last tasting of the evening was a 12 yr old Dalmore. We rated them as follows: The winner of the evening was the Glenfiddich 12 yr old, followed by the Dalmore 12 yr old. The 15 yr old and the IPA whiskey were tied for third place with the 14 yr old bringing up the rear.

Hopefully, the weather gods bless us with good weather in August for our next tasting, which will be held at the Strachan's. The September meeting will take place at the Flowers home in Oakville.

My thanks once again to the DDs for getting us all home safe and sound.



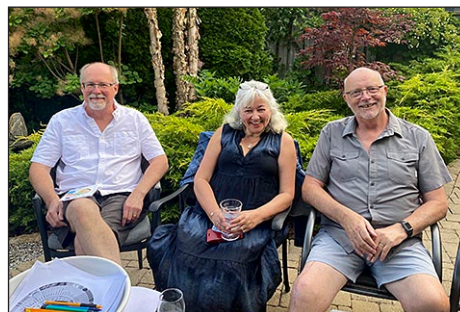
Suds 'N Buds Meets in Person

by Liz Read, Correspondent

For the first time in a year and a half, the beer tasters were able to meet in person in Liz and Cliff Read's back yard. But, surprise, this inaugural meeting was a cider tasting! And spouses of the beer tasters were invited to join in. It had been so long since we'd seen each other that some mischievously switched up their PROBUS nametags.

Three selections from the Carlisle Cider Company were served as well as Chudleigh's hard cider. We enjoyed comparing the tastes from dry to semi dry to sweet. Paul Crawford, who grew up on a farm in the area, shared information about the locations depicted on the cans - Tally Ho Valley, Chapel on the Twelve, and Progreston Falls. The cider with the highest sugar content, Chudleigh's, was the hit of the evening as it had a perfect blend of natural apple flavour and carbonation.

We look forward to next month's meeting and being together again.



Clubs: Books, Hobbies, Games

Reminiscing

by Chris Strachan, Correspondent

The Sequel Book Club was able to hold its first face-to-face meeting in over a year in my back yard. The weather was perfect and it was certainly a joy to see all the smiling faces.

We did not select one book for discussion as we usually do but instead we talked about books that we had read in the past. As always our discussions were enjoyed by all. The books ranged from a story involving the second world war, murder mysteries to the real-life story of an imposter.

Here's to our next book club meeting where we shall be able to get together once again.



Scarborough, A Novel

by Joy Castello, Correspondent

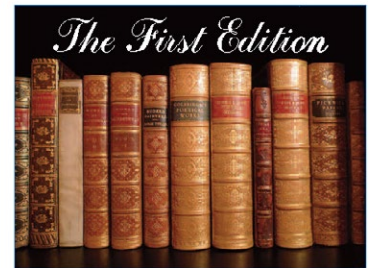
In June the First Edition Book Club met on Zoom to discuss *Scarborough, A Novel* by Catherine Hernandez. The book highlights poverty and cultural diversity in a Scarborough neighbourhood. The community problems are realistic and typical of disadvantaged inner city neighbourhoods.

The story is told through the perspectives of many characters, including several children who attend the community Literacy Program run by the facilitator, Hina Hassani, a Muslim. Hina emails progress reports to her supervisor Jane Fulton who regularly finds fault with her. Jane's replies include negative comments about her hijab ("be aware of how we dress"), Hina's recent attendance at a local NDP meeting, and her requests for snacks because the children arrive at school hungry most days ("it's not a breakfast program"). Many of the white characters are not shown in a positive way.

Voices of three children strengthen the narrative and bring their stories to life: Bing, a bright gay Filipino boy; Sylvie, a Native girl and Bing's best friend; and Laura, neglected by her parents and struggling to survive. These chapters are well written and add emotional intensity to the story.

This book has won awards and published reviews give glowing comments. However, many of us thought there were too many characters, and some new voices were introduced more than halfway through the book. They were all familiar stories but they crowded each other out. We gave scores ranging from 2 to 7.5 out of 10. The average rating was 5.5.

First Edition Book Club resumes in September for a discussion of *Recipe for a Perfect Wife* by Karma Brown.



Dawn takes GOLD!

by Diane Comstock, Correspondent

On July 28th, seven BeeGees played Farkle via Zoom. Both Dawn and Pat started on the first round with 1500 points. Dawn never looked back as she consistently added points in each round, four times rolling over 1000, including one where she rolled 4 of a kind and a pair for 1500 points. She obviously felt sorry for the rest of us as in the 9th round she deliberately farked to - as she put it - "keep the game going a little longer". We all did our best to overtake her with Pat rolling 3250 in the 10th round to take Silver and Lorhel capitalizing on Pat's roll to take Bronze.

Anyone interested in joining our dice games, drop me an email (meljenscc@sympatico.ca).



Mozart's Canada Day Zoom, etc.

by Michael Hooker, Convenor



On Canada Day, Asoka Yapa presented “My Canadian Songbook”, a tour through our Canadian artists incredible musical performing and composing talents, starting with “The Maple Leaf Forever”. Both words and music for this piece were written in 1867 by a Toronto school headmaster, Alexander Muir, who submitted the lyrics to a poetry contest celebrating Confederation; it won second prize! Nowadays the lyrics are definitely not politically correct, but the music is still stirring.

Then we were conducted through Canadians’ contributions to virtually every musical genre – jazz, folk, classical, pop, country, etc., including a great representation by the many Canadian female popular singers: Jann Arden, Joni Mitchell, Rita MacNeil, Diana Krall, Sarah MacLauchlan, Shaina Twain, and Celine Dion. What a musical cornucopia!

Here’s a couple of ticklers - pieces we listened to:

Diana Krall - “The Look of Love”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nDXwIUoxAGQ>

Gordon Lightfoot - “Canadian Railroad Trilogy”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nDXwIUoxAGQ>

For our second July musical extravaganza, I presented the first part of a two-part introduction to “The Roots of American Folk Music” (the sheer scope being too big for one program).

For most of us, our intro to American Folk was around the ‘60s, with groups like The Kingston Trio and Peter Paul and Mary, and songs like “Hang down your head, Tom Dooley”. But these performers, plus many in the “popular” genre, like Elvis Presley, got a lot of their material from, and were heavily influenced by “folk” material collected earlier in the century, both “white” and “black”.

Courtesy of YouTube, I was able to go back to the originals, and zoomed 35 songs and instrumental pieces, from slavery days, the White Blue Ridge music that developed in the Southern Appalachians (think “Carter Family”), white and black religious music, blues, bluegrass, and more. Performers were “down to earth”, several performing their own works. All were interesting and enjoyable. Reaction of our Mozartians was great – quite a revelation.

Here are two YouTube examples, the first “White”, the second “Black”:

“Jesse James”, by Almeda Riddle

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FA2rpU2yWgM&list=PLdxzX4OOQUYNxCrkhI2B-ydQtR9PUUcnX&index=9>

“Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”, by Mississippi Fred McDowell

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XwX0kdF2izI&list=PLdxzX4OOQUYNxCrkhI2B-ydQtR9PUUcnX&index=21>

I’ll be presenting Part Two on Thursday August 5th, at 2 pm. If you’re not a “Mozartian”, but are interested in folk music and would like to listen along with us, email me – mhooker10@bell.net – and I’ll send you details of the program and the Zoom sign-in info. All are welcome!

Quilts in Progress

by Diane Comstock, Convenor

Our July meeting was postponed to Friday, July 9th in the hope that the weather would allow us to meet outside. Alas, due to the threat of rain, the Piece Makers gathered together on Zoom for their monthly quilting meeting. We took the first 15 minutes to reminisce and honour our fallen friend and quilter, Wendy Stringer. Her loving nature and jovial disposition will be greatly missed at our monthly meetings.



Judy had been working on busting her stash and piecing a multitude of Fox Face blocks and Pinwheel blocks. Carol Ann had completed her Disappearing Four-Patch quilt using a piano key border and an overall free-motion swirl quilting pattern. She plans to make a Log Cabin quilt with a wool fabric pumpkin applique. Dawn had completed two blocks, a Star and a Cross, as part of the repair work on her son's quilt. She also completed two Bear Claw blocks. Louise stated that she needs inspiration but managed to piece several blocks using triangles in various patterns. Diane worked on some wonky squares when it rained during her fishing trip.



Carol Ann told us about a Quilt Retreat being hosted in October by a quilt shop in Tillsonburg. She will provide more information as she receives it. We also discussed a shopping trip in the Fall as most of us can use more quilting supplies and fabric.

Quilting Terms of the Month:

Quiltnesia – The inability to remember what quilt supplies you have at home, resulting in the purchase of duplicate supplies.



We will meet again on Tuesday Aug. 3rd at 1 pm. We really hope to meet up in person.

Anyone interested in quilting, whether it is large bed-size quilts or small table runners, consider joining the group or just join us in the Zoom meetings.

Peachy

By Auriel Halliday

It's August and wonderful Niagara peaches are in season. I have chosen a couple of different ways in which we can feature this delicious fruit.

First, we can make a different salad. With crusty bread, this would make a healthy lunch.



BEET AND PEACH SALAD

Two beets, cooked and sliced. You can use "love beets" that you can buy at the grocery store and the work is already done for you.

Lettuce leaves of your choice.

Two ripe peaches, washed, pitted and thinly sliced.

A couple of finely chopped shallots.

1/4 cup of pistachios or nuts of your choosing.

Four oz. of goat cheese.

You can make your own dressing, as follows:

1/4 cup of walnut oil.

Two tablespoons of balsamic vinegar.

Salt and pepper.

Or use a similar store bought dressing of your choice.

Place lettuce in a shallow dish and arrange other ingredients on top. Add dressing and enjoy!

Now, a different take on Sangria.

WHITE PEACH SANGRIA

One bottle of dry white wine.

3/4 cup peach vodka. You can leave this out altogether or substitute another type of alcohol.

Six tablespoons of concentrated lemonade.

1/4 cup white sugar.

A couple of white peaches, thinly sliced.

1/4 cup each of white and red grapes, halved.

Combine all ingredients in a large pitcher and chill for a few hours. Serve over ice.

Have a wonderful summer everyone. Hope to see you all again, in person, this fall.

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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 or 905-878-1293).

Editor's Note:

If you are interested in learning more about the history of the Milton Mill Pond, check out this article by Hiking the GTA:

<https://hikingthegta.com/2021/07/17/milton-mill-pond/>

— *David Boss*

FORUM - THE ESCARPMENT PROBUS CLUB NEWSMAGAZINE

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