

PROBUS Club of Oshawa Newsletter: May, 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

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

President's Message

Well here we are learning to appreciate being at home and all the aspects of keeping apart while keeping in touch in a variety of new ways. Talk about a learning curve! Taking on video conferencing and ordering staples and meals for delivery through on-line portals. Cleaning out one's pantry to create new and untried recipes. Playing more actual physical games, both card and board and trying to remember the rules! Dusting off old favourite CDs not played for a long time. Photo albums? Setting up To Do Lists that get longer by the day, but few items are taken off because tomorrow will be another day much like today as well as yesterday. What day is it today anyhow?

A lot has changed and a lot will never be the same it seems, but what has occurred for me at least is a greater appreciation of who and what really matters! Friends and family being healthy and safe, and the importance of being very present, in whatever format that takes, for all who are dear to me. I also find I need to change gears and focus on what is possible. A walk in the sunshine or the drizzle. Digging in my garden and watching new growth. Laughing at some of the videos, cartoons and creative ideas friends send me. Feeling inspired by the contributions of so many people who stand up to take charge and make a difference.

It will be some time before we know how long this new normal will last. For you and I and all of our PROBUS members, it may be some time before we can get back together in small groups, and probably much longer before we can meet in larger groups. As such it is important to keep in touch with the new friends you have made though coming out to our PROBUS Club meetings in the past, I encourage all of us to keep in touch with those we would normally spend time with, but also reach out to members we may only talk to when we see them at one of our monthly meetings. Keep up that connection too. Use the Membership list and find the phone number or email address and make contact. We may all be feeling a bit lonely for normal human contact. A smile, a hug, a laugh together, a shared cup of coffee. We may not be able to do that in person spontaneously right now, but we can initiate the next best thing.

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.

The Social Committee plans to return uncashed cheques plus reimburse cashed cheques at our first PROBUS Club of Oshawa general meeting.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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

However, we hope that Special Interest Group members will 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, 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.

Reminder to all Special Interest Group Conveners:

Topic: PROBUS CONVENER'S ZOOM MEETING

Time: Tuesday, Apr 28th at 2 PM



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

ART GROUP – Open Arts



Our Open Studio Art Group members are not meeting at this time. Sometimes we need a little encouragement to get going and take on a creative project. Follow the link to a video of Calligraphy using a fork! Beautiful to watch and maybe something for anyone to try?

[Fork Calligraphy](#)

BRAIN GAMES – Jackie Frank



Brain Games: Members of the group receive one or two brain games each day and get the answers to the games the next day. They get the whole day to solve the puzzles and some of them can be frustrating!

DAY TRIPPER'S – Jackie Frank



Day Trippers: The Easter Bunny sent members an Easter e-card.

EUCHRE GROUP #2 - Gerry Henderson



Since Centennial Retirement Residence expects to be shut down until June at the earliest, and as we normally take June, July and August as our summer hiatus, we may be able to re-convene in late September 2020.

GARDEN/NATURE GROUP – Jackie Frank



Garden/Nature Group: Jackie has been sharing videos of beautiful gardens, including one about gardens from around the world. Recent videos have highlighted Canada's and Toronto's gardens.

URBAN POLE WALKING - Maria de Jong



With the physical distancing regulations still in place, the Urban Pole Walkers are still all walking, but separately, in our own neighbourhoods.

But here is a taste of walks we can still enjoy in spirit and what the trails may look like when we can walk together again, hopefully soon. Here is a link that everyone can enjoy that celebrates the beauty of the Bruce Trail, right here in Ontario. This short video shows the beauty of walking the Bruce Trail.

[Bruce Trail End-to-End Hike](#)



WINE AND DINE - Catherine Frost

Catherine is organizing a recipe exchange.

YARN DIVAS - Barb Jones



Barb Jones has shared the following video links:

[MaskMaker Video](#)

[Stratford Festival at Home](#)

[Corona Virus Parodies](#)

[Amazon Alexa in Car](#)

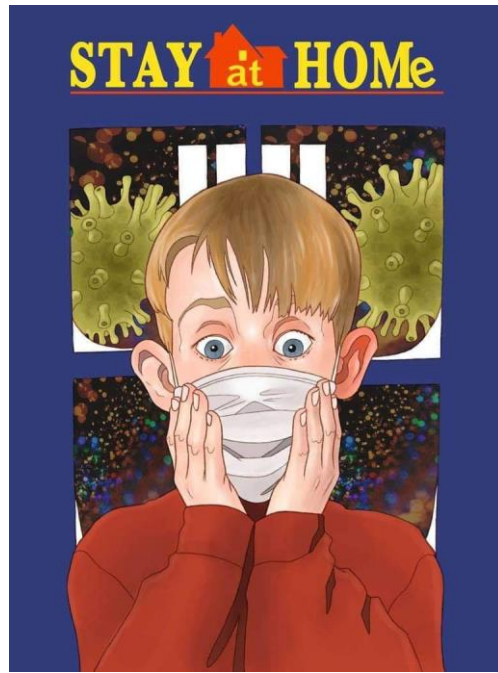


Member Care

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 oshawaprobusclub@gmail.com

A big "Thank You" to Brenda Cameron, who joined our Club in February. She has donated a number of her hand-made cards to the club for our Member Care. I am pretty sure we have other members who create cards, or who have taken on learning how to do so lately. If you could donate a few of your creations that would be suitable for Thinking of You or Sympathy cards, we would be most grateful. Please connect with Marlene Allen, if you are able to do so. marallenpt@gmail.com



and



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>