



Our next Probus Meeting

Is Our AGM,

February 16th, 2023

At 10:00 am,

In Person, at Meadow Gardens Golf Club.

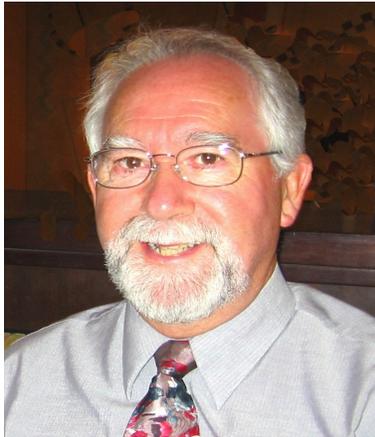
PLEASE NOTE!

**Election of our Club's Officers takes Place
at this Annual General Meeting,**



Probus Club of Maple Ridge

President's Message and Program



Sam Lewindon, President

Welcome to Our 2023 Annual General Meeting!

Probus Annual General Meeting Program

February 16, 2023

9:40	Sign-in
10:00	Welcome
10:05	Introduction of MC Team
10:20	Introduction of SIG Coordinators
10:30	Executive Reports
10:45	Election of Officers
11:15	Social Time

A very important event in our year, the **Annual General Meeting** provides an opportunity for members to hear how the various areas of our Club's operation have been performing. Reports from the Club's Executive will indicate how our club is being managed, and reports by the Special Interest Group Coordinators will provide a snapshot of the scope of activities open for member participation. The election of Officers to the Management Committee will also take place, and this is another vital aspect of the Club's operation! This, **in-person** Annual General Meeting is being held at the Meadow Gardens Golf Club, February 16th at 10am. Come and support your club and fellow members. **Please advise if you can make this meeting!**

Given that this meeting provides a good overview of our Club, why not invite a friend to attend our AGM, not only will they hear our annual reports but they will be able to see what a friendly, fun group we are. Of course they will not be able to vote, but they will get a good idea of the benefits of membership. Remember our motto: **Fellowship, Friendship and Fun**, and invite someone you feel may enjoy being a part of our Probus club.

Due to the success of our Dining Group, a second group has been created, and if you wish to receive details on this fun activity, please contact Michaela O'Doherty. The Probus Wine Club is also accepting new members to participate in our second group's Tasting Sessions, make enquiries at: probusmapleridge@gmail.com Following the Social Time of the AGM and after lunch, the Bridge Group will meet and members are welcomed to stay and participate in the fun!!

February is the month of lasting change; February is for doers. Marc Parent



Speaker's Notes:

by Marie Slessor

SPEAKER: This month's speaker was **Curtis Pendleton**, Executive Director of the ACT Arts Centre. Carla introduced her by telling us that Curtis has been leading the ACT since 2018 after a varied career in the arts, performing and teaching music as well as heading theatre programs in the US. Curtis came to us from the Vancouver School of Music where she was executive director there.

Curtis began by telling us that she was happy to see so many familiar faces and to be here to give us an overview of the ACT. The Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Arts Council was founded in 1974 and is the operator of the ACT. The ACT is governed by the Arts Council board and celebrated 50 years last year.

Curtis told us there are 4 main program streams run by the ACT:

First is the Performance Stream, these are events that take place in the theatres and are the economic driver of the ACT. There are between 35 and 50 performances a year and include theatre and live music. The performances this year, like Shirley Jackson and Billy Bishop Goes to War, are intended to be light after the dark time of Covid. Some of the music offerings include the Sunday Afternoon Chamber Music series showcasing early music, and the Listening Lounge which features folk and jazz in a cabaret-like setting with food and beverages. She invited us to attend a co-fund raiser with the Maple Ridge Hospital Foundation featuring Keith Alessi in a "joke tellin", banjo playin' heart healin' experience" on January 27th.

The **second** stream is exhibits in the Art Gallery. There are 5 to 6 exhibits per year. The exhibit presently in the Gallery is on collage and titled Connotations in Collage. There are always a series of artist talks connected to each exhibit. There is also a new docent program, training volunteers to be able to conduct knowledgeable tours of each exhibit.

The **third** stream is Learning Programs. The Act offers classes for people aged from 3 to seniors. There is an active ceramic studio as well as classes on music, theatre, painting, dance, theatre etc. Curtis told us about one popular event called the Art Bar where you are invited to come and create something beautiful while consuming a glass of wine. This is so popular it now occurs twice a month.

The **fourth** stream involves the community. The ACT partners with the City of Maple Ridge for events such as Canada Day and Culture Days.

The ACT also supports students by offering scholarships for high school graduates. They also support other charitable organizations by offering grants to groups that deliver art to the public, such as the Art Studio Tour and the Maple Ridge Choral Society.

Funds come from 3 levels of government, with about one-third from the City of Maple Ridge and the rest from the BC Arts Council and the Province of BC, as well as Heritage Canada. Funds also come from private fund raising.

Curtis told us that all the arts have been through a difficult time in the last few years and that audiences have not fully recovered since before Covid. The ACT is now back to full program offerings and doing aggressive digital advertising to increase audiences. She ended by telling us she feels privileged to be "steering the ship" and invited us all to come and partake of the many programs offered by the ACT as well as to come and volunteer.

A question was asked about the large theatre and stage and whether it was too big or not. Curtis said that it is well used, and although not all shows will sell out, there are many that do. A question was asked about the cost of renting the ACT and the idea that it was too expensive. Curtis responded by saying that she felt their rates were in line with other professional theatres and that there was a sliding scale for community groups. The ACT also helped in the planning of the new Albion Community Centre which has a stage with sound and lighting and is a great alternative to rent.

Kathleen thanked Curtis for an excellent presentation and said she enjoys exploring all 4 program streams as well as the excellent gift shop which features items from local artists.

A Family Story

by Skip Johnson

About ten years ago, my elder daughter went on a cruise on a large sailboat up the BC coast to the various inlets and the Great Bear Rain Forest. The boat had only a dozen paying passengers, so during the week-long voyage, they got to know each other quite well. The cook was a woman of middle age named Debra and my daughter and she became good friends, maintaining this relationship after the cruise was finished, and are still friends to this day.

Debra was visiting some friends at Gibsons, BC some time later, and went for a walk along the beach. At one of the beachfront cottages, she spotted a man who looked very much like her uncle Hal, whom she had not seen for many years. Upon talking to him, she discovered that he was actually Ken, son of Hal, thus making them first cousins to each other!

Ken is my brother, Debra is my first cousin also. So, she and my daughter are also related and had no idea that was the case while being just “friends”. Sometimes, this world is much smaller than we think!

A Little Poem

**Another year has passed and we're all a little older.
Last summer felt hotter and winter seems much colder.**

**There was a time not long ago when life was quite a blast.
Now I fully understand about 'Living in the Past'**

**We used to go to weddings, football games and lunches.
Now we go to funeral homes and after-funeral brunches.**

**We used to have hangovers, from parties that were gay.
Now we suffer body aches and wile the night away.**

**We used to go out dining, and couldn't get our fill.
Now we ask for doggie bags, come home and take a pill.**

**We used to often travel to places near and far.
Now we get sore asses from riding in the car.**

**We used to go to nightclubs and drink a little booze.
Now we stay home at night and watch the evening news.**

**That, my friend is how life is, and now my tale is told.
So, enjoy each day and live it up...
before you're too damned old!**

Author unknown

Through the Lens

Curated by Rick O'Doherty

Sunrise, Sunset



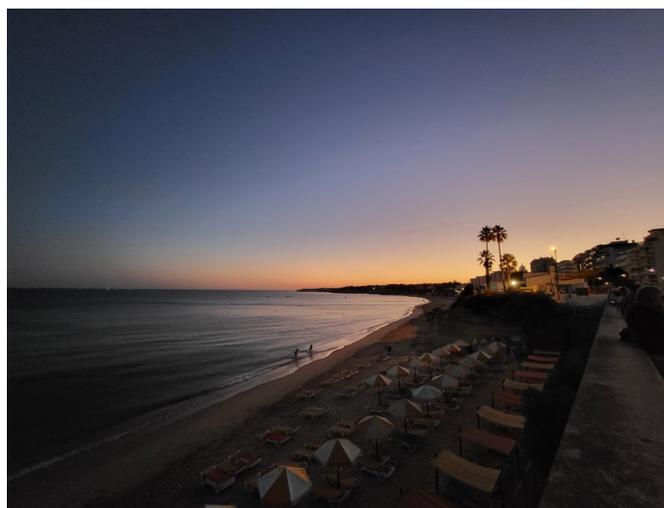
Autumn Sunrise *by Sam*



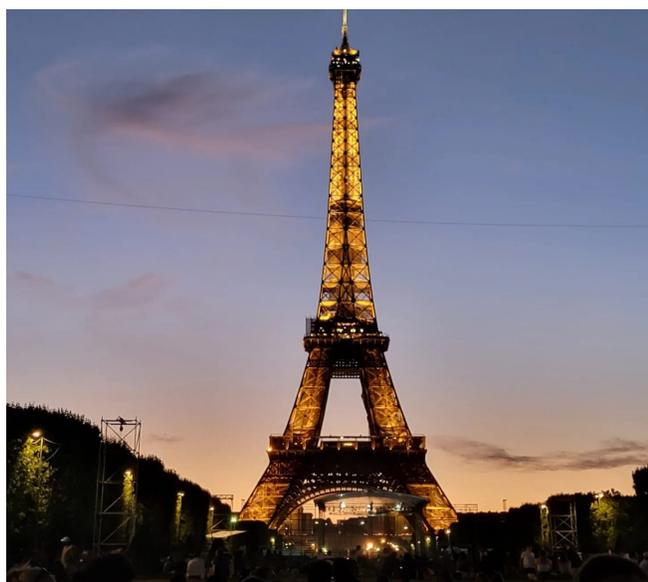
Winter Sunrise *by Sam*



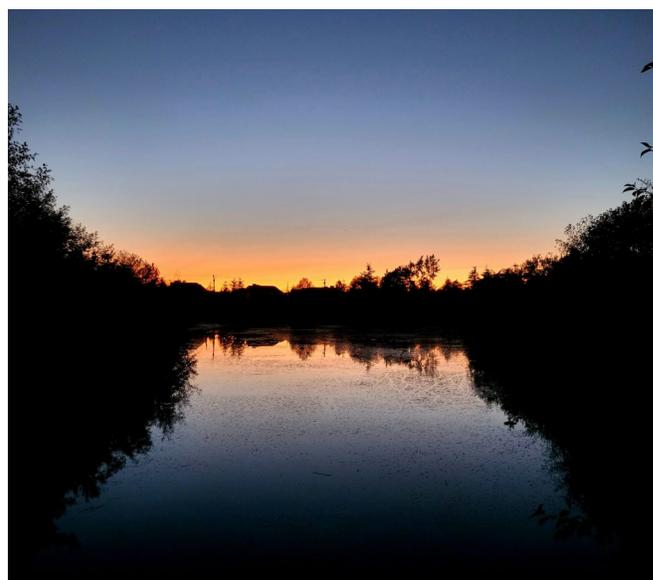
Sunrise at Harrison Mills *by Michaela*



The Algarve *by Michaela*



Guess where this is? *by Michaela*



A View at Langley *by Michaela*

Through the Lens

Sunrise, Sunset



Sunsets in Nicaragua *by Kathleen*



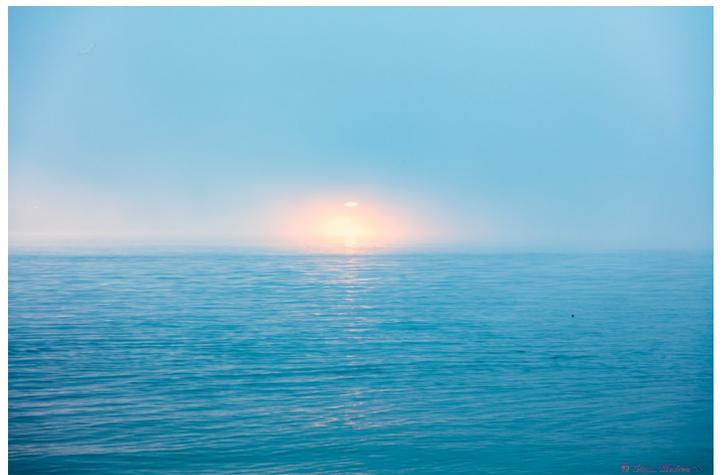
Moody Clouds *by Kathleen*



Twilight over Howe Sound *by Simon*



Dark clouded Sunset *by Simon*



The moment of Sunrise *by Simon*

Probus Club Oosterbeek Old Spice

Jan F. van der Wal

I am a member of Probus club Oosterbeek Old Spice. We meet once a month at Campman restaurant. Oosterbeek is a village in the municipality of Renkum near Arnhem, in the Netherlands, with about 30,000 inhabitants. Many elderly and retired people live in the municipality so there are 4 Probus clubs. Compare Arnhem with about 150,000 inhabitants and 6 Probus clubs. A Probus club has on average about 25 members.

Since the Corona period, membership has fallen sharply due to death, resignations and stagnant recruitment; despite new members joining, membership has fallen sharply to 14 active members. It is currently still a men's club, but that is likely to change.

At the meetings, one of the members gives a talk of about 1 hour, usually with PowerPoint presentation. On rare occasions there is a guest speaker; we consider self-efficacy important. Once a year there is a meeting with all 4 Probus clubs, then a guest speaker is invited.

Outside the meetings there are other activities such as:

- excursions, once or twice a year;
- walks with lunch, twice a year;
- dinner with partners and widows of former members (girlfriends), once a year;
- cultural cafe, once a year;
- meeting with all the Oosterbeek Probus clubs, once a year.

Partners and "girlfriends" are welcome at all activities outside the meetings.

Until recently, the club did not have its own website; this is now under development.

The club does not have its own newspaper; the agenda, minutes and lecture summaries are distributed by email.

Member Happenings



Probus Club Oosterbeek Old Spice

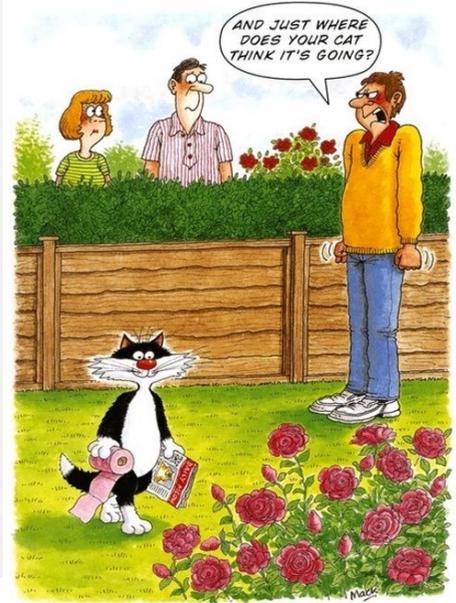


Excursion to Xanten (Germany)

Monthly Mirth



“Good news. The pain in your chest wasn’t a heart attack. It was your belt buckle.”



COFFEE IN HAND, SUPPLIES AT THE READY, ALICE SETTLES IN, WAITING FOR THE FIRST TELEMARKETER TO CALL.



All my passwords are protected by Amnesia

Messages, Notices and Information

Wanted:

Stories for:

Memory Lane:

Contact Josine at: eikelenboom@telus.net

Photos for: **Through the Lens**

Contact Rick at: micricgoingplaces@gmail.com

Probus in-person 'Coffee Morning'

First Wednesday of the month, at 10am

Next meeting: February 1st

Annual General Meeting

Date: February 16th 2023

Location: Rear Lounge, Meadow Gardens Golf Club

Agenda

Welcome by the Chair

Introductions

Minutes of Last AGM

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Special Interest Group Reports:

New Business: Election of Officers

Social Time

Special Interest Groups

Book Club: *Convenor, Carla Reed*

Meets 1:30pm, second Tuesday, monthly

Bridge: *Convenor: Kathleen Spiess*

Meets, 2pm third Monday, monthly

Camping: *Convenor: Michaela O'Doherty*

Computer/Photography: *Convenor: Sam Lewindon*

Meets, 10am, last Wednesday, monthly.

Crafts: *Convenor, contact, Michaela micricgoingplaces@gmail.com*

Dining: *Convenors: Marie Slessor/Carla Reed*

Meets 6pm second Thursdays, monthly

Discussion: *Convenor, Theo Rathonyi Reusz*

Meets, 10am first Thursday monthly

Lunch: *Convenor. Aline Drew*

Meets, noon last Thursday, monthly

Table Tennis: *Convenor; Michael Buckingham*

Meets, Tuesday and Friday mornings

Walking: *Convenor, Renate*

Meets 9am Tuesdays, weekly

Wine Club: *Convenor: Sam Lewindon*

Meets, 5pm last Friday, monthly

Origin of the Phrase:

BUYING THE FARM or "HE BOUGHT THE FARM" -

This is synonymous with dying.

During WW1 soldiers were given life insurance policies worth \$5,000. This was about the price of an average farm so if you died you "bought the farm" for your survivors.

"Groaner" of the Month:

German sausage jokes are just the wurst.