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Volume 19 No. 1, Jan. 2024 (published Jan. 3rd, 2024)

January General Meeting: Wednesday, Jan. 10th, 2024 @ 10:00 A.M. Milton Sports Centre This conveniently moves the meeting a bit further away from the Christmas break but became a requirement because the Town of Milton needs to use the space at the Sports Centre for another event January 3, 2024.

From the President: Henry Popp



The hectic of Christmas is over and as I write this, we are sitting "between the years", the time between Christmas and New Year's Eve. It is a perfect time to stop, catch our breath and reflect. All too soon, the pace will pick up again and we need to have recovered our energy for what lies ahead, be it for continued grey skies or a beautiful winter wonderland that makes getting out somewhat of a challenge. Over all though, in this part of the world our weather does not present us with huge worries. Those members of our management team who have selected speakers for the coming

monthly meetings, and the ladies who plan our special events already have a line-up of speakers and activities to help the winter months pass quickly. Then there is our list of special interest groups meeting on a regular basis. Some of us look forward to the River Cruise in Holland and parts of Belgium in late April. So, there is much to look forward to and with that I wish you all the best for the New Year with continued fellowship and fun in The Probus Club of Milton!

From Our Program Directors: Larry Meehan, Brian Budworth

January – Sean Livingston. St. John Ambulance Halton & Hamilton Region

February – Yvonne Livingston to present retirement living residences, home care or LTC options available to us.

March - Lisa Forestell- Volunteer Coordinator for Autism Ontario

Lisa is Fund and Volunteer Coordinator for Autism Ontario in our area. She will speak to the effects of this disease on children and their families.

"OUR STRENGTH IS IN FELLOWSHIP, OUR SUCCESS IS IN PARTICIPATION.

If you would like to participate, we have openings for people to introduce or thank a speaker. Just contact Larry or Brian.

From Our Special Events Directors: Darlene Scarrow, Heddy Wright

Up Coming Special Events 2024

February 10 – **Nana's Naughty Knickers-** Presented by the Milton Players Theatre Group at the Milton Arts Centre.

Nana's Naughty Knickers February 10 8pm Milton Art Centre Tickets are \$27/ person. Pay by E Transfer to billy@scarrow.ca OR Cheque to Darlene Scarrow 5030 No 14 Sdrd Milton L9E 0P7 Cash will not be accepted Payment must be received by December 31 to purchase your ticket.



Tickets will be purchased early January 2024.

March 23- the Rockin' Rob Oldies Dance at the Milton Royal Canadian Legion. Save these dates. Registration and payment will begin in January.

Our Year End Celebration!

On December 6th, our club celebrated our luncheon at Granite Ridge Golf Club. Ninety members attended the festive event and enjoyed the warmth, good spirits, and friendship of our club. The lively music provided by Charlie Graci encouraged many to dance. Susan Popp led an exuberant sing-along of The Twelve Days of Christmas and many members won valuable prizes from the ticket draw. We has 15 prizes in all! The food was good and the venue beautiful. All in all, it was a wonderful Christmas celebration.

Thank you to the Christmas committee for all their hard work, and thank you for the support from management. Last but not least, a big thank you to our gracious photographer Wendy Mistruzzi for taking so many great photos.

Happy New Year to all, Heddy Wright

















From our Membership Director Nancy Lynn

Please welcome new members: Jennifer Wells Jean Robinson Also, please note that Carol Williams and Ray Mathews have new addresses. Details are available on our members website.



Membership fees of \$50 are due in January, 2024. You can pay with an e transfer <u>miltonprobustreasurer@gmail.com</u> any time.

You may also bring a cheque (addressed to The Probus Club of Milton) to the general meeting on January 10, 2024

Our Probus Club of Milton continues to offer opportunities to listen to great speakers and become involved in opportunities for social interaction.

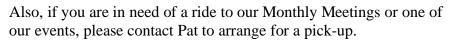
From our Fellowship Director Patricia McIntyre

Greeting Cards



Dear Probus Members:

If you are aware of a member who is ill, hospitalized or lost a loved one, please advise the Fellowship Team or a member of the Management Committee.





Travel

Survey for Interest in a Trip to New York City

Senior Discovery Tours has a 5 day bus trip to New York City. It is from May 11 to 15 at \$2997 pp, single supplement is \$790.

It includes a First Class hotel in the heart of Times Square, 4 hot breakfasts, 4 dinners, Broadway play- The Neil Diamond musical, "A Beautiful Noise and tours such as Central Park, World Trade Centre, Harbour cruise to the Statue of Liberty, Rockerfeller Centre and Brooklyn Bridge.

For more details visit..... SeniorDiscoveryTours.ca

If you are interested, email Zina at joe_zina@hotmail.com



Special Interest Groups

<u>1 Jokers Venue 1</u> – Linda & Dan Reid - 1st Friday of the Month @ 1:00

<u>1 Jokers Venue 2</u> – Joe & Zina Yaworski - 1st Friday of the Month @ 1:00

The Christmas Luncheon & Joker Games on Friday, December 1st was party time for 24 joker players. We had a delicious pot luck luncheon with appetizers, a variety of hot dishes, salads, desserts, tea & coffee and snacks. Thanks to everyone for all the delicious food you brought to the party.

Thank you to Wendy and James Mistruzzi for booking their wonderful party room for this event. Food tables were set up and many helped with the clean up, thank you.

After eating a delicious lunch we were ready to play jokers. Bob Streeter won 4 games and Terry, Dan, Joe and Maureen won 3 games (good going Moe)!

The rest just had fun playing the game and everyone went home happy to start the Christmas Season with a Party.





<u>2 Jester Jokers</u> Bill Turnbull – 2nd Tuesday of the Month @ 1:30

The Jesters held their December games at the home of Brenda Morrow, which as you can see from the photos, was so beautifully decorated for Christmas. Pizza was ordered, the wine flowed, and the desserts were out of this world.

We had 16 players at 4 tables. After the first game, the 8 winners moved and played off against each other, resulting in 4 finalists who again battled each other for the title. The grand Champions of the day turned out to be Patricia McIntyre and Joe Bernadino, who won all three of their games.

We also announced the member of the group that had the highest winning percentage throughout the year. The "Jester of the Year" was Patricia Koteck, winning 70% of all the games that she played.

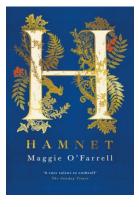
Congratulations to both our evening and yearly winners, and a huge thank you to Brenda for hosting this terrific event.



Round Robin Champions

Jester of the Year

<u>4 Spinecrackers</u> Nancy Lynn – 2nd Thursday of the Month @ 1:30



Two venues were required to host the December meeting and thus our group shared ideas and treats in the homes of Daphne Wand and Nancy Lynn. Christmas events and plans for family tended to be common themes. Nancy provided a list of books voted on by the Goodreads website - some of which are on our club's 'To be



Read' list.

We read and commented on Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell. It is the story of William Shakespeare's wife and children without naming the writer explicitly. The story details the heartrending death of a child (Hamnet), the fear of the plague, and parental grief. Agnes (AKA Anne Hathaway) is presented as a strong matriarchal but exotic woman in 15th century England.



<u>5 Friday Bid Euchre</u> Joe & Zina Yaworski 2nd Friday of the Month @ 1:30

The December Friday Bid Euchre games were hosted by Joe and Zina Yaworski. Christmas cheer welcomed everyone. Snacks and hot cider were enjoyed by all. The players were eager, confident and ready to bid BUT the cards had another plan. The cards just were not cooperating.....many scores were in the negative! The top players were Bill Turnbull, Nancy Lynn and Carol Streeter. The January games will be hosted by Bonnie Chapman.

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

<u>6 Euchre</u> Barbara Shein & Elizabeth Dixon - Wednesday @ 1:30

Barbara Shein and Elizabeth Dixon will now start a formal Probus Euchre group on the second Wednesday of the month at 1:30 starting in February. There will be a sign up sheet at the January meeting.

7 Bits and Bites Marlene Murphy & Anne Eadie 3rd Thursday of the Month @ 5:00

Happy New Year.

It was a festive evening for Bits and Bites, hosted by Wendy and James Mistruzzi. The room and tables were beautifully decorated for the season. Everyone outdid themselves with a fabulous selection of food and some beautifully displayed for Christmas. Wendy made a delicious selection of cookies and squares and offered nuts fruit and chocolate.

We tried to mix people up by changing seats each time we got up, but by the end of the evening, the ladies ended up at one table and gentlemen migrated to the men's table.





<u>8 Wee Joker</u> Marlene Murphy 3rd Friday of the Month @ 1:00



Susan and Henry Popp hosted our annual Christmas Lunch and Jokers games. We had a fun afternoon with a delicious lunch, games and Jokers. We missed David Hunt in the festivities. Thank you to Angela Hunt for organizing our games / contest. Christmas is all about giving. We collected soup this year for a Children's Charity. Well done Wee Jokers. We wish everyone Joy, Peace, Happiness and Health in 2024.





<u>9 Grape Expectations</u> Jose Bernardino 4th Tuesday of the Month @ 7:00

While the wine group didn't meet over Christmas week, I have a feeling that they all found their individual favourite wines to celebrate the season ;-)

10 Wednesday Bid Euchre Donna Elliott & John Stubbington 4th Wednesday @1:00

Hopefully the bid euchre group were able to keep share playing with friends and family.

<u>11 Bridge</u> Ruth Parkinson 4th Thursday of the Month @ 1:00

Likewise, our bridge group chose to span the holiday season and reconnect in January.

14 Canasta Anna Marie Jones 4th Friday of the Month @ 1:00

The December canasta games were played on the 5th Friday of December instead of the usual fourth Friday.

The fourth Friday was too close to Christmas.

All twelve regular players were available to play. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon, receiving a red three, and discarding black threes. The two game winners were, Brenda Morrow, Tom Jones, and Anne Taylor. We all wished each other a Happy New Year, and look forward to more enjoyable afternoons of canasta.



<u>13 The Walking Group</u> Terry Cole & Walter Eadie - Every Monday @ 9:15

Well folks, another year has come and gone. So without further ado here's wishing you a yours a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2024.

There were many highlights during 2023. Too many to mention so I will keep my comments to the final weeks of December

In early December the group went on a visit to The Terry Fox Trails around Lakes Aquitaine and Wabaukayne in the Meadowvale area of Mississauga. This area has been developed over many decades as the center point of Mississauga's creation of a planned neighbourhood.

Walking was a little tougher as we hiked the walkways of Lion Park. The temperature dropped drastically after a warm week prior. The wind definitely added to the cold. However 23 brave souls showed up. I wonder if it was the reward of an upcoming Christmas party that added encouragement for folks to endure the adventure.

We stayed in town for the final walk of the year and revisited the Mill Pond.





Wendy and James are off to winter in Thailand for 3 months but James generously made sure his friends would not forget him!

We had 28 PWG members out for Lunch after 23 of us did a walk in the morning.

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Thank you again to Wendy and James for arranging the party room, planning the food delivery, adding in the music, and entertaining us with a Christmas Quiz. You guys are stars! It wasn't all fun and games. There was serious eating to be done as well





Oh, did I mention Wendy did the salad as well?



And that was after the equally serious business of trying to find answers to these devious clues and riddles in the Christmas Quiz.





The team of Brian, Rose, Megs, Denise and Pat were winners of the Christmas Quiz.

If there had been a prize for the best sweaters, we know who would have won that one.





There was another game being played with Dulce's sweater but only Pat was able to hit the bullseye!



As a final piece to this narrative, while on a walk on his own to Mill Pond on New Year's day Jim Mistruzzi had this candid shot captured by his wily feathered friends. Now we can be assured they will have memories to hold 'til the Mistruzzi's return in the spring

We walk every Monday morning (weather permitting) at 10am, usually for about an hour. If you are interested in joining us please contact myself (Terry Cole) or Walter Eadie." We will be more than happy to add you to the mailing list. We send out an Email Sunday to advise members of the upcoming venue and our meeting place.

New Group

We are wondering if there would be anyone interested in joining us for a new special interest group for people who enjoy fiddle music & old time tunes. We would meet at the Waterdown legion at 79 Hamilton St. in Waterdown on Thursday afternoons from 1-4.

If you would like more information, contact Donna Elliott or John Stubbington. We will be going on Thursday December 7th.

A signup sheet will be available for those that wish to join at the regular January Probus meeting.

Remember When!

Past speakers long before they became Probus members.

January 2007 Tom Dusmet of Bank of Montreal "Income Options for Retired People".

January 2008

Tom Dusmet of the Bank of Montreal will tell us about the changes in the laws which affect RRSPs and RIFs.

January 2009

Helena Donaldson, Financial Advisor, will talk about a topic that is most on people's minds: Finances.

JOKES AND WISE WORDS OF THE MONTH

(Send your submission for possible inclusion in a future newsletter)

Thanks for these Denise:



I'm always surprised when heavily tattooed couples have a baby and it comes out blank.



The firefighter was asked why he laughed while saving this old woman...

He said that the elderly woman said to him: "You reminded me of my wedding night.."



I forgot my cat outside. I am too scared to let him in now.



This may be my last post

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS: JOE AND ZINA YAWORSKI

Joe and Zina were chosen by the Town of Milton to officially ring the Milton Victoria "Park" "Bell" to Celebrate the beginning of the 2024 New Year.

The Bell is a permanent fixture in Victoria Park and is located in the Park, across the old Brown Street (now closed to vehicle traffic) from Hugh Foster Hall (beside Town Hall).

On New Years Eve, Milton residents attended with Mayor Gordon Krantz and Councillor Brian Best officiating and Joe and Zina ringing in the New Year on behalf of the Town of Milton. Refreshments were served in Hugh Foster Hall to all.

At the stroke of midnight, Joe and Zina together, pulled the rope and rang the ceremonial Bell. This was followed by many residents joining Joe and Zina continuing to pull the official Bell ringing rope in celebration.



(By Bill and Darlene Scarrow who attended as guests) HAPPY NEW YEAR







January

