



PROBUS Club of Whitby Brooklin

April 2024

Volume 11– Issue 08

MANAGEMENT TEAM

President

Jackie Brooks

Vice President

Susan Bruce

Past President

Karen Lambert

Secretary

Sherry Weese

Treasurer

Mary Smith

Membership Chair

Claire deSousa

Speaker Chair

Martin Reid

Interest Chair

Anne Cruess

Social Co-Chairs

Susan Bruce

Eleanor MacAlpine

Newsletter Chair

John Hand

Webmaster

Mark deSousa

Wild Apricot Co-Chairs

Karen Lambert

Mary Smith

For contact information

please consult your

Membership List



Happy April Everyone!

April showers may bring May flowers but they also bring lots of insects! Besides the usual spiders and ants, they also will bring Cicadas. These insects have a lifespan of 2 to 17 years (wonder what that is in dog years). They are scheduled to emerge this April and May in greater numbers than have been seen in decades. These are periodical cicadas and will emerge from the ground at the same time after a nap of 13 or 17 years. But relax. They are not harmful, just very noisy.

April showers also cause something very harmful....fuzzy, frizzy hair! This month hats come in handy and are very helpful when out walking with Jack's Walking Group or even just hurrying into our Probud General Meeting. Have you noticed it is always just about to rain, is raining, or just stopped raining, on the fourth Wednesday of every month?

Spring is a good time to try something fresh and new. Join an Interest Group you are curious about, start an Interest Group, sign up for a Social Event when it is announced or consider standing for a Management Position. None are paid positions but they all come with amazing Benefits!

See you on Wednesday April 24 at 10am. Come early for a good parking spot, buy your Share the Wealth draw tickets, and socialize. At this month's meeting I will tell you about my recent adventure with a spider. You don't want to miss it!

Jackie Brooks (aka Entomologist Extraordinaire)
President

Request for 2024 Management Committee Nominations

Here's a volunteer opportunity to help out your club! Each year the Management Committee of the Probus Club of Whitby-Brooklin reviews its need for new committee members for the coming year(s) to ensure continuity of club operations as terms of office end.

We are seeking nominations for the term beginning September 1, 2024 for the positions of:

- **Social Co-Chair** (currently Susan Bruce)
- **Interest Group Chair** (currently Anne Cruess)
- **Treasurer** (currently Mary Smith)
- **Membership Chair** (currently Claire DeSousa)
- **Newsletter Editor** (currently John Hand)
- **Webmaster** (currently Mark DeSousa)
- **Wild Apricot Administrator** (currently Karen Lambert and Mary Smith)

Nominees can look forward to playing two key roles in any position: one of being responsible for a specific aspect of club activities (social events, treasurer etc.) and the other of contributing to overall club operational decisions and policies.

Job descriptions are available on the Club website at whitbybrooklinprobus.wildapricot.org at the bottom of each page. Terms for each position are one year minimum and up to three years and will start on September 1, 2024. Please feel free to contact any of the current Management Chairs listed above, should you want more information about what their position involves.

A Nominations Committee has been established to oversee the process consisting of the Past President (Karen Lambert), the President (Jackie Brooks), and per bylaw requirements, a member in good standing (Diane Kirby). Karen Lambert is the Nominations Chair.

If interested, you need to send an email to the Nominations Committee expressing interest in a specific position. You also need to have another member of the club send an email nominating you for the position.

The Nominations Committee will follow up with you to discuss the position and process in more detail and answer any questions that you may have.

The "cut off" date for nominations is June 30th 2024

We look forward to your response and interest in continuing to maintain a great club.

Nominations Chair,

Karen Lambert

VICE PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Vice President – Susan Bruce

Last month we had Earth hour on Saturday March 23rd where we turned off lights and using electricity for an hour.



This month we have a whole day to honour the earth. Earth Day is Monday April 22nd. During Earth Day we think about environmental protection issues.

Did you know?

In a study conducted by the journal Science, scientists estimate that 8.8 million tons of plastic enter the ocean every year, threatening over 700 species of marine animals. (source: National Geographic)

On Earth Day take a walk, maybe along the waterfront and pick up litter. Stop some plastic from getting into the water.

Just a thought.



NEWSLETTER

Chair – John Hand

Happy April everyone! I hope you are keeping dry!

Well, it's that time of the year again when we are looking for people to join the management team. Please take time to look at the positions available.



Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the **5TH** of each & every month

UPCOMING GUEST SPEAKER

Chair – Martin Reid

The next speaker on April 24 will be Julien LeBourdois.

Julien spent a career as a professional photojournalist, and will present a slide show and commentary on Canadian Prime Ministers, the Stanley Cup (yes, with the Leafs), John and Yoko, to mention just a few of his photographs.

LAST MONTH...

Our speaker on March 27 was Dan Buchanan, historian and author from Brighton. His talk was on "38 Hours to Montreal: A Road Trip from Toronto to Montreal in 1840". The Governor General needed to travel by stagecoach from Toronto to Montreal and complete the journey in under 38 hours. We heard how the story of this trip unfolded, including 24 changes of horses, broken bridges and mud. We learned about the stagecoach stops along the way, some of which are still in existence. The trip was completed with 3 hours to spare. Dan also provided some of his books for purchase.

Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish?

SOCIAL EVENTS

Co-Chairs – Susan Bruce & Eleanor MacAlpine

April 9th we enjoyed a **Lunch and Movie** event at **Amica Whitby**. We saw ‘**The Waking of Ned Devine**’ **This event** filled up quickly.

Moving on to our upcoming events:

We have **Progressive Euchre** on **Tuesday April 16th**. You must know how to play euchre. You can sign up as a single. You will be changing partners throughout the evening, hence the title Progressive. Please let Claire DeSousa know if you signed up and find that you cannot go. She needs to know the exact numbers to have a successful night.

The **Pickering Community Concert Band** has invited us to their Spring Concert entitled **Radio Days on Sunday April 21 at 2:30 at Forest Brook Community Church**. They will be playing familiar pieces from the past. Pieces from The Wizard of Oz, Momma Mia and Queen in Concert. There is also the very challenging William Tell overture. They have granted us a special price. The cost is \$12 for Probus members and \$13 for our guests. There are tickets available on Wild Apricot.



Join us **May 7th** at 1:30 pm for a trip across Canada! We are going to **Little Canada** which is a unique way to explore the sights and sounds of our great country in miniature scale. We can go to the East Coast, Niagara Falls, Toronto, Golden Horseshoe, Ottawa and Quebec City and some other surprises. There is a challenge of finding Maurice the Moose in different locations.

Little Canada is located at Yonge and Dundas St. in Toronto. At 10 Dundas St. East.



You can take the GO Train to Union Station and then the Subway to Dundas and Yonge and get off and walk right into the building with Little Canada in the basement. Using the Presto card this will only be 1 fare. A nice little saving.

There are several restaurants in the upper levels of the building if you wish to go for lunch first or dinner after the event.

We hope to see you there for a fun filled afternoon. This is posted on Wild Apricot and there are spots available.

Stay tuned for news of our Annual Barbecue marking the unofficial start of summer. I can tell you now that the date is Wednesday June 5th. We have booked the Swing band, Mood Swing, to play for the first hour. You can listen to their great music or get up and dance to it. It will be fun. After the barbecue, the committee has a few activities for you to enjoy with prizes. We still need to finalize some details. There will be an email sent out shortly.



We have 2 Bruce Bell tours in downtown Toronto. Bruce will share his knowledge of the old and new Toronto in the Financial district. The dates are Friday June 28th and July 12th. Both tours will meet Bruce at the big clock on the main floor of Union Station at 10 o'clock on the day of the tour. These tours are popular, so we booked Bruce for 2 dates. The cost is \$27 for members. Tickets are available on Wild Apricot



I want to remind you that once you have signed up for an event and given your payment, it is nonrefundable. This is our Probus policy. If you find that you cannot attend the event you may find a replacement. You **must** let the social committee know. We need to know if there is a replacement for insurance reasons.

“Spring adds new life and new beauty to all that is.” – Jessica Harrelson

“No matter how long the [winter](#), spring is sure to follow. (*English Proverb*)

Eleanor and Susan

Spur of the Moment Ideas

Money talks... all mine
ever says is good-bye.

April 20 Whitby Brass Band Spring concert at Heydenshore at 2:00 pm

April 27 Vendor Market at St. Thomas Church, Brooklin

April 27 Yard Sale at Brooklin United Church, Brooklin

April 27 County Town Singers concert at 2:30 pm, Uniform Local 222 Hall 1425 Phillip Murray Ave. Oshawa

May 4 Durham Curbside Giveaway, 7 am to 7 pm

May 4 Durham Philharmonic Choir at St Mark's Church Centre St. Whitby.

May 10 Notables Choir concert at 7 pm and May 11 at 2 pm. at St Georges Anglican Church 77 Randall Dr., Ajax

May 25 Garden event Palmer Park, Port Perry

May 25 and 26 Warkworth Lilac Festival 10 AM to 4 PM

MEMBERSHIP

Chair – Claire deSousa

Hello Everyone,

We are now in Spring. Hurray!! I love the longer days and shorter nights.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR JUNK MAIL EVERY TIME YOU'RE IN YOUR E-MAIL. We have members, especially new folks who say they are not getting everything. **Check your junk mail.** The first e-mail you receive from a new address, such as my Probus address, might go to your junk mail. Don't be afraid to look at junk mail. Just don't open any links unless you're sure who it is from.

Please don't respond to any e-mail you get from the club's address. If you have an inquiry, you need to contact the appropriate person directly. That way you're not wasting time waiting for me to respond or forward your inquiry.

We keep on growing. We are now at 345 members. If you know anyone thinking of joining, they should do it soon. We have a maximum and we are getting close.

From time to time, we hear that we have lost a member or the member's spouse. But there are also times that we don't hear. PLEASE, if you know of a member we've lost or their spouse/partner, please let me know. Others would like to be notified so they can send their condolences.



WELCOME WELCOME WELCOME to new members since the last newsletter:

Bev F., Rod C., Nathan R. and Terry R.



Hope to meet you soon at a Probus Event!

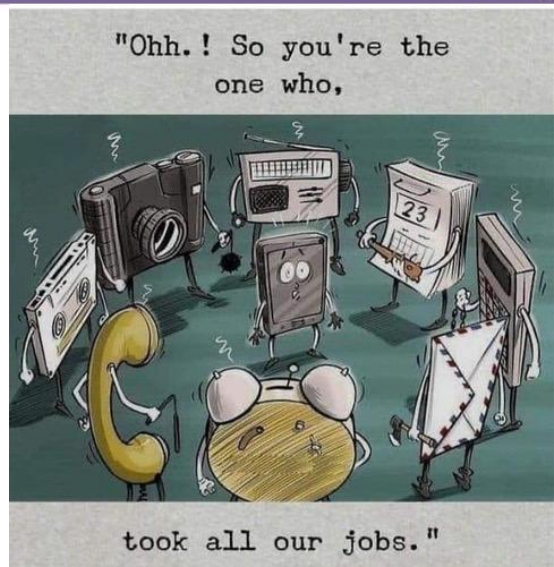
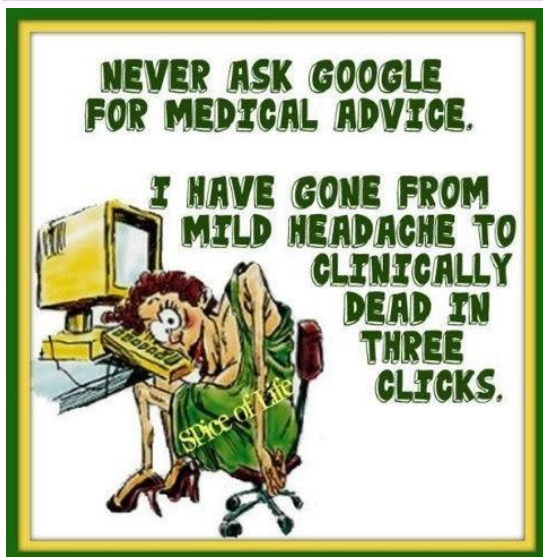
Claire



Send Photos to the Webmaster at
webguy4PWB@gmail.com

**Remember to label them with
When, Where and Date**

Check your website often
www.whitbybrooklinprobus.wildapricot.org



INTEREST GROUPS

Chair – Anne Cruess

Interest Groups Updates

- ME & U dining interest group is now full.
- The Garden interest group is now disbanded. ←
- Bookies interest group has a few spaces available.
- Paddlers interest group will run June through September



ARTISTICS

Leader - Deborah Corbett

This month we visit the spring show and sale of art at Camp Samac in Oshawa, followed by lunch at Sympatico Restaurant. Many thanks to Judy for organizing our outing this month.



← The Group explores Indigenous Canadian art at the McMichael Art Gallery in Kleinberg Ontario. The Arts group of the Whitby–Brooklyn PROBUS club joined with the Durham Central PROBUS Club for a highly informative guided tour of Canadian Indigenous art. We learned about exciting art from the Woodland, Inuit and Northwest BC schools of
Report by Lewis Williams

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

Leader – Jackie Brooks

We are fastening our seatbelts and getting ready to discuss *The Flight Attendant* by Chris Bohjalian. Pam will be hosting at Amica.

WOMENS BREAKFAST CLUB #1

Leader – Val Randall

A group of ladies who meet on the third Wednesday of the month enjoying breakfast, friendship and fun at various local restaurants. Our next breakfast outing is Wednesday April 17th and we will be meeting at Crepe Castle Restaurant, 1272 Simcoe St, Oshawa. See you there! Val 🍷🍷

WOMENS BREAKFAST CLUB #2

Leader – Carol Cadan

Our group will meet Tuesday April 23 at Symposium restaurant in Ajax

FUN BRIDGE

Leader – Fran Ballard

Fun bridge every Tues 10:00-12:00. New members welcome. Must know how to play bridge.

Contact Fran Ballard.

MOONSHOTS - BID EUCHRE

Leader – Roy Pettitt

Hi all, A full crew of 12 astronauts 🚀 (players) lifted off for the Moonshot 🚀 Bid Euchre group in Whitby last month, their playing cards ♥️♣️♦️♠️ at the ready to reach for the moon 🌙. Disappointedly nobody managed that elusive Moonshot 😞 this month, so we look forward to that achievement later in 2024.

The results for the evening were 1st 🏆 Flying Officer Dave 🧑 139 points. 2nd 🥈 place, Flying Officer Pat 🧑 129 and 3rd 🥉 Flying Officer Wendy 🧑 with 121. DFL for March was 🌧️ F.O. Sandra 🧑 who played under stormy clouds ☁️ all night. Have to sign off 🙋 now as I've been asked to keep it Brief 📄! Cheers 🍻🍻 Capt. Roy 🧑.

THE CRAFTERS

Leader – Fran Ballard

Craft group every Thursday 1:00-3:00. Bring your own projects. Contact Fran Ballard.

CYCLING GROUP

Leader – John Patté

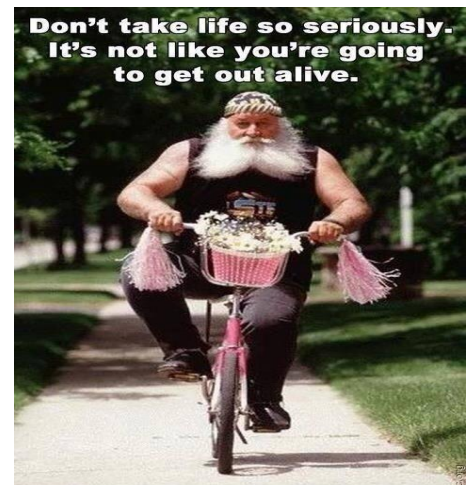


I'm writing this on a cold, windy, rainy day in early April. But I'm dreaming of sunny days when we will be out riding. I hope we will see a few of those days by the time you receive your Probus Newsletter! So, get ready! Bike tuned up, tires pumped, brakes checked, a little oil on your chain,

gears functioning smoothly.

But you must be on my email list to know where and when we will be riding. Just let me know.

John Patté, Cycling Group Coordinator



Don't take life so seriously.
It's not like you're going
to get out alive.

PICTUREQUOTES.COM

WEEKLY GOLF (OUTDOORS)

Leader – Jack Cadan

Calling all golfers. Who shoots a 6, yells "fore" and writes 5



It is that time of year that the yearning to frustrate oneself by spoiling a good walk chasing a little white (or sometimes coloured) ball around a golf course. The time has come to let me know who wants to join us once a week for 9 holes of golf. The format will be the same that I have used the last couple of years. We will play either Tuesday or Wednesday morning (around 9:00 am) at Spring Creek or Hawthorne golf courses. Simply send me an email to register for this activity. All future correspondence will be through email. I expect that we will begin in early May and run through to about Thanksgiving.



AFTERNOON TEA

Leaders – Pam Hand / Ann Pettitt

The Afternoon Tea Group spent a lovely afternoon at The Cottage Tea House in Oshawa on April the 11th.



TASTE THE WORLD DINNER

Leaders – Pat Sturch / Jackie Brook

This fearless group is going to Japan this month and sampling some dishes at the Villa in Whitby. Even though we cannot pronounce them that will not stop us!

MEET, GREET AND EAT

Leader - Lynda Yardley.

In March, our group headed to the Orient by having lunch at Thai Delicious in downtown Whitby. We did a lot of greeting and eating and had a wonderful tasty time!

This month, we are headed to a Scottish Pub, The Piper Arms in Brooklin/Whitby on Tuesday, April 16th at noon.

GRAPE ESCAPE

Leader – Heather Baker

Sherry and Sharon hosted our March Grape Escape. We were challenged with a blind tasting of 4 wines - 2 white and 2 red, cleverly disguised in green fabric in honour of St. Patrick's Day. We were asked to identify the type of wine and the country of origin. Our success was limited! I guess we are still not wine experts so we will have to continue to expand our knowledge with many more tastings! With our wine we enjoyed jalapeno shrimp, two hot cheese dips and smokey chicken wings. Once again an entertaining evening with good friends!



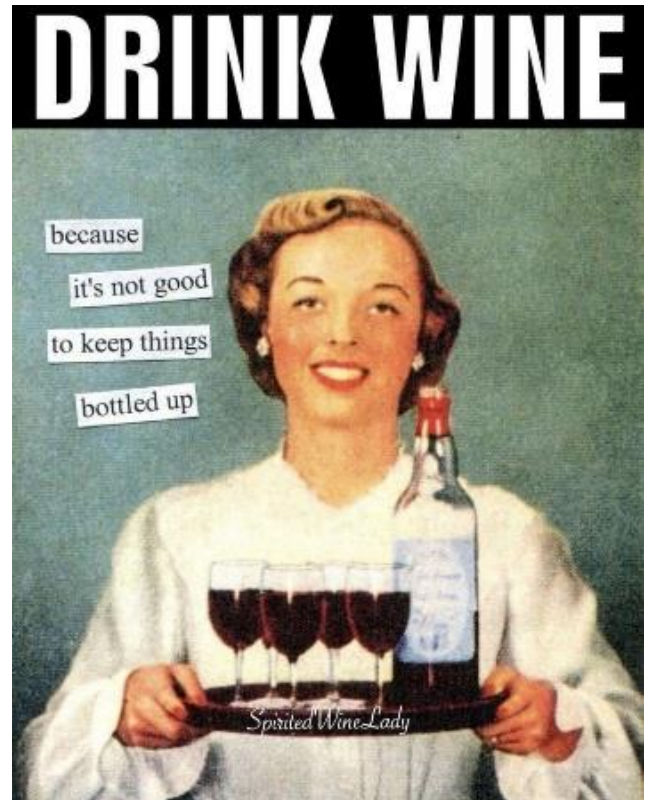
Heather

VIRTUAL WINE TROTTERS

Leader – Nancy Prout

In recognition of St Patrick's Day, our travellers embarked on an Irish tradition to enjoy their renowned Baileys Irish Crème. Being a small but determined group, we had a lofty idea to have our cake and eat it too, pairing with Bailey's induced sweets and pastries. It was a brilliant, delectable evening. As we travel the globe, April will take us to the country of Croatia to sample their Red Polijasac. Stay tuned..

Our passports are becoming highly decorated with countries travelled.



THE BRAIN TEAM

Leader - Wendy Marshall

April is Memory Month. What better time to join The Brain Team! We all need to keep our brains in good shape! Come and be a "smarty pants" at our gathering. You can work together or on your own. No judgement here! Our next meeting is on Monday, April 22nd at the Whitby Library from 11:00 - 12:30. Email Wendy Marshall to join up. Bring a pen and paper. At this meeting, I will be asking for \$15.00 from each member to cover my costs for the next 3 months. Come on and try it!

MIND TEASER QUIZ sent in by Wendy Marshall

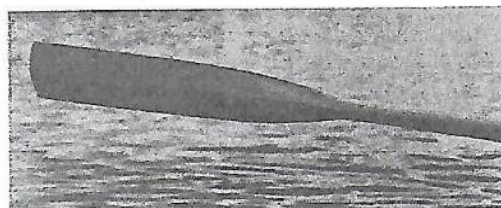


WORD PICTURES

*executive functions
attention to detail
multitasking*

Put one picture together with one word part (in any order) to come up with the names of eight flowers. (*Note: Spelling might not always be correct, but the pronunciation will be right.*)

BINE	NATION	MARI	CHID
PEO	SY	PY	ONIA



Answers near the end.



Money can't buy happiness, but it keeps the kids in touch!

I read that 4,153,237 people got married last year, not to cause any trouble but shouldn't that be an even number?

I find it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.

Wife crashed the car again today.... She told the police the man she collided with was on his mobile phone and drinking can of beer ! Police said he can do what he likes in his own living room !



Two little boys were at a wedding when one leaned over to the other and asked, "How many wives can a man have?" His friend answered, "Sixteen... four better, four worse, four richer, and four poorer."

My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that.

Nobody can embarrass you like your own family.



Baby Boomers will get this 🤔😄 Too Funny!!



Answers to puzzle:
Columbine
Car nation
Mari gold
Orchid
Peony
Pansy
Poppy
Begonia

THAT'S ALL FOLKS!