

PROBUS Club of Oshawa Newsletter: September, 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

Connie Nelson,
Interim
Membership
Chair

Maria Upton,
House
Committee

**Jacqueline
Frank,**
Archivist

David Hardy,
Web Master

Cindy Fleming,
Newsletter Editor

Our PROBUS Club of Oshawa will start to hold VIRTUAL GENERAL MEETINGS as of September 2020. As Provincial Health Regulations evolve, these may include a combination of in person and virtual meetings until we can all meet again in person.

President's Message

This is my 12th President's Message! Hard to believe that so much time has passed. In some ways, it feels like it has been two different years. One normal from October to March where we all operated as we always have and a second one from April on where nothing has been as we remember it. It has been a period of some loss, much change, and a big learning curve. As we move forward our new normal should become more familiar and hopefully better in many respects. At least that is my hope!

So, part of our new normal is to figure out how best to keep our members involved and engaged and do what PROBUS was always meant to do: provide Fellowship, Friendship and Fun as outlined on the PROBUS Canada website, or to put it another way, provide social engagement, mental stimulation and physical activity through our monthly General Meetings, various Social Events and numerous Special Interest Groups. Not easy in a Global Pandemic! So, one step at a time. Some of our Special Interest Groups that operate outdoors have restarted their activities. Some other SIGs have moved their meeting outdoors while others are connecting via Zoom or other virtual platforms. Some are still in the planning stage as to how to reconnect. Our Social Events may take some more time to start up again, since they often need larger groups of people and many venues have not restarted operations.

Your management team is planning to restart our monthly General Meetings come September, via ZOOM. Our first meeting will be on our normal second Tuesday of the month, so September 8th, 10:00 AM. This will be a trial run so you may need to be patient with us as we learn to scale up and figure it all out. More about that process follows.

GENERAL MEETINGS

We plan to try our first **Virtual General Meeting on September 8th at 10:00 AM.** As this is the first time we are doing this for a larger group, please be patient with us as we work out the logistics and up our learning curve once again. No speaker this time, but if all goes well that is possible for our next one, hopefully in October.

For some of you who have not been ZOOMING yet, this may require a bit of coaching. We will require you to register so that you will receive the link Meeting ID and Passcode. So please read the information below and we hope to see your faces on our mutual screens on September 8th, 10:00 AM.

INTRODUCTION TO ZOOM MEETINGS AND MEETING PROTOCOLS

Zoom is a company which provides online audio/video conference services for meetings through a software platform. You can use the service on any device - computer, tablet or smart phone. A larger screen works best. If you have no webcam on your computer, you can still listen and speak to and view other participants even though you cannot transmit your image. Signing up is easy. For any computer go to www.zoom.us/signup. For smart phone download Zoom app from Apple store or Google Play. Submit your email address and set up a password to create a free Basic Account. You can use this to Zoom with your family members, friends and Probus SIGS too.

We have set up a separate email account to allow us to manage this process for our Zoom General Meetings. It is register.gm.oshawaprobust@gmail.com. Please use this email address to register that you wish to participate in our September 8th Zoom GM. This will allow for monitoring numbers and then sending the Meeting ID Code and Passcode that you will need to sign in. You sign in by going to the Zoom account you have set up and sign in using your email address and password. You will then be prompted to click on and enter the meeting ID and passcode. You will then enter a Waiting room. At some point soon the "Host" will admit you. You may need to click on the icon on the bottom of most screens to ensure that your video and audio are working. At top of the Zoom screen, you can click on a box icon to get speaker or gallery view.

There will be some protocols needed during the Zoom meeting. At some point the "host" may mute all participants except the speaker to prevent cross talk and ambient noise. In addition, we will be able to break up the participants into smaller "rooms" where you will be able to socialize with each other. You will find a Chat Button that you can use to ask a question, that the host or speaker can address. Zoom offers a number of tutorials to help us all become more familiar with how to use this virtual platform. Once you have signed up at www.zoom.us/signup you can view Zoom tutorials.

Looking forward to seeing you on September 8, at 10:00 AM, albeit just on a screen for now! Please remember to register by September 6, so we can send out the Meeting ID Code and Passcode that you will need to sign in.



A reminder to our members that it is time to pay the reduced fee of \$15 to renew your PROBUS Club of Oshawa membership for 2020-2021. Please make your cheque payable to **PROBUS Club of Oshawa**. You can mail it to: Connie Nelson, 1447 Tremblay Street, Oshawa ON L1J 3X7 or drop it in Connie's mail box. If you know that you are not renewing your membership, please let Connie know by calling (905) 576-9022 or emailing connienelson@rogers.com or oshawaprobustclub@gmail.com. Thank you to the 46 members who have already paid.



**MANAGEMENT TEAM SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR OSHAWA
PROBUS 2020-21**

Connie Nelson, PROBUS Oshawa Past President, is sharing the following team slate for next year:

Past President	Maria de Jong
President	Alan Sawtell
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	Marlene Allen, Pat Bayus
Social Committee Co-ordinator	Marilyn Thaxter
Treasurer	Garry Christenson
Members-at-Large	Joan Puskas, Judy Sandham, June McLaren
House Committee Co-ordinator	Maria Upton
Interim Membership Chair	Connie Nelson
Newsletter Editor	Cindy Fleming
Speakers Committee	Julia Howells
Special Interest Groups	Elaine Lopes, Anne MacKay
Archivist	Jackie Frank
Webmaster	Dave Hardy



If you have any objections to any of the nominees or would like to volunteer, please contact Connie Nelson at connienelson@rogers.com or oshawaprobusteam@gmail.com. As you can see, we still require a Vice President and we are also looking for a Social Committee Coordinator(s). A vote confirming the slate of officers will be conducted at our October general meeting which, if all goes as planned, will happen in a Zoom meeting.



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

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Virtual and outdoor Special Interest Group meetings are feasible for now. See what some SIGs have been doing to stay connected and stay active.



BRAIN GAMES – Jackie Frank

The online brain games are starting again in September. Games will be provided two to three times a week. If interested, contact Jackie Frank.

HAND AND FOOT CARD GAME – Kathy Brown

The Hand and Foot group have met on a patio several times to shuffle cards at a social distance while enjoying the great outdoors.



LUNCH GROUP – Connie Nelson

A small group of 5 members met at Lakeview Park on Tuesday, August 18th. Each member brought their own lawn chair and picnic lunch. Unfortunately, Mother Nature did not cooperate and rain arrived sooner than we anticipated. It was nice to get together, even if only for a short time

MARATHON BRIDGE – Frank Kelcey



Oshawa PROBUS Marathon Bridge is currently on hold. That is, we are waiting to start our next season. While we wait, we would like to encourage new members/pairs to join our interest group. Our skill levels range from novice to expert and the atmosphere is quite relaxed. No partner? We will try and find you one.

If interested, or if you have questions, please contact Frank Kelcey at frank.kelcey029@sympatico.ca or (905) 723-5737.

URBAN POLE WALKING - Maria de Jong



Some of our members have been Pole Walking regularly. We walk in pairs, keep proper distance and enjoy each other's company as we walk the many beautiful local trails. Although trails are busier than in the past, it is quite possible to keep physical distance. Our pairs can be doubled or tripled depending on how many are able to

walk on a given morning.

As of Friday September 11th we hope to be able to walk on our regular schedule of Mondays and Fridays at 9:00 AM. Group members will receive a schedule with locations. Contact mariska578@gmail.com to be added to the list.



INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO SENIORS

This year, on October 1, National Seniors' Day, CARP (formerly Canadian Association of Retired Persons) is aiming to host **Canada's largest ever virtual meeting of seniors**. The online event, which will bring together a VIP panel of experts and influencers to have a critical conversation about issues affecting older people in the age of COVID-19, is sure to be invigorating and inspiring—an experience worthy of an important milestone that celebrates the power of aging across the country. See link below if you are interested in participating on October 1st, 2020. [National Seniors' Day Virtual Meeting](#)



DOORS OPEN IS GOING DIGITAL THIS YEAR. Check it out at the link below.

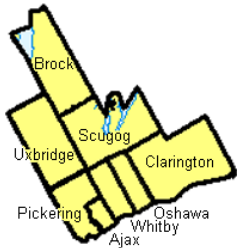
[Doors Open Ontario](#)



— Home to our History —

DISCOVER HISTORICAL OSHAWA (Hosted by the Oshawa Museum)

[Discover Historical Oshawa](#) – highlights remarkable places from the community both past and present.



DISCOVER DURHAM REGION – There’s always something to celebrate in Durham Region.

[What's Happening in Durham Region](#)

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

For many of us, the CNE signals the end of summer. 2020 marks the first time since the Second World War that Canada's largest fair will not be held. While we can't enjoy the excitement in person, follow the link below for some virtual fun at the "EX".

[Canadian National Exhibition 2020](#)



Remember When

A look back at some of our Social Events:



Bowling



Christmas Lunch



Distillery District



Aga Khan Museum



Bata Shoe Museum



Golf Group



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.

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>

GOODBYE SUMMER, HELLO AUTUMN

KENARD PAK

