

PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX NEWSLETTER

Club 82

Vol 26 Issue 11

November, 2023

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MANAGEMENT TEAM

President: Jean Wing Past President: Jane Wilson Vice President: April Gilkinson Treasurer: Rowena Burns Secretary: Bernie Rosebush Communications: Barb Squires House: Margaret Wells Membership: Tom Rosebush Newsletter: Hetty Shapiro Socials: Shirlie van Putten Speakers: April Gilkinson Interest Groups: Julie Mathewson Technical: Stewart Beatty Website: Maureen McVarish

Member-at-Large: Kevin Portener



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As November approaches I reflect on the sacrifices my family members made for me, before I was even born. My maternal grandfather served in WWI and WWII, by lying about his age! Two uncles served in the army and one in the Royal Navy. None of them came home unscathed. They never spoke of the hardships and injuries they suffered. They tried to live good lives and give back to their communities. I am thankful for the sacrifices they made.

My respect and gratitude goes out to those members of the Ajax Probus club and broader community who served in any of the services during their lifetime. Thank you. LEST WE FORGET.

Thanksgiving was a whirl of eating and meeting family and friends, cooler weather and leaves changing. Now, as we approach the dark mornings and evenings we have so much to look forward to. **Julie**, **Shirlie** and **April** and their volunteers have been busy arranging all the activities offered to Ajax Probus members.

The car rally on Monday, October 16 was great fun for all of us that took part. We enjoyed the drive, reading and finding the answers to the 112 questions! The rain held off and the sun popped out for a few minutes.

We enjoyed a delicious lunch at the end of the drive. **Julie**, **Jane**, **Nancy** and **Barb** spent a great deal of time (at least four dummy runs) planning and organizing the car rally. Thank you all for a fun day.

We have many activities to look forward to. Check your November calendar and sign up for the activities that appeal to you. If you are planning to attend the **Christmas lunch**, December 6th at The Ajax Convention Centre, please sign up and pay as soon as possible.

Jean Wing jeankelly263@gmail.com

> Thank you to the members who contributed to this issue. Please send submissions by the 25th of the month to: *ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.com*

PROBUS Ajax website <u>www.ajaxprobus.com</u>



Ajax Partnership Fund

PROBUS Canada website www.probus.org

NOVEMBER CALENDAR PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE AT OUR MEETINGS AND EVENTS.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			10 am GENERAL MEETING	2 10:00 am WALKING GROUP 2:30 pm SOCIAL BRIDGE	3 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	4
Clocks go back 1 hour	6	7 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	8 Noon LADIES LUNCH 2:00 pm EUCHRE	9 ST. JACOBS 10:00 am WALKING GROUP 2:30 pm BRIDGE LESSON	10 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	LEST WE FORGET
12	13	10 am COFFEE 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	15	16 10:00 am WALKING GROUP 2:30 pm SOCIAL BRIDGE 5:30 pm DINING OUT	17 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT 	18
19	20	21 Noon MEN'S LUNCH 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	22 2:00 pm EUCHRE	23 10:00 am WALKING GROUP 2:30 pm BRIDGE LESSON	24 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	25
26	27	9:00 am BREAKFAST 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	29	30 10:00 am WALKING GROUP 2:30 pm SOCIAL BRIDGE		

SEE WHAT'S ON IN THE TOWN OF AJAX

Town of Ajax 55+ activities

http://www.ajaxlibrary.ca/whatson

GENERAL MEETINGS

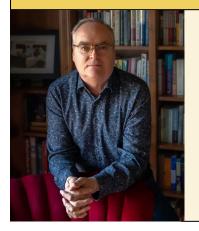
JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT THE PORTLY PIPER PUB AFTER THE MEETINGS.



LUG-A-MUG TO CUT DOWN ON THE USE OF DISPOSABLE CUPS, WE ARE RE-INTRODUCING "LUG A MUG". DISPOSABLES WILL BE AVAILABLE BUT IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF YOU WOULD BRING YOUR OWN MUG TO THE MEETINGS.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1 - 10:00 am

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 (exact change appreciated)



A NEW SEASON: TRACING THE ROOTS OF A NOVEL with Guest Speaker: Terry Fallis

Two-time winner of the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour, Canadian novelist, Terry Fallis, is the award-winning author of eight national bestsellers. His presentation will trace the roots of his latest novel, *A New Season* – a thoughtful exploration of aging, loss, family, friendship, and love, all with his trademark humour and heart. Full of sincerity and warmth, *A New Season* shows us all that sometimes, making a change in your life can save your life. Terry has written for many publications including Maclean's, Canadian Geographic, Reader's Digest, Toronto Life, the Globe and Mail, the National Post, and the Toronto Star. *https://terryfallis.com/*

NOTE THAT THERE IS NO GENERAL MEETING IN DECEMBER

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3 - 10:00 am

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 (exact change appreciated)



DOLLY PARTON: BEYOND THE RHINESTONES with Guest Speaker: **Daniel Aonso**

Join Daniel Aonso for a captivating journey into the life and legacy of country singer Dolly Parton – her iconic music career, philanthropy, and undeniable influence on American culture.

Daniel studied piano from an early age. He then went on to complete a Bachelor's and later Master's degree in music from



York University with Classical Piano as primary instrument. His main areas of interest are in Popular Music and Film Music. He currently teaches piano, guitar, percussion and music theory at PAVAS music school in Mississauga.



probusajaxtreasurer@gmail.com & include your name and what the payment is for.



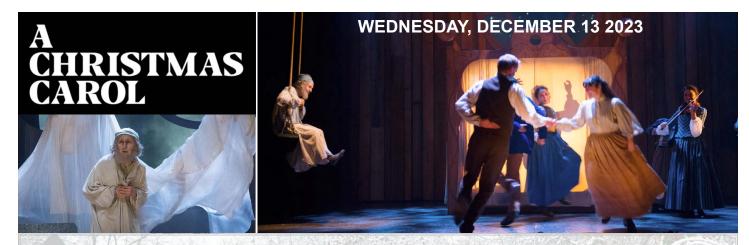
CAPITOL THEATRE, PORT HOPE presents "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" The Naughty version

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 @ 7:30 pm

Magic, murder and mayhem lead the way in this world premier retelling of the classic fairytale. This musical version won't be like anything you've seen before.

Cost: \$110 includes: return transportation, driver's tip & ticket to show.

Years



EBENEZER SCROOGE IS BACK!

Nestled in the heart of the ultimate Christmas village, the charming holiday favourite, "A Christmas Carol", returns to the Shaw Festival's Royal George Theatre. It's the perfect annual reminder of what Christmas is all about. Arrive feeling "Bah, humbug!" and leave full of warm, fuzzy Christmas spirit. Cost: \$150 includes return transportation by coach and orchestra level ticket. RSVP Shirlie: 905.619.8583 shirlievanputten@rogers.com

> Don't spend New Year's Eve alone spend it with us at THE EDGE LOUNGE dancing to the great sounds of RACHEL & AYDEN <u>Watch them perform</u>

\$75 ENTRANCE FEE (to be confirmed) PAYABLE AT THE DOOR. iNCLUDES BUFFET DINNER & GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE

We have a reserved seating area for our group. Space is limited. If you would like to join us for a really fun evening, contact:

April <u>april-ann@hotmail.com</u> or Hetty <u>ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.com</u>



THE GRAND PALLADIUM PUNTA CANA RESORT & SPA DOMINICAN REPUBLIC JANUARY 6 - 14, 2024 (8 NIGHTS)

This 4.5 star all-inclusive hotel has six amazing pools 13 restaurants • 23 bars • Fitness Centre • 24-hour drinks & snacks In-room safe • Waterpark • WiFi

Deluxe Garden View Room (11 rooms):Double \$2,149Single \$2,655Deluxe Room Poolside (11 rooms):Double \$2,249Single \$2,755

Price includes all meals, drinks, airfare, daily activities, nightly entertainment, all taxes and gratuities, and the service of a Tour Director (Shirlie and Paul).

Air Transat extended our contract to September 30, 2024!

\$250 deposit on booking. Balance due October 31, 2023.

Contact Shirlie: 905.619.8583 or shirlie@hnatravels.com

NCL "NORWEGIAN JEWEL" ALASKA CRUISE AUGUST 23 – SEPTEMBER 2, 2024 CRUISE + LAND AUGUST 26 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2024 CRUISE ONLY



Start your amazing adventure in Seward, Alaska. View the awe-inspiring Hubbard Glacier and spy brown bears, whales and eagles in Icy Strait Point. Explore the former goldrush towns of Juneau, Skagway and Ketchikan. End your experience with a tour of the vibrant city of Vancouver.

<u>Cruise Cost</u>: Double occupancy. (*Call for single occupancy*). Balcony - \$4,299; Oceanview - \$3,199 Inside Cabin - \$2,799 Four-day pre-cruise land package – additional \$1,720 per person. (*Call Shirlie for land package details*).

Group shore excursions, will be available for purchase prior to departure.



7-Day / 6 Ports - Cruise cost includes:

• All meals onboard, premium beverage package & WiFi. Specialty restaurants excluded.

Land portion includes:

- Return Airfare from Toronto to Anchorage & Vancouver to Toronto
- All connecting transfers between airports & Anchorage, Seward, and Vancouver
- City Tour of Vancouver

Not included:

- Luggage handling; Seat Selection on flights; meals not stated in itinerary.
- Gratuities for the NCL crew and land portion.
- Customary gratuities to local guides, drivers and your HNA Tour Director

A non-refundable deposit of \$250 is due upon booking. Balance due April 1, 2024 Please note that these prices guaranteed until November 1, 2023

Contact Shirlie: 905.619.8583 shirlie@hnatravels.com

BREAKFAST CLUB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28 @ 9:00 am

WE MEET ON THE LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

Next breakfast at:

EGGSMART

465 Bayly Street West, Ajax

RSVP: Lynne <u>912lynne@gmail.com</u> 905-839-8147



BRIDGE BRIDGE I FEEL SICK TO MY STOMACH ... EVERY THURSDAY FROM 2:30 - 4:30 pm ALL NIGHT LONG **ROTARY ROOM, AJAX LIBRARY** I DREAMED WE 55 Harwood Ave. South WERE PLAYING Nov 2 **Social Bridge** Lesson: Responding to a Major with the Nov 9 CANASTA ! other Major **Social Bridge** Nov 16 Nov 23 Lesson: Responding to a Minor with a Major Nov 30 **Social Bridge** The lessons will continue until the spring on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. The lessons build on material from previous lessons.

RSVP: Harvey hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 @ 10:00 am

EVERY 2ND TUESDAY - FOR NEW MEMBERS

are invited to an informal get-together at the home of Jane & Bob Wilson. (address will be provided when registering)



RSVP by NOV 10 to April april-ann@hotmail.com or Hetty ajaxprobuseditor@qmail.com



CRIBBAGE

EVERY TUESDAY 1:30 - 4:00 pm

PICKERING VILLAGE SENIOR CENTRE

29 Linton Avenue (one block north of Kingston Road & one block west of Church Street) (next door to the Ajax Creative Arts Club)

We have a novice's table at our card games for those who want to learn how to play the game or who need to refresh their game skills. Feel free to join us even if you've never played before.

RSVP: Wendy wendysmith1@live.com 905-686-1490



THEY JUST GET TAKEN DOWN A PEG.

DANCING AT THE EDGE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 @ 8:30 pm

IT'S A GREAT FEELING TO MOVE TO THE MUSIC & LET THE REST OF THE WORLD DISAPPEAR.

Join us once a month for a fun evening dancing to retro hits.

THE EDGE LOUNGE Mackenzie Pub Plaza, 250 Bayly St. W. featuring TWO FOR THE SHOW (Watch them on YouTube)

Entrance fee at the door (\$10-\$15) RSVP: April <u>april-ann@hotmail.com</u> or Hetty <u>ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.com</u>



DINING OUT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 @ 5:30 pm

EVERY 3RD THURSDAY

BÂTON ROUGE 25 Consumers Drive, Unit 2, Whitby

There will not be a dinner in December. We will start again in January.

RSVP: Carol cbreen840@bell.net



EUCHRE

EUCHRE: WEDNESDAY, NOV 8 & 22 - 2:00 - 4:00 pm

PICKERING VILLAGE SENIOR CENTRE

29 Linton Avenue (one block north of Kingston Road & one block west of Church Street) (next door to the Ajax Creative Arts Club)

We have a novice's table at our card games for those who want to learn how to play the game or who need to refresh their game skills. Feel free to join us even if you've never played before.

RSVP: Jane jw.003@sympatico.ca 905-619-6674

I DON'T OFTEN GET 4 NINES BUT WHEN I DO, I'M PLAYING EUCHRE!



"GOMEO" LUNCH CLUB

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 @ NOON

(Grumpy Old Men Eating Out)

WE MEET EVERY 3RD TUESDAY AT MACKENZIE PUB & RESTAURANT 250 Bayly St. West, Ajax

RSVP: Kevin kportener@gmail.com



"RODEO" LUNCH CLUB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8 @ NOON

(Retired Old Dames Eating Out)

WE MEET EVERY 2ND WEDNESDAY

Next meeting at: CLOUD NINE BAR & GRILL 368 Bayly Street West, Ajax (Close to Westney at Bayly, west of Sklar factory) 905-903-6360

RSVP: Anne mandareed02@gmail.com



SALSA FOR BEGINNERS

Salsa, a combination of several other dance styles, first started in Cuba in the early 1900s and is now one of the most popular Latin dances worldwide.

It's fun so if you're up to having a good time, then this is for you. Give it a try, you never know but it may be your best success at keeping fit.

SINGLES AND COUPLES ARE WELCOME.

For more information or to register, contact: Maureen Adams <u>mauwa111@rogers.com</u>



SMALL THEATRE GROUP

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 @ 2:30 PM

"A CELTIC COUNTRY HOLIDAY" Forest Brook Community Church 60 Kearney Drive, Ajax

Presented by Music4Life String Orchestra and will feature the step dancing, fiddling sensation **THE FITZGERALDS**. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door or reserve through Julie Mathewson.

The **Tina Turner Tribute** on November 4 is sold out. If you have reserved, you can pick up your tickets from Julie at our **November 1st** meeting or email Julie to arrange an alternate pick up.

Julie: jmathewson@rogers.com

THE FIZGERALDS



WALKING CLUB

EVERY THURSDAY @ 10:00 am

Come join us and discover some of the many walking trails in Ajax and surrounding areas.

For more information contact: Ron <u>mitchellmis@rogers.com</u> or Maureen <u>maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca</u>



ZOOM CHAT ROOMEVERY FRIDAY @ 1:00 pmAll members are welcome to join us for a
discussion on general topics of interest.To join the Zoom Chat contact:
Stewart ajaxprobuszoom@gmail.com
or Barb ajaxprobus@gmail.com

NEW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Our PROBUS Club is always looking for new activities and would love to hear your ideas. Some that have been suggested include **crafts**, **yoga**, **tai chi**, **meditation**, **bowling**, **mah jong**, **cinema**, **book club**, **camera club**, **chess**, **scrabble**, **genealogy**, and the list goes on. Having the ideas is great but activities can't happen without a volunteer to organize them. Stop by our new Interest Groups table at the November 1st meeting and let us know what groups you'd like to see started and if you're willing to volunteer to help get it going.

Julie Mathewson - Interest Groups Coordinator jmathewson@rogers.com

MEMBERS' CORNER



Welcome to the new members pictured with president, Jean Wing (right). I - r: Darlene Flynn, Brenda Higgins, Tina Kvrgic, and Walter MacEwan

Lakeridge Dixie Stompers

The Lakeridge Dixie Stompers play authentic happy New Orleans music featuring a gumbo of Blues, Marches, Ragtime, Hymns, Country & Western and Gospel on:

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5 CLOUD NINE BAR & GRILL

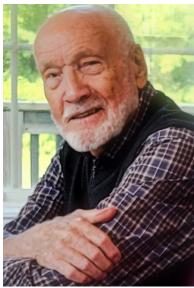
368 BAYLY ST. WEST, AJAX

4:00 - 6:30 PM

THERE IS NO CHARGE TO SIT AND ENJOY THE MUSIC.

Tony Lees (band member) Probus Club of Ajax member

MEMBERS' CORNER POETRY BY CARL



Carl G. Mabee

I REMEMBER

Today I made a knee so I could pray For all the Canadians who died this day. For all those who went before And never made it back to shore.

Please remember the Merchant Marine Who lost so many in between. Not too many sang their praise As they sail unarmed for many days.

They sailed in groups to British shores And were lost to U-Boats by the scores. Of those who sailed, in World War II They had one motto: "We must get through".

Over 12,000 men and women joined to take this ride And over 1,500 heroes paid the price and died. As we remember family, and should it make us weep, Think of all the others who now lay in the murky deep.



Burial at sea aboard HMCS Algonquin

Convoys of allied merchant ships in Nova Scotia's Bedford Basin, 1942.

MEMBERS' CORNER MAUREEN'S CAMERA RAMBLES



Maureen McVarish

LOVE MADE IMMORTAL

On a recent visit to my friend's place in Huntsville to see the fall colours, she took us up a long, steep, winding one lane roadway to a small landing overlooking the Big East River. At the parking area there is a small sign informing us that we are visiting the Dyer Memorial. Then a few steps from it, we found ourselves at the foot of a large stone staircase leading to an impressive obelisk reaching up into the sky – a memorial to Clifton Dyer's love of his life – his wife, Betsy Browne Dyer, on her death in 1956. On either side of the staircase Clifton Dyer planted a small forest of towering pines that Bessie loved so much. Bessie's ashes are placed in a copper urn at the top of the memorial. So she will never have to leave her favourite place. His ashes joined hers a few years later.

The Dyers from Detroit spent their honeymoon in 1916 in this area and since then visited often, camping and hiking in summers and skiing in winter, eventually building a permanent cottage there. After both of their deaths, the Dyer's trust money helped to maintain the property until it ran out in the early 2000's. After a few years in decline, Muskoka Conservancy stepped in to restore it and introduced an initiative that allows people to memorialize a loved one, or an event with a memorial tree. It is now a lovely park atop the hill surrounded by trees, a pond and hiking trails. A beautiful setting, breathtaking views and a tale of love everlasting – what more could one ask?



MEMBERS' CORNER ART BY ROWENA



Rowena Burns

Rowena studies under outstanding artists and teachers, David Wysotski and his wife, Chrissie.

The artworks here are student pieces, and Rowena continually endeavours to improve. She still very much enjoys learning.

Rowena notes: "When people say to me, 'but I have no artistic talent', I point out to them that I thought I didn't have any talent either! I have discovered that I can learn new things and also that talent is 90 percent perspiration and only 10 percent inspiration!"









Top: "Owl by Moonlight" 12x10 Charcoal

Centre left: "History in Stone" 71/2x12 pen and ink

Centre right: "A Hard Day's Night" 10x8½ ball-point pen

Opposite: "Lottie" 9x12 Acrylic

MEMBERS' CORNER RECIPES OF THE MONTH



HONEY-LIME SALMON WITH MANGO SALSA



4 6-ounce salmon fillets
2 teaspoons olive oil
Salt & pepper
2 tablespoons butter
2 tablespoons honey
Mango Salsa:
2 large mangoes - diced
1 red bell pepper - diced
½ red onion - diced
1 cup fresh or ½ cup dried cilantro juice of 1 lime & salt to taste

Prepare the salsa: Combine mangoes, bell peppers, onions, and cilantro.

Add lime juice and salt and stir well. Add salt to taste. Set aside.

Prepare the salmon:

- 1. Rub salmon with olive oil & season generously with salt and pepper.
- 2. Melt butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Once butter is just melted, stir in honey.
- 3. Arrange salmon fillets in the pan and cook for 4-5 minutes.
- 4. Flip salmon over and cook another 5-8 minutes until opaque throughout and salmon is caramelized on the outside.
- 5. Serve with mango salsa. To save time, use a jar of salsa such as President's Choice Mango/Lime, but fresh is best!

BAKED SWEET POTATO & BUTTERNUT SQUASH



- 4 large sweet potatoes
- 1 bag of frozen butternut squash
- 2-3 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons dried parsley
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- Salt & pepper to taste

Grated Cheddar cheese to cover top

- 1. Boil the potatoes for 10 minutes.
- 2. Add the squash and continue to cook until potatoes are fork tender.
- 2. Drain and mash with butter until smooth.
- 3. Mix with all the seasonings and add to a greased casserole.
- 4. Top with enough grated cheddar to cover and bake at 350 until cheese is golden.

MEMBERS' CORNER SMILES & CHUCKLES



We don't grow older, we grow riper.– Pablo Picasso Realize deeply that the present moment is all you will ever have. – Eckhart Tolle A man is not old until regrets take the place of dreams. – John Barrymore When you're at the end of your rope, tie a knot and hold on. – Theodore Roosevelt Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul." – Samuel Ullman Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain – Unknown

We don't stop playing because we grow old. We grow old because we stop playing. - George Bernard Shaw



My wife said "Watcha doin' today?" I said "Nothing." She said "You did that yesterday." I said "I wasn't finished."





PHOTO GALLERY OCTOBER 4 - GENERAL MEETING











PHOTO GALLERY OCTOBER 4 - GENERAL MEETING







PHOTO GALLERY OCTOBER 16 - CAR RALLY & LUNCH



Greg Casquenette, "White Feather" owner, Darlene Flynn & Sharon Leung



Pat HoYuen, Cecelia Kearns, Jim & Tish Meek



Jan Genge, Carl Mabee, Anne Reed & Pauline Hillman

PHOTO GALLERY OCTOBER 16 - CAR RALLY & LUNCH



Winners: Greg & Debbie Casquenette, Darlene Flynn & Sharon Leung



Marlene Rae, Nancy Hobart & Bob Wilson





Buffet lunch



Anne MacInnis & Jennifer & Tony Lees

PHOTO GALLERY OCTOBER 17 - EXPLORING UXBRIDGE



Above: In the Salt Cave: Judy Insley & Sharon Leung (photo credit: Laurie Lehan-Port) Below: The Trail Hub - I-r: Delores Cook, Sharon Leung, Marlene Rae, Laurie Lehan-Port, Ann Clarke, Judy Insley, Hetty Shapiro & Bernadine Taylor (photo credit: April Gilkinson)

