



# SCUGOG-UXBRIDGE PROBUS CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 9

MARCH 2025

### MANAGEMENT TEAM

**President:**

Derrick Bond

**Vice President:**

Karin Fahey

**Treasurer:**

Craig McKee

**Secretary:**

Cindy Agnew

**Membership:**

Wendy Bond

**Social Committee**

**Co-Chairs:**

Anne Gauvreau

JoAnn Knight

**Interest Groups**

**Co-Chairs:**

Pam Norton

Lorraine Ward

**Speakers Chair:**

Maureen Wood

**House Co-Chairs:**

Pete Kooger

Paul Heney

**Member-at-Large:**

Rob Messervey

**Newsletter Editor:**

Marilyn Card

**Web Master:**

Barry Clulow



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February being the shortest month of the year packed in some very cold days and nights. There was lot more snow to deal with this past month compared to the past few years. In watching sports during the month, I enjoyed watching the finals of the "Four Nations Face-off" and watching Connor McDavid score the winning goal in overtime for the Gold, leading Canada to the 3-2 victory over the USA. I am looking forward to the month of March and daylight savings time kicking in on Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup> this will make the evenings much lighter and the mornings a little darker. Hopefully we do not get as much snow as we did in February.

Starting with the March General Meeting the Club is going to see if there is an interest in getting together for lunch after the meeting at the Colonel Mustard's Pub & Grill, 15 Water St, Port Perry. Just before the break we will ask for a show of hands to see how many members would like to join in and have a lunch.



The March 6 General Meeting speaker will be Lianne Harris Racioppo and her topic will be "Fables, Fairy tales & Rhymes: Lessons for Real Life". Lianne is also an artist and has created a series of fourteen 5 X 7 cards which will be available for purchase at the meeting.

During the month there are events going on during the month, please check the Community Hub page and the Social pages on the club WEB site. The interest groups page lists the groups that you could join.

I remember when our kids were in school them being off for March break. Some years we would plan a trip or other years we would do things locally that we didn't seem to have time for during the year. Now I am hoping we can spend some time with our grandkids and take them to a movie.

The Club has created a Private Facebook group and are planning to use it as one of the communication tools for the club members. One of the uses for the Facebook group is to notify members if a general meeting is cancelled due to bad weather. To join the Facebook group please copy and paste this link below into your browser and then request to join the group. One of the club administrators will confirm your membership to join the Facebook group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1063170235479624>

Hope to see you at the meeting and please remember to "Lug a Mug"

**Website:** [www.scugog-uxbridgeprobus.ca](http://www.scugog-uxbridgeprobus.ca)

**Email:** [info@scugog-uxbridgeprobus.ca](mailto:info@scugog-uxbridgeprobus.ca)

# General Meetings

## General Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month

10 a.m. to 12 noon at Hope Church, 14480 Old Simcoe Street, Port Perry, Ontario

There is a 30-minute break at half time to meet people, enjoy refreshments, sign up for an interest group or social event, and look into volunteering.

The next regular General Meeting at Hope Church will be **March 6, 2025**.

### March 6 Guest Speaker:



**Lianne Harris Racioppo** is to be our speaker on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Her topic will be - Fables, Fairytales & Rhymes: Lessons for Real Life Working as a Social Studies/History Resource Specialist Consultant with the Toronto District School Board and curriculum advisor for Upper Canada College, Lianne has taught over 100,000 teachers and students (usually in authentic period clothing). Her love of history has involved her in various initiatives such as the Freedman Bureau Records for the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., and curriculum development and business start-ups in India. In 2003 she was selected by W.O.M.A.D. as one of Toronto's Women of Influence and in 2009 was invited to be a contributing author of the Canadian best-seller business/self-help book, 'The Power of Women United'. She started to make special appearances in 2024 as a history lecturer for Celebrity and Princess cruise lines.



### April 3 Guest Speaker:



**Kevin Donovan** is our speaker on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. He will be speaking about The Billionaire Murders: The Mysterious Deaths of Barry and Honey Sherman. Kevin Donovan is the Chief Investigative Reporter for the Toronto Star, where he has worked for more than three decades. He has won three National Newspaper Awards, two Michener Awards, and three Canadian Association of Journalists Awards. In 2019 Kevin wrote a book about the 2017 deaths of Barry and Honey Sherman. He continues to investigate these unsolved deaths. Some of his books (including Secret Life - The Jian Ghomeshi Investigation; The Dead Times) will be on sale for \$20.



#### UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

**March 6 – Lianne Harris Racioppo:** Fables, Fairytales & Rhymes: Lessons for Real Life.

**April 3 – Kevin Donovan:** The Billionaire Murders: The Mysterious Deaths of Barry and Honey Sherman.

**May 1 – Joyce E. Perrin:** Ants in my Pants: One Woman's Unexpected Adventures Across Seven Continents.

#### AT EVERY GENERAL MEETING

there is an optional

#### “Share the Wealth” Draw

1 for \$2 ~ 3 for \$5 ~ arms length for \$10

(exact change is appreciated)



# Social Committee

## Event Reviews

**Trivia Night** was a huge success—way better than last time. We ended up a respectable 5<sup>th</sup> place out of 12 teams; proving we're not as hopeless as we thought! Turns out, we do much better when we're playing against teams closer to our age. Who knew our ancient wisdom could be an advantage?

Five of us bravely attempted **Line Dancing** and let's just say it was an adventure! Over two hours we managed to learn three dances. By the time we reached the final one we were starting to look like pros... or at least we thought we were. The truth is, we don't really remember much of those last two dances, but we're pretty sure we nailed them; or, maybe we just stumbled through with style. Either way, it was a super fun and entertaining night filled with lots of laughs.



**Thursday, March 13 – The Passionate Cook** - Cooking Lessons - 68 Brock Street W, Uxbridge. 1 PM – 3 PM. Cost \$125.00 plus tax. You will receive a meal, the recipe and a glass of wine. These classes are demonstration style.

**Wednesday, March 26 – Breakout Activity** – Hope Church, 1 – 3 PM. Cost \$5.00. There will be clues like in an escape room, but no one is trapped. You will have to work together in teams to solve the clues.

**Wednesday, April 2 – Richters Herbs** – Growing your own herbs and vegetables. 357 Highway 47, Goodwood. 10 AM – 11 AM. This event is FREE. Lunch at Annina's will follow the tour -.What You'll Discover:

- **A Rich History:** Learn about Richters Herbs and our journey.
- **Creative Uses for Dried Herbs:** Uncover fun and practical ways to use them.
- **Herbal Tea Exploration:** Sample our signature tea blends and enjoy a warm cup.
- **Seeds Galore:** Explore a variety of herb and vegetable seeds and learn the difference between sow natural seeds and regular seeds.
- **The Magic of Essential Oils:** Understand what they are and why they're beneficial.
- **Greenhouse Walkthrough:** Encounter medicinal herbs, vegetables, and a cornucopia of over 1,000 unique plant varieties. See rare, unique & native species, pollinator favorites, and endangered plants.
- **Hands-On Gardening Tips:**
  - How to sow, transplant, and water seedlings.
  - Best practices for planting in your garden.



**Saturday, April 5 – The Pefferlaw Creek Farms Maple Syrup Festival** - 12300 Concession Rd 6, Uxbridge; 10:00 - 3:00 Cost: \$10.00 (cash only). Includes: Sugar shack tour, tapping tour, tasting, one piece of maple taffy per person. Pancake meal optional at extra cost.





# Social Committee

**Wednesday, May 14 – Ajax Downs Racetrack** – 50 Alexander's Crossing, Ajax 1:00 PM.

Ajax Downs is a great place with live quarter horse racing. Parking and Admission are free, full grandstand seating. They offer "How to Bet 101" for first time visitors.

**Monday, June 16 - 17 – Niagara on the Lake** – Wine/Dinner tour with Crush Tours.

We will be visiting four wineries:

- Château des Charmes - tasting with small snack pairing
- Between the Lines - tour & tasting
- Reif Estate - tasting
- Bella Terra - tasting

Crush Tours will have restaurant recommendations for dinner.

Cost: Tour \$165 pp + tips + meals + hotel – The Colonel Butler, \$233.10.

**TBD June – High Tea – The Tea House at Parkwood**, Cost \$70.00

**TBD June - Pot Luck Dinner.**



**Monday, June 23 – Nine & Dine** - Sunnybrae Golf Club, 1430 King St, Port Perry; 10 AM Tee Off. Cost for 9 holes of golf plus cart \$45.00. BBQ lunch after, \$25.00 + tax on food only. Payment to be made at the Golf Club. Come and join us for a morning on the links, followed by a BBQ. We are joining forces with the Uxbridge and Port Perry ProBus clubs to enjoy socializing, food and drinks of course!



The Social Committee has an email address that can be used if you need more information on events. Drop us a line if you have suggestions for activities that you would like us to explore. As always, we are on the lookout for new Social Team members.

The email address

is: [socscugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:socscugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com)

Don't forget, you can always use the online sign up.

<https://forms.gle/eDLNmGojpUCHtb1x9>

Here is another event we are considering in **2025**:

- Ghost Walk in Pickering in October.

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*Dr. Vi Tu Banh, Uxbridge optometrist and author, was our speaker on February 6<sup>th</sup>. As a child, Vi Tu Banh and his family left their home country in a dangerously overcrowded and dilapidated boat, had to fend for themselves on the island of Air Raya in Indonesia, and then made the journey from the Galang refugee camp to a new life in a house on a hilltop among the snowy fields outside Uxbridge, Ontario. Their story is one of struggle and strength, highlighting the profound effect that the kindness of others can have on a person's life.*

*It speaks of gratitude and illustrates how each of us have the power to contribute to changing the world for the better.*

# Interest Groups

## Interest Group Table Help?

We are looking for anyone interested in manning the interest group table on March 6<sup>th</sup> before the meeting and/or at the break. Pam and Lorraine will both be away. Contact Lorraine at [interestgr.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgr.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com)

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### BUNCO GROUP (Progressive Dice Game) – Coordinators Sue and Bob Armitage

The Bunco group is growing! We had 20 players take part earlier in January at the Hope Church and most were new to the game. Lots of fun and fellowship with several prizes. The next game will be in March. We are always looking for more players so call Sue or Bob Armitage at 416.271.5139 if you want to be added to the list or sign up at the next meeting.

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### Sequence, Arts & Craft, and Puzzle Groups – Coordinator Maureen Wood

The Sequence, Arts and Crafts, and Puzzle groups continue to meet monthly in Greenbank. Please contact Maureen at: [maureen@mr-radon.ca](mailto:maureen@mr-radon.ca) if you would like more information.



Arts & Crafts Project, February 25<sup>th</sup>  
Faux flowers and water with clear beads



Puzzle Group's Project, March 4<sup>th</sup>



Arts & Crafts Project, "Stained Glass" Scribble Art

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# Interest Groups

## Hand and Foot Canasta (card game) – Coordinator Amber D'Aguiar

This group may be on hiatus until March, but you can still sign up at the March meeting to join the fun.

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## Wine Club – Coordinator Lorraine Ward

The Wine Group is meeting once a month in the winter months for some delectable wine tastings and comradery. The next meeting is March 27th. We are looking for a host for the April event

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## Group Travel – Coordinator Lorraine Ward

Here are some of the proposed exciting travel ideas for 2025 and early 2026, offering a mix of adventure, relaxation, and exploration.

- **June 2025:** The Maritimes (Canada). A scenic and culturally rich trip to the Maritimes would be an incredible way to kick off the summer. We could explore the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, taking in picturesque coastlines, historic sites, and charming towns.
- **September 2025:** Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. Martha's Vineyard is known for its beautiful beaches, stunning landscapes, and quaint villages. A September getaway would allow us to enjoy the early fall weather.
- **February 2026:** Winter Retreat to Aruba. For those who want to escape the cold, a winter retreat to Aruba offers sun, sand, and relaxation in the heart of the Caribbean.
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Sign up for the Travel Group at the next meeting if anything here piques your interest.

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## Lunch Group – Coordinator Zana Maksimovic

In spite of snowy weather, several intrepid lunchers gathered at Mi Pueblito Lindo - the newly opened Mexican spot in Port Perry. We repelled the cold with margaritas, sangrias, and travel tales from warmer climates.

The following lunch outings are:

- Friday, March 14 @ 12:30 - Indian and regular pub fare / pastas, for those who don't like Indian - at Zaykaa / Universal Wings in Uxbridge
- Tuesday, April 8 @ 12:30 - Wooden Sticks Golf Club / Fairways Dining in Uxbridge
- Friday, May 9 @ 12:00 - Il Fornello in Ajax

Please continue to sign up for lunch at : <https://tinyurl.com/SUP-Lunch-Signup> “

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## YOGA – Coordinator Donna Williamson

We have two excellent Yoga Teachers Laurie Kennedy and Jill Watson. Contact Donna at [yogidonnalee@gmail.com](mailto:yogidonnalee@gmail.com) if you have any questions regarding the classes.

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## Hiking & Outdoors Group – Coordinator Pam Norton

Thanks to Alison and Mary for continuing to lead weekly hikes. We are always looking for additional weekly hike leader volunteers. They can be any day of the week and can be short urban hikes or longer woodland hikes. We've been hiking this winter in Walker Woods, the Rouge Urban Park and Durham Forest.

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# Interest Groups

## Live Music Group – Coordinator Pam Norton

Probus members have been meeting up at several live music venues, including Jazz nights at the Historic Leaskdale Church and the Greenbank Folk Music Society monthly music series. Group members are encouraged to share live music opportunities through email and the WhatsApp group.

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## Euchre Group – Co-ordinator Kim Lendvay

This Port Perry Probus interest group meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month at 7pm. They have 8 regular players and 4 spares so they've reached out to SUP to make this a joint interest group in the hopes to get 12-14 regular players to ensure we'll have 3 tables even during high travel periods! Please email Kim Lendvay (Port Perry Probus Interest Groups Chair) at [interest.portperryprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interest.portperryprobus@gmail.com) if you are interested in playing regularly or as a substitute. You can also sign up at the March meeting.

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## Genealogy – Coordinator Neil Kilmartin

*This group is currently full, but you are welcome to check out a meeting and find out what it is all about!*

We meet the first Wednesday of each month from 10am to noon in the Scugog Library's Board Room, September to June. We are currently at our capped number of 16, but if anyone wishes to visit us, you're welcome to attend. Our group is now a hybrid group, with members from the Port Perry and Scugog Uxbridge Probus Clubs. We welcome people with any degree of genealogical experience, right from the newbie to the seasoned family historian. Our focus tends to be on "sharing our individual family history experiences". Guidance and help in researching is always available. We're planning to have a guided tour of the Uxbridge Library's Genealogy room in the spring, with an explanation of the resources available there. Again, if you wish to drop in for a meeting to see what we're all about, send me an email, and we'll be happy to see you!

Contact Neil Kilmartin via email at [neilMkilmartin@gmail.com](mailto:neilMkilmartin@gmail.com) if you would like more information.

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## Travel Information – Coordinator Tim Casey

We have a new interest group that will be formed if we get enough interest from club members. This will be a travel information group where group members, and at times some outside travel experts, will share information about travel. Note that this is not the same as the Travel Group, and does not in itself plan or promote any trips although group members may find others in the group who might want to join together for a trip.

The typical monthly meeting will include a discussion around group members' recent travel experiences and recommendations and upcoming travel plans. It also will include a feature slide or video presentation on some aspect of travel such as cruises (e.g. big ship, small ship, river cruises, etc.), land-based trips (e.g. various bus tours, self-guided tours, bike tours, adventure travel, hub & spoke travel, volunteer travel, etc.), seasonal travel (e.g. winter escape locations, skiing, spring/fall trips, etc.) and general travel tips (e.g. traveling safe, travel bargains and saving tips, communications while traveling, etc.).

PS: There is usually lunch involved!

If you're interested in joining this group, please email [interestgr.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgr.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com) or sign up at the next meeting.

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# Member-abilia

**-abilia** - noun suffix: items of interest relating to specified persons or things (in our case PROBUS) e.g. Elvis-abilia

## Members celebrating birthdays in March

Lois Lillian P.	Edward F.	Graem M.	Marg M.
Betty R.	Eileen B.	Jim M.	Maureen W.
Catherine O.	Frank B.	Aly M.	Christina L.
Renata Z.	Gill A.	Marg K.	Wendy B.



## FYI

Please sign in when you arrive  
Wear your PROBUS name badge  
Members' guests are allowed 2 visits  
Remember to "Lug a Mug"  
Bring cash to buy draw tickets  
This is YOUR club ~ ENJOY!!!

### TO SIGN UP FOR ALL INTEREST GROUPS:

- ✓ At General Meetings, there will be Interest Group sign-up sheets in the lobby or break room.
- ✓ If you are interested in joining any of the groups, add your name to the sign-up sheets! Please print!
- ✓ All joining an Interest Group must be a Club member
- ✓ Please wear your PROBUS name badge to interest group meetings and events.
- ✓ There is usually no charge to join an Interest Group, but some may have a minimal fee to pay for using the venue.
- ✓ Contact [interestgr.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgr.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com)

### We'd love to hear from you.


Members are invited to share photos from our Probus club events, personal success stories, proud moments, exciting trips, etc. in the newsletter. This is a great way to get to know one another and to make our newsletter more interesting. Email your articles in Word format to the newsletter editor, Marilyn Card, at: [marilynicard@gmail.com](mailto:marilynicard@gmail.com). (In the subject line of your email, please put "SUP Newsletter".)



### NEED MORE INFORMATION?


#### Join our new **FACEBOOK** page!

Inclement weather and wondering if a meeting is still happening? We will post information here:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1063170235479624>



### Scugog-Uxbridge Probus Club

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month from 10am to noon  
<https://scugog-uxbridgeprobus.ca/>  
This is a private group for Scugog-Uxbridge Probus members



Edit

**Scugog-Uxbridge Probus** >  
Private group · 16 members

### OR....

#### You can also head to our **WEBSITE!**

We will also post notices here (example cancellation message shown below):

[www.scugog-uxbridgeprobus.ca](http://www.scugog-uxbridgeprobus.ca)

HOME SOCIAL INTEREST GROUPS SPEAKERS NEWSLETTER COMMUNITY INFO CONTACT US MORE



### Scugog-Uxbridge Probus Club



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / INFORMATION

**MARCH 6TH MEETING CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER**









This is a photo from our February 25<sup>th</sup> Arts & Crafts Interest Group.  
Glass pebbles, faux water, faux flowers, and beautiful creations.