

# PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX NEWSLETTER

Club 82 Vol 26 Issue 8 August, 2023

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#### **MANAGEMENT TEAM**

President: Jane Wilson
Vice President: Jim Meek
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** 

**Technical: Stewart Beatty** 

Website: Maureen McVarish

Members-at-Large: Kevin Portener Terri Stewart



#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In September, our Vice President, **Jim Meek**, was to step into the position of President for the 2023/24 year. Unfortunately, due to health reasons, Jim does not feel that he is able to undertake that role. However, he will continue to be an active and integral part of our Club.

The position of President for the 2023/24 year is open. We need someone to fill this position.

I have already been President for one year beyond the term of our by-laws. I am pleased to announce that **April Gilkinson** has kindly agreed to be Vice President for the coming year.

There are many opportunities for you to help the Club. Consider joining our Management Committee or coordinating an activity alone, or with another member. We are also looking for volunteer(s) to take over organizing the Breakfast Club and the Euchre Group.

Please contact me if you are willing to join our wonderful team of volunteers in any capacity.

Thank you,

Jane Wilson

ajaxprobuspresident@gmail.com

905-619-6674

Thank you to the members who contributed to this issue.

Please send submissions by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to:

ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.com

Ajax PROBUS website www.ajaxprobus.com



# **AUGUST CALENDAR**

Please remember to wear your name badge at all meetings and events. It helps identify you as a member and makes it easier for other members to get to know you.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		10 am GOLF LES MIS CONCERT 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	10 am GENERAL MEETING	10:00 am WALKING GROUP	1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	5
6	Civic Holiday	10 am 6 GOLF 10 am COFFEE & CONVERSATION 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	Noon RODEO LUNCH —— 2:00 pm EUCHRE	10:00 am WALKING GROUP	1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	8:30 pm DANCING AT THE EDGE
13	6:30 pm EUCHRE TOURNAMENT	10 am 15 GOLF Noon MEN'S LUNCH 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE GARDEN CLUB	Noon ENGLISH TEA	10:00 am WALKING GROUP  5:30 pm DINING OUT	1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	19
20	21	10 am GOLF —— 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	2:00 pm EUCHRE	10:00 am WALKING GROUP	1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	26
27	28	9:00 am BREAKFAST  10 am GOLF  1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	30	10:00 am WALKING GROUP		

#### SEE WHAT'S ON IN THE TOWN OF AJAX

<u>Town of Ajax 55+ activities</u> http://www.ajaxlibrary.ca/whatson

# GENERAL MEETINGS

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2 - 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)



# SHOULD YOUR NEXT CAR BE ELECTRIC? with Guest Speaker: Tim Burrows

Tim has owned and driven battery-electric cars for the past 10 years and has logged over 300,000 kms. He now enjoys sharing his EV experience with others and breaks down many myths and misconceptions about EV ownership. Tim also touches on the state of self-driving technology and what autonomous cars could mean for the future. Join Tim as he explains why we've reached a 'tipping point' where electric cars are replacing those powered by gasoline.

Tim is a board member of the Electric Vehicle Society (<u>www.EVSociety.ca</u>) a non-profit organization which works to promote the understanding and adoption of electric mobility in Canada. In his role there, he produces a monthly webinar called "Canada Talks Electric Cars".

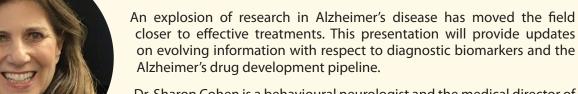
YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT THE PORTLY PIPER PUB AFTER THE MEETING

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 - 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)





Dr. Sharon Cohen is a behavioural neurologist and the medical director of Toronto Memory Program, a community-based medical facility which she established in 1996 for enhancing diagnosis and treatment for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. Her memory clinic and dementia research site are among the most active in Canada.

Dr. Cohen has over 30 years of experience in clinical research and has been a site PI for over 180 pharmacological trials in dementia, including phase 1 trials. She represents Canada on international advisory boards and steering committees and is a consultant to a wide range of stakeholders including government organizations and patient advocacy groups. She is a frequent lecturer and contributes to media events including those on medical ethics. She is known for her advocacy of individuals with neurodegenerative diseases. Despite academic and hospital appointments, Dr. Cohen has always chosen to practice in the community, in keeping with her belief that dementia care and clinical research are best offered in the real-world setting.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT THE PORTLY PIPER PUB AFTER THE MEETING

# GENERAL MEETINGS continued

#### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4 - 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)

# FROM BIRDER TO BIRDER MURDER - THE MYSTERY CONTINUES with Guest Speaker: Steve Burrows

Join Steve for a light-hearted slideshow that moves between the worlds of birding, publishing and research travel to reveal his journey from environmental journalist and birder to author of the best-selling Birder Murder mystery series.

Steve Burrows first began exploring nature in the urban parks of his childhood home in Birmingham, UK. He later relocated to Canada with his family, where he completed his university education. After moving to Hong Kong with his wife, Resa, he became a freelance travel writer and contributing field editor with Asian Geographic. He has travelled to destinations such as Taiwan, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Thailand and Papua New Guinea, covering stories on

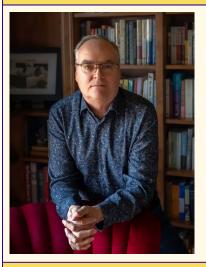
everything from silk villages to seahorses, and his work has appeared in publications all around the world. After returning to Canada, Steve turned his hand to fiction. His first novel, *A Siege of Bitterns*, won the Crime Writers of Canada award for Best First Novel, and was selected as one of the Globe & Mail's top 100 books of the year. The seventh Birder Murder mystery, *A Foreboding of Petrels*, was published last fall. Steve and Resa now live in Oshawa, Ontario.

#### YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT THE PORTLY PIPER PUB AFTER THE MEETING

#### 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/

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT THE PORTLY PIPER PUB AFTER THE MEETING

### **SOCIALS & TOURS**

Sign-up sheets for all socials, tours and interest groups will be available at the general meetings.



# TUESDAY, AUGUST 1 WESTBEN BARN THEATRE presents

"Les Misérables" in Concert



Experience the music of one of the most moving and beloved musicals in history. An all-star cast assembles at The Barn to bring to life all the favourite musical moments from this international hit. Set in early 19<sup>th</sup>-century France, Les Misérables is the story of Jean Valjean, a French peasant, and his desire for redemption, released in 1815 after serving 19 years in jail for stealing a loaf of bread for his sister's starving child.

Cost \$124 includes: return transportation by coach, picnic lunch, ticket for show & driver's tip.

**NOTE:** This is a concert version of the music from the show and not a fully-staged production. To book or for more information: <a href="mailto:shirlievanputten@rogers.com">shirlievanputten@rogers.com</a> 905-619-8583



#### MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2023 EAST END PUB 1400 Bayly Street, Pickering 6:30 PM



PRIZES: High Score, 2<sup>nd</sup> High Score, Most Lane Hands & Most Euchres
Any additional prizes will be based on the amount collected.
All money collected will be inthe prize fund.
Come and meet fellow Probus members from your Club and local Clubs!

COST: \$8:00 EVERYONE WELCOME!

Contact shirlievanputten@rogers.com 905-619-8583

# ONLY A FEW SPOTS LEFT! HIGH TEA - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16 @ NOON

Did you always want to attend a Victorian High Tea and see what it is all about? The Old Curiosity Tea Shop is a traditional tea room where you can come for a quiet, relaxing, enjoyable time and savour the ambiance of Victorian comfort. We start with two tiers of freshly made dainty sandwiches. Next, another two tiers of warm scones, clotted cream, preserves, English cakes, cookies and a pot of loose-leaf tea.

Where: The Old Curiosity Tea Shop, 91 Main Street North, Markham Cost \$36.00 (includes tax and gratuity)

Sign up now! shirlievanputten@rogers.com 905-619-8583



# AUGUST 24 - 25, 2023 ONE NIGHT/TWO-DAY TOUR TO STRATFORD & ST. JACOBS





### SH-BOOM! - LIFE COULD BE A DREAM AT THE DRAYTON FESTIVAL THEATRE

This jukebox musical entertains with a joyous jive down memory lane featuring 25 chart-topping vintage doo-wop standards in heavenly harmony including "Fools Fall in Love," "Tears on my Pillow," "Runaround Sue," "Earth Angel," "Stay," "Unchained Melody," "Lonely Teardrops," "The Glory of Love," and more.

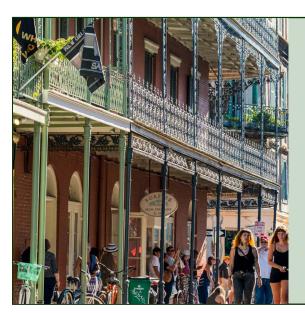
# MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT AT THE AVON THEATRE, STRATFORD

This outrageous musical comedy by Eric Idle and John Du Prez, is lovingly ripped off from the movie "Monty Python and the Holy Grail". It offers up a hefty share of irreverence in a hilarious spoof of the story of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table as they go in search of the Holy Grail. Setting: Medieval Britain and a little bit of France.

Cost is \$529 + HST = \$597.77 (double occupancy) \$679 + HST = \$767.27 (single) includes:

- Return transportation by coach on the 407
- One night at the Marriott Courtyard with breakfast and treats upon arrival
- Visit to St. Jacobs Farmers Market and the town of St. Jacobs & dinner at St. Jacobs Grill
- Orchestra level tickets to see Sh-Boom and Spamalot

Contact Shirlie for more information: <a href="mailto:shirlie@hnatravels.com">shirlie@hnatravels.com</a> 905.619.8583



#### **NEW ORLEANS: SEPTEMBER 3 - 8**

\$2,699 includes:

- City orientation tour
- Tour & lunch at the Houmas Plantation
  - Bayou Swamp Tour

Your five-night stay in New Orleans is at the Drury Inn located in the historic Cumberland Phone Building just one block from the St. Charles trolley.

Contact Shirlie for more information shirlie@hnatravels.com 905.619.8583

### SOCIALS & TOURS continued



### ANNUAL BARBECUE (Catered)

GREENWOOD CONSERVATION AREA (on Westney north of Taunton)

#### THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 14 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Cost: \$20

Have fun participating in a Scavenger Hunt! RSVP: <a href="mailto:shirlievanputten@rogers.com">shirlievanputten@rogers.com</a> 905.619.8583





#### **COST \$168 INCLUDES:**

BY COACH
DRIVER'S TIP
BBQ CHICKEN & RIBS DINNER
MUSIC & DANCING

# "GEORGIAN SPIRIT" SUNSET CRUISE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

From Beausoleil Island to Honey Harbour, Georgian Bay offers more than 30,000 islands. Experience the history of the region and the spectacular Fall colours aboard the "Georgian Spirit" while enjoying the sunset; a delicious BBQ dinner; music, and dancing.

RSVP Shirlie: 905.619.8583 <u>shirlievanputten@rogers.com</u>



# SOCIALS & TOURS continued



#### PICTON WINE TOUR - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

Welcome to Prince Edward County, a Designated Viticultural Area in Ontario with close to 40 wineries and new ones popping up every year. The limestone-rich soils of Prince Edward County produce wines with an unmistakable sense of place. The natural minerality of the soil is highlighted in the wines along with other flavors developed from the nutrients and minerals that the grapes absorb as they grow. Our winemakers are serious about wine, but the tasting experience in Prince Edward County is refreshingly unpretentious.

#### Cost \$153 includes:

Return transportation by Coach (departs by 8:45 am) Lunch at The Waring House, Tasting at two Wineries, Visit to the "Lake in the Mountain" and Driver's Tip

RSVP: Shirlie: 905.619.8583 <a href="mailto:shirlie:905.619.8583">shirlie: 905.619.8583</a> <a href="mailto:shirlie:905.8583">shirlie: 905.619.8583</a> <a href="mailto:shirlie:905.8583">shirlie: 905.619.8583</a> <a href="mailto:shirlie:905.8583">shirlie: 905.8583</a> <a href="mailto:shirlie:905.8583">shirlie:905.8583</a> <a hre



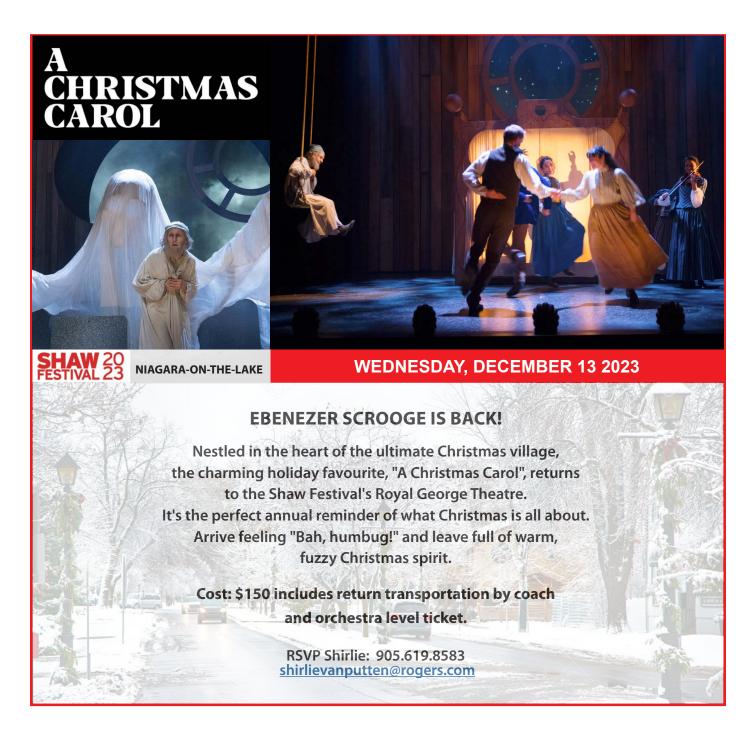


# ST. JACOBS FARMERS' MARKET - THURSDAY NOVEMBER 9 Cost: \$125

Kick off your holiday shopping season with a visit to St. Jacobs Farmers' Market. Explore 250+ vendors with fresh produce, international cuisine, artisans & more! The tour also includes Picard's Peanuts, the Village of St. Jacobs, return transportation by coach and dinner at the Jacobs Grill.

RSVP Shirlie: 905.619.8583 shirlievanputten@rogers.com

# SOCIALS & TOURS continued





DETAILS OF THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON
WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE
AUGUST 2 GENERAL MEETING.

### INTEREST GROUPS

Sign-up sheets for all socials, tours and interest groups will be available at the general meetings.

#### **BREAKFAST CLUB**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29 @ 9:00 AM

We meet on the last Tuesday of every month.

Next breakfast at:

STACKED PANCAKE & BREAKFAST HOUSE 280 Harwood Ave. South

RSVP: Julie Mathewson jmathewson@rogers.com 905-686-0803



#### **COFFEE & CONVERSATION**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 8 @ 10:00 AM** 

An invitation to all members who joined our club in the last 12 months

You are invited to join our hosts, Jane and Bob Wilson, for an informal get-together at their home. (address will be provided when registering).

Refreshments provided

This event will be held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

RSVP by Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>: April Gilkinson <u>april-ann@hotmail.com</u> or Hetty Shapiro <u>ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.com</u>



#### **CRIBBAGE & EUCHRE**

CRIBBAGE: EVERY TUESDAY 1:30 - 4:00 pm EUCHRE: WEDNESDAY, AUG 9 & 23 - 2:00 - 4:00 pm

#### **LOCATION: 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)

Beginning in August, we'll 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.

Contact Julie: <u>jmathewson@rogers.com</u> 905-686-0803



### INTEREST GROUPS continued

# EN

#### DANCING AT THE EDGE

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 12 @ 8:30 PM** 

#### **ARE YOU YOUNG AT HEART & IN A DANCING MOOD?**

We get together once a month to listen to live music and have a great time dancing the night away to retro hits. Dates are chosen based on the band that's playing. Aug 12 band is "Philcos". Watch them on YouTube

#### THE EDGE LOUNGE

Mackenzie Pub Plaza (250 Bayly St. W)
The Edge attacts 55+ crowd for the band's first set @ 9:30 pm

Entrance fee at the door (\$10-\$20)

RSVP by Aug 7 so we can reserve a group table.

April Gilkinson <a href="mailto:april-ann@hotmail.com">april-ann@hotmail.com</a>
or Hetty Shapiro <a href="mailto:ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.com">ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.com</a>



**SAVE THE DATE** ... We are ringing in the New Year at The Edge Lounge!

Space is limited so we are already taking names of those members who would like to join us.

#### DINING OUT

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 @ 5:30 PM** 

**Every 3rd THURSDAY of the month.** 

Will advise you when I have confirmed our reservation. In the meantime, please mark the date on you calendar.

Carol Breen <a href="mailto:cbreen840@bell.net">cbreen840@bell.net</a>



#### **GARDEN CLUB**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 15** 

We will be visiting
THE PARKWOOD NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

in Oshawa.

There is no charge for the garden tour.

Please let us know if you would like to join us.

Jane Armstrong <u>armstrongjane@rogers.com</u> Sylvia Clark <u>travelsylvia52@gmail.com</u>



#### **GOLF**

#### **EVERY TUESDAY - TEE TIME @ 10:00 AM**

#### 9-HOLE GOLF (walking only)

(Try to arrive 30 minutes before tee time)

#### **HAWTHORNE VALLEY**

3470 Salem Road, Pickering

Reservations to Hawthorne Valley up to a week ahead: 905-686.2028

Contact: Marcia Everitt (Durham West) marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca



You have fits of rage, followed by temporary spells of euphoria. Are you, by chance, a golfer?

#### **MEN'S LUNCH**

#### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 15 @ NOON**

We meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at

#### **MACKENZIE PUB & RESTAURANT**

250 Bayly St. West, Ajax

RSVP: Kevin Portener kportener@gmail.com



#### "RODEO" LUNCH CLUB

#### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9 @ NOON**

(Retired Old Dames Eating Out)

WE MEET EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

#### **URBAN PUB & GRILL**

475 Westney Road North, Ajax (Opposite the McCleans Community Centre in Food Basics Plaza)

Please let me know by Friday Aug 4 if you would like to join us. Anne Reed mandareed02@gmail.com



### INTEREST GROUPS continued

#### 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 Mitchell <u>mitchellmis@rogers.com</u> or Maureen McVarish <u>maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca</u>



#### **ZOOM CHAT ROOM**

**EVERY FRIDAY @ 1:00 PM** 

All members are welcome to join us for a discussion on general topics of interest.

To join the Zoom Chat contact: Stewart Beatty <u>ajaxprobuszoom@gmail.com</u> or Barb Squires <u>ajaxprobus@gmail.com</u>





#### AJAX CREATIVE ARTS, 22 SHERWOOD ROAD, WEST, AJAX, PRESENTS:

Free Workshops • 10 non-club members can attend each workshop Bring your own lunch • coffee, tea and treats will be available

Workshops will be held on: **SEPTEMBER 9 from 10:00-3:00** – a palette knife workshop (a beautiful idyllic mountain scene will be produced. **OCTOBER 14 from 10:00-4:00** – a 'Whimsical Illustration workshop' where the process for delightful imaginative storybook type characters will be produced. (This will be led by a very talented, renowned member of the club)Anyone interested in joining the club can also come to the club on any Wednesday between noon and 5:30 pm. (**closed July 26 and August 3**).

For more information or to register, email <u>ajaxcreativearts@yahoo.ca</u>

# **MEMBERS' CORNER**

#### **MEMBERSHIP & PAYMENTS**

Membership fees have increased for the 2023/2024 year to \$45 and are due on **August** 1<sup>st</sup>. The \$10 increase is necessary in order to cover the higher cost of renting the HMS Ajax Room at the Ajax Community Centre, and increased costs for our guest speakers.

The new member one-time administration fee remains at **\$30** which covers the cost of the name badge.

Making an e-transfer to PROBUS Club of Ajax Membership fees and social events may be paid electronically through your bank. If using this method, please let Membership Coordinator Tom Rosebush or Social Coordinator Shirlie Van Putten aware that you will be making an e-transfer.

Then, sign in to your bank online and follow these steps. The wording and sequence may differ slightly:

- 1. Select Interac e-Transfer.
- 2. Select "Send Money" or the name used by your bank.
- 3. Select the account from which you are sending the funds.
- 4. Enter the amount you are sending.
- Enter the name of the recipient -PROBUS Club of Ajax.
- 6. Enter the email address:

#### probusajaxtreasurer@gmail.com.

- 7. Enter in the "**Comments**" box: Your name(s) and what the money is for.
- Double-check that everything is correct, especially the email address.
- 9. Review and finish the transaction.

The PROBUS Club of Ajax is using the safest method of e-transfer which is recommended by TD Bank.

When you hit "send", the money will go directly in the Club's account and cannot be intercepted.

Tom Rosebush, Membership ajaxprobusmembership@gmail.com

Rowena Burns, Treasurer probusajaxtreasurer@gmail.com



Welcome to the new members pictured with Jane Wilson (left). Fran Sancroft and Murray Biel. Absent from the photo: Janine Muller and Cathy Gray.

# 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, AUGUST 20 CLOUD NINE BAR & GRILL 368 BAYLY ST. WEST, AJAX FROM 4:00 PM TO 6:30PM

THERE IS NO CHARGE TO SIT AND ENJOY THE MUSIC

Tony Lees Probus Club of Ajax member

**POETRY BY CARI** 



The Bomb Girls of Ajax Assembly Line



1951 - The Old Harwood Plaza



1958 - Aerial View of Ajax



1961 - The Ajax and Pickering Hospital





Carl G. Mabee

#### AN ODE TO VOLUNTEERS

Our town is a vibrant living thing
Brought to life by volunteers, who made the whole thing sing.
It started back when pioneers came to clear the land
And when it came time to harvest, they gave each one a hand.

Perhaps a hundred years had passed when the call went out again. Our mother land was threatened and the King must keep his reign. So they built this massive factory, it didn't take them years To stave off the heartless enemy that was causing death and tears.

The Ladies came from far and near to answer to the call

And so the bomb girls covered up their hair and did it one and all.

And when the war was over many people wished to stay

So they named our little town Ajax and kept it to this day.

How to get the district started as this was something new Unlike other places, with time just slowly grew?

Good people were appointed to lead this daunting task.

To find this needed talent all they had to do was ask.

With the population exploding some volunteers ask those around If we should ask the municipal board to declare this place a town.

Ajax then became a Town and strong Mayors followed suit.

Each one brought something special; now results are somewhat moot.

The growth was carefully managed and results are plain to see. This town has something for everyone including you and me. It takes a dedicated team of experts to keep this town A plus And others to handle the expansion with very little fuss.

We have a resort on our doorstep and it's a beauty to behold.

Our lakefront is one to envy and has a story to be told.

There's walking or some activity for everyone to partake

Or just enjoy its natural beauty as you sit down by the lake.

This town of ours keeps humming thanks to all the volunteers Who keep us involved in everything, to them we throw out Cheers. They run the clubs and man the booths and keep us entertained. Thank you one and all for the benefits we have gained.

**MAUREEN'S CAMERA RAMBLES** 

#### WHITBY WATERFRONT TRAIL EARLY MORNING RAIN

It rained much of the night and into the early morning but stopped by about 8:00 for a morning outing on the Whitby Waterfront Trail. I had been on this part of the trail the day before with our Probus walking group so I knew that the wildflowers were at their peak and I could hear lots of birds. I love to try to photograph the birds amongst the flowers but I didn't realize that the heavy raindrops would make everything sparkle in the morning light. What a bonus! Lots of diamond raindrops dripping from everything - a photographer's dream!

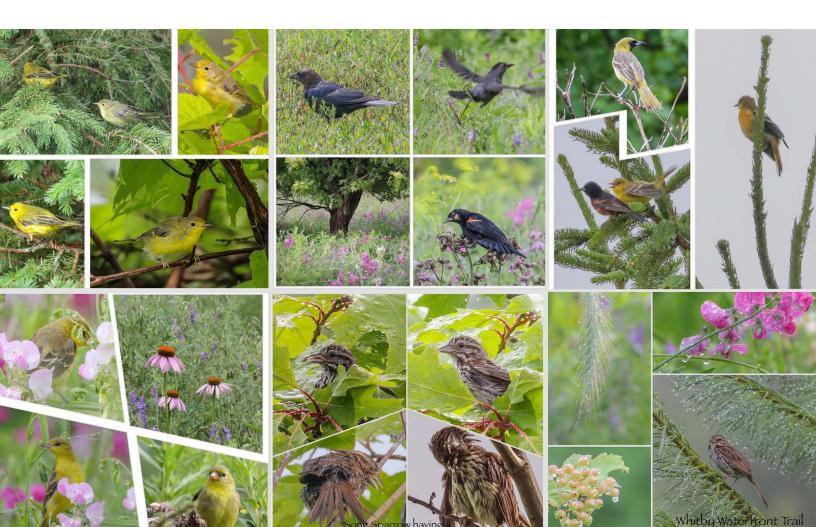
One simple thing I've never seen a bird do before was to take a shower by fluttering around in the water laden leaves of a tree jumping from one branch to another for fresh raindrops. Then onto a bare branch to groom, ready for a day of song.

And it was also the time of year to witness some parent birds with their juveniles following closely - this day it was a yellow warbler with a fledgling, almost adult size but still dependent on the parents and an orchard oriole with his demanding baby. Both learning about life, soon to be on their own. A busy trail.



Maureen McVarish

ter an early morning rain



#### ART BY VICTORIA

#### **ABOUT THE ARTIST**



Victoria Plaskett

Ever since I was little, I've been "doing art." At eight years old my grandmother taught me to knit, I drew and coloured cartoon characters, made my own Barbie doll clothes and in Grade 4 won the dollar bill for the yearend art award. Along the way, I've done macramé, pottery, designed and sewn my own dresses and finished a hand-sewn quilt. I'm always making something.

I studied art at Niagara College, Brock and Western University, completing a B.A. in Canadian Art (studio and history) and Canadian Literature. I've sold art, won a photography award and taught art in schools in Ontario and China.

Now, I'm studying art again at Ontario College of Art and Design University (OCAD U) taking watercolour, acrylic landscape and portrait painting classes toward my "Art and Design Studio Skills Certificate." I am a member of the "Ajax Creative Arts Centre." In my artistic practice there are no mistakes, just creative challenges to be solved and opportunities to express my inner joy at the beauty around me.











Top left: Scarlet Macaw - Acrylic 30" x 20"
Top centre: Red Wine & Blue Vase - Acrylic 18" x 24"

Top right: Huxford School House at Billie Creek - Acrylic 18" x 24"

Bottom left: Deer at Cranberry Marsh, Whitby - Acrylic 18" x 24"

Bottom right: Monarch on Rose of Sharon - Watercolour 10" x 14"

#### RECIPES OF THE MONTH



#### **ITALIAN BRUSCHETTA**



# Mix together the following ingredients and refrigerate for a few hours or overnight:

2-lbs Roma tomatoes seeded and diced or

1 large or 2 small cans of diced tomatoes, drained

2 cloves garlic, grated

2 tbsps extra virgin olive oil

½ tsp salt + ¼ tsp pepper

1/4 cup diced red onion (optional)

2 tbsps balsamic vinegar (not necessary if making the glaze)

#### When ready to serve:

Cut a baguette into  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 1" slices & place on a baking sheet covered with parchment paper. Brush slices with olive oil. Add  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup shredded parmesan (or more as desired) on top of each slice and broil for 2-4 minutes, or until the cheese melts and browns slightly. Top each slice with bruschetta mixture. (If using, drizzle with balsamic glaze to serve).

#### **GREEK TZATZIKI**



1 cup plain Greek yogurt

1 English cucumber, peeled, grated & strained

1 clove minced garlic

1 tsp extra-virgin olive oil

2 tbsps fresh lemon juice

2 tbsps fresh or dried chopped dill

½ tsp salt

1/4 tsp pepper

Toasted pita or pita chips for serving.

Stir all the ingredients together. Can be made a day ahead and refrigerated in an airtight container. The garlic will be a bit stronger the longer it sits.

#### **MIDDLE EASTERN HUMMUS**



\*1½ cups canned chickpeas (rinsed & drained)

⅓ cup smooth tahini

2 tbsps extra-virgin olive oil

2 tbsps lemon juice

1 or 2 garlic cloves to taste

½ tsp salt

5 tbsps water, or as needed to make smooth paste

**Garnish:** paprika, red pepper flakes and/or parsley

& drizzle with a little more olive oil to serve.

\* Soaking chickpeas (all legumes) overnight will remove sugars.

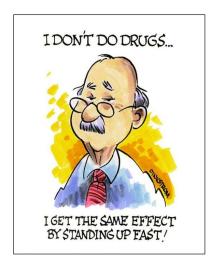
In a food processor, grind all the ingredients until very smooth, adding 5 tbsps of water, or as needed, to blend and reach your desired consistency.

Transfer to a serving plate and top with desired garnishes.

Serve with warm pita, crackers and/or veggies.

**SMILES & CHUCKLES** 









Eventually, you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it – Will Rogers

Life is a tragedy when seen in close-up, but a comedy in long-shot – Charlie Chaplin

We live in a rainbow of chaos – Paul Cezanne

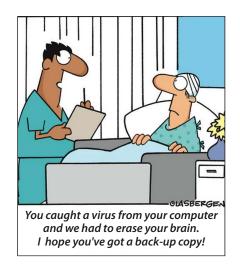
Doing what you love is the cornerstone of having abundance in your life – Wayne Dyer

When I hear somebody sigh, 'Life is hard,' I am always tempted to ask, 'compared to what?' – Sydney J. Harris

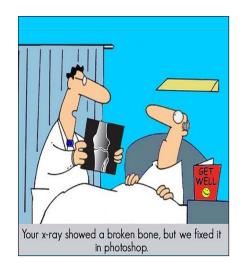
Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician – Dorothy Parker

There are only three things in life – your health, your mission, and the people you love. That's it – Unknown

I see people around my age mountain climbing; I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without losing my balance – Unknown







# PHOTO GALLERY

#### **JULY 5 - GENERAL MEETING**



Guest speaker, Geoff Carpentier, with April Gilkinson & Ken Lehan-Port



Debbie & Gregory Casquenette



Carl Mabee, Barb Squires & Anne Reed



Peggy Vokins & Carol Forsythe



Peter Vokins, Paul van Putten & Anne MacInnis



Murray Biel

# PHOTO GALLERY continued











# PHOTO GALLERY continued





