



PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX NEWSLETTER

CLUB
82

DECEMBER
2025

VOLUME
37

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and Photo Gallery*



PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX NEWSLETTER



Club 82

volume 37

December 2025

Management Team

President: April Gilkinson

Vice President: Kathy Lennox

Past President: Jane Wilson

Treasurer: Murray Biel

Secretary: Erika Winfrow

Membership: Debbie
Casquenet

Speakers: Kathy Lennox

Socials: Shirly van Putten

Interest Groups: Julie
Mathewson

Communications: Tina Gee

House: Erika Winfrow

Technical: Stewart Beatty

WebMaster: Oankar Kundan

Newsletter: Lynne Stewart

Member-at-Large: Kevin
Portener

President's Message...

I really enjoyed being President for the past two years. I met new people, tried new things, and made new friends. I am pleased that we have grown significantly, attracting people willing to share their unique talents, positive energy and warmth. We have added several new annual events, including a Halloween Dance, an Open House, and a Volunteer Appreciation Event. Coffee and Conversation has been successful in helping new members to take advantage of all our Club has to offer. Improv and Dancing at the Edge lowered our inhibitions. We have collaborated with other PROBUS Clubs, the Town of Ajax, the Legion, Senior Centers, and local businesses, demonstrating what it means to be part of the community. This year, Shirly van Putten and Julien LeBourdais posthumously will be honored as Seniors of the Year, a great testament to the caliber of people in our Club. We will strive to be a source of pride as Kathy Lennox takes on the leadership role, supported by a talented and dedicated management team. We will continue to focus on inspiring, entertaining, encouraging, and promoting harmony. Thank you all for being so awesome! Wishing you a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year.

April Gilkinson

PROBUS AJAX
DECEMBER 2025 CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 WALKING GRP 2 @ 10 MOVE TO MUSIC (1) AT 11	2 CRIBBAGE AT 2	3 CHRISTMAS LUNCH 11:30 AM	4 WALKING GRP 1 @ 10	5 ZOOM CHAT AT 1 MAHJONG AT 2	6
7	8 WALKING GRP 2 @ 10 MOVE TO MUSIC (1) AT 11 GOMEIO LUNCH AT NOON	9 COFFEE & CHAT AT 10 CRIBBAGE AT 2	10 EUCHRE AT 2 MOVE TO MUSIC (2) AT 11	11 WALKING GRP 1 @ 10	12 POOL AT 11 ZOOM CHAT AT 1	13
14	15 WALKING GRP 2 @ 10 MOVE TO MUSIC (1) AT 11 BOWLING AT 1 HAPPY HOUR AT 2:30	16 COFFEE TIME AT 10 CRIBBAGE AT 2	17 MOVE TO MUSIC (2) AT 11	18 WALKING GRP 1 @ 10	19 ZOOM CHAT AT 1 MAHJONG AT 2	20
21	22 WALKING GRP 2 @ 10	23	24	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26	27
28	29	30 BREAKFAST AT 9	31			

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THERE WILL NOT BE A MEETING IN
DECEMBER. WE WILL BE ENJOYING A CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON
INSTEAD!**



Take advantage of the **FACEBOOK** page for your **PROBUS Club of Ajax**. It is visible to our 92 members only. By joining, you will see what goes on at some of the interest group events.

General Meetings

Meeting Fee \$2
Optional Share the Wealth
\$1 each or 3 for \$2

The first Wednesday of the month
Ajax Community Centre, HMS Ajax Room (south side of building)



January Speaker

Paul Oliver, lifelong bird enthusiast

January 7 2026

Topic: How to Attract and Enjoy Your Local Backyard Birds

With over 20 years of experience in the lawn and garden industry, Paul is the founder of Urban Nature and managing partner of TreeHelp.com. His love for birding began at an early age, inspired by his mother, and it's a passion he still nurtures today, both personally and professionally, as he leads the operations at Urban Nature Store.



February Speaker

Steve Chapelle

February 4 2026

Topic: An Overview of Artificial Intelligence

Steve Chapelle has been providing information privacy and security education to Canadian professional, parent, student and retiree organizations since 2006. Prior to that he spent over 20 years in information technology management, analysis and customer service, primarily in the financial services sector. Experience has included security, availability and disaster recovery planning. He is also an instructor and developer at the Udemy online course platform, and the author of 'No Decision: The 1919 Stanley Cup Final' about the Spanish Flu pandemic.



Christmas Luncheon

Wednesday December 3rd at 11:30

at the Ajax Convention Centre

We are going to have a D.J, Prizes,
and the wine Draw. (and lunch of
course!)

Tickets are \$60.

Powerball of Wine

To participate, you will now have to get a bottle to Shirlie before December 3rd Christmas Party (members only).

For every member who brings a bottle of Wine, their name will go in the “hat”. Names will be drawn on **December 3rd at the Christmas Party** and they will go home with ????

bottles of wine.

1st Prize- 30% of the bottles collected

2nd Prize - 25% of bottles collected

3rd Prize - 20% of bottles collected

4th Prize - 15% of bottles collected

5th Prize - 10% of bottles collected



Payments for events and membership may be made via e-transfer through your bank to:

probusajxtreasurer@gmail.com

Include your name and what the payment is for.



**Capital Theatre Presents
“Hansel & Gretel” a Panto
Tuesday December 4th
Evening Performance**

**Dinner included will be at Railside Restaurant
Includes Transportation
Cost \$159**



New Year's Day Lunch

**Join us at the State & Main restaurant for lunch at noon on January 1st
Located at the Pickering City Centre next to the movie theatre
Please RSVP to Julie - jmathewson@rpgers.com**

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



Payments for events and membership may be made via e-transfer through your bank to:
probusajxtreasurer@gmail.com

Include your name and what the payment is for.

Fun and Sun in the Republic - January 13-23 - Pick up flyer

Emotions by Hodelpa Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic is a 5 star all Inclusive Hotel right on the beach. It has 5 pools, 7 restaurants, 4 bars, WiFi, Fitness Centre, 24 hour drinks/snacks and an in-room safe.

- Adult only section: Room (only 10 singles available) Single \$2,799.
 - Adults only Jr. Suite (17 available) - double occupancy \$2,599. each.
 - This tour price includes all meals, drinks, airfare, daily activities & nightly entertainment.
-

February 24 - March 18, 2026 - Portugal - pick up flyer

Portugal's Algarve Province, with its magnetic Moorish appeal has become a Mecca for Snowbirds. It is one of Europe's most picturesque destinations. Cobblestone streets are lined with outdoor cafes, bistros, wine bars and markets full of fresh fruits and vegetables. The weather is wonderfully spring-like and invigorating.

**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:

probusajxtreasurer@gmail.com

Include your name and what the payment is for.

Local Outings



**December 6th at the St. Francis Centre
78 Church St. South, Ajax
from 2- 3 pm
tickets \$22.63**

**“Mirror, Mirror, on the wall,
who’s the funniest of them all?”**

Laugh out loud as Snow White & some audience members encounter hapless huntsmen, little men and bad apples.

The Durham Chamber Orchestra presents:

A Christmas Celebration

Forest Brook Church, 60 Kearney Drive, Ajax

December 7th 2 pm

tickets for PROBUS members \$25

contact info@durhamchamberorchestra.com

Wendy Reville for more info and tickets

Durham Chamber Orchestra will feature selections from Handel’s MESSIAH along with your favourite seasonal music



The Regent Theatre Presents:
Elvis a Christmas Special
Saturday December 20, 2025 at 7 p.m.

**NOTE: Please make sure you add your name
and contact information for any of the social or interest groups on the sign up
sheets provided at the meetings.**

This will allow us to calculate how many spots are available.

Save the Date for:



Beat the Blahs Beach Party
Friday February 20
Tickets \$5



Motown Mania - A tribute to Motown
Saturday March 28th,
Tickets \$38



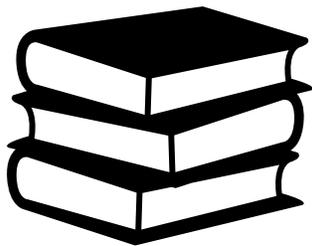
The Rolling Stones Experience
Featuring the Blushing Brides
Saturday May 23rd
Tickets \$38



Quizzes and Cocktails
The Series
Wednesday May 27th
Tickets \$5

Interest Groups

Book Club - Your Choice - (formerly Not a Book Club)



December we will be on hiatus.

Next Meeting: Tuesday January 20th **10:00 a.m.**

Do you have a favourite book? Did you read a couple of books that you enjoyed and would like to share with others? Join our Book Club-Your Choice where we will discuss books you wanted to read!

Contact Lynne: 912lynne@gmail.com or 905.839.8147

Book Club - Sip and Chat



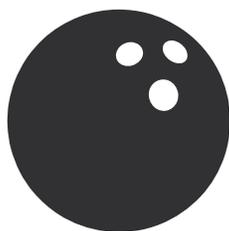
Reading Now: *The Zookeeper's Wife* by Diane Ackerman

Enjoy a cuppa and a fun chat about this book!

Next Meeting: Mon. Jan. 5 2026, 1 - 3 pm

For more details **contact Kathy** at kathylennox@rogers.com

Bowling + Happy Hour



This month bowling will be Monday @ Dec 15 at 1 pm
AJAX BOWLING CENTRE - 172 Harwood Ave. S. Lower floor

RSVP: Kevin keportener@gmail.com

call or text 905.626.6303

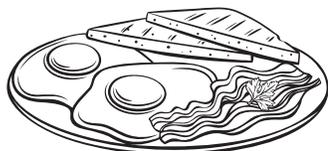
\$10 for two games plus \$2 for shoes

HAPPY HOUR

After bowling, at 2:30 pm, we go to the **MACKENZIE PUB.**

Non-bowlers are welcome to join us.

Breakfast Club



Next get together: **Tuesday, Dec 30th at 9:00 am**

Kings Castle 570 Westney Rd, Ajax

RSVP Lynne: 912lynne@gmail.com 905.839.8147

Interest Groups



Coffee and Conversation

EVERY 2ND TUESDAY 10:00 - NOON

Next get-together: Tuesday, Dec 9th at 10:00 a.m.

RSVP: Marlene: marzrae18@gmail.com

This is for anyone who has joined our club in the last 12 months.

It is a great way to meet new people and learn more about how to enjoy
PROBUS.

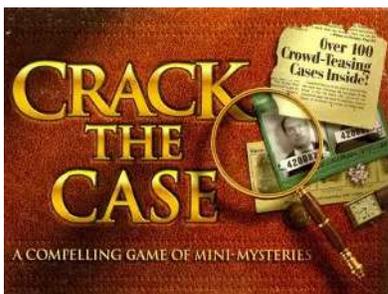
Coffee Time



Tuesday December 16th at 10 am
at the The Sweet Heart Cafe
65 Kingston Rd., Ajax
Plenty of seating and parking

For information, contact Lynne: 912lynne@gmail.com or
905.839.8147

Coming January 6th at 10 on zoom **Crack the Case**



Are you good at figuring out a mystery?
How about this?

The Case: A woman in a white dress is found dead. Near her body
is a broken teacup.

The Mystery: Who was the woman, who killed her, how and why?
join us on zoom in January and figure it out!

for more info contact Lynne: 912lynne@gmail.com

Cribbage

cancelled Dec 23 and the 30th



EVERY TUESDAY 2:00 - 4:00 PM

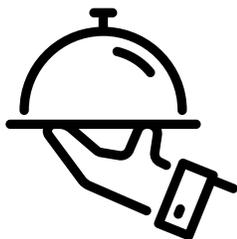
AT THE PICKERING VILLAGE SENIOR CENTRE

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

Contact Wendy: wendysmith1@live.com

Interest Groups

Dining Out



EVERY 3RD THURSDAY - 5:30 PM

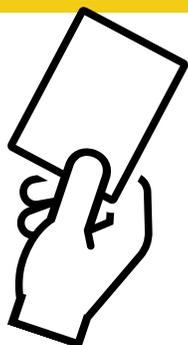
On Hiatus for December

Next outing will be on Thursday Jan 15th

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

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

Wednesday Dec 10th only

To take place at the Pickering Village Senior Center

RSVP: Jane 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.



Golf

Outdoor Golf is over for the season.

If anyone wants to join us next year, email marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca

GOMEO" Lunch Group"



"Great Old Men Eating Out"

2ND MONDAY of the month at noon.

This month it will be Monday December 8th

at the MacKenzie Pub and Restaurant

"Great Old Men Eating Out"

RSVP: Kevin keportener@gmail.com 905.626.6303

Interest Groups

Happy Hour



3RD MONDAY of the month at 2:30 PM
Next get-together: Monday December 15th at 2:30.
RSVP: Kevin keportener@gmail.com 905.626.6303
We join the Bowling group at **MACKENZIE PUB & RESTAURANT**
250 Bayly St. West Ajax

Improv

Is taking a break.
Watch this space for a start-up date in the spring

Mahjong



First and third Fridays of the month 2:00 - 4:00 PM
at the St. Andrew's Friendship Club, 46 Exeter Road in Ajax, .
Next games will be Dec 5th and Dec 19th
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

Move to the Music

Parkland Retirement Home - 3 Rossland Rd. West
Group 1 - Mondays Dec 1, 8, 15 at 11-12
Group 2, Wednesdays Dec. 10, 17 at 11-12
Monday classes will be a level two class. I plan to continue on from
where we left off and teach some new dances...
Wednesday classes will be a beginner class. This class is for new
people who want to review.
A limited number of openings are still available for both groups
Contact Patsy, patsyhandley55@gmail.com



Interest Groups



Play Nine

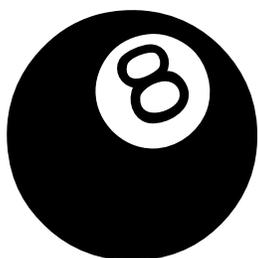
On Hiatus for December

There is a limit of six players

Draw, flip and discard cards to shoot the lowest score.

Contact Diane Sharp dsharp0322@rogers.com, for directions

Pool



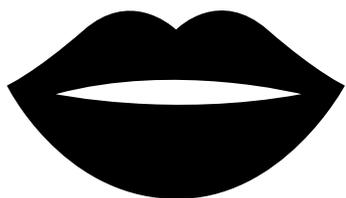
Normally Second and fourth Friday at **Petrina Billiards**, 21 Harwood Ave. S

But will play on December 12th only at 11:00.

Everyone is welcome, no experience required. Probus members pay \$6.00 to Petrina's. Please remember to wear your Probus name tag.

Contact Don Voorhees, holdus1399@gmail.com or 905-427-7446

"RODEO" Lunch Group



"Retired Old Dames Eating Out"

Will be on Hiatus for December

Normally the Second Monday of the month at noon

RSVP: Anne mandareed02@gmail.com

On hiatus for the month of December

Walking Group 1

EVERY THURSDAY - AM 10 am

No walk December 25th or January 1st

RSVP: Ron mitchellmis@rogers.com or

Maureen maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca

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



Interest Groups



Walking Group 2

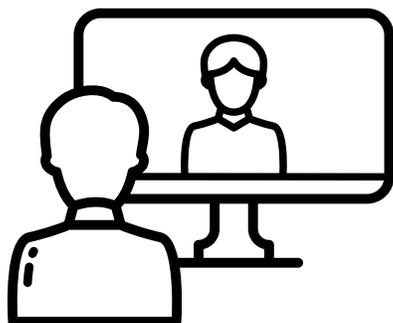
EVERY MONDAY - 10 AM

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

No walk on December 29th

RSVP: Julie jmathewson@rogers.com

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



Zoom

EVERY FRIDAY - 1 p.m.

Cancelled on December 26th

To join the Zoom chat contact: Stewart
ajaxprobuszoom@gmail.com;

All Members are welcome

Keeps us connected!

If anyone has an idea for a one-time activity or a special interest group, let us know.

Contact Julie: jmathewson@rogers.com

or drop a note in the suggestion box at the next meeting.



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.

Members Corner



Don Sharp, Lynn Patry, Joyce Ferguson, Steve Parish, Marilyn Crawford, Gloria Knowles

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Marie Arnold
Ange Berlin
Harvey Bunston
Curtis Dadswell
Jonty Hart Sharp
Susan Jaworski
Derek Jaworski
Anne McLane

Jeanine O'Carroll
Duncan Sharp
Pauline Smiley
Ian Williams
Karen Williams
Ian Winton
Marion Winton

Members Corner

Random Acts of Kindness

If you are aware of anyone celebrating a special birthday or anniversary, or if you know anyone who is experiencing an illness or who has lost a loved one, please let Jane Wilson know so she can send a card on behalf of the club.

Contact Jane at [jw003.@sympatico.ca](mailto:jw003@sympatico.ca) or 905-619-6674

DO NOT MISS THIS WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY!

Volunteer to be our the Vice President starting January 1, 2026. You will work with a great management tea, help your club and get to know some fantastic people.

Job Description: -One year term, after which the president's position is taken over. Attend monthly Management committee meetings. Perform duties of the President when they are absent. Support the president whenever needed. May act as a signing officer for the club.

Jane Wilson jw.003@sympatico.ca

905-619-6674



Photo Gallery

Breakfast anyone?

November meeting Marie, Neil and April



Halloween



Photo Gallery



To see more pictures of PROBUS events, visit our website - www.ajaxprobus.com, Facebook - PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX, or send submissions to Oankar@yahoo.com



PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX NEWSLETTER

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Until Next time!