



PROBUS CLUB OF CLARINGTON

Happy Holidays!

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Next Year, New Location, and New Day for January Meeting.

We'll be ringing in the New Year at our new location - Hope Fellowship Church, 1685 Bloor Street, Courtice, on Wednesday, January 9th.

Our guest speaker will be Rick Pyves, author of World War I history, and its impact on society. For more information, see P. 2.

Rick will have copies of two of his books on hand to purchase:

Courage, Sacrifice and Betrayal – The Story of the Victoria Rifles of Canada
- 60th Battalion in WWI - \$30

Night Madness: A Rear Gunner's Story of Love, Courage, and Hope in World War II
- \$20

Both for \$ 40

Cash or cheques only, please!

President's Message for December and January

I am happy to report that our Probud club is moving into 2019 in very, very good shape. Over the past year our membership has grown by 24% and the attendance at our monthly meetings is up over the previous year on average 26%. Our Christmas lunch on December 5 was attended by 105 of our members (up 40% from last year). Speaking of the Christmas lunch, everyone had a great time. There was a great buoyant spirit in the room. One of the things which made this such a success was the large number of our members who volunteered to entertain us. We had singers, music groups, sing-along carols and even Santa Claus. (For more information see story on P.5 and pictures on P. 7 & 8). It was a wonderful time. A big thank you to Social Committee Chair, Dawn Aitken, and the other members of the committee who organized this.

We have more good news. Our member survey was completed by over 62% of our members and the feedback is very positive. (See P. 10 for some highlights of the results.) There are many suggestions and ideas for things we should consider, and this feedback is currently being considered by our membership committee, our Interest Group Committee and our Social Committee. A big thank you to Eleanor Zadlo and the membership committee which organized this.

Looking further ahead, in April we will be electing a new slate of management positions. We will have a greater than usual turnover in positions since some of our executive will have been on the job for three years, since we were founded. The good news is that our Nominating Committee has commitments at this point to fill all positions but two. If you're interested in taking one of these positions and playing a role in the ongoing leadership of the club, please contact Victoria Girling. More details on this and the positions we have yet to fill on P. 6.

Adding to the good news is our impending move to Hope Fellowship Church in January. Final details have been worked out and we look forward to seeing you all on January 9.

At this season of thanksgiving and celebration, we have a lot to celebrate.

Paul Halliday

**January
Guest
Speaker:
Rick Pyves
*A Rear
Gunner's
Story of Love,
Courage, and
Hope in
World War II***



Rick Pyves is a published author, avid historian and genealogist and grew up in Montreal, Quebec. Rick is a graduate of Concordia (Sir George Williams) University and McGill University and holds both a Bachelor of Science and a Masters in Business Administration in Marketing.

Rick's first book ***Night Madness: A Rear Gunner's Story of Love, Courage, and Hope in World War II*** was published by Red Deer Press in October, 2012 after a five year writing and research effort. Based on interviews, painstaking archival research, and letters from a long-distance love affair, Rick has weaved together his father's tale into a touching love story and one man's very personal war.

Prior to embarking on a career in writing, Rick held a senior management position with a major financial services company as SVP Marketing responsible for both marketing and public relations. Rick has held board positions as a Director of Tourism Toronto (1992-2007) and more recently as a Director of Credit Canada (2005-2011) and has chaired the Board Marketing Committee for both organizations.

Rick has just finished writing his second, non-fiction book, ***Courage, Sacrifice and Betrayal – The Story of the Victoria Rifles of Canada - 60th Battalion in WWI***. It is the story of Rick's grandfather, Edward Lewis Pyves and his Battalion during World War I. Edward was decorated with the Military Medal "for the skillful manner in which he strengthened the British defence at Hill 60" in August 1916.

Upcoming Guest Speakers

February 13

Steven Murphy, the new President and Vice Chancellor of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT), will be bringing us news of what's going on at the university.

March 13

Clarington Mayor Adrian Foster will share what Clarington will look like in 25 years.

April 10

Donna McFarlane, Clarington Hospice

Interest Groups

News from John Muzik

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Jackie Franks, of Oshawa Probus, is starting a new interest group in January and has invited members of Clarington Probus to join in on the fun. The name of the group is Brain Games. The group members get together to stimulate their brains and enjoy themselves. They play trivia, riddles, logic puzzles, word games and other activities to keep their memory active. Team work is encouraged and so is the fun! The first meeting will be on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at Jackie Frank's house in Oshawa. If you are interested in joining this group, you can sign up at our next meeting, Wednesday, January 9, at our new facility. As this is an Oshawa interest group, you will be responsible for contacting Jackie. I will forward Jackie's contact information to anyone who signs up.

Book Club IV has already filled up! The first meeting will be held on Thursday, January 3rd 10:00 am, at the Courtice Library. I will be starting a waiting list for all the book clubs in January. As always, if there is enough interest, we can always start a new one.

The Craft Beer group held its first outing on Tuesday, November 20th at Town Brewery in Whitby. An excellent afternoon get-together. Fantastic place and friends. Jovial lively conversation.

Interest Groups

The following is a list of the current Special Interest Groups:

Billiards: October – May. Meets on the first Thursday of the month at Shooters in Bowmanville. **Contact Caroline Charman**

Bird Watching: Meet monthly to visit bird hot spots to find migrating and resident birds. Monthly meeting date TBD. **Contact John Muzik**

Book Club III: Meets on the first Thursday of the month at the Bowmanville Library. **Contacts Susan Wood and Susan Hollyman**

Book Club IV: Meets on the first Thursday of the month at the Courtice Library. **Contact: Anna Huston.**

Breakfast Meet: Time: 9:00-11:00 AM Third Wednesday of every month. Location to be determined on a monthly basis. **Contact Joan Pumphrey**

Craft Beer: New group. Members meet regularly to visit and taste craft beers in and around Durham Region. **Contacts Allan Vincent and Mike Wolnik**



The first meeting of the Craft Beer interest group was organized by Mike Wolnik on November 19. An excellent afternoon get together. Fantastic place and friends. Jovial lively conversation.

Euchre: Third Thursday of the month from 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Games will be hosted in each other's homes on a rotating basis. **Contact Joan Pumphrey**

Fiber Arts: Meets on the fourth Monday of the month. If you are interested in needlework of any kind sign up for this group. **Contact Stella Dorsman**

Garden Chat: Fourth Thursday of the month. Meet over a cup of coffee and talk about gardening, tour local gardens and share ideas and experiences. Note: group is currently closed to new members.



The Garden Chat group visited Barrett's Christmas Tree Farm in Cobourg on November 22nd. The group were treated to a wagon ride tour of the farm and then gave demonstrations on wreath making. Apple cider was a nice treat on such a cold day.



Genealogy: Bring your laptops/ tablets to the Courtice library with free access to ancestry.com. Meet on the third day Monday of the month to share tips and help each other with their searches and socialize. **Contact Lorraine Veroba**

Global Destinations: Members share their experiences of travel destinations around the globe. Fourth Friday of the month 4:00-6:00 PM. **Contact Victoria Girling**

Golf: May – October. Meet every Tuesday at Stonehenge Golf club for a friendly round of golf. Lunch afterwards for those interested. **Contact George Aitken**

Hiking: April – October, Time: 10:00 AM Meets twice monthly, April to October, to hike approximately 2 hours or 5 km at a slow pace. New days in the New Year. Dogs on leash welcome. **Contact John Wyndatt**

Investing in The Market: The Probus Investment Group meets on the third Wednesday of each month, at 1pm. It's a casual group, where more experienced investors talk about their experiences, strategies and favourite stocks, to help newer investors build up the confidence to start making their own investment decisions. New members welcome! **Contact Heather Griffin**

Lunch Meet: Second Wednesday of the month after the Probus meeting. **Contact Liola Limeback**

Men's Book Club: Meets the second Thursday of the month. **Contact Dave Durbin**

Movie Club: Third Monday of the month. Meet for a matinee movie with a discussion to follow at a local restaurant. Movies will be chosen by members. **Contact Rhoda Wraith**

Premiere Crew: A wine tasting group that meets every 6 to 8 weeks in members' homes. Half the members bring a bottle of wine, and the other half bring appetizers to match with the wine and the theme chosen by the host. **Contact Kathleen Brear**

Scrapbooking: Meets the third Monday of the month from 4 to 6 pm at members' homes. **Contact Nelly Van Veldhuizen**



Urban Walking: Meet the first and the third Friday of the month. Members meet at various urban locations throughout Clarington. Contact Lynn Hooper

What's for Dinner: Gourmet Potluck Dinner Club to be held monthly at members' homes. **Contact Dawn Aitken**

Number 1 Ladies Book Club: Meets the second Thursday of the month. This group is currently closed to new members.

Ukulele Group: Members meet Tuesdays, beginning October 2 to practice and hone their skills playing the ukulele. **Contact Susan Wood**

Social Committee

PROBUS members enjoying a tour of Casa Loma in December.



Christmas Luncheon

December 5 found **104** PROBUS members partaking in a Christmas turkey dinner at Bobby C's at the Port Darlington. Lively homegrown entertainment was provided, and a good time was had by all.

Entertainment included **Art Veroba** playing several popular show tunes as folks arrived. Art then accompanied soloist **Suzanne Elston**, who sang *Silver Bells*, *Winter Wonderland*, and *White Christmas*.

Jim Bamford offered *Grace*.

Between the salad and main course, **Eddie Johnston** played trombone, with guest bass player **Marie Narini**, and **John Greenwood** singing *Almost like Being in Love*, and *Lady is a Tramp*

Later, **George Aitken** regaled the group with renditions of *Are you Lonesome*, and a *Long and Happy Life*.

Members of the Ukulele Interest group (**Liola Limeback, John Greenwood and Susan Wood**) offered jokes and a ukulele sing along to some Christmas songs.

Towards the end of the luncheon, **Anna Huston** accompanied **Marg Allen** as she lead the group in a sing along of several Christmas carols, when **Santa** himself turned up to offer special gifts to some naughty and nice Probus personalities....

Wow, we really do have some talented members!

The lovely poinsettias that decorated the hall were raffled off as prizes along with a Salon gift certificate and a couple of gift baskets.

Thanks to the hard work and organizational skills of Linda Bray, Stella Dorsman, Victoria Girling, Anne Marie Halliday, Susan Hollyman, Maureen Lang, Joan Pumphrey, and Dawn Aitken.

See the Photo Gallery, P. 7 &8 for more pictures.



Upcoming Social Events

Abbmania & Night Fever - January 19th at the REGENT Theatre – SOLD OUT



Canadian Automotive Museum Tour, January 23, 10:30 am.

Come visit the home of the world's most significant collection of Canadian automobiles. The Auto tour is \$7, with lunch a la carte at the Cork & Bean afterwards.

Come root for the OHL Generals at the Tribute Centre on Feb 1st.



As the season gets underway, the Gens will look to make the push toward another league championship and Memorial Cup. With a young and developing core returning, the Gens look to learn from their experiences and continue to grow this upcoming season. \$17 is the group rate ticket cost..

Oshawa Little Theatre presents **FOOTLOOSE on April 4. Tickets are \$31 for this performance.** FOOTLOOSE celebrates the wisdom of listening to young people, guiding them with a warm heart and an open mind. 12 tickets still available, so be sure to sign up at the January meeting.



If you missed this last year, you will want to sign up for the **Hotel California salute to the Eagles, April 13th at the Newcastle Town Hall. \$35** Price includes reserved seating and hors d'oeuvres. A Martini bar is available. For almost 3 decades Hotel California has been recreating the legendary sound of the Eagles.



Touring the Algoma Orchards plant in December!

The Social committee is always looking for suggestions on trips and excursions that we can organize. Please contact Dawn or any other social committee member if you have any ideas.

Welcome New Members!

Our PROBUS Family is growing! We currently have 160 members.

The following people joined our PROBUS family since November

- ★ Alison Hamon
- ★ Carol Hunter
- ★ Cathie Humber

Nomination Committee Report

Each year vacancies arise on the Management Committee as volunteers step down. At the April AGM the new Management Committee is elected. We have the following positions open for the 2019-2020 term:

Speakers Committee Chair (arranges for guest speakers at all General Meetings and ensures all presentation requirements are met).

Communications Chair (prepares a monthly newsletter, responsible for social media, advertising and promotion of club).

If you have an interest in either of these positions or know someone that you would recommend, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee and we will provide a copy of the full position description and duties. Please note that each position has a committee to assist them. The term commences in April 2019 for a one-year period. Being part of the Management Committee is a really good way of being involved in the Club and committee meetings are informal and fun.

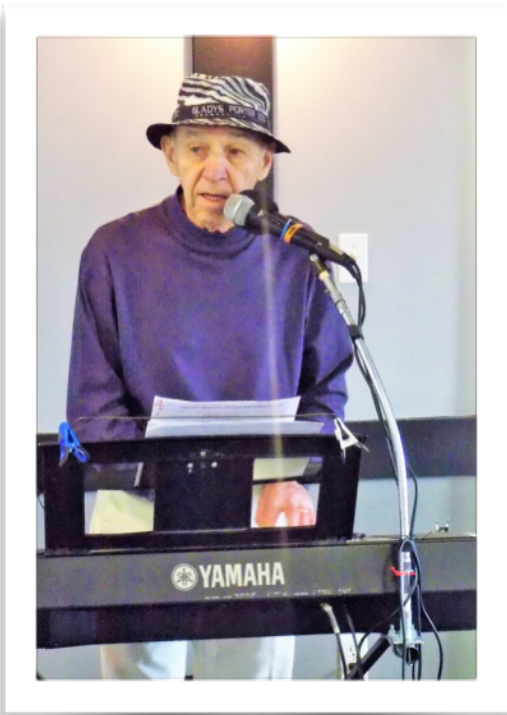
Karen Cashin and Suzanne Elston who currently hold these positions are very happy to offer guidance and support to enable a smooth transfer of responsibilities. They have both really enjoyed fulfilling these roles.

We are fortunate to have found volunteers for all other positions on the Management Committee.

Thank you to the Nominations Committee members, Paul Halliday, Eleanor Zadlo and Victoria Girling

Photo Gallery - Christmas at Bobby C's





Every picture tells a story. Send us photos of your PROBUS events to share with members. Please remember to include a caption describing where you are and what you're up to!

JAN 2019

CHECK THE CALENDAR ON THE WEBSITE FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.
[CLICK HERE.](#)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		01 Happy New Year	02	03 10 AM Book Club 3 10:00 AM Book Club 4 2:00 PM Billiards	04	05
06	07	08 10 AM Ukulele	09 10 AM Probus General Meeting Hope Community Church 12 PM Lunch Meet	10 10 AM Men's Book Club 1:30 PM Book Club 1	11	12
13	14	15 10 AM Ukulele	16 9 AM Breakfast Meet 1 PM Investing in the Market	17 1 PM Euchre	18	19 8 PM Abbamania & Saturday Night Fever
20	21 3 PM Genealogy 4 PM Movie Club 4 PM Scrapbooking	22 10:00 AM Ukulele 12 PM World of Flavours	23 10:30 AM Canadian Automotive Museum	24 1 PM Garden Chat	25	26
27	28 1:30 PM Fibre Arts	29 10 AM Ukulele	30	31		

And the Survey Says....

Thanks to everyone who took the time to complete our PROBUS Membership Survey.

62% of of our members responded, and of that number:

- 53% of our members are involved in 3 or more Interest Groups
- Our top Social Events were:
 1. Theatre events
 2. Bus Excursions
 3. Art and Museum trips
- 61% of our members attend at least 8 or more meetings a year
- 97% of our members read this newsletter
- 78% of our members aren't a member of the PROBUS Facebook group
- What our members like most about PROBUS:

Interesting speakers	86%
Opportunities to meet new people	75%
Interest Groups	70%
Social events	62%
Monthly meetings	57%
Exposure to a range of new things	53%
Feeling included in my community	43%

- 87% of our members felt welcome when they joined PROBUS Clarington.
- How did you hear about PROBUS?

Word of mouth	30%
Newspaper article	26%
Invited by a PROBUS member	25%
Attended a meeting as a guest	13%
Website	2.3%
Online search	2.3%

These are just the highlights. If you would like a copy of all of the Survey results, please contact our Membership coordinator.

If you would like to be added to the PROBUS Facebook Group, please contact the Communications coordinator.



www.SalvationArmy.ca

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Thank You!

November 12th 2018

To: All Members of Probus Club of Clarington

Dear Friends:

The Salvation Army Bowmanville Community & Family Services is extremely grateful to you for your financial support.

In the months of October & November your membership gave \$1410.00 in monetary donations, but also donations of food & clothing. We have directed the financial donations towards the Christmas Hamper specifically for the teens of Clarington.

We have enjoyed meeting with your members and as your group go on to larger facilities and larger membership we wish all your ventures continued success.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah".

Leah Barton
Administration

William & Catherine Booth
Co-Founders

Brian Peddle
General

Susan McMillan
Territorial Commander