



PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX NEWSLETTER

Club 82

Vol 26 Issue 1

January, 2023

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Thank you to the members who contributed to this issue.

Please send comments, articles and photos of our events by the 25th of the month to Newsletter Editor, Hetty Shapiro.

hettyisnow@gmail.com

Ajax PROBUS website:

www.ajaxprobus.com

Canada PROBUS website:

www.probus.org

See what's on in the
Town of Ajax:

<http://www.ajaxlibrary.ca/>

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



I am proud to announce that on December 22, our Club was awarded the Senior Support Award by the Town of Ajax. The award was in recognition of: "being a staple of the Town, and improving quality of life for Seniors within our community. Our events help members not only to connect with people but support local businesses which they may not have known about without the Probus activities. By offering

ride sharing, members who may be less mobile are still able to attend the activities and get involved." I would like to thank April for nominating us for the award.

The success of our club is due to the many volunteers who organize our interest groups, serve on the management team, register new members, find interesting speakers, arrange and sign members up for trips, arrange for and serve coffee, sell tickets for the "Share the Wealth" and check members in at the meetings. I am very fortunate to have such a dedicated and hard-working team.

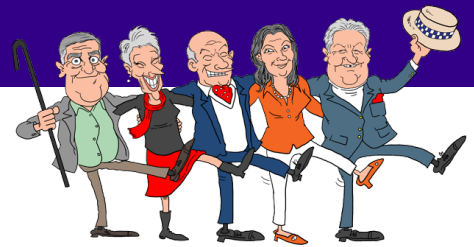
I would like to thank Shirlie for another successful Christmas lunch. Thank you, Julie, for getting the door prizes.

Happy New Year everyone.

Jane Wilson



Councillor Lisa Bower (left) with representatives of the Probus Club of Ajax.
Jane Wilson, Shirlie Van Putten, Barb Squires & Tom Rosebush.



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

<u>President</u>	Jane Wilson	ajaxprobuspresident@gmail.com
<u>Vice President</u>	Jim Meek	jimtmeek@gmail.com
<u>Past President</u>	position vacant	
<u>Treasurer</u>	Rowena Burns	probusajxtreasurer@gmail.com
<u>Secretary</u>	Bernie Rosebush	ajaxprobussecretary@gmail.com
<u>Member-at-Large</u>	Kevin Portener	kdportener@rogers.com
<u>Member-at-Large</u>	Terri Stewart	terri.stewart@sympatico.ca
<u>Communications Coordinator</u>	Barb Squires	stunikki@gmail.com
<u>House Coordinator</u>	Margaret Wells	ajaxprobushouse@gmail.com
<u>Interest Groups Coordinator</u>	position vacant	
<u>Membership Coordinator</u>	Tom Rosebush	ajaxprobusmembership@gmail.com
<u>Newsletter Editor</u>	Hetty Shapiro	hettyisnow@gmail.com
<u>Social Coordinator</u>	Shirlie Van Putten	shirlievanputten@rogers.com
<u>Speakers Coordinator</u>	April Gilkinson	april-ann@hotmail.com
<u>Technical Coordinator</u>	Stewart Beatty	ajaxprobuszoom@gmail.com
<u>Website</u>	Maureen McVarish	maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca


INTEREST GROUP COORDINATORS

<u>Billiards</u>	Don Vorhees (Pickering)	holdus1399@gmail.com
<u>Book Club</u>	Jane Armstrong	armstrongjane@rogers.com
<u>Breakfast Club</u>	Julie Mathewson	jmathewson@rogers.com
<u>Bridge</u>	Harvey Brodhecker	hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca
<u>Cribbage</u>	Reg Lawrance	reglawrance@rogers.com
<u>Dining Out</u>	Carol Breen	cbreen840@bell.net
<u>Euchre</u>	Julie Mathewson	jmathewson@rogers.com
<u>Golf</u>	Marcia Everitt (Durham West)	marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca
<u>Movie Club</u>	Not meeting during Covid	
<u>RODEO (Ladies Lunch)</u>	Dawn Thornton	dthorn000@gmail.com
<u>Walking Club</u>	Ron Mitchell &	mitchellmis@rogers.com
Maureen McVarish		maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca

JANUARY CALENDAR

If an event has to be cancelled, you will be notified by email on the day of the event, before 9:00 am. Members who do not have email will be phoned.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 	2 11:00 am ZOOM CHAT	3	4 10:00 am GENERAL MEETING	5 2:30 pm SOCIAL BRIDGE	6	7
8	9 11:00 am ZOOM CHAT	10 2:00 pm EUCHRE	11 12 noon RODEO LUNCH — 1:30 pm PRINCESS OF WALES THEATRE	12 2:30 pm BRIDGE LESSON	13	14
15	16 11:00 am ZOOM CHAT	17	18 10:00 am BOOK CLUB	19 2:30 pm SOCIAL BRIDGE — 5:30 pm DINING OUT	20	21
22	23 11:00 am ZOOM CHAT	24 2:00 pm EUCHRE	25	26 2:30 pm BRIDGE LESSON	27	28
29	30 11:00 am ZOOM CHAT	31 9:00 am BREAKFAST CLUB				



It was decided at the June 2022 Management Team Meeting that we will continue to require Proof of Vaccination for all indoor in-person activities. Once you show your proof of vaccination at the first in-person meeting you attend, you will not have to show it again. It will be up to each member if they choose to wear a mask or not (except when the majority of an interest group feels more comfortable with masks being worn). A detailed Protocol is on our website at www.ajaxprobus.com.

JANUARY EVENTS

Members are encouraged to bring guests to our meetings and events.



GENERAL MEETING
with Guest Speaker
Wednesday, January 4
10:00 am
Ajax Community Centre
HMS Ajax Room

Meeting fee: \$2
Optional "Share the Wealth" draw:
Tickets \$1 each or 3 for \$2
(exact change appreciated)

THE STORY OF THE RICHMOND HILL DAVID DUNLAP OBSERVATORY (RHDDO) with Guest Speaker: Maggie MacKenzie

The RHDDO has been a centre for astronomical research in Canada and a well-known attraction since its opening on May 31, 1935. It houses the largest telescope in Canada. A number of important studies have taken place here, including providing the first direct evidence that Cygnus X-1 was a black hole, pioneering measurements of the distance to globular clusters and the discovery that Polaris was stabilizing. But did you know this site was a family farm throughout the 19th century?

"We've got a story to tell" about the people that played an instrumental role in the development of the property. Join Maggie MacKenzie from Richmond Hill Heritage Services for a visual presentation to learn about the history of the land and how it became the David Dunlap Observatory.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT THE PORTLY PIPER PUB AFTER THE MEETING

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT LYRICS BY TIM RICE MUSIC BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11 - 1:30 pm Matinee
The Princess of Wales Theatre

This irresistible musical, is based on the biblical story of Joseph's "coat of many colors" from the Book of Genesis. Presented by Mirvish, it comes to The Princess of Wales Theatre for a limited premiere engagement in North America.

The lavish new production, called the definitive one for this generation, comes to Toronto from the legendary London Palladium where it was a smash-hit. With all its technicolor bells and whistles, it is a production not to be missed. Its star is the thrilling new discovery, Jac Yarrow, who was chosen by Andrew Lloyd Webber to play the titular role.

\$150 per person

Includes show, return transportation
by coach and driver's tip.

RSVP: shirlievanputten@rogers.com

905-619-8583



FEBRUARY EVENTS

GENERAL MEETING
with Guest Speaker
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1 - 10:00 am
Ajax Community Centre
HMS Ajax Room

Meeting fee: \$2
Optional "Share the Wealth" draw:
Tickets \$1 each or 3 for \$2
(exact change appreciated)



**FROM A MAZE TO AMAZING – UNDERSTANDING ONTARIO'S
PERSONAL INCOME TAX, CREDITS & BENEFITS FOR SENIORS**
with Guest Speaker: Jeremy Bertrand

Jeremy Bertrand is a Tax Advisory Specialist at the Ontario Ministry of Finance. He will explain which credits and benefits can save you taxes.

The last time I heard Jeremy speak at an event, I learned that I could claim expenses that I was unaware of before. I'm sure we would all like to save some taxes, so do attend. You never know what you may learn – Jane Wilson

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT THE PORTLY PIPER PUB AFTER THE MEETING



**AJAX DOWNS CASINO
LUNCH AND PLAY**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8
(TO BE CONFIRMED)**

More details to follow
RSVP: shirlievanputten@rogers.com
905-619-8583

COMING SOON



GENERAL MEETING with Guest Speaker NEIL CRONE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1
Ajax Community Centre
HMS Ajax Room

Meeting fee: \$2

Optional "Share the Wealth" draw:

Tickets \$1 each or 3 for \$2
(exact change appreciated)

As a performer in dozens of television and radio commercials, TV shows, a Second City veteran improviser, host, and stand-up comedian, **Neil Crone** is sure to entertain us at our general meeting. He has won a Canadian Comedy Award, and is also an award-winning newspaper columnist and children's author.

He is known for portraying Fred Tupper in *Little Mosque on the Prairie*, Jerry Whitehall in *Cube 2: Hypercube* and the voices of Gordon, Diesel 10 and Splatter in *Thomas and the Magic Railroad* (2000) and reprises Gordon in the US dub in the reboot, *Thomas & Friends: All Engines Go!* (since 2021).

He appeared in films with roles as Officer Strauss in *New York Minute* (2004), Chuck in *Hollywoodland* (2006), Keith in *The Rainbow Kid* (2015), Chief Borton in the 2017 remake *It* (2017) and its 2019 sequel, and George in *Through Black Spruce* (2018).

Neil Crone's television credits include Bud Topper in the PBS Kids children's television series *Noddy* (1999–2000), Ed Barnes in the sitcom *I Love Mummy* (2002–2003), Ray Cooper in *Really Me* (2011–2013), Chief Crown Attorney Gordon in *Murdoch Mysteries* (2013–2016), Ollie Jefferson in *Wind at My Back* (1996–2000) and Mr. Leopold in *Endlings* (2020–present).

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT THE PORTLY PIPER PUB AFTER THE MEETING

ST. PATRICK'S DAY "KITCHEN PARTY" – FRIDAY, MARCH 17 THE SHOWPLACE DINNER THEATRE, KITCHENER



A high-energy show which will have you singing, laughing, and tapping your feet, as the intimacy and fun of a kitchen party is brought to life!
Featuring "The Celts" musical group.

Includes return transportation by coach,
407 toll, driver's tip, ticket for show and
buffet lunch.

More details to follow.

RSVP: shirlievanputten@rogers.com
905-619-8583



Speakers Coordinator, **April Wilkinson**, has been busy planning a very interesting guest speaker line-up for future General Meetings.

More information will follow in subsequent newsletters but, in the meantime, please save the dates on your 2023 calendars.

April welcomes your suggestions for speakers or topics. Contact her at april-ann@hotmail.com

TO BE CONFIRMED:
GENERAL MEETING WITH
GUEST SPEAKER, TIM BURROWS
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5 @ 10 AM
AJAX COMMUNITY CENTRE

Tim Burrows is a member of the Electric Vehicle Society – a non-profit organization promoting the understanding of electric mobility in Canada. He will address all your questions about electric cars.



TO BE CONFIRMED:
GENERAL MEETING WITH
GUEST SPEAKER, EVE SMELTZER
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 @ 10 AM
AJAX COMMUNITY CENTRE

If you have difficulty falling asleep or staying asleep, this intriguing presentation is for you. "**Counting Sheep**" will be the topic of discussion by Eve Smeltzer. Her research shows how sleep differs across the animal kingdom and how choosing a good place to snooze can have an enormous impact on health.



INTEREST GROUPS

BOOK CLUB



Next meeting is on

**WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 18
10:00 am**

**52 Bolland Crescent
Ajax**

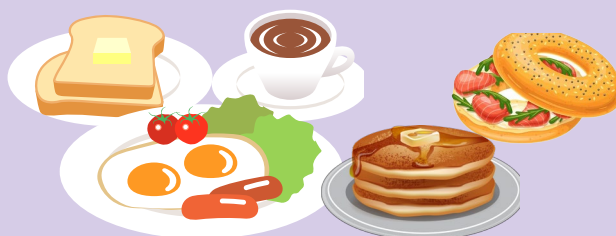
The book we selected is
"Midnight Library" by Matt Haig
You do not have to have read the book
to attend the meeting.

We welcome new members
to join our group.

RSVP: to Jane Armstrong
armstrongjane@rogers.com

BREAKFAST CLUB

We meet on the last Tuesday
of the month at various restaurants.



Next breakfast meeting:

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 31
9:00 am**

**ANGELIQUE'S FAMILY RESTAURANT
31 Barr Road, Ajax**

RSVP: to Julie Mathewson
jmathewson@rogers.com
905-686-0803

BRIDGE CLUB



"Oh, thank heavens - a fourth!"

**EVERY THURSDAY
2:30 - 4:30 pm**

**Multipurpose Room
Ajax Library
1955 Audley Road**

Jan 5: Social Bridge
Jan 12: Bridge Lesson
Jan 19: Social Bridge
Jan 26: Bridge Lesson

The Ajax Library main branch continues to have trouble locating the source of the water leak in the floor of the Rotary Room. We have therefore been reassigned to the Multipurpose Room in the Audley branch of the library. For those of you on my distribution list, I will email you when we will be returning to the main branch.

I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL!

RSVP: Harvey Brodhecker
hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca

INTEREST GROUPS continued

DINING OUT CLUB



It was requested to go back to Jimmy the Greek so that is what we will do.

Anyone can suggest a restaurant so think about it and let me know where you would like to go in the following months.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

5:30 PM

JIMMY THE GREEK RESTAURANT
1355 Kingston Rd. Pickering

RSVP by Jan 16 to Carol Breen
cbreen840@bell.net

EUCHRE CLUB



We play every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month.

We are still playing on Trickstercards.

Next meetings:

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10 & 24
2:00 pm

RSVP: to Julie Mathewson
by noon the day before.

jmathewson@rogers.com
905-686-0803

RODEO LUNCH CLUB

(Retired Old Dames Eating Out)



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

12:00 noon

MACKENZIE PUB
250 Bayly St. Ajax

Happy New Year!
Dawn

RSVP to dthorn000@gmail.com

INTEREST GROUPS continued

WALKING CLUB



Come join us and discover some of the many walking trails Ajax and surrounding areas have to offer.

Everyone welcome.

For more information contact:

Ron Mitchell

mitchellmis@rogers.com

or

Maureen McVarish

maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca

ZOOM CHAT ROOM



MEETING VIEW ZONE NON-MEETING ZONE

EVERY MONDAY - 11:00 am

To join the meeting contact:

Stewart Beatty

ajaxprobuszoom@gmail.com

or

Barb Squires

ajaxprobus@gmail.com

All members are welcome to join us for a discussion on general topics of interest.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

[CLICK HERE
TO
VOLUNTEER](#)

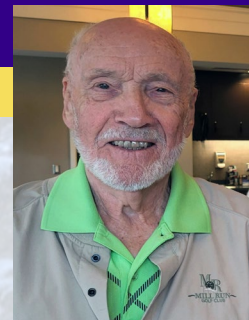
- ♦ Would you like to join the Management Committee as the Interest Groups Coordinator?
- ♦ Do you have an idea for a new Group that you would like to organize?
- ♦ Would you like to help plan an event?
- ♦ Are you willing to help on the day of a program or event?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, **Jane Wilson** would love to hear from you.



**VOLUNTEERS DON'T GET PAID,
NOT BECAUSE THEY'RE WORTHLESS,
BUT BECAUSE THEY'RE PRICELESS.**





Carl G. Mabee

WINTER'S NIGHT

A split rail fence snakes across the frozen fields
as moonbeams dance among the shadows,
and then pass.

Hidden deep among the drifts that covers all the posts
a rabbit lays sleeping snuggled warm
in last year's grass.

The snow glistens like tiny diamonds and then disappears
from sight as clouds pass over
the face of the moon.

A puff of wind lifts tiny crystals from the sheets of snow
and whirls with a rush towards
the forest gloom.

Evergreen are heavy from the passing snow and boughs
are bending nearly to the ground, a perfect place
to hide from winter's icy chill.

All seems very still but nocturnal forest creatures
throw shadows, like cottontails as they chase each other
around the trees and over the hill.

White tailed deer are yarding in a secret forest glade
A sharp tine from a heavy stag keeps coyotes
from the does.

They feed on twigs and acorns and other winter fruit
And travel in large numbers to keep
away the foes.

Coyotes circle around the yard watching for a break
their eerie howl sends shivers among the
young ones in the scene.

A crack of light in the East calls a halt to the pack
the Alpha howls in frustration and the
band's no longer keen.

Wild turkeys start to stir from their roosting in the trees.
They look like giant crow's nest that rustle
with the breeze.

An old Bob Cat is weary from crouching on a branch
waiting for its breakfast, maybe
just by chance.

This was just a snap shot of another winter's night
as the dark gives way to sunrise and the moonlight fades from sight.



The small Jazz Combo with a New Orleans Sound!

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE AJAX ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

The Ajax Royal Canadian Legion Branch 322 has asked the [Lakeridge Dixie Stompers](#) to play on:

JANUARY 8 and JANUARY 22

from 2 pm to 4:30 pm

Ajax Legion, 111 Hunt Street, Ajax

Take elevator direct to the Club Room

Traditional jazz in a hot New Orleans style for your dancing and listening pleasure. Featuring a gumbo of Blues, Tin Pan Alley, Marches, Hymns, Gospel, Pop Tunes and Dixieland Favourites!

The Legion welcomes everyone and there is no admission charge. Come in from the cold and enjoy some hot music from the south.

Some of the music we play!

Bill Bailey

Dark Town Strutters Ball

Down by the Riverside

Georgia on my Mind

Hello Dolly and many more.



Probus Club of Ajax member, Tony Lees, is a member of the Lakeridge Dixie Stompers.

Vocalists and musicians are welcome to sit in.



ONION SOUP MEAT LOAF



2-lbs lean ground beef
2 eggs
½ cup breadcrumbs
½ cup ketchup
2 tbsp mustard
1 envelope dry onion soup (Knorr)
¼ cup milk, water or broth
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce
½ tsp pepper
1 tsp each oregano & garlic powder

Glaze:

¾ cup ketchup
2 tbsp. brown sugar
1½ tsp wine vinegar
1 tsp garlic powder
½ tsp onion powder
¼ tsp each salt & pepper
or
your favourite BBQ sauce

1. Mix all meat loaf ingredients.
2. Spread mixture in parchment lined pan.
3. Cover with foil & bake @ 350 for 30 minutes. Remove from oven.
4. In a small bowl, mix all the glaze ingredients together & spread over meatloaf.
5. Return to oven, uncovered, and bake for another 15-20 minutes or until meat pulls away from pan.
6. Rest for 10 minutes before slicing.

VEGETARIAN "MEAT" LOAF

2 cups raw nuts
(cashews/walnuts/pecans)
2 tsp olive or avocado oil
1 cup chopped onion
4 cloves chopped garlic
1 cup chopped mushrooms (cremini or white)
1 cup cooked, mashed sweet potato
2 eggs

⅔ cup breadcrumbs
2 tsp oregano
1 tsp paprika
½ tsp salt & ½ tsp black pepper
½ tsp onion powder
2 tbsp soy sauce

Glaze (as in above recipe)

1. Add the nuts to a food processor and pulse to a thick, smooth paste.
2. Heat a skillet over medium heat. Heat oil. Add onion and garlic & cook for 2 mins.
3. Add mushrooms and a pinch of salt and cook until slightly golden. 3-4 mins.
4. Transfer to a bowl and add mashed sweet potato.
5. Add in the seasonings.
6. Add the nuts, soy or tamarind sauce, eggs, breadcrumbs and mix well.
7. If the mixture is too wet, add more breadcrumbs. Mixture should be just slightly sticky.
8. If too dry or crumbly, add a little more oil or water.
9. Transfer to a parchment lined pan. Lightly press mixture to even it out.
10. Cover with foil & bake @ 350 for 30 minutes. Remove from oven.
11. Mix Glaze ingredients together & spread over nut loaf.
12. Return to oven, uncovered, and bake for another 15-20 minutes.
13. Rest for 10 minutes before slicing.

MEMBERS' CORNER continued

SMILES & CHUCKLES



New Year's is a harmless annual institution, of no particular use to anybody save as a scapegoat for promiscuous drunks, friendly calls and humbug resolutions.

– Mark Twain

Good resolutions are simply checks that men draw on a bank where they have no account." – Oscar Wilde

Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right. – Oprah Winfrey

My New Year's resolution is to get better at pretending to know the words to "Auld Lang Syne."

New Year's parades have a lot in common with Santa Claus. Nobody is awake to see either one of them.

8 p.m. is the new midnight!

A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other.

My New Year's resolution is to stop hanging out with people who ask me about my New Year's resolutions.

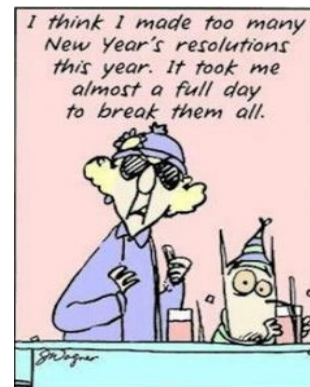
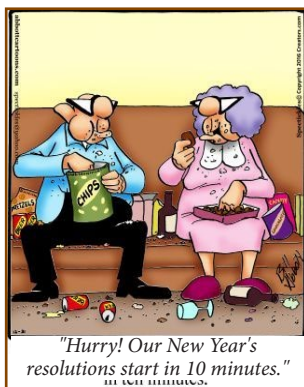


PHOTO GALLERY

TRIP TO MEMPHIS AND NASHVILLE

On November 17, 39 PROBUS members from several Durham Clubs flew to Nashville, Tennessee.

We were met at the Nashville airport by a coach bus and driven to Memphis with a stop at Loretta Lynn's Kitchen for lunch and then a tour of her ranch.

We spent three nights in Memphis, where we enjoyed the music in the bars on Beale Street, and went on several

tours, including Elvis' Graceland. Then back to Nashville, where we enjoyed the music on Broadway, several tours including a tour of the Country Music Hall of Fame, my personal favorite – a performance at the Grand Ole Opry, and a back stage tour. We were given city tours of both Memphis and Nashville, with very entertaining local tour guides.

Thank you to Shirlie and Paul for such a wonderful trip.

Jane Wilson



PHOTO GALLERY continued

DECEMBER 11 - ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH

A sell-out crowd attended the Herongate Barn Theatre for the Club's annual Christmas party. We enjoyed a 4-course buffet lunch, while a guitar player entertained with a selection of "golden oldies".

Lunch was followed by a talented group of actors playing in Ray Cooney's British Farce, "Funny Money".

After the play, several lucky guests were selected at random to choose a gift bag.



PHOTO GALLERY continued

DECEMBER 11 - ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH - THE HERONGATE BARN THEATRE (cont'd)

