

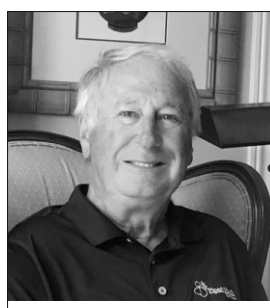
FORUM

Volume 11 - Issue 04 - April 2023



President's Message:

Happy Spring to All



The days are getting longer and warmer. And our team is occupied keeping all members busy.

John Jefkins, speaking on the Home Children last month was very interesting and eye opening. Not many were even aware that this movement had taken place.

April's speaker will be as interesting as Kevin Donovan will enlighten us on the "Billionaire murders" of Toronto.

The plans for our 10th Anniversary celebrations are well under way. The dates for the picnic, Anniversary dance and Christmas luncheon have been set so please consult the FORUM for the dates.

The activities committee is booking many events for our pleasure.

We ask you all to consider volunteering for the management committee for next year. We are looking for a male Vice President, a Treasurer, an Activities Chair, a FORUM Editor, and a Membership Chair. It is all our club so please consider getting involved with the committee.

If anyone knows of someone who is ill in the hospital, or has had a major surgery, or a death in the family or on a happier note just became a new grandparent or celebrating a special anniversary or birthday please let Lorrette Shermet know. She will send a note on behalf of the PROBUS family.

— Russ Cousins

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Visit Our Website: www.escarpmentprobus.com

Photo of the Month

This month's photo was contributed by Barbara Finnie. This photo is from her back door after the most recent snow storm.

We're into spring now, so lets get some photos of mother nature waking up.

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



ACTIVITIES

April Showers Bring on the Flowers!

by Ruth Gagnon, Activities Chair

We are working hard planning summer activities. Activities where we can enjoy the sunshine and warmth and have endless laughter!

Check out the many photos we have of the Progressive Dinner and Minute to Winit! Kelly and I had a lot of laughs preparing this event (and seeing everyone participate!) and I sincerely appreciate the enthusiasm of those that participated. You made it fun and I think we all were tired (in a good way!). Check out Kelly's article and all the pictures that are great memories and evidence of the fun had by all!

I also need to give a shout out to Paul Crawford for writing about our "Ron James – Back Where I Belong" event at the FirstOntario Arts Centre. What a great recap of our evening!! Thanks so much Paul! Also to Martin Capper for capturing another fun evening at our Kahoot Trivia night! Thanks Martin! Also to Ron Millichamp for his review of the Drury Lane Music Hall – thanks for organizing that activity Ron!

I have one Save the Date for you. Our 2nd Annual Play Day will be on Thursday, June 15th in the afternoon with dinner to follow. Pre-registration will be at our next General Meeting. And our next Kahoot Trivia will be on Thursday, June 1st.

On a brief Social Club note, I'd like to give a shout out to Beth Barnes for writing the Saturday Night LiveS article at the Lone Star. Thanks Beth! For those of you that haven't come out to this Social Club, it's just a bunch of people having a relaxing social time enjoying dinner. It occurs on the first Saturday of the month. Also take a look at Sandi Gilbert's article on our second Line Dancing session. Another afternoon of fun and thanks to Sandi!

APRIL ACTIVITIES:

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.

Activities Committee

Members:

Ruth Gagnon

Kelly Ground

Ron Millichamp

Jenny O'Brien



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!



NEW! Kahoot's Trivia Live – Thursday, April 27th at 5 pm

Convenor: Kelly Ground

Yes, Trivia just keeps on coming to you! Once again 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. Drinks & Dinner at your own expense. For menu pricing, please check out Ned Devine's menu. [Click here for menu.](#)



MAY ACTIVITIES:

NEW! Car Rally Scavenger Hunt – Thursday, May 25th at 2:00 pm

Convenors: Kelly Ground & Ruth Gagnon

It's time for another afternoon scavenger hunt having you travelling through Milton. Do it by yourself or get into a team of four. Your starting point is to meet us at the ***GO Station parking*** lot to get your wheels in motion. Your destination destination will take you to ***Ned Devine's*** for dinner.

More details will be shared with all members on Wild Apricot on April 23rd.

Please note that this event is limited to 32 members and pre-registration will be available to members attending our April General Meeting.



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.



Irish Smiles

Contributed by Fred Ground

Definition of an Irish husband: He hasn't kissed his wife for twenty years, but he will kill any man who does.

Murphy told Quinn that his wife was driving him to drink. Quinn thinks he's very lucky because his own wife makes him walk.

The late Bishop Sheen stated that the reason the Irish fight so often among themselves is that they're always assured of having a worthy opponent.

An American lawyer asked, "Paddy, why is it that whenever you ask an Irishman a question, he answers with another question?"

"Who told you that?" asked Paddy.

Question - Why are Irish jokes so simple? Answer - So the English can understand them.

Reilly went to trial for armed robbery. The jury foreman came out and announced, "Not guilty."

"That's grand!" shouted Reilly. "Does that mean I can keep the money?"

Mrs. Feeney shouted from the kitchen, "Is that you I hear spittin' in the vase on the mantle piece?" >>>>

"No," said himself, "but I'm gettin' closer all the time."

Irish lass customer: "Could I be trying on that dress in the window?" Shopkeeper: "I'd prefer that you use the dressing room."

What do you call an Irishman who knows how to control a wife? - A bachelor.

Finnegin: My wife has a terrible habit of staying up 'til two o'clock in the morning. I can't break her of it.

Keenan: What on earth is she doin' at that time?

Finnegin: Waitin' for me to come home .

Did you hear about the Irish newlyweds who sat up all night on their honeymoon waiting for their sexual relations to arrive?

Slaney phoned the maternity ward at the hospital.. "Quick!" He said. "Send an ambulance, my wife is goin' to have a baby!" "Tell me, is this her first baby?" the intern asked. "No, this is her husband, Kevin, speakin."

"O' Ryan," asked the druggist, "did that mudpack I gave you improve your wife's appearance?"

"It did surely," replied O' Ryan, "but it keeps fallin' off!"

APRIL CALENDAR

| EVENT | DATE | | TIME | LOCATION | CONVENOR |
|---|--------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Activities | | | | | |
| Spring Planter St Crawford's Garden Centre | April | 5 | 10:30 AM | Crawford's | Ruth Gagnon |
| Executive Meeting | April | 12 | 7:00 PM | Zoom | Russ Cousins |
| Discovery Wine Tasting | April | 13 | 7:30 PM | Art on Main, Party room | Ruth Gagnon |
| Escarpment PROBUS monthly meeting | April | 19 | 9:30 AM | Connect Centre | Russ Cousins |
| The Lunch Bunch | April | 19 | 12:00 PM | Lone Star | Joy Castello |
| Kahoot's Trivia Live | April | 27 | 5:00 PM | Ned Devines | Kelly Ground |
| Clubs | | | | | |
| Probus Info Exchange - PIE | Online only | | | | Cliff Read |
| Dining - Saturday Night Lives | April | 1 | 5:00 PM | Portabello's Italian Bistro | Ruth Gagnon |
| Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts | April | 3 | 7:00 PM | Ross home | Martin Capper |
| Trail Walkers | April | 4 | 1:30 PM | Various | Cliff Read |
| Crafts - Quilting - <i>Piece Makers</i> | April | 4 | 1:00 PM | Nelson Home | Diane Comstock |
| Crafts - <i>Craftoholics</i> | April | 5 | 1:00 PM | Grace Church Hall | Dana Weatherell |
| Tastings - Whisky - <i>D'Stillers</i> | April | 5 | 7:00 PM | Schmidt/Wilcocks | Chris Strachan |
| Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts | April | 6 | 7:00 PM | Strachan Home | Martin Capper |
| Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i> | April | 6 | 2:00 PM | Zoom | Michael Hooker |
| Cards - Bridge | April | 6 | 1:15 PM | Grace Church Hall | Chris Lloyd |
| Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i> | April | 10 | 7:00 PM | Capper Home * | Martin Capper |
| Books – Trilogy | April | 10 | 10:00 AM | TBD | Dawn Ross |
| Games - High Rollers (Yahtzee) | April | 11 | 1:00 PM | Zoom | Diane Comstock |
| Movies - Oscar Nights | April | 11 | 7:00 PM | Milton Cineplex | Petra Halk |
| Trail Walkers | April | 11 | 1:30 PM | Various | Cliff Read |
| Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i> | April | 11 | 2:00 PM | Capper Home * | Martin Capper |
| Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts | April | 12 | 7:00 PM | Capper Home | Martin Capper |
| Books – Sequel | April | 12 | 1:15 PM | Rumley Home | Carolyn Rumley |
| Games - Bee-Gees | April | 12 | 1:00 PM | Grace Church Hall | Diane Comstock |
| Games - Jokers | April | 13 | 1:30 PM | Grace Church Hall | Auriel Halliday |
| Nosh & Natter | April | 14 | 5:30 PM | Tschirhart home | Jenny O'Brien |
| Books – First Edition | April | 17 | 11:00 AM | Grace Church Hall | Paul Crawford |
| Cards - Euchre | April | 17 | 1:15 PM | Grace Church Hall | Lorette Shermet |
| Trail Walkers | April | 18 | 1:30 PM | Various | Cliff Read |
| Cards - Bid Euchre | April | 20 | 1:15 PM | Grace Church Hall | Lorette Shermet |
| Crafts - Knitting - <i>Chicks with Sticks</i> | April | 20 | 10:30 AM | HIATUS | Christine Willekes |
| Dining - <i>Skip the Dishes</i> | April | 20 | 6:00 PM | The Firehall, Oakville | Lorette Shermet |
| Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i> | April | 20 | 2:00 PM | Zoom | Michael Hooker |
| Dining - Appy Hour | April | 22 | 6:30 PM | TBD | Mary Cousins |
| Cards -Canasta | April | 24 | 1:15 PM | Grace Church Hall | Lorette Shermet |
| Games - High Rollers (Farkle) | April | 25 | 1:00 PM | Zoom | Diane Comstock |
| Trail Walkers | April | 25 | 1:30 PM | Various | Cliff Read |
| Friendship Club | April | 26 | 10:00 AM | Seasons Retirement | Judy Krauss |
| Games - Jokers | April | 26 | 1:30 PM | Grace Church Hall | Auriel Halliday |
| Pin Seekers | April | 26 | 11:00 AM | Oakville Executive | Roy MacKay |
| Tastings - Beer - <i>Suds and Buds</i> | April | 27 | 7:00 PM | CANCELLED | Looking for new convenor |
| Nosh @ Nite | April | 28 | 5:30 PM | TBD | Paul Crawford |
| Line Dacing with Tammy | April | 28 | 12:30 PM | Grace Church Bsmt | Ruth Gagnon |
| Sports Club | April | TBD | 1:30 PM | TBD | Garry Flemming |

MEETING: APRIL



Kevin Donovan - The Billionaire Murders

Kevin Donovan is the Toronto Star's Chief Investigative Reporter. His focus is on journalism that exposes wrongdoing and effects change. Over more than three decades he has reported on the activities of charities, government, police, business among other institutions. He is the author of several books, including the Billionaire Murders; Secret Life: The Jian Ghomeshi Investigation; and the "Dead Times" (a fiction novel).

RECENT EVENTS

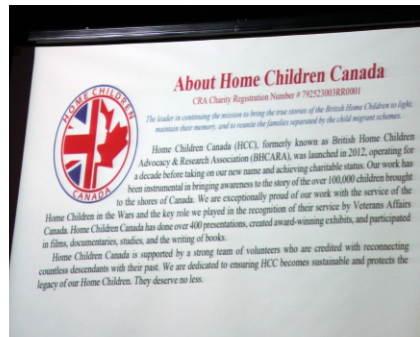
MARCH General Meeting

Our general meeting was held on Wednesday February 15th. Our speaker was John Jefkins who talked about British Home Children.

There was no Zoom recording of the meeting.



Our 50/50 winner, David Marion (right)



*Our speaker:
John Jefkins*



*Our greeters:
Judy Wallace
and Ginny
Johnson*



A Progressive Dinner Escarpment PROBUS Way!

by Kelly Ground & Ruth Gagnon, Convenors

Our evening started with our arrival at Casa Americo where we enjoyed our appetizer and the service did not disappoint. Thirty-five bodies then headed over to La Toscana where we enjoyed our entrée along with a lot of chatter. We finally trudged over to The Ivy and not just for dessert! We played “pick a prize” (for lack of a better word) where prizes were snatched from fellow Probians in a very kind (LOL) way! We then settled down for a game of “Never Have I Ever” where truly interesting facts were learned about each other amidst lots of laughing! All in all it was a great evening of food and being together!

Will there be another? Stay tuned ...



PUNS!

Contributed by Ron Millichamp

I've always wondered if chickens communicated using foul language. Maybe only when they're egg cited.

An invisible man married an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.

I didn't think the chiropractor would improve my posture. But I stand corrected.

I took my new girlfriend out on our first date to the ice rink, and entry was half price. She called me a cheap skate.

Studies show cows produce more milk when the farmer talks to them. It's a case of in one ear and out the udder.

I used to date a girl with one leg who worked at a brewery. She was in charge of the hops.

My cross-eyed wife and I just got a divorce. I found out she was seeing someone on the side.

Just A Minute To Win It!

by Kelly Ground, Convenor

The Probian spirit of competitiveness was never more evident than it was at Grace Anglican's for our Minute To Win It! event.

Eight teams of four battled for a total of twenty games, each lasting only one minute. They "fished", stacked pennies (yes, remember them), stacked and unstacked cups, made up words with sticks and rolled marbles to a sticky end!

Rules were creatively challenged, the randomly picked teams worked well together to a preset goal and as always laughed, all while meeting the challenge.

There were two teams of women, two teams of men and four mixed teams. Some were more driven than others but as for laughs and joviality it was pretty evenly matched.

Second and third place teams were decided by a tie breaker. In third place with 17 points was the team of Mary Cousins, Avril O'Reilly, Chris Strachan and Cliff Read. Second place with 18 points went to Anne McKay, Jacqui Gerard, Norma Capper and Lorrette Shermet. The winning, and VERY competitive, team with 31 points was Russ Cousins, Roy McKay, Ron Millichamp and Chris Watkiss.

As usual, Casa Americo welcomed us with a delicious three course meal. Special thanks to Ruth for her expert attention to detail to ensure the meal service went flawlessly as usual!



[More Photos >>>](#)



More Photos >>>

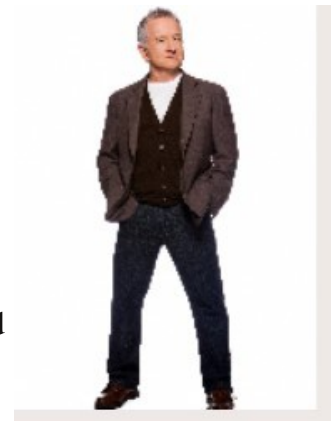
The Winnit Winners!



Review of Ron James – *Back Where I Belong*

By Paul Crawford, Correspondent

Ron James brought his quirky brand of truly Canadian humour to the First Ontario Arts Centre to the enjoyment of the nine Probus members who attended. His post-Covid take on our world is formed by his East Coast upbringing, his unique challenges dealing with ADHD, a prodigious vocabulary and a view to recognizing the truth in our world and commenting on it in a manner that makes us think as well as laugh. He covered topics as diverse as the Covid experience in nursing homes and how Mike Harris and his crew of investors made bundles of cash while the residents died, the price of food and how Galen Weston is reaping the rewards, aging with all its challenges, dating and relationships in your sixties, a hilarious bit about having a super healthy protein/kale shake that gave him the food poisoning when he was outside his condo and his efforts to get back with poop in his pants followed by a hospital visit and he ended with a visit to the Apple store to buy some new technology. It was easy to relate to his stories as they were described so beautifully that you could picture the scene. The descriptions of him dealing with his father were obviously done from a place of respect. His take on the Freedom Convoy in Ottawa and the warped thinking surrounding it got a great ovation from the crowd as it was both funny and truthful.



This was a very enjoyable evening and worthy of a repeat.

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.

Seniors in Pursuit of Trivia

by Martin Capper, Correspondent

Which people first named and lobbed incendiary devices called Molotov cocktails?

a) *Russian* b) *Finnish* c) *Polish* d) *Afghani*

Twenty-nine Escarpment Probians divided into 8 teams got together in Ned Devine's Emerald Lounge for this month's night of teasers conjured up by Kelly. The first slide said Trivia 19 - is it really 19 times that the dynamic duo of Ruth and Kelly have challenged our grey matter in this way?!

Team names ranged from the Briners (aka Winners) through Tete Carré (francophiles will get that one) to the Oddballs (no not their personalities - there were 5 of them). Despite Ron's protests we went with 3paddies&1frog!

Gotta take my hat off to Jim and Judy who are getting into their stride and have found teammates that they clicked with into 2nd place - I'm guessing there is a bit of practising going on in the Jones' house! The Millichamps and ourselves were squeezed out of 3rd place by the Oddballs. We blame it on reaction times and force of numbers! But none of us could catch the Crawfords/Jones/Dawe combination aka the Briners who stood tallest on the podium.

Once again we really have to thank Ruth and Kelly for a great evening's entertainment. The lengths those two go to for us ensures that everyone comes away a winner. Thank you Ladies for all you have done and still do for our Club. If you haven't been to one of these events you need to give it a go. Nowhere else will you get so much fun for a toonie! (in small print BYODD - buy your own dinner and drinks).



Drury Lane Music Hall

by Ron Millichamp, Convenor



It was a giggle, lots of fun, corny jokes, and the variety that are the hallmark of the old style British Music Halls and Vaudeville. The show featured songs, skits, and specialty numbers along with a modern twist with some current music, dance and comedy. A good time was had by all. We then proceeded to the Symposium in Milton for dinner. It was a full day.

The Music hall ...



The Symposium ...



Our strange language according to Lord Cromer
Contributed by Fred Ground

Lord Cromer (1841-1917) was a British statesman, with a quirky approach to the English language, and its challenges.

When the English tongue we speak,
Why is "break" not rhymed with "freak?"
Will you tell me why it's true
We say "sew" but likewise "few",
And the maker of a verse
Cannot rhyme his "horse" with "worse?"
"Beard" sounds not the same as "heard",
"Cord" is different from "word",

"Cow" is cow, but "low" is low.
"Shoe" is never rhymed with "foe".
Think of "hose" and "dose" and "lose"
And think of "goose" and then of "choose"
Think of "comb" and "tomb" and "bomb"
"Doll" and "roll" and "home" and "some"
And since "pay" is rhymed with "say"
Why not "paid" with "said", I pray
We have "blood" and "food" and "good",
"Mould" is not pronounced as "could"
Wherefore "done" but "gone" and "lone"
Is there any reason known?
And, in short, it seems to me,
Sounds and letters disagree.

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

SNL at Lone Star Texas Grill

by Beth Barnes, Correspondent



On Saturday, March 4th, I was one of eleven PROBUS Members who enjoyed lively conversation and delicious food at the Lone Star Texas Grill.

Our chosen beverages were varied from beer, wine and Sangrias to a “Mexican Bulldog” ordered by Marg Jones! To explain, it is a frozen lime Margarita with an upside-down small Corona beer topping it off. We ordered typical Mexican food from Nachos and Enchiladas and the amazing Fajitas ordered by our leader, Ruth Gagnon, who kindly shared her leftovers with our President, Russ Cousins!

Looking forward to our next Saturday Night LiveS dinner on April Fool’s Day!

Lunch Bunch Banter

by Joy Castello, Convenor



After last month’s meeting 24 PROBUS members went to Kelsey’s for lunch. It was pleasant to have a separate room for the group and we were impressed by the waiter’s friendly and efficient service. Many of us sampled the menu’s new lunch trios - delicious!

Our next Lunch Bunch get together will be on Wednesday, April 19th at Lone Star Texas Grill. The location is 1100 Steeles Ave E, in the Milton Crossroads plaza. The restaurant is a separate building near Michaels and Sport Chek. A private dining area has been reserved for us. [Click here to check out their menu.](#)



Funny oxymorons

Contributed by by fred ground

- Microsoft Works
- Government organization
- Temporary tax increase
- Twelve-ounce pound cake
- Express mail
- Marital bliss
- Airline food
- Peacekeeper missile
- Soup sandwich
- Civil war
- Bureaucratic efficiency
- Living dead

Bourbons for our tasting pleasure

by Chris Strachan, Convenor

Hello Probiants, the March 1st meeting of the D'Stillers was hosted by Ted and Barb Chliszczyk, but due to unforeseen circumstances, it was held at the home of Martin and Norma Capper.



Ted supplied 5 Bourbons for our tasting pleasure. They are all available at the LCBO with the exception of 'Bardstown Fusion Series #7' which is only available in the US.

They were rated as follows:

1 The winning bourbon of the evening with a score of 76.0 '**Wild Turkey Longbranch**' at a cost of \$62.0 and an Alcohol by Volume (ABV) of 43%.

2 Second of the evening '**Bardstown Fusion Series #7**' with a score of 73.0 at a cost of \$65 and an ABV of 49%.

3 Third was '**Angels Envy**' with a score of 70.3 at a cost of \$80 and an ABV of 43.3%.

4 Fourth was '**Woodford Reserve Double Oaked**' with a score of 69.8 and an ABV of 45.2%

5 Bringing up the rear was '**Elijah Craig Small Batch**' with a score of 65.2 at a cost of \$50 and an ABV of 47%

Thanks to Barb for hosting the DD's and for the nice cheeses and sweet treats at the end of the evening. Thanks once again to the DD's for getting us home safely and without whom these nights would not be possible.

The April 5th meeting of the D'Stillers will be hosted by Kathy Schmidt and Bill Willcocks.

The May meeting will be hosted by Chris and Anna Strachan. The format for the D'Stillers meetings will be changing with the start of our rotation in May. Maybe we will be able to elicit new members with our new format.



Remedy

Contributed by Fred Ground

The doctor received an emergency call from Murphy, who was in a bit of a panic and complaining about a fly in his ear.

The doctor suggested that he try an old home remedy.

"Just pour warm olive into your ear and lie down for a few minutes", the doctor said.

"When you lift your head, the fly should emerge with the liquid".

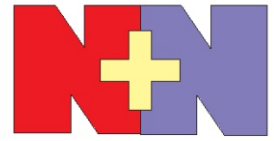
Murphy thought that sounded like a good idea, thanked the doctor, and hung up the phone.

A few minutes later, the doctor received another phone call from Murphy.

"Into which ear should I pour the oil?"

Lucky Leprechauns take on Old Man Winter!

by Jenny O'Brien, Convenor



The spirit of the Irish was alive and well with 20 brave leprechauns taking to the roads during the second of March's snow storms, to show off their greenery and partake in an Irish inspired evening.

All enjoyed a dinner of shepherd's pie (true Irish will tell you it was actually Cottage Pie :), bangers and beans, boiled corned beef, salads, veggie trays, fruit trays, chocolate croissant bread pudding, chocolate brownies with whiskey infused ganache, chocolate raspberry cake and pecan pie. The only thing better than the food was the conversation and camaraderie of those in attendance. Until next time fellow Noshers ... *Slainte!*



Irish lumberjack

Contributed by Fred Ground

Paddy got a job as a lumberjack, but try as he might, he could not meet his quota of fifty trees a day.

By chance, he saw an ad in a shop window for chainsaws "guaranteed to fell sixty trees a day".

So he bought one, but the best that he could manage

was forty trees a day.

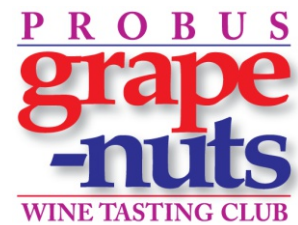
So he took it back to the shop and complained that there must be something wrong with it.

"Let me look at it", said the man in the shop, taking the chainsaw and switching it on.

"What's that noise?", said Paddy.

March wine tasting at The Crawford's

by Ellen Crawford, Correspondent



Since we have all been tasting wine for several years we decided to find out if we are now experts.

Our guests were asked to identify the grape varietal, the country, year, cost of each wine and write their own tasting notes.

After each group of three wines the participants were allowed to change their score. We revealed all of the wines at the end.



All white wines were Chardonnay of different countries and different prices. All red wines were Cabernet Sauvignon of different countries and prices.

Identifying the grape varietal seems to be improving. Many struggled with writing their own tasting notes, although one participant wrote excellent tasting notes.

The winning white wine was *Jacobs Creek* from Australia score 14.6

The winning red wine was *Stormy Bay* from South Africa score 13.3

On conclusion we are not experts yet...keep filling those glasses!

Cheers!



ABOUT GROWING OLDER...

Contributed by Fred Ground

First ~ Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Second ~ The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Third ~ Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me; I want people to know 'why' I look this way. I've traveled a long way, and some of the roads weren't paved.

Fourth ~ When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

Fifth ~ You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

Sixth ~ I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.

Seventh ~ One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it's such a nice change from being young.

Eighth ~ One must wait until evening to see how splendid the day has been.

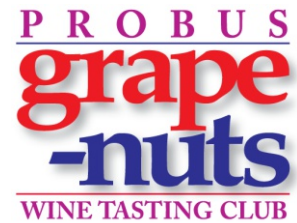
Ninth ~ Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable and relaxed.

Tenth ~ Long ago, when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. - Today it's called golf.

And, finally ~ If you don't learn to laugh at trouble, you won't have anything to laugh at when you're old.

Tasting at the Shermets

by Pete Shermet, Correspondent



During our prep I was surprised to learn that you could get white wines that were from the Cote Du Rhone Region as I have always associated this area with reds and one of my favourites Chateau Neuf du Pap.

Since Chateau Neuf du Pap was not within our budget we opted to taste 3 reasonably priced whites and three reds.

The whites were all dry with a sugar code of 2g/l

The first white was **21 Bila Haut Blanc Cotes Du Roussillon** which was a blend of Grenache Blanc , Grenache Gris and Macabeu. It was well received by most and scored 14.2 which was the winner of the whites and came in at cost of \$14.25.

The second white was **Chapoutier Belleruche CDR White AOC**. Many noted that this wine had a bit of an aftertaste and the tasting note said that there would be flavours of grapefruit, pear, honey red fruit and cantaloupe, it scored 13 at a price of \$14.95

The third white was **21 Cotes Du Rhone White (Cellier Des Dau)** and scored 12.75 and the price was \$15.95

The first red was **20 Cotes Du Rhone Nature Organic Red** sugar code of 2g/l. This is a Grenache Syrah blend from the Perrin Family and scored 14.3, It is priced at \$16.75

The second red was **18 Cairanne CDR Vil Creation**, sugar code 2g/l. The tasting notes said it was full bodied with firm tannins, flavourful fresh with a crisp finish, indicating that it would age well beyond 2024, the score was 14.4. It's list price was 21.95 but since it was discontinued and was \$3.00 off.



The third red was **20 Saint Esprit Cotes Du Rhone**, Sugar code of 3g/l. It is a blend of 40% grenache, 40% syrah, and 20% cinsault. This was the winning red with a score of 14.7 and was enjoyed by most of the group. It also scored high by one of the wine critics. It's retail price was \$19.95 but again since it was discontinued it was discounted as well.

Just an LCBO fact: discontinued products are usually discounted from 20-30% and they put a black sharpie line through the bar code.



Where is everybody?

by Peter Lasota, Correspondent



We had a beautiful warm and sunny day for our nosh. A few minutes before the appointed hour of 5:30, we were beginning to wonder what happened to our usual crowd who show up at PROBUS time (1/2 hour early)? Should we check the calendar? Did the recent time change mess with their internal clocks? We need not have worried, our noshers showed up almost exactly on time!

A somewhat smaller group of people than usual - only 17 were able to come - allowed us to mix more and get caught up with more of our friends. Our discussions varied from recent travels, recommendations from our veteran travellers, recent reads and activities.

There was an abundance of tasty food and it always amazes me that there is never any duplication given how often we exchange recipes.

Oh, and one of the advantages of being the host is that one can have a private wine tasting of the varied unrecognised vintages left behind!



Skipping to the Firehall

by Lorrette Shermet, Convenor

On March 16th = 26 Probians went to Keenans Irish Pub in Milton to celebrate St. Patrick's day. A fun time was had by all. A few dressed the part.

On Thursday April 20th Skip the Dishes will be skipping out of Milton. We will be heading to Oakville to "The Firehall" at 2390 Lakeshore Rd. W. There will be a menu to view on Wild Apricot but one does not have to order ahead of time.



Clubs: Books and Crafts

The Plot by Jean Hanff Korelitz

by Judy Nelson, Correspondent

At its March meeting The Sequel Book Club discussed the book titled ‘The Plot’ by Jean Hanff Korelitz.



A struggling author accepts a position teaching writing to aspiring authors. One of his students shares a story plot that would make an exceptional novel. Upon learning that the student has died without ever completing the novel, the teacher uses the plot to create a bestselling book. From here the suspense builds as the author is confronted with online accusations that he has stolen the plot. He sets out to discover the source of the accusations and this leads him on a journey that is filled with multiple twists and turns.

Without saying anything to spoil the adventure, this book is an excellent read. You will have trouble putting it down.

The consensus was that this was a well written suspenseful, thriller which dealt with an unsolved crime. It was a pleasure to read a novel that was unanimously enjoyed by our entire group.

The book has been made into an eight episode limited series on Hulu.

The Ridgerunner by Gil Adamson

by Cliff Read, Correspondent

This month the First Edition book club discussed the novel The Ridgerunner by Gil Adamson.



A modern Canadian western, the book is set in 1917 with the beautiful landscape of Banff in the background. The reader witnesses the impact of civilization on logging, the railway and tourism. World War One also has an effect on the characters we meet.

The major character is twelve year old Jack Boulton who has been raised in isolation. His mother has passed away and his father, an outlaw known as the Ridgerunner, has gone off leaving him in the care of Sister Beatrice. She is possessive and tries to change his basic character. Jack is bullied at school and is unhappy so he chooses to return to his isolated home and live alone. The story climaxes in a truly shocking plot twist.

Our reading group enjoyed this story overall, rating it an 8 out of 10.

Adamson is a gifted writer providing an episodic plot that is well written with memorable attention to detailed and descriptive passages.

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).

The Brilliant Life of Eudora Honeysett

Margaret Anne Fehr, Correspondent



Trilogy Book Club gathered to discuss our March selection *The Brilliant Life of Eudora Honeysett* by Annie Lyons at the home of Dawn Ross. Thanks to our convener, Dawn, for her hospitality and for providing us with our library kit books each month.

In this book, we meet 85 year old Eudora Honeysett, in good health and exhibiting a quirky sense of humour, but who nevertheless wants to end her life by assisted suicide at a Switzerland clinic. With no family or friends, Eudora is committed to ending her life on her own terms.

Through a number of flashbacks in the story, we learn that Eudora has experienced a series of unfortunate life events including sibling jealousy, an emotionally absent mother, loss of her father in the second World War, and disappointing romantic relationships that still haunt her.

But her life does take a significant change when she meets next-door neighbour, Rose, a highly spirited and friendly child who becomes Eudora's fashion consultant and introduces her to the joys of life as seen through ten-year-old eyes, as well as Stanley, a recently widowed senior neighbour, and they come together to form a companionable trio.

The book is filled with a lot of hot-button issues that are extremely timely, one being MAiD (Medical Assistance in Dying) that the Canadian government and medical consultants have been considering for some time. A sticking point for the legislation revolves around the ability of people with mental health conditions in choosing an end of life option as medical professionals feel that mental conditions are different from physical diseases that show no promise of a cure.

In the book, we are introduced to Hannah, a death doula, who dispenses her professional advice to seniors and we opined that this type of counselling is bound to become more common as our generation faces this inevitability. We all agreed that end of life and death should be discussed more openly and matter of factly in our culture.

We talked about improbable friendships like the one described between Eudora, her ten year old neighbour, Rose and her friend, Stanley, who continues to grieve for his wife and the life they shared. Intergenerational relationships can be a source of support for both parties and allow different perspectives to flower.

Trilogy members gave a rating of 10 for this selection except for two members who thought the structure of the novel wasn't that interesting, giving it a 7. But aside from that, the discussion was one of our most engaging, seeing how it addresses issues pertaining to this last stage of life. Definitely worth the read and squarely in the 'recommend' column.

Family Planning

Contributed by Fred Ground

Murphy went to the doctor for a physical exam and while he was there, he mentioned that he was thinking about getting a vasectomy. The doctor completed the examination and then commented to Murphy about his question.

"Having a vasectomy is a pretty big decision", the

doctor said. "have you talked it over with your family?"

"Aye", Murphy replied.

"And what did they think of the idea?" the doctor asked. Murphy said, "They are in favour of it, 15 to 2".

Totes and Blocks

by Diane Comstock, Convenor



On Tuesday, March 7, the PieceMakers gathered together at Judi James home for their monthly quilting meeting. There were lots of projects for show and tell, starting with Sandi who modelled a Jelly Roll tote made using a pattern from Missouri Star Quilting. She also showed us a colourful quilt that reminded us of stained glass. Judi J. showed us a Quilting Retreat tote she made a few years back. It had numerous inside pockets and is large enough to hold her rulers. She also completed five more teal/grey blocks. Louise had completed five more blocks using 1/2 square triangles. Soon she will have enough to make a sizeable quilt. She also showed us her T-Shirt quilt. Carol Ann had to bring her machine for service – she uses Triangle Sewing Centre located in Guelph. She brought two projects she had previously completed using the Lil' Twister tool. Diane showed a picture of her progress on her daughter's Temperature quilt – all 6 columns are now sewed together.

Carol Ann talked about how she does her applique using steam a seam (a type of fusible web) to attach the pieces to the foundation fabric and a blanket stitch to cover the raw edges.

Quilting Terms of the Month:

Fusible web – A paper-backed adhesive that can be ironed to the back of fabric that is then cut into shapes. These fused shapes are adhered to a background fabric by pressing them with a warm iron. Frequently used in appliqué projects.

Jelly Roll – A coordinated bundle of pre-cut fabric strips, which have become popular among quilters. You can get jelly rolls from many different fabric companies. They measure 2 1/2" x 44".

The next meeting is on April 4 at Judy Nelson's home. Sandi will demonstrate the accordion chain piecing technique to make 1/2 square triangles.

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



[More Photos >>>](#)



Spring Paper Wreaths

by Dana Weatherell, Convenor

Our March 1st meeting had four of us making Spring paper wreaths. Auriel, Sharon and myself managed to complete them. Lorrette was called away so will complete hers later. We once again greeted a *Chicks with Sticks* member, Leslie, who brought along some cross stitching to work on. *Chicks with Sticks* are more than welcome to join us each month while your meetings are on hold.

Our April meeting has us painting some daisies on canvas so lets see how we do with that! Of course members are welcome to bring whatever craft they want to work on. Craft on!



Craftaholics



Auriel's wreath in progress



Completed wreaths



Leslie's cross stitching

Hmmm ...

If lawyers are disbarred, and clergymen defrocked, does it not follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, or drycleaners depressed?

Laundry workers could decrease, eventually becoming depressed and depleted.

Even more, bed makers could be debunked, baseball players debased, landscapers deflowered, software engineers detested, underwear manufacturers debriefed, and even musical composers will eventually decompose.

And ...

There's no egg in eggplant, no pine or apple in pineapple.

Quicksand works slowly; boxing rings are square.

A writer writes, but do fingers fing?

Hammers don't ham, grocers don't groce.

Haberdashers don't haberdash.

English is cuh-ray-zee!

Clubs: Games & Cards

The Jokers were out in Full Force!

by Jenny O'Brien, Correspondent



It was a full house, inside and out at the March 8th Joker game, with parking being at a premium and seats at the table in equally hot demand. Most of the 24 players got in 3 games, but a few of the speedy tables were able to slip in a 4th game. The big winner of the day was Ted Chliszczyk, with 4 straight wins, including a nail biter final game that he won with his bride, Barb 2. Honourable mention goes to Paul Crawford, Stephen Comstock and Auriel Halliday, each with 3 solid wins. Welcome to Rick Pearen who joined us in training and promised to return. And, special thanks to Pete Shermet for the yummy lemon treats! Anyone looking to learn this fun board game is encouraged to join us, by contacting our convenor, Auriel Halliday. We play on the 2nd Thursday and 4th Wednesday of each month at Grace Church on Main Street.



Winners: Lorhel & Diane

by Diane Comstock, Correspondent

On February 28th, three High Rollers played *Farkle*. In the first game, Lorhel and Marg opened with 500 and 700 points respectively on their first try while it took Diane 6 rounds before she could open. The largest score was rolled by Marg - five 4's and a 1 totalling 2100 points. In the 16th round, Marg's score went over the 10000 mark giving Diane and Lorhel one more chance each to beat her score of 10050. Diane was not even close. Lorhel, however, rolled 1350 points to bring her score to 10100 - 50 points more than Marg. Lorhel had to leave so Diane and Marg played a second game. Diane was leading up to the 11th round, then Marg gained the upper hand. In the 23th round, Diane rolled a straight for 1500 points and added 600 more. She passed the score to Marg believing Marg would not be able



Continued >>>

to steal with only 1 die. Alas, Marg rolled a 5 bringing her score to 11650 and the win.

On March 14th, Marg, Beth, and Diane played two games of Yahtzee. In the first game, Beth achieved the upper section bonus while Diane and Marg missed out. Diane scored a Yahtzee (5 of a kind) gaining the lead to take the game 246 to 237 over Beth. In the second game, all three achieved the upper section bonus, but again Diane rolled a Yahtzee resulting in a score of 322 (thanks to very high 3 of a kind, 4 of a kind, and Chance scores) to win the game.

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

Bid Euchre Rocks the Basement at Grace Church

by Jenny O'Brien, Correspondent

It was an exuberant afternoon of Bid Euchre, with 16 players vying for the first ever "Kitty" collection.

It came right down to the last hand of the last game, for Jacqui Gerrard to eke out a win with 134 points on the day, toppling Jim Campbell's 133 score. But Jim stayed in the money with one successful "Call One Hand", along with Corinne Turnbull and Harold O'Brien. Joe Oatman's first time out round, also landed him in the money with most honourable player payout. If it seemed loud in the basement of the Church, it's because there was so much chatter and laughter at all the tables. Just another reason we're all glad to belong to this group. New players are always welcome to join by contacting our Bid Euchre convenor, Lorrette Shermet.



First Day of Spring Marks HOT Euchre Games at Grace Church

by Jenny O'Brien, Correspondent



Double the trouble, double the fun! That's what we got at the March Euchre Club, with both Harolds being big winners. Harold Grace took home the prize money for most Lone Hands leaving Harold O'Brien to collect the cash for high score. Not to be outdone, Judi Jones and Stephen Comstock arm wrestled to split a toonie for low scores of the day. With 7 full tables of fiercely competitive card players, it was a rambunctious crowd, but as always, it was good fun and tons of laughs. Special thanks to Paul Taylor for filling in as our 28th player. Mark your calendars now for Monday, April 17th for our next Euchre Club meeting. New players are welcome and can contact Lorette Shermet to be added to our distribution list.



You are not getting any of my Wood!

by Diane Comstock, Convenor

Sharon and Lorhel had two games of Sequence with Lorhel winning both games.

Beth, Dana, Danielle, Lorraine and Diane played Catan. It was slow going at first until people figured out some strategy. At one point, it was stated that if we were in Vegas, the dice would be changed as 7 was rolled multiple times in a row. People were



always trying to trade for wood, but Diane was not giving up any. Dana's strategy was to build the longest road to obtain 2 Victory Points, but alas, Diane was able to build roads and a settlement in the middle, thus breaking up her 6 road streak. Danielle's strategy of buying Distribution cards paid off as she was able to obtain the largest army worth 2 Victory Points along with 2 extra Victory Point cards. We stopped the game at 3:10 and declared Danielle the winner with 6 Victory Points.

Our game on April 5th will be Rummoli suggested by Sharon and Lorraine. Anyone interested in playing games, let me know and I will add you to the group.



Seven tables full of Jokers

by Anna Strachan, Correspondent

The March 22nd Joker game at Grace Anglican church was a roaring success. We had 7 tables or 28 people in attendance. The big winner of the afternoon was Ron Millichamp with all 4 wins and no losses. I don't recall anyone losing all their games most were three and one or two and two. See Ron surrounded by 'Jokers' rooting him on to his fourth win.



We all know Mark Twain (Samuel Langhorne Clemens) existed.

Contributed by Fred Ground

What we may not know is the breadth and scope of his wit. Here are some of his satiric and brilliant quotes for your reading pleasure:

Never argue with a fool: a bystander may not be able to tell the difference.

A lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes.

Politicians and diapers must be changed often, and for the same reason.

No amount of evidence will ever persuade an idiot.

Life is short: Break the rules. Forgive quickly. Kiss slowly. Love truly. Laugh uncontrollably And never regret ANYTHING that makes you smile.

I was educated once — it took me years to get over it.

Why waste your money looking up your family tree? Just go into politics and your opponent will do it for you.

Kindness is the language that the deaf can hear and the blind can see.

Never argue with stupid people, they will drag you down to their level and then beat you with experience.

Good decisions come from experience. Experience comes from making bad decisions.

When I was 17, my father was so stupid I didn't want to be seen with him in public. When I was 24, I was amazed at how much the old man had learned in just 7 years.

Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect.

Some people bring joy wherever they go, and some people bring joy whenever they go.

If you don't read the newspaper, you're uninformed. If you read the newspaper, you're mis-informed.

How easy it is to make people believe a lie, and [how] hard it is to undo that work again!

If voting made any difference they wouldn't let us do it.

If we were meant to talk more than listen, we would have two mouths and one ear.

The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened.

Clubs: Sports & Dance

Pin Seekers Golf

Roy MacKay, Convenor

While it is hard to believe, Spring is here 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!



Kick up your boots!

by Sandi Gilbert, Correspondent

It was a sunny and warm Friday afternoon when 25 women gathered at Grace Anglican Church for Line Dancing part 2 with our incredible teacher Tammy. There was laughter and lots of hooting as Tammy led us through two dances which we had learned last month - the Electric Slide and Good Morning. Everyone was up for fun, good music and lots of giggles as we kicked up our heels. Then she proceeded to give us some new challenges with new dances. Our heels were spinning and turning in all directions. Sometimes we kept up with the steps and other times we laughed at ourselves as we twisted and turned in the wrong directions. It was a terrific time of dancing and learning. Our new dances included the Two-Step and some Cha Cha Cha!. Everyone is excited to return for part 3 next month. — **YEEEE HAAAAW.**



Clubs: Classical Music & Travel

Our March Musical High-jinks

by Michael Hooker, Convenor



Our first Zoomer covered the piano music of the Polish composer and virtuoso pianist. Frederic Chopin (1810 to 1849). A child prodigy, he left Poland at the age of 20, and at 21, settled in Paris. Then in the last 18 years of his life, he gave only 30 public performances, preferring the more intimate atmosphere of the private salon. He supported himself by selling his compositions and by giving piano lessons, for which he was in high demand. For many years he maintained an often troubled relationship with the French writer Aurore Dupin (known by her pen name George Sand). He died in Paris in 1849 at the age of 39, probably of pericarditis aggravated by tuberculosis.

All of Chopin's compositions include the piano, mostly as a solo instrument. His major works include waltzes, ballades, scherzos, preludes, and sonatas. His works remain very popular, and he has been the subject of numerous films and biographies of varying historical fidelity. Here's a YouTube tickler, Chopin's Mazurka Op 68, No 2, played by Artur Schnabel (3 minutes). [Click here for YouTube Video.](#)

For a change of musical subject, our Zoomer No 2 was "Music Written for Ballets":

- Tchaikovsky: "Sleeping Beauty" ballet suite, the last of his three gorgeous ballets, the other two being "Swan Lake" and "The Nutcracker" (both of which we listened to in a previous program). It was premiered in St. Petersburg in 1890, and with the other two, continues to make up a substantial part of today's ballet repertoire.
- The American composer Aaron Copland's music for the ballet "Rodeo". Copland was commissioned by the choreographer Agnes de Mille to write the music, which incorporates melodies from some American folk tunes, like "Bonaparte's Retreat", and "I ride an old paint". As one of the earliest examples of a truly American ballet, Rodeo combined the exuberance of a Broadway musical with the disciplines of classical ballet. The cast dressed in stylized western garb, making it challenging to execute many of the dance moves. At its premiere at New York's Metropolitan Opera House in October 1942, it received 22 curtain calls!
- Igor Stravinsky's complete music for the ballet "Petrouchka", premiered in Paris in 1911 for Sergei Diaghilev's Ballet Russes company. It tells a story, set at St Petersburg's Shrovetide Fair (with all the row and ruckus you expect) of a Magician and his three life-sized stuffed puppets – The Ballerina, Petrushka (who loves her), and the Moor (who is the one the Ballerina is after). To the crowd's amazement, the Magician brings them to life to dance for them. Back in the tent the three puppets act out their story of love and jealousy, which ends with the Moor chasing Petrushka outside and killing him – in front of the crowd of people, who are shocked - till the Magician shows them that Petrushka and the Moor are only stuffed dolls! But then as night falls, the ghost of Petrushka appears above the tent with a final cry of angry defiance. Stravinsky's music is great, easy to listen to, capturing the spirit of the story as it is danced on the stage.

Here's a four-minute video from Aaron Copland's "Rodeo", the final section "Hoedown", with the composer conducting. [Click here for YouTube Video.](#)

Wandering in Scandinavia

by Gloria Pennycook, Convenor



Our last Wanderlust gathering took us to Scandinavia with a presentation by Gloria Pennycook & Bob Findlay. Our first “post COVID” trip that had been planned for almost 2 years was in May/June 2022 to Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland. We experienced the early days of travel with very crowded airports, bags piled high, long line-ups, lost bags, delayed flights and COVID! But we did have a wonderful trip despite these challenges. Our trip started in the wonderful city of Copenhagen, home of the Little Mermaid, Tivoli, Christainia and colourful neighbourhoods along canals. We flew to Bergen where we met our ship, the Hurtigruten, that travels as far as Kirkenes on the Russia border. We left the ship in Tromso which is 70 degrees N, north of the Arctic Circle. We were pleasantly surprised to see the green vegetation, sunshine and 18 degree temperatures (warmer than Toronto that day!). We were dazzled by fjords, mountains, turquoise water and the midnight sun. Continuing on our journey, we travelled by train from Bergen to Oslo through a very high altitude pass. We loved Oslo’s architecture (Opera House with roof that you can walk on) and surrounding countryside with lakes, mountains and ski jumps. The food tour in Stockholm allowed us to taste a wide variety of local food, sweets and even wine. The Vasa Museum was amazing with the full size ship that had sunk in 1638 after 20 minutes into it’s maiden voyage, almost fully restored! The over night ferry to Helsinki was a real surprise as the ship was like a cruise ship, very fancy. Our last stop on the 3 week trip was Helsinki, Finland, the happiest country in the world! Even though, Scandinavians experience long, dark winter days, they have figured out how to enjoy life. They spend any free time that they have outside in nature. We can learn something from them!! We hope the folks that are going on the PROBUS trip this year will enjoy it as much as we did!!

Our next journey will be to Ecuador and Galapagos with Joanne and Ron Millichamp on May 11. If you are interested in joining Wanderlust, please let me know.



Nyhavn, Copenhagen

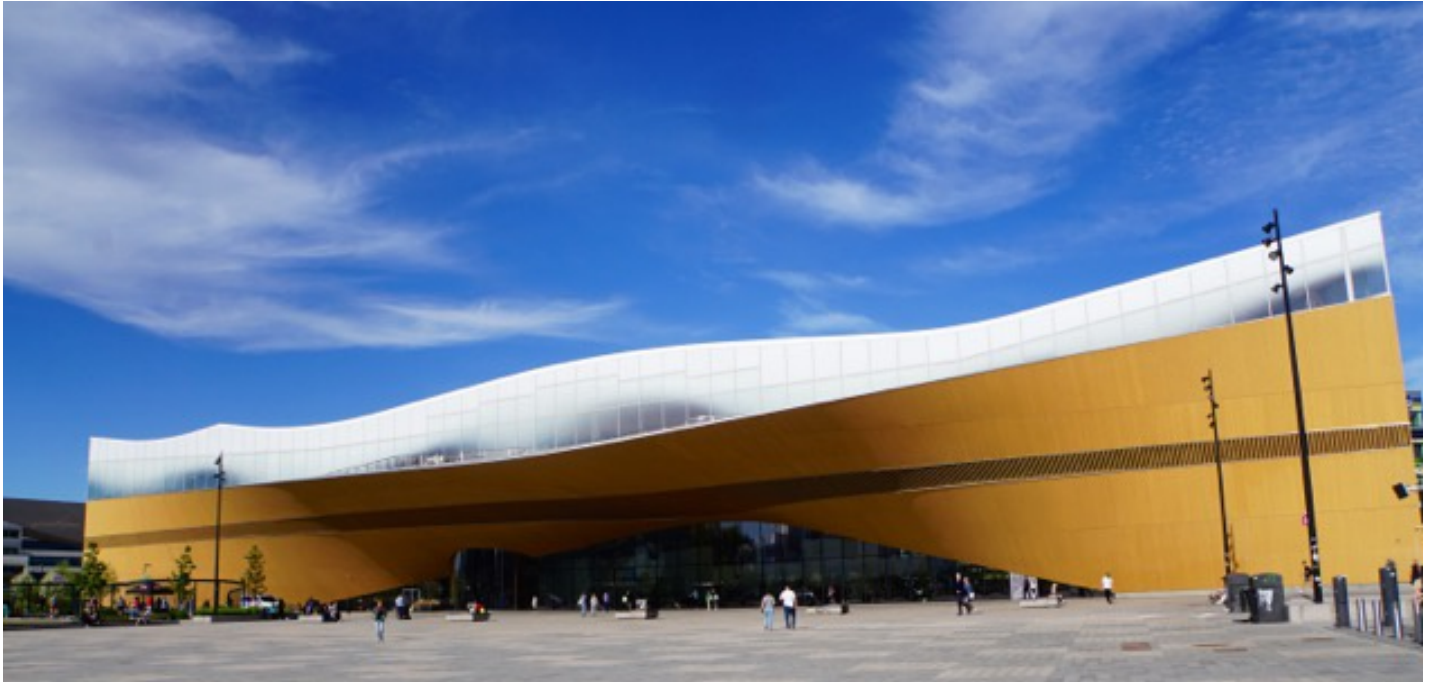


Hurtigruten heading N to Kirkenes



View from Ship

[More Photos >>>](#)



Library, Helsinki



Hiked up mountain to get a view of Alesund



Tromsø at midnight



Hike near Oslo



Vasa Museum, Stockholm

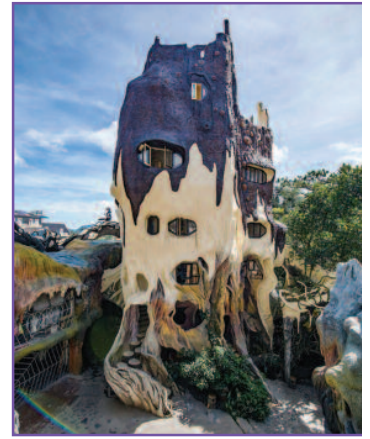
Buildings of the strangest kind on our world

By Alan Jordan - Occasional Correspondent

Yes, I did one of these pages many years ago. These are all new.

The world is chock full of wonderfully weird and unbelievably beautiful architecture. Oh, and if you thought this was it, then hold on to your hats. Are you ready to have your imaginations expanded, don't blame me if you end up daydreaming about the perfect home all day.

Out of a reckless bravado, a wish to impress no matter what, a client dictating the rules even if they make little sense, developers getting off the leash, a world lacking taste, absurd architecture is not going anywhere. It's basically a collection of what it sounds like, weird-looking structures that make you question everything you know about function, common sense and aesthetics.



Hang Nga's "Crazy House" in Dalat, Vietnam



The Dunmore Pineapple in Dunmore Park, Scotland



Poseidon's Horse, an abandoned former Library on the beach of Peloponnese, Greece



Still Standing in Canterbury, UK



Inntel Hotels Amsterdam Zaandam



Hallgrímskirkja: Lutheran Church in Reykjavik, Iceland. Commissioned in 1937.



Seminole Hard Rock Hotel, Florida - USA.



Container House in the Desert - USA



Grand Lisboa Hotel, China

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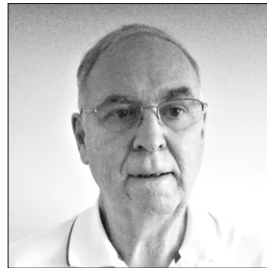
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