

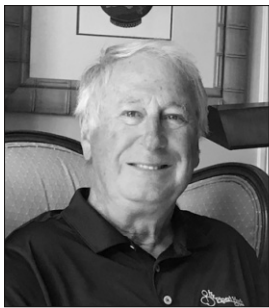
# FORUM

Volume 11 - Issue 05 - May 2023



## President's Message:

### Hello to all



We are all looking forward to the warmer weather to enjoy all the outdoor activities that have been planned for the upcoming month.

The Prom, the car rally, the hikes will be enjoyed this month. That is of course if you have time after the Noshes, the wine tastings, the card dates.

Kevin Donovan delivered a powerful talk about the Sherman Billionaire murders. This month Colin Best, Councillor for Ward 1 in Milton, will talk to us about what's new in Milton.

And please do not forget to volunteer for one of the vacant Management positions on the Escarpment PROBUS team.

Be safe, be well, be happy.

— Russ Cousins

### Contents:

Activities.....	3
May Calendar.....	5
May Meeting.....	6
Recent Events.....	6
Social Clubs.....	10
News and Views.....	24
Management Page.....	25

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

# Photo of the Month

This month's photo was contributed by *David Marion*. It nicely captures the season.

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



# ACTIVITIES

## May Day, Play Day!

by Ruth Gagnon, Activities Chair

Check out the exciting activities we have coming up over the summer months! Don't forget to check out the article content below and see what activities you have been missing out on!

Thank you to Evelyn Lim for writing the article on our Spring Planters we did at Crawfords Garden Centre. Also to Simone Serra for capturing our Kahoot Trivia. We have one more – on June 1st – and that will be it until September.

On a brief Social Club note, I'm sending along a shout out to Wayne Heath for writing the article for our SNL at Portabello's. Martin, the food was great!! We will be going to The Ivy on May 6th so come on and join us. Anna Strachan will be your host for the evening. Finally, a thank you to Suzanne Herder for writing about the cowgirls shaking it off at Line Dancing! See you on May 26th!

Activities Committee  
Members:  
Ruth Gagnon  
Kelly Ground  
Ron Millichamp  
Jenny O'Brien

## MAY ACTIVITIES:

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.



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

*Continued >>>>*

40 Benjamin Road East in Waterloo.

Lunch reservations have been made at Harvest Moon Restaurant located at 4 Parkside Drive in St. Jacobs for 11:30 am. Please use Wild Apricot to register your interest in both show and lunch or show only.

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## JUNE ACTIVITIES:

**NEW!** Kahoot's Trivia Live – Thursday, June 1st at 5 pm

Convenor: Kelly Ground

**This is going to be our last Kahoot Trivia until September.** Kelly needs time to prepare more trivia (not)! As usual, we will meet at Ned Devine's for a couple of rounds of Kahoot Trivia and dinner! ***Cellphones or iPads are needed!***

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 [click here for Ned Devine's menu.](#)

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**NEW!** Second Play Day – Thursday, June 15th at 2:00 pm

Convenors: Kelly Ground & Ruth Gagnon

It's time for our second "play day"! Come on out and meet us at Rotary Park for a variety of games that will test your skills. Let's do some axe throwing, ladder golf games, yardzee, mini-putt, bean bag and more! Get yourself into a team of two and let the competition begin! This event is limited to 32 members.

After we've "played" we will head over to Casa Americo for dinner at a preset dinner at 5 pm. Please register using Wild Apricot and select your dinner choice. Dinner and drinks is at your own expense. The cost of the preset dinner is \$42 plus HST and gratuities (and of course, your drinks) which you will pay directly to the restaurant.

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**NEW!** Mini Putt – Thursday, June 22nd at 11 am

Convenor: Kelly Ground

Are you ready to swing? Come on out for a fun morning of "Within Range" mini putt at 3050 Guelph Line (Dundas and Guelph Line). Following mini putt we will head to ***Beertown Public House*** located at 2050 Appleby Line in Burlington. The cost for the mini putt is \$10.50. Lunch is at your own expense.

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# MAY CALENDAR

EVENT	DATE		TIME	LOCATION	CONVENOR
<b>Activities</b>					
Executive Meeting	May	10	7:00 PM	Zoom	Russ Cousins
<b>Escarpment PROBUS monthly meeting</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Connect Centre</b>	<b>Russ Cousins</b>
<b>The Lunch Bunch</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>EddieO's Pourhouse</b>	<b>Joy Castello</b>
Car Rally Scavenger Hunt	May	25	2:00 PM	GO Station Parking	K. Ground & R. Gagnon
The Prom	May	31	2:00 PM	St. Jacobs Playhouse	Jenny O'Brien
<b>Clubs</b>					
Probus Info Exchange - PIE	Online only				Cliff Read
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	May	1	7:00 PM	TBD	Martin Capper
Trail Walkers	May	2	1:30 PM	Various	Cliff Read
Crafts - Quilting - <i>Piece Makers</i>	May	2	1:00 PM	Windsor Home	Diane Comstock
Crafts - <i>Craftoholics</i>	May	3	1:00 PM	Grace Church Hall	Dana Weatherell
Tastings - Whisky - <i>D'Stillers</i>	May	3	7:00 PM	Stachan Home	Chris Strachan
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	May	4	7:00 PM	TBD	Martin Capper
Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>	May	4	2:00 PM	Zoom	Michael Hooker
Cards - Bridge	May	4	1:15 PM	Grace Church Hall	Chris Lloyd
Dining - Saturday Night Lives	May	6	5:00 PM	TBD	Ruth Gagnon
Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>	May	8	7:00 PM	Capper Home *	Martin Capper
Books – Trilogy	May	8	10:00 AM	TBD	Dawn Ross
Books – First Edition	May	8	1:00 PM	Grace Church Hall	Paul Crawford
Games - High Rollers (Yahtzee)	May	9	1:00 PM	Zoom	Diane Comstock
Movies - Oscar Nights	May	9	7:00 PM	Milton Cineplex	Petra Halk
Trail Walkers	May	9	1:30 PM	Various	Cliff Read
Cards - Cribbage - <i>Card Sharps</i>	May	9	2:00 PM	Capper Home *	Martin Capper
Tastings - Wine - Grapenuts	May	10	7:00 PM	TBD	Martin Capper
Books – Sequel	May	10	1:15 PM	Millichamp Home	Carolyn Rumley
Games - Bee-Gees	May	10	1:00 PM	Grace Church Hall	Diane Comstock
Pin Seekers	May	10	11:00 AM	Oakville Executive	Roy MacKay
Games - Jokers	May	11	1:30 PM	Grace Church Hall	Auriel Halliday
Nosh & Natter	May	12	5:30 PM	TBD	Jenny O'Brien
Cards - Euchre	May	15	1:15 PM	Grace Church Hall	Lorette Shermet
Trail Walkers	May	16	1:30 PM	Various	Cliff Read
Cards - Bid Euchre	May	18	1:15 PM	Grace Church Hall	Lorette Shermet
Crafts - Knitting - <i>Chicks with Sticks</i>	May	18	10:30 AM	<b>HIATUS</b>	Christine Willekes
Dining - <i>Skip the Dishes</i>	May	18	6:00 PM	Marciano's Pasta House	Lorette Shermet
Classical Music - <i>Mozart and Friends</i>	May	18	2:00 PM	Zoom	Michael Hooker
Cards -Canasta	May	22	1:15 PM	Grace Church Hall	Lorette Shermet
Games - High Rollers (Farkle)	May	23	1:00 PM	Zoom	Diane Comstock
Trail Walkers	May	23	1:30 PM	Various	Cliff Read
Friendship Club	May	24	10:00 AM	Seasons Retirement	Judy Krauss
Games - Jokers	May	24	1:30 PM	Grace Church Hall	Auriel Halliday
Pin Seekers	May	24	11:00 AM	Oakville Executive	Roy MacKay
Tastings - Beer - <i>Suds and Buds</i>	May	25	7:00 PM	<b>CANCELLED</b>	<b>Looking for new convenor</b>
Nosh @ Nite	May	26	5:30 PM	Pennycook/Findlay Home	Paul Crawford
Line Dacing with Tammy	May	26	12:30 PM	Grace Church Bsmt	Ruth Gagnon
Dining - Appy Hour	May	27	6:30 PM	TBD	Mary Cousins
Trail Walkers	May	30	1:30 PM	Various	Cliff Read
Sports Club	May	TBD	1:30 PM	TBD	Garry Flemming

# MEETING: MAY



## Colin Best - "What's New in Milton"

Colin Best is presently Councillor for Ward 1 in Milton and has served in Municipal and Regional politics since 1980. Colin has been involved with a number of Organizations including Milton Jaycees, Rotary Club and Milton Chamber of Commerce. He has been Chair of Milton Budget Committee and he is also a Member of several Halton Regional Committees. He will be speaking to us on "What's New in Milton", focusing on present developments in Milton and future vision for Milton.

# RECENT EVENTS

## APRIL General Meeting

Our general meeting was held on Wednesday March 19th. Our speaker was **Kevin Donovan** who talked about *The Billionaire Murders*.

[Click here to see the video recording of the meeting.](#)

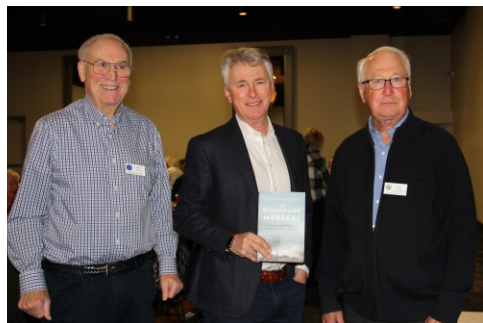
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*Our speaker  
Kevin Donovan*



*Our 50/50 winner -  
Karen Pritchard*



*Our greeters -  
Nancy and  
Richard Lee*



## Spring Planting at Crawfords Garden Centre

by Evelyn Lin, Correspondent

It was a sunny morning happily spent at Crawfords Garden Centre. A group of ladies showed off their talents to arrange the flowers of late winter and early spring! Our tables – or that of a lucky person – looked beautiful with the flowers we arranged. Check out our pictures!



**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.

# We Discovered Wine

*Ruth Gagnon, Activities Chair*

It was a very warm evening, but a most enjoyable one! Our Sommelier, Oliver, took us through a discovery of old world wines to new world wines. There were numerous compliments on the wines and Oliver's presentation, the beautiful premises including enjoying the outdoor space – thanks again Theresa Spano for organizing that – and the individual charcuteries and the overall experience.

I think Paul captured it best with his recap:

“What makes a wine serious? Is a question that you may not have considered. It may be for you that any wine you are drinking is something you are serious about finishing but that would not be correct. You may think that seriously you need more wine to be able to put up with a dull meal, but this too is incorrect. For a wine to be serious when you taste it you get different sensations from the first sip, to the roll on your tongue and then another taste on the swallow. It is not just one simple taste that you stay with from the beginning. It is like the people we meet at PROBUS who you may bump into at an event and get an initial impression but over time and other interactions you realize that you are meeting an interesting person. There are lots of interesting people in PROBUS and lots of serious wine to be enjoyed.”

The wines we enjoyed were: Two Pinot Grigios – Tavernello and Pelle Island, Yalumba Viognier, Cono Sur Viognier and finally Oggie Botter Primitivo and Smoking Loon Zinfandal which interestingly does not have a 'date' on the bottles. The cost of each wine ranged from \$10.95 and \$16.00 bearing in mind that the LCBO has been having fun with pricing fluctuations in recent months (and I'm sure it will continue)!

And yes, I actually did try the red!

Paul, thank you for your write up and to those of you who shared comments (and compliments with me). I also need to recognize Debbie Ceelan who helped me pour the wine – thanks for pitching in – and to Simone Serra and Debbie Ceelan who captured pictures throughout the evening. Also for the help with bringing extra chairs and card tables and everyone who helped with the cleanup. Thank you all – so appreciated!

It was a great evening!





# A Devine Night of Trivia

by Simone Serra, Correspondent

Which creature can travel of speeds of over 200mph?

a) *Peregrine falcon* b) *Wildebeest* c) *Wart hog* d) *Cheetah*

On Thursday, April 27, trivia buffs gathered at Ned Devine's for another exhilarating Kahoot Trivia Night. In between two exciting rounds, the room was abuzz with laughter and smiles as 33 PROBUS members chatted over drinks and dinner. But, when the countdown began, an electric hush came across the room! With lightening speed, 8 teams battled for first place. They answered 200 questions over the course of the night. The competition was stiff! Even a few seconds of hesitation cost you your spot on the leaderboard.

The top place on the podium went to first time winners Anna and Chris Strachan with Barb Finnie and Fred Ground with 159 questions answered correctly and 146,613 points. In close second was Ron and Joanne Millichamp with Martin and Norma Capper. They answered 152 questions correctly and had 143,675 points.

Third place went to Paul and Ellen Crawford, Marg Jones and Frank Dawe with a score of 142,384 points and 151 questions answered correctly.



The surprise of the night was that the prize usually given to the winning team, was randomly awarded to give every team a chance to be a winner. Great idea Kelly & Ruth! Congrats to Jacqui Gerrard, Stephanie Hamnett, Gloria Pennycook and Bob Findlay!

A big thank you goes out to Ruth and Kelly for organizing such a fabulous night! It is not lost on all of us that you work hard to make the magic happen.

Join us for the next Kahoot Trivia Night on Thursday, June 1. It will be the last Kahoot until the fall. Don't miss the fun!



# 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.

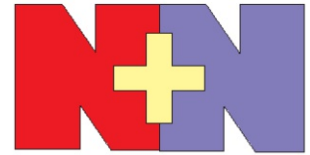
Remember: Under the Escarpment PROBUS Bylaws Article 2 – Membership – Members must not use other member's email addresses for their own personal use such as fundraising.

# Clubs: Food and Drink

## First outdoor meetup of the year

by Michelle Tschirhart, Correspondent

Twenty probians joined the Tschirharts to enjoy what may be the first outdoor event of the year as the weather totally cooperated. We raised our voices to wish Megs a Happy Birthday. All in all, good food, good people and good fun.



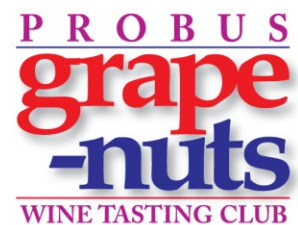
## Wine tasting with Theresa and Dawn

by Dawn Ross, Correspondent

Fellow wine tasters gathered on April 3, 2023, at Dawn's home for a fun night of conversation and of course Wine Tasting.

We tried to match the tasting notes to the wine we sampled. Maggie Boss did very well in matching them up.

Two of our white wines were Sauvignon Blanc and one was Torrontes. They were all from different countries. Our winning white was Susana Balbo Crios Torrontes from Argentina with a score of 15.1 The tasting notes were floral and fruity with apple blossom, peach, honey, pear, and honeydew melon.



In the red wines, two were Cabernet Sauvignon and the other was a Cabernet/Merlot blend. They were all from different countries. The winning red wine was Santa Rita 120 Reserva Especial Cabernet Sauvignon from Chile with a score of 14.75 The tasting notes were coffee, caccis, licorice and smoke.



# SNL at Portabello's Italian Bistro

by Wayne Heath, Correspondent

On Saturday, April 1st, 20 Probian "fools" gathered at Portabello's for a wonderful evening of conversation, good food and of course a variety of beverages. For some of us, it had been some time since we had been to Portabello's, and I think, none of us were disappointed.



We sat at two tables of 10 people, one a mix of couples and singles and the other, your correspondent and 9 lovely ladies (a thorn among the roses?). The fare was a nice variety of Italian starters, pizzas, pastas, and meat dishes, all nicely presented and enjoyed by all. Like most restaurants these days, "big food", resulting in many take-home containers, to enjoy another day!



# May Lunch Bunch at EddieO's PourHouse & Kitchen

by Joy Castello, Convenor



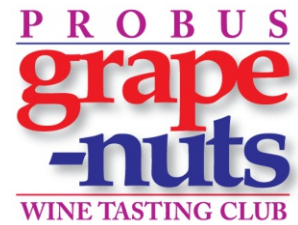
After April's meeting 25 Probus members went to Lone Star Texas Grill for lunch. It was great to have our own room and the wait staff were pleasant and friendly. The kitchen staff were busy so it took awhile for all of us to get our meals but the food was delicious and served hot.

On Wednesday, May 17th the Lunch Bunch will go to EddieO's PourHouse. The address is 370 Main Street E. #1 at the corner of Main and Prince Street. The parking lot is behind the restaurant on Prince Street. Please note that EddieO's doesn't open until noon. [Click here to check out the menu.](#)



# April 6th Wine Tasting with the Strachan's

by Anna Strachan, Correspondent



Ten lovely wine connoisseurs joined us for our April wine tasting. Since we have all been drinking and sampling wine for quite some time now, we decided to challenge our guests to identify the country the wine came from. We selected white and red wines from three countries and asked our ten wine connoisseurs to identify the country.

Well, it ended up being a bit of a disaster, but I found it quite fun as we drank the wine and tried to determine where it came from. It so happened that there were no winners; in fact, some correct scores ended up being changed, so they all ended up wrong, OK, maybe the odd one was correct.

In drinking order, the wines were from Italy, New Zealand, and France.

The winning Red with a score of 15.33 was *Gerard Bertrand Pollinat Syrah* from FRANCE - \$19.95

The winning White with a score of 13.79 was *Sistina Pecorino Terre Di Chieti IGT* from ITALY- \$15.95

The other wines are listed in rank order:

With a score of 13.83 *Niro di Citra Montepulciano d'Abruzzo* from ITALY at a price of \$17.95

With a score of 13.42 *Stoneleigh Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc* from NEW ZEALAND at a price of \$16.95 we saved \$2 on this one.

With a score of 13.13 *Chapoutier \ Belleruche CdRhône White AOC* from FRANCE with a price of \$17.95

With a score of 11.58 *Stoneleigh Marlborough Pinot Noir* from NEW ZEALAND at a price of \$17.60. We saved \$4.35 on this wine, it appears the price was too good to be true as it scored poorly.



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](mailto:lorrette@sympatico.ca) or 905-878-1293).

# A \$278 Whiskey!

by Chris Strachan, Convenor



Hello Probian, the April 5th meeting of the D'Stillers was hosted by Bill Willcocks and Kathy Schmidt. Bill supplied the following Whiskies for our tasting pleasure, one Irish and four Scotch. They were rated as follows:

The winning Whisky of the evening was **'Islay Mist Scotch'** with a score of 76.9 at a cost of \$34.95 (on sale for \$31.95) with an Alcohol by Volume (ABV) of 40%. This Scotch is a blend of Laphroaig and Speyside malts and grains.

Second of the evening **'Macallan 15yr Single Malt Scotch'** with a score of 74.7 at a cost of \$278.00 and an ABV of 43%. Yes folks you read this correctly the price was \$278.00. Bill was given this whisky as a gift. We thought it was very generous of Bill to share it with us.

Third was **'Yellow Spot 12 Yr Old'** with a score of 73.2 at a cost of \$130 and an ABV of 46%. This is an Irish Pot-Still whiskey matured in three types of oak casks.

Fourth was **'Mortlach 12 Yr. Old Single Malt Scotch'** at a cost of \$104.95, with a score of 72.9 and an ABV of 43.4%. Mortlach is a little-known distillery that holds cult status among connoisseurs.

Last but not least was **'Clynelish 14 Yr Old Single Malt Scotch'** with a score of 71.4 at a cost of \$104.95 and an ABV of 45.94%.

As you can see the least expensive whisky ended up a winner, it's all a matter of taste.

Thanks to Kathy for supplying the goodies and hosting the (Designated Drivers) DD's and thanks to the DD's for the safe ride home. It just so happened that it was Anna's birthday that day so Kathy surprised her with a Birthday Cake, which made for a lovely dessert at the end of the evening.

The May 3rd meeting will be held at the home of Chris and Anna Strachan. The format for the D'Stillers meetings will be changing with the start of our rotation.

The June 7th meeting will be held at the home of Pete and Lorrette Shermet.



# Skipping to Marciano's Pasta House in May

by Lorraine Shermet, Convenor

In the month of April, Skip the Dishes skipped right out of Milton to Oakville. Twenty Seven Probians had a great meal at "The FireHall" and spent the evening enjoying each others company. A misunderstanding in the choice of menu was enjoyed by most.



For this month we will once again skip out of Milton and head west to Waterdown. Our choice of restaurant is Marciano's Pasta House located at 5 Mill street South, Waterdown. We will be dining there on Thursday May 18th at 6 p.m. The menu will be on wild apricot. The cost will be \$35 per person before tax and gratuity. It will include an appetizer, choice of salad and an entrée.

If you would like to join us and are not on Wild Apricot let Lorraine know and she will add you.



Someone out there must be "deadly" at Scrabble.

PRESBYTERIAN: When you rearrange the letters:  
BEST IN PRAYER.

ASTRONOMER: When you rearrange the letters:  
MOON STARER

THE EYES: When you rearrange the letters:  
THEY SEE

GEORGE BUSH: When you rearrange the letters:  
HE BUGS GORE

THE MORSE CODE: When you rearrange the letters:  
HERE COME DOTS

DORMITORY: When you rearrange the letters:  
DIRTY ROOM

SLOT MACHINES: When you rearrange the letters:  
CASH LOST IN ME

ANIMOSITY: When you rearrange the letters:  
IS NO AMITY

ELECTION RESULTS: When you rearrange the letters:  
LIES - LET'S RECOUNT

# Clubs: Games and Cards

## Jokers is a fun marble game

By Barb Chliszczyk

On April 13th, there were 7 full tables, plus one person who graciously was a “floater” and filled in when one person had to leave early. Some games ended quicker than others and those players enjoyed 4 games while the others only had time for 3 games. The big winners were Doreen Chester, Avril O'Reilly, and Corinne Turnbull with 3 wins each.



Joker is a fun marble game with skill, strategy, and lots of luck with the cards. Joker is played the 2nd Thursday of the month at 1:30 and the 4th Wednesday at 1:00 at Grace Anglican Church. A \$2.00 donation per person is collected for using the church.

Anyone wishing to learn, can contact Auriel Halliday to come and watch for a mini training session.



### Irish dog

Contributed by Fred Ground

Muldoon lived in the Irish countryside with only a pet dog for company. One day the dog died, and Muldoon went to the parish priest, and asked

"Father, my dog is dead. Could you be sayin' a mass for the poor creature?"

Father Patrick replied "I'm afraid not. We cannot have services for an animal in the church. But there are some Baptists down the lane, and there's no tellin' what they believe. Maybe they'll do something for the creature".

Muldoon says "I'll go and see them right away, Father. Do you think that E5,000 is enough to donate

to them for the service?"

Father Patrick exclaimed "Sweet Mary and Joseph. Why didn't you tell me that the dog was Catholic?"

Seamus went on a safari with his wife and mother-in-law. One morning, his wife awakes to find her mother missing. In a worried state, she wakens Seamus and they both looking for her. Suddenly they come to a clearing, where they find the mother-in-law standing face to face with a ferocious lion.

"Quick, darling, do something!" screams the wife.

"Oh, no, no" says Seamus. "The lion got himself into this mess. He can get himself out!"



## Winners: Diane and Beth

by Diane Comstock, Correspondent



On March 28th, four High Rollers played *Farkle*. Diane's first roll was 4 3s and a 5 to score 1050 points. Not to be outdone, Jean rolled 2 1s, 2 5s, and 2 4s giving her a score of 1500 points. On her second turn, Diane rolled 4 4s and a 1 totalling 1100 points. Unfortunately, Jean did not roll a 1 or a 5 so could not capitalize on the 1100 points. Beth and Lorhel both opened in the second round, and the game progressed without incident until the 15th round, when Lorhel took the lead with a Four of a Kind with a Pair (1500 points) and then 4 3s and a 5 (1050 points). In the 19th round, her score was an even 10000, giving the other players one turn to beat her score. Diane managed to roll a straight (1500 points) followed by an additional 250 points to give her a final score of 11650.

On April 11, Lorhel, Beth, and Diane played a game of *Yahtzee*. Beth and Diane achieved the upper section bonus while Lorhel narrowly missed out. Beth scored a Yahtzee (5 of a kind) and even though she had to zero out her 4 of a kind, she won the game with 255 points. Diane and Lorhel both had to zero out their Yahtzee and ended up tied for 2nd place with a score of 217.

On April 25th, five High Rollers played *Farkle*. Jean's first roll was a straight giving her 1500 points. Lorhel had a slow start only opening in the 4th round. Diane's dice were hot, with several 1000+ scores. In the ninth round, Jean started a spree by rolled 1300 points. Marg was able to capitalize by adding another 100 points. Beth added 250 points, Lorhel added 700 points, and Diane added 150. Alas, Jean did not roll a 1 or a 5 and farkled. The game ended in the 12th round when Diane took 1100 points from Lorhel and added another 100 for a final score of 10250.

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

## Rummoli

by Diane Comstock, Convenor



Rummoli is a Canadian board game, first marketed in 1940 by the Copp Clark Publishing Company of Toronto. It was fun to play then and still is fun to play today. Six BeeGees gathered around a handmade Rummoli cloth board provided by Dana to ante up, bid, lay down cards, and collect pots. We all started with the same number of chips, but during the game, members 'borrowed' chips from the others in order to stay in the game. In the end, after counting the chips in front of her and adding the 'loans' she collected, Danielle was the big winner.

Our game on May 10th will be Code Names suggested by Marg. This will be a new game played by the BeeGees. Anyone interested in playing games, let me know and I will add you to the group.



# Card Games Photo Gallery

## *Euchre*



## *Canasta*



## *Thursday Bridge*



## More musings

Contributed by Fred Ground

I intend to live forever - so far, so good.

If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?

Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.

What happens if you get scared half to death twice?

My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."

Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?

If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.

A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.

Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.

To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.

# Clubs: Books and Crafts

## The Sanatorium by Sarah Pearse

by Carolyn Rumley, Correspondent



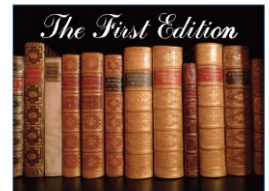
The Sanatorium is a first novel for author Sarah Pearse. There is suspense, drama, mixed emotions and a sinister location. The setting is a former Tuberculosis sanatorium located high in the Swiss Alps that has been converted into an upscale minimalist hotel. A blinding snow storm and an avalanche are the perfect backdrop for a 'locked room' mystery. The main character is a British detective who has had a tumultuous time in both her personal and professional life. Upon arriving at the isolated hotel for her brother's engagement party she is soon confronted with a series of ugly murders. Unable to leave due to the weather and with no one able to get in to assist, she is in the position of trying to solve the murders. Her past experiences leave her wanting to prove herself, which in turn causes her to make poor judgement calls that compromise her safety and that of others.

We felt that the novel began very well, it is well written and the suspense kept everyone wanting to read further. The eerie atmosphere and the dynamics among the various characters enhanced the suspense of the story. However the end of the book lacked the same dramatic effect as the beginning. The story tended to meander at the end and the conclusion was somewhat disjointed. We all felt that the author was focused on setting the stage for her sequel novel The Retreat. While everyone felt the novel was an easy read and we enjoyed the discussion related to the story, there wasn't resounding support for recommending the novel.

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## Razorblade Tears by S.A.Crosby

by Paul Crawford, Convenor



The novel Razorblade Tears by S.A.Crosby is a book that will challenge the sensibilities of many readers. It is graphic in its description of violence and uses profanity as a major part of the dialogue by some of its characters . It is a story set in the Carolina's in the USA and follows the actions of two fathers who seek to avenge the brutal slaying of their sons who were married to each other. One was white and one was black so racism as well as homophobia is a thread throughout the book. The book also explores dealing with grief, unsaid love and its results, paramilitary organizations, biker gangs, corrupt politicians and building relationships and maintaining friendships. The two fathers are deeply flawed individuals who try to do what they think is best as the authorities seem to be doing nothing to solve their sons' murder.

The members of our group had a wide range of responses to the book one could not get beyond the language and violence and gave it a 2 out of 10. Those who did finish it thought that it was well written and had many instances of humour to counteract the violence. Most of this group rated the book a 7 or 8 out of 10 but a few would not recommend the book to others because of the violence. It looks like it would make a great movie with the redemption scene at the end

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## Daisy, Daisy give me your answer do

by Dana Weatherell, Convenor



On April 5th, two crafty people gathered for a painting party. Diane and Dana followed an online you tube video to create these beautiful paintings of a Daisy field. A friend of Diane's was in the lower level so we were able to get a decent picture of the two of us. While it was nice to get to know each other a bit better, we would like some company

*Continued >>>>*

next month! For Wednesday May 3rd, grab your in progress crafty project and join us for some laughter. All are welcome to attend.

If there is a specific type of craft you would like to try, let me know and I'll see what I can do.



## Good Citizens Need not Fear

by Margaret Anne Fehr, Correspondent

Trilogy book club members gathered on April 17th to discuss the award-winning book *Good Citizens Need not Fear* by Maria Reva.



The book is structured as nine stories, which share specific narrative connections. It is essentially a hybrid between a novel and a story collection. The first five stories take place in late-Soviet Ukraine, and the four last stories take place in Ukraine during the first few years after the fall of the Soviet Union in 1989.

The stories focus on a cast of characters in the backwater industrial town of Kirovka and how the years of Soviet rule had affected the lives of different generations.

This was a story of the absurd, as it revealed the trials, travesties and bureaucracy of a system in its last days and how it affected people from the perspective of a well-known poet, an orphan, an older retired couple, and a cast of others.

The characters were colourful, irreverent in many cases, but all showed a tremendous adaptation of living, and surviving in a system that made no sense in many ways. Living in an apartment block, for example, that didn't exist according to a government department, and as a result, not being provided with heat and electricity. We meet Smena who hasn't left her apartment in years and has been offering a black market product of forbidden Western music etched on discarded medical x-rays. Also there is Zaya, an orphan who is born with a cleft palate and achieves freedom by burrowing under the foundation of an ancient monastery converted into a state orphanage. She emerges years later to participate in a government endorsed Miss USSR pageant and expresses her indignation by spitting on the judges and again disappearing into the post-Soviet void.

To be honest, a lot of people didn't like this book and admitted it. While they gave the book a *meh* 6 rating (one gave an 8), by the time we were finished, a number of our members reconsidered and gave our discussion a rousing 10! Goes to show the power of a robust exchange of ideas.

On a sadder note, we learned of Trilogy book club charter member and friend, Shirley Matthews, who passed on last week and we extend our deepest condolences to husband, Ray, during this time. As well, we extend our heartfelt sympathy to Linda Green, who lost her mother recently after 21 months of respite care. Know that you are in our hearts.

# Unusual Techniques

by Diane Comstock, Convenor



On Tuesday, April. 4th, the PieceMakers gathered together at Judy Nelson’s condo for their monthly quilting meeting. Judy started our show & tell with a log cabin test block. Whoops! No picture as she wants to change a light and dark strip that were sewn in the wrong order. That is why we do test blocks! Diane Armand did her homework – she has purchased a cutting mat, rotary cutter, ruler, Northcott canvas fabric, Jelly Bean kit in navy, and a Spill Quilt pattern. She is now all set to sew! Sandi brought a Tulip table topper and a Chandelier quilt made during a pre-cut online class using a 5” charm pack. Carol Ann showed us the Stack & Whack using 4 matches cut into triangles. It is amazing that all the blocks were made from the same fabric! She also brought her “Coat of Many Colours” quilt made from a shop hop expedition and embellished with her Mary Kay badges. Louise has completed two more of her Half Square Triangle blocks – soon she will have enough to turn them into a quilt! Judi Jones showed us her bed runner made from her Turquoise and Grey blocks. Sandi demonstrated the Accordion Half Square Triangle technique. A great way to use up scrap material.

Quilting Terms of the Month:

**Accordion Half Square Triangles:** This method is used to sew half square triangles in such a way that each one is a little bit different from the last (i.e. no one has a twin!) and there is absolutely no waste of fabric!

**Stack & Whack:** Process of matching up several repeats of a print so that they align perfectly and then cutting the entire stack so that each set of pieces is identical. You then rearrange the identical pieces to create a new design. Also known as a Kaleidoscope quilt.

Carole Windsor will host our next meeting on May 2nd. Bring your show & tell projects and any quilting questions you may have.

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



# Clubs: Classical Music & Movies

## April music goodies

by Michael Hooker, Convenor



Our first session took us deep into the Heart of Classical Music, namely: sonatas by Ludwig van Beethoven. A sonata is a substantial piece of music, usually with several sections (movements), played by one or two instruments only. Many sonatas are for piano (one person); others are for violin, cello, clarinet, flute, horn, or other instrument, normally accompanied by piano (two people).

Beethoven wrote 48 sonatas in total, 32 for piano, others for horn, cello, violin. We listened to one sonata for each of these four instruments, which gave us an appreciation of the amazing scope and diversity of his music. Here's a quick tickler from Beethoven's Cello Sonata No. 3, third movement, played by Mischa Maisky (cello) and Martha Argerich (piano). [Click here for video, two minutes.](#)

For our second session, Asoka Yapa, just back from Sri Lanka (where he and Fiona deftly avoided our 2022/23 winter) treated us to a program of "Symphonic Finales" – the final sections of seven symphonies by six different composers: Anton Bruckner, Ludwig van Beethoven, Antonin Dvorak, Franz Schubert, Joseph Haydn, Camille Saint-Saens. As Asoka in his notes put it: "The finale of a fireworks display is where the organizers signal 'The end is nigh, but we'll make sure you won't forget it!'. The composers of last movements of many symphonies had much the same idea. Crudely put, they threw everything but the kitchen sink into the final moments of their compositions". Here's the finale from Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. It's eleven minutes long, so listen to as much as you feel like. [Click here for video.](#)

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## A mother knows the worth of her son

by Petra Halk, Convenor



The PROBUS Oscar Night at the movies has been going strong for several months with small groups attending, since the pandemic. April's Selection was Air: Courting a legend. Nine of us Probians attended. We all agreed the story was eye-opening and very entertaining. Great performances by Matt Damon and Viola Davis!



A couple of us opted to go to the Kopper Kettle afterwards for Coffee and chocolate. It is new Bistro, close to the theatre.

"From award-winning director Ben Affleck, AIR reveals the unbelievable game-changing partnership between a then-rookie Michael Jordan and Nike's fledgling basketball division which revolutionized the world of sports and contemporary culture with the Air Jordan brand. This moving story follows the career-defining gamble of an unconventional team with everything on the line, the uncompromising vision of a mother who knows the worth of her son's immense talent, and the basketball phenom who would become the greatest of all time."

# Clubs: Sports & Dance

## Pin Seekers Golf

*Roy MacKay, Convenor*

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 looking forward:

*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!*



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## Line Dancing with Tammy

*by Suzanne Herder, Correspondent*

*“All my exes live in Texas.....” “Boot Scootin’ Boogie!”*

Twenty Probians danced and laughed their way through the 3rd line dancing lesson with Tammy.

The lesson was finished off with learning the “wagon wheel”.

We are all at different levels which makes for a good time. The fun starts when we try to group the steps together. Some of us have difficulty distinguishing our right from our left as well as the front from the back of the room.

If you like country music, moving, dancing and friendly bantering, consider joining the next time.



# NEWS AND VIEWS

## SHIRLEY MATHEWS OBITUARY

MATHEWS, Shirley Olive (nee ROBINSON) February 13, 1943 – April 17, 2023 Matriarch. Warrior queen. Pierogi master. Orchid whisperer. Ring dancer. Chardonnay aficionado. Taco cognoscente. PROBUS President. Inveterate reader. Sudoku solver. Bird watcher. Shirley was so many things to so many people, who loved her so much: faithful wife of more than 50 years to Raymond Edward Mathews; devoted mom to Lisa (Douglas), Nicole (Padraig) and Jan; dotting Gramma to Aislinn, Katie, Ciara and Kelan. Shirley was a functional orphan who, through sheer force of will, formed and fostered the architecture of this family. She was everything to us. Needed a babysitter for the grandkids in a pinch? Shirley. Needed cheese and onion pie or chicken cutlets? Shirley. Needed a chat? Shirley. Needed a travel companion or a drinking buddy? Shirley. It will be so hard for us to go on without you, Shirley: we love you and we miss you. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Ian Anderson House Hospice, where Shirley died with dignity and peace. Special thanks to all the doctors, nurses, and PSWs who went above and beyond. They helped us to be near her when her light was low.



## *The "Circle of Life" that comes and goes and comes again*

By Alan Jordan - Occasional Correspondent

People, young and old, are making fun of the evolution of almost everything. Here are six devices that store music, voice and pictures for all time! Look at the dates and you will know what I mean?

**1948**



**1963**



**1983**



**2000**



**2008**

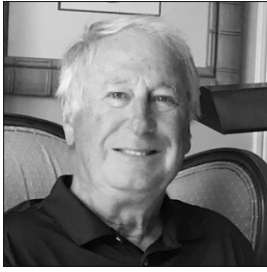


**2023**





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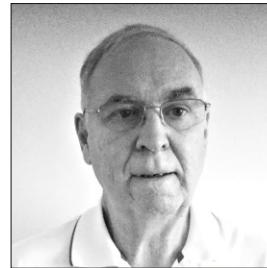
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## FORUM - THE ESCARPMENT PROBUS CLUB OF MILTON NEWSMAGAZINE

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.