



# PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX NEWSLETTER

Club 82

Vol 27 Issue 4

April, 2024

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## MANAGEMENT TEAM

**President:** Jean Wing

**Past President:** Jane Wilson

**Vice President:** April Gilkinson

**Treasurer:** Rowena Burns

**Secretary:** Bernie Rosebush

**Communications:** Barb Squires

**House:** Margaret Wells

**Membership:** Tom Rosebush

**Socials:** Shirly van Putten

**Speakers:** April Gilkinson

**Interest Groups:** Julie Mathewson

**Technical:** Stewart Beatty

**Website:** Maureen McVarish

**Member-at-Large:**  
Kevin Portener



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Easter. Happy Passover. Have a blessed Ramadan.

As I write my message on the first day of spring, it feels like -6c and snowing. I had flowers blooming in my garden and shoots pushing through the soil earlier this week. Last week, I was convinced spring was here, as I walked along the path at Rotary park, enjoying the warmth of the sun and the ducks swimming in the lake. April is a month of renewal and I know warmer weather and longer days are ahead.

Our General meeting on **April 3<sup>rd</sup>**, will be busy as we are hoping to see many of our members there with their friends to enjoy our speaker, Elaine Charal, and a light lunch. Please sign in on arrival and wear your name badges. We have waived the fee this month but if you would like to participate in the "share the wealth" the tickets will be available. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help, many hands make light work.

Probus Canada require Probus Clubs to update their by-laws every three years. Our committee have had several meetings and have updated our By-laws which will be presented to the membership in May 2024.

Check the newsletter and FB page for upcoming events and trips.

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

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)

# APRIL CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 10:30 am SALSA 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	3 10 am OPEN HOUSE	4 10:00 am WALKING GROUP 2:30 pm BRIDGE	5 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	6
7	8 Noon LADIES LUNCH Noon MEN'S LUNCH	9 10 am COFFEE 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	10 2:00 pm EUCHRE	11 10:00 am WALKING GROUP 2:30 pm BRIDGE	12 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	13
14	15 1:00 pm BOWLING	16 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	17 10:00 am BOOK CLUB VIA ZOOM	18 10:00 am WALKING GROUP 2:30 pm BRIDGE 5:30 pm DINING OUT	19 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	20 8:30 pm DANCING AT THE EDGE
21	22	23 10:00 am GARDEN 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE	24 2:00 pm EUCHRE	25 10:00 am WALKING GROUP 2:30 pm BRIDGE	26 1:00 pm ZOOM CHAT	27
28	29	30 9:00 am BREAKFAST 10:30 am SALSA 1:30 pm CRIBBAGE				



PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX  
IS ON FACEBOOK

[Town of Ajax 55+ activities](#)

[What's On at the Ajax Library](#)



Please wear your name badge at  
our meetings and events

# 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). In Shannon's 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

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5 - 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)



## **WHAT'S IN A NAME?**

A musical talk by: **Deirdrey Francois**

Deirdrey is a professional singer, songwriter, entertainer and performer who has been featured on CBC radio and has performed in international concerts.

Her unique musical talk on What's in a Name is a fun inspiring keynote incorporating music, and is engaging and funny. "An inspiring music-filled flame to ignite the thrill and the fame that is hidden inside a name".

Deidrey's musical versatility is performed with infectious enthusiasm.

*"Deidrey's performance was a complete and total success!!  
The membership loved her." – Probus Club of Oshawa*

# SOCIALS & TOURS

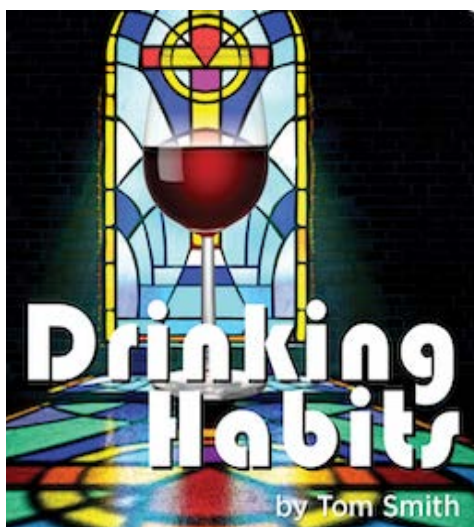
## DURHAM FIRST AID Inc.

Durham First Aid is offering us the following workshops which need a minimum of 8 participants to run. Dates are to be confirmed but will likely be late April or early May:

First Aid Basics	2-3 hours	\$25+ HST per person
Emergency First Aid & CPR	8 hours	\$105+HST per person

Information about class content can be found on their website [www.durhamfirst.aid.com](http://www.durhamfirst.aid.com)

Contact Julie to reserve: [jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)



### 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.

Whitby Courthouse Theatre, 416 Centre St. South, Whitby

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

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





# SOCIALS & TOURS



**SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024 - 2:30 PM**

**Forest Brook Community Church, 60 Kearney Drive, Ajax**

Music4Life String Orchestra presents **SUNSHINE FOR THE SOUL**

a vibrant musical experience of uplifting rhythms and joyful tunes

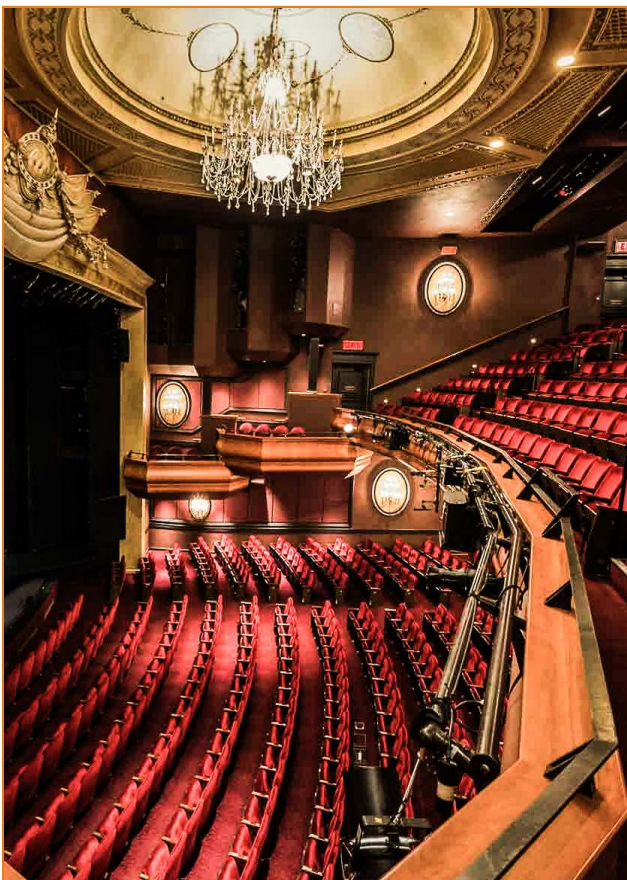
featuring special guests, the globe-trotting clarinet & accordion comedic duo: **Bridge & Wolak**



**Tickets are \$25, \$20 for seniors**

**Free refreshments follow the performance**

**RSVP: Julie [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



## FROM JUDY TO BETTE

The Stars of Old Hollywood  
starring Rebecca Perry

A look at the lives and times of Judy Garland, Lucille Ball, Bette Davis and Betty Hutton. Weaving together scandalous headlines, bestselling timeless songs, and classic comedy, award-winning Rebecca Perry will take you on a journey through the careers of these screen legends of yesteryear.

**SATURDAY, MAY 25 - 7:00 PM AT THE ST. FRANCIS CENTRE**

Tickets are \$38 but will be reduced to \$34.20 if we have a group of 10 or more.

**RSVP: Julie [jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)**



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



# SOCIALS & TOURS

**SATURDAY, JUNE 8 - 7:00 PM**

**ST. FRANCIS CENTRE  
PRESENTS  
SOS: SOUND OF STING**

**A TRIBUTE TO STING AND THE POLICE**

Born from a lifelong love affair with the music of Gordon Sumner (known as "Sting") Mike Ferfolia's SOS draws from the best of the best of Sting's catalogue.

**Tickets are \$38 but will be reduced to \$34.20  
if we have a group of 10 or more.**

**RSVP: Julie [jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)**



**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 BEAUFY, PRODUCED BY UBERTO PASOLUNGI AND DIRECTED BY PETER CATTANEO.

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

**TUESDAY, JULY 23**  
**BARNFUL OF BROADWAY**

**WESTBEN**  
**25**  
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS  
OF MUSIC IN NATURE



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.

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.

For full itinerary and more information, contact Shirlie: 905.619.8583 [shirlie@hnatravels.com](mailto:shirlie@hnatravels.com)



## VOLUNTEERS WANTED TO HELP PLAN THIS YEAR'S CAR RALLY

The Car Rally will take place in the fall.

We need a few volunteers to help  
organize this fun event.

Contact Julie if you would like to help

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

# INTEREST GROUPS

## NOT ANOTHER BOOK CLUB

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17 @ 10:00 AM**

**EVERY 3<sup>RD</sup> WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH - VIA ZOOM**

Have you ever felt tired of reading the same kind of books over and over, but don't really know what is out there? You go into the library or a bookstore and the shelves are stacked with books. There are authors and titles you have never heard of.

Our members come together to share the latest books they have read, talk about a new or favourite author and generally have fun together. You never know what direction our discussion will take you but I can assure you it will be your ideas.

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



## BOWLING FOR FUN

**MONDAY, APRIL 15 @ 1:00 PM**

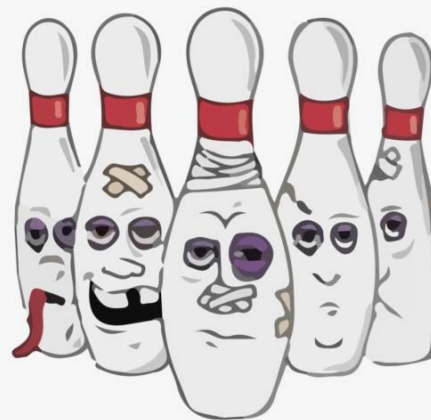
**WE MEET ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAY OF THE MONTH**

**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, APRIL 30 @ 9:00 AM**

**WE MEET ON THE LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH**

**Next get-together at:**

**ANGELIQUE'S**

31 Barr Road, Ajax

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





# INTEREST GROUPS

## BRIDGE

**EVERY THURSDAY FROM 2:30 - 4:30 PM**

*The lessons build on material from previous lessons.*

### ROTARY ROOM, AJAX LIBRARY

55 Harwood Ave. South

April 4      Social Bridge  
April 11     Overcalls and competitive bidding  
April 18     Social Bridge  
April 25     Course Review

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



## COFFEE & CONVERSATION

**TUESDAY, APRIL 9 - 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)

coffee  
AND  
FRIENDS  
MAKE THE  
perfect  
BLEND



## CRIBBAGE

**EVERY TUESDAY 1:30 - 4:00 PM**

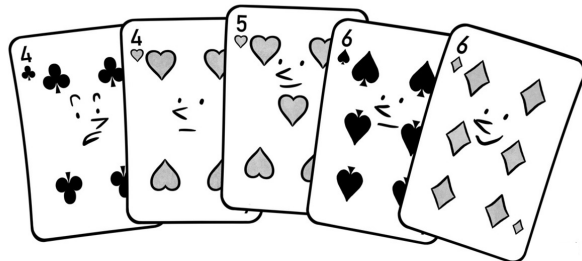
### PICKERING VILLAGE SENIOR CENTRE

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



Sure, in poker we're two small pair,  
but in cribbage ...

# INTEREST GROUPS

## DANCING AT THE EDGE

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20 - 8:30 PM**

"THE JOB OF FEET IS WALKING, BUT THEIR HOBBY IS DANCING"

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 our favourite band, THE PHILCOS

[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)



## DINING OUT

**THURSDAY, APRIL 18 - 5:30 PM**

**EVERY 3<sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY**

I will let you all know where we will be going  
at a later date.

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



## EUCHRE

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10 & 24: 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





# INTEREST GROUPS

## GARDEN GROUP

**TUESDAY, APRIL 23 - 10 - 11:30 AM**

We will get together at my home  
**52 Bolland Crescent, Ajax**  
to meet last year's participants and  
discuss plans for this year.

Let me know if you plan to come  
Sylvia [travelsylvia52@gmail.com](mailto:travelsylvia52@gmail.com)  
905 683 6219



## GOLF

**EVERY TUESDAY**

Golfers, stay tuned for details about our opening  
day. If any new golfers would like to join us at  
Hawthorne Valley on Tuesday mornings let me  
know and I will add you to the list.

Marcia [marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca](mailto:marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca)



## "GOMEQ" LUNCH GROUP

**MONDAY, APRIL 8 - NOON**

*(Grumpy Old Men Eating Out)*

**WE MEET 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 GROUP

**MONDAY, APRIL 8 - NOON**

*(Retired Old Dames Eating Out)*

**WE MEET EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> MONDAY**

Next meeting at:  
**THE SOUTHLAKE GRILL**  
955 Westney Road South, Ajax

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



## SALSA FOR BEGINNERS

**TUESDAY, APRIL 2 & 30 - 10:30-11:30 AM**

**NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE FOR APRIL**

*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)

*Me on Zoom having  
woken up 2 minutes earlier.*



## THE PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX IS NOW ON FACEBOOK



*Fun for Seniors*

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. Contact Sandra McNamara for further information [themcnamaras.sm@gmail.com](mailto:themcnamaras.sm@gmail.com)



## 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, Communications Co-ordinator, Newsletter Editor and House Committee Co-ordinator.** Some of these positions could be shared with another member.

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*

# 2025 CALENDAR PROJECT



## THE CALENDAR GIRLS STORY

The 2004 movie "Calendar Girls", starring Helen Mirren, was based on the true story of a British women's group in Yorkshire, which raised money for a local hospital by posing for a pin-up calendar. Crafting a tasteful nude calendar, the women raised more than £500,000. Since the movie, countless women's groups across the world have made their own calendars. **And now it's our turn, with a twist! We're including the guys!**

## PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX CALENDAR GIRLS & GUYS

We are delighted to announce that we will be producing our very own PG-rated **Girls & Guys Calendar** for 2025. We already have several model volunteers but we would like a few more plus some men for our special "**Movember**" page. Our very own talented photographers, **Maureen McVarish** and **Bob Wilson** will create the tasteful photographs.

To join us in this fun project as a model or volunteer to help out with brainstorming and specific tasks, such as: themes for each month; costume ideas/design/making; props, etc., please contact the Co-Chairs:

Marlene Rae [marzrae18@gmail.com](mailto:marzrae18@gmail.com) or Sharon Leung [saleung@sympatico.ca](mailto:saleung@sympatico.ca)

Our first meeting of the Calendar committee (male & female models & helpers) will be held on:

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3**

**in the HMS Ajax Room, immediately following the Open House.**



# MEMBERS' CORNER

Welcome



*Welcome to the new members who attended our March 6 General Meeting  
Pictured with president, Jean Wing (left): Oankar Kundan, June Stevens, Debbie Tompkins & Val Jordan*

## *Lakeridge Dixie Stompers*



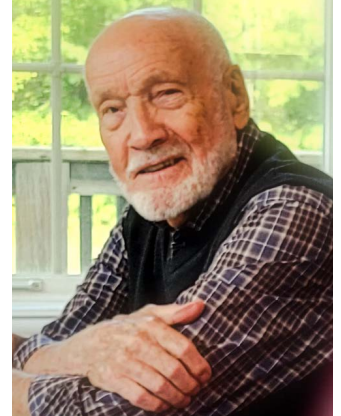
The Lakeridge Dixie Stompers play authentic happy New Orleans music featuring a gumbo of Blues, Marches, Ragtime, Hymns, Country & Western and Gospel on:

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14**  
**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), Probus Club of Ajax member*





Carl G. Mabee

## MAPLE TREE

Once, if you wandered through an eastern forest path,  
You would come upon a glade.  
Standing tall amidst it all was a regal Maple tree.  
It was old and somewhat gnarly and perhaps a little staid.  
But unlike its nursery cousins it was born free.  
This giant of a Maple has withstood the winds of time.  
700 years they say and what a tale to tell.  
It's seen the native peoples long before its prime.  
We need to hear its story so sit and rest a spell.  
It was young when Mogul hoards began to tread  
Across the eastern sands.  
Young when Magna Carta was signed and read  
And the Norse men roamed our lands.  
The native tribes would meet to trade  
Beneath this ancient tree.  
Champlain might have wandered by  
As he explored this land, a long way from the sea.  
It has seen the white man come along using the native's trail  
And in larger numbers as time went past.  
Many settlers used this path its use will now prevail.  
This Maple has watched it all, tranquility will not last.  
Horse and rider push further west and the glade will disappear,  
As the native trail gets widened so wagons can now get by.  
The local wild life removes itself, including the white tailed deer.  
And all around the maple tree is now open to the sky.  
As we leave our story of the Monarch of the glade  
Its future yet to tell.  
Hopefully, it's still standing old and somewhat staid  
And no one mourns its passing  
By the ringing of the bell.



# MEMBERS' CORNER

## MAUREEN'S CAMERA RAMBLES

### THE ENDEMIC BIRDS OF CUBA

This Ramble took me all the way to Cuba on a birding tour. There were so many things to photograph in this fascinating country that I have several Cuban Rambles in me, but for this one I have chosen "The Endemic Birds of Cuba". Over 370 bird species have been recorded in Cuba. Many are migratory and use Cuba as a pit stop following insect populations in spring and fall. However, there are 27 species which are endemic to the island. This means they spend their life on the island and are not seen anywhere else.

On my trip, I managed to photograph many of these species plus many others. In my collage of these endemic birds, I include Cuba's national bird, the Trogon bearing Cuba's national colours. The Bee hummingbird holds the record of not only being the smallest hummingbird, but the smallest known bird at a size of 2 3/8" in length and weighing in at .092 ounces. The charming little Tody is not much larger and is in the kingfisher family. Imagine! The Cuban Pygmy owls are also diminutive, around 6 inches long and just over 3 oz. There are many blackbird type birds in Cuba including the ubiquitous Cuban blackbird and two which are similar to our redwings but with paler red or white wing patches. There is also the Cuban bullfinch, which has such a lovely song but is endangered by the caged bird market as well as habitat loss. An intensive but inspiring and provocative tour.



Maureen McVarish





# MEMBERS' CORNER

ART BY ROWENA

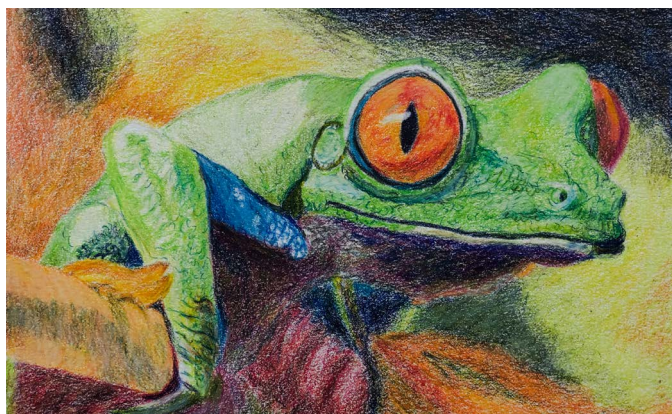


Rowena Burns

*A Visit to Mount Cook N.Z. 12" x9" Acrylic paint. I painted this during a "field trip" to New Zealand by Zoom during lockdown. We had a 360 degree view of the area, and we were able to choose the view we wanted to paint. Even though there were none visible in my view, I felt I needed to include the famous Mount Cook buttercup, which is the largest in the world.*



*Hoping for Spring  
9" x 7" Black and white charcoal*



*Hidden in the Rainforest  
9.5" x 6.5" Coloured pencil*

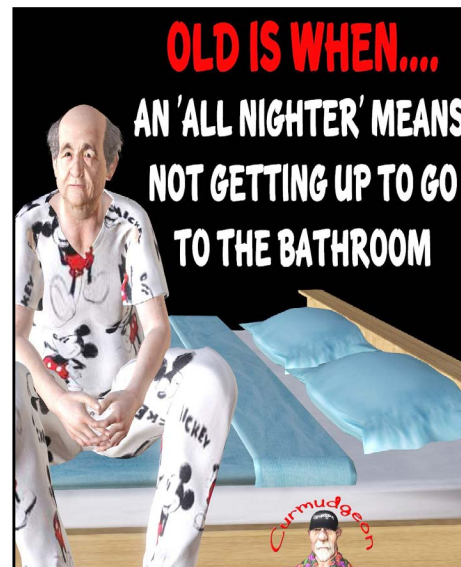
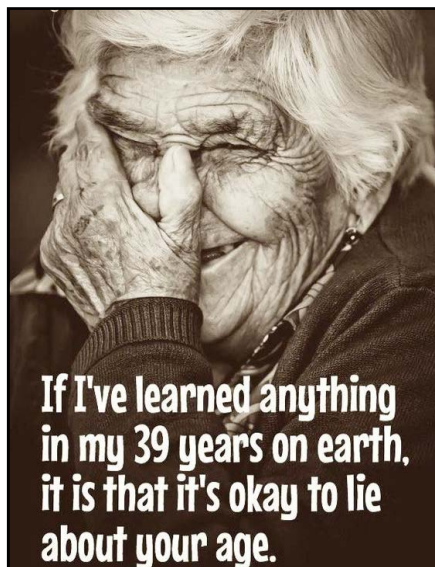


*Pensive Thoughts  
8" x 9.5" Graphite pencil*



# MEMBERS' CORNER

## SMILES & CHUCKLES



*People are always asking me, 'What do you want people to say about you 100 years from now?'  
I want them to say, 'Dang, don't she still look good for her age?' – Dolly Parton*

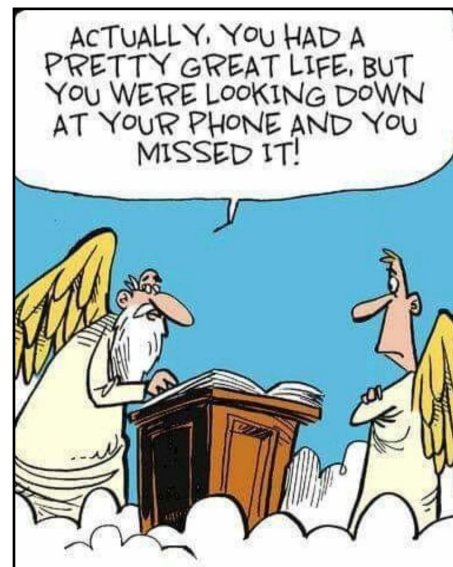
*I never think about age. I believe your age is totally how you feel. I've seen women of 35 who are old and people of 75 who are young. – Joan Collins*

*I may be a senior, but so what? I'm still hot. – Betty White*

*The older you get the better you get, unless you're a banana. – Betty White*

*Old people are just young people who have been alive for a long time. – Unknown*

*I thought growing old would take longer. – Unknown*



# MEMBERS' CORNER

## RECIPES OF THE MONTH

### SAUCES FOR MEATBALLS



*Meatballs in Teriyaki Sauce*

These sauces go well with ground lamb, turkey, chicken or beef meatballs. All sauces should be mixed well with a whisk, in the order given in the recipes, and heated on a stove to thicken but not boil. Then, add the sauce to 2-lbs cooked meatballs of your choice and heat through. Sauce ingredients may be adjusted to taste. Leftover sauce may be frozen.

#### 1. TERIYAKI SAUCE

- 1½ cups broth
- ½ - ¾ cup packed brown sugar to taste
- ½ cup soy sauce
- 1 tsp sesame oil
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 3 tbsps cornstarch

#### 2. CREAMY SAUCE

- 2 tbsp butter
- 2 tbsp flour
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1 tsp paprika
- Salt & Pepper to taste
- Remove from stove & whisk in
- ½ cup cream, greek yogurt or sour cream



*Chicken balls in Creamy Sauce*

#### 3. THAI PEANUT SAUCE

- 14 ounce coconut milk (1 can)
- 1 tbsp sesame oil
- 3 tbsp creamy peanut butter
- 1 tbsp red or yellow curry powder
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- ¼ tsp red pepper flakes
- ¼ tsp salt + ¼ tsp pepper

#### 4. ASIAN SAUCE

- ⅔ cup hoisin sauce
- ¼ cup rice vinegar
- 2 tbsps soy sauce
- 1 tbsp honey
- 1 tsp sesame oil
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp garlic minced
- 1 tsp hot sauce such as sriracha

#### 5. CRANBERRY BBQ SAUCE

- 1 bottle barbecue sauce
- 1 can cranberry-(orange) sauce
- 1 tsp mustard
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- Salt & pepper to taste



# PHOTO GALLERY

## MARCH 6 - GENERAL MEETING



Guest Speaker: Lianne Harris



Gillian Minshall



Murray & Sue Biel



Janice Lepper & Anne Reed



# PHOTO GALLERY

## MARCH 6 - GENERAL MEETING



Rowena Burns & Jean Wing



Fred Pleasants & Tony Lees



Freda Cureton & Anne MacInnis



# PHOTO GALLERY

## MARCH 6 - GENERAL MEETING





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