



THE PROBUS CLUB OF UXBRIDGE

www.uxbridgeprobus.com

uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

UXFORMATION

March 2022

MANAGEMENT TEAM

President
Chuck Heroux

Vice-President
Kathy Clulow

Second Vice President
Bernie Beales

Secretary
Linda Abate

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Wayne Brasseur

Speaker Chair
Deirdre Gibson

Social Committee Chair
Gail Porter Heroux

Interest Groups Chair
Betty Bignell

Newsletter Editor
Carolyn Hicken

Membership Chair
Elaine Stevenson

Webmaster
Gerry Bignell

Zoom Coordinator
Ellen Gillis

Volunteer Co-ordinator
Lynn Moore

MEMBERS AT LARGE
Brett Moore
Larry Nancekivell
Nancy Varley

President's Message

It's beginning to look like there is life after Covid! Numbers are going in the right direction, restrictions are being lifted, and people are actually starting to travel again. Combine that with the rumours that spring is just around the corner, and it's hard not to get all giddy and optimistic.

Many of our interest groups are starting up, and the social committee is planning a number of activities. Search them out here in the newsletter and find a lot of stimulating events. This has been a challenging time for a group that lives to be social, but it looks like we are coming back.

I am hoping we can set up an in-person club meeting for April, so watch your emails for information. The key is to be able to do a hybrid successfully, so we will be meeting to practise through March.

Remember too that we are looking for volunteers for some management team positions. This is a fully volunteer organization, which means we all have some responsibility for its successful operation. Give some thought on how you might be able to help.

Meanwhile, I will look forward to seeing your smiling faces at our March 9 meeting on Zoom.

Stay safe and warm.

Chuck





Our next ZOOM Virtual Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 9, 2022, at 10 a.m. Watch your email for the link.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Welcome to our new members. Our membership number now stands at 220.

If you have changes to your contact information, please email Elaine at membership.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Elaine Stevenson, Membership Chair



SPEAKER'S CORNER

One of our speakers, **Kathy Downes**, spoke about Camphill Communities, this is the link to the website where you can find out more about the Maple Syrup Festival

<http://camphill.on.ca/>

Camphill Communities Ontario provides opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities to live, learn and work together with others in an atmosphere of mutual respect and equality.

Detective Constable Glen Hurst from the Durham Regional Police and **Kathy Church** will speak to us about human trafficking in the Region. Constable Hurst, a resident in the Uxbridge area, has worked for Durham Region for over 10 years. You will be surprised about what you will learn about this unexpected part of life in Durham Region. Questions such as “Is this really a problem in Uxbridge?” and “What can we as parents & grandparents do to help address this issue?” will be discussed.

On a lighter note, our short speaker will be **Niro Putnam** from Colonel Grady's Pub & Grill (44 Brock Street West). He will speak to us about their plans to help us celebrate St Patrick's Day.

Deirdre Gibson,
Speaker Chair

SOCIAL CALENDAR

THURSDAY MARCH 17...ST. PATRICK'S DAY TRIVIA AGAIN...

7:00 pm on ZOOM

SEE ATTACHED FLYER



- you will need to preregister for this event
either by phone -**Gail Heroux 905-852-9927**
or by email social.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com
- **Bernie Beales** will be our trivia guy once again this year!
- Everyone who took part in this event in 2021 had a great time
so please plan to join us again this year!
- if you have never played before, this is a good time to give it
a try ... just for fun



THURSDAY APRIL 14... EASTER EGG HUNT!... 10:30 am

We will be in cars ... groups or teams of 2-4

JOIN US FOR OUR



EASTER EGG HUNT

THURSDAY APRIL 14, 2022

10:30 am - noon



- Must pre-register ...
- by email- social.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com
- or telephone **Gail Heroux 905-852-9927**
- 2-4 people per car / team
- Meet at Walmart parking lot at 10:30 am
- Each team will be given a clue in an Easter egg to help them find their next egg and clue
- each team will collect a dozen eggs
- hunt will end at Slabtown Cidery for tabulating results and deciding winners
- Lunch will be at your own expense



THURSDAY MAY 5...MOTHER'S DAY TRIVIA NIGHT ...ON ZOOM

- join us once again on zoom as **our trivia master- Bernie Beales** once again challenges us on questions about mothers!... TV shows, famous mothers and other imaginative categories . He tells me there will be some musical clues apparently!!

- as usual, you will have to pre-register in order to receive the zoom link
 - email...social.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com
 - telephone- **Gail Heroux 905-852-9927**

THURSDAY JUNE 9... TRIP TO WHISTLING GARDENS

COST \$105....PACKAGE INCLUDES

- 8:30 am- luxury coach leaving Uxbridge Walmart parking lot
- 11:00 am - arrival at Whistling Gardens in time for fountain show -
(Canada's largest computer programmed fountain display - about 90 fountains)
- guided tour of Whistling Gardens (spans 18 acres)
- picnic lunch in garden (preselect choice of salad and sandwich)
- free time to explore the rest of the gardens ,
- Including aviary with large pheasant collection, conifer collection- largest in North America on public display
- "BLOOM" -peony festival -
North America's largest public peony collection
- opportunity to view the fountain show a second time if desired
- 3:45 pm - stop at Picard's Peanuts for browsing & shopping
- 6:30 pm - approximate arrival back in Uxbridge -
 - package arranged by Mary Morton Tours and includes all HST taxes
 - includes bus driver's tip and water on board coach
 - maximum 35 passengers



see attached flyer for more details

FUTURE PLANS.... we hope!

May... trip to the Georgina Military Museum - drive yourself or carpool

The social committee is eagerly awaiting the opportunity to reschedule many of the social events originally planned for 2020 and hope to be able to do so very soon when the restrictions from omicron are lifted and social activities are once again permitted.

Plans on hold for now:

Grand River Cruise St. Jacobs and Theatre Toronto Harbour Challenge Cruise
Wineries Tour with Step on guide Peter Brotherhood , Herongate Dinner Theatre
....and many others!

NOTE FROM THE SOCIAL CHAIR....Gail Heroux

Due to very low interest and registration, we have decided to cancel our planned scavenger hunt. Perhaps at some future date we may consider offering this event again. I apologize to those members who did register.

LET'S HOPE THAT 2022 WILL BRING THE DECLINE OF COVID AND ITS VARIANTS, AND THEN THE RETURN OF PROBUS SOCIAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER TOGETHER AGAIN IN PERSON!!

MEANWHILE STAY SAFE AND STAY HEALTHY !

A note from the Card sending branch of the Social Committee

The social committee sends a Jacquie Lawson (JL) birthday greeting to every individual member of the club to honour their birthday. Also, cards are sent to everyone in a mass sending to acknowledge a noteworthy day, event and to promote good cheer and smiles. February has been a dismal month with many of us needing an extra smile or two. Three different cards were sent out to everyone The card sent out on Feb 15 in honour of the birthday of the Canadian flag elicited the most responses of any card yet. (Please note when you reply it is helpful to sign your name, so we know who is responding. We don't have all the e-mail addresses memorized.) We thought we would share a few of the many responses with you.

-I love our flag....we are so blessed despite these challenging times

-Thanks for the memories

-the great flag debate! Very Canadian

-Wow I did not remember that .. the card certainly brought back memories

-Thank-you for the reminder. We need to cherish the things we hold dear

-many liked the two blue stripe option and many thought the flag we have today is the best

-Thank-you for the wonderful card. Did not know the history. Arrived in Canada in 1991

-WoW!!! Love it.

-I served my country in the Canadian Navy, from 1957 to

1962. And with all due respect to all our British friends, as I visited other countries, I was called a limy a few times. I never appreciated nor liked it, first, because I was French Canadian, and second, because I had made some good friends with several British navy sailors during those years. But more importantly because many Canadians had died for our country before I served. So, I thought it was about time that those who had died for their country, should be recognized as Canadian, and Canada should be recognized by its own flag. So, YES. I definitely would have voted for the new flag, if I had been asked to vote. Once our flag was finally recognized and mounted on the stern staff of our ships, we were much easier recognized as the Canadian Navy for which we were very proud. I think that today our flag is probably the most recognized flag in the world. Listen to the Olympic reports and how commentators speak of Canada.



The card sent out to honour TWO TWO day was well received by many. Here are some of the replies to that card

-Wow! I didn't know how special two day is

-I'd gladly put on my tutu but it is in the wash wash

- here's two you

-Awesome you made my day

-Great card to start the day

-Thanks for the smile and the card

-Thank-you X2

Glad to read all your responses. Helps us to feel that the work is worth the smiles received.

From the Social Committee



INTEREST GROUPS

Spring begins on Sunday, March 20! I am looking forward to warmer weather in Spring, but maybe it won't be warm enough for me until April if I'm lucky.

Snow is falling as I write this and it is cold outside, but beauty can be found in our Canadian winters too!



Cardinal photos by Patricia Asling



Currently our Club indoor groups may now meet with a maximum of 50 people and outdoor events may include up to 100. Club members must be fully vaccinated to attend all indoor events and many of our Interest Groups are meeting in person again!

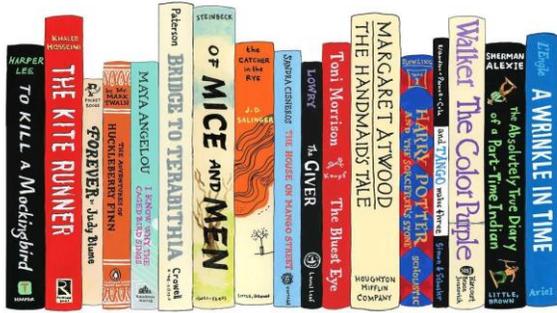
If you haven't sent a copy your vaccination dose receipts, please send the latest to:

Gail Heroux social.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com
Elaine Stevenson membership.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

POTENTIAL INTEREST GROUPS:

New BOOK GROUP! BANNED BOOK CLUB

The Banned Book Club is dedicated to reading formerly banned or challenged literature.



Some examples include *Gone With the Wind*, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, *Grapes of Wrath*, *Lolita*, *Satanic Verses*, *As I Lay Dying*, *Lives of Girls and Women*, *The Wars*, *Of Mice and Men*...to name only a few.

The discussions will include the reasons why and when the book was banned. A book was often deemed unacceptable and banned by what was happening in society at the time. Group members will need to come to meetings aware of societal issues at the time the book was written. This book group will appeal to dedicated readers who love to read a story serving a purpose.

Depending on what members choose, this group may meet monthly, every other month or maybe even quarterly. An Interim Coordinator is required to make this group active. An option is for a group member to volunteer to be the full time Coordinator, or perhaps an Interim Coordinator can be chosen for each time the group gets together.

If you would like to join this new book group, contact me, Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

A task for all of you –

Internationally all PROBUS Clubs are social clubs now affected by the pandemic. We are all being challenged with the goal of maintaining social contact among our members. Consider checking the websites of PROBUS Clubs across Canada, or wherever you find one in another country. If an Interest Group you find appeals to you or any of our current groups interest you, please contact me, Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

Current Interest Groups:

For indoor groups Club members must be fully vaccinated. If you have received your **second or third dose**, please send a copy of the receipt to

Gail Heroux at social.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com and
Elaine Stevenson at membership.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

BOOK CLUB

On February 24, ten members of the Book Club zoomed in to discuss “*The Rose Code*” by Kate Quinn. The group loved it! A brilliant depiction of the stress, working conditions, commitment, loyalty and perseverance that was needed to support the codebreaking at Bletchley Park during WW2. An engaging exploration of personal relationships and how each of the characters came to understand love. Not overwhelmingly technical, but a comprehensive look at what the roles were and how important the roles women played were to the war effort. Based on real people. Kate Middleton's grandmother was a code breaker at Bletchley. We highly recommend this for you to read.

The next meeting will be on March 24, at 1:30. The group will be discussing the prequel to “*The Pillars of the Earth*”; “*The Evening and the Morning*” by Ken Follett.

The Book Club meets on the fourth Thursday afternoon of each month.

Coordinators: Lyn May and Lenore Moore

BOOK SHARING

A virtual library has been created and this is how it works:

When you join the group, from your own collection you submit a list of 20 books that you are willing to share. This list is maintained on a shared file that all group members can see. If there is a book that you want to read, you send an email to the owner, who arranges to put it out on their porch for you. The book is placed on an “out” list, until it comes back. Everyone will need to make sure their books are identified and will also be responsible for keeping track of who has their books. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact me, Betty Bignell, at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

Coordinator: Chuck Heroux

BRIDGE CLUB - For Women Only

The Bridge group hopes to get together in person on March 16. Until then they will be playing inline every Monday from 1:30 -3:00. For more information or if you are interested in joining the group, please contact Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

The group will be meeting on third Wednesday of the month beginning in March.

Coordinator: Carol Chillman

EUCHRE

The group is currently looking for a location to play. However, if you are interested in joining the Euchre group please contact me, Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com .

Coordinator: Sally Kotsopoulos

GARDENING ** We need a Coordinator!!**

A Coordinator is needed to activate this group again! COVID restrictions indicate 10 people can now meet indoors. With a Coordinator all of you gardeners can get together and share your plans for the summer season.

HIKING

The Hiking Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 9:30 am. Our Goodwood/Uxbridge area has a wonderful series of trails through a variety of forests and meadows, some quite flat, some with gentle hills. We explore these forest trails near Uxbridge in the Durham and York Regions for 1 ½ to 2 hours. Join us for lively discussions, interesting views and leisurely treks!

March hikes are scheduled for Thursday, March 3 and March 17. Hike details are emailed to our members for pre-registration.



If you are interested in joining this Interest Group, send your request to Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinators: Carol Fraser & John Willcock

KITCHEN BRIDGE

Kitchen Bridge is a group that includes both women and men. In February, members met to enjoy playing this casual form of bridge. During the evening the group took a 15-minute break and enjoyed delicious brownies and other treats baked by the hostess! Everyone had a great evening.

With ten members currently in the group, two more players are needed to play at a third table.

An email will be sent to group members giving the date and location of when and where the next game will be played. Anyone wishing to join the group please contact Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinators: Margaret & Rene Blanchet

LET'S EAT OUT

This group gets together for dinner at various restaurants and is currently taking a break. If you would like to join the group and be contacted when it starts up again, please contact me, Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinators: Gail Heroux & Chuck Heroux

LINE DANCING



The line dancers must continue to dance on Zoom. They thought dancing would be at the Studio because it is now open. Unfortunately, due to several reasons, half of the dancers would not be able to attend. Happy faces having fun!

Some of us are wearing CNOY toques - Why? We decided to be part of the fundraiser for North House. We line danced instead of walking.

The line dancers get together every Friday morning at 10:30.

If interested in dancing with Carolyn and friends, contact Betty at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinator: Carolyn Hicken

LUNCH GROUP

On February 28 the Lunch Group dined together at The Corner House restaurant in Uxbridge. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact me at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

The Lunch Group meets on the last Monday of each month.

Coordinators: Betty Bignell & Joy Freemantle



MAHJONG

The group is currently “On hold”.

Coordinator: Susan Stevens

MEDITATION

The meditation group is now “On hold”. Group members will be informed when they can get together again. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinator: Diane Dyke

MOVIES

Currently on hold! If you would like to join this group, contact me, Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinators: Gail and Chuck Heroux

PICKLE BALL

The Pickle Ball Group is currently on hold until Spring 2022!

Coordinator: Karen Allan

TRAVEL GROUP

The next meeting is on Wednesday, March 16 at 11 am. The guest speaker will be Eric Forrest, from Cardinal Coach Tours. It will likely be via Zoom unless the group can meet safely in person.

The Travel Group usually meets on the Third Wednesday of each month.

If interested in joining this group, please contact Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinator: Kathy Clulow

URBAN WALKING GROUP

The group may start walking together again in April. New members will always be welcome and if you want to be notified when the group gets together, contact Betty Bignell interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinator: June O'Donnell

WINE CLUB

The Wine Group will meet on March 9th, 2022, at 7.00 PM. The wine chosen to taste this month will be Italian. Anyone wishing to join the group please contact Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

Coordinators –Rene and Margaret Blanchet, Sherrill Burns

To join one of our Interest Groups it is imperative that Club members contact me, Betty Bignell, Chair of Interest Groups, interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

All members of our Uxbridge PROBUS Club are covered by liability insurance under PROBUS

Canada's policy. Our Club protocol is that the Interest Group Chair must ensure the person is in fact a Club member joining a group and therefore will be covered by our liability insurance.

If you are interested in joining an Interest Group, or if you have an idea for a new group, please contact me.

Betty Bignell at Interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

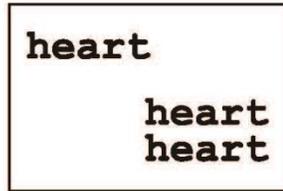
Betty Bignell, Interest Group Chair

Wacky Wordies

Each of the puzzles below provides a visual representation of a common word or phrase. Can you decipher the clues in each puzzle box?



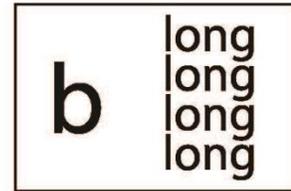
1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



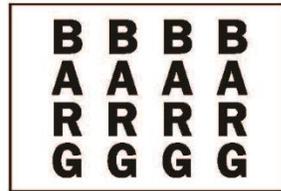
8. _____



9. _____



10. _____



11. _____



12. _____

Answers on last page.

All About Love

"Love, Texas is a small but lively town, Alyce Hills enjoys a morning stop on her way to work for coffee at the Love Café. Everyone in town knows her as the head of Hills Temporary Agency, but locals simply refer to the agency as Hills. That makes Alyce the head over Hills in Love."

A Judge's Prerogative

Judge Ferris slammed the gavel down trying to bring order in the courtroom.

Staring over the rims of her glasses, the judge frowned at the elderly man, Alan T. Book.

"Mr Book, what do you have to say?"

"About what, your honor?"

"How you managed to conceal your crime for sixty years?"

"Well judge, it's quite simple. No one suspected me. I didn't look like anyone who'd do such a thing. After all, you can't judge a Book by its cover!"

Holy Water

The old exorcist priest frowned at his apprentice.

"Are you sure this is Holy Water?" he asked as they were packing for the exorcism.

"Oh yes, Father, I made it myself," the younger priest said.

"How did you make it holy?" the elderly priest asked, curious if his trainee had followed the proper procedure.

"Well, Father, I collected the water just as you instructed, said a prayer over it as you instructed, and finally, I boiled the hell out of it!"

Diner Counter Confusion

Nelson Love sat at the diner counter and watched the waitress refill his coffee cup. The waitress unscrewed the lid on the saltshaker and the maple syrup dispenser. She turned from the counter to get the salt container and syrup container to refill them when Love reached for the saltshaker.

She stood there watching in disbelief when he poured the salt into his cup of coffee. Love stirred the coffee with a spoon and then reached for the maple syrup dispenser grabbing it by the handle.

Before the waitress could stop him, Love had poured it into the coffee cup.

"What on earth?" One of the wait staff whispered beside her. "Did Nelson Love just put salt and pancake syrup in his coffee?"

"He sure did!"

"Why did he do that?"

" 'Cause Love is blind."

Go the Right Speed Limit!

"One night a state cop saw a car going only 22 miles per hour. He pulled the car over. When he approached the driver's side, he noticed five old ladies were seated in the car and all them looked to be in shock. They were all very pale.

The old lady driver greeted him, "Officer, Why did you pull me over? I was going the speed limit exactly. What is the issue?"

"Ma'am you weren't going over the speed limit, however driving under the limit is just as dangerous."

"But I was going 22 mph, the exact speed limit."

"No, ma'am, 22 is not the speed limit, it's the route number," he laughed.

Feeling embarrassed the older woman thanked him.

"Before I let you go, is everyone ok? The other ladies seem a bit unsettled."

"Oh, they'll be fine in a minute. We were just on route 119."

Wacky Wordies answers:

1. A shot in the arm
2. Heart-to-heart
3. Cornerstone
4. Before long
5. One-on-one
6. A fork in the road
7. Tea for two
8. Son of a gun
9. Foreseeable
10. Unfinished business
11. Up for grabs
12. Throw in the towel

