



PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

PROBUS Club of Ajax, Club #82 Ajax, Ontario

Vol 24 Issue 9

September 1, 2021

**All PROBUS Club of Ajax In Person General Meetings
are CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my last message as President of our PROBUS Club of Ajax. Beginning in September, I will move to the position of Past President and Jane Wilson will become our President for 2021/22



It has been a very busy and challenging two years for me. When I accepted the Presidency in September of 2019, the world was a very different place than it is today. That year, I travelled to Myrtle Beach with my family in October, dined out with friends, went to the theatre and Toronto Symphony to name a few of the many delightful and entertaining activities I enjoyed. Then came the pandemic in March 2020 and the world changed.

During this tumultuous period of COVID-19 our Club has continued to function, thanks to the dedication and hard work of our Management Committee. When September 2020 rolled in, our Club was not holding in-person membership meetings and our virtual meetings had not yet started. With recruitment of Club members into Management Committee positions difficult, our current Management Committee members agreed to continue in their roles for another year. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of them for their commitment to our Club. They contributed greatly to keeping our Club cohesive and operational.

Several members of our Club's Management Committee are leaving their positions in September. They are John Clark (Treasurer), Julie Mathewson (Secretary), Gail Tays (Speaker Co-Ordinator), Reg Lawrance (Past President) and Nancy Hobart (Interest Group Co-Ordinator). I wish them the very best and thank them for their many contributions to our Club.

We are still recruiting for a Vice President and Interest Group Co-Ordinator. If you are interested in one of these positions, please contact a member of our Management Committee.

I have enjoyed my two years in office as your President, and trust that my contributions to the operation of our Club have had a positive impact. Hopefully, over the next year, we will see a gradual return to normal activity, in line with our Club's social and friendship values. However, in the interim, until we can return to in-person meetings and activities, our Club will continue to communicate and interact with members through our monthly Newsletter, virtual membership meetings and eblasts.

Wishing you all the best now and in the future. Take care and stay safe.

Cheers,

Joyce

COVID-19 PROTOCOL
PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX

The PROBUS Club of Ajax is a private social club for seniors. Given the ages of our members, it is imperative that safety be our highest priority. Our Club must manage the risk of COVID-19, as we re-introduce in-person meetings and activities. With this in mind, the Management Committee formulated the following Protocol:

For the foreseeable future, all in-person gatherings of the PROBUS Club of Ajax, will require all participants to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19. In addition, a minimum of two weeks must have passed since the second shot was administered. These vaccination requirements include, but are not limited to, our monthly membership meetings, interest group activities, and social events.

This is how it will work:

- a) When you are vaccinated for COVID-19, you receive a Ministry of Health receipt for each shot. When you attend your first in-person membership meeting, bring the receipt for your second vaccine shot with you. Your name and the date of your second shot will be recorded, when you enter the meeting room. You will not need to show your vaccination receipt again. The Social Co-ordinator, Interest Group Co-ordinator and House Co-ordinator for membership meetings will have access to a list of fully vaccinated Club members, and use this list when approving attendance at their respective activities.
- b) This COVID-19 Protocol will be implemented at our Club's first in-person membership meeting, tentatively scheduled for October 6, 2021. This date gives Club members a two month period in which to become fully vaccinated, in order to comply with this protocol.
- c) If you decide not to be vaccinated for COVID-19, you may attend any virtual events offered by the PROBUS Club of Ajax. This includes our Hybrid membership meetings, and Interest Groups provided on Zoom and Trickster. Please do not attend any in-person meetings, interest group activities or social events etc. held by the PROBUS Club of Ajax.
- d) All COVID-19 Province of Ontario Regulations and Public Health Guidelines in effect at the time of the PROBUS Club of Ajax in-person gatherings will prevail, including group size, physical distancing, mask requirements etc.

As stated above, member safety is of paramount importance within our Club. If you have any questions, please email them to ajaxprobuspresident@gmail.com.

I'm sure we're all looking forward to the opportunity of meeting again in-person. What a joy it will be to socialize with friends we haven't seen for many months.

Take care and stay safe.

Management Committee
PROBUS Club of Ajax
July 28, 2021



ZOOM INFORMATION

You do not need to download the ZOOM software to use the service. If you go to your internet browser (like Google) and go to website www.zoom.us look at the top right corner of the screen that opens up and you will see a button to click that says JOIN A MEETING. **(Use Control Click for Links)**

The diagram below appears



You can then enter the meeting ID number sent to you by PROBUS Club of Ajax in an email, and click JOIN. If there was a password also sent to you, enter it on the next page that opens up.

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TO CALL IN VIA PHONE TO THE MONTHLY MEETING

Local numbers:

647 374 4685

647 558 0588

Operator will welcome you, then you enter the meeting ID followed by the pound symbol: Meeting ID: 768 724 6025#

It will then ask for your participant code, just press the pound symbol: #

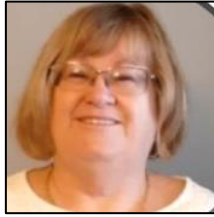
Then enter the meeting passcode followed by the pound symbol:

Passcode: 611220#

You will then join the meeting

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2021/2022 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Jane Wilson
President



Joyce Starkman
Past President



Shirlee Van Putten
Social



Tom Rosebush
Membership



Rowena Burns
Treasurer



Bernie Rosebush
Secretary



Victoria Plaskett
Speakers



Margaret Wells
House



Maureen McVarish
Website



Stewart Beatty
Technical Coordinator



Ray Smith
Member-at-Large



Joan Ash
Member-at-Large



Barb Squires
Newsletter

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AJAX PROBUS INTEREST GROUPS

RODEO (Ladies Lunch)	Dawn Thornton	Dining Out	Carol Breen
Bridge	Harvey Brodhecker	Cribbage	Reg Lawrance
Golf	Marcia Everitt <i>Durham West PROBUS</i>	Breakfast Club	Julie Mathewson
Euchre/Scrabble	Julie Mathewson	Book Club	Bernie Rosebush
Billiards	Don Vorhees <i>Pickering PROBUS</i>	Movie Club	Nancy Hobart
Walking Club	Ron Mitchell & Maureen McVarish		

WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE TO OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM



I was born in London England, and came to Canada in the 1950s as a small child by ship. I have lived in Scarborough, Peterborough and area, and the Cobourg area (Baltimore). I have been a primary teacher, a farm owner, a professional accountant (CPA, CMA), and a small business owner. Over the years I have enjoyed belonging and working in many organizations including being a Director of the Junior Fair for the Norwood Fair, President of Cobourg and District Horticultural Society, President, Treasurer and Director (spanning 15 years) of the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society, among others. I am currently a Director (and Founding Member) of the Greater Toronto Water Gardening and Horticultural Society.

As a CPA, I worked as a Financial Analyst in insurance in Cobourg.

My husband Bob and I owned and operated Burns Water Gardens for 24 years near Baltimore Ontario, specializing in growing the widest range of pond plants in Canada and supplying everything for the water garden to both retail and wholesale customers.

We were blessed with two wonderful children and two fantastic grandchildren. When my husband passed away after a prolonged bout with cancer, I retired and moved to Ajax five years ago to be closer to my family. After having lived for over 50 years in the country, I am enjoying the adventure of living in an urban environment and making new friends through various activities. My newest venture is learning to draw and paint!

Rowena Burns (Treasurer)

I've been blessed with success as a writer, artist, educator and adventure traveler. I was an award winning journalist during the Premier Bill Davis and Stephen Lewis days. A switch to education led to my love of teaching students with special needs, and completing my doctorate from U of T (2000). While teaching high school in Durham, I worked part-time as a professor of special education at U of T for 12 years. Then I accepted an invitation to volunteer in China, teaching English to teachers for the past 13 summers, travelling on treks to Thailand, Machu Picchu, and Annapurna Base Camp in Nepal. Following retirement in 2015, I lived and taught English for a year in Nanjing, China, where I spent every weekend as the only foreigner at Chinese operas. The next year I lived and taught in the Arctic, in Arviat, Nunavut where I made an igloo, cross country skied on the Hudson Bay while on the look-out for polar bears, marvelled at the northern lights from my bedroom window, and joined the Inuit women hand-sewing seal fur mittens while nibbling warm bannock, sipping black tea and laughing. Other travel highlights--a week on the Trans-Siberian train from Ulaanbaatar to Moscow, going from Shanghai to Kunming, China in 36 hours on a hard-seat train for \$26 CN, and celebrating my 65th birthday by kayaking in Antarctica. And yes, I am working hard on those manuscripts.



Victoria Plaskett (Speaker Coordinator)

'A Country Girl', born and raised on a farm near Norwood, Ontario; a mother of two daughters and a grandmother of three – two boys and one girl.



Professionally, I am a retired Elementary Teacher, a thirty-year career, teaching from one-room rural to urban school settings; retirement – April, 2000.

Spare time activities have included presidencies in several PROBUS Clubs including The PROBUS Club of Ajax, and secretarial duties of two organizations at local and district levels.

Bernie Rosebush (Secretary)



I was born and brought up in South Wales. I attended Aberystwyth University Library School and worked as a government librarian in London for a few years before emigrating to Canada in 1970.

I worked as a librarian for the Ontario government until I retired in 2006. In 1986 I married my husband David and at that time we were living in Scarborough. We moved to Lakefield in 1996 when my job was transferred to Peterborough. It was while we were in Lakefield that I was first introduced to PROBUS and was a founding member of PROBUS Lakefield.

In 2015 we decided to move back to this area as our son lives in Pickering. One of the first things we did when we moved to the area, was to look for a PROBUS club in the area and we have enjoyed being part of the community and part of PROBUS.

Margaret Wells, (House Coordinator)

My name is Ray Smith. I am extremely proud to be your Member at Large for Ajax PROBUS.

I have been legally blind since a workplace injury in 1986. Since then it has been my personal commitment and passion to identify accessibility/inclusion barriers and work toward solutions within the disabled community. I'm also a very positive person who will advocate for change and provide education to others when necessary.



Throughout my working career I have been fortunate to be employed with various organizations which support Accessibility/AODA as well as Diversity/Inclusion. Also I have had the pleasure of volunteering with CUPE (locally, provincially and nationally) and the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) in various capacities representing the disabled community.

Although retired I continue to make a difference in the disabled and now senior's community as a volunteer. I currently sit on the Ajax Accessibility Advisory Committee and Age Friendly Ajax Steering Committee, as well as the Ajax PROBUS Management Team.

I look forward to working with you at all times

Ray Smith (Member-at-Large)

MEMBERSHIP

Your Annual PROBUS Club of Ajax membership fees are now due for the 2021/2022 year. The annual fee is now \$30.00 a year with the new member initiation fee also set at \$30.00. Renewals should be mailed to Tom Rosebush, 1612 - 44 Falby Court, Ajax, ON, L1S 3L1. As of August 18, 2021 we have received 108 renewals or 52% of our membership. This leaves 99 members still to be heard from.

We really need you to renew now as planning for next year is well under way and knowing the size of our Membership is paramount to budgeting.

If for some reason you do not plan to renew your membership, please endeavor to notify us by email or phone so we can update our records. Also, to keep our records in order we ask that if you have any changes in your "email, phone number or residence address", you inform us via email to ajaxprobusmembership@gmail.com or by phone to 437 981-6719.

Tom, Membership Coordinator
ajaxprobusmembership@gmail.com



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Each month our membership continues to grow. The Ajax PROBUS Management Team would like to thank you for joining our club.

Please welcome your new fellow members: Donna Castaneiro, Emmanuel Sopeju and Terri Stewart

BELOW ARE PICTURES & BIOS FROM TWO OF OUR NEW MEMBERS

Terri Stewart

I am currently 'retired' but would love to find a part time job. I live in South Ajax and have lived in the same house for almost 36 years. I love to garden but actively dislike weeding! I have 2 adult children and 1 grand daughter and another on the way



Emmanurel Sopeju

Born in Nigeria, West Africa. Resident of Pickering/Ajax for 30+ years.
Engineering Alumni of University of Toronto (Class of 78)
Worked in Fire Safety Engineering at Underwriters Laboratories of Canada (Retired)
Special interests in reading and photography.



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AUGUST 4TH MEETING

There were 44 attendees at our meeting. Some screens were more than one person, so the count would be higher.

Joyce opened the meeting by introducing Jane Wilson who will be our next president. Jane spoke about Covid protocol and hybrid meetings. We are hoping for the first hybrid meeting to be held in October but this would depend on many factors including the Community Centre opening.

After the Management Team Coordinators gave brief reports, Shirlie reported that she has booked a Wine Tour for September and a 30,000 Island Tour for October. Only 40 people will be allowed on the buses and all would have to be double vaccinated and wear a mask. The details of these tours are on our website: ajaxprobus.com and are further on in this newsletter.

Tom reported that as of August 3rd, 97 people had renewed their membership.

Our speaker, Lyn Philip Hodgson gave us an interesting presentation on Camp X which is located on the Oshawa/Whitby town line.

Congratulations to Judy Mitchell and Ray Smith whose names were drawn by Shirlie to receive gift cards

WE NEED YOUR HELP

When we start having meetings again, they will be hybrid meetings – partly in person, partly on Zoom. In order to do this, we need assistance from someone with IT experience. We would really appreciate it if you could step up and help us out.

Please contact one of the Management Committee or email ajaxprobus@gmail.com.

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Below is a recipe from one of the Management Team

TACO DIP *(Margaret Wells)*

Spread plate with 8oz cream cheese (thin with a little milk)

Layer the following:

8oz Taco Sauce

1 cup diced tomatoes

1 cup diced green pepper

1 cup diced green onion

1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

1 cup shredded mozzarella

Cover with saran wrap and store overnight in the fridge

I serve with nachos or nacho scoops



BICYCLE GIVAWAY IN NUNAVUT.

In our last newsletter we mentioned that Victoria Plaskett, a club member and our speaker at the July 7 meeting, asked that instead of an honorarium for speaking that we purchase a bicycle for a child in Arviat.

Victoria sent us a follow-up to this request. The following is copied from the Padlei Co-op Facebook Page:

Is there a child 12 and under in your life that needs a new bike? Padlei Co-op is giving away a brand-new bike on August 30, 2021.

Bicycle courtesy of The Probus Club of Ajax, Ontario. A Seniors Social Club.

HOW TO ENTER:



Visit the Co-op to fill out a ballot (Parents can fill out an entry on their child's behalf)



(Only one entry per child).

Padlei Co-op Bicycle Giveaway!

Ages 12 and under only

Draw Date
August 30, 2021



Victoria will get us a photograph of the lucky winner for a future issue of the newsletter.

MEMBERS CORNER

New Definitions (Yes some are real 'groaners')

1. ARBITRATOR -- A cook who leaves Arby's to work at McDonald's.
2. BERNADETTE -- The act of torching a mortgage.
3. BURGLARIZE -- What a crook sees through.
4. AVOIDABLE -- What a bullfighter tries to do.
5. COUNTERFEITER -- Workers who put together kitchen cabinets.
6. LEFT BANK -- What the bank robbers did when their bag was full of money.
7. HEROES -- What a man in a boat does.
8. PARASITES -- What you see from the Eiffel Tower.
9. PARADOX -- Two physicians.
10. PHARMACIST -- A helper on a farm.
11. RELIEF -- What trees do in the spring.
12. RUBBERNECK -- What you do to relax your wife.
13. SELFISH -- What the owner of a seafood store does.
14. SUDAFED -- Brought litigation against a government official.



Sandra McNamara

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FUNNY OXYMORONS

FOUND MISSING
OPEN SECRET
SMALL CROWD
ACT NATURALLY
FULLY EMPTY
PRETTY UGLY
ORIGINAL COPY
ONLY CHOICE
LIQUID GAS

AND THE MOTHER OF THEM ALL

SOCIAL DISTANCING

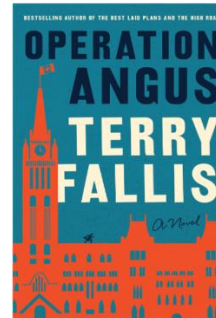
SPEAKERS



September 1st Speaker

Operation Angus is a follow up to my first two novels, **The Best Laid Plans** (Leacock Medal winner, CBC Canada Reads winner, CBC Television 6-part miniseries, and a stage musical) and **The High Road**. Yes, Angus McIntock is back 14 years after he first appeared in my debut novel. While Angus is a newly minted cabinet minister, this story is less about politics and more of a comic thriller as Angus and his Chief of Staff, narrator Daniel Addison must, on their own, thwart an assassination attempt on the life of the Russian President during a brief meeting with the Prime Minister in Ottawa.

In my talk, I'll share the roots of this novel and my own connections to the story.



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October 6th Speaker

Lianne Harris currently works as the Social Studies Resource Specialist Consultant with the Toronto Board of Education and curriculum adviser for Upper Canada College, having taught over 80,000 teachers and students (usually in authentic period clothing). She holds individual degrees in History, English and Fine Arts and using these disciplines, assists with entrepreneurial artists and business start-ups in leper colonies in India. In 2003, she was selected by W.O.M.A.D. as one of Toronto's Women of Influence and in 2009 was invited to be a contributing author of the Canadian best-seller business/self-help book, 'The Power of Women United'. Her artwork has been exhibited at the Royal Ontario Museum, Roy Thomson Hall, The I.D.A Gallery, and The Shaw Festival. Appearing on TV and interviewed many times on the radio, she always loves a live--and virtual! --audience.

Superstitions

We've all heard of witches and their black cats, unlucky number 13 and saying 'bless you' after a sneeze. Take a spooky 1-hour journey with Lianne Harris as we look at the fascinating history of witchlore and superstitions, their origins, their importance and why these ideas persist today.

(Continued on next page)



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November 3rd Speaker

Digger, Teacher, Soldier, Spy



What do archaeologists do when the world is at war? Surprisingly, many of them turn spy. During wartime, archaeologists on all sides have become involved with military intelligence, turning their in-depth knowledge of the land and the peoples they studied to support their countries at war. This was no more apparent than in the Middle East where prominent archaeologists played a very political game during the First World War. Some of these names, such as T.E. Lawrence, also known as Lawrence of Arabia, would become legendary. Others, when the war was over, simply went back to their museums and their excavations.

Dr. Amy Barron

Amy Barron received her PhD at the University of Toronto in the field of Mesopotamian history and archaeology. Her doctoral thesis is entitled "Late Assyrian Arms and Armour: Art versus Artifact". She has excavated predominantly in the Middle East but has travelled widely studying the archaeology of various remote parts of the world from Peru to China. She has also worked in the museum field for almost thirty years and presently teaches museum studies in Fleming College's post-graduate program. For more

information, please check out her webpage at www.quarrywood.ca (Use Control Click for Link )

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I finally remember what Zoom meetings remind me of.



SOCIAL

The following trips are planned but may have to be cancelled if the Covid numbers worsen.

Tours for September & October

September 16th – Picton Wine Tour – Cost \$115

Includes:

- Return transportation by Motor Coach from back of Community Centre on Valley Farm Rd (bus departs at 9:00 am)
- Lunch at the Black Prince Winery
- Wine Tasting at Karlo Estates & Black Prince Winery
- Driver's Tip

October 7th – Georgian Bay Cruise – Cost \$139

Includes:

- Return transportation by deluxe Motorcoach (bus departs at 8:45 am)
- Lunch at Trestle Brewing Company
- Three-hour Cruise of the beautiful 30,000 Islands
- Driver's Tip

Oktoberfest Celebrations – stay tuned!!

October 18th – 20th – Windsor & Point Pelee

Includes: (waiting on Hotel Contract for price)

- Two-night stay at Hotel
- Wine Tour
- Rum Runners Tour
- Visit to Point Pelee Park
- Windsor River Cruise

Contact Shirlie at shirlievanputten@rogers.com or 905-619-8583

To book

Government regulations will be in place. Only 40 allowed on the bus. You must be fully vaccinated and wear a mask.



Some Interest Group gatherings are cancelled until further notice.

**Operating interest groups are Chat Rooms (*Zoom*), Euchre (*Trickster*)
Bridge (*Trickster*) and Golf**

AJAX PROBUS INTEREST GROUPS

RODEO (Ladies Lunch)	Dawn Thornton	Dining Out	Carol Breen
Bridge	Harvey Brodhecker	Cribbage	Reg Lawrance
Golf	Marcia Everitt Durham West	Breakfast Club	Julie Mathewson
Euchre/Scrabble	Julie Mathewson	Book Club	Bernie Rosebush
Billiards	Don Vorhees Pickering PROBUS	Movie Club	Nancy Hobart
Walking Club	Ron Mitchell & Maureen McVarish		

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PROBUS BRIDGE



JOIN US AND PLAY BRIDGE WITH TRICKSTER

During the past three months we have been playing Bridge on Trickster. We have had a lot of fun. It will be more fun if you join us! The days will be Tuesday, September 7 and Tuesday, September 21 starting at 2:00 pm (The first and third Tuesdays of the month). If you are NOT a present participant please contact Harvey either by email (hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca) or phone (416-894-5778). He will forward to you information on Trickster and playing bridge on Trickster. We will play with partners. If you have a current partner please let me know. If you need a partner, let Harvey know and he will attempt to get you a partner. As with Marathon Bridge, these Trickster games are for fun and socialization.

Harvey Brodhecker

COVID and BRIDGE

Adam Parrish has a regular column in the magazine entitled "Bridge Bulletin". In the May issue he started a series called "Adam's Bridge Maxims". Here is his maxim from the May issue. *If they don't lead a singleton, they don't have one*. The singleton is one of the most attractive leads in a suit contract. Use this information when planning the play of the hand.

In the same issue of "Bridge Bulletin" Simon Cocheme named some unusual distributions. Look at this hand (spades) K94 (Hearts) Q85 (Diamonds) AJ10 (clubs) 7632. Did you see it? The hand has one card of each rank one 2, one 3 ... one A. This hand has a name; it is called a "Gwozdzinsky". Look at this hand (spades) J954 (Hearts) J54 (Diamonds) J95 (clubs) J94. Did you see it? The hand has only 4 ranks – 4 jacks, 3 nines, 3 fives and 3 fours. Here is the last one. Look at this hand (spades) 10974 (Hearts) J2 (Diamonds) K2 (clubs) K9865. This is more obscure. Did you see it? In this hand lowest card is also the length of the suit. This hand also has a name; it is called a "Magnus".

Harvey Brodhecker



BREAKFAST CLUB

EUCHRE & SCRABBLE (Julie)



Euchre

Join us for euchre on Trickstercards.com. Our games this month will be on Tuesday, September 14 and Tuesday, September 28, starting at 2:00 pm. Since tables have to be assigned in advance, let Julie know by noon the day before if you plan to play. You will need to have the free Trickstercards app downloaded to your computer or tablet.

Note that from now on you should reply to jmathewson@rogers.com. My term as secretary is over and someone else will be using the ajaxprobussecretary gmail account.

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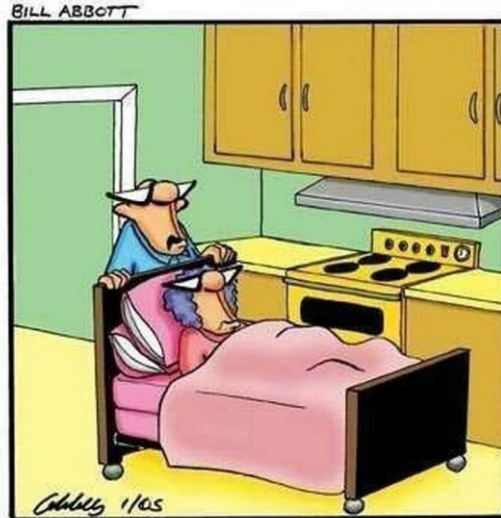
GRAPHIC PUZZLES

<p>1 3 5 7 9 11</p> <p>vs.</p> <p>U</p>	<p>HER ROPE SHE</p>	<p>STEP</p> <hr/> <p>STEP STEP</p> <p>STEP STEP</p> <p>STEP</p> <p>STEP STEP</p>
<p>0</p> <hr/> <p>PhD</p> <p>MA</p> <p>BSc</p>	<p>J</p> <p>U</p> <p>YOU S ME</p> <p>T</p>	<p>LE</p> <p>VEL</p>
<p>R E A D I N G</p>	<p>ECNALG</p>	<p>WEAR</p> <hr/> <p>LONG</p>

(Answers on Last Page)

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BREAKFAST



“I figured you should have breakfast in bed on your birthday. Can you reach the stove okay?”

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PROBUS GOLF



Good news! Golf courses are open! If you would like to be added to the golf list, contact Marcia Everitt by email at marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca or call (416) 724-6355. If you would like to book a time, contact Hawthorne Valley Golf Course directly at (905) 686-2028.

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Durham Region Transit has made On Demand transportation available to residents travelling to vaccination clinics within their local municipality. The Regional Municipality of Durham website page has been updated with this information and streamlined: <https://www.durhamregiontransit.com/en/routes-and-schedules/bus-stop-and-route-information-for-covid-19-vaccine-clinics.aspx>. Individuals can also telephone a customer service representative at 1-866-247-0055 for trip planning assistance.

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE



January, 2017 Meeting



January, 2017 After Meeting Lunch



Family History Group, April, 2018



Christmas in Toronto, December, 2018

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LIBRARY NEWS

“WHAT’S ON FOR SEPTEMBER, 2021

The link for What’s On is: www.ajaxlibrary.ca and click on ‘Programs’

We're excited to see you in person again. All branches are open for you to visit for study space, computer use, and to browse for books! Before you visit, please remember:

- Masks and social distancing are required;
- Food is not permitted; drinks are permitted;
- Gathering restrictions also apply in alignment with provincial regulations.

The Library will continue to offer curbside pick-up, along with extensive virtual services, programs, and collections. Our external dropboxes remain open 24/7 for Library material returns.

See more information and open hours on our website!

PROBUS BOOK CLUB



The Book Club **usually** meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at St. Paul's United Church, 65 King's Crescent, at 1:30 p.m.

During Covid19, of course, we are **not** meeting!!!

However, when normalcy returns, we shall continue our very interesting discussions on chosen book titles.

Interested in reading, discussion, fun and fellowship, we welcome you to join our group. In the meantime, book suggestions you may wish to enjoy:

Book Suggestions:

"The Four Winds" (★★★★★ + rating) by - Kristin Hannah; *release date – February, 2021*; Historical Fiction – a story of survival.

"Damnation Spring" (★★★★★) by - Ash Davidson; *release date – August, 2021*; genre – Climate Fiction/Mystery – a timely read.

The Extra Tid-Bit:

The Storyteller's Creed

(By – Robert Fulghum)

I believe that imagination is stronger than knowledge.

That myth is more potent than history.

That dreams are more powerful than facts.

That hope always triumphs over experience.

That laughter is the only cure for grief.

And I believe that love is stronger than death.

Bernie Rosebush - 905-426-1598 or bernie.rosebush@gmail.com



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For information on other PROBUS Clubs in Canada to: www.probus.org . Our Ajax PROBUS website: www.ajaxprobus.com.

Many thanks to those who sent in items for this issue

Comments and items are appreciated including photos of club events. Please send to: ajaxprobusnewsletter@gmail.com

Rambles with my Camera – Owl Release

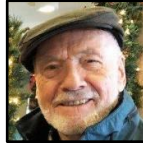
(Maureen McVarish)

Late in the day on July 25 of this year, a friend called me with this question: "Diane is on her way from the Owl Foundation in Vineland with a barred owl that she needs to release in Oshawa, do you want to photograph it?" Of course I would!!!

A few months earlier a Good Samaritan rescued an injured owl on Rossland Road in Oshawa. The injuries to her head and eye meant that she needed to be cared for at the Owl Foundation in Vineland, Ontario. This organization specializes in owl rehabilitation so that the bird can be released back into its habitat. There is a roster of volunteers willing to transport injured owls to and from Vineland and we were all lucky that it was Diane!

We met Diane and Connie, (Owl Foundation patients are given names), at a mall nearby the release location. Diane had a map with a specific area where we were to release Connie. Rehabilitated owls need to be released in a spot that the experts deem to be the native territory of that specific owl based on the spot where it was found. We managed to find a trail down to the designated ravine. The release instructions were to open the box lid and let the owl fly off when it felt ready and stay out of sight as much as possible. It seemed like forever, but Connie finally jumped out of the box, quickly surveyed the surroundings and flew off to a nearby perch in a tree. It was almost 9:00 by the time this was all accomplished, (a good time for owls!), and almost dark. I was so thankful that my recently acquired camera had excellent low light settings. Stay safe, Connie!





RAIN

I can hear the muted whistle from the engine of a train
as twilight brings the rumble of the threat of distant rain.

I can hear the thunder and a flash across the sky and
the old elm tree becomes a silhouette
in the corner of my eye.

Can you smell the rain as it creeps across the meadow
and the fields of standing grain?

Can you smell the rain
as it rides along the gentle breeze
across the new mowed hay?

Can you smell the rain it's as welcome as
a peaceful rest at the end of some one's day?

Can you smell the rain as it brushes past the lilacs
just down the country lane?

Can you see the rain as it drives against the old front porch
and up the window pane?

RUN

By Carl G. Mabee



THE BOOKWORM



For me, the summer of 2013 started with two weeks in the Mongolian steppes staying with families in their gers. I left the capital, Ulaanbaator, with a paper ticket printed in Russian to board the Trans-Siberian train for a week long journey alone across Siberia to Moscow. From there, I travelled across Russia for three weeks, finishing in St. Petersburg.

As I watched the Siberian countryside from my train window, it seemed all so familiar. It is, after all, the land of Alexander Solschenizyn and Boris Pasternak.

It was 1970 and I was 15 when my Aunt Joan handed me the thick paperback, "Doctor Zhivago" saying, "Maybe you're too young for this." One look at the romantic cover of Julie Christie and Omar Sharif and, of course, I read every word. It wasn't until years later when I finally saw the movie.

"Lara: The Untold Love Story and the Inspiration for Doctor Zhivago" written by Anna Pasternak tells the true story of Olga Ivinskaya, the writer's lover and muse and upon whom the fictional character of Lara is based.

As author Boris Pasternak's great-niece, Anna is sympathetic and acknowledges the important role Olga had in history.

As a popular poet and translator of Shakespeare, the Soviet secret police agreed to leave "cloud dweller" Boris Pasternak alone. But Olga was Boris Pasternak's mistress for the last 15 years of his life. She was imprisoned by secret police in a Siberian gulag, a forced labor camp, for her part in his writing life.

The two met at the offices of a literary journal in 1946 where Olga was an editor. He was 56. She was 34.

Boris couldn't decide between his wife or his mistress, so spent evenings at home with his family, and his writing days at a nearby cottage with Olga and her two children.

When Boris finished writing, "Doctor Zhivago" in 1955, Soviet authorities refused to publish the book uncensored. Boris agreed for it to be smuggled to Italy to be published and secretly distributed throughout the western world. He told the courier, "You are hereby invited to my execution."

Of course, the novel was published to world-wide acclaim, with Boris awarded the Nobel Prize. He was later forced to repudiate the prize-either that or leave his Russian homeland forever.

Soon after, Olga and her daughter were sent to another gulag. She lived the rest of her life in Moscow where she died at age 83.

It took 20 years for Boris Pasternak to write his epic novel that conveyed both the love of his Russian homeland and conflict with its politics.

Olga Ivinskaya, the woman who typed those words and went to prison for them, deserves her place in Russian literary history.

"Lara" by Anna Pasternak is her story.

Victoria Plaskett

AJAX PROBUS CALENDAR, SEPTEMBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 10am PROBUS General Meeting Zoom	2	3 2 pm Zoom Chat	4
5	6  LABOUR DAY	7 10 am PROBUS Golf 2pm Bridge Trickster	8	9	10 2 pm Zoom Chat	11
12 	13 11 am Zoom Chat	14 10 am PROBUS Golf 2pm Euchre Trickster	15	16 Picton Wine Tour	17 2 pm Zoom Chat	18
19	20 11 am Zoom Chat	21 10 am PROBUS Golf 2pm Bridge Trickster	22  First Day of Autumn	23	24 2 pm Zoom Chat	25
26	27 11 am Zoom Chat	28 10 am PROBUS Golf 2pm Euchre Trickster	29	30		

AJAX PROBUS MANAGEMENT TEAM, 2021/2022

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If you have a problem reaching a Management Team member at any of the above email addresses, send your email to ajaxprobus@gmail.com and it will get forwarded to the correct person

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Graphic puzzle answers (from page 16)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The odds are against you 2. She's at the end of her rope 3. One stop over the line 4. Three degrees below zero 5. Just between you and me | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Split level 7. Reading between the lines 8. Backwards glance 9. Long underwear |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



Labour Day September 6th



Grandparents Day September 12th



First Day of Autumn September 22nd