

# PROBUS Club of Ajax Newsletter



Club 82

Volume 30

May 2025

## *Presidents Message...*

### Management Team

**President:** April Gilkinson

**Vice President:** Open

**Past President:** Jane Wilson

**Treasurer:** Murray Biel

**Secretary:** Erika Winfrow

**Membership:** Debbie  
Casquenette

**Speakers:** Kathy Lennox

**Socials:** Shirlie van Putten

**Interest Groups:** Julie  
Mathewson

**Communications:** Tina Gee

**House:** Tina Kvrpic

**Technical:** Stewart Beatty

**WebMaster:** Oankar Kundan

**Newsletter:** Open

**Member-at-Large:** Kevin Portener

We adopted the theme for our upcoming Open House as “Embracing our Community”, then realized it should always be our central focus all year round. We can do this in many ways including creating awareness of local events in our newsletters, at the information table at our in-house meetings and on our Facebook page. With these we can come together as a community to support one another. Look forward to seeing feature foods from local establishments at our Open House next month! You’ll discover our community has many hidden gems.

We will also be participating in the Seniors BBQ in June and the 55+ Wellness & Information Fair in September.

Since it feels good to do good, another great way to give back to your community is to participate in the Spring Clean Up Challenge to help keep Ajax clean and green. We can pick an area each week and the town will provide us with Spring Clean-Up Toolkits (gloves and bags). The program runs until the end of June for those interested.

There will be ample opportunities to sign up at our meeting in May as volunteers and representatives are needed for the upcoming events and to join the Spring Clean-Up.

You can make a difference to our Club and in our community.

*April Gilkinson*

Please remember to wear your name  
badge at our meetings and events!



Your Name

PROBUS Club of Ajax

MAY		WALKING GROUP 2 IS EVERY MONDAY AT 10AM			WALKING GROUP 1 IS EVERY THURSDAY AT 10AM		2025
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
					ZOOM CHAT - 1 PM MAHJONG 2 - 4 PM		
				01	02	03	
		CRIBBAGE - 2-4PM	GENERAL MEETING 10AM	BRIDGE 2:00-4:30PM	ZOOM CHAT - 1 PM		
04	05	06	07	08	09	10	
	GOMEQ - 12 PM RODEO - 12 PM	CRIBBAGE 2-4PM  COFFE + CONVERSATION 10AM	EUCHRE 2-4PM CLUB FRANCAIS 1 PM	BRIDGE 2:00-4:30PM DINING OUT 5:30PM	ZOOM CHAT - 1 PM MAHJONG 2 - 4 PM		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
		CRIBBAGE 2-4PM	NOT ANOTHER BOOK CLUB 10AM	BRIDGE 2:00-4:30PM CREATIVE EXPLORERS 1PM	ZOOM CHAT - 1 PM		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
	BOWLING 1PM HAPPY HOUR 3PM	BREAKFAST CLUB 9AM CRIBBAGE 2-4PM	IMPROV 1:30-3:00PM EUCHRE 2-4PM	BRIDGE 2:00-4:30PM	ZOOM CHAT - 1 PM		
25	26	27	28	29	30		



The Town of Ajax has released their Spotlight Speaker Series which includes the following FREE workshops. Please visit [ajax.ca/55plus](https://ajax.ca/55plus) to register.

Decluttering by Downsizers | Wed, April 23 | 1 to 3 p.m.  
Exploring Grief & Loss | Wed, May 14 | 1 to 3 p.m.  
Healthy Eating | Wednesday, June 18 | 1 to 3 p.m.



### Spring Clean-Up Challenge (April - June)

Help us keep Ajax clean and green. If you want to participate, contact [operations@ajax.ca](mailto:operations@ajax.ca) or 905-683-2951 to pick up your toolkit (gloves and bags) or sign up at the back at the Community table if you want to join a group of fellow PROBUS members who are willing to pitch in. Good for body and soul.

# General Meetings

Ajax Community Centre, HMS Ajax Room  
(entrance at south side of building)

Meeting fee: \$2  
Optional "Share the Wealth" draw:  
Tickets \$1 each or 3 for \$2



## POTSCAPING AND CONTAINER GARDENING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7 - 10:00 am

*Durham Master Gardeners* have been inspiring home gardeners since it's start in 1987. In May, our speaker will focus on potscaping and container gardening. Master Gardeners in Ontario are experienced gardeners who have studied horticulture extensively and continue to upgrade their skills through technical training. The presentation will cover all of the key ingredients for success with container gardening, including containers, the right soil and how to select the right plants based on colour, texture, scale and shape.

Join us for lunch at the Portly Piper after the meeting!



## Fables, Fairytales & Rhymes: Lessons for Real Life

Guest Speaker: Lianne Harris

WEDNESDAY, June 4<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 am

Lianne is a well-known, captivating speaker with an extensive background in history and education. As well, she is an author of two medieval novels and is a trained artist. In this lively one-hour presentation, Lianne Harris turns the pages of these classic fairytales and Mother Goose rhymes and illustrates how our behavior, attitudes, and values have been shaped by these seemingly innocent bedtime stories.

**June 4<sup>th</sup> is our OPEN HOUSE event which will include a light lunch after the meeting featuring foods from local establishments. Extra "Share the Wealth tickets" will be provided to anyone who is wearing PROBUS clothing. Register your guest(s) for a chance to win a prize.**

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### **Shamrock Adventure: The North and South of Ireland – 14 Day Tour - Oct 4 - 17**

This tour is the perfect introduction to Ireland's best-loved attractions and its best-kept secrets including Dublin City, the Wild Atlantic Way and Northern Ireland. This comfortably paced tour introduces you to Ireland's iconic locations and its vibrant culture. Pick up flyer for more info.

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### **Thursday June 12th - Picton Wine Tour - Cost \$135**

Welcome to Prince Edward County, a Designated Viticultural Area in Ontario with close to 40 wineries and new ones popping up every year. Our winemakers are serious about wine, but the tasting experience in Prince Edward County is refreshingly unpretentious. Includes return transportation, departs by 8:45 am, Tasting & lunch and visit to the "Lake in the Mountain" and Driver's Tip. Pick up a flyer at the In-House meeting for more information.

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### **Thursday July 24th - Westben Theatre (only 4 seats available) - Cost \$125**

Presenting "Phantom of the Opera"; Experience the incredible music of one of the most popular music theatre pieces in history: Andrew Lloyd Webber's haunting musical based on the 1910 novel The Phantom of the Opera by Gaston Leroux. Includes return transportation by Motor Coach, Picnic lunch, Ticket for show and Driver's tip. Pick up a flyer for more info.

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### **Work In Progress (Stay Tuned) :**

September: BBQ & Kingston Penn Tour

October: Fall Boat Tour

November: St. Jacob's

December: Capital Theatre for a Panto;

Christmas Luncheon booked for December 3rd.

**For more information contact Shirlie at 905-619-8583 or  
shirlievanputten@rogers.com OR visit the Website**



Payments for events and membership may be made via e-transfer through your bank to: [probusajaxtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:probusajaxtreasurer@gmail.com)  
Include your name and what the payment is for.



# Local Outings



## Broadway Rave

Friday June 20th 7:00 pm at the St. Francis Centre

**\$5** Per person (Buy your own ticket . We will reserve spaces for up to 10 people so RSVP )

Join us for our first-ever Broadway dance party celebrating the best of musical theater and show tunes ! Grab your glow gear to sing and dance along with all your favorites. Cosplay encouraged.

**RSVP: APRIL** [april-ann@hotmail.com](mailto:april-ann@hotmail.com)



Join our reserved Probus tables for a fun evening of food, karaoke and dancing at

**The Royal Canadian Legion**  
**111 Hunt Street, Ajax**

- \* singing is not mandatory
- \* no cover charge
- \* membership is not required

Friday is Fish Fry night + other menu items  
(cash only for food and drinks)

Arrive at **6:00 pm** if having a meal.

Karaoke begins at **7:00 pm**

**RSVP: Hetty** [hettyvisnow@gmail.com](mailto:hettyvisnow@gmail.com)

# Interest Groups



## Book Club

Every 3rd Wednesday Via Zoom

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, May 21 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Lynne:** 912lynne@gmail.com

905.839.8147

This is not another book club. We discuss books that members have read and recommend as opposed to all of us reading the same book.



## Bowling + Happy Hour

This month the 4th Monday @ 1PM (due to Victoria Day holiday)

**AJAX BOWLING CENTRE**

172 Harwood Ave. S. Lower floor

Next get-together: **Monday, May 26th at 1:00 p.m.**

**RSVP:** Kevin keportener@gmail.com

call or text 905.626.6303

**\$10 for two games plus \$2 for shoes**

**HAPPY HOUR**

After bowling, at 3:00 pm, we go to the **MACKENZIE PUB**. Non-bowlers are welcome to join us.



## Breakfast Club

Last Tuesday of the Month

Next get together: **9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 27 at 9:00 am**

**RSVP Lynne:** 912lynne@gmail.com 905.839.8147

Next Breakfast Club will be held at **Symposium Cafe**, at 338 Rossland Rd E



## **Bridge**

**Every Thursday 2:00PM - 4:30PM AT THE AJAX LIBRARY**

Rotary Room 55 Harwood Avenue South

**NOTE - there will be no lessons over the summer**

**Harvey:** hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca



## **Coffee and Conversation**

**EVERY 2ND TUESDAY 10:00 - NOON**

**Next get-together:** Tuesday, May 13th at 10:00a.m.

**RSVP: Marlene** marzrae18@gmail.com

For new members who joined our Club in the last 12 months. A great way to meet new people and learn more about how to enjoy PROBUS.



## **Cribbage (see more info\*)**

**EVERY TUESDAY 2:00 - 4:00 PM**

**AT THE PICKERING VILLAGE SENIOR CENTRE**

29 Linton Avenue north of Kingston Road, west of Church St.

Feel free to join us even if you've never played before.

**Contact Wendy:** wendysmith1@live.com



## **Dining Out**

**EVERY 3RD THURSDAY - 5:30 PM**

**Next get-together:** Thursday, May 15th at 5:30 p.m.

**Location TBA RSVP: Carol** cbreen840@gmail.com

I reserve the restaurant when I know how many people will be joining us. Let me know as soon as possible if you will attend.





## **Euchre (see more info\*)**

**EVERY 2nd & 4th Wednesday from 2:00 - 4:00 PM**

**Next get-together: May 14 & 28 at Pickering Village Senior Center**

**RSVP: Jane** [jw.003@sympatico.ca](mailto:jw.003@sympatico.ca) 905-619-6674

The Pickering Village Senior Center is at 29 Linton Ave, one block north of Kingston Rd, one block west of Church St. Hope you will attend.



## **Club FRANÇAIS**

**Wednesday May 14th at 1 pm**

Contact me if for information and directions as we will meet at my home

**RSVP: Heiderose** [Heiderose.butscher@gmail.com](mailto:Heiderose.butscher@gmail.com)



## **Creative Explorers NEW**

**Thursday May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00**

We will meet in the party room at 66 Falby Court. For this session, we'll be diving into a beautiful card-making kit that's rich in watercolour designs – perfect for sparking creativity and relaxing with fellow crafters. What's included: Supplies to create 9 all-occasion greeting cards. Cost: \$20

**RSVP: Tina** [tinakvrgic@gmail.com](mailto:tinakvrgic@gmail.com)



## **Garden Club NEW**

**Need to RSVP by April 30<sup>th</sup> to take part on May 5th**

**Heading to Goodwood to visit Annina's Bakeshop then on to Richter's Herbs for tour, Car pool to leave ACC at 10:45**

If interested, contact Marlene at [marzrae18@gmail.com](mailto:marzrae18@gmail.com)



## **"GOMEO" Lunch Group**

**"Great Old Men Eating Out" EVERY 2ND MONDAY at NOON**

**RSVP: Kevin** [keportener@gmail.com](mailto:keportener@gmail.com) 905.626.6303

We meet at the **MACKENZIE PUB & RESTAURANT**

250 Bayly St. West Ajax





## Happy Hour

EVERY 3RD MONDAY - 3:00 PM

Next get-together: Monday, May 26th at 3:00.

RSVP: Kevin [keportener@gmail.com](mailto:keportener@gmail.com) 905.626.6303

We join the Bowling group at **MACKENZIE PUB& RESTAURANT**

250 Bayly St. West Ajax

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## Improv for Beginners

EVERY 4TH WEDNESDAY 1:30 - 3:00 PM

Next get-together: Wednesday, May 28th

**CHARTWELL RETIREMENT RESIDENCE** (Theatre in lower level)

240 Old Harwood Ave., Ajax

RSVP: April [april-ann@hotmail.com](mailto:april-ann@hotmail.com)

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## Mahjong **NEW** (see more info\*)

First and third Fridays of the month 2:00 - 4:00 p.m

at the St. Andrew's Friendship Club, 46 Exeter Road in Ajax, .

We are playing a simpler Chinese version of the game. New players are welcome even if you've never played before.

Contact Julie [jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)

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## "RODEO" Lunch Group

"Retired Old Dames Eating Out" **EVERY 2ND MONDAY - NOON**

next get together Monday, May 12th at

**Magwyer's Pub, 105 Bayly Street West, Ajax (No Frills Plaza)**

RSVP: Anne [mandareed02@gmail.com](mailto:mandareed02@gmail.com)

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## **Walking Group 1**

**EVERY THURSDAY - 10:00 AM**

**RSVP: Ron** [mitchellmis@rogers.com](mailto:mitchellmis@rogers.com)

**Maureen** [maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca](mailto:maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca)

Join us and discover many walking trails in Ajax and surrounding areas.

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## **Walking Group 2**

**EVERY MONDAY - 10:00 AM**

We meet at the parking lot at Rotary Park on Lake Driveway

**RSVP: Julie** [jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)

This group is for those members who prefer a shorter, slower pace.

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## **Young at Heart NEW**

**\*\* needs Co-Coordinator\* Monthly activity TBA**

This will be a monthly "drive yourself, pay for yourself" get together to explore fun things to do locally. We started with Tubing, but am hoping to get a group together to check out the Activate gaming experience in Pickering as it is super fun. Really good exercise and it gets the brain thinking as many different games to play.

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## **Zoom**

**EVERY FRIDAY - 1:00 PM**

**To join the Zoom chat contact: Stewart** [ajaxprobuszoom@gmail.com](mailto:ajaxprobuszoom@gmail.com)

All members are welcome - Keeps us connected !

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## **9-Hole Golf NEW**

**EVERY TUESDAY - Tee Time 10 AM**

**Hawthorne Valley Golf Course, 3470 Salem Rd., Pickering**

Tee time can be booked one week ahead by calling 905-686-2028. Try to arrive a half hour before your tee time. Pull carts can be rented. No power carts available.

**If interested contact Marcia (Durham West)** [marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca](mailto:marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca)

### MORE INFO

For activities at the Pickering Village Seniors Centre and St. Andrew's Friendship Club (Currently Cribbage, Euchre, Mahjong) we're asked to join the Ajax Seniors Club (which gives you membership in both centers).

Membership is \$20 a year plus \$1 activity fee when you play.

If anyone else has an idea for a one-time activity or special interest group, please let us know. Contact Julie: [jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com).

## Volunteers Needed!



Join our Management Team  
The PROBUS Club of Ajax is need of volunteers for Newsletter Editor and Vice President.  
If interested, please contact Jane Wilson at [jw.003@sympatico.ca](mailto:jw.003@sympatico.ca) or 905-619-6674.

We also need a few volunteers to organize a car rally scavenger hunt for the fall. Contact Julie if you'd like to help, [jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com).





# Members Corner



**New Members Bruce Vodden with April Gilkinson (President, and Pete Lennox - welcome!**

## **Welcome New Members!**

Cathy Fleming  
Laura MacAloney



The following members may pick up their packages from the Membership Table during the next General Meeting:

Susan Stocks  
Ann London  
Jennifer Webb  
Alba Saptel  
Kim Cairney  
Paula MacDonald

# Photo Gallery

From meeting and  
events in April



