

PROBUS Club of Oshawa Newsletter: July, 2020



**2019 - 2020
Executive:**

Maria de Jong,
President

Al Sawtell,
Vice President

Connie Nelson,
Past President

**Marlene Allen
Pat Bayus,**
Secretaries

**Garry
Christenson,**
Treasurer

**Joan Puskas
Judy Sandham
June McLaren**
Members-at-large

Marilyn Thaxter,
Social Committee

**Elaine Lopes
Anne MacKay,**
Special Interest
Groups
Coordinators

Julia Howells,
Speakers
Committee

Open,
Membership
Chair

Maria Upton,
House
Committee

**Jacqueline
Frank,**
Archivist

David Hardy,
Web Master

Cindy Fleming,
Newsletter Editor

**All PROBUS Club of Oshawa General Meetings are
CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

President's Message

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE July 2020

My thanks to our Management Team and Membership Committee, who called our members in June, to touch base and conduct a short survey. A big thanks to all of you who gave us your insights as to how and when and under what circumstances you would be comfortable with re-starting some of our Special Interest Groups, various Social Events and monthly General Meetings. We are a Social Club after all, and we are all looking forward to when we can get back to "normal" operations. But then what will "normal" look like? Good question, for which we needed your collective input to help shape our forward planning. No easy task given the uncertainties still all around us.

Almost all of you who responded felt that you missed the social aspects of being a PROBUS member. However, most felt that it was too soon to participate in many of our normal Social Activities or come to a General Meeting. A certain number also expressed some concerns of being with a larger group until a vaccine is available. Almost all felt that adhering to guidelines such as physical distancing, limiting numbers, meeting outdoors, wearing masks, and no sharing of food was necessary for participation.

From our conversations with you we also learned that quite a few of you are opening up your social circles very gradually and taking advantage of outdoor spaces such as gardens, patios or local parks to meet with PROBUS friends while physically distancing and following health and safety guidelines. We are all social beings after all and enjoy the company of others. As such please note the following:

UPDATE on PROBUS Club of Oshawa In-person gatherings

As we have learned from our recent phone survey conducted with our members, most prefer that we are cautious when considering re-starting PROBUS Club of Oshawa gatherings and events.

Small OUTSIDE ONLY gatherings of those SIG members who feel comfortable opening up their social bubble to a few other PROBUS friends, may take place, after a personal assessment of the potential of risk to yourself, your family and those PROBUS friends you choose to meet with in person.

As the provincial restrictions are being lifted slowly, some members of SIG groups may choose to meet outside as long as physical distancing is possible. All those who choose to meet outside, should ensure that everyone meets the health and safety concerns of all and prepare accordingly. Some SIGs like Golf and Pole Walking carry out their activities outside and physical distancing and no contact is possible. Other SIGs may be able to conduct some adjusted activities outside. These **outside only gatherings** are the choice of those friends who agree to do so.

All PROBUS Club of Oshawa, **INSIDE meetings of SIGs, and all Social Events and General Meetings are still cancelled!** We encourage all of our members to stay connected in any way that you feel is right for you and your PROBUS friends.

Rescheduling Guest Speakers



The Monarch Crusader, Carol Pasternak, guest speaker for July 2020, has been rescheduled for July 2021. Her presentation is about how we can help the Monarch butterfly by rearing them. If you are interested this is something that could be done this summer, there is information on her website: monarchcrusader.com.

Enjoy the summer and stay safe, until we meet again.

Executive Nominations – Al Sawtell

Nominations to fill a few positions for next year's Management Team have been extended. Our new year begins September/October.

We require volunteers to fill the following positions:

1. Vice-President
2. Members- at-Large (2-3) (to attend Management Team Meetings every other month to become aware of positions on the team and corresponding responsibilities. Hopefully, these members will fill one of the vacant positions as they arise)
3. Membership Chair (2)
4. Social Committee Chair (2)

We encourage all members to give serious consideration to volunteering for one of these open positions. We also promote the idea of sharing the responsibility with another member in an effort to exchange ideas and lessen the workload.

Members leaving these positions are available to explain the duties involved. For more information please email Connie Nelson or Al Sawtell.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Marilyn Thaxter

All Social outings are cancelled.

PLEASE NOTE: Since it will be longer than we hoped before we can meet at a GM, we will be mailing back all cheques, not yet deposited, for cancelled Social Events. In addition, we will be issuing refunds for cheques that were deposited, and mailing them to our members. Please be patient! You should receive your cheque by mid-July. If not, please contact our Treasurer, at garry1.christenson@sympatico.ca

A look back at some of our social outings



Aga Khan Museum



ACE Wind tunnel

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

All INSIDE Special Interest Group meetings have been cancelled for the time-being.

However, options exist for small groups to meet outside, given the comfort level and agreement to physical distancing and health and safety protocols. If that is not possible, we encourage Special Interest Group members to keep in touch with each other and come up with ways to stay connected and engaged. Let's be creative and use all that technology can provide to challenge each other, create opportunities to maintain those important social connections whether by phone, on line, , Zoom, chat rooms, or through email. If you have a great way to keep your group members engaged and connected, share it please!

A number of Special Interest Groups have contributed to the newsletter the ways in which they are keeping connected.



To follow the links within this Newsletter, don't forget to "Ctrl + Click".

EUCHRE GROUP #2 - Gerry Henderson



Centennial Retirement Residence's shutdown continues, and as we normally take June, July and August as our summer hiatus, we may be able to re-convene in late September 2020.

URBAN POLE WALKING - Maria de Jong



Last month some of our members started to walk the local trails again with one other group member as a buddy. Recently we are doubling our pairs and enjoying each other's company as we walk the many beautiful local trails. Although trails are busy, it is quite possible to keep physical distance.



your fellow PROBUS Club members.

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?

We know that seniors flourish when they are able to stay physically active, mentally stimulated and socially engaged. So what are you doing during this time we can't all be together? It is time to hear from our members! Send us pictures, anecdotes, ideas, challenges, projects, puzzles and the like. Send them to oshawaprobustclub@gmail.com to share and inspire



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 mariska578@gmail.com or oshawaprobustclub@gmail.com

IN MEMORIUM Ellen Clarke



Ellen was a long time member of our Club. She was our Speaker Chair for many years as well as convener of one of our Euchre Groups. Ellen loved participating in various PROBUS Social events, outings and trips and will be missed by her many PROBUS friends. Here is a link to her Obituary.

<https://mountpleasantgroup.permavita.com/site/EllenHelenPCorbeil-Clarke.html?s=110>



Follow the link below to celebrate Canada in a different way this year by getting together virtually to share our pride in being Canadian. Enjoy Canada Day Daytime and Evening Shows, national celebrations and virtual Fireworks!!!!

[Virtual Canada Day Celebrations](#)

PROBUS Club of Oshawa Website:

www.oshawaprobus.com

PROBUS CANADA Website:

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>