

THE PROBUS CLUB OF UXBRIDGE - August 2026

Website: www.uxbridgeprobus.ca

E-Mail: [CONTACT US](#)



UXFORMATION

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Cheryl Bain

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President's Message

I have to confess... summer is not my favourite season. It gets too hot, we need air conditioning, and I find myself simply enduring the heat. Susan and I recently returned from the UK, and much of Europe was experiencing intense temperatures. It certainly made sightseeing more challenging.

On the other hand, winter is not much better! There is the cold, the snow, the coats, boots, hats, and gloves. It can take 20 minutes just to get out the front door, and travelling anywhere can become an adventure. So, like many people, we tend to spend more time indoors. That leaves us with about six days each of spring and fall!

Fortunately, one thing is enjoyable in every season... our Probus Club. Whether it is our monthly meetings, trips, interest groups, social activities, or simply the friendships we share, there is always something to look forward to. And, of course, there is always someone to compare notes with about the weather!

This month, we hope the sweltering heat is behind us. It is also the last month that our general meeting will be held at Udora Hall. We are very grateful that Udora Hall was available to us this summer, as it allowed our club to continue meeting while our regular location was unavailable. Please remember that parking is limited, so if you are able, consider carpooling with a friend.

One of the wonderful things about the changing seasons is that they remind us life is always moving forward. Grandchildren head back to school, vacations come to an end, new plans begin to take shape, and familiar routines return. Before we know it, another club year will be in full swing, bringing new opportunities to learn, laugh, and spend time with friends.

Enjoy the rest of your summer. I hope you have many opportunities to get outdoors, spend time with family and friends, and make the most of these beautiful days before autumn arrives.

Robin Dhillon



From Your Speakers' Chair

Last Month - Lianne Harris

Last month Lianne Harris, dressed in full costume from the Victorian era, entertained us with the dirty details of hygienic (or not) practices and beliefs from bygone days. Who would have guessed the origin of the word "testimony"? Or the phrase "Throwing the baby out with the bath water"? Good clean fun was had by all!



August 12 - Raven Murphy

Speaker, seasoned nature guide, and author of Shut Up and Listen, she invites audiences to rediscover how nature can ease stress, spark clarity, and restore perspective. With her candid heartfelt style she blends down-to-earth storytelling with informative, hands-on experiences that make her talks feel like an adventure - proving mindfulness doesn't always require gurus, yoga mats, or candles, just fresh air and an open mind.

www.ravenspeaks.ca

REMEMBER!! This meeting will be held at Udora Hall.

September 9- Mike Daley

You won't want to miss the return of Mike Daley, guitarist and singer based in Toronto! He has been a professional musician for over 35 years and a popular freelance music history lecturer. He holds a Ph.D in musicology and will sing and tell us a story of a famous musician from our days.

www.mikedaleyemusic.com

This meeting will be held at Uxbridge Community Centre.



In Memoriam - Ed Evans

Our sincere condolences go out to our member June Evans and family, on the recent passing of her husband Ed Evans. Best wishes as you go through this difficult time.

Ed's obituary can be found by clicking on the following link:

[Obituary](#)



From Your House Chair

Next Meeting: Wed. August 12 at 10:00 a.m.
Udora Community Centre



I hope you are enjoying these beautiful days of Summer.

The summer seems to fly by and we literally need to stop and "smell the roses" to enjoy every minute! Speaking of summer, our August meeting will be in Udora again. In September, we will be back to Uxbridge at our regular meeting place in the Community Centre.

The House team helping Susan Hillar and myself for August are:

Set Up: Rod Eastman, Larry Nancekivel, Jane Privett,

Kitchen: Maryann Eastman, Cathy Boone, Dianna Ayton

Greeters: Irene Hoekstra and Kathleen Ravitch



Cheryl Bain

SUMMER SPACE ISSUES AT UDORA HALL - PLEASE READ

As previously announced, our August meeting will be held at Udora Hall, as the Township uses the Arena for community programs during the summer months.

Parking at Udora Hall is limited and, in order to ensure the best possible experience for everyone attending, we are asking all members to please keep the following in mind for this meeting:

Please carpool whenever possible.

If you are able to share a ride with another member, it would be greatly appreciated. Likewise, if you have extra room in your vehicle, consider offering a ride to someone nearby. If the parking lot becomes full, street parking will be required and may involve a considerable walk to the hall.

Please do not bring or invite guests to this last Udora meeting.

Due to space limitations, we must give priority seating and parking to our members during this meeting. We understand this may disappoint some members, and we appreciate your understanding and cooperation. We regret having to introduce these temporary measures, but at this time we feel they are necessary to help ensure our meetings run smoothly and comfortably for everyone. Thank you for your understanding and support. THIS IS THE FINAL UDORA MEETING THIS SUMMER.



Robin Dhillon, President, Probus Club of Uxbridge

The Giving Place Lavender Farm



The weather was picture perfect for our visit to THE GIVING PLACE LAVENDER FARM and we were greeted by our host Leanne with a big, warm hug! It was very inspiring to hear about the beginnings of the farm and how they give back to the community with their "Giving Garden". The garden is run completely with a dedicated group of volunteers. Everything grown in The Giving Garden is donated to those in need at local shelters and food banks. They have over 3400 lavender plants of English and French varieties. We enjoyed strolling the trails to see wildflowers, a pond, and a stop to meet their rescue animals. Some of the animals they have rescued are 2 pot-bellied pigs, sheep, goats, and chickens. There are also 7 beehives, some of them rescued from locations that no longer suited them. Bella and Lilly are their rescued 'giant guardian dogs' and are on the job to keep the coyotes away!

After our tour, our host Leanne treated us to coffee, herbal teas, and a lovely spread of cookies, squares, strawberries, and chocolates. We then enjoyed browsing through all of their beautiful lavender products. Afterward we enjoyed lunch at THE TWISTED FORK in Mount Albert.

Report by Peggy Kennedy - Photos by Sharon Butchart, Peggy Kennedy & Melanie Fintelman

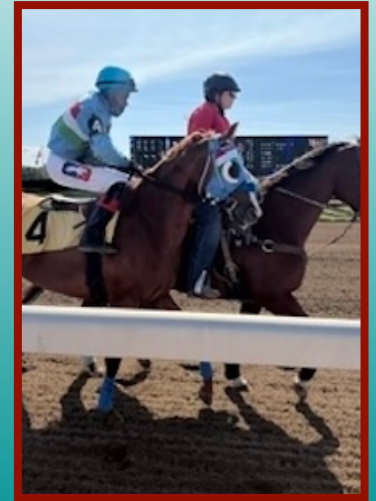
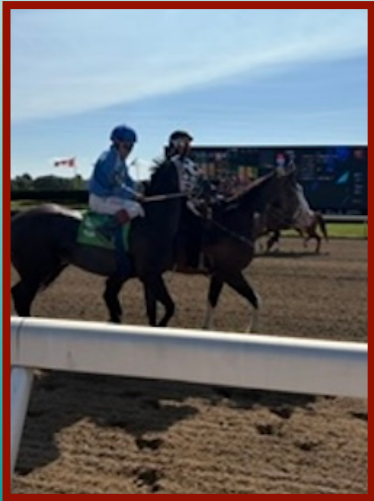


From Your Social Committee

A Day At The Races - Ajax Downs & Casino - July 29

We all enjoyed a sunny day at Ajax Downs watching live quarter horse racing and choosing our horses to place bets! It was a real treat to get a close-up look at the horses warming up in the paddock before they hit the track!

Report by Peggy Kennedy



From PROBUS Canada

Are YOU Ready For Your Close-Up?

PROBUS Canada is turning 40 years old in 2027! To celebrate, they are creating a video montage featuring PROBUS members throughout Canada and ask each chapter to submit a video clip of members sharing what they love about PROBUS.

For our Uxbridge Chapter, we will be approaching members at our August General Meeting in Udora and perhaps in the August Interest Groups and asking to share what makes PROBUS worthwhile! This will be very quick - no more than 20 seconds of your time - and anyone who submits a video clip will be entered in a draw to win a Dinner for Two voucher worth \$140! We will submit the video clips for you!

Stuck on what to say? After stating your name and your chapter, use ONE of these prompts:

- How did you first hear about PROBUS - and what made you decide to join?
- What do you look forward to most - Interest Group? Speaker? Social Events?
- Finish this sentence: "The best thing about PROBUS is..."
- What would you tell a friend who has never heard of PROBUS?
- What does PROBUS mean to you - in a single word or sentence?
- What is your most memorable PROBUS memory?



Upcoming Social Events

NEW!

TO SIGN UP FOR ALL SOCIAL EVENTS:

You must be a member in good standing (or guest of a member) to attend.

First, to indicate your interest, you must sign up by one of two ways:

1. In person at the Social Events Table during General Meetings, or
2. By clicking this link: [Uxbridge Probus Website](#) which will take you to the Upcoming Social Events page with directions to find the specific flyer.

Next, to confirm your spot, you must pay either:

1. By e-transfer to treasurer.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com
2. By cheque payable to "Probus Club of Uxbridge" at a meeting or by mail to Uxbridge PROBUS c/o Don Osborne, 50 Donna Lee Trail, Stouffville, ON, L4A 1K3

NO CASH PLEASE - Cheques & E-Transfers Only!

Lake Muskoka Cruise Aboard The Wenonah II

Thurs Aug 13 - A Mary Morton Tour

Cost - \$190 (Members) \$200 (Guests)

- 9:30 Depart Walmart Parking Lot about 1/2 hr by motor coach
- 11:30 Arrive Lake Muskoka to board the Wenonah II for 2-1/2 hr Luncheon Cruise
- 2:30 Visit to Muskoka Discovery Centre
- 4:30 Shop and Eat at the Mariposa Market
- 7:00 Back in Uxbridge



Last Chance To Sign Up!

For further information or to sign up, click on this link: [Social Group Chair](#)



**Friday Aug 21
7PM**

**Theatre on the
River
at**

**Scugog Shores
Museum**

**16210 Island Rd.
Port Perry**

Last Chance To Sign Up!

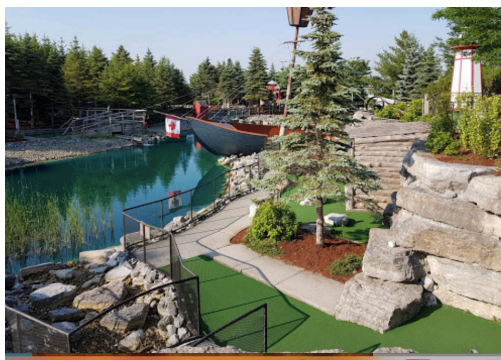
*** This is a self-drive event.**

Cost - \$39 (per ticket)

**Charcuterie Boards are NO
LONGER available.**

**For further information or
To sign up, click on this link:**

[Social Group Chair](#)



Thurs., Sept. 10 at 1:30 pm (Drive Yourself Event)

TIMBERCREEK MINI-GOLF

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY - COME FOR FUN

TIMBERCREEK GOLF & FAMILY FUN CENTRE

12772 NINTH LINE, STOUFFVILLE

COST: \$14 per person

Stay after the game for Kawartha ice cream

New sign-up directions in Gold Box.

For further information, click on this link: [Social Event Flyers](#)

Kingston Pen and the S. S. Keewatin

Tues. Sept. 22 - A Mary Morton Tour Cost - \$200 (Members) \$210 (Guests)

- 8:30 Depart Walmart Parking Lot aboard luxury motor coach
- 11:00 Plated lunch in Kingston
- 1:45 Visit the Kingston Penitentiary
- 3:00 Tour of S. S. Keewatin
- 7:30 Back in Uxbridge after a stop at the Big Apple for baked goods

Use New Sign-Up Method!



New sign-up directions in Gold Box above.

For further information, click on this link: [Social Event Flyers](#)

Are We There Yet? Adventure

Friday, October 23 - Meet at Uxbridge Arena at 2:00

Entry Fee - Only \$5.00

Meet in the arena parking lot and finish at Shobbrook Gardens Retirement Residence. Why not stay for an optional dinner at a local eatery (at your own expense)? Meanwhile, get together a group of 3-5 people per car and think about costumes and decorations!



New sign-up directions in Gold Box above.

For further information, click on this link:

[Social Event Flyers](#)

St. Jacob Market Trip -Thursday, November 5

A Mary Morton Bus Adventure

Cost — \$97 (Members) \$102 (Guests)



Travel to St. Jacobs by luxury coach to enjoy a day immersed in the traditions of the Old Order Mennonite community. Shop at the market all day, or take some time to explore the town as well. You'll find ready-to-eat delights, ideas for Christmas gifts and plenty of baking, jams, and home decor.

New sign-up directions in Gold Box above.

For further information, click on this link: [Social Event Flyers](#)

Current Interest Groups

TO SIGN UP FOR ALL INTEREST GROUPS:

1. **Visit us in person** at the **Interest Groups Table** during General Meetings
-or-

2. **Email** by clicking on this link: [Interest Group Chair](#)

Typically, there is no charge to join an Interest Group (although some groups may have a minimal fee to pay for the use of the venue).

You must be a member in good standing of Uxbridge PROBUS to join an Interest Group.

If you have an idea for a new group or want to join one of the existing groups, please contact us!



AGE GETS BETTER WITH WINE: Coordinator Anne Gauvreau

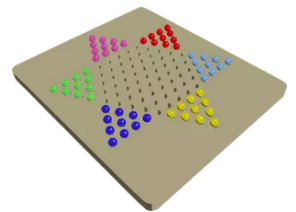
Our July gathering was small but lively with a Canadian theme. We met in the Heroux garden.

This group meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00.

BOARD GAMES: Coordinator Wayne Louie ***NEW***

Probus board games activity group has been paused until September, and will resume only if there is real interest at that time.

This group usually meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 1:00.



BOOK BUDDIES: Coordinator Gerri Martin

Book Buddies is on summer hiatus, and will resume in September.

This group meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 1:30.

CANASTA CREW - GAMES & LESSONS: Coordinator Amber D'Aguiar

The Canasta Crew has been playing Canasta for a few years now, and we've decided to put a twist on the game. We are still playing Canasta, but it's called Hand & Foot Canasta, which is just a variation on the original. It's more collaborative and just as challenging. We play next on Aug.13, and lessons are held from 1:00-2:00 for new players and/or for those who need practice. We continue to play from 2:00-4:00. This new variation is easy to pick up.

All are welcome - new or seasoned players.

This group meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

COURT JESTERS (PICKLEBALL): Coordinators Alan James & Bill McMahon

This month our featured photo shows the whole group at the Court Jesters Annual BBQ.



CREATIVE WRITING & MEMOIRS: Coordinator Kathy Clulow

Our Creative Writing and Memoir group is busy making memories until we resume again in September. Our first prompt just may be "think of one experience over the summer, how did it make you feel?" Come and join us.

This group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday at 2pm.

GENIAL GENEALOGISTS: Coordinator Bernie Beales

Another small turn out but we viewed all the features available for free on Tribal Pages!

This program is excellent for beginners who have lots of family photos and paper records and want to share on-line so other family members can access them too! Join us for our next meeting on Aug. 20 as we continue to share our genealogical joys and frustrations. This group usually meets on the third Thursday of each month from 1:30-3:30.

GRAPE MINDS THINK ALIKE: Coordinators Melissa Harding & Caren Narvet

Grape Minds Think Alike was on summer hiatus but our fun-loving group decided that was too long to miss our monthly evenings! We'll be getting together for a cottage weekend in August to enjoy more lively discussions, camaraderie, and delicious food. There may be a little wine involved! We will resume our regular schedule next month. New members are welcome.

This group meets on the third Wednesday of the month.

KITCHEN BRIDGE: Coordinator Anne-Marie Sacco

Kitchen Bridge will not be offered during the summer months. See you in September.

KNIT OR NOT HANDICRAFTERS: Coordinators Irene Hoekstra & Judy Armstrong

Many thanks and a warm welcome from all our crafters to Irene and Judy for stepping into the role of Co-Coordinators! We're excited to see what comes next!

This group usually meets at 1pm on every first and third Wednesday of the month.

LADIES' BRIDGE CLUB: Coordinators: Margaret Langlands & Caren Narvet

Our group is taking a break for the summer and will resume in September.

This group meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00.

LET'S EAT OUT: Coordinators Gail & Chuck Heroux

On hiatus for August so that Gail and Chuck can settle into their new digs. This group meets on the third Tuesday or Thursday of the month.

LIGHTS, SNACKS, ACTION!: Coordinators Amber D'Aguiar & Mary Freedman

Get the popcorn ready! The movie group Lights, Snacks, Action! has new leaders and is returning soon.

New members are always welcome to join the fun.

LIT HAPPENS: Coordinator Jen Thorson



Weather threatened to rain out our annual pool party, but a last-minute change saw this great group sharing yummy food outdoors and chatting about summer reads (not many were "fluffy"!) September's book is still a surprise.

This group meets at 1:00 on the fourth Thursday of the month.



LOCAL EXPLORERS: Coordinator Susan Hillar

August's adventure will involve a visit to Port Perry to experience outdoor theatre, and perhaps some accompanying local food. members of this group will be advised of date and time.

MAHJONG: Coordinators Mary Freedman & Amber D'Aguiar

"Mahjong" was claimed by many last month. Join us on the first Tuesday of the month to play this interesting and challenging game.

This group usually meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:30.



MONDAY LUNCH BUNCH: Coordinators Betty Bignell & Joy Freemantle

Just a few members were able to attend lunch at Boondocks Eatery in July. As usual those attending enjoyed the good food and chatting together. The group will meet next on August 31.

This group meets on the last Monday of each month.

REDUCING MY FOOTPRINT: Coordinator Brian Keeling

Join us for always lively and informed conversation on how WE can make a difference to the health of our planet. We cover a huge range of topics, and never leave a meeting without having learned something new.

This group meets on the third Wed. of the month at 10:00.

ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out): Coordinator John Willcock

This men's group meets to solve the problems of the world over lunch. Many topics are discussed but we still have not solved the world's problems.

This group usually meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at noon.

SMALL TOWN THEATRE: Coordinators Steve Fryzuk & Peggy Kennedy



On July 5, we attended a matinee performance of A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE at The Scarborough Village Theatre. We all enjoyed a delicious lunch and lots of great conversation at THE OLDE STONE COTTAGE PUB before heading to the theatre.

Small Town Theatre members attend matinee performances on the weekend at theatres in the

Durham and York Regions. We are

currently busy planning our exciting fall season and will have plenty of great plays to let you know about very soon! Stay tuned!



TAKE A HIKE: *NEW COORDINATOR NEEDED*

The Hiking Group is on summer break for July and August. After 8 years, Carol and John are stepping down as Coordinators. Anyone interested in coordinating in September is encouraged to contact Jen Thorson at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com. If you would like more information regarding how the Hiking group has functioned in the past, she will connect you with us in order to answer any of your questions.

The Hiking Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9:30.

TOO PAR GONE (GOLF): Coordinator Albert Fintelman



Too Par Gone Golf has played every Monday morning in July. We played on July 6 at Golfer's Dream GC, on July 13 & 27 at Spring Creek GC, and on July 20 at Crestwood GC.

We've had 16 - 20 golfers out every week. Mondays have been sunny this month!



TWO RIGHT FEET (LATIN DANCING): Coordinator Anne-Marie Sacco

Two Right Feet Latin Dancing will continue to meet during the summer if there are at least 5 people able to attend. This group is held each Monday from 3:00 to 4:00.

There is a fee of \$15.00.

W.A.L.K.S. (WE ALL LIKE KINETIC STROLLING): Coordinator Nancy Melcher

WALKS will continue to start our summer weeks off every Monday morning with a bit of exercise and fellowship. Locations TBA.

This group meets every Monday at 9:30.



ONTARIO'S GIANT ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

Where would
you find this
**GIANT
SPIDER?**

The building in
the
background is
a clue.

If you guessed
National
Gallery in
Ottawa, you're
right!! Have
you visited the
gallery? Did
you see the
spider outside?



Summertime Funnies

I had a great childhood. My Dad would put me in a tire & roll me down the hill all summer. Those were the Goodyears.

Gas prices are so high that I went to a dealership & test-drove 3 cars to run my errands. Follow me for money-saving tips.

Why didn't the bike stand up by itself?
Because it was two-tired.

The trouble with bucket seats is that not everyone has the same size bucket.

A vulture carrying two dead raccoons tried to board an airplane. The flight attendant looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, you'll need to leave one of these behind, or check it, because only one carrion is allowed per passenger."

How did doctors decide that exercise prolongs life? Rabbits jump around all the time and live around 2 years. Turtles move very slowly, don't really "exercise" at all, and live over 200 years. So just rest, chill, eat, drink, and enjoy life!

I started jogging today. I didn't want to but the Ice Cream Truck wouldn't stop.

Got up early and ran around the block 5 times. Then I put it back in the toy box.

I tried to organize a hide-and-seek game at the picnic. It was a total and complete failure. Good players are hard to find.

I just learned that if you're in a canoe and it flips over in the water you can safely wear it on your head, because it's capsized.

Did you know that growing your own tomatoes is the best way to devote four months of your life to save a total of \$2.17?

It's so hot I've taken off all my clothes and opened the window. I feel much better but the people on the bus don't seem very happy about it.

I read that taking your bike to work everyday is good for the environment. So I thought, "Oh well, why not? I'm not using the roof rack for anything else."

I had a nightmare last night. My mechanic was chasing me at attacking me with car parts that change gears. Luckily I escaped his clutches.

My New Year's resolution was to eat more locally grown produce. But my neighbours put barbed wire around their vegetable patch. So much for that plan.

I see people my age, running, zip lining and waterskiing. I'm feeling good about myself because I got my leg through my underwear without losing my balance.