

# THE PROBUS CLUB OF UXBRIDGE - October 2023

[www.uxbridgeprobus.com](http://www.uxbridgeprobus.com)

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# UXFORMATION

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

President  
Kathy Clulow

Past-President  
Chuck Heroux

Vice-President  
Vacant

Secretary  
Linda Abate

Treasurer  
Margaret Blanchet

Speaker Chair  
Zina Bolak

Social Committee Chairs  
Gail Porter Heroux  
Camille Scarlett

Interest Groups Chair  
Betty Bignell

Newsletter Editor  
Bernie Beales

Membership Chair  
Elaine Stevenson

Webmaster  
Gerry Bignell

House Chair  
Sally Kotsopoulos

Members At Large  
Lynn Moore  
Robin Dhillon  
April Gilkinson

## President's Message:

### Get Connected - Stay Connected

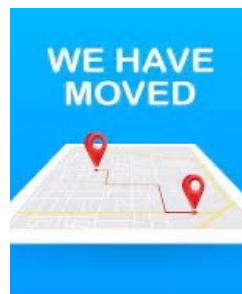
October is PROBUS Month here in Uxbridge and throughout the globe. PROBUS Month is a celebration of PROBUS Clubs that takes place in October every year, and it is a good opportunity to share not only what makes our club special, but to celebrate the friendships and social connections we have forged within our club. The theme for the 2023 PROBUS Month is "Good Friends, Great Times, New Adventures".

We invite you to join us at our new location, the Community Centre at the Uxbridge Arena. We now have ample space to welcome all our members... easy parking, easy entry, lots of space for sitting and mingling and always good coffee and tea. If you have not been to one of our monthly meetings, please come and join in our celebration. We want to welcome you! One of our guests will be Brenda Andrews, Past President of PROBUS Canada.

Before our meeting starts at 10:00 and later, during our coffee time, browse the tables to explore new interest groups and social events. See what new adventures you can enjoy during the upcoming winter. There is something for everyone.

Fall is a time of renewal, of looking back, clearing out the flotsam and jetsam, and donating to a food bank or Chances Are. It's also the time to look forward to the next step. Where do I want to be a year from now? Five years? We would like to make the journey with you. We are thankful for each other, our families, our friends, and our PROBUS friends!

Kathy

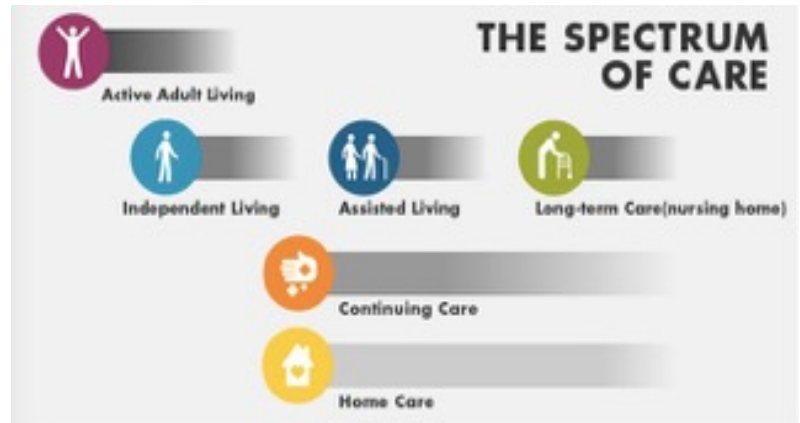


Use the separate entrance at the west side of the building (see photo). Do not enter through the main arena doors.

## From your Speakers' Chair

### October Speaker - Lindsey McTavish & Stacey Sellery – Douglas Crossing Retirement Home

Lindsay and Stacey will discuss and explain the different types of “Retirement Home” options, including Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory or Dementia Care and Long-Term Care. Many of us may have to one day, if not already, consider one of these types of homes for ourselves or one of our loved ones. Lindsey & Stacey will help us understand the differences, options and advise what to look for when making these important decisions.



### November Speaker - Phil Craig – Liberation Tours

Phil Craig is Co-Founder, Lead Historian and Master Story-Teller for Liberation Tours, an organization that offers battlefield tours throughout Europe. Phil is also co-founder of the Georgina Military Museum in Keswick, He's a professional actor with numerous credits in film, television, and stage. Phil will be making a Remembrance Day presentation about WW2 and the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. We will also have a surprise honorary guest!

Prepared by Zina Bolak

## From Your House Chair

October is our first visit to our new space and there is a lot in place to make sure that all goes well. Thank you to everyone who has signed up to set up chairs and tables and to everyone who has offered to help with coffee/ tea and treats. I know we are all going to do our best to make sure it all comes together. There is still room for some extra volunteers with food and drinks especially in the new year. Please see me if you can do an extra month or would like to sign up. Sally Kotsopoulos 647-206-8645 or [sallykprodev@gmail.com](mailto:sallykprodev@gmail.com)



## From your Social Committee

### Trip to Stratford to Attend Spamalot

At 8.30 sharp we left Uxbridge in our Mary Morton luxury coach, under the skilled control of our favourite driver, Wib. We got to Stratford ahead of schedule, so Wib treated us to a driving tour of the iconic city, including past the new Tom Patterson Theatre and the Festival Theatre along the Avon River.

Our lunch today was provided by the fine people at Parkview United Church, and everything was delicious. The best part of church-supplied lunches is the fresh, home-made pie. We had time to explore the neighbourhood, which included some specialty chocolate stores that were well patronized.

Spamalot, for those unfamiliar, is a delightful hodge-podge of Monty Python humour over several decades, so for an aficionado of this group it was a nostalgic memorial. For newbies, it might have been a bit of a shock, but a very funny one. It was in many ways indescribable and unique, but perfectly captured the spirit of Python in a full-blown musical. Everyone in the production sang and danced their hearts out, and were having a ball doing it. The satire of knightly honour and duty was merciless and hysterical. The day deserved a perfect 5-star rating!



(Report by Jim and Marilyn)



### TO SIGN UP FOR ALL SOCIAL EVENTS:

First - you must sign up at the Social Events Table during General Meetings, by e-mail to [social.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:social.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com) or by telephone to Social Co-Chairs Gail Heroux (905-852-9927) or Camille Scarlett (416-859-1593).

Next - you must pay either by e-transfer to [treasurer.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com) or by cheque at a meeting or by mail to:  
Uxbridge PROBUS c/o Gail Heroux, 72 Munro Cres., Uxbridge ON L9P 1L8.

You must be a vaccinated member of Uxbridge PROBUS to attend Social Events (or be sponsored by a member and provide proof of COVID19 vaccination).

## Summer Finale BBQ

Our Probus "Summer Finale BBQ", held on Sept 20<sup>th</sup> at the Cullen Central Park in Whitby, was a great day for the 48 participants! Armed with our lawn chairs, hats and sunscreen we had a great time socializing by the outdoor pavilion. The weather was amazing which also added to the enjoyment of the day.

There were games set up by our Social Committee (washer toss, ladders, horseshoes, etc.) which were a lot of fun. A pickleball court was also available and several of our members played on the courts.

The BBQ lunch was held in the outdoor pavilion with the choice of burgers or sausage accompanied by a couple of salads. We chose the burgers which were very good!

In addition, a door prize was drawn with the lucky winner being Larry Emo.

The day was a great success and enjoyed by all. It was definitely a great way to catch up with old friends and get to know new ones.

If you have a chance next year to participate, we would highly recommend it.

(Report by Cheryl Bain and Carol Higgs, Photos by Sharon Shapcott)



Upcoming Social Events

SUNDAY OCTOBER 22 - 2:00 pm  
MARKHAM CONCERT BAND  
SILVER SCREEN SPECTACULAR  
Flato Markham Theatre



Purchase your own ticket with code PROBUS to get special PROBUS discount by telephone to BOX OFFICE 905-305-7469  
Sign up to join us for dinner after the concert at MANDARIN - BOXGROVE



FRIDAY NOVEMBER 24  
ONE OF A KIND CRAFT SHOW

The One-of-a-Kind show is one of the largest and best attended craft shows in North America, featuring unique, handmade crafts and the talented artisans who made them.



Bus will leave the Walmart parking lot in the morning in time to arrive at the Enercare Centre near show opening. Lunch will be on your own at the show (many choices available including food samples), and our bus will depart about 4:30 pm to return to Uxbridge.

COST: \$89 (member) \$94 (guest)

Sign up today! E-mail, telephone or at social table - see instruction box.



SUNDAY DECEMBER 3  
MARKHAM CONCERT BAND - 2 p.m.  
A SEASONAL CELEBRATION  
FLATO MARKHAM THEATRE



Please sign up to join us for dinner after the show at the Mandarin Restaurant (Boxgrove) in Markham.



SUNDAY DECEMBER 10 - 1:00 PM  
TRIBUTE CENTRE, OSHAWA (This is a drive yourself event)

# CRYSTAL

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL'S FIRST SHOW PERFORMED ON ICE



Only \$80 per person (Group Rate 20% below regular price!)

Sign up as usual - email, telephone, social table

**FINAL DAY TO SIGN UP FOR TICKETS IS OCTOBER 13**

See separate flyer for more details!

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## WINE SURVIVOR 2023

Sign up today! E-mail, telephone or at social table - see instruction box.

See flyer mailing for more details!



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 13 - ROYAL ASHBURN GC  
**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH &  
GALA**

Cost: \$75 (member)  
\$85 (guest) Sign up after Oct. 13  
See flyer mailing for details



THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 10 a.m. - Noon  
**COFFEE & CONVERSATION - Only \$5 pp**  
ONCE AGAIN DEIRDRE & ROBERT WILL HOST THIS EVENT IN THEIR HOME  
23 Wilson St, Uxbridge

**Mysteriously Yours Mystery Dinner Theatre**  
presents

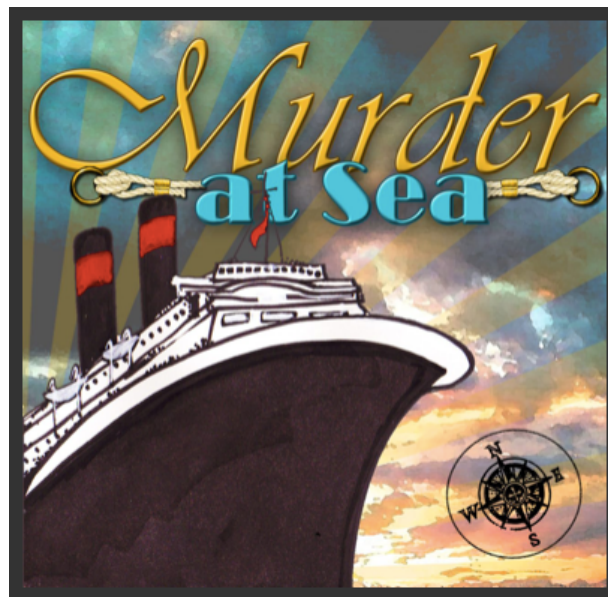
**“MURDER AT SEA”**

TUESDAY MARCH 26, 2024 11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$120 - Members \$130 - Guests

Lunchtime event with hot roast beef meal catered by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Uxbridge Legion (cash bar available)

See separate flyer for more details



Save The Date!



## Toronto Tour

Thurs. Feb. 8 (Hopefully!)

Step On Guide (a.m.)

Lunch at the Hot House Cafe

Visit to Little Canada (p.m.) to see new displays (including East Coast)

## History Of Uxbridge PROBUS: Chapter 4 - Post Covid

Meanwhile, back at the Golf Club, new management and new priorities happened, and we could no longer afford the rent they wanted. We looked for another meeting place, and the Uxbridge Legion came to our rescue.

When we started back to live meetings, in November of 2021 at the Legion, we attempted to simultaneously broadcast them on Zoom and record them for YouTube, but ran into more technical challenges than we could cope with, so after a few tries we went to just recording them for YouTube, and continued that through the summer of 2022. By then we were filling the hall and decided to end the recordings.

Membership fell off through Covid, but once our regular activities began again it shot up. We set a cap at 275, partly because our meeting hall could not handle any more than we were getting—around 100 per meeting. We reached that milestone last fall, and have been running with a waiting list ever since.

What is next for our club? Well, we are considering working with the Port Perry club to sponsor a new Probus Club for the region, to take care of both our waitlists, but the main challenges, meeting facilities and leadership, are still haunting us. As for us, we will continue to provide the kind of club and activity that the Uxbridge members have been enjoying.

So ultimately, this is a success story, for Uxbridge, for seniors, for Probus, and, hopefully for a long future ahead.



By Chuck Heroux, Past President



# From your Interest Groups Chair



Our next General Meeting will be at the Uxbridge Community Centre on October 11, 2023!

All Club members are invited to join an Interest Group. On tables at the Community Centre there will be a sign-up sheet for every Current or any Potential Interest Groups. You can join a group via the Sign-Up sheets or contact me, Betty Bignell, at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com).

**\*Please Note - Multi-Day Club Travel Options, will be replacng the former Travel Group.** The group will be offering various multi-day trip options, but specific ventures haven't been finalized yet. If you would like more details when they are planned, please add your name and contact information to the sign-up sheet.

## POTENTIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Art Club, Astrology, Bowling, Board Games, Breakfast Club, Casino Visits, Cooking, Current Events, Discovering Uxbridge & Area, Fitness, History, Home Reno, Horses & Other Animals, Mah-jong, Meditation, Music, Sports: (Pole Walking, Running, Biking, Golf, Skiing, Skating, Swimming), Photography, Sailing, Yoga and more.

\*If you have an idea of another potential new group or want to join one of the above suggested groups, please contact me at the General Meetings or send me a message.



### TO SIGN UP FOR ALL INTEREST GROUPS:

At General Meetings, there will be Interest Group sign-up sheets at the back of the meeting room. If you are interested in joining any of the groups, add your name & contact information to the sign-up sheets! Please print! During the coffee break, I'll be at the back of the room with the sign-up sheets. Hopefully, I'll be able to answer any questions. Coordinators all have their group name tags and may be sitting with me, or elsewhere in the room available to answer any questions. Everyone joining an Interest Group must be a Club member!

As well you can contact me, Betty Bignell, at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com). There usually isn't a charge to join an Interest Group, but some may have a minimal fee to pay for using the venue. Everyone joining an Interest Group must be a vaccinated member of the Club and have proof of vaccination for COVID-19 recorded by the Social Committee.

REMEMBER - THERE'S AN INTEREST GROUP FOR THAT! (Debra Revie Lippay)

## Current Interest Groups

**NOTE: All our book Interest Groups have a Wait List! Perhaps you can suggest a new book Interest Group. You can suggest whatever topic you want!**

**BANNED BOOK CLUB:** Coordinator Camille Scarlett **This group now has a wait list.** The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 17, at 1:30. The group will be discussing The Hunger Games, by Suzanne Collins. In September a very stimulating conversation took place when the group discussed "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain. The group will meet monthly on the third Tuesday at 1:30. If interested in joining the wait list for this group, contact me, Betty Bignell.

**BOOK CLUB:** Coordinators Gerri Martin & Kelly Keilty **This group now has a wait list** The group will meet again Thursday October 26 at 1:30 and will discuss They Left Us Everything by Plum Johnson. Please contact me if you want to be added to the wait list.

**BOOK LOVERS -** Coordinator Jen Thomson **This group now has a wait list** The group will meet next on October 5 (time TBD) to choose a book to read and discuss a new Group name! If you are interested in joining the wait list for this group, please contact me, Betty Bignell

**CANASTA GAMES & LESSONS:** Coordinator Amber D'Aguiar There will be two Canasta sessions offered each month. The group will meet to play on Thursday, October 12 from 2:00-4:00 and on Monday, October 23 from 10:00-12:00. Lessons will be provided on Thursday, October 12 from 1:00-2:00 before the games begin.

**EUCHRE:** Coordinator Carolyn Hicken The Euchre group met on October 3 at 10:00 a.m. The Euchre group meets on the first Tuesday of the month, at 10:00 am.

**GARDENING:** Coordinator Sally Kotsopoulos The Gardening Group will be joined by the Handicraft Group on Thursday October 5 at 11:30 am to make floral pumpkin centerpieces for their Fall and Thanksgiving décor. Members of each group will have received an email describing what they should bring as well as a request to RSVP to Sally to ensure there is enough room to work and extra materials. Depending on where these groups meet, there may be a very small initial charge and weekly charge for members of this group.



**GENEALOGY:** Coordinator Bernie Beales **This group now has a wait list** Now that the leaves are falling, it is time to add some new leaves to the family trees! The Genealogy group meets on the third Thursday of each month from 1:30-3:30. Please contact Betty Bignell if you want to be added to the wait list.

### HANDICRAFTS: Coordinator Sally Kotsopoulos

The Handicraft Group will be joining the Gardening Group on Thursday, October 5 at 11:30 am to make floral pumpkin centerpieces for their Fall and Thanksgiving décor. Members of each group will have received an email describing what materials they should bring. **There will be a small initial charge and weekly charge for members of this group.** For more information or to join the group, please contact me, Betty Bignell.

### HIKING: Coordinators Carol Fraser & John Willcock

Our Goodwood/Uxbridge area has a wonderful series of trails through a variety of forests and meadows, some quite flat, some with gentle hills. The group explores these forest trails near Uxbridge in the Durham and York Regions for 1 ½ to 2 hours. Join them for lively discussions, interesting views and leisurely treks! October hikes are scheduled for 9:30 am Thursday, October 5 and Thursday, October 19. Hike details are emailed to group members for Pre-registration. If you are interested in joining this group, send your request to Betty Bignell at [interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com](mailto:interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com). The Hiking Group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday morning of each month at 9:30



### KITCHEN BRIDGE: Coordinator Anne-Marie Sacco

Currently there are eleven group members. It is difficult to have two tables playing as one or two people must sit out. The group will be playing on October 5 at 1:00. New members are required. If you want to join this group, contact Betty Bignell.

### LADIES BRIDGE CLUB: Coordinator Caren Narvet

This group will meet next on October 10 at 1:00 p.m. The group requires one new member to be added to a game. Play is relaxed and the social aspect of the afternoon is enjoyed. To join this group please contact Betty Bignell. The group meets monthly on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00.

### ONLINE BRIDGE: Coordinator Caren Narvet

The group will meet on Mondays or Tuesdays at 1:00 in October. The group meeting dates will be sent to group members by email each month.

## LET'S EAT OUT: Coordinators Gail & Chuck Heroux

The next dinner enjoyed by this group will be on October 19. When the name of the restaurant and location is chosen group members will be notified. In September, members of the group enjoyed dinner at Milestones in Newmarket. Meeting monthly for dinner, Let's Eat Out members have enjoyed dining in a great variety of restaurants. If you would like to join them, please contact me, Betty Bignell. The group usually meets monthly on the third Thursday.



## LUNCH GROUP: Coordinators Betty Bignell & Joy Freemantle

The group will meet next on October 30 at 12:00. In September the group enjoyed lunch at the Twisted Fork Restaurant in Mount Albert. Group members will be always contacted with the name of the next restaurant where they will meet. If interested in joining the Lunch Group, contact me, Betty Bignell. The Lunch Group meets on the last Monday of the month at 12:00.

## MOVIES: Coordinators Chuck & Gail Heroux

This group periodically meets to watch movies together. If you would like to be a member of this group, please contact me, Betty Bignell.

## MULTI-DAY CLUB TRAVEL OPTIONS: Coordinator Anne-Marie Sacco

Group members will be advised of the next meeting location and Club travel options for the October meeting. The group met recently and a variety of travel opportunities were shared. Ideas discussed included a trip to Washington to see cherry blossoms, Christmas lights in New York city, a winter all-inclusive to "Lighthouse Pointe at Grand Lucayan, Freeport, Grand Bahama Island", a Rhine or Danube River cruise and more! 2024 looks very promising for opportunities to share time with Club members.

## PICKLE BALL: Coordinators Gerry Bignell & Alan James

The Pickleball group will continue to play until Uxbridge Township closes the court. A summary of indoor locations with time, associated fees and/or membership requirements will be sent out to group members. Thank you to Barry Scarlett for having been a Co-coordinator for the last few years and welcome to Alan James as the new Co-Coordinator. If interested in joining this group, please contact Betty Bignell.



### REDUCING OUR FOOTPRINT: Coordinator Brian Keeling

The group will meet next on October 18 from 10:00-12:00. The group members will share TIPS to discuss. The purpose of the group is to discuss reducing our impact on the planet. Many topics can be discussed - energy, food & health. Each decision made can make a difference! If interested in joining this group, please contact me, Betty Bignell.

### SCRABBLE: Coordinator Judy Fink

The group will be meeting on Wednesday, October 11 at noon. Members will bring picnic lunches to the meeting so they can start playing Scrabble as early as possible. If interested in joining the group, contact Betty Bignell. The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm.

### SMALL TOWN THEATRE GROUP: Coordinators Steve Fryzuk & Peggy Kennedy

**This group now has a wait list**

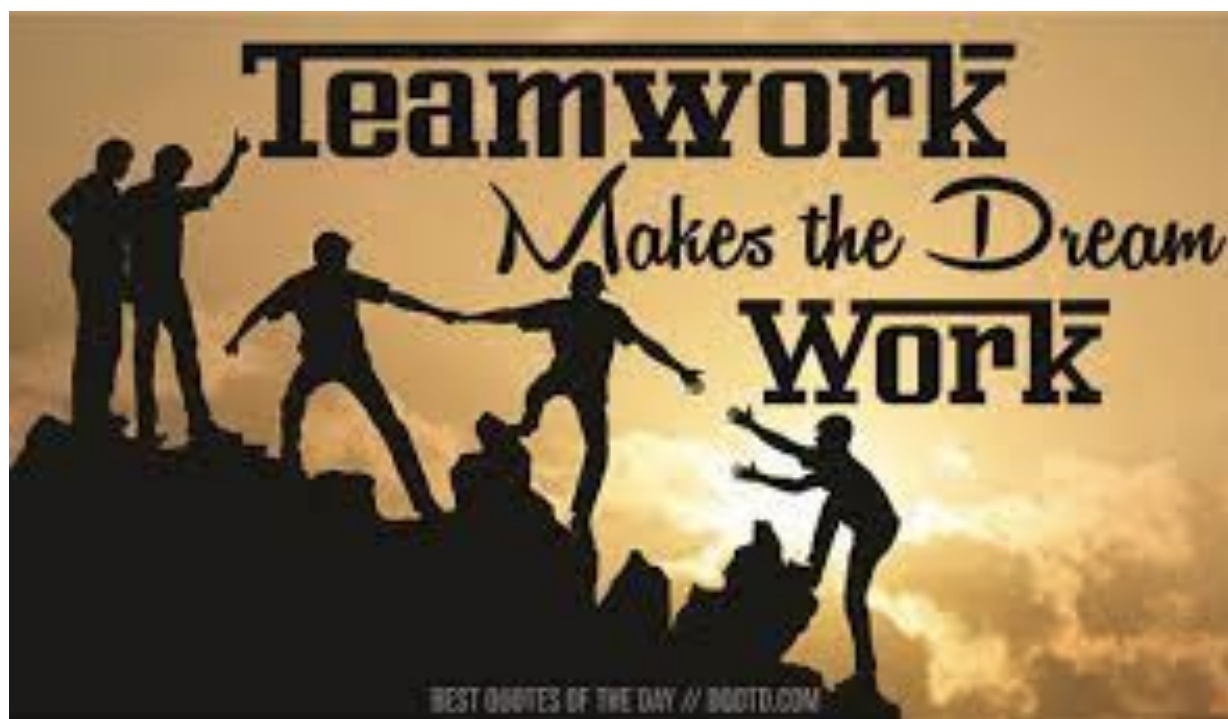
The group will be attending Oshawa Little Theatre on October 14 to see "Calendar Girls". Group members will meet for lunch before the theatre performance. Small Town Theatre members may be interested in attending comedies, musicals, or plays in the Durham and York regions. If you want to join the wait list, please contact me, Betty Bignell.

### URBAN WALKING: Coordinator Required

This group is currently inactive until a new Coordinator is found. A social group, they walk at a moderate pace for about an hour. Group members will be notified monthly of when and where the next walk will be. New members will always be welcome! If you are interested in being Coordinator, or want to join this group, please contact Betty Bignell. Urban Walking is the third Thursday monthly.

### WINE CLUB: Coordinators Sherrill Burns & Anne Gauvreau Thank you Anne!

The fun, friendly Wine Club will meet Wednesday, October 11 at 7:00 p.m. The theme will be "Wine you would share with your best friend." This group meets monthly on the second Wednesday at 7:00.



# The One Percent Group (Born 1934-1950)

Submitted by Elaine Stevenson

You are the smallest group of children born since the early 1900s.

You are the last generation, climbing out of the depression, who can remember the winds of war and the impact of a world at war that rattled the structure of our daily lives for years.

You are the last to remember ration books for everything from gas to sugar to shoes to stoves.

You saved tin foil and poured fried meat fat into tin cans.

You saw cars up on blocks because tires weren't available

You can remember milk being delivered to your house early in the morning and placed in the "milk box" on the porch. The Good Humor ice cream truck coming through the neighbourhood.

You are the last to see the gold stars in the front windows of grieving neighbours whose sons died in the War.

You saw the 'boys' home from the war, build their little houses that they were so happy with.

You are the last generation who spent childhood without television; instead, you "imagined" what you heard on the radio and you read library books.

With no TV until the 1950s, you spent your childhood "playing outside" - there was no Little League. Many kids walked to school.

There was no city playground for kids. You organized neighbourhood baseball and football games on vacant lots. You rode your bike everywhere.

The lack of television in your early years meant that you had little real understanding of what the world was like.

On Saturday mornings and afternoons, the movies gave you newsreels sandwiched in between westerns and cartoons.

Telephones were one to a house, often shared (party lines), and hung on the wall in the kitchen (no cares about privacy).

Computers were called calculators; they were hand-cranked.

Typewriters were driven by pounding fingers, throwing the carriage, and changing the ribbon.

'INTERNET' and 'GOOGLE' were words that did not exist.

Newspapers and magazines were written for adults and the news was broadcast on your radio in the evening. Kids read comic books.

You came of age in the '60s and '70s.

You are the last generation to experience an interlude when there were no threats to our homeland.

The second world war was over and the cold war, terrorism, global warming, and perpetual economic insecurity had yet to haunt life with unease.

Only your generation can remember both a time of great war and a time when our world was secure and full of bright promise and plenty.

You grew up at the best possible time, a time when the world was getting better...

You are "The Last Ones."

More than 99 % of you are either retired or deceased, and you feel privileged to have "lived in the best of times!"

It's great being part of the 1% ....Special Group!



# Something To Think About!



"I bought the first cup last Tuesday."

