

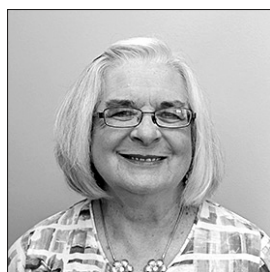
# FORUM



Volume 10 - Issue 01 - January 2022

## President's Message:

### Here We Go Again!



Well here it is 2022 and we are stuck at home again. Our social clubs will be zooming instead of meeting in-person, and planned activities are postponed until it is safe yet again to meet in-person. Thank goodness we were able to meet together during the fall months and some of us were able to gather together for the Christmas Luncheon. Those that attended enjoyed a delicious meal, great conversation, and the pleasure of seeing friends they had not seen in a while. Thanks to Marg and her social committee for a wonderful time. See the pictures further down in this newsletter.

Good news! Back in September we applied for a Milton Community Fund grant and last week we received notice that we will receive over \$3000 to purchase equipment needed to run hybrid meetings. The plan is to buy the equipment in January, set it up and hold a practise meeting with the management in February, and then start hybrid meetings in February or March. By then we hope to be able to once again meet in small groups. The idea of a hybrid meeting is that a portion of the members will be in the meeting hall, and the rest can view the meeting using zoom.

Let's be optimistic that 2022 will see us meeting together in-person.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

— Diane Comstock

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

# Membership Report for January

*by Dawn Ross, Membership Chair*

I have had a number of enquiries as to where to find the Membership Application form on our website, so I thought this article might help.

When you go onto the general Escarpment PROBUS website, there are two spots where you can find the application form.

First if you go across the top line of headings you will see "About". Put your cursor on it and below you will see "Become a Member". Click on that and the next screen will have the Join Us box which you can click and the application form will come up.

Second, go onto the general Escarpment PROBUS website and scroll down a bit, and on the right is a Blue Box that says "Interested?", just below there is a "Become a Member" and [you can click it](#). The next screen will have the "Join Us" box to click and the application form will come up.

As of December 27, 2021 we have 15 people on our waitlist.

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## Photo of the Month

Rosalind Jordan noticed this reflection before a probable storm at Valens Lake.

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



# ACTIVITIES

## We all need to stay healthy and safe!

by Ruth Gagnon, Activities Chair

The Omicron variant is throwing a curve at our upcoming activities (with the exception of our Zoom calls), but fingers crossed this won't last long. Yes, I'm trying my hardest to be optimistic! Bottom line, we all need to stay healthy and safe! Please read the updates below for what changes we have felt necessary to make.

Let's take a look at some of the events that happened last month!



We had a great day for our walking tour of the Distillery! If you look at the line in the picture, if we were back in the 1800's those standing with Kelly would be on the shore and those on the other side (from where I was taking the picture) would have been in the lake! Read Kelly's article for some interesting facts!

We had a lot of fun at the Escape Rooms and were definitely up for the challenge. The group of us had a nice

time at Ned Devine's after. I don't think I will be able to ever watch Curling (thanks Frank and Marg!). Check out Kelly's article.

We made some beautiful Christmas Centerpieces at Crawford's and our talent exploded. Check out the article and pictures.

All the best for 2022 everyone! Stay safe and be healthy!

## JANUARY ACTIVITIES:

**POSTPONED! VIVA Life – Retirement Communities (Nutrition, Mental Health & Wellness) – Tuesday, January 11th at 11 am (NEW DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE)**

Convenor: Ruth Gagnon

**We have postponed this event and a new date will be advised in the new year. At this point we will not be refunding members who have registered. If the new date doesn't work, we will refund you at that time!**

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 >>

Activities Committee  
Members:

Ruth Gagnon

Anne Gibbard

Kelly Ground

Irene Hiebert

Ron Millichamp

Jenny O'Brien

Dawn Ross

Michelle Tschirhart

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!

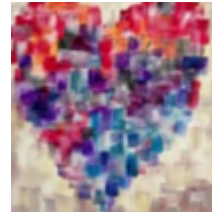
Let's lose some of those pounds we have put on in the past two years! Start 2022 off in a healthy way! Challenge yourself! The cost for this event is \$5/member and is limited to 50 members.

*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!*

### **POSTPONED! Paint & Cocktails at Shoeless Joes – Tuesday, January 15th at 4:00 pm (NEW DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE)**

Convenor: Ruth Gagnon

**We have postponed this event and a new date will be advised in the new year. At this point we will not be refunding members who have registered. If the new date doesn't work, we will refund you at that time!**



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.

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





**POSTPONED! Tea for Two...or actually 16! - Wednesday, January 26th at 1:00 pm (NEW DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE)**

Convenor: Kelly Ground

**We have postponed this event and a new date will be advised in the new year. At this point we will not be refunding members who have registered. If the new date doesn't work, we will refund you at that time!**

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.**

## 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 given 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.



## 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, February 22nd 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.



## NEW! Zoom Trivia - Tuesday, March 15th at 7:00 pm

Convenors: Kelly Ground & Ruth Gagnon

Are you up for our third game of Zoom Trivia? Join us on Tuesday, March 15th 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.



# 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.

# JANUARY CALENDAR

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	CONVENOR	
<b>Activities</b>					
Executive Meeting	January	5	7:00 PM	Zoom	Diane Comstock
Zoom Trivia	January	18	7:00 PM	Zoom	Kelly Ground & Ruth Gagr
Escarpment PROBUS monthly meeting	January	19	9:30 AM	Zoom	Diane Comstock
<b>Clubs</b>					
Probus Info Exchange - PIE	Online only				Cliff Read
Tastings - Whisky - <i>D'Stillers</i>	January	5	7:00 PM	TBD	Chris Strachan
Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>	January	6	2:00 PM	Zoom	Michael Hooker
Nosh & Natter	January	7	5:30 PM	TBD	Jenny O'Brien
Saturday Night Lives	January			CANCELLED	Anna Strachan
Crafts - Quilting - <i>Piece Makers</i>	January	4	1:00 PM	Zoom	Diane Comstock
Books – First Edition	January	10	1:00 PM	Grace Church	Paul Crawford
Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>	January	10	7:00 PM	Zoom until spring	Martin Capper
Games - High Rollers (Yahtzee)	January	11	1:00 PM	Zoom	Pat Vogt
Books – Sequel	January	12	1:00 PM	Zoom	Carolyn Rumley
Games - Bee-Gees	January			CANCELLED	Diane Comstock
Crafts - Knitting - <i>Chicks with Sticks</i>	January			CANCELLED	Christine Willekes
Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>	January	20	2:00 PM	Zoom	Michael Hooker
Dining - <i>Skip the Dishes</i>	January	20	6:00 PM	TBD	Lorrette Shermet
Friendship Club	January	26	10:00 AM	Zoom	Judy Krauss
Games - High Rollers (Farkle)	January	25	1:00 PM	Zoom	Pat Vogt
Tastings - Beer - <i>Suds and Buds</i>	January	27	7:00 PM	Zoom	Pete Shermet

New information

Temporary change

\* Permanent location



# RECENT EVENTS

## December Meeting

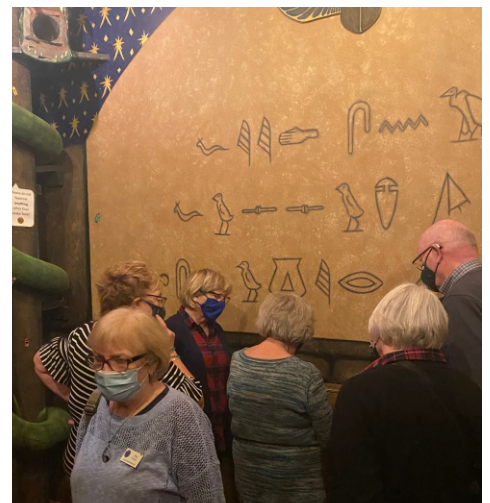
In lieu of the December meeting on the 15th, we instead held our Christmas luncheon. See the article on page 10.

## Mission Possible Escape Rooms

*by Kelly Ground, Convenor*

We did it, we escaped the Ancient Egyptian tomb! It was hard work but with the collective effort of nine thinking caps, we successfully extricated ourselves from the Tomb Raider's Escape Room. We "followed the moon", "fed the snake" and thanks to Christine's unfaltering aim placed the coins on the Sun god's plate, we all decided we're taking her to the games at the fair! Puzzles, cryptic hieroglyphics, finding the correct sequence of canopic jars, experiencing the earth shaking we managed to use the reflected laser beam to give us the final clue needed to get out. What a team!

The team then headed to Ned Devine's to debrief and bask in the glory of our victory! It was great to meet new members Roy and Anne Mackay.



## Christmas Centerpiece at Crawford's

*by Ruth Gagnon, Activities Chair*

Thirteen of us put our talents to a test to make a beautiful Christmas Centerpiece at Crawford's on December 9th. The arrangements were beautiful and each one was unique as we put our own special touch on them. Probians don't disappoint! It was a great group of ladies and nice to catch up with different members from our club! This is something we will all do again. Watch for details about our next one – an Easter planter! Isn't it a nice thought to think of green trees, flowers blooming and warmth?





# The Distillery District and Christmas Market

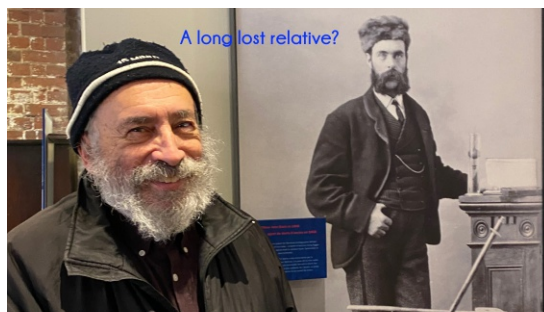
by Kelly Ground, Convenor

On a super sunny day thirty fellow Probian's headed into Toronto to have a tour of the Historic Distillery District. We learned that on that site James Worts had a flour mill there on the waterfront at the mouth of the Don River. With a surplus of wheat the business expanded to include the brewing and distilling of whiskey. It was soon discovered that it was more lucrative to sell whiskey. In 1859, work began on a new distillery complex, and that is the area that today is the Distillery District.

It was interesting to hear, and see representations of how the shoreline has changed over the years. What was the main building of the distillery was actually on the very shoreline of lake Ontario. Hard to believe that the shoreline has been moved back as far as it has. Harder still to believe that residents were told to put their garbage in the lake in order to move it back! Even in the winter, garbage and deceased animals were tossed on the ice only to become part of the lake once it melted!

In 1926 the business was sold to Hirman Walker & Sons Ltd. The company's distillery facility on the waterfront was closed in the 1990s. The buildings, dating to the 1860s, have been preserved and repurposed as an arts and entertainment district that is what we see today. In 1998, the Gooderham and Worts Distillery was named a National Historic Site of Canada.

After the tour we made our way around the beautifully decorated Christmas Market, where vendors sold mulled wine, hot chocolate and other goodies. Some of us enjoyed a lovely dinner at The Mill Street Brew Pub and then went out to explore the market in its night time glory. The spectacular Christmas tree with all those lights was a sight to behold!





# Christmas Luncheon

by Marg Jones, Social Chair

Despite the last minute cancellations, and under the threat of rising COVID numbers, the Christmas Luncheon took place without a hitch — except for the microphone! Thanks to all the hard work and gift donations from the Social Committee Elves: Patricia, Bonnie, Sandy, Barb, Rosalind, Lorrette and Lorhel, and the constant accommodations by Piper's Heath, everyone that attended really seemed to enjoy themselves. I have yet to hear a single complaint! Hopefully by next year COVID will be a thing of the past and the Christmas Luncheon will be back to full capacity. Thank you to everyone for making it happen this year, it was so good to get together again!









# SOCIAL CLUBS

Club	Date/Time	Convenor	Telephone	Email
Book Club - First Edition	2nd Mon. - 1 pm	Paul Crawford	289-878-4968	pauellen Crawford@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	pauellen Crawford@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	pauellen Crawford@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 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.

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.



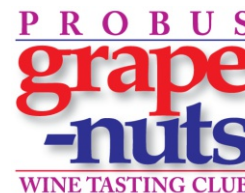
# Clubs: Food and Drink

## World's Problems Not Solved

by Petra Halk, Correspondent

Eight of us wine connoisseurs tasted and rated the December wines. The preferred white was the *Tom Gore* and the preferred red was the *Sister's Run Bethlehem Block*. But the other two were also quite delicious so we didn't have to pour any down the drain.

We discussed world problems but could not really solve them. So we just drank, ate and made merry because we knew a lockdown was coming.



## We Skipped Skip the Dishes

by Lorette Shermet, Convenor

Hi All the last time we got together for Skip the Dishes was in November.

We skipped December as it was the day after PROBUS Christmas lunch and a few of us like myself were eating out too much.

For January we have a dilemma. I had made arrangements for Skip The Dishes to go to The Thai Cuisine on Main Street in Milton for January 20th.

The COVID numbers are increasing, and the capacity of the restaurants are decreasing. My question to you all:

- a) *Do you want to zoom on the 20th and it will be your choice of dinner?*
- b) *Do you want to order in from the Thai House or save that for February 17th, hopefully we will be able to dine in?*
- c) *Any other suggestions?*

I will send an email to the group or you can email me at [lorrette@sympatico.ca](mailto:lorrette@sympatico.ca)

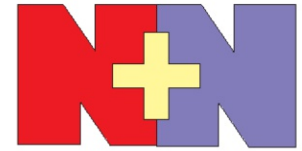
Happy New Year.





# Nosh & Natter Group Jingles all the Way!

by Jenny O'Brien



Baby it was Cold Outside on Friday, December 3rd, when a group of 20 plus elves made the long drive up the escarpment to the North Pole, in time to celebrate the season in the decked out halls of Christie Babcock's lovely home. The merriment carried on through the living and dining rooms, kitchen and basement, where the elves kicked off their shoes and saddled up to the food station for a delectable assortment of warm and cold appys and a delicious spread of holiday treats. The sounds of the season could be heard throughout the home, as old and new friends toasted the year gone by, wishing Peace on Earth, Good Will towards Men ... and I'm sure it could be heard .. now dash away, dash away, dash away COVID!

Wishing all our PROBUS Friends a Happy and HEALTHY 2022!





# Saturday Night Lives at Ned Devine's

by Anna Strachan, Convenor

The last meeting of 2021 for the Saturday Night Lives group was held on December 4th. Twenty-Five happy SNL'ers met at Ned Devine's for some good food, drinks and great company. This time I did remember to take a picture or two to commemorate the event. Since the January meeting date would have fallen on Jan 1st it was decided that SNL would resume on February 5th 2022.

I hope all the SNL'ers had a wonderful Christmas and I wish you, and all our other PROBUS friends a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year 2022. Hopefully, COVID will become a thing of the past in 2022.



# Suds and Buds

by Pete Shermet, Convenor

Suds and Buds are slated to meet Thursday January 27th. With our COVID numbers increasing, it is best for this month we meet on zoom.

As yet we do not have a host for January. Please let me know who is willing to host this month. Also we have many new members who have joined the club, if anyone is interested in knowing more about Suds and Buds please be in touch via phone call 905-878-1293 or email [peteshermet@gmail.com](mailto:peteshermet@gmail.com) to the regulars please select a month and let me know in advance, if possible.



# Wee Drams in Tiny Bottles

by Chris Strachan, Convenor



Hello Probians, the D'Stillers last meeting of 2021 was hosted by Russ Cousins. It was decided that we would not meet in person as it was getting too cold, even for Martin's warm garage. Martin set up a Zoom meeting and Russ came up with a great idea. He purchased small bottles for each of the D'Stillers, filled them with his selected Whiskies and delivered them to me in Milton, from there they were then picked up and distributed to the D'Stillers.

Russ had a varied selection for our tasting pleasure, they were rated as follows:

Number one was 'Amrut Fusion Single Malt'. Amrut Fusion is an Indian single malt whisky launched in 2009 by Amrut Distilleries in Bangalore, India. The whisky is made from a mix of Scottish and Indian barley, thus giving it the name "Fusion". In 1982, the Amrut brand of whiskies became the first single malt whisky produced in India. India is a big consumer of its own country's whisky and also imported Scotch whisky.

Second was Catto's, this is a blended Scotch whisky since 1861. James Catto took advantage of the Golden age of ocean travel to sell his whiskies all around the world by way of the P and O and the White Star Lines. White Star is associated with the Titanic.

Third was 'Glenglassaugh Evolution Scotch Single Malt'. The distillery was started in 1875, during its checkered history it closed and reopened a few times and went through several different owners. Its current owner, since 2016 is Brown-Forman whose brands include Jack Daniels, GlenDronach, BenRiach and Finlandia to name a few.

Fourth was 'Royal Challenge' another whisky made in India. It is made with Scotch and Indian malts and grain spirits. The rest of the mix is a neutral spirit distilled from molasses. (It's much easier and cheaper to grow sugar cane than barley in India.) That means that strictly speaking, Royal Challenge, like most Indian "whisky", is actually a rum flavoured to pass as whisky.

Last but not least was 'Bunnahabhain 12 Yr Old' Single Malt. Interestingly enough, at our Aug 2016 tasting, this whisky came in second. The whisky is from Islay, Islay whiskies are famous for their smokiness and peatiness but this whisky is an un-peated one often more acceptable to those who do not like peaty whiskies.



This new format was a great success so we have agreed to adopt this format until we can once again meet in person. The Jan 5th 2022 meeting will be hosted by Ted Chliszczyk and Martin will once again set up our Zoom meeting. We are all looking forward to receiving our five little bottles.

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## Farkle

by Pat Vogt, Convenor

We had four Farkle players plus two guests (Diane's two sisters Claire and Janet) join our table as we played our last game of the year. It was quite a game, we had two sisters who will remain anonymous competing for the most Farkles LOL; Dawn was on a streak getting high scores until the last two rounds where she Farkled to lose her first place spot to Pat who was a straggler the first 7 rounds. It was a fun afternoon of Farkling!





# Clubs: Crafts, Travel, Books, Games & Music

## COVID forces us to ZOOM!

by Diane Comstock - Convenor

On Tuesday, December 7th, the PieceMakers gathered together on Zoom instead of our planned lunch at Swiss Chalet. Diane had nothing to show as her machine was very sick and needed to go to the sewing machine hospital (aka Halton Hills Sewing Machine and Vacuums). Judy N is planning on making bags for Christmas presents with upholstery fabric donated from Barbara. She also showed us a quilt rack that she received from a friend. Dawn had made some Christmas placemats and two snowman wall hangings made from fabric panels. Carol Ann is working on a winter quilt – she has completed 16 appliqué



snowflakes, the Santa center, and the pieced snowflake border with appliquéd tree corners. We cannot wait to see the finished project. Louise is in the process of setting up a dedicated sewing room in her basement – she has painted the room, purchased a long cutting table, and is organizing her fabric. Judi J showed us a quilted bag she made 10 years ago large enough to carry cutting boards and quilting supplies to a retreat.



Carol Ann asked if anyone had baby doll dress pattern as she needs to make a more modern dress for a porcelain doll she made many years ago. Diane suggested she contact Evelyn Zanatta, as she has quite the collection of porcelain dolls. Judy N announced that she is planning on moving to a smaller place and needs someone to take ownership of the club's material bin. Dawn volunteered – so if you are looking for fabric – call Dawn.

Diane mentioned that she hopes to have a meeting at her place when it is safe as she has been saving episodes of quilting shows. Currently Fons & Porter's Love of Quilting is televised on WNED-TV Buffalo (Bell Fibe - 9am Saturdays on 1224 PBSHB) (Cogeco – 6am Saturdays on 715).

Quilting Terms of the Month:

- Border – A strip of fabric that serves as the frame to a quilt and is sewn to the outside area of the quilt but inside of the binding. Borders can be wide or narrow depending on your project.*
- Panel Quilt – A quilt made mostly from a pre-printed fabric panel, which are large pieces of fabric printed with some sort of picture or scene. Fabric panels are ready to use, so there's no need to cut them up for patchwork.*



In January, we will be meeting on zoom for our monthly meeting.

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

# Journey to Bali

by Kelly and Fred Ground, and Gloria Pennycook



Kelly and Fred Ground took us on an exotic journey to Bali at the last Wanderlust meeting. Not only did they amaze us with the beautiful sights and scenery, they imparted a lot of information about the culture, the food and the daily life of people who live in Bali. Here is a brief description from Kelly and Fred.

Bali was the perfect destination to finish off our South Pacific holiday. The island was lush, exotic full of culture and extremely different from our other holiday destinations. Eighty-five percent of Bali's population are practising Hindus, as witnessed by the daily offerings that greet you at every turn, homes, shops, sidewalks, even at intersections. The people are very warm and giving, and radiate a true inner tranquility. During the week of our vacation preparations and celebrations for the Hindu New Year were taking place.

Our original thoughts were for a week of r & r, but we ended up enjoying a variety of trips and adventures instead! Among the various highlights of our trip were a number of visits to downtown Ubud, exploring the market, the Royal Palace, and the Monkey Sanctuary. We also had a couple of day trips, accompanied by a guide. The first gave us the opportunity to see the Ring of Fire volcano belt, the Ulun Dulun Water Temple, the twin lakes of Banjar Gobleg, the Banjar hot springs, and the Gitgit waterfall. On our other day trip, we saw the Goa Gajah Elephant Temple, which is a Unesco World Heritage Site, the Luwak Coffee plantation, and Mount Batur, which is the second largest volcano, and is still active. We concluded that specific day at the Tegalang rice terraces.



A memorable morning was spent exploring the various villages and countryside around our hotel. It literally started off with a bang as we experienced a scary 20 second 6.5 earthquake! A much more eventful week than we had planned, but we did have a quiet day prior to departure, enjoying the infinity pool at our villa, and watching the monkeys cavort in the jungle.

We fortunately left for home the day before the Hindu New Year, as everything, and we mean everything, even the airport, shuts down on that day. It is called Nyepi, or the Day of Silence. no lighting fires, no working, no entertainment or pleasure, no travelling, and for some, no talking or eating.

It was a great trip to a truly wonderful country — definitely well worth the visit.





## An American Marriage by Tayari Jones

by Patricia Flannagan, Correspondent



The First Edition Book Club met to discuss the book “An American Marriage”. The average score for the book was 6.7. This is the story of a young, newly married African American couple. The husband, a well -educated Afro-American man was wrongly accused and convicted of rape. He was sentenced to 12 years in prison. Through the industrious efforts of his lawyer, the conviction was eventually over turned and he was released after serving 5 years. While his wife, Celestial, remained supportive of him during his incarceration, she also became romantically involved with a mutual friend. The story is told by a series of letters between husband and wife during the husband’s incarceration and thereafter follows the necessary adjustment to his release from prison. In conclusion, the book raises serious issues concerning the systemic racial discrimination that affects our present day culture and the continuing effect it has on our society.

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## Bee-Gees Take a Train Ride

by Diane Comstock - Correspondent



On December 8th, six Bee-Gees met to play Ticket to Ride. We divided into two groups of three and proceeded to make our way up and down and across America. One group played very fast with Stephen winning with 86 points. They then played a second game, this time Jenny had the win 86-85 over Stephen.

Table 2's game took a little longer, with Lorrette ultimately scoring 138 points thanks to her having the longest train and the most destinations.

The January meeting has been cancelled due to COVID. Several games were suggested for February: Five Crowns, Wizard, and Rummicub. These games will all be available and you can choose which one you want to play.

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

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## Laughing All the Way to the Mosque by Zarqa Nawaz

by Barbara Alderson, Correspondent



The Sequel book club met December 8th to review Zarqa Nawaz's memoir, Laughing All the Way to the Mosque.

Nawaz is perhaps best known as the creator of the Canadian sitcom Little Mosque on the Prairie. In her entertaining memoir she recounts her challenges and misadventures growing up Muslim, from an immigrant family, in Western society. Both funny and thought provoking; it is not surprising that it was short listed for the Leacock prize for humor and chosen as a selection for the Amnesty International book club.

Nawaz relates many of the most awkward moments of her life with candor, describing herself as having a "talent for bungling everything". An advocate of women's rights she is also a devout practitioner of her faith, who loves her community. The incidents she describes include both experiences that most can understand, and also many details of being Muslim that might be unfamiliar to the non-Muslim reader.

Our club's evaluation of this selection was generally positive and our discussion surprisingly wide-ranging. Two members of our group did not enjoy the book and would only rate it a 5. The rest, however; enjoyed it, felt they had learned something from it, and gave it a 7 or 8 rating.

Nawaz has a new novel: Jameela Green Ruins Everything, due March 2022.

# Christmas and Non-Christmas

by Michael Hooker, Convenor



I chose the theme and music for our first December Zoomer: “Famous musical openings, and on to the end”; two pieces where just about everybody knows the first few bars.

The first piece, “Also sprach Zarathustra“, (Thus Spoke Zarathustra) by the German composer Richard Strauss, was composed in 1896. The opening fanfare – titled "Sunrise" thrust it’s way into our awareness after it was used as the opening for Stanley Kubrick's 1968 film “2001: A Space Odyssey”. The book that inspired the music, “Thus Spoke Zarathustra” is a work of philosophical fiction by the German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche. The subject is nominally the historical Zarathustra (better known as Zoroaster), an ancient Persian prophet who founded what is now known as Zoroastrianism.

Here’s the [YouTube link](#) to the first 100 seconds of the movie; note that the first 15 are a low bass, then the music bursts forth!

Piece #2 was Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony, written in the early 1800s; one of the best-known compositions in classical music. The famous four-note opening motif in particular is known worldwide, appearing frequently in popular culture, from disco versions to rock and roll, to uses in film and television. The symphony’s First Movement was included on the Voyager Golden Record, a phonograph record containing a broad sample of the images, common sounds, languages, and music of Earth, sent into outer space aboard the Voyager probes in 1977.

During the Second World War it was sometimes referred to as the "Victory Symphony"; ("V" being the Roman numeral “5”). The phrase "V for Victory" became a slogan after Winston Churchill starting using it as a catchword in 1940.

Asoka’s presentation “Merry Christmas – Carols and Songs” brought us back into the appropriate Festive Spirit for this time of year – a masterly collection of Christmas music, from old (The Holly and the Ivy) through to new (The Little Drummer Boy), and virtually every musical grouping – orchestra, choir, solo voice, group – instrumental and vocal. Performers ranged from the Choir of Trinity College Cambridge to The Piano Guys, Johnny Mathis, Mannheim Steamroller. To send us off with a bang, Asoka’s final piece was a Trinidadian Christmas piece, “Santa Say (Para Soca)”, by Bindley Benjamin.

[Here’s the link to “Santa Say”](#). Be warned: your feet may tap uncontrollably!

# High Rollers in December

by Pat Vogt, Convenor



Our last Yahtzee game of the year had 8 high rollers; we were pleased to welcome a new player Danielle Bergeron to the Yahtzee table. Only 50% of the group were able to throw a Yahtzee with Dawn getting two. There were only two players with scores over 300, Dawn with 347 (2 Yahtzees) and Barb C. had 322 with a Yahtzee. The rest of us seemed to have heavy dice and the scores were from 225 - 284 all in all it was a fun after noon. Wishing everyone a Very Happy and Healthy New Year!

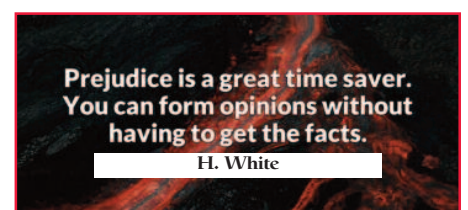
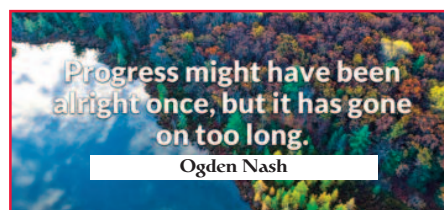
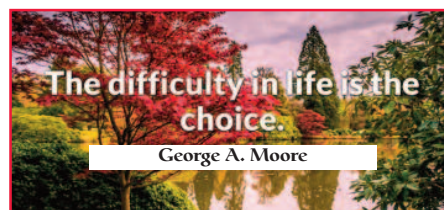
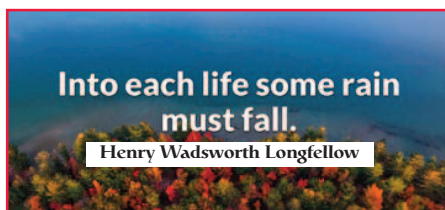
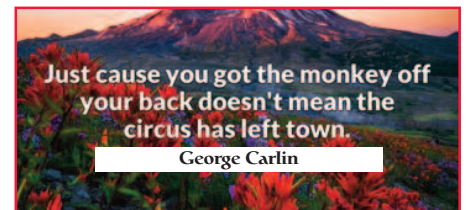
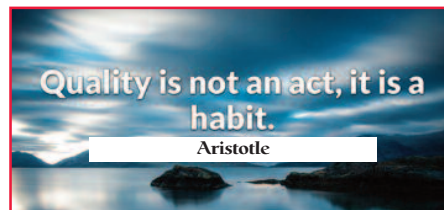
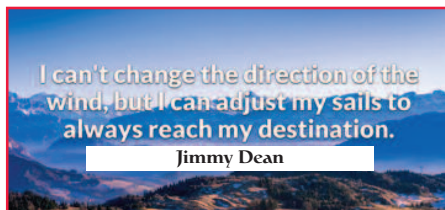
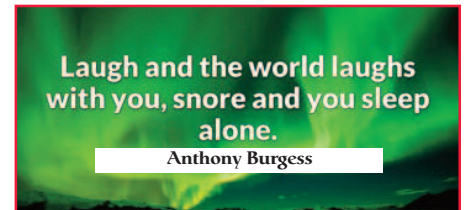
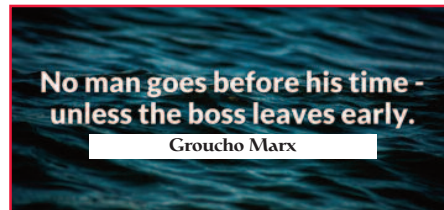
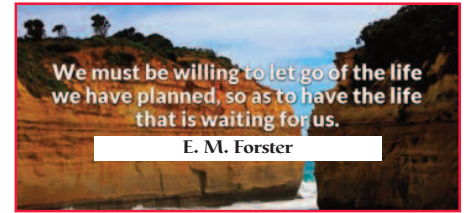
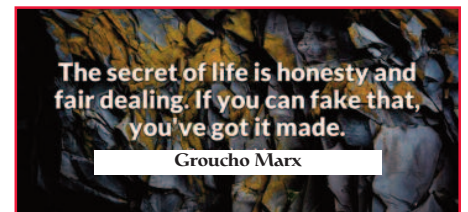


# Quotes for almost every occasion

By Alan Jordan

*Occasional Correspondent*

**W**e all enjoy a good quote. Here is a small collection of smart, clever, thought provoking and silly quotes from some of the most quoted men and ladies in the world, some passed on and some still with us.



# NEWS AND VIEWS

## Waiver Form & Screening Questions

Due to insurance changes through our PROBUS Canada General Liability Insurance Policy, effective January 1, 2022, if a member contracts a Communicable Disease, including but not limited to Covid-19 during a club event, the policy will not cover any medical or legal costs.

As a result, the Management Team requests that all members sign an [Annual Waiver Form](#) to enable a member to participate in any in-person event.

This can be done on your profile page:

1. *Log into the club website.*
2. *Click the EDIT PROFILE button.*
3. *Click the link next to the 2022 Waiver field (found under your address).*
4. *Read the waiver form and print it.*
5. *Return to your profile page and click the box beside the 2022 Waiver field to indicate your acceptance.*
6. *Click the SAVE button.*
7. *Sign the printed form and mail or deliver it to our Membership Chair – Dawn Ross (see club directory for her address). Alternately you may scan the signed form and email it to Dawn at [sdawnross55@gmail.com](mailto:sdawnross55@gmail.com).*

If you have problems, you can contact anyone on the Technical Team to assist you. If you have questions or concerns regarding the Waiver Form, please direct these to Diane Comstock, President (905-876-4909) or Russ Cousins, Vice President (416-628-6275).

Please note: Going forward, only those who have accepted the waiver form online and sent a signed form to Dawn will have the opportunity to register for in-person events.

Also, prior to attending any in-person event, we ask that you review the [Screening Questions](#) put forth by the Ontario Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health. If you answer YES to any one of the questions, PLEASE DO NOT attend the event. Anyone who is sick or has any symptoms of illness, including those not listed in the screening tool, should stay home, and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed.

Thank you for your cooperation in these matters. We are doing this to help keep our members safe and healthy and to mitigate risk to the club.

— The Management Team of the Escarpment PROBUS Club of Milton

**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).**



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

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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.*