

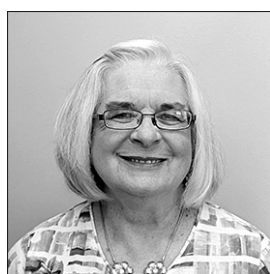
# FORUM



Volume 9 - Issue 12 - December 2021

## President's Message:

### Active Members Mean an Active Club



As noted last month, we are now at full capacity with 250 members and we still have a wait list. Our club is definitely doing something right! Cliff and Liz hosted a Newcomers Orientation that was a great success with 12 of the 16 new members attending. They were very interested in the variety of social clubs and activities, a few had already joined a club and/or registered for an activity. As we are not having in-person meetings as yet, Dawn presented them with their badges and pins. Remember to wear your name badges when attending in-person events. Look for our new members (they have a red dot on their name badge), introduce yourself and help them feel welcome.

In past Novembers, our speakers have helped us to never forget the past atrocities of the World Wars. This year was no exception as Canadian author and journalist Ellin Bessner shared little-known stories of the 17,000 Canadian soldiers of Jewish faith who fought Hitler in the Second World War and rescued the survivors of the Nazi's Final Solution. Bessner is the author of "Double Threat", published by the University of Toronto Press (2019), about the contribution of Canada's tiny wartime Jewish community to defeating the Nazis. If you missed the meeting, look for the link further down in the FORUM or on the website.

From crafts to photography, murder to technology, Ruth and her committee provided activities that were well attended. Coming up in December there are escape rooms and a Christmas craft. See her articles further down in the FORUM. Although increasing COVID numbers have made some of our members nervous, we still have 135 members attending out Christmas Luncheon. See Marg's Social Scene article for additional details.

Let's continue to practise social distancing and stay safe and healthy!

*The executive of Escarpment PROBUS Club of Milton wish all members, their families and friends a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, and wonderful New Year.*

— Diane Comstock

**REMINDER: The usual PROBUS monthly meeting will not be held in December. For this month only it will be replaced by the Christmas Luncheon (see details on page 7).**

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Visit Our Website: [www.escarpmentprobus.com](http://www.escarpmentprobus.com)

# Photo of the Month

This colourful photo was taken at the Norfolk Fair by David & Carol Marion.

Send your photos to [peterlasota@gmail.com](mailto:peterlasota@gmail.com) and I will select one for inclusion each month.



# ACTIVITIES

## 'Tis the season to be jolly!

by Ruth Gagnon, Activities Chair

I know, it's a challenge given what is going on in our world today. So put on a happy face and get involved in some activities or social events based on your comfort level.

We've had the Birds of Prey Photography session so I hope you take the time to check out the pictures in this Forum and read Cliff Read's article. We have some great photographers in our group!

We also had an extra Muse Studio workshop and added another iPhones - Hints, Hacks and How To's. Make sure you check out Kelly's articles! Also be sure to check out my article from our Murders Tastefully Executed at The Grand Chalet to find out who among us is a murderer!

Let's take a look at what events are coming up and share new events with you.

## DECEMBER ACTIVITIES:

### Escape Rooms at Champs – Tuesday, December 7th 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! 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.

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

### Christmas Table Centerpiece – Thursday, December 9th at 10:30 am

Convenor: Ruth Gagnon

Yes, I said that magical word – Christmas! It's not too soon to think about your Christmas table and do your own stunning centerpiece! Join us at Crawfords Garden Centre to make your own unique design. The cost is \$36/member and you will be able to add in different things at your cost (if you wish) or you can bring your own add ins. **I have been able to secure more spaces so this event is now limited to 24 members.** Crawfords Garden Centre is located at 8689 #5 Sideroad, Milton. It's time to get into the Christmas spirit!



Activities Committee

Members:

Ruth Gagnon

Anne Gibbard

Kelly Ground

Irene Hiebert

Ron Millichamp

Jenny O'Brien

Dawn Ross

Michelle Tschirhart

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



## JANUARY ACTIVITIES:

### **V!VA Life – Retirement Communities (Nutrition, Mental Health & Wellness) – Tuesday, January 11th at 11 am**

Convenor: Ruth Gagnon

It's a new year! Have you made a new year's resolution to lose weight? How are you feeling about your mental health and wellness? Start the year off right with some gentle reminders on nutrition, mental health and wellness!

Join in as Amanda from the V!VA Retirement Community shares how a proper diet and your mental health and wellness go hand in hand, especially for our age group! Eating a nutrient-dense diet can prevent degenerative disease, cancers, micro-nutrient deficiencies, and most importantly support one's vitality! This is an interactive session, with our facilitator (Amanda - see bio below) walking us through 6 key nutrients to be mindful of when planning your meals. Walk away with a healthy mind and feeling equipped and energized to start prepping, cooking, and enjoying your fully satisfying meal!

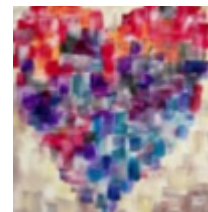
Let's lose some of those pounds we have put on in the past two years! Start 2022 off in a healthy way! Challenge yourself! The cost for this event is \$5/member and is limited to 50 members.

*Amanda Li is a Toronto-based Registered Dietitian, owner of Wellness Simplified, Instructor at George Brown College and a foodie at heart. Upon completing a culinary arts diploma she knew she wanted to bring together her dietetic experience to create a nutrition coaching philosophy that is food-centric and grounded in teaching individuals a basic life skill - nourishing their body, mind and soul. She has helped hundreds of individuals and families by encouraging, educating, and equipping them with hands-on food skills to make healthy eating the easier choice! Amanda loves learning new skills and approaches, and strives to provide the most up-to-date, evidenced based recommendations. She is currently pursuing a Certificate in Integrative and Functional Nutrition. When she's not working with clients, students, or attending class herself she can be found in the kitchen whipping up a new recipe, or choreographing a new dance routine! Amanda looks forward to meeting you soon!*

### **Paint & Cocktails at Shoeless Joes – Tuesday, January 15th at 4:00 pm**

Convenor: Ruth Gagnon

It was January 28, 2019 when a bunch of us headed over to Shoeless Joes to have a Paint & Cocktail session with our instructor, Gary, followed by a wonderfully fun dinner! Well, we are going back! Do you have an "Open Heart"? Yes or no, you can join us to make your very own. Grab a paintbrush, have a drink and enjoy the socializing! We will be painting from approximately 4 - 6 pm and then enjoy a dinner of your choice.



The cost for the painting portion of this activity is \$41/member and is limited to 12 members. Drinks and dinner are at your cost! Let's see how artistic you are!

### **Zoom Trivia is Back!! - Tuesday, January 18th at 7:00 pm**

Convenors: Kelly Ground and Ruth Gagnon

We have had lots of laughs and fun during COVID doing various Zoom games! We are bringing it back so on those winter nights when you are watching nothing on TV, stimulate your brain and join us for some Trivia! This is the first of a few that will be offered over the next few months!



Register on Wild Apricot so we know you are joining us! There is no cost for this event.





### **Tea for Two...or actually 16! - Wednesday, January 26th at 1:00 pm**

*Convenor: Kelly Ground*

What's better than a warm pot of tea on a cold January afternoon?

Join us for Afternoon Tea at the Robinson-Bray House Tea Room in downtown Streetsville. This landmark building, built in 1885, stands on the corner of Queen Street and Mill Street as a constant and elegant reminder of yesteryear.

Your afternoon tea will include a garden salad, a platter of assorted sandwiches, a mini quiche, a scone with jam and clotted cream and a trio of desserts, and of course a pot of tea.

The cost is \$41/member, it includes, lunch all taxes and gratuities. All you have to do is sit and relax!

The Tea Room is located at 223 Queen Street South in Mississauga. Join us Wednesday, January 26th at 1:00 pm.

We are anticipating that we will be able to open this up to more members so make sure you sign up even if your name is added to the waitlist!

## **FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES:**

### **Fred Astaire Private Dancing Lesson – Tuesday, February 8th at 3 pm**

*Convenor: Ruth Gagnon*

Ladies and Gentlemen - get on your dancing shoes! Join us on Tuesday, February 8th at 3:00 pm for a private double lesson at the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Oakville.

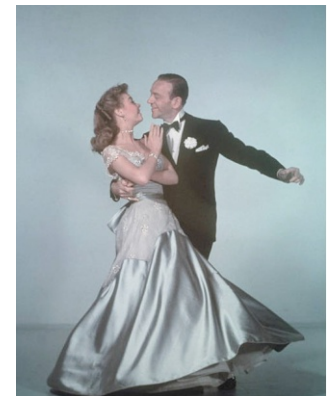
Our afternoon will be a mix of popular dances. So whether you are "single" or a "couple" come on and shake what you have!

From the Fred Astaire website....

*"Your whole being will explode with confidence, fun, creativity and fitness as you experience the exciting Fred Astaire teaching method taught by the very best dance instruction in the world."*

**The cost for this event is \$53/member and is limited to 29 members. We will be placing a deposit to hold the studio for our private lessons so no refunds will be made after Wednesday, December 29th.**

Dinner will follow at a local Milton restaurant. Details will be shared shortly.



**REMINDER: Please wear your PROBUS badge at events. This will let members know that you are part of our group and will make it easier for us to introduce ourselves to each other.**

**NEW! Muse Studio workshop for a candle making session –Thursday, February 10th at 1:30 pm**

Convenors: *Kelly Ground & Ruth Gagnon*

We are having lots of fun at these workshops. This one is on Thursday, February 10th at 1:30pm. You will be giving the option of making eco soy candles, or a beautiful dough bowl candle. Made with your choice of essential oils.



Make two glass jar eco soy candles for \$55 (plus tax) or one dough bowl candle for \$65 (plus tax). Feel free to repurpose your grandma's tea cups, when the candle is done your tea cup is back!

This event is limited to 10 members. Register on Wild Apricot so we know you're coming, but pay at the door based on your selection.



**Orange Snail Brewery – Beer Tasting - Thursday, February 17th at 2:00 pm**

Convenor: *Ruth Gagnon*

Calling all beer tasters, it's time to get out and have a flight of beer and some munchies! Added to this enjoy a 12 oz glass of one of Orange Snail's beers! Enjoy some social interaction with your fellow Probiants!

Join us at the Orange Snail Brewery for a tour of their facility and some beer!

Beer will also be available for purchase!

Orange Snail Brewery is located at 32 Steeles Avenue East, #1 in Milton. The cost for this event is \$25/member and is limited to 40 members. Register and pay using Wild Apricot.



**NEW! Zoom Trivia - Tuesday, February 22nd at 7:00 pm**

Convenors: *Kelly Ground & Ruth Gagnon*

Are you up for our second game of Zoom Trivia? Join us on Tuesday, January 18th at 7:00 pm. There is no cost for Zoom Trivia. So on a cold winter night when you don't want to go out, join in for some fun and laughs!



Register on Wild Apricot so we know you are joining us! There is no cost for this event.

# Christmas Luncheon Update

by Marg Jones, Social Chair

All registrations have now been concluded as of November 25 and there will be no more refunds with subsequent cancellations.

Red and white wine service will be offered during dinner with each course and the bar will also remain open throughout the day.

Two talented young ladies that comprise the Parker Wilson Duo will perform for us during dessert and coffee.

Names will be drawn for prizes during each luncheon course and the winner will have the gift delivered to them at their table.

We would like to remind everyone to please wear their name tags and to keep an eye out for tags with a red dot...these are Escarpment Probus newcomers...please introduce yourselves and make them welcome!

A gentle reminder...the doors open at 11:00, but nothing starts before the President's welcome at 11:30, so please try to space your arrivals out a bit to avoid congestion at the coat and boot racks. You will be escorted to your table by a social committee member.

Everyone attending will have had their full vaccination status and ID verified before the event, so there is no need to show them upon entry, but as a general rule, keep your documentation handy.

Please remember to wear your mask unless you are seated at your table.

Let's have FUN!



## Lexophile time

Contributed by Fred Ground

*Who dreams these up? A lexophile of course.*

*( 'LEXOPHILE' A Lover of Words )*

- *How does Moses make tea? Hebrews it.*
- *Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!*
- *A cartoonist was found dead in his home. Details are sketchy.*
- *I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.*
- *Haunted French pancakes give me the crêpes.*
- *England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool .*
- *I tried to catch some fog, but I mist.*
- *They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a Typo.*
- *I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.*
- *Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.*
- *I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.*
- *This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.*
- *When chemists die, they barium.*
- *I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.*
- *I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.*
- *Why were the Indians here first? They had reservations.*
- *I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.*
- *Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?*
- *When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.*
- *Broken pencils are pointless.*
- *Velcro - what a rip off!*



# MEETING: DECEMBER

The usual PROBUS monthly meeting will not be held in December. For this month only it will be replaced by the Christmas Luncheon (see details on page 7).

## DECEMBER CALENDAR

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	CONVENOR	
<b>Activities</b>					
Escape Rooms at Champs	December	7	2:00 PM	Champs 300 Bronte S	Kelly Ground
Executive Meeting	December	8	7:00 PM	Zoom	Diane Comstock
Christmas Table Centerpiece	December	9	10:30 AM	Crafords Garden Center	Ruth Gagnon
Christmas Luncheon	December	15	11:00 AM	Piper's Heath	Marg Jones
<b>Clubs</b>					
Probus Info Exchange - PIE	Online only				Cliff Read
Tastings - Whisky - <i>D'Stillers</i>	December	1	7:00 PM	?	Chris Strachan
Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>	December	2	2:00 PM	Zoom	Michael Hooker
Nosh & Natter	December	3	5:30 PM	?	Jenny O'Brien
Saturday Night Lives	December	4	6:00 PM	Ned Divines	Anna Strachan
Crafts - Quilting - <i>Piece Makers</i>	December	7	1:00 PM	Swiss Chalet	Diane Comstock
Books - First Edition	December	13	1:00 PM	Grace Church	Paul Crawford
Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>	December	13	7:00 PM	Zoom until spring	Martin Capper
Games - High Rollers (Yahtzee)	December	14	1:00 PM	Zoom	Pat Vogt
Books - Sequel	December	8	1:00 PM	Zoom	Carolyn Rumley
Games - Bee-Gees	December	8	1:00 PM	Grace Church	Diane Comstock
Crafts - Knitting - <i>Chicks with Sticks</i>	December			NO Dec. meeting	Christine Willekes
Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>	December	16	2:00 PM	Zoom	Michael Hooker
Dining - <i>Skip the Dishes</i>	December			NO Dec. meeting	Lorrette Shermet
Friendship Club	December	22	10:00 AM	Zoom	Judy Krauss
Games - High Rollers (Farkle)	December	28	1:00 PM	Zoom	Pat Vogt
Tastings - Beer - <i>Suds and Buds</i>	December	23	7:00 PM	Zoom	Pete Shermet

New information

Temporary change

\* Permanent location

# MEETING: JANUARY



## Prepare to Be Amazed!

Chris Pilsworth's enthusiasm for magic was sparked at the age of twelve, when he attended a magic show at Ottawa's National Arts Centre. Eventually he decided to pursue his dream of becoming a full-time professional magician. Since then Chris has performed over 6000 shows both in Canada and abroad. Chris' versatility as a professional magician has kept him in demand for corporate events, private parties, conferences and conventions, as well as for television and theatrical events. In 2020, Chris pivoted and has presented his Zoom show to over 250 audiences around the world. He is excited about the future and sharing his magic with more audiences around the world.

# RECENT EVENTS

## November Meeting

Our November Zoom General Meeting was held on November 17th. Here's the link to the recording of the meeting. Our guest speaker Canadian author and journalist Ellin Bessner shares a little-known story of the 17,000 Canadian soldiers of Jewish faith who fought in the Second World War.. [Click here](#) to see the video:

Passcode: IBAY1!C. *(includes the dot)*

## The Muse Studio and Market

By Kelly Ground

Escarpment Probus is full of Awesomeness!

A full house at The Muse Studio and Market flexed their creative muscles and came away with beautiful keepsakes they could be proud of.

Decisions were made, fonts chosen, colours picked and the work began! All participants were very focused on the treasures they were creating and I must say they were all beautiful! The talents of our Probianas never cease to amaze me!

Stay tuned for more events at The Muse, it's a great way to spend an afternoon.





# Birds of Prey - the Canadian Raptor Conservancy

by Cliff Read, Convenor

Recently some of the amateur photographers within our PROBUS group travelled to Port Dover to visit the Canadian Raptor Conservancy. It was a beautiful sunny day for taking pictures of some of the Conservancy's 40 different species of birds of prey. Among the species that were brought out for us were an immature Snowy Owl, an Eastern Screech Owl, an American Bald Eagle, a Lannard Falcon, a Harris Falcon, a Great Horned Owl, and an Eagle Owl.

James Cowan, who trains many of these birds from hatchlings, made sure that we all had ample opportunities to capture birds both in flight and stationary. All the participants agreed that it turned out to be a really enjoyable day and that they had taken some stunning photographs.

As is the custom with so many PROBUS events we finished the day with a lunch at a local restaurant specializing in perch.



photo by Cliff Read



photo by Gloria Pennycook



photo by David Boss

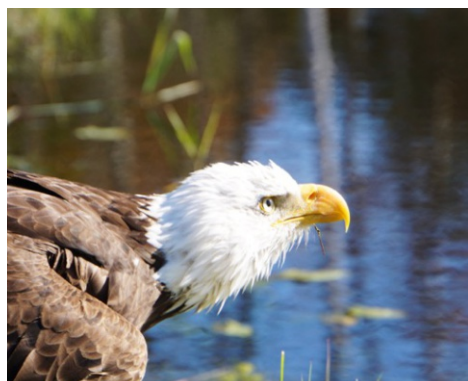


photo by Gloria Pennycook



photo by John Flynn



photo by Louise Ellis





*photo by Lorraine Shernet*



*photo by Louise Ellis*



*photo by John Flynn*



*photo by John Flynn*



*Our photographers, by Lorraine Shernet*



*photo by David Boss*



# Murders Tastefully Executed

by Ruth Gagnon, Activities Chair



A group of 50 of us were all suspects...to begin with! Oh there were laughs, there were surprises, there was even some shocking moments! We all tried to think like Inspector Dents and put on our investigative hats to figure out who the murderer was! Who among us innocent Probians would actually murder someone?

Who possibly among us could afford to purchase *The Chateau von Schnapps* – a private, gated, secluded 100,000 square metre estate at the forest's edge with its own panoramic lake and skyline view of Scheisterville? There were some extreme bidders! But with the owner, Stephan, being killed, who stood in line to inherit the Estate – or should we ask, who stood in the way of it? Of course this created the mystery of who did it!

Inspector Dents insisted we all had to be sworn in as debuties and debutants. Swearing to tell the truth took on a whole new meaning. Chris Strachan wasn't sure he could raise his right hand due to some "injection" he had! And when we were asked to put our left hand on something "precious" to us, Ted and Barb Chliszczyk took it to a whole new level...a whole new intimate level!

Spanky (Ev Zanatta) provided us with some interesting entertainment. She seemed to fit very easily into her role! And now we all know how much she likes giving leg rubs!

Harold (as in Harold O'Brien) went under some interesting questioning about the plastic blow up doll found in his car and dressed in black lace and pink frills. It's the numerous patches found on the doll that had us looking at Harold differently...very differently! What did he do to that doll? Oh well, the rear view mirror of his car is missing so none of us should (or want to) look back!

Over all the excitement it was finally revealed who murdered Stephan, dearest brother of Sherry (who actually really did look like a prime suspect). Our very own Ty Oneover (our dear Wayne Heath) revealed that Stephan was going to cut him off and he couldn't afford to live on his pension so he had to kill him AND he was going to kill Inspector Dents too! While he pulled the trigger at Inspector Dents, his own demise followed swiftly.

It was a very fun evening full of laughter – an event not to be missed in the future!

I would like to give a special shout out to Donna Blair and Cindy Penfold for helping me out! Much appreciated! Until our next murder mystery....



# iPhone Hints, Hacks and How To's Part II

By Kelly Ground, Convenor



We had a full house of people who were gung ho on learning how to get the most out of their iPhones. I think everyone went home with a little more knowledge and perhaps a new trick or two. We can sort through photos by people, events or specific elements. We learned that there are so many cool things for us under Accessibility, flashing text messages, larger text sizes and hearing aid compatibility. We can call 911 and our emergency contacts at one time and add text short cuts to cut down on typing. We also decided that we don't mind SIRI listening if she's going to be so helpful.

Things to remember: 1) play with your phone, get to know it and what it can do for you and 2) Google is your friend.

## Some Chuckles

Contributed by Ron Millichamp

### 1) NUDITY

*I was driving with my three young children one warm summer evening when a woman in the convertible ahead of us stood up and waved. She was stark naked! As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my 5-year-old shout from the back seat, 'Mom, that lady isn't wearing a seat belt!'*

### 2) OPINIONS

*On the first day of school, a first-grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. The note read, "The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents."*

### 3) KETCHUP

*A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. "Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now. She's hitting the bottle."*

### 4) MORE NUD\*ITY

*A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, "What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?"*

### 5) POLICE # 1

*While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl*

*about 6 years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, "Are you a cop?" "Yes," I answered and continued writing the report. "My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. Is that right?" "Yes, that's right," I told her. "Well, then," she said as she extended her foot toward me, "would you please tie my shoe?"*

### 6) POLICE # 2

*It was the end of the day when I parked my police van in front of the station. As I gathered my equipment, my K-9 partner, Jake, was barking, and I saw a little boy staring in at me. 'Is that a dog you got back there?' he asked. "It sure is," I replied. Puzzled, the boy looked at me and then towards the back of the van. Finally he said, "What'd he do?"*

### 7) ELDERLY

*While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!"*

### 8) DRESS-UP

*A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, "Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit." "And why not, darling?" "You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning."*



# SOCIAL CLUBS

Club	Date/Time	Convenor	Telephone	Email
Book Club - First Edition	2nd Mon. - 1 pm	Paul Crawford	289-878-4968	pauellencrawford@gmail.com
Book Club - Happy Bookers	4th Thurs. - 12:30 pm	Looking for new convenor		
Book Club - Ravenous Readers Recycling	3rd Wed. - Probus meeting	Ellen Crawford	289-878-4968	pauellencrawford@gmail.com
Book Club - Sequel	2nd Wed. - 10 am	Carolyn Rumley	905-302-0442	carolynrumley@sympatico.ca
Book Club - Trilogy	2nd Wed. - 10 am	Linda Green	289-851-8655	kgreen@sympatico.ca
Cards - Bid Euchre	3rd Thurs. - 1:15 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Cards - Bridge	1st Tues. - 1 pm	Looking for new convenor		
Cards - Canasta	4th Mon. - 7 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Cards - Cribbage - Card Sharps	2nd Mon. - 7 pm	Martin Capper	905-693-0354	martin@martincapper.com
Cards - Cribbage - Card Sharps	Tues. after the 2nd Mon. - 1:30 pm	Martin Capper	905-693-0354	martin@martincapper.com
Cards - Euchre	3rd Tues. - 1 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Classical Music - Mozart and Friends	4th Tues. - 1:30 pm	Michael Hooker	905-878-8953	mhooker10@bell.net
Club Français	2nd Wed. - 10 am / 11 am	Anne-Françoise Gibbard	905-854-3781	anne@gibbard.net
Crafts - Knitting - Chicks with Sticks	3rd Thurs. - 10:30 am	Christine Willekes	905-820-0269	chriswillekes@gmail.com
Crafts - Quilting - Piece Makers	1st Tues. - 1 pm	Diane Comstock	905-876-4909	meljenscc@sympatico.ca
Dining - Appy Hour	Last Sat. - 6:30 pm	Mary Cousins	416-628-6275	mlecousins@outlook.com
Dining - Lunch Bunch	3rd Wed. - noon	Bonnie Lennox	416-899-7727	bblennox@live.ca
Dining - Nosh & Natter	1st Fri. - 5:30 pm	Jenny O'Brien	289-851-8477	jenny0103@rogers.com
Dining - Nosh@Nite	4th Fri. - 5:30 pm	Paul & Ellen Crawford	289-878-4968	pauellencrawford@gmail.com
Dining - Saturday Night Lives	1st Sat. - 6 pm	Anna Strachan	905-878-0812	annastrachan1945@gmail.com
Dining - Skip the Dishes	3rd Thurs. - 6 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Dining - Supper/Dinner Club	Scheduled by convenor	Auriel Halliday	905-336-2430	aurielh@gmail.com
Friendship Club	4th Wed. - 10 am	Judy Krauss	289-878-8194	judyckrauss@gmail.com
Games - Bee Gees	2nd Wed. - 1 pm	Diane Comstock	905-876-4909	meljenscc@sympatico.ca
Games - High Rollers (Farkle)	4th Tues. - 1 pm	Pat Vogt	905-877-2495	pvogt@cogeco.ca
Games - High Rollers (Yahtzee)	2nd Tues. - 1 pm	Pat Vogt	905-877-2495	pvogt@cogeco.ca
Games - Jokers	2nd Thurs. - 1:30 pm	Auriel Halliday	905-336-2430	aurielh@gmail.com
Games - Jokers	4th Wed. - 1 pm	Auriel Halliday	905-336-2430	aurielh@gmail.com
Movie Club - Oscar Nights	2nd Tues. - 7 pm	Looking for new convenor		
Probus Info Exchange - PIE	Online only - no meetings	Cliff Read	905-864-1565	cliff.read@cogeco.ca
Sports - Bowling - 10 Pin	Shut Down	Looking for new convenor		
Sports - Golf - Pin Seekers	TBA	TBA		
Tastings - Beer - Suds and Buds	4th Thurs. - 7 pm	Pete Shermet	905-878-1293	peteshermet@gmail.com
Tastings - Whisky - D'Stillers	1st Wed. - 7 pm	Chris Strachan	905-878-0812	strachan.chris1944@yahoo.ca
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	1st Mon. - 7 pm	Jim Tschirhart	647-648-8231	jim.tschirhart@gmail.com
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	1st Thurs. - 7 pm	Jim Tschirhart	647-648-8231	jim.tschirhart@gmail.com
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	2nd Wed. - 7 pm	Jim Tschirhart	647-648-8231	jim.tschirhart@gmail.com
Travel - Annual Trip	Scheduled by convenor	Joanne Millichamp	289-878-2969	jmillichamp@hotmail.com
Travel - Wanderlust	2nd Thurs. - 7 pm (bi-monthly)	Gloria Pennycook	905-659-7789	gpennycook@icloud.com
Walkers - Trail Walkers	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 Shermet (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.

Remember: 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.

# Clubs: Food and Drink

## No Tears for this Writer

by *Chris Strachan, Convenor*

Hello again Probians, the D'Stillers November tasting was hosted by Wayne Herder in his garage. Wayne had an excellent selection of whiskies for our tasting pleasure.

The top whisky of the evening was 'Bruichladdich the Classic Laddie' which is an Islay single malt. Bruichladdich whisky is unpeated and is trickle distilled using much of the original Victorian machinery.

The second was 'John Walker and Sons Celebratory Blend', which was made up of whiskies from distilleries that were operating in the 1860s.

The third of the evening was 'Writers Tears Red Head' which is an Irish Single Malt whiskey. Writers Tears Red Head was named so because of its inviting shade of amber. The no age statement single malt has been matured exclusively in Oloroso sherry casks.

Number four was 'Johnny Walker Gold 200 year anniversary' which again is a blended whiskey. It contains the Clynelish Malt Whisky, where legendary deposits of gold have been found in the river feeding the distillery.

Number five is 'Balvenie Double Wood' 12yr old single malt Scotch. Being last, this was a surprise to me, as over the years this whisky has held it's place as one of the single malts that have always scored high. It was number one in 2016, 2017 and 2020.

Suzanne entertained the DD's in the Capper's garage, thanks to Suzanne for the Goodies. Thanks once again to the DD's for the safe drive home.

As of yet, there are no firm plans for the December meeting.



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## Skipping the dishes at Casa Americo

by *Lorrette Shermet, Convenor*

Forty people dined at Casa Americo on Main Street in Milton and had a delicious meal and great socializing and conversation.



Skip the Dishes will skip a meal in December as I am sure we will be doing a lot of eating and gobbling this month.

We will return January 20th — wow! — 2022 (who knew), we will be dining at *The Thai Cuisine* on Main Street.

You will receive your invitation and menu choices through Wild Apricot. Stay Tuned.



# Saturday Night Lives at Turtle Jacks

by Anna Strachan, Convenor

Just as Britteny Spears sang, Oops!... I did it again. In my case, once again, I forgot to take pictures so I must apologise for that. I am, however, pleased to report that on Nov 6th 20 happy SNLers congregated at Turtle Jacks for an evening of good food and friendship. The conversations flowed as we welcomed back into the fold Linda Johnson and Harold Grace. It's so nice to catch up with old friends as we make new ones.

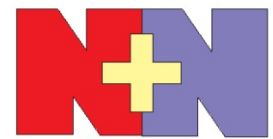
The last time in 2021 that Saturday Night Lives will dine together will be on Saturday, December 4th at 6 pm at Ned Divines. When you register in Wild Apricot you shall be asked to select your food choice from the menu and I will forward the information to Ned Divines on Thursday 2nd Dec. There will be no January meeting as it falls on January 1. We will resume on February 5, venue to be determined.

I hope we have a good turnout to close out the year and this time, I promise to take pictures to capture the event.

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## First Reunion

by Jenny O'Brien, Convenor



On Friday, November 5th, the Nosh & Natter group reunited for our first social event in 18 months.

There were lots of smiles, laughter and distanced hugs, as 22 members reconnected and enjoyed pizza, salad, sweets and ... yes, beverages! It was so nice to catch up with everyone and hear stories of what we've all been doing, including Harold O'Brien's foray into making foldable Joker Boards. Planning for future N&N's is underway for December and into 2022, where the fun will continue and the friendships strengthen.





# Coming in from the cold...

by Liz Read, Correspondent

Our Nosh at Night group was smaller in number than usual this month. As a result, it was felt we could comfortably meet indoors at Cliff and Liz Read's house. And though there was plenty of space for us to stay 6 feet apart, the fully vaccinated group (some already have had their booster shots too) was delighted to be able to congregate together. We sat around the kitchen island sharing funny stories and appreciating each other's company.

It was a great kickoff to the Christmas season. Noshers were sent home with port wine jelly to enjoy with their turkey dinners or to accompany a cheese plate.



## Port Wine Jelly

*3 cups sugar*

*2 cups port wine*

*6 oz liquid pectin*

In top of a double boiler, stir together sugar and wine. Heat over rapidly boiling water 3 minutes or until sugar is dissolved. Remove from heat and immediately stir in pectin.

Fill sterilized glass jars.

Makes about 5 200 ml jars.



## Interesting Geography!

Contributed by Wayne Herder

*Why it's called Lake Superior . . . Pretty amazing.  
Did you realize how big this lake is?*

### LAKE SUPERIOR FACTS

*Lake Superior contains ten percent of all the fresh water on the planet Earth.*

*It covers 82,000 square kilometers or 31,700 square miles.*

*The average depth is 147 meters or 483 feet.*

*There have been about 350 shipwrecks recorded in Lake Superior*

*Lake Superior is, by surface area, the largest lake in the world.*

*A Jesuit priest in 1668 named it Lac Tracy, but that name was never officially adopted.*

*It contains as much water as all the other Great Lakes combined, plus three extra Lake Erie's!*

*There is a small outflow from the lake at St. Mary's River (Sault Ste Marie) into Lake Huron, but it takes almost two centuries for the water to be completely replaced.*

*There is enough water in Lake Superior to cover all of North and South America with water one foot deep.*

*Lake Superior was formed during the last glacial retreat, making it one of the earth's youngest major features at only about 10,000 years old.*

*The deepest point in the lake is 405 meters or 1,333 feet.*

*There are 78 different species of fish that call the big lake home.*

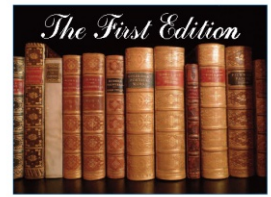
*The maximum wave ever recorded on Lake Superior was 9.45 meters or 31 feet high*

*Over 300 streams and rivers empty into Lake Superior with the largest source being the Nipigon River.*

# Clubs: Books & Sports

## Lion: A Long Way Home by Saroo Brierley

by Ellen Crawford, Correspondent



Lion is a memoir by Saroo Brierley.

Saroo's early life was spent in abject poverty in rural India, his mother often leaving her children to fend for themselves. Saroo as a five year old cared for his baby sister, and begged on the streets alongside his older brothers. On one occasion, Saroo pleaded with his older brother to take him along during the evening. Saroo became very sleepy and was left on a bench at the nearby railway station to wait for his brother. Upon awakening Saroo was startled to be alone and boarded a train. He found himself locked inside as the train travelled across India and he became lost. After wandering the streets of Calcutta for two months he was taken to an orphanage and then adopted by an Australian family, Sue and John Brierley. His childhood happy days are mostly skipped over. His focus shifts to his obsessive search via Google Earth to find his birthplace. He had been mispronouncing the names of local towns, but eventually spotted two landmarks that he remembered. As a man he travelled to India, retraced his steps to become reunited with his biological family. He discovered that he was mispronouncing his name which was Sheru, meaning Lion.

Our members gave the average score of 7. Some felt it was hard to believe a 5 year old would be able to cope and felt that some of Saroo's memories may have been misconstrued. However, often children do remember early traumatic experiences. Our own experiences cannot fathom how Third World families and children survive their poverty.

Both of Saroo's mothers show strength and compassion.

This is not fine literature rather a remarkable true life story.

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## Girl, Woman, Other by Bernardine Evaristo

by Carolyn Rumley, Correspondent



Our club met on November 10th to review the book 'Girl, Woman, Other' by Bernardine Evaristo.

Evaristo wrote the novel because she felt that black women were under-represented in British literature. The book follows the stories of 12 women, mostly black with a wide range of ages, backgrounds, sexual orientations and relationships. They were either directly or loosely connected to one another. The stories take place over several decades and highlight the lives of black women in British society.

The writing style of the book is quite unique in that there is limited punctuation and traditional sentence structure is not present. Many in our group found this free form writing to be challenging at first but found they adjusted to it as the stories unfolded.

While the book generated an excellent discussion, it is not for everyone. Some of our members enjoyed the stories and were comfortable with the writing style and some of the subject matter while others were not. Our group rated the book from a 5 to an 8 out of 10.

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## Bowling Suspended

by Michelle Tschirhart, Convenor



After only two outings this side of Covid, it was apparent that there is not a lot of enthusiasm for continuing bowling. Maybe at some point in the future things will change, but for now Probus Bowling will be no more. Thanks to those who came out.

# Clubs: Classical Music

## Tenors, Tenors and More Tenors!

by Michael Hooker, Convenor



At our November General Meeting, I talked about the two programs of American folk song roots that I put on for “Mozart and Friends” this summer. I thought this music would be interesting to many of you, as you probably grew up with some of these songs, such as “Tom Dooley”. And I offered to set up Zoom sessions for any of you interested in hearing them. If you are interested, email me and let me know which ones – mhooker10@bell.net. I’ll also send you my notes on each presentation in advance. I have also zoomed for Mozart and Friends several other “folk” programs that may interest you:

- *American Folk – 1. Quick tour of major areas of American Folk – Southern Appalachians, Black, music, Bluegrass, etc.*
- *American Folk – odds and ends – Wars, White Religious, Hard Times, Gold Rush, etc.*
- *Songs for the Christmas Season*
- *Music from the British Isles*
- *Sea Shanties and songs – from the days of sail*
- *Australian Folk Songs*

Asoka Yapa zoomed us Mozartians a fascinating program of “Seven Great Tenors of the 20th Century” – the oldest being Enrico Caruso (1873 – 1921), and the youngest Kenneth McKellar (1927 – 2010). The others were: Beniamino Gigli (1890 – 1957), Mario Lanza (1921 – 1959), Josef Locke (1917 – 1999), Jussi Björling (1911 – 1960), and Carlo Bergonzi (1924 – 2014).

Several of our Tenors lived and performed before true musical “high fidelity” came along, and to our “educated” ears, the sound quality of their recordings may affect our appreciation of their performance. But – every one of our Seven Tenors was really worth hearing! Thank you, Asoka!

Enrico Caruso was certainly the most famous tenor of his day, and even today would be regarded as one of the all-time “Greats”, certainly on a par with Luciano Pavarotti! Here’s a YouTube sample of Caruso singing Rossini’s “La Danza”, from 1912. [Click here](#) – just over 3 minutes.

For our second November Zoomer, I presented a program on Australian folk songs, some of them songs that I heard first when I was living in London in the mid-50s, and hanging out mostly with a mix of Aussies, Kiwis and South Africans.

These songs strongly reflect the “early days” of Australian settlement by the British, who originally used Australia as a new place to get rid of their surplus convict population (after their American colonies got uppity). Australia later evolved into a new source of meat, wool and grain for the Motherland. Most of these songs are about Bushrangers (highwaymen), the most famous being Ned Kelly, or work on the sheep stations (primarily shearing the wool crop) and cattle stations.

Here’s a YouTube sampler – the UNOFFICIAL Australian National Anthem, “Waltzing Matilda”, sung by Bert Lloyd, who was sent to Australia in 1924 at age 15, and spent the next six years working on sheep stations and wandering the country, while soaking up the songs he heard along the way. [Click here](#) – 2 ½ minutes.

The words and melody are a little different from the usual version; this one is “Waltzing Matilda” as originally written. It’s based on a true story.



# Clubs: Games & Crafts

## We Are Still Rolling Dice!

by Diane Comstock, Correspondent

The High Rollers played Yahtzee on Nov. 9 via Zoom. Three of the four players achieved the upper section bonus, but not one Yahtzee (5 of a kind) was rolled. Pat and Beth both scored a 3 of a kind and a 4 of a kind, with Beth edging out Pat by 10 points to take high honours.



On the 23rd, 6 members played Farkle via Zoom. Lorhel started high by rolling a straight on the first round (1500 points). On the second round Marg scored 2500 points with her roll of two triplets (not bad for our Farkle Queen). Later in the game, Barb rolled a four of a kind with a pair (1500 points) which Diane was able to capitalize on to take the lead. In the 10th round, Diane rolled a four of a kind with a pair followed by two triplets and then a one and a five for a score of 4150 points bringing her total to 11350. Not wanting to lose that high score, she passed 4 dice to Beth (big mistake). Beth added 600 points to the score to bring her total to 11450, passing 1 die to Pat. Pat rolled a one giving her a free roll, then rolled a total of 500 for another free roll, finally stopping after rolling another 150 points to bring her total score up to 11500. Lorhel, Marg, and Barb all tried their best but farkled, leaving Pat the winner of the game.

Anyone interested in joining our Zoom dice games, drop Pat Vogt an email ([pvogt@cogeco.ca](mailto:pvogt@cogeco.ca)).

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## Bee-Gees Meet in Person

by Diane Comstock, Convenor

On November 10th, eight Bee-Gees met in-person at Grace Church Hall for the first time since Covid stopped us in our tracks. The game chosen was Sequence, an exciting game of strategy where players try to place sequences, or series of five chips in a row on the board either horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. We initially divided into 4 teams of two with 2 teams per table. Each table played several games, switching partners as the games progressed. A great time was had by all!



The game chosen for December is Ticket to Ride. If you don't know the game, don't worry, we will teach you.

Anyone interested in board games, join the club by sending me an email ([meljenscc@sympatico.ca](mailto:meljenscc@sympatico.ca)).



# Welcome Judi!

by Diane Comstock, Convenor

On Tuesday, November 2, the PieceMakers gathered together at Dawn's home for their monthly quilting meeting. We welcomed a new member, Judi Jones to our group. Judi brought 3 quilts for us to admire, two appliqué wall hangings: one of Santa and another of a Loon, and a pieced table runner using a Bear Paw pattern. Carol Ann has completed several pillowcases. She is currently working on a Christmas wall hanger with 16 appliqué snowflakes. Look for the reveal in December. Diane completed a tea cozy using some of the wonky blocks she made in the summer. Not quilting related, Diane also made a Pumpkin Head Ghost costume for her grandson. Dawn is working on bench pillows with a sunflower motif.



We had a lively discussion on the pros and cons of fabric washing. Dawn recommended a product called Raycafix used as a dye fixative when prewashing fabrics to avoid bleeding in the finished project.

Quilting Terms of the Month:

- *Bear Paw* – Theory is this block pattern would be a sign that slaves were on the right track to life-saving resources and shelter on their long trek to freedom in the days of the underground railway.
- *Bleeding* – When the colour of one of the fabrics used, stains other parts of the quilt. It usually happens with dark fabrics and, in particular, reds. Unfortunately, if it happens, it is really hard to get the stains out. Some quilters will wash these fabrics with colour catchers or dye fixatives before piecing a quilt.

In December we will be dining at Swiss Chalet for our monthly meeting.

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





# The long, long way home

By Alan Jordan - Occasional Correspondent

Retiring from my 48 years in the printing and publishing profession, we decided to move down to a smaller house and up to a larger sailboat. Our plans came to fruition when we purchased our 27 foot Canadian Sailcraft CS27. The problem was, it was moored in Penetanguishene, Ontario. I don't know if you have looked at a map of Ontario lately, but Penetang is a 2 hour drive from anywhere in the GTA. In a moment, which can only be described as temporary madness, our son Mark and I decided to eschew the services of the boat transport industry and sail our lovely lady, Blithe Spirit, the long, long way around to Toronto.

This trip would mean setting off from Penetang, up the eastern side of Lake Huron to Tobermory, down the west side to Goderich, Kincardine and Sarnia. Through the St. Clair River and Lake St. Clair on to the Detroit River passing Windsor and Detroit and then flushing into Lake Erie. A stop at Pelee Island and then down the full length of Lake Erie arriving at Port Colborne in anticipation of transiting the Welland Canal. Once through there, it is plain sailing (no pun intended) across Lake Ontario to Bronte Outer Harbour, and home.

Rosalind declined to share the adventure, so Mark and I started the preparations. Charts (lake maps) for the waters to be traversed were purchased (required by law), a new chip for the GPS, a new VHF radio, new rigging, new lifelines and new batteries ensured that we would indeed finish what we started.

Leaving Penetang at 10:00pm and traveling north overnight, up the east side of the Bruce Peninsula allowed us to arrive at the break of dawn. The wise sailor leaves the port he knows at night and arrives at his destination, he doesn't know, during daylight. The 10 knot wind was right in our teeth and so we brought our trusty engine on line. The full moon rose at 1:00am to keep me company on my watch. Watches consisted of three hours on and three hours off with Mark taking the 9:00pm-midnight and 3:00am-6:00am watches and myself taking the

midnight-3:00am and 6:00am-9:00am. Getting out of my bunk at midnight, donning my lifevest, lifeline, VHF radio, flashlight and my ubiquitous iPod to do a job of work, this is not my idea of a holiday!

Once you are out of sight of land, you enter a strange beautiful world. The dark mast and sails wave and point at the starry firmament, trying to connect the billion or so white dots. Jupiter is the first planet to rise and shine followed by the weak red glow of Mars.

The isolation is palpable. How could there be such a vast body of clean, sparkling water teeming with life with two-thirds of the world thirsty?

No birds, no boats, no fish but plenty of biting flies, even 25 miles from the nearest land.

Leaving Goderich, with wind screaming in the rigging and the boat plowing into 9 foot waves, has us wondering about the soundness of our new home, but she showed us what she is made of and cuts the water apart with her sharp bow. We were told by an old salt that WE would give up before this boat would and that proved to be very true.

Thunder and lightning storms at night are frightening. Remember that the highest point on the lake is the top of our mast. Chains were wrapped around the mast and dropped over the side to placate the lightning gods. The storms drove by us leaving nothing but 6 foot waves and a sense of relief.

Lake Erie, now called "Lake Dreary" due to the lack of wind for 3 days. We were under diesel power for 72 continuous hours, adhering to our tough watch system. Eventually we were deposited at the mouth of that modern wonder, the Welland Canal. Rosalind joined the ship's company at this port.

Eight locks at \$25 each brought the trip through to \$200 which took 7 hours to complete its 27 miles. We were rafted-up with another sailboat and chatting, as one does, asking if they had been travelling long, fourteen years came the reply, that put our little 18-day adventure into perspective.

We learned a lot about our boat, ourselves and our environment and we are thankful that we have been brought to our home at last.

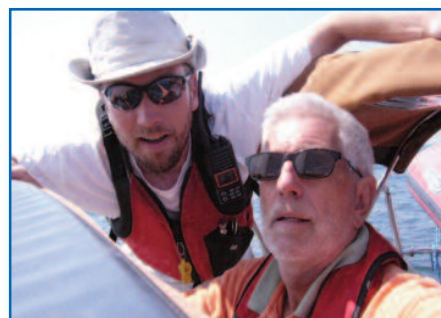
The long, long way home was 735 miles or 1,182 kilometres and took 18 days.



The family crew at the Welland Canal



View of the boat from the mast top



The crew sans shaving for 18 days





# NEWS AND VIEWS

## Newcomers Welcomed

by Elizabeth Read, Convenor

Cliff and Liz Read were pleased to welcome newcomers to our club on Nov. 24.

Twelve fledgling Escarpment PROBUS members received their name badges and pins from our membership chair, Dawn Ross.

Some of these newcomers had waited more than two years to join our club. And they were eager to hear about the social clubs from Marg Jones and about activities from Ruth Gagnon. Our president, Diane Comstock and treasurer, Deb Harrold mingled with the group. Anne Gibbard was there to encourage new members to join the French club.

Several people recognized each other from volunteer work at the hospital and Milton Arts Centre. New friendships were being established and it was great to be able to think of our club continuing to thrive despite the restrictions of Covid.



## Membership Report for December

by Dawn Ross, Membership Chair

Our membership is now full with 250 members. We were able to add two new members, Karen and Doug Pritchard. We currently have 12 people on our waitlist.

For those people who like a paper copy of our membership list, a PDF file containing all members' contact information is now available for download. Go to the Directory page on the website, where in the 3rd paragraph you will find a download link.

***Please remember, members must not use other member's email addresses for their own personal use such as fundraising.***

Please add your emergency contact(s) to your profile on our website. This will speed up notifications in case of an emergency. (Use the EDIT button on your profile page).

# MANAGEMENT TEAM



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*If you need help with using our website, feel free to contact a member of the Technical Support Group:*

Diane Comstock (meljenscc@sympatico.ca) – login, passwords, renewals, member applications

David Marion (DTMarion@hotmail.com) – events, online payments, mobile app for members

Bill King (gokingbee@gmail.com) – events, online payments, mobile app for members

Lorrette Shermet (lorrette@sympatico.ca) – events, Zoom, online payments

David Boss (bosscomm@rogers.com) – website page errors, passwords, mobile app for admins

## FORUM - THE ESCARPMENT PROBUS CLUB OF MILTON 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.*