



PROBUS Club of Clarington

*Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of
the month, 10:00 AM, 1685
Bloor St., Courtice (Hope
Fellowship Church)*

From our President



Yikes! Would you believe it is 2023 already?

My first task is to wish you all a very **Happy PROBUS New Year**: fun, fellowship, friendship; health, prosperity, and peace. I wish you many good general meetings and successful special interest group events; new acquaintances and new friends; a chance to learn and contribute to the club's life.

They say the older you are the faster time flies. My time is flying in a supersonic mode: only 4 more General Meetings left for me and it is no secret I will celebrate my 80th birthday this year. I will have to make the best of it with your help.

My best wishes to all of you!

*Leslie Soltay,
President*

*In a society that has you counting
money, pounds, calories and steps,
be a rebel and count your blessings
instead.*

- PROBUS
MANAGEMENT TEAM**
- Leslie Soltay
President
 - Paul Halliday
Vice President
 - Jim Bamford
Past President
 - Nadia Bilyk
Membership Chair
 - Liola Limeback
Secretary
 - George Rickard
Treasurer
 - Susan Hollyman
Social Committee Chair
 - Donna Bright
Interest Group Chair
 - Nancy Muzik
Communications Chair

Speaker for January:



Researching family history is a popular pastime but can seem overwhelming when you're first getting started. Learn the basics of researching the right way to track down some of those family mysteries.

Nicole Adams is the Local History and Genealogy Librarian at the Oshawa Public Libraries and oversees the Local History Room collection housed at the McLaughlin Branch in downtown Oshawa. She has worked in public libraries for over 20 years and brings a love of history and solving puzzles to her work in helping others find links to their family and community history.

Come hear Nicole present "Introduction to Genealogy" at our January 11th meeting.

Coming up next month:

February's presentation will be an update on the Clarington Waterfront Strategy. Guest Speakers are Faye Langmaid, retired Manager of Special Projects, Municipality of Clarington and Amy Burke, Project Manager, Planning and Infrastructure Services Department, Municipality of Clarington.

News from your Social Committee:

We are pleased to share a few of the photos from the Dec. 9 Holiday lunch. See the full slide show [online](#).





Uproariously witty and vivacious emcee for the luncheon, Dawn Aitken, and husband, George



Photos by John Muzik



Editor's Note: Just look at all the joy in the faces! Thank you, Susan Hollyman, and your magical Social Committee team for all the work you put into an amazing luncheon. It was so appreciated!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lunch and Games Afternoon, Tue., January 10, 2023, 1:00 pm; Bowmanville Family Restaurant, 231 King St East (between Dollarama and Metro); \$5.20 plus cost of lunch

We will meet at the restaurant for lunch at 1:00 prior to sitting down to a variety of games. What we play will be up to those attending. Bring along your favourite board and card games and we can spend an enjoyable afternoon of fun and good-natured competition. In the past we have played Scrabble, Mexican Train, Sequence, Wizard and Euchre. Registration online at <https://probusclarington.wildapricot.org/event-5073930>.

Movie at Landmark Cinema, Wed., Jan. 25, afternoon showing of "A Man Called Otto"; time TBA; 75 Consumer's Dr., Whitby; \$13.91

We plan to go to a regular mid-afternoon showing of the above movie on a day that is usually not busy. As this

is not a private screening, we must await the announcement of the exact show time, which we will confirm by email days prior to the movie. This new release, starring long-time favourite actor Tom Hanks, is based upon the Fredrik Backman novel, *A Man Called Ove*. A grumpy widower meets his match when a lively young family move in next door, leading to an unlikely friendship. Come out and enjoy some laughs. Register online at <https://probusclarington.wildapricot.org/event-5094095>

Tour of Durham Waste Management Plant, Thurs., Feb. 23, 1-2:30 pm, Durham York Energy Centre, 1835 Energy Dr., Courtice; \$5.20

Our waste is not necessarily a consuming subject matter (pun intended!), however, given concerns about reducing our collective footprint, it is a timely one. As this is an industrial site and safety is important, visitors are reminded to wear long sleeved tops and pants as well as flat soled, sturdy shoes. Safety glasses, hard hats and industrial masks will be provided. There will be a lot of walking up and down stairs and the tour is not recommended for those with asthma or other breathing difficulties. The invitation to register will be sent out later in January.

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday, March 21, 2:00 pm; Bowling at Neb's Fun World

Thursday, April 6; Afternoon Tea at Tartan Tea Room

Your comments, suggestions and questions are always welcome. Please email me at smyholly@gmail.com.

Susan Hollyman

Special Interest Groups

Bowlers Wanted!



A few members have expressed interest in starting a casual monthly five pin bowling group. No teams or serious competition, just for fun. A coordinator and bowlers are needed. Please let me know if anyone is interested in either role. Thank you.

Donna Bright



Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Cinzano! What more could the **#1 Ladies Book Club** ask for at their 6th year Christmas celebration. AnneMarie's beautifully decorated home was our venue where we each brought a delicious finger food that went nicely with our wine. From the top: Eleanor, AnneMarie, Carla, Liola, Eddie, Nancy, Sandy and Linda. Missing – Victoria but Nelly and Suzanne were there earlier.

Edwina Johnston

Photo by Edwina Johnston

On behalf of **The Melody Makers**, Marci Grebenc presents their intrepid leader, Marg Allen, with some tokens of appreciation for all the hard work, time & dedication she gives.

Sharon Lochan



Photo by Sharon Lochan



Melody Makers bring Christmas cheer to residents of Bowmanville Creek Retirement Home on Dec. 12.



Photo by Nancy Muzik

Melody Makers: a great hit at the Dec. 14 Meeting. The speaker particularly enjoyed their medley of Beatles' tunes.

Membership:



New Members receive their badges: Pete Heavysege and Shawna Katyal
Membership stands at 219

The December Share the Wealth winner: Ginny Caro.



Winners of the "Ugly Sweater Contest": from left to right, Donna Volling, Kevin Pumphrey, Pete Heavysege and Judy Kyle with Leslie.

Photos by Pleun Dorsman

Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.

I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.

Mother Teresa

Management Team Information:

Strategic Plan Recommendations

The Strategic Plan Recommendations can be viewed on the PROBUS Club of Clarington website. I suggest members study the same and talk to or email any director should they have any questions, observations, or recommendations.

[https://probusclarington.wildapricot.org/resources/Documents/Report%20to%20Probus%20-%20Key%20findings%20and%20Suggestions%20\(1\).pdf](https://probusclarington.wildapricot.org/resources/Documents/Report%20to%20Probus%20-%20Key%20findings%20and%20Suggestions%20(1).pdf)

I would also like to thank those club members who participated in the workshops leading up to the final report. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Leslie Softay

**Photo Contest
Winners!**

President Leslie presents prizes to John Muzik, 1st Place, and Pleun Dorsman, 2nd Place for their submissions to the Photo Contest. Thank you all for your participation! Well done!



Photo by Nancy Muzik

New Year's Resolutions Anyone?

I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes five years in a row.

I decided to stop calling the bathroom "John" and renamed it the "Jim". I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.

The ability to speak several languages is an asset, but the ability to keep your mouth shut in any language is priceless.

Be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The road is paved with flat squirrels who couldn't make a decision.



Personal Musings from your Newsletter Editor

November was a bit of a challenge for me as I faced surgery which requires some recovery time and intensive physiotherapy. I am very thankful to Nancy Muzik, who wisely suggested that doing the December Newsletter might be a bit much for me to handle under the circumstances and added that responsibility to her already long list of PROBUS duties. Thank you so much Nancy!

So, with the holidays, grandkids staying over, and more family on the way for an extended visit, I have not been able to work on the Newsletter until today, January 1. I face a completely blank template as I begin.

It struck me that at this point, the New Year is rather a blank template too. What lies ahead in 2023? What joys, sadness, health, illness, challenges, adventures? I don't know. Thinking about the future can be rather daunting!

However, I came across some inspirational lines that King George VI used in his 1939 Christmas address, as the UK faced the shadow of impending war. The words resonated with me, and I share them here with you.

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'

And he replied:

'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'

(The Gate of the Year – Minnie Louise Haskins)

Wishing you a Happy New Year with the hope that you will find your guiding light in all that lies ahead and enjoy many blessings in the year to come.

Alice Chase

REMINDERS

- ❖ Next meeting: January 11, 10 am, Hope Fellowship Church, Courtice
- ❖ Bring a mug
- ❖ Bring cash for "Share the Wealth" tickets, \$1 / 1 ticket, \$2 / 3 tickets, \$5 / 8 tickets
- ❖ Send pictures and articles to chase_al@hotmail.com; deadline for February Newsletter - January 27

The following event or travel opportunity is offered for your information only and is not being sponsored by PROBUS Club of Clarington. Members should be aware they would be dealing directly with the travel company or sponsoring organization and that it may be offered to other PROBUS clubs and/or the general public.

CANXPLORE

Small Group Tours for the Young-At-Heart

NEWFOUNDLAND DISCOVERY TOUR

Tour Date: July 2 to 11, 2023

\$4795^{pp}
double
occupancy
tax incl.

Early booking bonus - \$100 off per person if booked before February 1st, 2023.

More information at www.canxplore.com

Zoom Presentation: January 10, 2023 at 7 pm

Please RSVP cathy@canxplore.com

New day trips and shorter trips coming soon!

CanXplore - 145 West Side Drive, Bowmanville, ON t. 289.275.1182
TICO #50025952 www.canxplore.com