



# PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX NEWSLETTER

Club 82

Vol 27 Issue 3

March, 2024

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### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I sit writing this message the sun is shining brightly although it's chilly outside.

After the strangest winter I have ever known we are heading in to March wondering if we missed something! We remember the fall which was lovely, then Christmas and New year with family and friends. But the anticipated freezing months of January and February have not been as bad as we anticipated. Daylight saving time is March 10<sup>th</sup>, the clocks go forward and we lose an hour's sleep, but we gain lighter evenings and longer days.

Many of us with Irish heritage will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day with Irish stew, soda bread and a pint of Guinness. March 31<sup>st</sup> is Easter Sunday and I remember from years past, Easter bonnets, daffodils and Easter eggs. What do you remember from Easters past?

**Shirlie** and **Julie** have trips and events planned, remember to sign up. **April 3<sup>rd</sup>** will be our **Open House**. Please invite friends and neighbours to the meeting. **Elaine Charal** who is a comedian/handwriting expert will be our guest speaker.

Remember to check out the newsletter and web page to see what events are coming up and mark your calendars to attend what interests you. **Sandra** and **April** are currently working on our **Facebook** page, check out the newsletter for more information.

Jean Wing  
[ajaxprobuspresident@gmail.com](mailto:ajaxprobuspresident@gmail.com)

### 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
- Socials: Shirlie van Putten
- Speakers: April Gilkinson
- Interest Groups: Julie Mathewson
- Technical: Stewart Beatty
- Website: Maureen McVarish
- Member-at-Large: Kevin Portener

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](mailto:ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.com)

PROBUS Ajax website  
[www.ajaxprobus.com](http://www.ajaxprobus.com)



PROBUS Canada website  
[www.probus.org](http://www.probus.org)

# MARCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	2
3	4	5 10:30 am SALSA — 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	6 10 am GENERAL MEETING	7 10:00 am WALKING GROUP — 2:30 pm BRIDGE	8 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	9 8:30 pm DANCING AT THE EDGE
10 	11 10 am ZOOM SERIES — Noon LADIES LUNCH — Noon MEN'S LUNCH	12 10 am COFFEE — 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	13 2:00 pm EUCHRE	14 10:00 am WALKING GROUP — 2:30 pm BRIDGE LESSON	15 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT — ST. PATRICK'S DAY KITCHEN PARTY	16
17 	18 10 am ZOOM SERIES — 1:00 pm BOWLING	19 10:30 am SALSA — 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	20	21 10:00 am WALKING GROUP — 2:30 pm BRIDGE — 5:30 pm DINING OUT	22 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	23
24	25 10 am ZOOM SERIES	26 9:00 am BREAKFAST — 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	27 2:00 pm EUCHRE	28 10:00 am WALKING GROUP — 2:30 pm BRIDGE LESSON	29  1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	30
31 						

SEE WHAT'S ON IN THE TOWN OF AJAX

[Town of Ajax 55+ activities](#)

[Ajax Library](#)

[St. Francis Centre](#)



 **Friendly Reminder**<sup>®</sup>  
Please wear your name badge at  
our meetings and events

# GENERAL MEETINGS

A GROUP OF OUR MEMBERS GO TO THE PORTLY PIPER PUB FOR LUNCH AFTER THE MEETINGS. MEMBERS AND GUESTS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US.



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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6 - 10:00 am**

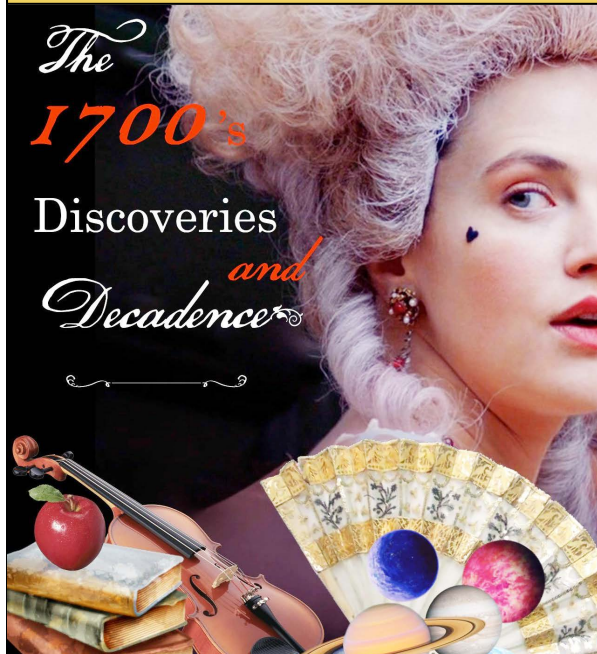
**Ajax Community Centre, HMS Ajax Room  
(entrance at south side of building)**

**Meeting fee: \$2**

**Optional "Share the Wealth" draw:**

**Tickets \$1 each or 3 for \$2**

**(exact change appreciated)**



## **THE 1700'S: DISCOVERIES AND DECADENCE**

with Guest Speaker: **Lianne Harris**

Lianne brings history to life using period costumes and props. Both educational and entertaining, she discusses history in a modern context. From famous lover Casanova to prim scientist Isaac Newton, the 1700's was a time of contrasts. Take a fanciful ride into this capricious century that pandered to unprecedented frivolity and decadence while yielding some of the greatest thoughts, minds, and inventions, worthy to call it 'The Age of Enlightenment'.

Lianne has been a history, culture and social studies resource specialist with the Toronto District School Board for 20 years and has been the guest instructor and workshop leader for teachers across many boards in Southern Ontario. She is the author of many books.



## **MARCH MINI-SPEAKER SERIES VIA ZOOM**

**10:00 am - 11:00 am**

**MARCH 11** - Senior Constable Darryl Rice, from Durham Regional Police Services, will go over some of the Frauds and Scams that are being targeted to Seniors and those who are assumed to be vulnerable.

**MARCH 18** - The Foster Festival Folks. Learn more about internationally acclaimed playwright, Norm Foster, also, what is the Foster Festival and what is coming up in the 2024 Season. <https://fosterfestival.com/>

**MARCH 25** - Chair Yoga with Jo-Ann. Chair Yoga allows you to find mobility in a way that is soft and gentle but also really supportive and beneficial. Do what you are comfortable with.

For more information and for the Zoom link to these activities, contact April [april-ann@hotmail.com](mailto:april-ann@hotmail.com)





# PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX

INVITES THE SENIOR COMMUNITY  
TO OUR OPEN HOUSE

FELLOWSHIP ♦ FRIENDSHIP ♦ FUN



**Wednesday, April 3**

## OPEN HOUSE AND PROGRAM

Keynote speaker: **ELAINE CHARAL**

Certified Hand Writing Analyst, Entertainer and Media Personality

**Topic: "The Power of the Pen"**

This presentation combines Elaine Charal's speaking and entertainment talents. Her analysis of your handwriting will give you an accurate picture of your personality traits. Elaine has been a guest on numerous television and radio shows and has been featured in many articles in the Globe and Mail, The Toronto Star, The Toronto Sun, and The Human Resource Magazine, to name a few.

**DOORS OPEN 9:30 AM ♦ PROGRAM STARTS 10:00 AM SHARP**

**FREE ADMISSION FOR MEMBERS & GUESTS**

**A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE MEETING**

Members and guests are required to sign in on arrival.

**AJAX COMMUNITY CENTRE  
HMS AJAX ROOM**  
(entrance at south side  
of building)



Thank you to the Ajax Partnership Fund  
for generously sponsoring this event.

For more information  
Contact: **April Gilkinson**  
april-ann@hotmail.com  
www.ajaxprobus.com

# GENERAL MEETINGS

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 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)**



## **HEALTHY HEARING: HEAR MORE, LIVE MORE!**

with Guest Speaker: **Shannon Sheppard**

As May is "Better Speech and Hearing Awareness Month" in North America, our speaker is Shannon Sheppard, an independent contractor with both a local and provincial contract in the Hearing Health Care sector. She has a Hons BA in Exceptionality in Human Learning and, as a Communicative Disorders Assistant (graduate studies certificate with speech & language therapy and audiology training), she is the Public Relations & Educational Consultant for Advanced Hearing Ontario (5 family owned and operated clinics), as well as the Administrative Assistant for the Ontario Association of Professional Audiology Clinics (OAPAC). In her presentation, you will learn about healthy hearing including:

- How we hear
- What causes hearing loss
- Degrees of hearing loss
- Signs of hearing loss
- How your hearing is tested – Diagnostic hearing tools
- Hearing loss and other conditions

## YOUR EXPERTISE IS NEEDED

Several members of our Management Committee are resigning their positions as of August 31, 2024. These people have volunteered their time for several years and feel it is time for someone else to take over. That is where your experience (and/or enthusiasm) is needed. The Probus Club of Ajax will need members to volunteer for the following positions:

**Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Co-ordinator, Speaker Co-ordinator, Web Master, Communications Co-ordinator, Newsletter Editor and House Committee Co-ordinator.** Some of these positions could be shared with another member. As these positions will not start until September, there is a lot of time to speak to the person in the position you may be interested in and shadow them before you take over the position.

**As mentioned in the last newsletter, Hetty is resigning from her position of Newsletter Editor. This will take place as soon as a replacement can be found.** A club like ours is only able to be successful because of volunteers who keep it functioning. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please email me at [jw.003@sympatico.ca](mailto:jw.003@sympatico.ca) *Jane Wilson*

# SOCIALS & TOURS

IRISH "KITCHEN PARTY" – FRIDAY, MARCH 15  
THE SHOWPLACE DINNER THEATRE, KITCHENER



A high-energy show which will have you singing, laughing, and tapping your feet, as the intimacy and fun of a kitchen party is brought to life!

Featuring two of Canada's top Irish bands:  
The Celtic Effect and The Mighty Kin

\$153 per person includes:

Buffet lunch

Return transportation by coach

407 toll

Driver's tip

RSVP: [shirlievanputten@rogers.com](mailto:shirlievanputten@rogers.com)  
905-619-8583

SATURDAY, APRIL 13 @ 2:00 PM  
TOWN HALL THEATRE, PORT PERRY



## The Last Resort

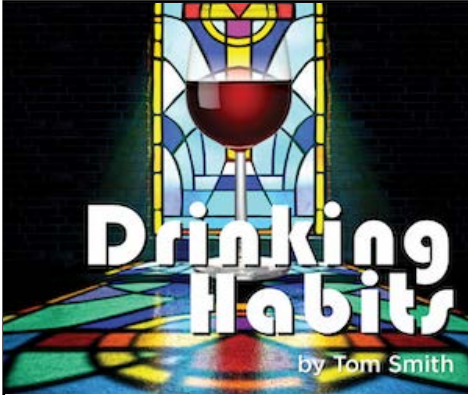
A Murder Mystery/Musical Comedy

By Norm Foster & Leslie Arden

TICKETS ARE \$30. THIS IS A DRIVE YOURSELF EVENT.  
IF YOU'D LIKE TO GO BUT NEED A RIDE, CONTACT  
JULIE MATHEWSON [jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)



# SOCIALS & TOURS



## THE WHITBY COURTHOUSE THEATRE

### PRESENTS: "DRINKING HABITS"

THURSDAY, APRIL 18 @ 8:00 PM - \$25 p.p.

Accusations, mistaken identities, and romances run wild in this traditional, laugh-out-loud farce.

Two nuns at the Sisters of Perpetual Sewing have been secretly making wine to keep the convent's doors open, but Paul and Sally, reporters and former fiancée's, are hot on their trail. They go undercover as a nun and priest, but their presence, combined with the addition of a new nun, spurs paranoia throughout the convent that spies have been sent from Rome to shut them down. Wine and secrets are inevitably spilled as everyone tries to preserve the convent and reconnect with lost loves.

Whitby Courthouse Theatre  
416 Centre St. South, Whitby

Contact Shirlie to sign up: [shirlievanputten@rogers.com](mailto:shirlievanputten@rogers.com) 905-619-8583



## SAN FRANCISCO APRIL 23 – APRIL 29, 2024 7 DAYS/6 NIGHTS



Join Shirlie and HNA Travels on a trip to San Francisco.

### *Included in the Tour price:*

- Direct flights Toronto/San Francisco
- 6 nights' accommodation at the Courtyard Union Square, downtown San Francisco
- Round trip airport transfers
- One half day tour of San Francisco
- One half day tour to the Muir Woods National Park and Sausalito
- A full day tour to Monterey, Carmel, and the 17-mile coastal drive to Pebble Beach

### *Not included in the Tour price:*

- Meals and items of a personal nature
- Seat selection on your flights
- Insurance – medical; cancellation or interruption
- Customary gratuities to your driver, guides and your HNA Travels Tour Director

Contact Shirlie for the full itinerary.

Tour price (no HST)  
\$2,599 pp double occupancy  
Single Occupancy: \$ 3,399

Contact Shirlie: 905.619.8583 [shirlie@hnatravels.com](mailto:shirlie@hnatravels.com)

# SOCIALS & TOURS

## QUIZZES AND COCKTAILS

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

ST. FRANCIS CENTRE

7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

\$5 PER PERSON

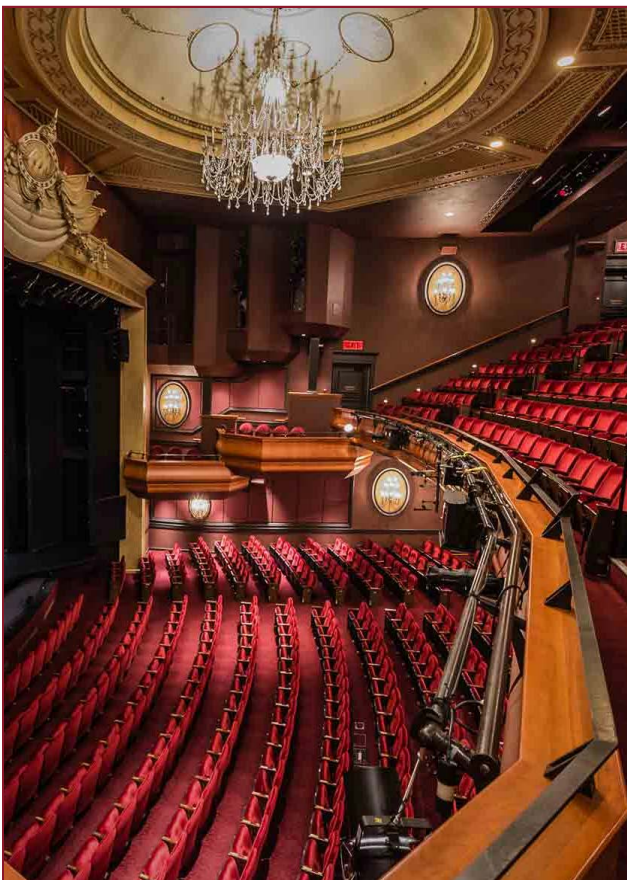
Join as an individual or with a team of up to four people, as your knowledge is tested on movies, music, TV, cartoons, superheroes, pop culture, history, science, sports, and more!

**NOTE:** Each team will need to bring a smart phone, tablet, or laptop to play.

**PRIZES, CONCESSIONS, AND CASH BAR**

RSVP: Julie Mathewson

[jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)



## TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024 THE STRATFORD FESTIVAL - AVON THEATRE PRESENTS "LA CAGE AUX FOLLES"

### WE FACE LIFE WITH A LITTLE GUTS AND LOTS OF GLITTER

Georges, the manager of a drag club in St. Tropez, decided to "play it straight" when his son arrives with his fiancée and her ultra-conservative parents. Albin, the club's star performer and Georges' romantic partner, is dubious about the plan. The ensuing clash unravels truth and consequences with heartwarming grace. Gorgeous and funny, this musical has been delighting audiences since its Tony Award-winning première in 1983.

**\$162 per person includes:**  
**Return transportation by coach**  
**Orchestra level ticket**  
**407 toll & driver's tip**

**NOTE:** Please bring your own lunch.  
There is a beautiful place to stop for a picnic.

[shirliewanputten@rogers.com](mailto:shirliewanputten@rogers.com) 905-619-8583



# SOCIALS & TOURS



Award-winning Canadian author, Louise Penny, has captivated the world with her compelling mystery novels set primarily in the Eastern Townships of Quebec. Her wildly popular books from the Three Pines series have consistently topped the New York Times bestseller lists.



## JUNE 1 - 4: LOUISE PENNY THREE PINES TOUR

HNA's special four-day excursion will explore the epic sites that created the backdrop to Louise Penny's captivating novels, including: The Victorian village of **Knowlton** – the direct inspiration for Penny's fictional village of Three Pines – with stops at **Brome Lake Books** and the **Brome County Historical Society Museum** where Jane's painting from Still Life is on display; **Abbaye de Saint-Benoît-du-Lac** (the inspiration for Saint-Gilbert-Entre-les-Loups Abbey in *A Beautiful Mystery*), old **Hadley House**, and of course, **Sarah's Boulangerie**. Join us as we uncover the important settings that make Penny's novels so endearing and the secrets behind them!

### Package includes:

- ♦ Return coach transportation from Ajax/Pickering area.
- ♦ Three night's accommodation at the **Domaine Chateau Bromont**.
- ♦ Admission to all attractions stated in the itinerary.
- ♦ Three breakfasts; three lunches, & welcome dinner.
- ♦ Two full days of **Sharman** – a Louise Penny Guide specialist.
- ♦ Services of an HNA Travels Tour Director.

**\$1,467.87 inclusive per person/double occupancy**

**\$1,919.87 inclusive per person/single occupancy**

For complete itinerary and more information, contact:

[shirlievanputten@rogers.com](mailto:shirlievanputten@rogers.com) 905-619-8583

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17 @ 2:00 PM  
CAPITOL THEATRE, PORT HOPE



BOOK BY **TERRANCE MCNALLY**  
MUSIC & LYRICS BY **DAVID YAZBECK**

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY **JULIE TOMAINO**

BASED ON THE MOTION PICTURE RELEASED BY FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES AND WRITTEN BY SIMON BEAUFOY, PRODUCED BY UBERTO PASOLINI AND DIRECTED BY PETER CATTA NEO.

LEAD SUPPORTER **ALLAN & ROBIN DINES**  
of **GANARASKA**  
**BREWING COMPANY**

A raucous, pop-rock-musical that takes it all off! While spying on their wives at a "Girls' Night Out," a group of unemployed steelworkers from Buffalo come up with a bold (and unclothed) way to make some quick cash. In preparing for the show, they find themselves extremely exposed, both physically and emotionally. As they conquer their fears, self-consciousness, and prejudices, the men come to discover that they're stronger as a group, and the strength that they find in each other gives them the individual courage to let it all go.

**\$115 per person includes:**

Ticket to see the show

Return transportation & driver's tip

RSVP: [shirlievanputten@rogers.com](mailto:shirlievanputten@rogers.com)

905-619-8583

# SOCIALS & TOURS



**BEST OF**  
**TUESDAY, JULY 23**  
**BARNFUL OF BROADWAY**  
WITH BRIAN FINLEY, PIANO, & FRIENDS  
FEATURING: KIM DAFOE, ADAM FISHER, MEHER PAVRI, & DAVID MICHAEL MOOTE



For the past 24 years, the Westben stage has been the site for a host of spectacular music theatre presentations ranging from Jesus Christ Superstar to Les Mis with generous helpings of Rogers & Hammerstein, Andrew Lloyd Webber & Tim Rice, Lerner & Loewe, Stephen Sondheim, Jerry Bock and many others. To celebrate our 25th season, we present the very best of the best, with some of our very favourite guest artists.  
Expect to find your dream!

**\$144** includes return transportation by coach; picnic lunch; show ticket, and driver's tip.

**RSVP:** Shirlie 905.619.8583 [shirlie@hnatravels.com](mailto:shirlie@hnatravels.com)



**NEWFOUNDLAND**  
**JULY 23 - AUGUST 2, 2024**  
**11 DAYS/10 NIGHTS**

**Included in the Tour price:**

- Round trip airfare Toronto/Newfoundland
- \*10 nights' accommodation
- Airport transfers airport/hotel
- Breakfast daily, 5 lunches & 5 dinners
- City tour of St. John's
- Visit to Twillingate
- Cape Spear National Historic Park
- Excursions to Trinity and Bonavista
- Visit to Bay Bulls with boat cruise
- Various other tours

**Not included in the Tour price:**

- Meals and items of a personal nature
- Seat selection on your flights
- Insurance – medical; cancellation or interruption
- Customary gratuities to your driver, guides and your HNA Travels Tour Director

**Contact Shirlie for the full itinerary.**

**Tour price inclusive of HST:**  
**\$4,993.47 pp double occupancy**  
**Single Occupancy: \$6.439.87**

\* 3 nights in Rocky Harbour, 2 nights in St. Anthony's, 1 night in Gander, 2 nights in Clarenville, 2 nights in St. John's.

**Contact Shirlie: 905.619.8583 [shirlie@hnatravels.com](mailto:shirlie@hnatravels.com)**

# SOCIALS & TOURS

## 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 gold-rush towns of Juneau, Skagway and Ketchikan. End your experience with a tour of the vibrant city of Vancouver.

**Cruise Cost:** Balcony - \$4,299; Oceanview - \$3,199;  
Inside Cabin - \$2,799.

Single – Balcony - \$6,699;

Oceanview - \$4,599; Inside Cabin - \$3,699

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.

### **SOLD OUT 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**

**Contact Shirlie: 905.619.8583 [shirlie@hnatravels.com](mailto:shirlie@hnatravels.com)**

# INTEREST GROUPS

## BOWLING FOR FUN

MONDAY, MARCH 18 @ 1:00 PM

WE MEET ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAY OF THE MONTH

**AJAX BOWLING CENTRE (5-PIN)**  
172 Harwood Ave. S. (by Almost Perfect)  
Ajax (Lower Floor not accessible)  
905 683 0680

\$12 for two games plus \$2 for shoe rental

RSVP: Kevin [kportener@gmail.com](mailto:kportener@gmail.com)



## BREAKFAST CLUB

TUESDAY, MARCH 26 @ 9:00 AM

WE MEET ON THE LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

**KINGS CASTLE, 570 Westney Rd S #21, Ajax**  
Right beside Gaian Tiger.

**NOTE:** As the restaurant doesn't open their doors until 9:00 am please don't arrive before then.

RSVP: Lynne [912lynne@gmail.com](mailto:912lynne@gmail.com)  
905-839-8147



## BRIDGE

EVERY THURSDAY FROM 2:30 - 4:30 PM

*The lessons will continue until the spring on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month. The lessons build on material from previous lessons.*

**ROTARY ROOM, AJAX LIBRARY**  
55 Harwood Ave. South

March 7	Social Bridge
March 14	Lesson 10 - Preemptive bids
March 21	Social Bridge
March 28	Lesson 11 - Takeout doubles

RSVP: Harvey [hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca](mailto:hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca)

## Bridge: A form of mental ballet



# INTEREST GROUPS

## COFFEE & CONVERSATION

TUESDAY, MARCH 12 - 10:00 AM

EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> TUESDAY - FOR NEW MEMBERS

*Members who joined our club in the last 12 months are invited to an informal get-together at the home of Jane & Bob Wilson. (address will be provided when registering)*

RSVP: April [april-ann@hotmail.com](mailto:april-ann@hotmail.com) or  
or Hetty [ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.com](mailto:ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.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](mailto:wendysmith1@live.com) 905-686-1490



## DANCING AT THE EDGE

SATURDAY, MARCH 9 - 8:30 PM

"EVERY DAY BRINGS A CHANCE FOR YOU TO DRAW IN A BREATH, KICK OFF YOUR SHOES, AND DANCE!" - Oprah Winfrey

Join us in our reserved seating section for a fun night of socializing and dancing to great cover bands.

THE EDGE LOUNGE

Mackenzie Pub Plaza, 250 Bayly St. W.  
featuring THE SPITFIRE KINGS

[Watch on YouTube](#)

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

RSVP: April [april-ann@hotmail.com](mailto:april-ann@hotmail.com)  
or Hetty [ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.com](mailto:ajaxprobuseditor@gmail.com)



# INTEREST GROUPS

## DINING OUT

THURSDAY, MARCH 21 - 5:30 PM

EVERY 3<sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY

*I would like to thank the 13 people who managed to make it to our last dinner at Scaddabush. I know the roads were terrible as I had an appointment in north Oshawa at 3pm. Needless to say, I did not go home before dinner and I sure was glad to see you there. Also, thanks to those who sent emails to say they were not going to make it. Unfortunately, my tablet was at home so I didn't get your message until I got home. Hope to see you all next month. I will let you know where at a later date.*

Carol [cbreen840@bell.net](mailto:cbreen840@bell.net)



## EUCHRE

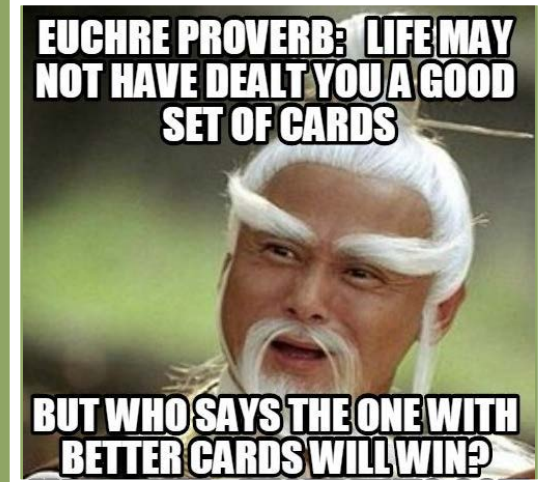
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13 & 27: 2:00 - 4:00 PM

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](mailto:jw.003@sympatico.ca) 905-619-6674



## "GOMEO" LUNCH CLUB

MONDAY, MARCH 11 - NOON

(Grumpy Old Men Eating Out)

WE ARE NOW MEETING EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> MONDAY

AT MACKENZIE PUB & RESTAURANT

250 Bayly St. West, Ajax

RSVP: Kevin [kportener@gmail.com](mailto:kportener@gmail.com)



# INTEREST GROUPS

## "RODEO" LUNCH CLUB

**MONDAY, MARCH 11**

*(Retired Old Dames Eating Out)*

**WE ARE NOW MEETING EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> MONDAY**

Next meeting at:  
**JACK ASTOR'S BAR & GRILL**  
1355 Kingston Road, Pickering

RSVP: Anne [mandareed02@gmail.com](mailto:mandareed02@gmail.com)



## SALSA FOR BEGINNERS

**TUESDAY, MARCH 5 & 19 - 10:30-11:30 AM**

**LESSONS ARE HELD ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> TUESDAY**

*Please bring water and comfortable shoes  
and be prepared to break a sweat!*

**PARKLAND LIFESTYLE RESIDENCES**  
3 Rossland Road W, Ajax

**SINGLES AND COUPLES WELCOME**

For more information or to register, contact:  
Maureen [mauwa111@rogers.com](mailto:mauwa111@rogers.com)



## WALKING GROUP

**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 [mitchellmis@rogers.com](mailto:mitchellmis@rogers.com)  
or Maureen [maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca](mailto:maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca)



# INTEREST GROUPS

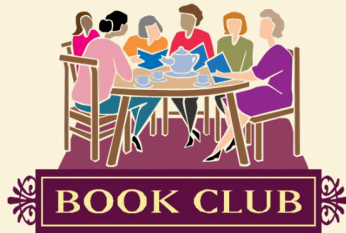
## ZOOM CHAT ROOM

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 [ajaxprobuszoom@gmail.com](mailto:ajaxprobuszoom@gmail.com)  
or Barb [ajaxprobus@gmail.com](mailto:ajaxprobus@gmail.com)

Let's see who's really behind COVID-19



THERE HAS BEEN SOME INTEREST IN HAVING A BOOK CLUB BUT WE NEED SOMEONE TO ACT AS COORDINATOR. CONTACT JULIE MATHEWSON IF THIS IS SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO DO.

[jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)



## THE PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX IS NOW ON FACEBOOK



Fun for Seniors

You will have received email invitations to join the Probus Club of Ajax Facebook group for members only. You can find us by clicking on the facebook logo below or by searching for Probus Club of Ajax. You will need to have a Facebook account to join in the fun. This will be a great way to bring people together, to share information and to learn more about the club.

Thank you to member, Sandra McNamara for volunteering to establish and maintain our Facebook page. Sandra can be contacted at [themcnamaras.sm@gmail.com](mailto:themcnamaras.sm@gmail.com)





# MORE ACTIVITIES



## ON-LINE ACTIVITIES

**Susan Wadds** is an award-winning published author and a certified Amherst Writers and Artists (AWA) workshop facilitator. She offers 2-hour workshops for writing and poetry play (\$12/session) through Zoom. Check it out at: <https://writeyourwayin.ca/home/writing-online/>

**Anne Rose**, a certified coach, speaker and author is making available to our members a workbook chock full of thought-provoking exercises and insights that will guide you to mapping out an achievable vision. To get a copy, let me know and I will send it to you. [april-ann@hotmail.com](mailto:april-ann@hotmail.com)

**The McMichael Art Gallery** is offering a 6 week Oil Painting Class via zoom. Check it out at: <https://mcmichael.com/event/online-oil-painting-studio-with-judy-sherman/> Judy will also be offering an in person weekend Oil Painting Workshop on **Saturday, March 16** and **Sunday, March 17** from **10am to 4pm**. Details for registration: <https://mcmichael.com/event/in-person-oil-painting-weekend-with-judy-sherman/>

**The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM at Home)** offers a series of experts on various topics, including video clips. <https://www.rom.on.ca/en/rom-at-home/rom-experts-objects>

Check out [www.ontario.ca/taxtalk](http://www.ontario.ca/taxtalk) for topics including Benefits & Support for Lower Income Seniors, Introduction to Ontario's Estate Administration Tax and Ontario's Medical Expense & Senior's Care at Home Tax Credit.

### PLUS: MANY IN TOWN THINGS TO DO

**Movie** matinees in Ajax and Whitby

Visit **Vandermeer Nurseries** to enjoy the plants and have a coffee.

**Cloud 9** has Karaoke on Tuesday nights from 8 - 12 pm

**Ajax Legion** has 55+Up Dance Sundays from 2-6pm and Karaoke on Friday nights from 8-12 pm.

For more information on any of these activities, contact April Gilkinson  
[april-ann@hotmail.com](mailto:april-ann@hotmail.com)

# MEMBERS' CORNER



*Welcome to the new members who attended our February 7 General Meeting  
Pictured with president, Jean Wing (left): Marie Billinger, Rick Okrasa, Joyce Gordon,  
David and Heather Shortt.*

## *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, MARCH 10  
CLOUD NINE BAR & GRILL  
368 BAYLY ST. WEST, AJAX  
4:00 - 6:00 PM**

**THERE IS NO CHARGE TO SIT AND ENJOY THE MUSIC.**

*Tony Lees (band member), Probuc Club of Ajax member*

# MEMBERS' CORNER

POETRY BY CARL



## SPRING BREAK

Somewhere out west a frozen river starts to crack and soon widens even more  
And warm winds blow hard across a lake, piling ice upon the shore.  
A thrill for some, a hint of spring, when crocuses show their bloom.  
Early Warblers, Brants and Sky Larks will be arriving, sometime soon.

One can still go dog-sledding in Manitoba and enjoy the northern lights  
Or stay at a resort and hike through a forest and see the native sights.  
The east can still be awesome as the hills still have some snow  
And families rush to get up north to have, perhaps, one last go.

The ski hills echo with laughter at the joy of going fast  
And someone lost their balance and landed on their \_\_s.  
Faces are all red and glowing, from taking that last run  
And the snow is getting sticky from the warming of the sun.

The moguls are somewhat rougher and a few are showing grass  
I guess it's time to store the boards but let's have one last pass.  
Spring break can be stressful, with the question what to do?  
To keep the young ones busy and mothers balanced too!

For those that can afford it and heed the beckoning call,  
They can head somewhere south, and enjoy the sand and all.  
Or they can visit parks from Disney or the alligator farm  
Or watch the Manatee linger as they bask away from harm.

Some find their way to Lauderdale and have a little fun  
And wake up on the beach, beet red, from sleeping in the sun.  
But time has moved so swiftly and it's time to head home fast  
With memories and posted pictures to make their spring break last.

For parents, it's back to work if they went away at all  
And they put all this behind them as spring rushes into fall.  
But soon the years pass swiftly and then they will recall  
The fun they had together, and when did they grow so tall?

Have a great spring break!  
Carl Mabee

# MEMBERS' CORNER

## MAUREEN'S CAMERA RAMBLES

### WINTER BIRDS AT LONG POINT

Long Point, a peninsula on Lake Erie in Norfolk County, is one of Canada's richest birding locales. Last week my friend and I drove the two plus hours to see what species were hanging out there in February. We were confident that there would be some open water due to our mild winter and we weren't disappointed.

Sandhill Cranes were everywhere! On both sides of the causeway, gathering and feeding on the exposed vegetation in the open water. Swans, (Mute, Trumpeter and Tundra) as well as mixed flocks of diving ducks were present, especially Red Heads. Years ago, the Long Point area used to serve as a staging area in late fall and early winter – a temporary stop to bulk up before continuing further south as far as Florida. Now, with milder climate and plenty of nearby food, more are staying around all winter and some all year long.

As dusk approached we could hear loud bugling calls before seeing the large flocks of cranes filling the skies on their way to the nearby farm fields to feed and spend the night. It was definitely worth the long trip to Long Point!

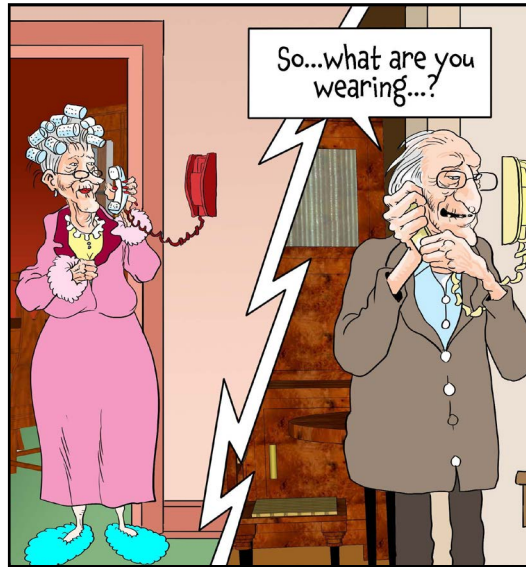


Maureen McVarish



# MEMBERS' CORNER

## SMILES & CHUCKLES



*I'd rather regret the things I've done than the things I haven't done – Lucille Ball*

*You can't be brave if you've only had wonderful things happen to you. – Mary Tyler Moore*

*If you don't like the road you're walking, start paving another one. – Dolly Parton*

*I could not, at any age, be content to take my place by the fireside and simply look on.*

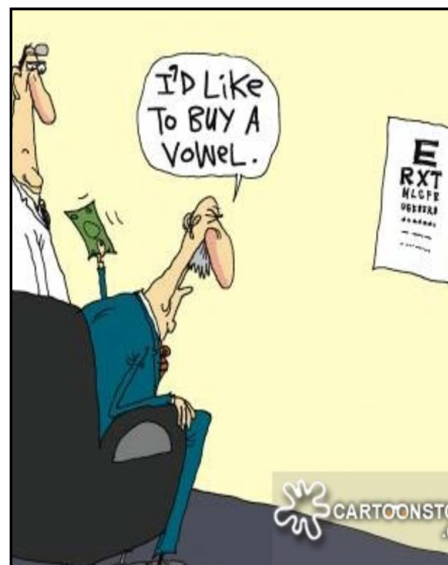
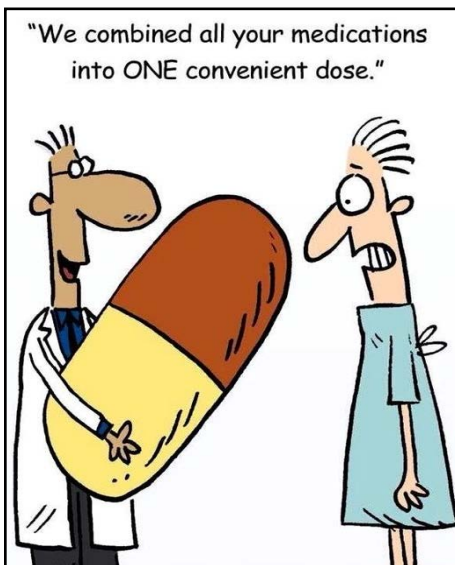
*Life was meant to be lived. – Eleanor Roosevelt*

*I still feel thirty, except when I try to run. – Bob Newhart*

*The only time to eat diet food is while you're waiting for the steak to cook. – Julia Child*

*Old age is fifteen years older than I am. – Oliver Wendell Holmes*

*Getting old is a privilege denied to many. – Unknown*



### CRUSTLESS SPINACH & SWEET POTATO QUICHE



1 tablespoon olive oil or avocado oil  
½ cup chopped onion  
2 cups sweet potato cut in ¼" chunks  
10-oz pkg of frozen spinach, defrosted & squeezed dry.  
½ teaspoon each salt, paprika & garlic powder  
¼ teaspoon pepper  
6 large eggs  
½ cup milk of choice  
2 ounces goat or cream cheese cut into small chunks.

1. Preheat oven to 350 and grease a 9-inch pie dish.
2. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add onions and cook until translucent.
3. Add diced sweet potato and cook, stirring occasionally, until pieces are starting to brown and slightly tender, about 6-7 minutes.
4. Stir in the spinach and cook for a few more minutes. The vegetables don't need to be completely cooked.
5. Add the vegetables to your prepared pan and spread in an even layer.
6. Whisk eggs, milk and seasonings and pour over the vegetables in the pie dish. Cover with the cheese and bake until set and golden. Allow to cool for 10 to 15 minutes before serving.

### OVEN-BAKED BLUEBERRY FRENCH TOAST



12 slices white bread, cut into 1-inch cubes  
*(egg bread or brioche is best).*  
1½ packages cream cheese  
¼ cup white sugar  
2 cups fresh blueberries (or defrosted frozen berries)  
10 large eggs  
2 cups half and half milk or half milk and half cream.  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract & 1 teaspoon cinnamon  
½ cup maple syrup  
**To serve:** add some heated blueberries on top and/or whipped cream on the side. Serve warm.

1. Lightly grease a 9x13-inch baking dish with butter and place half of the bread cubes in the dish, pressing down.
2. Top with cream cheese whipped with the sugar. Sprinkle blueberries over the cream cheese, then add remaining bread cubes, pressing the bread down firmly.
3. Whisk eggs, milk, vanilla extract, and syrup together in a large bowl until well-combined; pour over the bread mixture. Cover and refrigerate overnight.
4. Remove dish from the fridge about 30 minutes before baking. Preheat the oven to 350 and bake, covered, for 30 minutes. Uncover and continue baking until centre is firm and golden.

# PHOTO GALLERY

## FEBRUARY 7 - GENERAL MEETING



Judy Mitchell, Norman & Dawne Campbell



Sharon Leung & Bernadine Taylor



Judy Insley, Ann Clarke & Carol Forsythe



Jane Wilson & Maureen McVarish



Barb Squires & Tom Rosebush at the Membership table



Brenda Vaughan & Gillian Minshall

# PHOTO GALLERY

## FEBRUARY 7 - GENERAL MEETING





# PHOTO GALLERY

## FEBRUARY 7 - GENERAL MEETING

