

FORUM

Volume 11 - Issue 03 - March 2023



President's Message:

Welcome to March



We have finished with a very busy and chilly February. There were many fun and successful events throughout February and March looks to be even busier. The weather is getting better, the days are becoming longer.

Our in person attendance at our General Meetings is increasing with each month which is great to see. Our speakers are keeping us very interested and we look forward to that continuing.

There are events planned for everyone so if you are feeling housebound check the activities list, join up and have fun.

Keep well, keep safe, keep happy.

— Russ Cousins

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Visit Our Website: www.escarpmentprobus.com

Photo of the Month

This month's photo was contributed by **Gloria Pennycook**.

Your editor is running out of seasonal photos, so please grab your phone or camera on your next outing and keep an eye open for any interesting shots.

Send your photos to peterlasota@gmail.com and I will select one for inclusion each month.



ACTIVITIES

March – We Can Do This!

by Ruth Gagnon, Activities Chair

Spring is coming! Right? We can do this. We can start a countdown to Spring. Keep warm by participating in many of the activities and socials offered by our Club.

I would like to give a shout out to Paul Crawford and Fred Ground for writing articles on recent events and Anna Strachan for writing about our latest SNL. Very much appreciated!

MARCH ACTIVITIES:

Minute to Winnit – Thursday, March 9th at 2 pm

Convenors: Kelly Ground & Ruth Gagnon

Are you ready for your next adventure?

Got a minute? You can Winnit! Come out for some side splitting laughter, fun and a little competition.

No skill is required just good old fashioned sense of humour and fun. Teams of four will be randomly chosen, each team member will have an opportunity to best their competitors.

Pre-registration will start at our January General Meeting. This adventure costs ten non-refundable dollars for all the fun you could manage in an afternoon.

Upon the event's conclusion we will head for a fantastic preset dinner at Casa Americo. Please make your selections on Wild Apricot. Dinner and beverages are at your own expense.

This promises to be one of our best yet!



Activities Committee

Members:

Ruth Gagnon

Kelly Ground

Ron Millichamp

Jenny O'Brien

Ron James – Back Where I Belong - Wednesday, March 22nd at 7:30 pm

Convenor: Ruth Gagnon

It's time to laugh with Ron James a Shantero Production coming to you at the FirstOntario Arts Centre. The cost is \$68.50/member and tickets are non-refundable as they will be purchased well in advance of the show.

From the FirstOntario Arts Centre Website:

Canada's stand-out amongst 'stand-ups', award-winning comedian RON JAMES has been selling out theatres for over 20 years with his marathon, side-splitting performances. Marshalling a comedian's eye for satire and a writer's ear for language, Ron takes his audience on a breath-taking, non-stop roller coaster ride, cutting a wide swath through contemporary culture with a razor-sharp wit, uncompromising standard and unique, poetically honed delivery.

Along with five seasons starring in his own series, "The Ron James Show", his record breaking nine critically acclaimed one-hour comedy specials fast became a New Year's Eve viewing tradition for millions of Canadians. Not to be sidelined by the pandemic, he capitalized on lockdown after lockdown and wrote his

Continued >>>>>>>



first book, 'All Over the Map: Rambles and Ruminations from the Canadian Road', released by publishing giant Penguin-Random House, September 28th. With the light looking brighter every day at the end of the tunnel, Canada's #1 road warrior is back where he belongs: live onstage delivering laughs face to face to audiences sitting shoulder to shoulder, coast to coast clear across the Big Wide Open!

[Click here to check out some of his video clips.](#)

Kahoot's Trivia Live – Thursday, March 23th at 5 pm

Convenor: Kelly Ground

And Trivia keeps on coming to you! If you haven't come out to one of these, join us for some fun, competition and laughter!!

We will be meeting at Ned Devine's for a couple of rounds of Kahoot Trivia and dinner!! **Cellphones or iPads are needed!**

The cost is \$2 per player for this event payable the door (see Ruth). We will be having a preset menu so please make your selection using Wild Apricot. New Items have been added to the meal choices! Drinks & Dinner at your own expense. For menu pricing, please check out Ned Devine's menu at <https://www.neddevines.ca/menu.htm>



Drury Lane Music Hall – Sunday, March 26th at 2 pm

Convenor: Ron Millichamp

Tickets are available until February 5th. We will head to The Symposium in Milton for dinner. Join us for the FINAL show of the 42nd Annual Drury Lane Music Hall 2022. We will head back to Milton for dinner. Please let us know if you will join us for dinner. Details will follow at a later date.

From their brochure: Venture out with the most entertaining, comedic and wildly outstanding annual variety comedy musical this side of the pond. Booing and cheering are positively encouraged! Medleys, feature songs, skits and a variety of specialty numbers are the hallmark of this variety show that both harkens back to the days of British and American Music Halls and Vaudeville, but also wows the audience with a modern twist including current music, dance, and comedy from a wide variety of styles.

Parking is available on site. We will do our best to accommodate requests for carpooling.



APRIL ACTIVITIES:

NEW! Spring Planter at Crawford's Garden Centre – Wednesday, April 5th at 10:30 am

Convenor: Ruth Gagnon

Time to be creative and make an Easter Centerpiece for your dinner table or to take over to the person who is the hostess for your Easter dinner. Please note the basket will not be as shown and there will be options to select from.

The cost for this event is \$31.20/member and is limited to 20 members. Crawford's Garden Centre is located at 8689 5 Side Road, Milton.



Discovery Wine Tasting – Thursday, April 13th at 7:30 pm

Convenor: Ruth Gagnon

Our sommelier, Oliver Woodburn, is going to take us on a journey from Old World versus New Comparison and Discovery Wine Tasting.

This promise to be a fun and informative evening designed to delight your taste buds by experiencing wines made from the same grape variety yet grown and styled in two completely different countries.



Discover how climate, soil and wine making philosophy affect the tastes we enjoy in the glass. In addition, our focus will be on 6 different wines that are both 'hidden values' and everyday favourites of our guest presenter. Together we'll enjoy tasting 2 red wines and 4 whites; perfect to add to your repertoire for the summer of 2023 and beyond.

This wine tasting is going to be held at Art on Main in the party room located on the 7th floor. Thank you Theresa Spano for arranging! The cost for this event is \$42/member and is limited to 26 members.

You don't need to belong to the wine tasting club to join us for the event. Come and enjoy a very special evening from the wine to the charcuterie board to the chocolate. Guaranteed to be a elegant evening. Weather permitting, we will be able to enjoy the outdoor terrace and fireplace.

CAUTION: *For those of you that belong to a PROBUS wine tasting group, please note that this wine tasting does not include dessert/coffee/tea. So deal with it!*

MAY ACTIVITIES:

The Prom – Wednesday, May 31st at 2 pm at St. Jacobs Country Playhouse

Convenor: Jenny O'Brien

Join us for a smart, big-hearted musical comedy that celebrates the love that unites us all.

Four narcissistic Broadway stars are in desperate need of a new stage. So when they hear that trouble is brewing around a small-town prom, they know it's time to put a spotlight on the issue – and themselves. The town's parents want to keep the high school dance on the straight and narrow, but when one student just wants to bring her girlfriend to prom, the entire town has a date with destiny.

Winner of the Drama Desk Award for Best Musical, and created by the geniuses behind The Book of Mormon, The Drowsy Chaperone, and Mean Girls, The Prom expertly captures all the humour and heart of a classic musical comedy with a message that resonates with audiences now more than ever.

Don't miss the show that Variety raves "...is so full of happiness that you think your heart is about to burst!"

The cost for this event is \$50 and tickets are non-refundable. You will have until March 6th to request a ticket. This musical comedy is limited to 40 members. St. Jacobs Country Playhouse is located at 40 Benjamin Road East in Waterloo.

Optional lunch will be planned for pre-show enjoyment. Please use Wild Apricot to register your interest in both show and lunch or show only.



MARCH CALENDAR

EVENT	DATE		TIME	LOCATION	CONVENOR
Activities					
Executive Meeting	March	6	7:00 PM	Zoom	Russ Cousins
Minute to Winnit	March	9	2:00 PM	Grace Church Hall	K Ground & R Gagnon
Escarpment PROBUS monthly meeting	March	15	9:30 AM	Connect Centre	Russ Cousins
The Lunch Bunch	March	15	12:00 PM	Kelsey's	Joy Castello
Ron James - Back where I belong	March	22	7:30 PM	FirstOntario Arts Centre	Ruth Gagnon
Kahoot Trivia Live	March	23	5:00 PM	Ned Divines	Kelly Ground
Drury Lane Music Hall	March	26	2:00 PM	Drury Lane Theatre	Ron Millichamp
Clubs					
Probus Info Exchange - PIE	Online only				Cliff Read
Crafts - <i>Craftoholics</i>	March	1	1:00 PM	Grace Church Hall	Dana Weatherell
Tastings - Whisky - <i>D'Stillers</i>	March	1	7:00 PM	Chliszczyk home	Chris Strachan
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	March	2	7:00 PM	Halliday/Evans home	Martin Capper
Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>	March	2	2:00 PM	Zoom	Michael Hooker
Cards - Bridge	March	2	1:15 PM	Grace Church Hall	Chris Lloyd
Dining - Saturday Night Lives	March	4	6:00 PM	Lone Star	Ruth Gagnon
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	March	6	7:00 PM	Crawford Home	Martin Capper
Trail Walkers	March	7	1:30 PM	Various	Cliff Read
Crafts - Quilting - <i>Piece Makers</i>	March	7	1:00 PM	Jones Home	Diane Comstock
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	March	8	7:00 PM	Shermet home	Martin Capper
Books – Sequel	March	8	1:15 PM	Nelson Home	Carolyn Rumley
Games - Bee-Gees	March	8	1:00 PM	Grace Church Hall	Diane Comstock
Games - Jokers	March	9	1:30 PM	Grace Church Hall	Auriel Halliday
Nosh & Natter	March	10	5:30 PM	TBD	Jenny O'Brien
Books – First Edition	March	13	1:00 PM	Grace Church Hall	Paul Crawford
Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>	March	13	7:00 PM	Capper Home *	Martin Capper
Books – Trilogy	March	13	10:00 AM	TBD	Dawn Ross
Games - High Rollers (Yahtzee)	March	14	1:00 PM	Zoom	Diane Comstock
Movies - Oscar Nights	March	14	7:00 PM	Milton Cineplex	Petra Halk
Trail Walkers	March	14	1:30 PM	Various	Cliff Read
Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>	March	14	2:00 PM	Capper Home *	Martin Capper
Cards - Bid Euchre	March	16	1:15 PM	Grace Church Hall	Lorrette Shermet
Crafts - Knitting - <i>Chicks with Sticks</i>	March	16	10:30 AM	HIATUS	Christine Willekes
Dining - <i>Skip the Dishes</i>	March	16	6:00 PM	Keenan's Irish Pub	Lorrette Shermet
Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>	March	16	2:00 PM	Zoom	Michael Hooker
Cards - Euchre	March	20	1:15 PM	Grace Church Hall	Lorrette Shermet
Trail Walkers	March	21	1:30 PM	Various	Cliff Read
Friendship Club	March	22	10:00 AM	Seasons Retirement	Judy Krauss
Games - Jokers	March	22	1:30 PM	Grace Church Hall	Auriel Halliday
Tastings - Beer - <i>Suds and Buds</i>	March	23	7:00 PM	CANCELLED	Looking for new convenor
Nosh @ Nite	March	24	5:30 PM	Sandhu/Lasota Home	Paul Crawford
Line Dacing with Tammy	March	24	12:30 PM	Grace Church Bsmt	Ruth Gagnon
Dining - Appy Hour	March	25	6:30 PM	TBD	Mary Cousins
Cards -Canasta	March	27	1:15 PM	Grace Church Hall	Lorrette Shermet
Games - High Rollers (Farkle)	March	28	1:00 PM	Zoom	Diane Comstock
Trail Walkers	March	28	1:30 PM	Various	Cliff Read
Sports Club	March	TBD	6:00 PM	TBD	Garry Flemming

MEETING: MARCH



John Jefkins - My Father Came to Canada as a British Home Child

John Jefkins' father came to Canada as a British Home Child. Through the assistance of Home Children Canada, John found and visited his UK family in 2015 with the story published in the Toronto Star. He is currently on the Board of Director with Home Children Canada. John is a regular speaker with Home Children Canada.

RECENT EVENTS

FEBRUARY General Meeting

Our general meeting was held on Wednesday February 15th. Our speaker was *Dr Sarah Alexander* who talked about *How Society impacts Wellness*.

[Click here for a video of the meeting.](#)

The passcode for the video is @LD7Bg??



Dr Sarah Alexander



50/50 winner: Jim Jones



Greeters Lorrette & Pete Shermet



Jann Arden Delivers

by Paul Crawford, Correspondent

Jann Arden delivered the goods to her loyal followers who came to the Milton Arts Centre to hear the popular Canadian songstress.

She started and ended her show with her two signature songs. Insensitive and Good Mother, interspersed with beautifully rendered tunes that captured her range as a singer and songwriter. Her guest singer from Nova Scotia also added a lovely voice and harmonized with Jann very smoothly. The PROBUS members in attendance enjoyed the evening and will probably go see her the next time she is in town.



Seniors in Pursuit of Trivia

By Fred Ground, Correspondent

Which of these is the only type of dog breed mentioned in the Bible?

a) Bulldog b) Greyhound c) Bloodhound d) Sheepdog

T'was a cold, wintry night, but that did not stop thirty one intrepid Probians from venturing out to Ned Devine's for another fun filled Kahoots Trivia night.

In what was the closest competition that that we can remember, the Knowy Owls team of Liz Read, Cliff Read, and Fred Ground, edged out the Picklers team of Ellen Crawford, Marg Jones, Paul Crawford and Frank Dawe by the slimmest of margins for top spot.

Both teams each won a game, but the overall points total of 148,819 by the Knowy Owls was 341 points ahead of the Picklers 148,478. Out of 200 questions, the Picklers had 158 right, with the Knowy Owls at 157, but the speed element in answering was just enough for the winners. In third place was the Not GOATS team of Norma Capper, Joanne Millichamp, Martin Capper, and Ron Millichamp with 146 out of 200 questions.

It was great to have a few new faces among the other teams-thanks to Ruth Gagnon for organizing another terrific evening. Looking forward to our next contest on March 23rd; come along and join the Trivia bunch. You will find out some very interesting fun facts!



VIP Bowling & Skip The Dishes

by Ruth Gagnon & Lorrette Shermet

STRIKE! Well OK, there weren't many strikes. There were a lot of gutter balls and there was a ton of laughter. Thirty-six bowlers attempted to show off their skills – some better than others. A shout out to team “Lost Soles” who had the highest average. Sandi, Ellen, Ron, Nancy and Chris – way to go!! Ron had the most strikes of the 36 players – a big three – and Chris Watkiss had the highest score – 222 – of the group. It was impressive to see a few of our members come out with their own bowling balls and shoes!! I also need to give a shout out to Cindy Penfold and Jenny O'Brien for helping me and Pete Shermet for taking pictures. Much appreciated!!

Once we finished bowling we made our way across the hall to Champs Grill and met with some additional Skip The Dishes people to bring the number to 41 of us having some really good food! There were a lot of good comments on the wings and the chicken quesadillas! All in all, everyone enjoyed their meal and time socializing. The kitchen and servers did a great job in serving drinks and bringing out the food!



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.

SOCIAL CLUBS

Club	Date/Time	Convenor	Telephone	Email
Book Club - First Edition	2nd Mon. - 1 pm	Paul Crawford	289-878-4968	paulellencrawford@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	paulellencrawford@gmail.com
Book Club - Sequel	2nd Wed. - 1:15 pm	Carolyn Rumley	905-302-0442	carolynrumley@sympatico.ca
Book Club - Trilogy	2nd Mon. - 10 am	Dawn Ross	905-636-9838	sdawnross55@gmail.com
Cards - Bid Euchre	3rd Thurs. - 1:15 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Cards - Bridge	1st Thu. - 1:15 pm	Chris Lloyd	416-402-7464	Cldmi95@gmail.com
Cards - Canasta	4th Mon. - 1:15 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. - 2:00 pm	Martin Capper	905-693-0354	martin@martincapper.com
Cards - Euchre	3rd Mon. - 1:15 pm	Lorrette Shermet	905-878-1293	lorrette@sympatico.ca
Classical Music - Mozart and Friends	1st & 3rd Thu. 2:00pm. ZOOM	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 - Craftaholics	1st Wed - 1 pm	Dana Weatherell	905-875-9064	dweatherell@yahoo.com
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	Joy Castello	416-844-9404	alegriav@cogeco.ca
Dining - Nosh & Natter	2nd 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	paulellencrawford@gmail.com
Dining - Saturday Night Lives	1st Sat. - various times	Ruth Gagnon	905-462-4740	gagnonruth@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	Diane Comstock	905-876-4909	meljenscc@sympatico.ca
Games - High Rollers (Yahtzee)	2nd Tues. - 1 pm	Diane Comstock	905-876-4909	meljenscc@sympatico.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
Line Dancing with Tammy	4th Fri. - 12:30 PM	Ruth Gagnon	905-462-4740	gagnonruth@gmail.com
Movie Club - Oscar Nights	2nd Tues. - 7 pm	Petra Halk	647-913-6041	petra.halk@gmail.com
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	Roy MacKay	416-953-0633	roy@roymackay.ca
Sports - Sport Club	Special sports events	Garry Flemming	905-878-6738	danagarryflemming@gmail.com
Tastings - Beer - Suds and Buds	4th Thurs. - 7 pm	Looking for new convenor		
Tastings - Whisky - D'Stillers	1st Wed. - 7 pm	Chris Strachan	905-878-0812	strachan.chris1944@yahoo.ca
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	1st Mon. - 7 pm	Martin Capper	905-693-0354	martin@martincapper.com
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	1st Thurs. - 7 pm	Martin Capper	905-693-0354	martin@martincapper.com
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	2nd Wed. - 7 pm	Martin Capper	905-693-0354	martin@martincapper.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

Tasting *Chez Boss*

by Maggie Boss, Correspondent

Not many better ways to enjoy a cold February evening than gathered around a table with friends for laughter, lively discussion and wine! All were in abundance at Chez Boss for one of this month's GrapeNuts wine tastings.

This month we tried Chapoutier Belleruche CdRhône, Ken Forrester Old Vine Reserve Chenin Blanc, Left Field Sauvignon Blanc (whites) and Fantini Casale Vecchio Lot 23 Montepulciano D'Abruzzo DOC Organic, 13th Street Gamay, and Monte Antico (reds).



In addition to scoring, the task for the evening was to see if we were able to match the evocative descriptions provided by LCBO with the wines that we tasted. We could not! Most people made one or two matches, but we suspect it was mostly by lucky coincidence! The winner for the evening was the Fantini Casale Vecchio. Particularly interesting since it was the cheapest wine of the night. At almost half the cost of most of the others, you too can enjoy a bottle of our winner for \$10.00!

PROBUS
grape
-nuts
WINE TASTING CLUB

Next Lunch Bunch at Kelsey's

by Joy Castello, Convenor

After February's meeting 35 members went to Keenan's Irish Pub (photos below). As is often the case with our large group, it took awhile for the



servers to bring everyone their meals. But the staff were friendly and the food was delicious. Thanks everyone for your continued cheerful patience.

On March 15th, the Lunch Bunch will be going to Kelsey's Original Roadhouse, 45 Chisholm Drive. The upstairs room has been reserved for us. Check out the menus at kelseys.ca. Their Lunch Menu features four new trios.



SNL at Turtle Jacks

by Anna Strachan, Correspondent

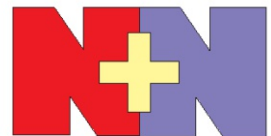
On Saturday, February 4, I hosted fifteen joyful SNLers at Turtle Jacks restaurant while Ruth was on a well-earned, sunny vacation. We had lovely food and great company.

Everyone was really happy with the service and the wait staff's attentiveness. We all received our hot food minutes apart despite the fact that we ordered off the menu, which made the experience quite pleasant. For the upcoming SNL get-together on March 4th, we are looking forward to Ruth and Dawn joining us once again.



Cupid Delights at February Nosh & Natter

by Jenny O Brien, Convenor



It was a sea of red (well almost :) at our February Nosh & Natter festivities, hosted in the stunning home of Chris and Hilary Lloyd. While the author of this article was regrettably at home in bed with a bad cold, Twenty four Nosher's enjoyed an evening of delectable appys and desserts, with lots of conversation and laughter. Love was certainly in the air as this club once again celebrated our good fortune in having such dear friends! I expect next month's Nosh we'll tip our hats to the Irish and don our green apparel.



Canada outnumbered by Scotland

by Chris Strachan, Convenor



Hello fellow Probiants, the February meeting of the D'Stillers was held on Wednesday, Feb 4th at the home of Marg Jones and Frank Dawe. Frank supplied 1 Canadian and 4 Scotch whiskies for our tasting pleasure. Tasting notes courtesy of Frank.

They were rated as follows:

1 The winning whisky of the evening with a score of 79.1 '**Dalwhinnie 15 Year Old**' Single Highland Malt Scotch Whisky. At a cost of \$117.95 and an Alcohol by Volume (ABV) of 43%.

Part of an annual winter release, made in the highest and coldest working distillery in Scotland. Pouring a bright gold colour it is fragrant with soft heather, peat and light smoke on the nose and palate; medium body and smooth with a light floral finish

2 Second was '**Deanston Virgin Oak**' Single Malt Whisky with a score of 74.6 at a cost of \$55.45 and an ABV of 46.3%.

Aged in ex-bourbon casks and finished in new oak for a zesty character and complexity. Pale gold in colour; aromas of sweet barley, caramel and citrus; the palate is dry with citrus peel, lemon, crisp apple and vanilla spice followed by a lengthy finish that explodes with honey and sweet honey.

3 Third was '**Robert Burns Arran**' a Single Malt Scotch Whisky with a score of 74.0 at a cost of \$54.55 and an ABV of 43%.

Bright pale yellow colour. Intense, honeyed, ripe lemon nose with lots of caramel-vanilla notes. Dry, medium-bodied, well-balanced, very bright, slightly spicy, ripe plum-lemon flavours with hints of caramel and honey on the lingering finish.

4 Fourth of the evening was '**Glenfarclas 15 Yr. Old**' Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky with a score of 73.1 at a cost of \$109.50 and an ABV of 46%.

An enveloping 15-year single malt offering notes of cumin, smoke and pear. The warmth is welcome and gives structure and harmony to the flavours. Impressive complexity with lingering notes of blossom and white pepper.

5 Coming in at fifth place was the lone Canadian contingent. '**Mill Street Canadian Malt Whisky**' With a score of 72.4 at a cost of \$60 for a (375 ml bottle) and an ABV of 45%. This product is not available at the LCBO but can be purchased at the Mill Street Retail Store in Toronto.

Aged 4 years on American Oak this annual, limited edition release of Single Barrel Canadian Malt Whisky is here! Light mouthfeel with vanilla and toffee notes up front, this whisky has a long smooth finish of rye, spice and fruity flavours. Delicious on its own or a perfect compliment to traditional cocktails.

Thanks to Marg for hosting the DDs and for the lovely treats, especially the sweet treats at the end of the evening. Thanks once again to the DDs without whom these evenings would not be possible.

The March 1st meeting of the D'Stillers will be hosted by Barb and Ted Chliszczyk.

The April 5th Meeting will be hosted by Kathy Schmidt and Bill Willcocks.



Noshing at the Strachans - February 24th

by Anna Strachan, Correspondent



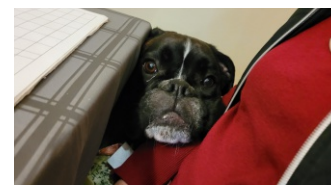
The February meeting of Nosh @ Nite was held at the Strachans. Some of our Nosh group was still on vacation but despite that, we still had the pleasure of hosting a Full House thanks to a few extra friends we invited to join us. As usual, it's always noisy and fun when we hang with friends, catching up on vacations etc. There was a lovely selection of appetizers and later desserts for everyone to enjoy, one certainly didn't need to go home hungry. Thanks to the ladies for helping the "hostess" since she was a little incapacitated due to a slip and fall accident. Now we look forward to our March Nosh where we can enjoy the companionship of those we missed in February.



Wine Tasting at the Cappers - Photo gallery



PROBUS
grape
-nuts
WINE TASTING CLUB



Skipping with St Patrick

by *Lorrette Shermet*

In February skip the dishes joined the bowling group and had a meal at champs. It was a great get-together.

For March we will be celebrating St. Patrick's a day early, on Thursday March 16th at "Keenan's Irish Pub" located at 51 James Snow Pkwy.

We will order from the menu: [Click here for Keenan's Menu.](#)

Please register and place your order of appetizer and/or entree via our club's website by March 11th.

Don't forget to wear green!



Clubs: Books & Crafts

Educated by Tara Westover

By *Margaret Anne Fehr, Correspondent*

Trilogy Book Club's selection for Monday, February 13th was Educated by Tara Westover. Thanks to Linda Green for hosting our meeting with a delicious made-from-scratch lemon pound cake and other tasty tidbits.

Educated is Tara's memoir of her growing up in a family headed up by her father, Gene, who created a dysfunctional system that severely affected all family members.

While attending Mormon Church services as a family, Tara and her siblings were not like the majority of the congregation, especially when it came to interacting with the outside world. Their restricted childhoods revolved around working as 'scrappers' in the family business of re-selling old cars and other metal waste, a physical job that resulted in numerous injuries both physical and cognitive to almost all of the family. The Westover children were home schooled by their mother who was trained in midwifery and went on to create a successful business, almost by happenstance, creating remedies from natural products.

Despite her unlikely start, Tara's thirst for a better life and a craving for knowledge eventually led her to becoming a Cambridge-educated historian though her path was filled with a series of challenging twists and turns. Through the interventions of kind, community leaders and concerned educators who saw her potential, Tara was helped to reach her ultimate goal of achieving her Doctorate.

It's said that truth is stranger than fiction and that was certainly the comments from our group, Most of us couldn't believe that this book was a true story, it just seemed too fantastical to be real!

Our group discussion covered topics such as the concept of family and mental illness and how difficult it is to leave a dysfunctional family even though it perpetuates harm. Leaving your family behind is not like pulling off a Band-Aid. There are so many elements like history, biology and beliefs that bind one.

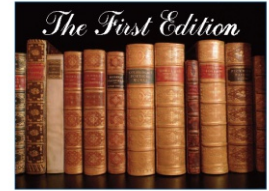
We also talked about the power of writing and how it helped Tara cope by recording her experiences. We also commented on the advantages of keeping personal journals and how a few of our group have put together family histories that record personal events and relatives for posterity.

It's a rare occurrence, but Trilogy gave a unanimous rating of 10 for Educated! While it is about one individual's journey, Educated speaks to universal themes of self-liberation, the power of education, the perils of extreme ideology, and the trauma of domestic abuse.



Inside the O'Briens by Lisa Genova

by Elizabeth Read, Correspondent



The First Edition Book Club members found *Inside the O'Briens* to be a thought provoking read about the repercussions of a horrific genetic disease on members of a family. Lisa Genova, who is a neuroscientist, created an Irish Catholic family in Boston to examine the effects of Huntington's Disease. It allowed the author to deal with emotional, physical, societal and religious concerns from the points of view of the middle aged policeman who receives the diagnosis, his wife who copes with the symptoms he exhibits, and their four children who each live with a 50% chance of inheriting it.

We found the book rated a solid 8 out of 10 from our members.

Two reviews for your reading pleasure

***Hamnet and Judith* by Maggie O'Farrell**

by Catherine Parr, Correspondent



"*Hamnet and Judith*" is written as an Historical Fiction. The book provides a creative rendition of the family life of William Shakespeare and his wife Agnes. The historical facts: A couple in Stratford, England have three children, Susanna, Hamnet and Judith. Hamnet impacts his father significantly and ultimately influences his father's writing of the play Hamlet. The name Hamnet was a version of the name Hamlet. True to the life of Agnes and William Shakespeare, tragedy strikes a blow to their family and the story evolves around their struggle with the depths of loss and grief. The book was considered an easy read with interesting content. For example, Agnes, like her mother, was a healer and gathered plants, herbs and flowers and created her own natural medicines. The book was also considered somewhat long. The Book Club assigned the book 7 out of 10, an easy and enjoyable read.

***The Wife Upstairs, a novel* by Rachel Hawkins**

by Patricia Kotack, Correspondent

The Wife Upstairs is an easy to read mystery-thriller which is noted as being based on *Jane Eyre* with a southern twist. Although most of our book club members enjoyed the book they did not find a real comparison to *Jane Eyre* except for the connection of the main characters names.

Jane is a struggling and cynical former foster kid who is working as a dog walker in the upscale neighbourhood of Thornfield Estates where she meets the handsome and wealthy Eddie Rochester. When Jane and Eddie connect it seems Jane has found her "Happy ever After". But Jane's fairy-tale romance is complicated by her questionable past and by details of the mystery of Eddie's former wife, who disappeared only months ago. Jane tries to uncover the truth about what's been going on in the Thornfield Estates neighbourhood whilst keeping secrets of her own.

There are many twists and turns in the plot, which although predictable, help to keep the interest of the reader and overall the book is well written and was enjoyed by the members of our book club.

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

Ravenous Readers has new convenors

by Ellen Crawford, Convenor

Ravenous Readers Recycling will continue at our general meetings each month.

Please take a book and if you remember bring a book for the table.

The new convenors will be *Lynda and Ron Johnston*.



Craftaholics

by Dana Weatherell, Convenor

Oops, I forgot to take pictures of our February meeting, however there were five of us crafting. Diane was working on a cute gift for her Granddaughter after helping Auriel with some quilting questions. Auriel pulled out some wool to work on her crocheted blanket that has several beautiful designs in it. As Chicks with Sticks hasn't met for a couple



Craftaholics



weeks, we invited them to join us if they like. That invitation brought Linda who made some thank you cards with Lorette and I. Some of us decided to purchase a kit to work on in March so watch for pictures of those! Others will bring along their own craft project.

April's projects will be a paint night style session where we all follow along a video to create a pretty little daisy field shown in the picture. You will be asked to bring a 10x10 canvas. I should be able to borrow the other supplies we need. Hope you can join is!

Contributed by Fred Ground

Sam, a young man, excitedly tells his mother that he has fallen in love and that he is going to be married.

He tells her "Mother, I'm going to bring over three women, and you must try and guess which one I'm going to marry".

The mother agrees.

The next day, he brings three beautiful women into the house, sits them down on the couch and they chat for a while.

Later he says "Mother, guess which one I'm going to marry?".

She immediately replies "The one on the right".

"That's amazing, Mama, you're correct. How did you know?".

The mother replies "I don't like her".

Awkward (adjective): That moment when you realize that no one is listening, so you slowly stop talking.

Golf (noun): An excuse for old fat men to say that

they still play a sport.

Failure (noun): Misspelling a word so badly that there are no spelling suggestions.

Cellfish (adjective): An individual who talks on his or her cell phone even when doing so is rude and inconsiderate of other people.

Re-tired (adjective): I was tired yesterday and I'm tired again today.

Proofreading (verb): We do it best after we've hit "send".

PhD (abbreviation): Permanent head damage.

Jokes (noun): They are really funny in my head, but when I say them out loud, they are not that funny any more.

English teachers (noun): People who put more thoughts into a novel than the original author ever did.

Etc. (abbreviation): End of Thinking Capacity.

Tradition (noun): Peer pressure from dead people.

1990 (noun): Feels like it was only 10 years ago.

Sew on the Lines

by Diane Comstock, Convenor



The PieceMakers gathered together at Sandi Gilbert's home on Tuesday, Feb. 7 for their monthly show and tell. Judi Jones is getting back into quilting and showed us a star block she made out of the turquoise and grey fabric she bought during our November shopping spree – You have not lost your touch!. Diane also restarted working a PhD (Granddaughter's Temperature quilt) – she has completed all 54 blocks and pieced together 3 of the 6 columns. Sandi showed us her completed Stars & Stripes quilt – the wavy quilting provides wonderful movement. Sandi also showed us her first quilted wall hanging – awesome! Carol Ann brought her Ice Crystals lap quilt made during our paper-piecing challenge in 2020. Dawn couldn't make the meeting but sent pictures of a scrappy paper-pieced heart pattern – she loved it so much she made 4 hearts and sashed and bordered them together.

Carol Ann gave us tips on paper piecing using an arrow paper foundation pattern – coincidentally that is the pattern Diane is using in her temperature quilt.

Quilting Terms of the Month:

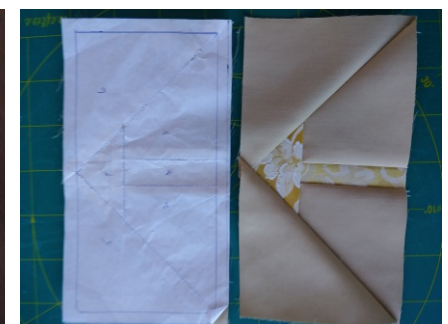
PhD = *Projects half Done*

Block: *The basic unit, usually square and often repeated, from which many quilts are composed. Blocks may be pieced, appliquéd, or solid.*

Paper foundation: *A thin piece of paper with a drawn, printed, or stitched pattern that becomes the base for a quilt block when fabric is sewn directly onto it.*

Come join us at Judi Jones home on March 7 where we will learn all about applique. If you have an applique pattern bring it along.

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



Clubs: Games & Cards

Frustrating to No End

by Diane Comstock, Convenor

On February 8th, five gamers gathered at Grace Church to play a new card game suggested by Dana. Frustration was the name of the game, and for Dana it was true to its name, as she failed to open in the first three rounds. I was not quick enough to capture her expression when she was caught with a mittful of points. There are 10



contracts players need to achieve in the game, but we called it after nine due to time. Stephen and Diane had both completed nine contracts with Stephen winning as he had less points than Diane.

Our game on March 8th will be Catan suggested by Diane. For those not inclined to play a strategy game, we will also have a Sequence game available.

Anyone interested in playing games, let me know and I will add you to the group.

Euchre Club Gathers on Family Day

by Jenny O'Brien, Correspondent

With 24 members in attendance at the February Euchre club, it felt just like a big, happy family reunion, with a little teasing, a lot of laughing and a whole lot of euchring!



The bigger winner of the day was Judi Jones (YES, of the same family that won this month's 50/50 prize \$\$\$\$\$) with a score of 47, narrowly inching out Joe Oatman's score of 46.

Lorrette Shermet took home the prize for most lone hands (3), although her overall score of 31 suggests she only had 3 good hands all day :)



Most honest player prize went to Jim Campbell, with a whopping score of 26, keeping Rick Pearen and Jenny O'Brien, both with a score of 27, out of the money!

Several of our regular Euchre players weren't able to join this month, so come March we expect to have 7 or even 8 tables of card sharks back in the game. If you'd like to join the Euchre Club and be guaranteed an afternoon of fun, please contact our convenor, Lorrette Shermet at lorrette@sympatico.ca.



Always fun joking around

by Norma Capper, Correspondent

It is always a fun afternoon playing joker at Grace Anglican Church and today was no exception.

We had one player stuck in her underground garage and we had to start without her—luckily, she was rescued and was able to join us on her release!

Some folk got to play 4 games but most only 3 and due to the bad weather, some called it a day and we stopped playing.

Winners with the most games won were Ron Millichamp, Norma Capper, Doreen Chester, Ev Zanatta with 3 games each.

Thanks again to Grace Anglican for the use of their hall.



Bid Euchre tricks eluded!

by Jenny O'Brien, Correspondent

It was an afternoon filled with laughter and risk taking with players taking a chance 10 times on Calling and Shooting the Moon. Alas, 40% of the time those players went down in flames, failing to make their call, but dreaming of what could have been had their partners given them the right cards!



Kudos to Bob Stringer for winning all 4 of his games - not bad for a newbie!! And Jacqui Gerrard was one fire, succeeding at not one, but two Call Ones - quite a feat!! Cindy Penfold and Sharon White went down in a blaze of glory, after failing to make their Shoot the Moon call .. ouch!! Barb Chliszczyk and Jim Campbell were also noteworthy with a successful Call One and Call Two respectively.

Regardless of the scores, at the end of the day, it was a fun afternoon for 14 competitive card players, who enjoyed the challenge and camaraderie.

New members are welcome to join us at Grace Church for an entertaining afternoon of Bid Euchre, on the third Thursday of the month. Anyone wishing to learn the game should contact the convenor, Lorrette Shermet, who can arrange for lessons.



Clubs: Classical Music & Travel

From Baghdad to The Sea

by Michael Hooker, Convenor



When the Russian composer Alexander Borodin was writing his music in the mid-nineteenth century, he could never have imagined what would happen a hundred years later, when choice bits of it were morphed into the music of a silly and entertaining Broadway musical comedy called Kismet.

A doctor and chemist by profession, Borodin made important early contributions to organic chemistry, and regarded medicine and science as his primary occupations, only practising music and composition in his spare time. Nowadays, although his scientific accomplishments are forgotten, his music lives on!

Kismet is set in a fictional Baghdad in the times of The Arabian Nights. The story concerns a wily poet who talks his way out of trouble several times; meanwhile, his beautiful daughter meets and falls in love with the young caliph.

The musical was first produced on Broadway in 1953 and won the Tony Award for best musical in 1954. A 1955 film version was produced by MGM. Every one of you will remember at least a few of the Kismet songs, like "Stranger in Paradise", "Baubles Bangles and Beads", "And This is My Beloved".

Here are two YouTube goodies, [the first: Borodin's "Second String Quartet"](#) (movement 3 - Nocturne), (8 minutes – listen to at least the first 3)

then a Kismet song from this piece "[And this is My Beloved](#)"(5 minutes)

Our second Zoomer was "Music and The Sea". Artists have always been fascinated by the sea, attempting to capture in their art it's water, waves wind, cloud, sky. So we listened to how several composers had attempted that feat, from Richard Wagner (he of the "Ride of the Valkyries"), inspired after a very rough, dangerous and stormy 20 day crossing of the North sea – fleeing to London from his creditors in Riga, without papers / with his pregnant wife (who miscarried along the way), in a very dicey ship; to Benjamin Britten, living in a small isolated town on England's east coast; to Franz Schubert, who spent all his short life in Vienna, never even catching a glimpse of the Sea!

Here's a YouTuber we listened to: [The Beatles "Yellow Submarine"](#), written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, (3 minutes)

After The Beatles taped the music and vocals, they held another session to overdub all the nautical sounds, party ambience and chorus. According to Paul, the idea came from a 1963 holiday in Greece, where he enjoyed an iced spoon sweet, either red or yellow, called a Submarine.

Contributed by Ron Millichamp

This past February cannot come in your lifetime again. Because this year's February has:

4 Sundays

4 Mondays

4 Tuesdays

4 Wednesdays

4 Thursdays

4 Fridays

4 Saturdays.

This Happens once every 823years.

This is called a Miraclein.

Contributed by Fred Ground

Reilly is walking through a graveyard, when he comes across a headstone with the inscription:

"Here lies a politician and an honest man".

"Faith now", exclaims Reilly. "I wonder how they got the two of them in one grave".

Clubs: Sports & Dance

Pin Seekers Golf

Roy MacKay, Convenor

While it is hard to believe, based on recent weather, Spring is around the corner and with it comes Pin Seekers golf outings. Once again we will be having 10 golf outings during the golf season to be held at Oakville Executive Golf Course, 4414 Fourth Line Oakville.

These are 9-hole events for ladies and gentlemen, starting at 11 am with 8 dates on a Wednesday and 2 dates on a Tuesday. All levels of play ability are welcome. You are invited to play whether you only want to play once or all 10 times. The cost is \$40 for golf plus \$13 if a power cart is required.

Registration will be posted for each outing in Wild Apricot and request you register by Noon Sunday for the Tuesday or Wednesday outing. As well I will be sending out a blast one week in advance reminding you of the upcoming event.

For your information here are the golf dates

April 26 Wed

May 10 Wed and May 24 Wed

June 7 Wed and June 27 Tuesday

July 12 Wed and July 26 Wed

Aug 2 Wed

Sept 5 Tues and Sept 27 Wed

Fore everyone.



Line Dancing – February 24

by Ruth Gagnon, Convenor

We did it! We did the 'Ah-Si', the electric slide, we 'hee hawed' and shook what we got! Twenty-two of us kicked off our newest Social Club as we did line dancing with Tammy! Line dancing is great for the mind and body and gave us a chance to laugh at ourselves! A couple of ladies even expressed interest in doing a dance at an upcoming General Meeting. I think that will have to wait a wee bit!

Line Dancing is held on the fourth Friday of the month. See y'all on March 24th!



CLUB TRAVEL

Trip to Norway and Sweden - Stopover in Iceland?

by Joanne Millichamp, Travel Convenor

Our PROBUS trip this year is to Norway & Sweden via Iceland Air. For anyone interested in a stopover in Iceland, several of our members have already arranged to do so and I would be happy to provide you with information in that regard.

Our trip is 2 weeks in length from September 8th to 21st. In Norway we visit fjords, the city of Bergen, scenic countryside, the Flam railway, plus all the city highlights in Oslo. We travel by train to Sweden, where we visit Stockholm's old town, the Vasa Museum, City Hall, etc. plus we have a guided walking food tour. We will also enjoy a day in the countryside and visit Sweden's oldest town Sigtuna.

Tour Design have extended the early booking reduction for your deposit by \$60 per person until the end of March. Brochures are available for anyone interested. Please contact me 289/878-2969 if you have any questions.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Speaker line-up for this year

by Roy MacKay, Program Chair

Here is a list of upcoming Speakers for 2023:

- March 15** John Jefkins, "The Home Children"
April 19 Kevin Donovan, "The Billionaire Murders"
May 17 John McDonald, "The Temperance Movement in Milton"
June 21 Colin Best, "What's New in Milton"
July 19 Dennis Grimm, "a Canadian Accountant starts a Vineyard in Argentina"
August 16 Thanh Campbell, "Orphan 32, The Last Flight ex Saigon"
September 20 Daniel Aonso, "Icons of Canadian Music"
October 18 Martin Capper, 10th Anniversary of our Club plus a vignette
November 15 Ted Barris, "Canada at War"

We will be introducing a new element to our Speaker Program. This will include hearing from one Member each Meeting a 10-minute mini bio or vignette of an interesting aspect of their life which may include a charitable work, overcoming a serious obstacle, an interesting story of their childhood or anything of inspiration or general interest. Humorous stories are also welcome. Volunteers are invited to contact me.

Event Registration: Adding Another Member as a Guest

by Diane Comstock, Technical Support

Except for the 3 Social events (Summer Picnic, Anniversary Dance, and Christmas Luncheon), a guest should be another member. Please remember when you add another member as a "Guest" and the name is requested you must also put in the member's Login ID. If you do not, the system assumes the guest is a non-member and when a second invite goes out the "guest/member" will receive the invite.

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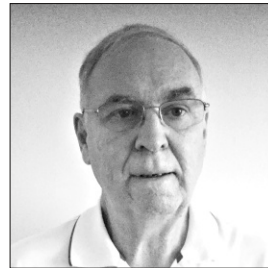
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FORUM - THE ESCARPMENT PROBUS CLUB OF MILTON NEWSMAGAZINE

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.