



SCUGOG-UXBRIDGE PROBUS CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Issue 11

MAY 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:

Derrick Bond

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

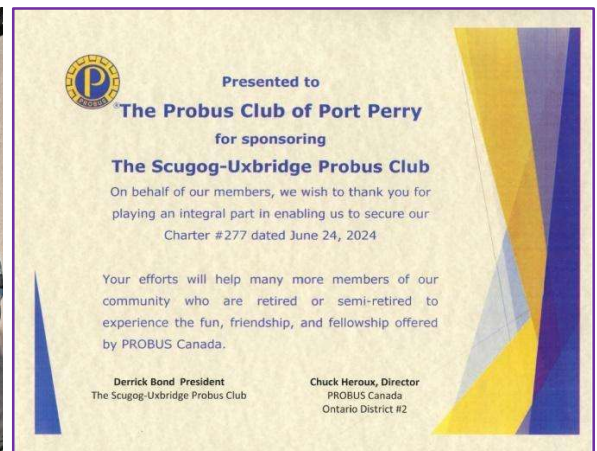
April's weather did turn out to be much more than I expected, with the ice storm and the large areas that lost power. We fared not too badly losing power from Saturday night to the following Tuesday afternoon. I did have problems with getting my generator started. I had tried to run it as a test last summer, but I procrastinated and tucked it away in the garage and forgot about the issue until I needed it again. I did feel sorry for the folks that were without power for a much longer time. Thank you to all the members that came to the April general meeting and still did not have power. And thank you to all the utility workers who worked countless hours to restore power.



Our PROBUS District Director Chuck Heroux held the Probud Canada Ontario District 2 Annual Meeting. In April, six of the club members were able to attend. During the meeting the club members were seated at tables that aligned with their roles in the club. I was seated with others that were of interest to Club Presidents. There were tables for the different topics - Social Committee, Interest groups, Treasurer and Membership Chairs. We all took away some very good ideas for our Club to use or continue doing as we have. As well as some items to avoid. In the

afternoon there was a very informative session "Copyright Report & Discussion" by Bernie Beales. This covered issues that could come up with the club's newsletter and the club's WEB site if copyright items are used.

A plaque was created by Probud Canada for our Club to present to the Port Perry Probud Club for sponsoring and the support they gave during the Charter process. I had the honour of presenting the plaque at their April General meeting.



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 General Meeting at Hope Church will be **May 1, 2025**.

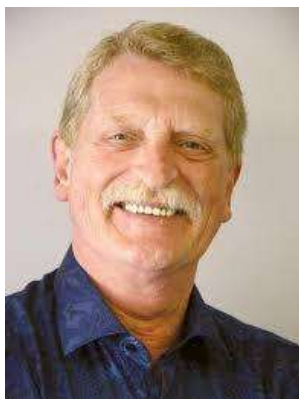
May 1 Guest Speaker:



Joyce E. Perrin: *Ants in my Pants: One Woman's Unexpected Adventures Across Seven Continents.* The lure of adventure unleashed her undying curiosity about the world and about people as she crisscrossed the globe for over twenty years and visited 156 countries on all seven continents. Not just as a tourist, but as an ambassador for adventure, working for the World Health Organization, touching (and changing) lives in healthcare settings in the Middle East, Africa, and South America. Her book will be on sale for \$26. Exact change is appreciated.



June 5 Guest Speaker:



Roger Varley: Topic Title: Searching for the Maple Leaf. Mr. Varley writes the "*Am I Wrong?*" column for The Cosmos newspaper and will expand on his adventures of searching for Canadian products in the grocery stores. Just because it has a maple leaf logo on it, is it a Canadian product? It's confusing to discover which producers, manufacturers, and importers are really Canadian? Are we reading labels correctly? Are we supporting the Canadian economy? Are we supporting local businesses? In this troubling time of economic unrest, buying Canadian is more important than ever. Mr. Varley spent almost 30 years as a journalist with the Canadian Press and has interviewed prime ministers, party leaders, cabinet ministers, entertainment stars, and sports notables. After retiring, Mr. Varley started writing for community newspapers and was a co-winner of a Canadian Community Newspapers Association's feature writing award. Mr. Varley has been writing the "*Am I Wrong?*" column for the Uxbridge Cosmos for the last ten years.



UPCOMING SPEAKERS:



June 5 – Roger Varley: Topic Title: Searching for the Maple Leaf.

July 3 – Peter Edwards: Topic Title: "Project 24K - The Pearson International Airport Gold Heist".

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 Review

Richter's Herbs April 2nd



We spent a wonderful morning immersing ourselves in the world of herbs, spices, teas, and oils. Our guide, Penelope, led us through several lush greenhouses, sharing her extensive knowledge and passion for plants.

She offered insightful tips on using dried herbs in everyday cooking, and we had the chance to smell and sample a variety of fresh herbs and vegetables straight from the greenhouse. We also learned the proper techniques for planting herbs and vegetables from seed—an inspiring experience for both beginners and seasoned gardeners.

The tour wrapped up perfectly with a delicious lunch at Anina's, making it a truly memorable day.



Social Committee

Event Review

Pefferlaw Maple Syrup Farm April 5th

We spent more than half the day at the Pefferlaw Maple Syrup Farm, a family-owned operation spanning over 200 acres—making it one of the largest maple syrup farms in Canada. It was fascinating to see how the sap is collected, with a network of lines running through the forest, all working together to bring the sap back for processing.

A highlight of the visit was a delicious pancake breakfast, naturally topped with their freshly made maple syrup. We were also treated to live music by the incredible O'Connor Brothers. The energy was so infectious, we couldn't resist turning it into a full-on sing-along—which, hopefully, they didn't mind too much!



Monday, April 28 - Peppertree Classic Clothing - 137 Main St, Markham; 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. No Cost. Join us for an exclusive afternoon of shopping—the store will be open just for us! We'll enjoy a special 30% discount on all purchases. The day will conclude with a late lunch or early dinner at a charming restaurant in Markham.

Thursday, May 8 – Night of Trivia – Uxbridge Legion, 109 Franklin St. @ 7:00 – 9:00. This event is free.

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.

Wednesday, May 28 – Cold Springs Alpacas - 8480 Cold Springs Camp Rd, Campbellcroft. Cost \$25.00. The private farm tour will bring us up close and personal with the herd. During the tour they will halter an alpaca so we can get up close, walk them around and take pictures —making the experience special. They will tour the farm with us; answering any questions we may have.

Social Committee

Tuesday, June 14 -Thomas Foster Memorial Tour - 9499 Durham Regional Rd 1, Uxbridge Cost \$8.00. More than just a mausoleum, the Foster Memorial is a remarkable tribute to the life and legacy of Thomas Foster—a local farm boy who rose to prominence as a Member of Parliament and Mayor of Toronto. His story is one of ambition, achievement, and generosity, and the Memorial he left behind is an artistic gem tucked away in the scenic countryside of Uxbridge. Often called a hidden treasure, the Foster Memorial combines stunning architecture with rich local history. If you've never experienced this Uxbridge landmark, now is the perfect time. The guided tour lasts approximately 30 to 45 minutes, depending on the number of questions and curiosity of our group. Since the Memorial is only open on select dates, this tour guarantees you access—and afterward, you're welcome to join us for a great coffee or lunch at one of Uxbridge's cozy local spots!

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 - tasing

Crush Tours will have restaurant recommendations for dinner.

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



Saturday, June 21- Strawberry Social, Applewood Farm 2055 Saintfield Rd, 2055 Saintfield Rd 11:00-5:00. No Cost. Get ready for a fun-filled day the whole family will love—celebrating all things strawberry! Enjoy live music, refreshing drinks, and irresistible strawberry-inspired treats. Browse a curated selection of local vendors offering unique goods and handmade treasures. Take a stroll through our strawberry patch and pick your own fresh berries, say hello to our friendly farm animals, wander the wildflower meadows, and relax with a drink on the patio while soaking in the summer vibes. It's the sweetest way to kick off the season—we can't wait to see you there!

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!

Friday, July 4 – High Tea; The Tea House at Parkwood – 270 Simcoe St N, Oshawa. Cost \$68.00 plus tax. Nestled in front of an exquisite 200-foot fountain, The Tea House is a tranquil outdoor restaurant, perfect for enjoying lunch, afternoon tea or a refreshing drink.

July, TBD – Mississauga OF Scugog Island Powwow – 22521 Island Rd, Port Perry. Seniors are free. The Powwow is an annual gathering of Indigenous culture. It is a variety of traditional ceremonies, dances, songs.

July, TBD – Wutai Shan Buddhist Garden Tour – 708 Ski Hill Rd, Cavan-Monaghan Cost is \$20.00 per car. so carpooling is recommended.

Social Committee

Here are more events we are considering in **2025**:

- Ghost Walk in Pickering in October
- Great Blue Heron Casino
- 1000 Island Gananoque tour
- Uxbridge Walking Tour September/ October
- Pickering Museum Escape Room
- Octoberfest

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

Don't forget, you can always use the online sign up: <https://forms.gle/eDLNmGojpUCHtb1x9>

Interest Groups

BOOK CLUB – Co-ordinator Maureen Wood

We had our first book club meeting, and we are reading “The Woman in Cabin 10” written by Ruth Ware, which we will be discussing at our next meeting on May 14th. At that meeting, we will be distributing our next book, “The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society” by Mary Ann Shaffer. **The Book Club is now full**, feel free to sign up on the waitlist. For further information please contact maureen@mr-radon.ca.

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

The Bunco group is growing! We are always looking for more players so if you want to be added to the list call Sue or Bob Armitage at 416.271.5139; or sign up at the next meeting.

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

Our Tuesday May 27th **Arts & Crafts** will be at a different location. We will be making ‘fidget blankets’ for our own future use...or for persons with Dementia, Alzheimer's, Autism, and Sundowner.

The **Puzzle Group** is working on an intricate stained glass picture of a tree (see page 12). **It's a humdinger!!**

For the participants of the **Sequence Group**, it was the first time that any of us had played a three-handed game. Interestingly, almost all of the board was covered, and we declared a tie!!

Please contact Maureen at: maureen@mr-radon.ca if you would like more information.

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

Come join this fun and challenging card game played in groups of four. We will be playing on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the afternoon. We host lessons from 1-2pm for new players and for those who need practice, and then we continue to play from 2-4pm. All are welcome to come join the fun.

Interest Groups

Wine Club – Coordinator Lorraine Ward

The Wine Group is meeting once a month in the spring months for some delectable wine tastings and comradery. Kellea and Mike Passmore hosted the event on April 24th. We tasted Canadian wines and appetizers, in support of our economy. Upcoming May and June Wine at Home events - to be advised. We will be visiting local wineries once we have nicer weather.



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.
- **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.

Sign up for the Travel Group at the next meeting if anything here piques your interest.

Interest Groups

Lunch Group – Coordinator Zana Maksimovic

The next lunch outing is Friday, May 9 @ 12:00 at Il Fornello in Ajax. Please continue to sign up for lunch at : <https://tinyurl.com/SUP-Lunch-Signup> “

YOGA – Coordinator Donna Williamson

SPRING YOGA

Laurie Kennedy's classes: Energy Tapiz Yoga Studio, 85 Brock St. W., Unit 205 Uxbridge L9P0B6

Any questions, please email Laurie@energytapizyoga.com

Spring Session Probus class - Tuesday 10:30am - Gentle Hatha Begins Tuesday April 15 to June 24 (11 weeks)

Jill Watson's Yoga classes, maximum 5 people, 7349 Concession 3, Uxbridge, in farmhouse

email: jillwatson3@gmail.com, e-transfer \$120.00 to that email. The new session will begin on Tuesday, April 21st in the studio, and will run for six weeks. Cost for the session is \$120 (for PROBUS members only), and class is limited to a maximum of five people. I am hopeful that after that, I'll be able to offer drop-in classes at the Farm, either out in the garden, or in the barn.

Should you have any questions related to Yoga for Probus Group please do not hesitate to contact the Coordinator, Donna Williamson @yogidonnalee@gmail.com. NOTE : Donna is stepping down as coordinator as of JUNE 1st. Please reach out if you are interested in coordinating this group.

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. Looking forward to some nicer weather.

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.



Euchre Group – Looking for a co-ordinator for this group.

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

Interest Groups

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 if you would like more information.

Travel Information – Coordinator Tim Casey

The first meeting of the Travel Information Interest Group last month was well attended, and we discussed a wide variety of travel tips. The next meeting will be Monday April 28th at 11:15 am in the Sunroom of Colonel Mustard's Pub in Port Perry. In addition to exchanging information within the group about recent travel experiences and upcoming travel plans, the main presentation will be on the French Riviera. All Club members are welcome. Hope to see you there.

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

From the desk of our Membership Chair, Wendy Bond

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in the Scugog- Uxbridge PROBUS Club. We look forward to seeing each and everyone at the monthly meetings. We now have 199 members. To successfully operate the club, fees are collected yearly to offset the costs of venue rentals, speakers, insurance, website/communication tools, etc. The fiscal calendar for our Club is from June to May, operating the full year.

The 2025/2026 membership fee will remain the same at \$40.00. We are asking if you would like to continue being a member to pay next year's fee by the June General Meeting. The Club is accepting e-transfer to the Club Treasurer at treasurer.scugoguxbridgeprobus@gmail.com. Under the comments section indicate your name and the reason for the e-transfer, Membership Fee. If e-transfer is not available, membership volunteers will be available to accept a cheque or cash at the upcoming May and June monthly meetings.

***N.B.** If you sign up for a Social Event or an Interest Group and you change your mind or are unable to attend, could you please let the co-ordinator or committee chair know so they can plan accordingly.*

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 May

FYI

Joanne B.	Debbie H.	Marie P.
Lee B.	Marilyn H.	Marie R.
Gord B.	Brian M.	Lisa S.
Stella D.	Jennifer M.	Nancy S.
Lena E.	Zana M.	Edna T.
Richard F.	Rod M.	Joe T.
	Pam N.	



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

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: marilyncard@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>



OR....

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

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

www.scugog-uxbridgeprobus.ca



Kevin Donovan was our speaker on April 3rd. He spoke 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 and he continues to investigate these unsolved deaths.



Some of his books (including *Secret Life- The Jian Ghomeshi Investigation (The Dead Times)*) were on sale. It was a very interesting presentation and enjoyed by all.

Lunch after the General Meeting on April 3rd at Colonel Mustard's in Port Perry



Lunch at Anina's Bakery in Goodwood after the Richter's Herbs tour on April 2nd

