



PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

PROBUS Club of Ajax, Club #82 Ajax, Ontario

Vol 25 Issue 5

May 4th, 2022

The May 4th meeting will be hybrid (in person at the Ajax Community Centre and on Zoom).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

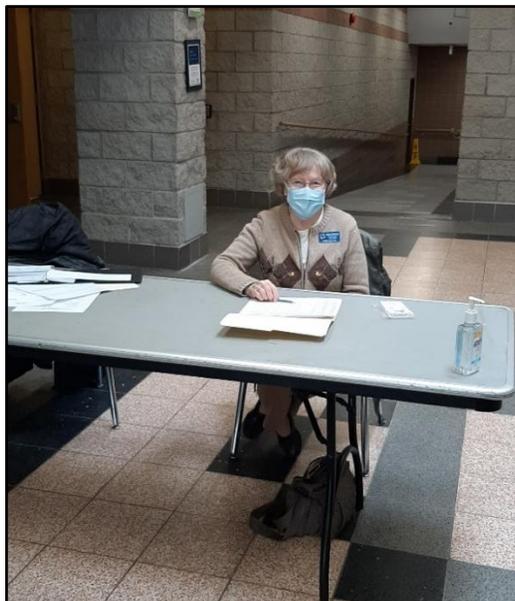
On April 6 we had our first hybrid meeting. Forty-six people attended in-person and eighteen people joined the meeting on Zoom. There were a few minor problems, which we will try to correct for the next meeting, but on the whole the management team felt it went well. I would like to thank everyone on the management team who helped make this meeting a success. The speaker who was booked originally had to cancel at the last minute due to illness.

Victoria Plaskett, our speaker coordinator, was able to find a replacement in time for the meeting. Dr. Laura Carlson gave a very interesting presentation on the history of food and dining in Toronto. Our next hybrid meeting will be at **10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 4**, in the HMS Room at the Ajax Community Centre. If you were not at the April meeting, you will have to show your proof of vaccination in order to attend the meeting. I look forward to seeing everyone who is comfortable attending the meeting in-person, and hope anyone who is not able to attend will join us on Zoom. The link will be sent in an e-blast a couple days before the meeting.



Jane Wilson

APRIL 6TH HYBRID MEETING



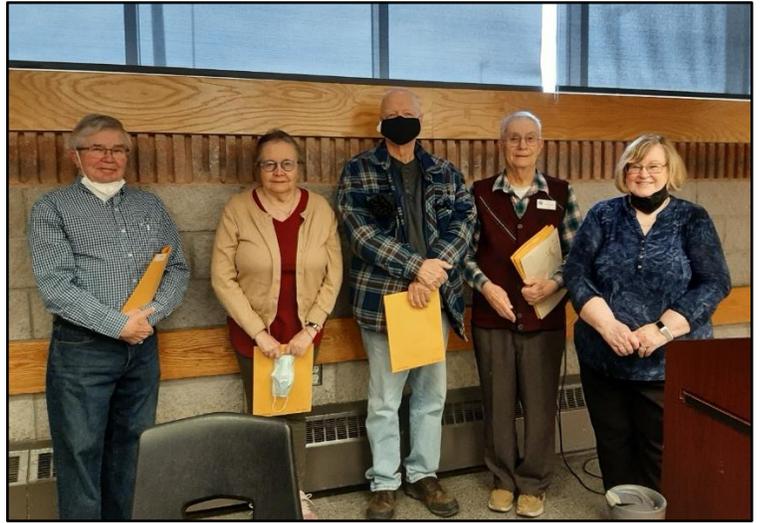
Bernie Checking Proof of Vax



Jane Starting the Meeting



Rowena Giving Her Report



**Tom & Jane with new members
Bob, Terri & Peter**



Victoria Introducing the Speaker



Our Speaker, Laura Carlson



HMS Ajax Room

Revised: 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. **Even though the Province of Ontario has lifted Proof of Vaccination and masking requirements, the Management Committee has decided to still require proof of vaccination and ask that masks continue to be worn for the foreseeable future for all in-person gatherings of the PROBUS Club of Ajax.**

All participants must 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. We ask that masks be worn at the General Meetings and any in-door activities other than when meals are served.

This is how it will work:

- a) When you attend your first in-person membership meeting, bring your proof of vaccination (either the receipt you were given when you received the vaccination or the Ontario Government Vaccine Certificate). Your name will be recorded as having shown proof of vaccination 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 so you will not need show your proof of vaccination after your first in-person meeting.
- 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

We are all looking forward to the opportunity of meeting again in-person.

Take care and stay safe.
Management Committee
PROBUS Club of Ajax
March 2022

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MEMBERSHIP

We welcome two new members this month, April Gilkinson and Hetty Shapiro. Our membership currently stands at 171.

Please email or call me if you would like a copy of the membership list. Also, please keep in mind that our list is only as good as the information I receive, so if you have changed your personal information in any way please let me know.



Tom Rosebush, Membership Coordinator

437 981-6719 or tom.rosebush@gmail.com.

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FROM THE PROBUS TREASURER

How to Make an e-Transfer to Ajax PROBUS

You may now pay for memberships and social events by e-Transfer. Please follow the procedure exactly. Each bank has a slightly different system; however, the steps are the same, but may be in a different order.

- 1) Sign into online banking
 - 2) Select Interact e-Transfer
 - 3) Select "Send Money" or whatever name your bank calls it
 - 4) Select the bank account from which you are sending money
 - 5) In the Amount field, enter the amount you are sending
 - 6) Enter the recipient: (each bank is slightly different in the way this works)
 - Select: Enter New Recipient
 - add the name PROBUS Club of Ajax
 - enter the email address: probusajxtreasurer@gmail.com
 - *double check to make sure the email address is exactly as above!!!*
 - 7) **In the Comments box you MUST enter**
 - *Your name (and other names if it is for more than one person)
 - * What the money is for
 - If you do not put anything in the comments, we will have no idea why you are sending the money!***
 - 8) Double check everything is correct, especially the email address!
 - 9) Go to next step – Review and Finish Transaction.
 - 10) Ajax Probus is using the safest method of e-Transfer which is Autodeposit. Once you hit send, the money will go directly to our account, and cannot be intercepted. (Passwords are not used in this method)
- Last but not least: Notify the Membership Coordinator, or Social Coordinator that you have paid by e-Transfer.**

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PROBUS SPEAKERS



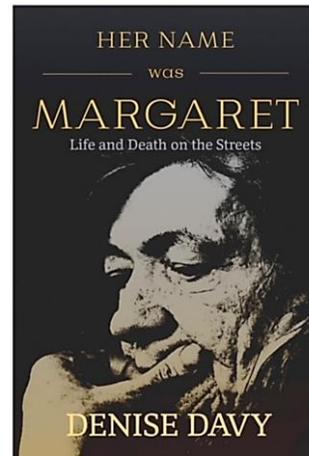
May 4-Denise Davy

Speaker Introduction:

Denise Davy's book, "Her Name Was Margaret-Life and Death on the Streets" explores the tragic life of a homeless woman and exposes the flawed plan that led to today's homelessness epidemic. Her book was included in the Toronto Star's "must read" book for 2021 and has gone into a third printing. You can watch her interview with TVO's Steve Paikin. Denise started, "Purses for Margaret" with donations of gently used purses to help provide vulnerable women with hygiene necessities.

Speaker Bio:

Denise Davy is a nationally recognized award-winning journalist and author of, "Her Name Was Margaret-Life and Death on the Streets." Denise worked at the Hamilton Spectator for 26 years where she won a National Newspaper Award, was twice honoured with Journalist of the Year by the Ontario Newspaper Awards and received four national journalism fellowships which allowed her to write and travel around southeast Asia.



PROBUS SPEAKERS (continued)



JUNE 3, Mark Rector

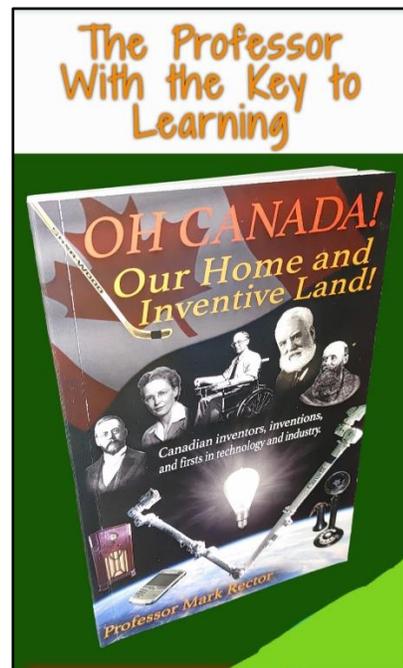
Author of, "Oh Canada! Our Home and Inventive Land"

Speaker Introduction:

Professor Mark Rector is recognized as a passionate, entertaining, and gifted speaker with the ability to hold and engage audiences of all sizes. His fun and enjoyable presentations on numerous topics include his multimedia presentation on Canadian inventors that's been amazing crowds and receiving standing ovations across the country.

Biography:

Professor Rector is a published author, public speaker, and a recently retired Professor of Electronics Engineering with a specialty in telecommunications. He has written numerous articles, contributed to nationally published textbooks, and just released his first book, "Oh Canada! Our Home and Inventive Land" (2018). It's already sold over 2,000 copies and is available at over 65 bookstores and museums across Canada.



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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	Julie Mathewson	Book Club	Bernie Rosebush
Billiards	Don Vorhees Pickering PROBUS	Movie Club	
Walking Club	Ron Mitchell & Maureen McVarish		

In-Person Activity Guideline

As we begin to resume in-person activities, we would like to remind our members that there is always a possible risk involved when socializing. Your personal decision to participate in any PROBUS in-person activity should be made knowing you are taking full responsibility for that decision. The PROBUS Club of Ajax cannot be deemed responsible for the decision of individual members. Your own personal health and safety should be your first concern. For everyone's safety, participating in a PROBUS Club of Ajax in-person activity will require you to be fully vaccinated and follow all Health Department and Provincial guidelines.

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SOCIAL

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May 30th – Stratford Festival – “Chicago” – SOLD OUT!!

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June 15th – Picton Wine Tour – Cost \$129

Welcome to Prince Edward County, a Designated Viticultural Area in Ontario with close to 40 wineries and new ones popping up every year. Our winemakers are true pioneers – tenacious, innovative, and passionate.

Includes:

- Return transportation by Motor Coach
- Bus departs by 8:45 am
- Lunch at Black Prince Winery with a tasting at another local Winery
- Visit to the “Lake in the Mountain”
- Driver’s Tip

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June 21st & 22nd – Shaw Festival Cost \$499 + hst

Your Tour includes:

- Guided tour of Whistling Gardens (largest collection of peonies in North America)
<https://www.whistlinggardens.ca/>
- Picnic lunch
- One night stay at Holiday Inn in Niagara on the Lake with breakfast
- Orchestra level ticket to “Importance of Being Earnest” & “Damn Yankees”
- Visit to Niagara-on-the-lake
- Driver’s tip & 407 Tolls



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July 14th – Westben Theatre Presents Abba Mia – Cost \$120

Afternoon includes:

- Return transportation by motor coach
- Picnic lunch
- Ticket for show
- Driver’s tip

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August 15th – Cruise the Toronto Harbour on the Obsessions III – Cost \$140

The OBSESSION III is a 78' beautiful motor yacht. Her main salon is large and spacious, featuring a raised area for live music. She can comfortably hold up to 190 guests. The real treat here however is the upper deck -- Obsession III has a fully retractable roof! Your guests can enjoy the largest dance deck in any weather. Our two-deck ship boasts an elegant dining room with scenic windows.

Includes:

- Return transportation by motor coach
- Dance and Dinner aboard the Obsession III
- Cruise in Toronto Harbor
- Driver’s tip



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Annual BBQ – Information available soon!



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Coming this Fall:

- 1000 Island Cruise with Kingston Penitentiary Tour (September)
- Frankenmuth / Mackinac Island (September 13th – 16th)
- Louise Penny Tour (late September)
- Micro-brewery Tour (October)
- Nashville / Memphis Tour (November 17th – 24th)
- St. Jacobs with play and Market (November 30th)
- Famous People Players (December 13th)

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Please contact Shirlie at shirliewanputten@rogers.com or 905-619-8583
For more information!

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Did you hear about the man who ran in front of the bus?
He got tired.

Did you say that you fell over fifty feet but didn't hurt yourself?
Yes – I was trying to get to the back of the bus.

What did the bus conductor say to the frog?
Hop on.

I hopped on a bus earlier today.
After a while, the driver told me to sit down like everyone else.

PROBUS BRIDGE



Unfortunately, I have decided to cancel Marathon bridge until the fall of 2022. It is my opinion that the uncertainty with the virus makes this the prudent decision. Sorry for any disappointment that this has caused you.

BRIDGE IS BACK AT THE AJAX LIBRARY

Social bridge will start on April 28, 2022 at 2:30pm to 4:30pm and run every Thursday until September at which time we will go back to alternating with lessons. There are no lessons until September just social bridge every Thursday afternoon.

You will be required to wear a MASK.

Please hand SANITIZE upon entry to the Rotary Room using the sanitizer that is supplied.

Drinks will not be supplied. If you need to have a drink, please bring your own water bottle and move AWAY from the table to drink.

There is a LIMIT of 7 tables (28 players). This should handle the regular number of participants but if there are more players than 28 players, participation will be on a first come first serve basis.

During the past months we have been playing Bridge on Trickster. These games are now terminated.

I am looking forward to seeing real people and playing bridge with you. As with Marathon Bridge, these Library games are for fun and socialization.

Harvey Brodhecker

BRIDGING THE GAP BRIDGE

Last month we started a series on cue bids. Last month we covered where a player opens 1 of a minor and his opponent bids 2 of the same suit. For example, dealer opens 1 diamond and the next player (their opponent) bids 2 diamonds or if a player opens 1 club and the next player bids 2 clubs? This is a "Michaels" cue bid, showing two 5 card suits or a 5 card and 6 card suit.

This month we will cover where a player opens 1 of a major suit and the next player bids 2 of the same suit. This means that the player has 5 or 6 cards in the other suit and 5 or 6 cards in a minor suit.

Here is an example. Opener bids 1 heart. Bid 2 hearts with a hand like this. (Spades) KJ965 (Hearts) 2 (Diamonds) A10975 (Clubs) 4. Another example is opener bids 1 spade. Bid 2 spades with a hand like this.: OR (Spades) 62 (Hearts) AQ964 (Diamonds) AKQ52 (Clubs) 3.

Note that each hand has 5 or 6 cards in each of the major suits. Although each hand is similar in distribution having at least 5 cards in each major suit, they are different in high card points. The first hand has 8 High Card points and the second hand has 18 high card points. Also note that in the first hand with a few High Card points the points are concentrated in the two long suits.

Harvey Brodhecker

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DINING OUT CLUB



The next Dining Out will be on **Thursday, May 19th** at the Brock House, 918 Brock Street North, Whitby. Be sure to mark it on your calendar. Hope to see some more of you out with us

Carol Breen 905-839-7762 cbreen840@bell.net



DINING OUT GROUP, MARCH 24



Pictures courtesy of Julie Mathewson

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BREAKFAST CLUB
and
EUCHRE
 (Julie)



BREAKFAST CLUB

Come join us for breakfast on **Tuesday, May 31st at 9:00**. This month we'll go to one of our favourites, Angelique's Family Restaurant, 31 Barr Road, Ajax. Call Julie Mathewson 905-686-0803 or email jmathewson@rogers.com to reserve your place. Suggestions for other restaurants to try are welcomed.

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EUCHRE

This month our euchre games will be on **Tuesday, May 10th and Tuesday, May 24th starting at 2:00 pm**. Since tables have to be assigned in advance, email Julie at jmathewson@rogers.com by noon the day before if you plan to play. You need to have the free Trickstercards app downloaded to your computer or tablet to play.

We are looking for one or two more players to act as occasional table hosts so we can avoid having to cancel games or limit players. Hosting is simple and it only takes a few minutes to send the invitations out to the others playing at your table. Let Julie know if you're interested. 905-686-0803 or email jmathewson@rogers.com

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PROBUS RODEO GROUP



It was decided to postpone our April visit to the Villa in Whitby until May 18th. The details remain the same. We will meet at the Villa on Wednesday. **May 18th at 1 p.m.** If you remember in response to requests from some of our members we have changed our start time from **12 noon to 1 p.m.**

I have the list of people who planned to attend in April. You only need to contact me if you wish to cancel. Anyone who would like to join us please contact me dthorn000@gmail.com or 289-989-0641. Before May 11th.

Dawn Thornton dthorn000@gmail.com 289 989 0641

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PROBUS BOOK CLUB



IN-PERSON PROBUS BOOK CLUB MEETING

Meeting: **Date:** Wednesday, **May 25**, 2022
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Place: St. Paul's United Church, 65 Kings Cres., Ajax
(Entrance – West door off parking lot)
Ajax PROBUS Club and Church Covid Protocols will be in effect.

Book for discussion: “The Secret Keeper of Jaipur” by Alka Joshi

Interested in reading, discussion, fun and fellowship, we welcome you to join our group.

For more information call or e-mail Bernie Rosebush at: 905-426-1598 or bernie.rosebush@gmail.com

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MEMBERS CORNER

We have decided that even after we return to normal activities, that we would like to continue with the Members Corner. It's a great way for us to get to know our fellow Ajax PROBUS members. Keep those articles coming. If they're not used immediately, they will be filed for future newsletters.

Thanks to everyone who have sent contributions so far. We've really enjoyed reading them.

CARL'S CORNER



Carl Mabee
President (2013-2014)



It's May 1977 and from the *Philippines* I flew to Tokyo. From the air it's impressive, massive, and filled with anticipation or so I imagined. I was met at the gate by an impeccably dressed young man who navigated through the city with a lot more patience than I have. The car was a limo of some kind or other (he did tell me, but I forget) and I was surprised because I didn't know they made large deluxe cars. I guess I was stereotyping based on what I had seen at home. Not a good idea as I had already found out on my Far East travels. We arrived at my hotel the New Otani and were very impressed. *(That's happening to me a lot this trip)* This will be home to all the various General managers, Presidents and what not attending this Far East conference.

Japan is a country of compacts, not just cars, everything except this hotel that caters to foreigners. I imagine the average Japanese person would be astounded if they found themselves in this hotel in this room overlooking 10 acres of ancient gardens that date back to the 16th century, so much space! And this place is expensive. I know after our experience with the British pound to the dollar that costs relate to income earned, *but this is an eye opener*. A hair cut in this hotel cost \$35 dollars U.S. and breakfast came in around the same price. I have no idea what my hotel room costs per night but I bet it's close to a week's wages for an average income earner back home! And so, I now have a better grasp on why the Japanese control their imports so tightly, everything outside of Japan would be cheaper and imports would soon destroy their manufacturing base. Japan like many other Asian countries count their civilisations in thousands of years. They went through all the evolutionary periods like most countries except there was a isolationist period of over two and a half centuries. Can you imagine the shock of the locals when in 1854 Commodore Matthew Perry and the Black ships show up on their doorstep and said open or else? Picture these white skinned barbarians knocking at your door when only the rulers knew these people existed and one could imagine the fear that would have permeated the population. 6852 islands make up this nation with four of the largest islands, Honshu, Kyushu, Hokkaido and Shikoku accounting for 97% of Japan's land area. It has the world's 10th largest population with 128 million people with Tokyo being the largest city in the world with over 30 million people. *It's a bit crowded*. The history of these islands and its people make for fascinating reading. For instance, during their feudal era the emergence of a ruling class of warriors, the Samurai in and around 1185 continued up to and including the second world war. The myths and reality tend to get mixed up with the treatment that Hollywood had afforded this time period. More in the coming months.

Carl



SAMURIA

AJAX PROBUS CALENDAR, MAY, 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 10 am PROBUS General Meeting Hybrid (Zoom & In Person)	5 2:30pm Bridge	6 2 pm Zoom Chat	7
8  <i>Happy Mothers Day</i>	9 11 am Zoom Chat	10 2 pm Euchre Trickster	11	12 2:30pm Bridge	13 2 pm Zoom Chat	14
15	16 11 am Zoom Chat	17	18 1 pm RODEO	19 2:30pm Bridge 6pm Dining Out	20 2 pm Zoom Chat	21
22	23 11 am Zoom Chat  <i>HAPPY Victoria Day</i>	24 2 pm Euchre Trickster	25 1:30 pm Book Club	26 2:30pm Bridge	27 2 pm Zoom Chat	28
29	30 Stratford 11 am Zoom Chat	31 9 am Breakfast Club				

LIBRARY NEWS

“WHAT’S ON FOR MAY, 2022

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

(ctrl click for link)

AJAX PROBUS MANAGEMENT TEAM, 2021/2022

President	Jane Wilson	ajaxprobuspresident@gmail.com
Vice President		
Past President		
Treasurer	Rowena Burns	probusajxtreasurer@gmail.com
Secretary	Bernie Rosebush	ajaxprobusecretary@gmail.com
Social	Shirlie Van Putten	shirlievanputten@rogers.com
Membership	Tom Rosebush	ajaxprobusexplorer@gmail.com
Speakers	Victoria Plaskett	ajaxprobusspeakers@gmail.com
House	Margaret Wells	ajaxprobushouse@gmail.com
Website	Maureen McVarish	ajaxprobuswebsite@gmail.com
Interest Groups		
Member-at-Large	Ray Smith	ajaxprobusexplorer1@gmail.com
Member-at-Large		
Technical Coordinator	Stewart Beatty	ajaxprobusexplorer@gmail.com
Newsletter	Barb Squires	ajaxprobusexplorer@gmail.com

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

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For information on other PROBUS Clubs in Canada to: www.probus.org . Our Ajax PROBUS website: www.ajaxprobusexplorer.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: ajaxprobusexplorer@gmail.com