



**2022 – 2023  
Executive:**

# **PROBUS Club of Oshawa Newsletter: February 2023**

**Chuck Keller,**  
President

**Next Membership General Meeting: February 14,2023**

**Marg Miller,**  
Vice President

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Christenson,**  
Past President

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Anne Smolarek,**  
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Henderson,**  
Social Committee  
Co-Chairs

**Marlene Owen  
Geri Sparkes,**  
Special Interest  
Groups  
Coordinators

**Sheila Leonard,**  
Speakers  
Committee

**Cindy Fleming,**  
Membership  
Chair

**Maria Upton,**  
House  
Committee

**Maria de Jong,**  
Archivist

**Anne MacKay,**  
Web/Zoom  
Master

**Connie Nelson,**  
Newsletter Editor

## **President’s Message**

Hello Oshawa Probus Members

Welcome to post Christmas and what is now winter. Twenty +cm of the heavy white stuff can do wonders to your fitness level-young or old. Days like this past January 26th can make us try to forget winter and concentrate on our February holiday- Valentines Day!

Valentine’s Day originated as a Christian feast day honouring a Christian martyr named Saint Valentine. Through later folk traditions it has become a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world.

Cards, flowers, and chocolates have become popular items forwarded to loved ones, family, and friends to show appreciation to those important.

Take a moment to think of the happy times-past and present- and reflect on the engagements, weddings, birthdays, graduations and so many other events that are etched into your memories that make up your lives.

So, as we prepare for Valentine’s Day- remember the good times. Play cupid, present flowers, chocolates etc. to show people how important they are to you. But also remember those same people in March, April, May and the balance of the year. Positive thoughts bring happy results and as Nicholas Boothman, our January guest speaker would say, make things Great! Great! Great!

Have a great month.

***Chuck Keller  
President***



To follow the links within this Newsletter, don’t forget to “Ctrl + Click”.



**FEBRUARY SPEAKER: Steve Burrows**  
**Topic:” From Birder to Birder Murder: The Mystery Continues”**

Steve Burrows is a Canadian mystery writer, journalist and former teacher.

Steve has written 7 birder murder mystery books. His first novel, a Siege of Bitterns won the 2015 Arthur Ellis award for best first novel. Steve’s latest book, A Foreboding of Petrels has just been recently published.

As is evident from the titles of Steve’s books he is an avid bird watcher and his recent trip to the Antarctica means he has now visited 8 continents in pursuit of his interest.

Also of note, a production deal between Shaftesbury (Murdoch Mysteries) and a UK

company means that Steve’s books have been optioned for TV.

Although born in the UK (Steve immigrated to Canada after grammar school) and a world traveller, he and his wife, Resa live in Oshawa.



**Some humour:**

- Why do dads take an extra pair of socks when they go golfing? In case they get a hole in one!!!
- Gas prices are so high...that even COVID stopped travelling
- Are you sweating when you fill up your vehicle?

You may have the new car-owner virus.

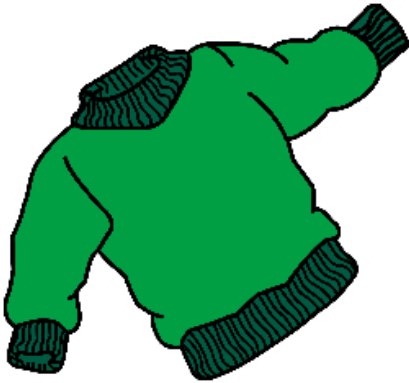
- What do you call cheese that isn’t yours? Nacho cheese.
- What happens when you wear a watch on a plane? Time flies.
- What travels around the world, but stays in one corner? A stamp.
- A priest decided to skip church one Sunday morning and go play golf. He told his assistant that he wasn’t feeling well. He drove to a golf course in another city, so that nobody would know him. He teed off on the first hole. A huge gust of wind caught his ball, carried it an extra hundred yards and dropped it right in the hole, for a 450-yard hole in one. An angel looked at God and said, “What’d you do that for, I thought you were going to punish him?” God smiled and said, “Who’s he going to tell?”



## MEMBERSHIP – CINDY FLEMING

Current Membership stands at 237. Please remember to advise the Membership Chair) Cindy Fleming of any changes to your personal information such as address, email address, or telephone number.

## PROBUS Clothing:



Items of casual clothing bearing the PROBUS logo including jackets, hats, t-shirts sweatshirts, etc. are available online at the supplier's website: <http://roysenterprise.com/Probus/Probus.html> or on the PROBUS Club of Oshawa website.

All prices include HST. Various sizes and colours are available. Payment may be made using your credit card or PayPal.

Roy's Enterprise, 609 McEwan Drive, Whitby will notify you when your order is in.

If you need assistance ordering online, please call Anne Mackay.

For assistance in picking up your order, contact John Manuel.



## SOCIAL COMMITTEE- Gerry Henderson and Jackie Frank

### Information about upcoming social events:

**Tuesday, February 28:** Come and have fun playing **trivia** with you fellow members at the **Thornton Arms, 575 Thornton Road North, at 1:30 p.m. Cost \$ 15.00.** There will be prizes and snacks.

**Thursday, March 23:** Try your luck at bowling at **NEB's Fun World, 1300 Wilson Road North, at 3:30 p.m.** After all the excitement, we will go and have dinner.

**Wednesday, April 2:** The **Whitby Courthouse** is presenting a play titled **Kiss the Moon, Kiss the Sun**, about a 35-year-old man with the mental capacities of an 8-year-old who meets a pregnant young woman in crisis and they form a lasting friendship. **Cost: \$15.00**

**Saturday, April 29:** If you want to learn more about the history of television, especially its technology, join us on a tour of **Moses Znaimer Museum of Television, 64 Jefferson Avenue, Toronto at 11:00 a.m. Cost \$5.00**

**Thursday, May 11:** Interested in full size replicas of planes, cars and other vehicles? Join us on an entertaining and informative tour of **Model A Acres, 7090 Middle Road, Clarington at 10:00 a.m. Cost \$20.00**

**Saturday, May 27:** As part of Toronto Doors Open, the **R.C. Harris Water Treatment Plant at 2701 Queen Street East, Toronto** will open its doors to the public. A free guided tour is available from Alex Ruscanu starting at **10:00 a.m. and ending at 11:30 a.m.** If you want to join the guided tour, you have to **register on evenbrite at [www.eventbrite.ca/o/alex-rascanu](http://www.eventbrite.ca/o/alex-rascanu)**

**Wednesday, June 28:** Theatre lovers! Enjoy **The Tilco Strike**, presented by the **4th Line Theatre, 9 Tupper Street, Millbrook**. The play is about the year long strike of about 50 women at Tilco Plastics in Peterborough in 1965. **Cost \$50.00**

**Wednesday, June 14:** Discover a traditional Hindu place of worship, **Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, at 61 Claireville Drive, Etobicoke**. It is the largest of its kind in Canada, made of hand carved marble, limestone and pink stone, with grounds spreading over 18 acres. **Entrance to the temple is free.** Car pool is recommended?

**July: Westben. We are waiting for their 2023 calendar.**



**Trivia:** Scheduled for Tuesday, February 28 at 1:30 p.m. at The Thornton Arms. Cost: \$15.00

### **Trips organized by the PROBUS Club of Ajax**

Shirlie van Putten, from the PROBUS Club of Ajax, has sent the following information on upcoming tours. If you want more information about these tours, including the costs, please email Shirlie at [shirlie@hnatravels.com](mailto:shirlie@hnatravels.com).

**May 17 - 30, 2023: Italy: Rome, Florence and the Treasures of Tuscany** - a 14 days, 12 nights tour of parts of Italy, starting in Rome.

**June 7 - June 10: Louise Penny's Three Pines Tour.** This four-day excursion will take you to the **heart of Quebec's Eastern Townships**, in the locations described by Louise Penny in her famous books.



### **Local events/activities**

Every month, Pat Bayus will be listing events and activities happening in the region in the coming month. **If you know of**

such events, email the information to Pat before the 15 of each month at [sunvalleywatch@sympatico.ca](mailto:sunvalleywatch@sympatico.ca)

**Sunday, February 5th 12:30pm: The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo pipes and drums. Cineplex Theatre Taunton and Grandview. Admission is \$13.95 plus tax.** More info online at Cineplex Oshawa

**Cinefest (Friends of the Library) February –April 2023 2023:** Films from the **2022 TIFF Film Festival. Admission is \$10.00 cash at the door.** This has always been a fund raiser for special projects for the Oshawa Library Branches

**Wednesday, February 1st at 4:00pm & 7:00pm: “EO”** from Poland. follows a sentient donkey as it experiences the best and worst mankind has to offer.

**Wednesday, February 22nd at 4:00pm & 7:00pm: “Living”** from United Kingdom, Bill Nighy stars as a Bureaucrat who rediscovers life’s capacity for passion and joy.

**Wednesday, March 29th at 4:00pm & 7:00pm: “Broker”** from South Korea about an unconventional family formed under the strangest of circumstances.

**Wednesday, April 26th, at 4:00pm & 7:00pm: “Emily”** from the United Kingdom. A psychological portrait of WUTHERING HEIGHTS author Emily Bronte sweeps us away to 19th century England for a tale of irrepressible creativity and secret desire.

**Regent Theatre, Downtown Oshawa.** For tickets call 905 721-3399 ext 2 or online at [regenttheatre.ca](http://regenttheatre.ca)

**Sunday, February 12th 2023 at 3:00pm & 5:00pm: Jersey Nights - Valentines Day**  
Tribute to Frankie Valli

**Friday, February 17 2023, at 8:00pm: Solitary Man,** The Definitive Neil Diamond Tribute

**Saturday, February 18 2023 at 8:00pm: A Tribute to “Grease” and the Music of the 50’s and 60’s**

**Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 8:00pm: Chubby Checker Live!!** Live in Oshawa for the very first time!!!!

**Friday, March 10, 2023, at 8:00pm: Pavlo in Concert - The Santorini**  
Tour - Mediterranean guitar – Spanish/Greek/Rumba/Flamenco music

**Parkwood Estate- Sunday, February 12, 11:00am-1:00pm: Valentines Tea,** An elevated experience, a selection of teas, scones, tea sandwiches and pastries.

**Month of February, various times: Auto Baron’s Guided Tour,** 1.5 hours, experience life in 1917. Overview of the entertaining spaces as well as introduction to the McLaughlin Family



Ask about other tours at 905-433-4311. More information and ticket purchases go to 905 433-4311 or go to [parkwoodestate.com](http://parkwoodestate.com)

**Port Perry Winter Antique Show and Sale- Saturday February 4th & Sunday: Lake Scugog Historical Society** fundraiser sale & show. **Admission is \$5.00** and good for both days. Site is fully accessible, light snacks are available. Held at The Scugog Community Centre is at 1655 Reach St. For more info go to [lakescugoghistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:lakescugoghistoricalsociety@gmail.com) or call 905 985-9250.

**Oshawa Historical Society and Oshawa Museum: Tuesday, February 21st 6:00pm** at the **McLaughlin Public Library**, Speaker Series, Club Carib Presents, **Club Carib Our First 50 years**. Donations welcomed, Membership to OHS available.

**Lynde House Museum 900 Brock St. S. Whitby.** Tours are available by appointment. Information available at 905 665-3131 or [info@lyndehousemuseum.cam](mailto:info@lyndehousemuseum.cam). Admission is Donation

**Durham Region Abilities Centre Whitby Friday, February 3, Saturday, February 4 and Sunday, February 5. Parasport Games** held at The Whitby Abilities Centre, 55 Gordon St. Whitby. Visit [DurhamRegion2023.ca](http://DurhamRegion2023.ca) to learn more about the games.

### **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**



**If your group is meeting, don't forget to send photos of your activities to be included in the newsletter. Please send your information/photos to Connie Nelson by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

**Special Interest Group Chairs- Marlene Owen & Geri Sparkes**

Hopefully our membership is healthy and enjoying this mild Winter.

I am pleased to announce that we have 2 more Special interest group, Euchre and The Supper Club. We are now up to 29 Special Interest Groups. There should be activities and interests for everybody.

Remember, if anyone has an idea for a new group just contact Geri or Marlene. There will be a sign-up sheet initiated.

Thank you again to all of the Convenors for making these groups a success!!

Submitted by Marlene Owen



### **PROBUS BOOK CLUB - Mary Kelcey**

The PROBUS Book Club will meet on Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1 PM at the home of Barbara Jones. Nan MacKenzie will lead the discussion on “The Long Petal of the Sea” by Isobel Allende.

### **BOOKWORMS – Maria Upton**

The Bookworms will be reading The Paper Palace by Miranda Cowley Heller. Elfrida Jeppesen is hosting the meeting at her home on Tuesday, January 31st.



### **BRAIN GAMES – Jackie Frank**

**Brain Games:** The next Brain Games will be on Wednesday, February 15 at 10:00 a.m. at Jackie Frank’s house. Please confirm with Jackie if you are planning to attend.



### **YARN DIVAS – Barb Jones, Convenor**

The Yarn Divas were pleased to welcome new members to our group this Fall. The group is open to all PROBUS members who love to knit and crochet. If interested, please contact Barb Jones.

In January, the group donated a beautiful collection of blankets to Project Linus which will be passed on to be used in hospitals and ambulances.

We look forward to continuing our in-person meetings to share crafting ideas, show off our finished projects and have a laugh. Our next meeting will be at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, February 1 at Carol’s house.



### **MOVIE GROUP – Mary Gibson**

If you want to get back into seeing movies in the theater, join us on Fridays -the first showing at the movie (usually between 10:30 and 1pm). contact Mary Gibson: [marmojl245481@gmail.com](mailto:marmojl245481@gmail.com)

The ZOOM Movie group for Netflix is still going strong though the lockdowns are over. We pick two things to watch and then every second Friday night at 7 PM we get together to discuss the movies/series/documentaries we've all seen. Please contact Mary Gibson if you would like to join the group. [Marmojl245481@gmail.com](mailto:Marmojl245481@gmail.com).



### **CHESS – Ed Taylor**

The chess games are every Tuesday from 1:00 p.m. until you are ready to leave. It is quite informal.

### **CRIBBAGE Group – John Manuel**



The cribbage group has reconvened following the Covid hiatus.

We welcome new members to join in the fun. Experience not needed.

Rules are relaxed a bit to heighten the pleasure of the game.

We meet the second Wednesday of every month 1-3 pm.

Please contact John Manuel to join the group.



### **SCRABBLE – Judy Bryson**

The Scrabble group will be meeting on Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 481 Masson Street, Oshawa. All are welcome. RSVP Judy.



## COFFEE AND CHAT – Bruno Scanga



We meet every Thursday from 6:30 pm to 8:00pm at the Tim's at Rossland & Thornton location.

Everyone is welcome for chats and fellow ship.

Please have individual RSVP me.



## THE SUPPER CLUB – Marlene Owen

The Supper Club was launched Monday January 23. The group met at Bollocks Pub and Kitchen (the old Tartan). We had a delicious dinner and enjoyable conversation. It was lovely to meet

PROBUS members that we didn't know that well. So new friendships are blooming.

The group is going to meet monthly on the 4th Monday of the month at 5:30. At the moment our group has met its 12-member capacity. Each month Members are taking turns choosing a restaurant for the group.

This evening was a great way to start the week. Cheers!!



**LUNCH GROUP - Donna Keller and Marilyn Lannon**



Our January group of 13 ladies met at Piper Arms Pub in Brooklin. Ladies, what a wonderful feeling when we are laughing together, and realize how much you appreciate everyone's company at our monthly gatherings. Thanks for making our lunches a special time. See you all in February. Donna Keller



## URBAN POLE WALKING – Sharon Smith



### Probus Urban Pole Walking Schedule

Timeframe: November 1, 2022 to May 1, 2023

Days: Monday and Friday mornings. Time 9.30 am

Contact Information: **Harmony Creek Trail** is the preferred trail for the fall and winter months as it is well maintained during this timeframe.  
**Park at Rossland Square Plaza** (Rossland & Wilson Road) near Bollock's Pub (previous known as the Tartan)  
**Enter Trail by plaza** and head south

## TidBITS

If any of our members have a favourite recipe, puzzle, photos of previous events, ideas on how interest groups are staying connected or any other information that might be of interest to others in our Club, please submit them to our newsletter editor, Connie Nelson, for inclusion in the newsletter.

### MEMBER CARE



With a Club such as ours, we need your help to let us know if one of our members is experiencing a serious illness or is hospitalized. Our Club would like to let our ill members and their families know that they are in our thoughts as they deal with their illness with respect to the family's wishes for privacy.

In the same way, we need you to let us know if you become aware that a member, their spouse or close family member has passed on. Often the family does not think to contact our Club, or know who to contact under these difficult circumstances. We would like to respect the wishes of family and give our members the opportunity to express their condolences to the bereaved.

Please let us know so we can respond appropriately. Email:  
oshawaprobus@gmail.com

**PROBUS Club of Oshawa Website:**

[www.oshawaprobus.com](http://www.oshawaprobus.com)

**PROBUS CANADA Website:**

[www.probus.org](http://www.probus.org)

**PROBUS GLOBAL**

There are over 4,000 clubs worldwide with over 350,000 members. Of those there are over 260 clubs operating in Canada. What you may not know that PROBUS also has a

**Global Club.**

PROBUS GLOBAL is open to any member of a PROBUS Club and provides an on-line forum to make connections to PROBUS members around the world.

<https://probusglobal.org>

