



PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

PROBUS Club of Ajax, Club #82 Ajax, Ontario

Vol 24 Issue 10

October 6, 2021

**All PROBUS Club of Ajax In Person General Meetings
are CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my first message as the 2021-2022 president of the Ajax PROBUS Club. I would like to thank John Clark, Julie Mathewson, Reg Lawrance, Nancy Hobart and Gail Tays, who are leaving the Management Team, for their service to our club. Welcome to the new members of the Team: Rowena Burns, Bernie Rosebush, Margaret Wells and Ray Smith. Thanks to Joyce Starkman, Barb, Squires, Tom Rosebush, Shirlee VanPutten, Maureen McVarish, Victoria Plaskett (now speaker co-ordinator), Stewart Beatty and Joan Ash who have agreed to stay on the Team for another year. Like many organizations, we depend on volunteers to run our club. The positions of vice-president and special interest group co-ordinator still need to be filled. If you are able to fill one of these positions please contact me or anyone on the management team.



It is hard to believe summer is over and fall has begun. Some leaves have already started to change colour, I understand the salmon have started to run and the Blue Jays hope to make the playoffs. The pandemic has created many difficulties in running our social club. We had hoped to start in-person meetings by this time, but the Town of Ajax has not opened the room we use yet. We will continue having our monthly meetings on Zoom. We also have two "chat" sessions each week, bridge the first and third Tuesday and euchre the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Although these activities are not as much fun as meeting in person, they offer a great way to stay connected and socialize during these strange times.

I look forward to seeing you at the October 6th meeting. Keep safe.

Jane Wilson

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FRAUD ALERT – BE AWARE

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre has received reports of a text message scam tied to COVID-19 vaccines. The text message claims to be from the BC Ministry of Health and will say that your third COVID-19 vaccine has been scheduled. The fraudulent text message then asks you to click on a malicious link. After clicking on the link, you are asked to download software that contains malware. Malware can infect your device and can put you at risk for identity fraud by exposing your personal information, banking details and online account credentials. Do not click on the link!

COVID-19 PROTOCOL
PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX

The PROBUS Club of Ajax is a private social club for seniors. Given the ages of our members, it is imperative that safety be our highest priority. Our Club must manage the risk of COVID-19, as we re-introduce in-person meetings and activities. With this in mind, the Management Committee formulated the following Protocol:

For the foreseeable future, all in-person gatherings of the PROBUS Club of Ajax, will require all participants to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19. In addition, a minimum of two weeks must have passed since the second shot was administered. These vaccination requirements include, but are not limited to, our monthly membership meetings, interest group activities, and social events.

This is how it will work:

- a) When you are vaccinated for COVID-19, you receive a Ministry of Health Vaccination Receipt for each shot. When you attend your first in-person membership meeting, bring the Receipt for your second vaccine shot with you. Your name and the date of your second shot will be recorded, when you enter the meeting room. Admittance to the room will not be allowed if your Vaccination Receipt is not provided. The Social Co-ordinator, Interest Group Co-ordinator and House Co-ordinator for membership meetings, will have access to a list of fully vaccinated Club members, and use this list when approving attendance at their respective activities. Please note, when the Ontario Government Vaccine Certificate is introduced, it will replace the Vaccination Receipt, as proof of full vaccination against Covid-19.
- b) This COVID-19 Protocol will be implemented at our Club's first in-person membership meeting. If there are any interest group activities or social events sanctioned by the PROBUS Club of Ajax, which occur prior to the first in-person membership meeting, then you must provide proof of vaccination at that time in order to participate in same.
- c) If you decide not to be vaccinated for COVID-19, you may attend any virtual events offered by the PROBUS Club of Ajax. This includes our Hybrid membership meetings, and Interest Groups provided on Zoom and Trickster. If you are not vaccinated, do not attend any in-person meetings, interest group activities or social outings etc. held by the PROBUS Club of Ajax.
- d) All COVID-19 Province of Ontario Regulations and Public Health Guidelines in effect at the time of the PROBUS Club of Ajax in-person gathering will prevail, including group size, physical distancing, mask requirements etc.

As stated above, member safety is of paramount importance within our Club. If you have any questions, please email them to ajaxprobuspresident@gmail.com

I'm sure we're all looking forward to the opportunity of meeting again in-person. What a joy it will be to socialize with friends we haven't seen for many months.

Take care and stay safe.

Management Committee
PROBUS Club of Ajax
September 24, 2021



ZOOM INFORMATION

You do not need to download the ZOOM software to use the service. If you go to your internet browser (like Google) and go to website www.zoom.us look at the top right corner of the screen that opens up and you will see a button to click that says JOIN A MEETING. **(Use Control Click for Links)**

The diagram below appears



You can then enter the meeting ID number sent to you by PROBUS Club of Ajax in an email, and click JOIN. If there was a password also sent to you, enter it on the next page that opens up.

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TO CALL IN VIA PHONE TO THE MONTHLY MEETING

Local numbers:

647 374 4685

647 558 0588

Operator will welcome you, then you enter the meeting ID followed by the pound symbol: Meeting ID: 768 724 6025#

It will then ask for your participant code, just press the pound symbol: #

Then enter the meeting passcode followed by the pound symbol:

Passcode: 611220#

You will then join the meeting

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MEMBERSHIP

Your Annual PROBUS Club of Ajax membership fees are now due for the 2021/2022 year. ***In fact, as of the publishing of this newsletter, if you have not already paid your fees, you are PAST DUE!***

My thanks for all those members who have renewed. You make my task easy.

The annual fee is now \$30.00 a year with the new member initiation fee also set at \$30.00.

Renewals should be mailed to Tom Rosebush, 1612 - 44 Falby Court, Ajax, ON, L1S 3L1.

If you are among the still outstanding Members who have not renewed, you can expect an email or a phone call from me to ascertain your intentions.

If for some reason you do not plan to renew your membership, please endeavor to notify me by email or phone so we can update our records. Also, to keep our records in order we ask that if you have any changes in your "email, phone number or residence address", you inform us via email to ajaxprobusmembership@gmail.com or by phone to 437 981-6719.

Stay safe.



Tom, Membership Coordinator
ajaxprobusmembership@gmail.com

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Each month our membership continues to grow. The Ajax PROBUS Management Team would like to thank you for joining our club.

Please welcome your new fellow member: Peter Barths

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WE NEED YOUR HELP

When we start having meetings again, they will be hybrid meetings – partly in person, partly on Zoom. In order to do this, we need assistance from someone with IT experience. We would really appreciate it if you could step up and help us out.

Please contact one of the Management Committee or email ajaxprobus@gmail.com.

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SEPTEMBER 1ST MEETING

There were 41 attendees at our meeting. Some screens had more than one person, so the count would be higher.

Joyce opened the meeting by thanking the people who are leaving Management Committee and the people who are staying on for the next term.

Tom reported that so far 112 people have renewed, this is 54% of the membership.

After the Management Team Coordinators gave brief reports, Jane reported for Shirlie that there is a Wine Tour booked for September and a 30,000 Island Tour for October. Only 40 people will be allowed on the buses and all would have to be double vaccinated and wear a mask. The details of these tours are on our website: ajaxprobus.com and are further on in this newsletter.

Reg, as the retiring Past President introduced the new members of the Management Committee.

Our speaker, Terry Fallis spoke about his many novels but mainly his newly published 'Operation Angus'.

Congratulations to Carl Mabee and Marla Henderson whose names were drawn by Jane to receive gift cards from Shirlie.

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Below is a recipe from one of the Management Team

Crockpot Chicken and Stuffing *(a very simple recipe)*

(Barb Squires)



Ingredients:

4 Chicken Breasts (thawed)
1 Box of Stove Top Stuffing Mix
½ Cup of Sour Cream
1 Can of Cream of Chicken Soup
¼ cup water

Directions:

Place chicken breasts in bottom of crockpot.

Pour package of stuffing mix over the chicken.

Mix Cream of Chicken Soup, ½ cup of sour cream and ¼ cup water in a bowl and dump it over the top.

Place the lid on the crockpot and set it to Low, cook 4 hours.

Note:

I set the crockpot on High for the first 20 minutes and then low for the rest of the cooking time.

The chicken was tender and moist

MEMBERS CORNER

I don't know if anyone from the branch has ventured outside Canada during the pandemic. Laurie and I spent a week in London in mid-September.

A younger brother passed away on September 1st, due to complications originating from diabetes. He died just weeks before his 73rd birthday. While the more severe restrictions of the pandemic were in place, I always resisted making a trip overseas. However, in August the UK decided to include Canada in their 'Green Zone', relaxing the quarantine regulations.

It required a quick decision on my part when my other brother, who lives in the Channel Islands, began making preparations for my deceased brother's cremation. I was still 'on the fence' about going, but decided to make the trip, accompanied by my wife.

We had to get Covid test swabs and then book a similar procedure to be taken within two days of arriving in the UK. We had managed to book flights and London accommodation to fit in with the cremation service arrangement. By September 8th Laurie and I were ready to go, having both been double-vaxxed. We left for London on September 9 and arrived in London on the morning of the 10th.

Unfortunately, our 4-star hotel was having horrendous staffing problems, due to Covid and Brexit regulations. The reception desk staff, and daily maintenance staff were stretched in coping with handling customer relations. The room service staff comprised less than a dozen to clean over 800 rooms. We soon discovered that rooms were only cleaned between a departure and new arrival.

Our room was not serviced at all during our 8-day stay. It was left to Laurie and me to tidy the room, put out garbage and refresh the towel and toiletries.

The hotel staff misplaced our UK swab test kit, finding it only after I had been forced to make a series of phone calls to the UK Covid authorities. We managed to do the test and sent it off for analysis.

We were under the impression that this UK swab test would suffice for getting us through the departure procedure on the return flight. But found that we would have to take a SECOND UK test, some 72 hours before the return journey. An enquiry at a local Boots pharmacy led us to an independent pharmacy who consented to do the test - at considerable expense, I might add.

The cremation service and family gathering took most of one day. But we did have time to see some of the London sights including Westminster, Tower of London, Tower Bridge, River Thames, Portabello Road market and Kensington Palace. London's outstanding 'tube' rail system and the double-decker buses took us where we wanted to go, using the 'Oyster' pass card (like the Presto)

We managed to get all our test results and documents for our departure, and finally had a chance to relax on our Boeing 787-9 'Dreamliner'.

Exiting the passport and baggage halls at Toronto, Laurie and I thought we were 'home free'. But there was one more surprise when we had to go through a 2-stage swab test - our 4th each since September 7th.

Conclusions: We will not be taking anymore long-distance journeys until the Covid regulations are severely curtailed or dropped completely. In my opinion, it is just not worth the inconvenience and stress to make all the pre-trip arrangements, and then the swab tests at the destination. We spent almost as much in Covid tests as we did on the air fares.

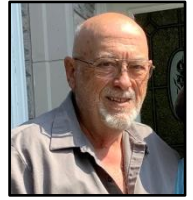
I would be interested to see if anyone has made a trip during the pandemic.

Ken Lehan-Port



MEMBERS CORNER

In July 2019, our family of 6 flew to AMSTERDAM and then changed planes to fly to ARUSHA, TANZANIA for a trek into the SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK on a safari. We drove a couple of hundred kilometers per day, camping out in coffee plantations and "tenting" in first class accommodations. The tents were huge and camping out was so different from any camping experience I have ever done.



Seeing lions, elephants, giraffes, and hundreds of other creatures was awesome.

Seeing 2000 plus year-old Baobab trees that existed when Christ was walking this Earth was incredible. We took so many photos and had such a great time.

I would highly recommend this trip. At least 16 hours in the air broken up in A stream both ways.

Edward Russell

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BICYCLE GIVEAWAY IN NUNAVUT

As promised in our September newsletter, Victoria obtained a photo of the lucky winner of the bicycle.

Congratulations to Ryan



RYAN ART NIBGOARSI

WINNER OF THE BICYCLE DONATION

BICYCLE DONATED COMPLIMENTS OF THE

AJAX PROBUS CLUB

& THE PADLEI COOPERATIVE

THANK YOU, VICTORIA PLASKETT, FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE
COMMUNITY OF ARVIAT

SPEAKERS



October 6th Speaker

Lianne Harris currently works as the Social Studies Resource Specialist Consultant with the Toronto Board of Education and curriculum adviser for Upper Canada College, having taught over 80,000 teachers and students (usually in authentic period clothing). She holds individual degrees in History, English and Fine Arts and using these disciplines, assists with entrepreneurial artists and business start-ups in leper colonies in India. In 2003, she was selected by W.O.M.A.D. as one of Toronto's Women of Influence and in 2009 was invited to be a contributing author of the Canadian best-seller business/self-help book, 'The Power of Women United'. Her artwork has been exhibited at the Royal Ontario Museum, Roy Thomson Hall, The I.D.A Gallery, and The Shaw Festival. Appearing on TV and interviewed many times on the radio, she always loves a live--and virtual! --audience.

Superstitions

We've all heard of witches and their black cats, unlucky number 13 and saying 'bless you' after a sneeze. Take a spooky 1-hour journey with Lianne Harris as we look at the fascinating history of witchlore and superstitions, their origins, their importance and why these ideas persist today.



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November 3rd Speaker

Digger, Teacher, Soldier, Spy

What do archaeologists do when the world is at war? Surprisingly, many of them turn spy. During wartime, archaeologists on all sides have become involved with military intelligence, turning their in-depth knowledge of the land and the peoples they studied to support their countries at war. This was no more apparent than in the Middle East where prominent archaeologists played a very political game during the First World War. Some of these names, such as T.E. Lawrence, also known as Lawrence of Arabia, would become legendary. Others, when the war was over, simply went back to their museums and their excavations.



Dr. Amy Barron

Amy Barron received her PhD at the University of Toronto in the field of Mesopotamian history and archaeology. Her doctoral thesis is entitled "Late Assyrian Arms and Armour: Art versus Artifact". She has excavated predominantly in the Middle East but has travelled widely studying the archaeology of various remote parts of the world from Peru to China. She has also worked in the museum field for almost thirty years and presently teaches museum studies in Fleming College's post-graduate program. For more information, please check out her webpage at www.quarrywood.ca

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SOCIAL

The following trips are planned but may have to be cancelled if the Covid numbers worsen.

Tours for October & November

October 7th – Georgian Bay Cruise – Cost \$139

Includes:

- Return transportation by deluxe Motorcoach (bus departs at 8:45 am)
 - Lunch at Trestle Brewing Company
 - Three-hour Cruise of the beautiful 30,000 Islands
 - Driver's Tip
-

October 18th – 20th – Windsor & Point Pelee

Includes: (waiting on Hotel Contract for price)

- Two-night stay at Hotel
 - Wine Tour
 - Rum Runners Tour
 - Visit to Point Pelee Park
 - Windsor River Cruise
-

Thursday, November 25, 2021 - St. Jacob's - Cost \$120

Includes:

- visit to Farmer's Market
- visit to town of St. Jacob's
- dinner at St. Jacob's Grill
- visit to Picards Peanuts

Contact Shirlie at shirlievanputten@rogers.com or 905-619-8583

To book

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Government regulations will be in place. Only 40 allowed on the bus. You must be fully vaccinated and wear a mask.



Some Interest Group gatherings are cancelled until further notice.
Operating interest groups are Chat Rooms (*Zoom*), Euchre (*Trickster*)
Bridge (*Trickster*) and Golf

AJAX PROBUS INTEREST GROUPS

RODEO (Ladies Lunch)	Dawn Thornton	Dining Out	Carol Breen
Bridge	Harvey Brodhecker	Cribbage	Reg Lawrance
Golf	Marcia Everitt Durham West	Breakfast Club	Julie Mathewson
Euchre/Scrabble	Julie Mathewson	Book Club	Bernie Rosebush
Billiards	Don Vorhees Pickering PROBUS	Movie Club	
Walking Club	Ron Mitchell & Maureen McVarish		

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PROBUS BRIDGE



JOIN US AND PLAY BRIDGE WITH TRICKSTER

During the past three months we have been playing Bridge on Trickster. We have had a lot of fun. It will be more fun if you join us! The days will be Tuesday, October 5 and Tuesday, October 19 starting at 2:00 pm (The first and third Tuesdays of the month). If you are NOT a present participant please contact Harvey either by email (hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca) or phone (416-894-5778). He will forward to you information on Trickster and playing bridge on Trickster. We will play with partners. If you have a current partner please let me know. If you need a partner, let Harvey know and he will attempt to get you a partner. As with Marathon Bridge, these Trickster games are for fun and socialization.

Harvey Brodhecker

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Did you Know?

43.6 percent of all slam contracts fail.

62.7 percent of all bridge players are women.

97.8 percent of all bridge statistics, including these, are made up.

One Wish

A bridge duffer was polishing a lamp and... poof! Out popped a genie who said, "I will grant you *one* wish."

The duffer unfolded a map of the world and said, "Let all of these countries live in peace and harmony."

"You've got to be kidding! I'm only a genie."

The duffer thought for a while and then suggested, "OK, then make me a winning bridge player."

"Hmm..." the genie pondered. "Let me see that map again."

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BREAKFAST CLUB



EUCHRE & SCRABBLE (Julie)

Euchre

Join us for euchre on Trickstercards.com. Our games this month will be on Tuesday, October 12th and Tuesday, October 26th starting at 2:00 pm. Since tables have to be assigned in advance, let Julie know by noon the day before if you plan to play. You will need to have the free Trickstercards app downloaded to your computer or tablet.

Note that from now on you should reply to jmathewson@rogers.com . My term as secretary is over and someone else will be using the ajaxprobussecretary gmail account.

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PROBUS GOLF



Good news! Golf courses are open! If you would like to be added to the golf list, contact Marcia Everitt by email at marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca or call (416) 724-6355. If you would like to book a time, contact Hawthorne Valley Golf Course directly at (905) 686-2028.



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PROBUS RODEO GROUP

I do hope that as the vaccination program picks up speed we will get to enjoy some lunches together. As soon as it is possible we will make arrangements and resume our outings.

Have patience and take care.

Dawn Thornton (note new phone number) 289-989-0641 Please send your recipes and photos directly to Barb Squires at ajaxprobusnewsletter@gmail.com



WORD SEARCH

Types of Food

K	A	E	T	S	B	A	E	C	U	T	T	E	L
R	T	A	E	A	U	L	A	E	R	E	C	S	S
V	E	L	I	T	T	E	H	G	A	P	S	A	H
E	N	N	A	H	T	O	F	D	N	B	A	L	A
G	A	A	T	U	E	G	A	A	L	U	E	A	M
E	D	T	N	P	R	E	S	E	A	R	A	D	I
T	I	U	R	F	A	E	T	R	I	G	O	N	H
A	O	N	I	O	N	B	F	B	T	E	O	G	O
B	O	T	A	V	K	R	O	P	D	R	D	R	T
L	L	S	E	L	D	O	O	N	A	S	S	A	D
E	F	N	T	U	N	A	D	C	A	T	H	V	O
S	L	E	U	E	M	T	A	L	G	N	A	Y	G
R	O	L	L	S	P	M	R	V	G	A	M	M	S
R	A	D	I	S	H	T	V	D	I	N	N	E	R

ONION
PORK
BURGERS
FAST FOOD
RADISH
MACARONI
LETTUCE
VEGETABLES
NOODLES
BREAD
CEREAL
HAM
FRUIT
TUNA
SALAD
SPAGHETTI
BUTTER
ROLLS
TV DINNER
HOTDOGS
STEAK
GRAVY

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE



Duffins Trail Walk, 2011



PROBUS Pot Luck, January 15, 2012

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CHAT ROOMS

We are still having chat rooms on Monday at 11:00 a.m. and on Friday at 2:00 p.m. The notice is sent out via email the day before. Usually about 8 people attend but we have room for more. We'd love to see some new faces. Please join us for some friendly conversation.



Things to Think About

What if my dog only brings the ball because he thinks I like throwing it?

If poison is past its expiry date, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?

Which letter is silent in the word 'scent'. The S or the C?

Do twins ever realize that one of them was unplanned?

Why is the letter W in English, called double u. Shouldn't it be called double v?

Maybe oxygen is killing you and it just takes 75 – 100 years to fully work.

The word 'swims' upside down is still 'swims'.

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LIBRARY NEWS

"WHAT'S ON FOR OCTOBER, 2021"

The link for What's On is: www.ajaxlibrary.ca and click on 'Programs'

We're excited to see you in person again. All branches are open for you to visit for study space, computer use, and to browse for books! Before you visit, please remember:

- Masks and social distancing are required;
- Food is not permitted; drinks are permitted;
- Gathering restrictions also apply in alignment with provincial regulations.

The Library will continue to offer curbside pick-up, along with extensive virtual services, programs, and collections. Our external dropboxes remain open 24/7 for Library material returns.

See more information and open hours on [our website!](#)

Free Printing for COVID-19 Vaccine Receipts

Starting September 7 you can print your COVID-19 vaccine receipt for free at any Library branch.

For more details, and to stay up-to-date on COVID-19 Library service updates, visit

ajaxlibrary.ca/COVID-19.

PROBUS BOOK CLUB



The Book Club **usually** meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at St. Paul's United Church, 65 King's Crescent, at 1:30 p.m.

During Covid19, of course, we are **not** meeting!!!

However, when normalcy returns we shall continue our very interesting discussions on chosen book titles.

Interested in reading, discussion, fun and fellowship, we welcome you to join our group. In the meantime, book suggestions you may wish to enjoy:

Book Suggestions:

Tuscan Daughter (★★★★+ rating) by – Lisa Rochon; *release date – July, 2021*; Historical Fiction – a story of Renaissance Florence during five epic years in the early 1500s. The artists of renown at the time – Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo.

Orphan Train(★★★★+) by – Christina Baker Kline; *release date – April, 2013*; genre – Historical Fiction – 1854 – 1929, the life of orphan children sent to the mid-western states to be adopted usually ending up in servitude.

The Extra Tid-Bit:

What is a Book?

(By Lora Daunt)

A book is pages, pictures and words
A book is animals, people and birds
A book is stories of queens and kings
Poems and songs so many things!
Curled in a corner where I can hide
With a book I can journey far and wide
Though it's only paper from end to end
A book is a very special friend.

Salute to October

(By John Sinor)

October is crisp days and cool nights,
a time to curl up around the dancing flames
and sink into a good book

Bernie Rosebush - 905-426-1598 or bernie.rosebush@gmail.com

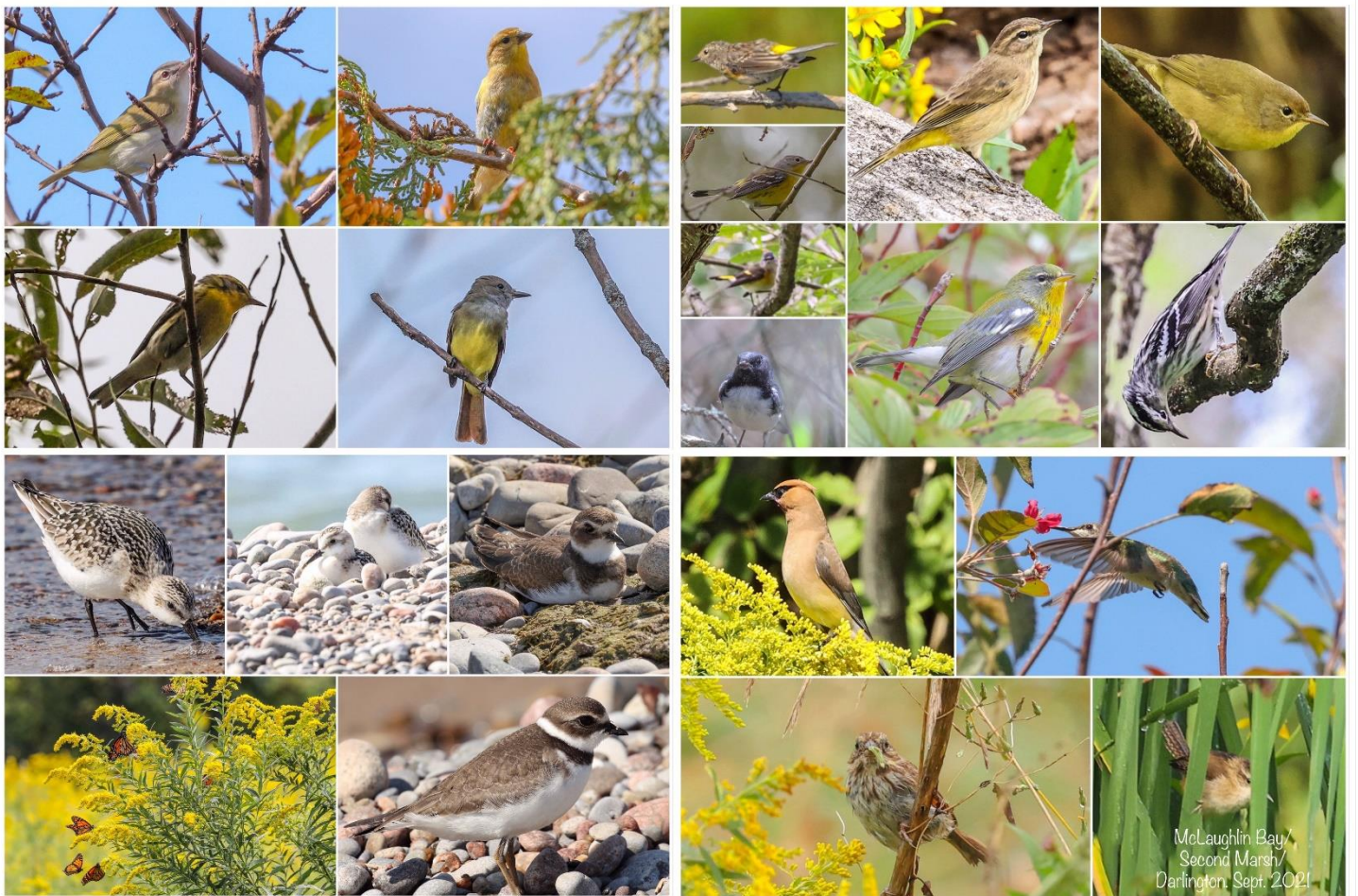


Rambles with my Camera – McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve in Oshawa

(Maureen McVarish)

Seems like all the spring and summer birds just arrived and now many are on their way back to their winter homes. No border closures for our feathered friends! In the first few weeks of September, I visited the McLaughlin Bay Wildlife reserve in Oshawa. This 81-hectare abandoned farm was purchased and maintained by the McLaughlin foundation and has recently been donated to the City of Oshawa. This, along with the larger Second Marsh and Darlington Provincial Park, is home to a wide diversity of wildlife as well as a great stopover spot for many species of birds which bulk up before their long trek south. There are a number of trails throughout this reserve including marshes and a lakefront so a nature lover could spend hours with a camera and not be disappointed.

On the days I visited, I managed to capture a number of warblers on stopover from Northern Ontario to as far south as Central and South America. There were still hummingbirds feeding on flowers far up in the trees getting ready for this same incredible journey. On the beach and in the bay, Semipalmated Plovers and Sanderlings were feeding and resting along the trip from their breeding grounds in the Arctic tundra to their winter homes along the coasts of the southern states and the Caribbean. Fly catchers, Vireos and Wrens also vacation in the warm southern U.S. and Mexico. Song sparrows and Waxwings don't migrate as far but look for good foraging habitat a bit further south. And I don't want to leave out the amazing Monarch butterflies. At less than a gram in weight, making the same 2-way migration, as far as 3000 miles to reach their winter home in the Sierra Madre mountains in Mexico!!!



McLaughlin Bay/
Second Marsh/
Darlington, Sept. 2021



THE BOOKWORM



I spent four weeks in New Zealand in the winter of 2017. I was living in Nanjing, China then and had time off for Chinese New Year and Spring Festival and wanted to celebrate my birthday there.

Arriving at the Auckland airport, I leaned on my luggage cart and watched Maori performing their ceremonial haka and I immediately loved the country. I started with camping-trekking on the North Island tracing the Maori history along the Maria Van Diemen Trail at Cape Reinga, sea kayaking near Wellington on part of the Cook Strait for my birthday, and finally bicycling along turquoise rivers and trekking snow covered mountains of the South Island. New Zealand is inarguably scenic, but I also admired their welcoming vibe and inclusive society.

When I began researching the literature, I started with the classic, "The Penguin History of New Zealand" by Michael King. And I loved the movie, "The Whale Rider" so I read the book by Witi Ihimaera, followed by his, "The Parihaka Woman."

But it was Christina Thompson's memoir, "Come on Shore and We Will Kill And Eat You: A New Zealand Story" that left a lasting impression. Written in 2008, the book certainly has a love-hate divide among readers, either despairing of the "unfortunate" title or accusations of colonial bias.

Today, the author is a Harvard University professor and the editor of Harvard Review of Books since 2000.

The title originates in a quote from writings by Charles Darwin, a threat shouted at explorer James Cook by native New Zealanders during explorations in late 18th and 19th century.

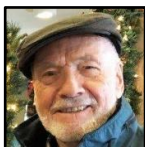
But in the 1980's Christina was an American graduate student studying literature in Australia, on vacation in New Zealand. At a bar one night she met a Maori man named Seven, and they fell in love and got married. He was a tradesman and she was an intellectual, so it was a meeting of opposites. Despite their differences, Thompson and her husband shared a sense of adventure and willingness to depart from the customs of their families and forge a life together of their own.

Their marriage story sets up the framework of her book as she examines the cultural history of New Zealand and issues of settlement, impact of colonialism, stories of early Maori and European exchanges, all beginning with Abel Tasman's "discovery" in 1642.

Christina Thompson broadens her cultural exploration with her recent book, "Sea People: The Puzzle of Polynesia," researching the history of early settlement patterns of the South Pacific. It is the winner of the 2020 Australian Prime Minister's Literary Award for Nonfiction.

Victoria Plaskett

CARL'S CORNER

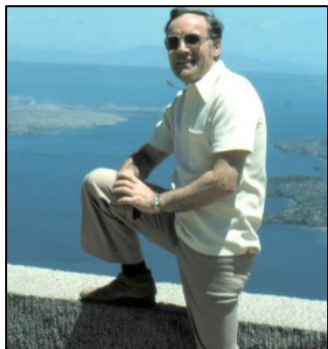


*Carl Mabee
President (2013-2014)*

Continuing from Aug. article and A quick word on Jeepney's, they were made from all the jeeps left in the Philippines after the Americans pulled out at the end of WW11.

A little ingenuity and a welding torch turns a jeep into a people's bus and the driver is now in business. There is usually a flat rate but sometimes there are so many people hanging on the sides that the driver never gets to collect all that's owed to him.

CARL ON THE EDGE



We finally made it through the city and onto the road leading to the volcano. Heavy jungle pushes up to the edge of the road and a profusion of colours attacks the senses. It's a distraction but it doesn't seem to bother Murphy and his driving. We did however pull over to the side of the road at a fruit stall and purchased a stalk of very tiny very sweet bananas, tossed them on the back seat and tore one off when-ever we felt hungry. *What a novelty!* After a not so few switch-back turns we made it to the top only to be treated to a number of activities performed by some local entertainers. We are sitting right on the lip of an active volcano that has not erupted in many years, it was our wish that it remained so until we left this site. The dancers put on quite a

show for all and sundry. The famous stick dance was the last part of the show and of course one of the most dangerous for the performers. Two individuals held long poles at each end a few feet apart and brought them to gather with a bang. So open and close and open and close to the beat of drums and then dancers put their legs in between and pull them out before getting hit on the ankle with the poles. It's very rhythmic and hypnotic and fun to watch.

We wound up our trip and headed back down to Manila and agreed to meet for dinner later that evening, Murphy would pick me up. The allotted time went by and no Murph. After 20 or 30 minutes he came walking across the driveway, no car! He proceeded to tell me what had happened to the car. Seems he was tidying up the car and was reaching for the bananas when a big black insect crawled out of the stock and he smacked it with his wallet. Scooping it up he carried it into his hotel dropped on the desk and asked them what it was. They screamed because the dammed thing was alive and moving, so Murphy knocked it on the floor and stepped on it. When everyone had settled down, they explained that particular scorpion was quite deadly. Terrence said, "to hell with the car" and called the rental agent and told him to pick it up and give him a new one because he had no intention of driving it again! Hence the reason he walked to my hotel. ***Good heavens here we had been reaching into the back seat for bananas and could have easily been stung!***

In the middle of the night the warning from my two companions in Singapore "not to eat some of the local food" came flashing across my mind as I suffered the first spasms of Montezuma's revenge. And oh God I have to start a class in just a few hours.

I started on the medication provided by our surgery for diarrhoea and by morning failed to notice any significant change to my cramps. Still the show must go on and after I met with the new managers I explained my problem to the muffled amusement of many in the room. It was necessary to explain, as I would be absent from the room from time to time. The toilet was quite near! *Thank God once again! LOL as an aside the pills seem to be working and although my stomach was not a happy camper at least I could give up on the fast trot marathon I had been performing!* More on my Asian trip in the months to come. *Carl*

AJAX PROBUS CALENDAR, OCTOBER 2021

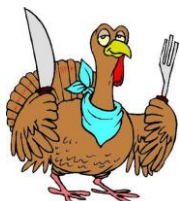
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 2 pm Zoom Chat	2
3	4 11 am Zoom Chat	5 10 am PROBUS Golf 2pm Bridge Trickster	6 10am PROBUS General Meeting Zoom	7 Georgian Bay Cruise	8 2 pm Zoom Chat	9
10	11  Happy Thanksgiving	12 10 am PROBUS Golf 2pm Euchre Trickster	13	14	15 2 pm Zoom Chat	16
17	18 Windsor & Point Pelee 11 am Zoom Chat	19 Windsor & Point Pelee 10 am PROBUS Golf 2pm Bridge Trickster	20 Windsor & Point Pelee	21	22 2 pm Zoom Chat	23
24 31 Happy Halloween 	25 11 am Zoom Chat	26 10 am PROBUS Golf 2pm Euchre Trickster	27	28	29 2 pm Zoom Chat	30

AJAX PROBUS MANAGEMENT TEAM, 2021/2022

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If you have a problem reaching a Management Team member at any of the above email addresses, send your email to ajaxprobus@gmail.com and it will get forwarded to the correct person

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Thanksgiving October 11th



Halloween October 31st

For information on other PROBUS Clubs in Canada to: www.probus.org . Our Ajax PROBUS website: www.ajaxprobus.com.
Many thanks to those who sent in items for this issue

Comments and items are appreciated including photos of club events. Please send to: ajaxprobusnewsletter@gmail.com