

PROBUS Club of Oshawa Newsletter: March, 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

Mary Medley,
Membership
Chair

Maria Upton,
House
Committee

**Jacqueline
Frank,**
Archivist

David Hardy,
Web Master

Cindy Fleming,
Newsletter Editor

NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY, MARCH 10th, 10 AM

President's Message

March is fast approaching, and today at least when we were out Pole Walking, it felt as if Spring was in the air! Some birds were singing. Sun was shining strong. It was Family Day, so there were more than the usual number of people out walking their dogs and kids riding their bikes! Soon we will no longer need our scarves, hats and boots.

March is National PROBUS month officially. So that means a chance to reflect on what PROBUS means for us as members and as representatives of the organization in our Durham Region. PROBUS Canada was started 33 years ago. There are 10 Clubs now in Durham, and most Clubs are growing regularly so we definitely fill a need! For me personally, I am a proud Charter member of our Oshawa Club. Joining the Club 16 years ago has greatly enriched my life. We offer what many experts consider significant to successful aging: being physically active, mentally stimulated and socially involved. Our meetings, speakers, social event offerings and many diverse interest groups certainly meet all of those requirements.

So perhaps I can ask you to reflect on what PROBUS means to you? What drew to join? What friends have you made? What events or interest have made your life more fun? Who do you know that would also enjoy joining a PROBUS Club? So, during the month of March, remember to talk to family members, neighbors and friends about your experience with PROBUS. Invite them to a meeting; tell them about the PROBUS Canada website where they can find out about Clubs in their local area; join PROBUS Global and write about our Club! The list could go on and on! Remember.....

BE A FRIEND, BRING A FRIEND, MAKE A FRIEND!

Executive Nominations – Al Sawtell

We have initiated the search to fill a few positions for next year's Management Team. 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 see Maria de Jong or Al Sawtell.



Meet the Team



Dave Hardy, Web Master

I was born in Lancashire, England during WWII and moved to Canada with my family in the 50's. After graduation from Oshawa Central Collegiate Institute I was accepted by General Motors and attended the school now known as Kettering University in Flint Michigan, graduating in 1963 in Electrical Engineering. After a busy career in engineering and project management at Oshawa and briefly Scarborough, I retired after 41 years of service.

My wife and I have two children, a son and a daughter, and three grandchildren, a great source of joy. We all enjoy time together especially at the family cottage which was built when we were newly-weds and is still a central part of our lives.

During high school I spent one summer in the Ontario Regiment learning to drill and march, shoot a rifle and to drive the Sherman tank, a great adventure for a 16-year-old. I am currently a volunteer at the Ontario Regiment Military Museum, helping to maintain Canada's largest collection of operating military vehicles.

We joined Oshawa PROBUS in 2008 finding it a good opportunity to make new friends and to extend our horizons. Last year I became Webmaster for our Club website and find it a good challenge for the aging mind, a necessary activity for good health in older age. Many thanks to PROBUS for the opportunity to serve and to work with others.



Pat Bayus – Co-Secretary

I joined PROBUS in the summer of 2019 and I am enjoying it very much. A few months ago I volunteered to be a co-secretary, have joined a number of group activities and met many new and interesting people. I look forward to meeting and getting to know many more of the members.

I was born and raised in a large family, married an Oshawa boy and have lived here all my life. I began my working career in retail, namely Eaton's and then after several years moved to Bell Canada in Oshawa. I retired from Bell several years ago and went on to many years of volunteering. I have volunteered for the Red Cross in many capacities, Friends of the Library, the Durham Regional Police Service and the Robert McLaughlin Gallery where I still volunteer. My interests are biking, long walks, movies, live theatre, gardening and travel. In the last few years I have travelled in Canada and the U.S. and recently to several countries overseas, for the first time, and have plans to do more.



March Speaker - Barrie Kirk, P Eng., Executive Director, CAVCOE (Canadian Automated Vehicles Centre of Excellence) - Automated Vehicles

Barrie Kirk is a well-known consultant, speaker and broadcaster on automated vehicles and has advised many public and private sector organizations on planning for the AV era. His other roles include the Federal Government's Car of the Future Advisory Group, the Canadian Standard's Association's Connected and Automated Vehicle Advisory Council, and the organizing committee for the CAV Canada 2020 conference. He has worked in the technology industries in Canada, the U.S. and the U.K. Barrie received a B.Sc. (Honours) in Electrical Engineering from Coventry University, U.K. and is a Professional Engineer.

April Speaker - Elaine Charal - The Power of the Pen, an Entertaining Look at Handwriting Analysis



We welcomed two new members to the club at our February meeting, Brenda Cameron and Margaret Ford. This brings our membership up to 285.

Please note that we will be asking our members to consider and vote on a Motion for change to our By-Laws at our next General Meeting, March 10.

Change to By-Law 2.6 to read as follows:

2-6. The Management Committee may terminate the membership of any member who fails to pay the annual membership renewal fee by **October 31 of any year.**

Rationale for By-Law 2.6 Change:

Our current 2.6 By-Law allows till November 30 for members to pay their renewals. Most of our members have paid for their membership renewal by the end of September. The Membership Committee starts accepting renewal cheques as early as July. The few people who have not paid by the end of September often require a lot of time and effort from the Membership Committee to provide their cheques often delaying it to the end of November. This makes for additional stress to produce an up-to-date Membership List for all of our members as well as producing accurate numbers and fees to PROBUS Canada in December.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Marilyn Thaxter

The social committee would like to thank members for paying for events when they sign up for them.

Please remember to bring your cheque book

UPCOMING OSHAWA PROBUS EVENTS:

***Cheques payable to PROBUS CLUB OF OSHAWA ***

- **BOWLING AT NEBS & PUB DINNER:** Wednesday, March 11th 4 PM. The cost is \$10 plus \$3.25 shoe rental and covers bowling only. Pub dinner extra. (Sign up with payment at the March meeting)
- **BOOM at the Capitol Theatre,** Port Hope: Saturday April 4th 2 PM. The cost is \$42. The defining moments of the Baby Boom generation - 25 turbulent years - 1945 to 1969. (Last chance to sign up with payment at the March meeting)
- **WESTBEN "STAYIN' ALIVE" - MUSIC OF THE 70's** followed by a Turkey Dinner at Christ Church in Campbellford on Wednesday, July 15th – Westben Performance at 2 PM. The cost is \$42. Dinner at 5 PM. The cost is \$20. (Sign up with payment at the March meeting - limited dinner space available)
- **QUEENS PARK TEA and TOUR:** Friday, July 17th 2 PM. The cost is \$30. Please note participants are required to bring a piece of photo ID upon arrival (i.e. health card, driver's licence, passport, etc.) Please arrive at 1:45 PM. **No substitutes are allowed.** Participant's names will be provided to Queens Park on July 1st. (Sign up with payment at the March meeting – limited space available)

CHEESE!



SEND US YOUR PHOTOS

We are always looking for photos of our members enjoying our various Social Events as well as showing off what happens at our many Special Interest Group activities. If you are participating and can take some photos, please send them to the oshawaprobustclub@gmail.com.

Please remember to identify the event or SIG involved. JPEGs please!



Reminder

Archives: If you take pictures of your special interest group or the club's social activities, please send a copy to Jackie Frank as she is the Club's archivist this year.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Conveners – Please submit your information to the newsletter editor by the 25th of each month to be included in the following month's Newsletter

Suggestions for a new group? Do you have an interest or hobby you would like to share with your fellow club members? Don't hesitate to pass it along to Elaine Lopes or Anne MacKay. They will try to recruit other members to create a group.

Proposed new groups:

We are trying to set up five new groups. Please feel free to sign up at the next meeting or contact Elaine Lopes or Anne MacKay if you have any questions.

- **Another book club:** This would be our fourth book club. Four members have signed up, but we need more to make the group more viable and interesting.
- **Bridge for beginners:** This group already has eleven members signed up. It is aimed at people who don't play bridge very often or are just learning. We need one more member for this group.
- **X-Files (UFO's) – The Truth Is Out There!** The US Navy and Military have now come out and acknowledged that they do exist but where do they come from and why are they here? What was Project Blue Book about? What does quantum physics, interstellar, and different dimensions have to do with UFO's? Have you or anyone you know seen them? This is for people who have grown up with a love of sci-fi, enjoy the TV show entitled "Ancient Aliens", or listened to radio broadcasts such as "Coast to Coast". Group to share ideas, information, and questions. We are not alone in the universe!
- **Classical Music Appreciation Group:** We presently have a group with 16 members. Some of them have expressed a willingness to assist with setting up a similar group if there is enough interest. This group meets once a month and they take turns preparing and presenting a Classical Music programme for the month. They meet at each other's homes so each group cannot be too large. They get together throughout June until September.
- Durham Central PROBUS Club is starting a **Memoir Writing group** and is inviting our members to join them. There will be a sign up sheet for this initiative at our next general meeting.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the next meeting or contact Elaine Lopes or Anne MacKay if you want more information.

Groups looking for new members:

Breakfast Group (currently dismantled)
Lunch Group
Wine and Dine



ART GROUP – Open Arts

Bring an art project in progress or start one at our group. Any media, any subject.

DATE: Thursday, March 26th
TIME: 1 PM
HOST: Mary Gibson, (905) 435-2441



BOOKWORMS - Bernice Burke and Judy Bell

The next meeting of the Bookworms will be on Tuesday, March 24th at 10 AM. Marg Hardy will host the meeting when we will be discussing the book "The Art of Racing in the Rain" by Garth Stein.
Contact: Bernice Burke (905) 728-2587 or Judy Bell (905) 720-3808.

BOOKIES BOOK CLUB – Jane Havens

Jane Havens will host our next meeting on Thursday, March 5th, at 1 PM. Janet Good will lead the discussion on our selection "The Memory Keeper's Daughter" by Kim Edwards.

PROBUS BOOK CLUB - Mary Kelcey

PROBUS Book Club will meet on Thursday, March 26th at 7 PM at the home of Moida Wheller. Janet McNellan will lead the discussion on "Then She Was Gone" by Lisa Jewell.



BRAIN GAMES – Jackie Frank

The next games will be at the home of Judy Bryson at 10 AM on Wednesday, March 18th. Members of the group should let Jackie Frank know if they are planning to attend.

BID EUCHRE - Peggy Gibson and Donna Arnold

Members come out and join us for a fun afternoon of bid euchre. Don't know how to play, no problem, we have members that can help. The next bid euchre is March 25th, 1:30 PM, Centennial Retirement Residence, Ritson Road, Oshawa. Hope to see you there.



EUCHRE GROUP #2 - Gerry Henderson

PROBUS Euchre Group #2 will be meeting at the Centennial Retirement Residence, 2 PM to 4 PM on Thursday March 26th. Please remember your name tag and a mug for coffee/ tea. New members always welcome!

CHESS - Ed and Jo Taylor

Our Chess club meets every Tuesday evening at 6:30 PM at 51 White Cliffe Drive, Courtice. Phone number: (905) 404-2440.



CRIBBAGE – June McLaren



The cribbage group will meet on Wednesday, March 11th at 1 PM at the home of Anne- Marie Beattie, 1104 Ridgemount Boulevard (Main intersection Taunton Road/Grandview Street). The cost is \$2. Please let Anne-Marie know if you will be attending by e-mailing her at annemariebeattie@sympatico.ca or by telephone at (905) 728-6886.



DAY TRIPPER'S – Jackie Frank

On Monday, March 16th, the Day Trippers are going to Canada Blooms at the Enercare Centre at Exhibition Place. Members of the group wishing to go should contact Maria Upton.



GARDEN/NATURE GROUP – Jackie Frank

Our first activity of the year will be going to Canada Blooms on Monday, March 16th. Tickets for seniors are \$14 if bought online before March 8th; otherwise they are \$17 at the door. We will be going by GOTrain. If interested, contact Jackie Frank or sign up at the March meeting.

HAND AND FOOT CARD GAME – Kathy Brown

The next Hand and Foot card game will be at the home of Alecia Minosora at 1 PM on Wednesday, March 18th. If you are able to attend, please call (905) 720-0233.



LUNCH GROUP - Connie Nelson

The lunch group will meet at 12 noon Tuesday, March 17th at Wendell Clark's Classic Grill and Bar, 67 Simcoe Street North, Oshawa. If you plan to attend please indicate on the sign-up sheet on the special interest table or call Nancy McDowell at (905) 725-3140 so she can book a reservation. If you find that you have signed up and subsequently are unable to attend for any reason, even if the same day as the lunch, please let Nancy know so she can advise the restaurant of the amended number.



MAH JONGG - Alecia Minosora

The Group is still getting together to play every two weeks. We usually have two tables of four playing. Anyone interested is welcome to come and watch to see if they would like to learn.

MEDIA AND PROPAGANDA – Connie White

What is media and propaganda? "It is a method of persuasion that is often used in media to further some sort of agenda, such as a personal, political, or business agenda, by evoking an emotional or obligable response from the audience. It includes the deliberate sharing of realities, views, and philosophies intended to alter behaviour and stimulate people to act." To what extent is this being used today in our main stream media and how is this affecting society on both a macro and micro level? How is it or will it affect you personally? Hopefully, a lively, entertaining and serious discussion will ensue.

The Media and Propaganda Group will not be meeting in March. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 15th at 1:30 PM at the home of Barbara Towey.



MOVIE GROUP - Mary Gibson

Movie group meets Friday mornings at Landmark Theatre. If interested, contact Mary Gibson (905) 435-2441 to find out what movie we are going to that week (new movie listings come out on Wednesday), and what time (the first showing of the day of that movie).

POKER: AFTERNOON GROUP - Vicky and Gerry Paquette



Afternoon poker will be on Tuesday, March 17th at 1 PM at the Centennial Retirement Residence. New players welcome, just bring your dimes!

POKER: EVENING GROUP - Allan Anderson

PROBUS Evening Poker will be held on Wednesday, March 11th, 7 PM, at the home of Gerry and Vicky Paquette.



SCRABBLE - Judy Bryson

The Scrabble group will meet at 1 PM on Thursday, March 19th at the home of Judy Bryson, 481 Masson Street. New players are welcome.



THEATRE, CONCERTS, OPERA & DANCE – Mary Kelcey

The following is a small sample of the upcoming cultural events and concerts being offered in this region for March:

| Location | Event | Date | Note |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---|---|
| Cineplex Oshawa & Landmark Whitby | Met Opera 12:55 PM | Saturday, March 14 th | Der Fliegende Holländer (Wagner) German w/e.s.t. |
| Oshawa Little Theatre | Dirty Rotten Scoundrels | March 19 th , 20 th , 21 st , 26 th , 27 th , 28 th March 29 th | 7:30 PM 2 PM |
| Regent Theatre | Classic Movie Night | Thursday, March 5 th 7:30 PM | Raiders of the Lost Ark |

WINE APPRECIATION - Bernice Burke



The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3rd at 3 PM. Marlene and Reg Gutsole will be hosting.

VINTAGE TASTING – Jane Havens

Information on the Vintage Tasting group was not available at the time of publication of the newsletter.



WINE AND DINE - Catherine Frost

On March 12th, the group will meet at Thai Hot Spot in the Townline Centre, 1414 King Street East, Courtice. We meet at 5:45 PM and place our order at 6 PM. Please let Maureen Lang know if you are coming by March 5th.

New members are welcome. Please contact

Catherine c.frost@sympatico.ca if you would like to join us.



URBAN POLE WALKING - Maria de Jong

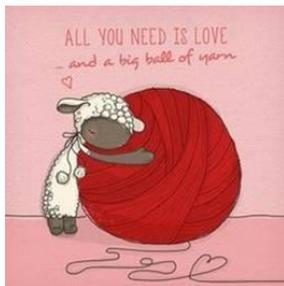
March 2020 Schedule

Come and join us when you can and get moving this winter. Poles are not required. Just be dressed to be safe for the weather and trail conditions. We meet for coffee after our walk.

All walks will take place as scheduled, weather permitting.

Mondays: March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th, 10 AM. Meet east end of parking lot, Rossland and Wilson Roads for Harmony Creek trail or local roads depending on conditions.

Fridays: March 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th, 10 AM. Meet east end of parking lot, Rossland and Wilson Roads for Harmony Creek Trail or local roads depending on conditions.



YARN DIVAS - Barb Jones

The next meeting will be at 10 AM on Wednesday, March 4th at the home of Jo Taylor. Please let Jo know by Monday, March 2nd, if you will/will not attend. Any PROBUS members who love to knit or crochet are welcome to join!

In February, the Yarn Divas donated baby hats to Lakeridge Health Oshawa for their special program which allows older siblings to choose a hat for a newborn.



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

WINTER STORM WARNING!



Check our website for information about meeting cancellation when reports of winter storm and poor road conditions are forecast

<http://www.oshawaprobus.com/>

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>

| Oshawa PROBUS CLUB March Calendar | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|-----------|
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| 1 | 2 10 AM Urban Pole Walking | 3 6:30 PM Chess 3 PM Wine Appreciation | 4 10 AM Yarn Divas | 5 1 PM Bookies | 6 10 AM Urban Pole Walking Movie Group | 7 |
| 8 | 9 10 AM Urban Pole Walking | 10 PROBUS GENERAL MEETING 10 AM 6:30 PM Chess | 11 1 PM Cribbage 7 PM Evening Poker | 12 5:45 PM Wine and Dine | 13 10 AM Urban Pole Walking Movie Group | 14 |
| 15 | 16 10 AM Urban Pole Walking Day Trippers Garden/Nature | 17 12 noon Lunch Group 1 PM Afternoon Poker 6:30 PM Chess | 18 10 AM Brain Games 1 PM Hand and Foot Card Game | 19 1 PM Scrabble | 20 10 AM Urban Pole Walking Movie Group | 21 |
| 22 | 23 10 AM Urban Pole Walking | 24 10 AM Bookworms 6:30 PM Chess | 25 1:30 PM Bid Euchre | 26 1 PM Open Arts 2 PM Euchre #2 7 PM PROBUS Book Club | 27 10 AM Urban Pole Walking Movie Group | 28 |
| 29 | 30 10 AM Urban Pole Walking | 31 6:30 PM Chess | | | | |