

THE PROBUS CLUB OF UXBRIDGE - September 2025

Website: www.uxbridgeprobus.ca

E-Mail: [CONTACT US](#)



UXFORMATION

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Sally Kotsopoulos
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Albert Fintleman
Susan Hiller
Amber D'Aguiar

Site Administrator
Paul Hayward

President's Message:

As September arrives, it feels a little like the start of a new year - not the calendar year, but that time when summer winds down, schools reopen, and routines fall back into place. Of course, for us as seniors, life is a little different. We don't always follow the same schedule as before, and we enjoy the freedom to travel and relax year-round. That's one reason why our club doesn't take a break in the summer. Every month has something special to offer!



Over the summer, we weren't able to meet in our usual space at the arena. While Sandford Hall didn't work out for August, we were lucky to book Udora Hall, and we had a wonderful time there. This month, we're happy to be back at the arena, and, with any luck, we'll be there every month (except December) until next summer.



We've enjoyed some amazing guest speakers this year, and September will be no exception. Our guest, Deidrey Francis, is a talented singer and entertainer. I know she will inspire and delight us. Be sure to look at all the upcoming speakers, interest groups, and social activities so you can make the most of your Probus experience.

Robin Dhillon

From Your Speakers' Chair

Last month our speaker was **Dr, Sharon Lauricella**, talking about Artificial Intelligence. She introduced us to generative AI, explaining why we need to know about it, and how it is being used in so many applications in our everyday lives, even though we may not realize it. She had us “play along” on our phones, sending instant input to her screen presentation. Sharon gave us some great ideas on how we can take advantage of this up-and-coming technology today.



Sept 10 - Deidrey Francois (Singer & Entertainer) “What’s In A Name?”

This meeting will be back at the Uxbridge Community Centre.



A dynamic professional singer-songwriter, entertainer, and true “joy bringer”, Deidrey is known for her soulful voice and captivating stage presence. She loves performing for senior groups, with music from our era - powerful blues, rhythmic rock and joyful jazz. Her presentation about “what is hidden inside a name”, promises to be humorous and inspirational with musical highlights. Don’t miss the chance to experience her infectious energy and heartfelt

Oct 8 - Craig Greenwood “Polar Bears”

A former seasoned wildlife biologist and over 30 years with Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources, Craig travelled across the province and helped research the Polar Bears of Southern Hudson Bay in Ontario. His presentation will tell a story through pictures about these amazing white bears, their biology, history and current status.



From Your House Chair

Next Meeting: Wed. Sept. 10 @10:00 a.m. Uxbridge Community Centre

Brisk mornings seem to say that fall is on its way. The House Committee welcomes Cheryl Bain to chair and be the manager in charge while I am out getting my new bionic knee. Have a wonderful meeting!

This month's House Team is as follows:

Set up (Arrive by 9:00) – John Wilcock, John Wilson, April Gilkinson

Kitchen (Arrive just after 9:00) - Sherrill Burns, Lorraine Wilcock, Paula Donahoe, Jan Wilson

Greeter (Arrive by 9:30) – Sharon and Don Osborne

So thankful for these helping hands!!

Cheryl Bain & Sally Kotsopoulos



Nancy Melcher is at Uxbridge Countryside Preserve.
1d · Uxbridge · 🌍
Great WALKS outing today.



Facebook Post of the Month

The Uxbridge PROBUS Club for Members Only Facebook group now has 149 members!

By joining, you will know more about some of the interest groups, what they are up to and maybe even get inspired to join. You can find us by searching for PROBUS Club of Uxbridge.

Post of the month is by Nancy Melcher.



From Your Social Committee

Theatre on the Ridge - Fri. Aug. 22

"Any idiot can face a crisis; it's this day-to-day living that wears you out".

The above is a quote from one of Anton Chekhov's plays. I'm not sure which one and it doesn't really matter. Andy Massingham took the first part and created a hilarious parody of Chekhov that was presented this summer at Theatre on the Ridge, on Scugog Island.

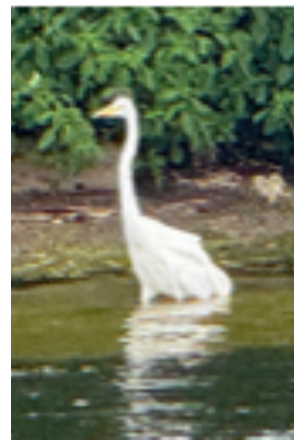
Any Idiot is a series of vignettes using, I expect, characters from Chekhov plays in modern settings to show us how crises can devolve into chaos but still teach us about life.

The performances and the writing were excellent and the twenty-six Probus Uxbridge members had a most entertaining evening. This theatre troupe is first-rate — very talented and charming, and we are already looking forward to next summer's offerings.

Report by Chuck Heroux



Toronto Harbour Cruise - Wed. Aug. 20



Aug 20 saw about 65 of us board the schooner CHALLENGE in Toronto Harbour and set off on an adventure. There were indeed some challenges – navigating ladders to get to the head (that's the bathroom!!) and bar and lunch BUT, all in all, the camaraderie and scenery were terrific. The sails could not be up because with 65 seniors on board, a swinging boom is NOT recommended and it was quite breezy at times! We explored the main harbour and the islands, saw kite surfers, a great egret, a French cruise ship (VERY expensive to travel on!!) and, all in all, we met the CHALLENGE!

Report by Annie Belanger



TO SIGN UP FOR ALL SOCIAL EVENTS:

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

First - you must sign up to reserve your spot by one of three ways:

- 1. In person** at the Social Events Table during General Meetings,
- 2. By e-mail** by clicking on this link: **[Social Group Chair](#)**
- 3. By telephone** to Social Chair Peggy Kennedy (905)852-0373 or Vice-Chair Gail Heroux (905)852-9927.

Next - 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**
- 3. By cheque through the mail to:**

Uxbridge PROBUS c/o Gail Heroux, 72 Munro Cres., Uxbridge ON L9P 1L8.

NO CASH PLEASE - Cheques & E-Transfers Only!

To view complete details of events, click on this link: **[SOCIAL EVENT FLYERS](#)**

Upcoming Social Events

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 11:00-4:00 (Lunch 1:00 p.m.)

Summer Finale Barbecue

Cullen Central Park, 4015 Cochrane St., Whitby

Mary Evans Catering

Pulled pork or chicken on a bun, selection of salads, desserts & drink

Lots of Activities & Games Available

Cost: \$45 for members & \$50 for guests - See separate flyer for all the details!



Friday, October 3

Model A Acres

7090 Middle Road, Bowmanville
A Drive Yourself Event - Only \$20!



Guided Tour starts at 2:00 p.m. (Outdoor display of vintage aircraft, automobiles and trains)

Optional : Lunch before tour at Haugen's, Visits to Tyrone Mills and Archibald Estate Winery & Orchard

Markham Concert Band Performs

Music of the 40's

Canadian Band Association Spectacular!

SUN. OCT. 19 - 2:00 PM

Purchase your own concert ticket online or by phone using the
PROMO Code "Probus". Sign up to join us for dinner
at the Boxgrove Mandarin Restaurant after the concert.

See separate flyer for more details.

Sign up directions in Gold Box above.



WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22

NIAGARA WINE TOUR

A Full Day Excursion with Mary Morton Tours

- Visit Konzelmann Estates on the lake for wine tastings and snack.
- Lunch at Prince of Wales, then time to stroll around the beautiful Niagara-on-the-Lake
- 4 wine tastings at Konzelmann Estates Winery
- Visit Charmes Winery to enjoy 4 wine tastings

Cost: \$178 (member), \$188 (guest) See flyer for more details



SOLD OUT! WAIT LIST AVAILABLE



Vs The Erie Otters

OSHAWA GENERALS HOCKEY

at The Tribute Communities Centre

99 Athol St., Oshawa

SUN NOV 16 - Game Time 2:00 PM

TICKETS - \$40

**Reserved seats in Medallion Lounge
for our group. Pizza included!
THIS IS A DRIVE YOURSELF EVENT -
Carpooling can be arranged.
See separate flyer for more details.**



Wed. Nov. 19 - 3:00-5:00

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Only \$5 per person!

**Shobrook Gardens Gathering Place (Main Floor)
1 Elgin Park Drive**

A wonderful opportunity to meet other members
and reconnect with good friends.

**Everyone welcome but special invitation is
extended to our newer members!**

Sign up directions in Gold Box above



Back by Popular Demand! The 12 Days of Wine-Mas WINE SURVIVOR



- Each 750 mL bottle equals one chance to win
- Names drawn daily for elimination starting Nov. 28
- 4 names remaining will be drawn live on Dec. 10 for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th prizes
- All entrants eliminated will be eligible for consolation prize drawn on Dec 10

Final day to sign up is Nov 12; Final drop off date is Nov 22

See all details in accompanying flyer



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 10
New Venue: MILL RUN Golf Club
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH & GALA
Our most popular event!
Fantastic Raffle, Door Prizes, Entertainment,
Special Table Centrepieces!

Cost - Members \$75; Guests \$80
Come for a delicious plated turkey dinner
New Entertainment by Tom Kovacs
Doors open early to peruse raffle prizes!
Reserved seating at tables of 8-10



Coming Attractions

Dec. 7: Markham Concert Band

Seasonal celebration at Flato Theatre
and optional dinner at Mandarin

Jan. 15: Glow in the Dark Mini Golf

Glowtown Stouffville
Lunch at Chuck's Roadhouse (at your
own expense)

Mar. 17: Shamrock Shenanigans

St Patrick's Day Party at the Uxbridge
Legion with dinner, musical
entertainment by Vintage Soul and
trivia!

Also in the Works:

- Winter Warfare at Oshawa Tank Museum,
- Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival,
- Markham Concert Band "It's All About That Jazz"

Sept 7 Is National Grandparents Day

Boy (Aged 4): Daddy, I've decided to get married.

Dad: Wonderful! Do you have anyone in mind?

Boy: Yes! I'm going to marry Grandma! I love her and she says she loves me. She's the best cook and best storyteller in the whole world!

Dad: That's very nice, but there is a small problem here.

Boy: What problem?

Dad: She happens to be my mother! How can you marry my mother?

Boy: Why not? You married mine!



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: Coordinators Anne Gauvreau & Sherrill Burns

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, Sept. 10, and the theme is "Celebrating Local Canadian Wine" (EXCEPT Niagara wine). The evening will be hosted by Sharon, one of our extraordinary members. As usual, a good time will be had by all! Canadian attire is welcome! Get out your red!. This group meets on the second Wed of the month at 7:00.

BOOK BUDDIES: Coordinators Gerri Martin

It will be wonderful gathering together again to share the love of books with our "Buddies". It is exciting to have our new members joining us as well. This month we are discussing the story of one of our town's local heroes. Jennifer Wilson's Grant Us Tomorrow is our selection for September. As her work continues, she has represented our community as one with a generous heart and we couldn't be more proud of all she and her team have accomplished. It will be a very uplifting discussion, we have no doubt.

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

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

Canasta is a fun and challenging card game played in groups of four. We will be playing next on Sept 11 in the afternoon. Lessons are held from 1:00-2:00 for new players and for those who need practice, and then we continue to play from 2:00-4:00. All are welcome and see you there! This group meets on the second Thursday of each month.

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

Well the season may be counting down but not the enthusiasm of the Court Jesters. Looking forward to a good September. This group usually meets Tuesday and Friday mornings at 10:00.

EUCHRE: Coordinators Gail Prentice and Lynn Moore

Euchre will resume on Sept 2. This group meets at 10:00 on the first Tuesday of the month.



GARDENING GURUS: Coordinator Sally Kotsopoulos



As our intrepid leader "Sallies" forth into knee surgery, the Gurus are still planning this month's adventure. There are irons in the fire, and more info will follow for members. This group meets on the first Thurs each month.



GENIAL GENEALOGISTS: Coordinator Bernie Beales

The Genial Genealogists have been on hiatus for July and August but hopefully are all eager to start raking up those leaves on their family trees! We usually meet on the third Thursday of the month but to avoid conflicting with the Probus End of Summer BBQ, we will be meeting this month on Thurs. Sept. 11 from 1:30-3:30. See you then! This group usually meets on the third Thursday of each month from 1:30-3:30.

HANDICRAFTS: Wanda Laing

It was fun meeting some of the Handicraft Group at the last Probus meeting. I look forward to leading you forward. A permanent gathering place has not been sourced yet, so I'm thinking my cozy house will do for now. There will be coffee, tea, yummys and lots of crafty surprises. I am sure we have room for more ladies (or gentlemen) to sign up for this exciting, creative and inclusive Interest Group. This group meets from 1-3 pm on the second Wednesday of the month.

KITCHEN BRIDGE: Coordinator Anne-Marie Sacco

We return on the September 4. This is a friendly social game played with both men and women. Kitchen Bridge meets the first Thursday of each month at 1:00.

LADIES' BRIDGE CLUB: Coordinator: Caren Narvet

Ladies Bridge meets at the homes of several of the members. The number of tables will vary depending on the month. Currently, if anyone would like to meet the ladies in this very sociable group, we would be happy to have a list of potential players who could fill in when needed, with the possibility of joining as a regular player in the future. We are on hiatus for the summer. This group meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00.

LAUGHING MATTERS: Coordinators Amber D'Aguiar & April Gilkinson

Improv is all about thinking on your feet and stepping out of your comfort zone. We are good to go for September 15 with full attendance! This group meets on the third Monday of each month from 1:30 - 3:00.

LET'S EAT OUT: Coordinators Gail & Chuck Heroux

This month, fifteen of us dined at The Greek Tycoon in Whitby. Food and service were exceptional, and I expect many of us will return. Our September destination and date are still undecided. Our regular date coincides with our picnic, so we need to adjust things. Stay tuned! This group meets on the third Tues. or Thurs. of the month.

LIT HAPPENS: Coordinator: Jen Thorson

Summer reading is special reading- self-directed, often light and fun, a chance to catch up on the pile of books by the bed (or by the pool). September will see us reconvene formally to discuss a Kate Quinn selection, *The Briar Club*. Very much looking forward to this, as Kate is a favourite of many group members. This group meets at 1:00 on the fourth Thursday of the month.



LOCAL EXPLORERS: Coordinator: Susan Hillar

In August, we enjoyed a visit to Vive Lavender. Plans are being made for an autumn-themed outing so stay tuned!

MONDAY LUNCH BUNCH: Coordinators: Betty Bignell & Joy Freemantle

In August, the Lunch Bunch met at the Hyland Restaurant in Port Perry to enjoy dining and great conversation! Our next get together will be Sept 29. The group meets on the last Monday of each month.



MOVIE NIGHT: Coordinators Amber D'Aguiar and Mary Freedman *NEW*

With fall just around the corner, we're rolling out the red carpet for our very first Probus Uxbridge Movie Club outing in October! Haven't signed up yet? No worries—there's still time to snag your spot. Stay tuned for all the details (coming soon to a theatre near you)!



REDUCING MY FOOTPRINT: Coordinator: Brian Keeling

Join us for always-lively conversation. Watch for our monthly tip(s) "What can I do - every little bit helps - to help make this a happier planet" that will appear below! This group meets at 10:00 on the third Wednesday of the month.



Monthly TIP:

Monthly Tip: Micro plastic continued - Stop buying/using plastic garden hose! Heat breaks down plastic, so each time you water, microplastics penetrate your soil, which then ultimately end up in your food.

ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) Coordinator John Willcock

The Romeos held their inaugural meeting on August 19 at Tim's where the five founding members met for coffee and conversation. We did not satisfy the "eating out" part of our mandate, nor did we solve (all) the problems of the world. As this will take much more time, we have decided to meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at 12 noon for lunch and further discussion. This group usually meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at noon.

SMALL TOWN THEATRE: Coordinators Steve Fryzuk & Peggy Kennedy

Our small town theatre committee met in late August to plan the theatre season starting in October. Members will be notified in September regarding our choice of events for the first part of the 2025-2026 season. Small Town Theatre members attend matinee performances on the weekend at theatres in the Durham and York region. We plan a lunch before the event.

TAKE A HIKE: Coordinators Carol Fraser & John Willcock

Hikes are resuming September 4 and 18. Our Goodwood/ Uxbridge area has a wonderful series of trails through a variety of forests and meadows, some quite flat, some with gentle hills. We explore these forest trails near Uxbridge in the Durham and York Regions for 1 ½ to 2 hours. Join us for lively discussions, interesting views and leisurely treks on Sept 4 and 18! The group meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 9:30.



TOO PAR GONE (GOLF): Coordinator Albert Fintelman



We've played every Monday morning in August at the following golf courses:

Golfer's Dream GC on August 4 and 11th, Spring Creek GC on August 18 and Millrun Highlands GC. on August 25. Approximately 18 members play weekly and we're scheduled to play every Monday morning in September. This group usually meets on Monday mornings.

TWO LEFT FEET (LATIN DANCING): Coordinator Anne-Marie Sacco \$15 per session

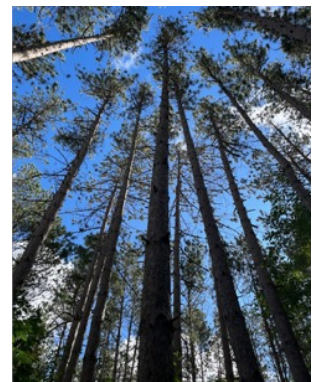
We are learning the salsa and bachata. There is a fee of \$15.00. This group will meet every Monday afternoon (except holidays) at 3:00.

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



The W.A.L.K.S. group had to skip a few summer outings when the weather was just boiling hot, but cooler temperatures have inspired more enthusiasm. Join us to walk and talk for an hour on town streets and trails. Optional post-walk snacks help us continue the conversations! Here's a recent gathering in the Countryside Preserve on a

glorious sunny day. This group usually meets Monday mornings at 9:30.



WINE GROUP (Name T.B.D.): Coordinators Melissa Harding and Carol Narvet *NEW*

This new group is looking forward to an inaugural meeting on September 17th. We embrace the opportunity to enjoy social evenings along with learning about various wines. The group plans to meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00.

Share A Smile - A Salute To Grandparents

My grandson was visiting one day and asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and said, "No, how are we alike?" He replied, "You're both really old!"

When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure". "Look in your underwear, Grampa," he advised. "Mine says I'm 4 to 6." (Wow! I really like this one - says I'm only 38.)

A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?" he asked. "I don't know," she replied, "I can't read yet."

I decided to quiz my little granddaughter on colour words. I would point to something and ask what colour it was. She was always correct so I kept the game going. At last, she headed for the door saying, "You should really try to figure out some of these colours yourself, Grandma!"



Sept 7 is Grandparents Day!

I asked my grandma if she ever gets lonely and she said, "I'm never lonely because I have four men in my life."

I get up with Charlie Horse, spend the day with Arthur Ritis, dine with Will Power and go to bed with Ben Gay."

I was bringing my grandchildren home one day when a fire truck zoomed by with a Dalmation dog in the front seat. The children started discussing the dog's role. The oldest thought he was to keep the crowds back. The middle one thought it was just for good luck. The youngest brought the argument to a close. "No," she said, "They use the dogs to find the fire hydrants!"

I was telling my granddaughter what my own childhood was like.

"We used to skate on the pond. We had a tire swing on the big tree in the front yard. We rode our pony and picked raspberries in the woods!"

Wide-eyed, my granddaughter said, "I sure wish I had gotten to know you sooner!"

As my grandson and I entered our vacation cottage one night, we kept the lights off to avoid attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in.

Noticing them before I did, my grandson whispered, "It's no use, Grampa! Now the mosquitoes are following us with flashlights!"

Share A Smile - A Salute To Grandparents

The idea that no one is perfect is a view most commonly held by people with no grandchildren.

(Doug Larson)

You do not really understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother.

(Albert Einstein)

Who needs Google when I have a Grampa? He doesn't know everything but he makes it all sound so believable!

If you think I'm being mean, it means I am doing my job as your mother. If I was nice all the time, you would call me Grandma!

Being a grandmother is wonderful. One moment you're just a mother. The next, you are all-wise and prehistoric.

(Pam Brown)

The simplest toy, one which even the youngest child can operate, is called a grandparent.

(Sam Levenson)

I had a very happy childhood. My Grampa used to put me in tires and roll me down hills. Those were Goodyears...



If I had known how wonderful it would be to have grandchildren, I'd have had them first!

(Lois Wyse)

My grandmother once said, "If you raise your children, you can spoil your grandchildren. But if you spoil your children, you'll have to raise your grandchildren."

My five year old daughter asked, "Mommy, why are some of your hairs white?" I replied with a smile, "Every time you make me sad, another hair turns white." Wide-eyed, my daughter said, "Wow, Mommy! What did you do to Grandma?"

My grandad was responsible for 25 downed German planes in WWII. Still to this very day, he is known as the worst mechanic the Luftwaffe ever had!

An hour with your grandchildren can make you feel young again. Anything longer than that and you start to age quickly!

(Gene Perret)