

PROBUS Club of Ajax Newsletter



Club 82

Volume 29

April 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 Kvrjic

Technical: Stewart Beatty

WebMaster: Oankar Kundan

Newsletter: Open

Member-at-Large: Kevin Portener

Photographer: Maureen Adams

As April approaches, so does the lighthearted day of “April Fools.” It is a time to have some light-hearted fun and share some good laughs, but do we know where April Fools originated from? While its exact history is a mystery, legends have it that April Fools’ Day began in France in 1564. Prior to 1564, April 1st was once celebrated as New Year’s Day. Those who insisted on celebrating the “old” New Year’s became known as April fools and playing jokes on one another became common. Others believe it has to do with Mother Nature’s trickery as often April storm brings snow, fooling us, since the calendar says it is spring. For whatever the reason really is, April Fools is a great time to remind ourselves not to take life too seriously. We can often get held down by negative thoughts or emotions, so use this month to shrug them off and look towards the brighter side of things. Enjoy the warmer weather, spend time with friends, maybe start your spring cleaning!

April is known as the month of renewal, which is a perfect theme for our PROBUS Club! It is now time to shed our winter coats and emerge from our winter hibernations for those of us who spent the winter inside. As the world awakens around us, so do we! Get out there and seize the day.

April Gilkinson

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



Your Name


PROBUS Club of Ajax

APRIL

WALKING GROUP 2 IS EVERY MONDAY AT 10AM

WALKING GROUP 1 IS EVERY THURSDAY AT 10AM

2025

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

REMINDER

PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAILS ON WINTRY DAYS.
YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED BY 9:00 AM IF A MEETING IS CANCELLED OR IS MOVED TO A ZOOM CALL DUE TO WEATHER



Make the right call

Need assistance, but not sure who to call?
Help is just three digits away.



- 211** Non-emergency social and community services
- 311** Regional government programs and services
- 411** Local directory assistance
- 511** Travel information such as road and traffic conditions
- 711** Teletypewriter (TTY) Relay Services for the speech and hearing impaired
- 811** Non-emergency health services
- 911** Emergency services

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

NOURISHING THE DURHAM COMMUNITY



Guest Speaker: **Ben Earle, CEO, Feed the Need**
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2ND - 10:00 am

Since its inception over 15 years ago, FTND has been the major food provider in Durham for those experiencing hunger. With a network of 65 hunger relief programs, including food banks and shelters, hundreds of volunteers, and thousands of community supporters, FTND supplies two million pounds of food each year. By distributing more than 2.5 million nutritious meals annually, FTND serves as a beacon of hope for those in need. Ben will illustrate how FTND, based on their core principles of Dignity, Access and Equity, has set out on a mission to redefine and revolutionize the face of food banking across the Durham Region.



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 meetings!

Friday, April 25th – Whitby Courthouse “The Play that goes Wrong” - \$26

Welcome to the opening night of the newest production, “The Murder at Haversham Manor”, where things are quickly going from bad to utterly disastrous. This 1920s whodunit has everything you never wanted in a show—an unconscious leading lady, a corpse that can’t play dead, and actors who trip over everything (including their lines). Nevertheless, the accident-prone thespians battle against all odds to make it through to their final curtain call, with hilarious consequences! **416 Centre St. S, Whitby at 8 PM**

Wednesday, May 7th – Dirty Rotten Scandals – Cost \$155

Lawrence Jameson is no stranger to the high life—he’s lived it for years by separating lonely rich ladies from their fortunes in a swanky Riviera town. When he and his chief competitor in the con business, Freddy Benson, make a bet to swindle an heiress out of \$50,000, the professional scoundrels soon discover they may not always be the smartest people in the room. **Bring along your lunch and I will provide drinks & dessert!** Includes return transportation by Coach , Orchestra Level Ticket, Driver’s Tip, 407 Toll

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.

**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
Include your name and what the payment is for.

Local Outings



Fleetwood Mac Mania

Sat May 24th 7:00 pm at the St. Francis Centre

\$38 Per person

A stunning visual and musical tribute to Fleetwood Mac, this show has been touring since 2007 and has gained a reputation as one of North America's most authentic-sounding Fleetwood Mac tribute band.

RSVP: Julie jmathewson@rogers.com

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



Lakeridge Dixie Stompers

Sunday April 6th from 4 pm - 6 pm - FREE

at Cloud 9 Bar and Grill at 368 Bayly St W, Ajax

Traditional jazz in a hot New Orleans style for your dancing and listening pleasure. Happy music featuring a gumbo of Blues, Marches, Rags, Hymns, Gospel, Pop tunes, C&W and Dixieland favourites.



Interest Groups



Book Club

Every 3rd Wednesday Via Zoom

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, April 16 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 Easter holiday)

AJAX BOWLING CENTRE

172 Harwood Ave. S. Lower floor

Next get-together: **Monday, April 28th 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, April 29 at 9:00 am**

RSVP Lynne: 912lynne@gmail.com 905.839.8147

Next Breakfast Club will be held at **Stacked Pancake & Breakfast House**
at 280 Harwood Ave. S (in the Harwood Plaza)



Bridge

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

Rotary Room 55 Harwood Avenue South

Harvey: hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca

Thursday April 3 - Social Bridge

Thursday April 10 - Bridge Lesson

Thursday April 17 - Social Bridge

Thursday April 24 - Bridge Lesson



Coffee and Conversation

EVERY 2ND TUESDAY 10:00 - NOON

Next get-together: Tuesday, April 8th 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

EVERY TUESDAY 2:00 - 4:00 PM

AT THE PICKERING VILLAGE SENIOR CENTRE

29 Linton Avenue One block north of Kingston Road,

one block 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, April 17th 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

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

Next get-together: April 9 & 23 at 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.



Club FRANÇAIS

Wednesday April 9th at 1 pm

Contact me if you are interested. We will meet at my home to watch a short French movie followed by discussion in French, over light refreshments.

RSVP: Heiderose Heiderose.butscher@gmail.com



Creative Explorers NEW

will be starting in May so sign up

If you're looking for a way to spread love and kindness around you then the Painted Wishes Kit is what you need! Rich in watercolor designs, colourful florals, and heartfelt greetings, this kit includes the supplies to create nine all-occasion greeting cards that will make kind words flourish all around you!

Class date and location to be announced.

RSVP: Tina tinakvrgic@gmail.com



Garden Club *NEW*

will be starting soon

The new season for the Garden Club is starting soon.

Watch this space for information on a Mystery Tour. Date, time and place will be announced as soon as possible.



"GOMEQ" Lunch Group

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

RSVP: Kevin 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, April 28th at 3:00.

RSVP: Kevin keportener@gmail.com 905.626.6303

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

250 Bayly St. West Ajax



Improv for Beginners

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

Next get-together: Wednesday, April 23rd

CHARTWELL RETIREMENT RESIDENCE (Theatre in lower level)

240 Old Harwood Ave., Ajax

RSVP: April april-ann@hotmail.com



"RODEO" Lunch Group

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

**next get together Monday, April 14th at noon at Westney Bar and Grill
570 Westney Rd South, Ajax**

RSVP: Anne mandareed02@gmail.com



Walking Group 1

EVERY THURSDAY - 10:00 AM

RSVP: Ron mitchellmis@rogers.com

Maureen maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca

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



Walking Group 2

EVERY MONDAY - 10:00 AM

We meet at the Rotary Park Pavilion on Lake Driveway

RSVP: Julie jmathewson@rogers.com

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



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 could do visits to an Art Gallery, iFLY, outdoor concerts, Escape Rooms and of course, Dancing at the Edge.



Zoom

EVERY FRIDAY - 1:00 PM

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

All members are welcome - Keeps us connected !

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 centres). Membership is \$20 a year plus \$1 activity fee when you play. Thank You!


Also a special thanks to members who have stepped up to organize activities for us – Victoria Plaskett for arranging a ski/snowshoe day and to Dan Taillefer for putting together our trivia event. If anyone else has an idea for a one-time activity, please let us know. Contact Julie, jmathewson@rogers.com.

Volunteers Needed! Come join our Management Team!



The PROBUS Club of Ajax is need of volunteers for Newsletter Editor immediately, Vice President for the remainder of this year (President for next year) and Vice President for next year (starting in September). If you would like more information on what is involved with any of these position, or would like to volunteer, please contact Jane Wilson at jw.003@sympatico.ca or 905-619-6674. It takes volunteers in order to have successful club.

Random Acts of Kindness

 This is a new initiative for our club to acknowledge members who are celebrating a special day (special birthday or anniversary) or have been ill, have had surgery, or have lost a loved one. Please let me know if you are aware of any members who are experiencing any of the above, contact Jane Wilson. jw.093@sympatico.ca. 905-619-6674 

Members Corner



April Gilkinson, President with our new member, Patricia Pestano, welcome!

Welcome New Members!

Alba Saptel
Paula MacDonald
Kim Cairney
Peter Lennox
Gary Round
Susan Dutka
Bruce Vodden



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

Erica Pazin
Joanne Freve
Susan Stocks
Ann London
Jennifer Webb

Photo Gallery

From meeting and events in March



