



THE PROBUS CLUB OF UXBRIDGE

www.uxbridgeprobus.com

uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

UXFORMATION

April 2023

MANAGEMENT TEAM

President
Kathy Clulow

Past-President
Chuck Heroux

First Vice-President
& Zoom Coordinator
Bernie Beales

Secretary
Linda Abate

Treasurer
Wayne Brasseur

Speaker Chair
Deirdre Gibson

Social Committee Chairs
Gail Porter Heroux
Camille Scarlett

Interest Groups Chair
Betty Bignell

Newsletter Editor
Carolyn Hicken

Membership Chair
Elaine Stevenson

Webmaster
Gerry Bignell

Volunteer Co-ordinator
Lynn Moore

MEMBERS AT LARGE
Brett Moore
Larry Nancekivell
Gail Verwoerd
Judy Fountain

President's Message

We continually hear how much our members enjoy our Club. Thank you all for your words of encouragement. The key ingredient for making our PROBUS Club so vibrant is our willing and dedicated group of over 50 volunteers. Our PROBUS Club is run solely by volunteers. They are not only the backbone of our group, but the arms and legs as well! As we are nearly through our 2022/2023 PROBUS year, I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight just a **few** of the amazing volunteers who have served on our **Management Team**. Our Social Committee coordinators have brought the social back to our social activities, coming out of Covid. Our sincere thanks to **Gail**, **Camille** and team for such a variety of fun activities. Our Guest speakers have both entertained and educated us with their wide range of topics. Thanks to **Deirdre**. Our Membership Chair, **Elaine** has welcomed and processed a huge number of new members recently, making sure each one receives a welcome letter, she also greets us all as we enter our general meetings. Thanks to **Carolyn's** creativity, our monthly Newsletter keeps us informed, up to date and smiling. (She also keeps the rest of us on our toes with the deadlines to submit our reports.) Our Interest Groups, now numbering 24, continue to attract new members to our club. Thanks to **Betty** for her leadership and keeping track of all the participants. Our Management Team meetings are monthly on Zoom and how **Linda** manages to capture all the details as she takes notes and prepares the minutes of our meetings, I'll never know! Well done! Thanks to **Gerry** our website is always updated and easy to use. Each time we submit an e-transfer or payment, it is **Wayne** who makes sure it is credited to the correct event, and keeps our books and for that, he certainly deserves our thanks. **Bernie** is our VP and I thank him for editing and being my sounding board as I continue to navigate through my new role as President. Last but certainly not least is **Chuck** our past president. He continues to be a never-ending source of valuable information and encouragement.

But we could not do any of this without our volunteers! Did you know that volunteering has been proven to offer many health benefits, especially for older adults? Here are some benefits of volunteering for seniors:

- Improves both physical and mental health. Volunteer activities keep people moving and thinking at the same time. Keeping our brains active and challenged is beneficial.

- Provides a sense of purpose and teaches valuable skills. The work that volunteers provide is essential to everyday activities, which gives volunteers a sense of purpose, especially when volunteering in the areas they find meaningful.
- Nurtures new and existing relationships. Volunteering can help seniors meet new people and build new relationships.

Kathy Clulow
President, Uxbridge PROBUS Club

Nominating Committee Report

Our search continues, we have been so encouraged by the fabulous people that have agreed to let their names stand for our Management Team. We are still looking for a couple of people, including one brave person who would consider the position of Vice President, with the view of taking over the position of President in the next couple of years. The deadline is April 12th. Please let us answer any of your questions. We encourage you to join our Management Team and add your voice to the future of our PROBUS Club. Kathy Clulow, Chuck Heroux and Marie McEachnie

Management Team Volunteer Wish List

Photographer, to take photos of our meetings.
Strong arms to help setting up tables and chairs for monthly meetings.
AV and sound.... You don't have to be a wizard, but that would be a bonus.
Helpful people to assist as needed with our meetings, coffee, greeters etc.
Please email president.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

Our next PROBUS Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 10 a.m. In-person at the Uxbridge Legion.

Membership

One of our members approached Ted Barris at our January meeting and showed him a couple of photos and asked for information. Ted now has that info but does not have a name or contact information to follow up with them. Please contact Kathy if you are that person.

Speaker's Corner

We have a number of good speakers coming up & especially for our 5th anniversary celebration on June 14th.

First, we will be hearing on April 12th from Sarah Patterson of Common Earth. As April 22 is earth day Sarah's comments about the organization she founded called "Common Earth", with its mission is to help society move toward a caring society that operates within our planetary boundaries will help us all think carefully about the impact of humans on the world's environmental health. If you would like to learn more about this dynamic speaker, check out our PROBUS website where her full resume is posted.

In May Robert Symthe will speak to us about "A Century of Movies".
At the anniversary meeting we will be entertained by Mike Daley – a lively & engaging speaker.

Deirdre Gibson, Speakers Chair

MARCH IN REVIEW

On Sunday March 5th a group of us went to the Flato Markham Theatre to help the Markham Concert Band solve the mystery of who murdered Bridget! Poor Bridget was strangled backstage and the audience was fed clues and scenarios by various band members in order to try and figure out who the murderer was. It was a very entertaining afternoon of music, mystery and mayhem.

We then went to the Mandarin restaurant for a buffet dinner.

Thanks to Karen Hoyle for arranging this afternoon.



PROBUS shenanigans – March 14 at the Legion



SOCIAL CALENDAR

Social Co-Chairs: Gail Heroux & Camille Scarlett

TO SIGN UP FOR ALL SOCIAL EVENTS:

- first - you must sign up either by email to..
social.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com
or telephone to Gail Heroux - 905-852-9927
or Camille Scarlett - 416-859-1593
or at meeting at social table
- next- you must pay - either by e-transfer to
treasurer.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com
or by cheque at a meeting
or mail a cheque to Uxbridge PROBUS
c/o Gail Heroux 72 Munro Crescent Uxbridge L9P 1L8

TUESDAY APRIL 25.....10:00 am

COFFEE & CONVERSATION REPRISÉ!



If you missed the previous event, you have another chance to come out and meet more of your fellow PROBUS members!

Special invitation to our new members but all members welcome!

Deirdre & Robert are once again opening their lovely home for this event...if we're lucky, we may be able to go outside to their garden!

Cost \$5 person

Sign up at the social table or by email as noted in the above instructions!

**DEIRDRE & ROBERT...ADDRESS...23 WILSON ST. UXBRIDGE
IF LOST ...CALL905-862-3649**

SUNDAY APRIL 30....2:00 pm

MARKHAM CONCERT BAND PRESENTS.....

come early to hear **BOREALIS BIG BAND** at 1:35



Markham Concert Band
Presents

"Your Old, Old Favourites"

with Borealis Big Band

April 30, 2023 - 2pm
At Flato Markham Theatre
www.mcband.ca
For tickets: (905) 305 - 7469

FLATO
MARKHAM
THEATRE

Here's a whole show of fun and familiar tunes to put a bounce in your step & a smile on your face. Louis Prima's Sing Sing Sing! Leroy Anderson's Syncopated Clock! Special guest - Borealis Big Band doing a 1:35 pre-show & an in-show set



Join us for dinner after the concert at Mandarin Restaurant Boxgrove in Markham
Sign up to register for the dinner reservation ..by email or at the social table.

As before, you are responsible for purchasing your own concert tickets...by telephone only and use promo code "PROBUS" to receive special discount arranged by PROBUS member & band member Doug Hoyle

VISIT TO THUNDER RIDGE BISON FARM in Uxbridge



THURSDAY MAY 25...

cost \$25-member, \$30-guest

See attached flyer for times & details.

and additional date ... WEDNESDAY MAY 24

Tour by owner Brian Arnold followed by barbecue lunch of salads, bison meat, dessert and drinks. Thunder Ridge Products will be available for purchase in their store after lunch.

Sign up according to instructions at the top of social calendar.

Due to high registration numbers, we have scheduled a second date, May 24, in addition to May 25 for this event. Select your preferred day when you sign up ... there will be 2 sign up sheets available at the meeting on April 12.

Local event - drive yourself or carpool with friends

664 Davis Drive, Uxbridge 905-391-8666

TUESDAY MAY 30.....

MILLENIUM LILAC TRAIL...WARKWORTH

with Peter Brotherhood

COST: \$130 (member) \$140 (guest)

see attached flyer for more details & times

Warkworth Lilac Tour with Peter Brotherhood –

(Mary Morton Tour) Spend a day enjoying the rural delights of Northumberland County.....

Primrose Donkey Sanctuary

St. Paul's United Church in Warkworth for lunch Millenium Lilac Trail

Glover's Farm Market

For more information regarding this excursion, you may look online at

warkworthlilacfestival.ca for photos and more information and

primrosedonkeysanctuary.com for photos and history of the sanctuary

FINAL DAY TO SIGN UP FOR THIS EVENT IS MONDAY MAY 15



WEDNESDAY JUNE 14.....
PROBUS ANNUAL MEETING
&



5TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION at
WOODEN STICKS GOLF CLUB ...

10:00 am meeting - must pre-register to attend (no charge as usual) with special guests and speaker

12:45: followed by optional buffet lunch for members choosing to stay for lunch

COST: \$20 (member-subsidized)
\$40 (guest - full price)

sign up at meeting, by email or by telephone according to instructions at top of social calendar

FINAL DAY TO SIGN UP FOR LUNCH IS WEDNESDAY JUNE 7



THURSDAY JULY 20.....30,000 ISLANDS CRUISE
with lunch at LOG CABIN INN... PARRY SOUND

(tour arranged by Mary Morton Tours)

cost \$165 (member); \$175 (guest)
ISLAND QUEEN



LOG CABIN INN PARRY SOUND FOR LUNCH



8:30 am Depart from Uxbridge Walmart in deluxe luxury coach

11:15 am Buffet Lunch at Log Cabin Inn

1:00 pm Board Island Queen

7:00 pm approximate return home

[See attached flyer for more details](#)

FINAL DATE TO SIGN UP IS WEDNESDAY JULY 5

THURSDAY AUGUST 17..... ST. JACOB'S SCHOOLHOUSE THEATRE

"PERFECT WEDDING" (Mary Morton Tour)

COST : \$175 (member) \$185 (guest)

8:30 am - depart from Uxbridge Walmart parking lot in our deluxe motor coach
10:45 am - arrive St.Jacob's Market



Spend time at the St Jacob's Farmer's Market, where you can browse from the vast array of locally grown fresh produce, meats, cheese, baking, and more.

11:45 am –lunch Lunch is included at the Golf Steak House and you may make your Entrée choice there.

At 2:00 p.m. it's showtime at the St Jacob's Schoolhouse Theatre for 'Perfect Wedding.'

See attached flyer for more details and show summary .

Sign up at meeting, by email or telephone as described at the top of this newsletter.

FINAL DATE TO SIGN UP IS THURSDAY JUNE 29

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 6... STRATFORD FESTIVAL...

SPAMALOT

AVON THEATRE 2 PM....

see attached flyer for other details

Sign up as noted at top of newsletter

COST : \$200 (member) \$210 (guest)

8:30 am -depart Uxbridge Walmart Parking lot
11:30 am - lunch include at Parkview United Church with roast beef entree
2:00 pm - Showtime at Stratford Avon Theatre for "Spamalot"

7:30 pm -approximate return home

Included: all taxes & gratuities, deluxe motor coach, lunch. orchestra seating in theatre, use of Hwy 407 one way, bus driver tip, water on bus.



FINAL DAY TO SIGN UP IS THURSDAY JULY 20

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 20...

Summer Finale Barbecue - Cullen Central Park

Whitby ...Erin Monaghan catering

Save the date and watch your emails & your May newsletter details for more details regarding times and cost !

.....
We are planning to have several other local events over the next few months which will not require a bus and so would be fairly inexpensive.

Possible events:

Salem Alpaca Farm in Manilla- fall is a better time to see the animals with their heavy fleece winter coats

Foster Memorial- with Conrad Boyce?? Timbercreek Mini-Golf & Kawartha ice cream Sunflower Farm walk –

Beaverton end of July - August depending on blooms

Other suggestions for you

Oshawa Peony Festival... June 10-11 from 10 am - 4 pm

The City of Oshawa is hosting the annual Peony Festival at the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens.

Oshawa Valley Botanical Garden – Kinsmen Valleyview Park, 155 Arena St., Oshawa

FREE PARKING

INTEREST GROUPS



An early Robin photographed in March.

April 2023 - INTEREST GROUPS REPORT

On April 12, 2023, the next General meeting will be at the Uxbridge Legion as usual. 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!** As well you can contact me, Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

During our coffee break, I'll be at the back of the room with the sign-up sheets hopefully able to answer any questions. Coordinators all have their Group name tags and may be sitting with me, or somewhere in the room available to answer any questions. Everyone joining an Interest Group must be a Club member!

There usually isn't a charge to join an Interest Group, but some may have a minimal fee to pay for using the venue.

Guests may attend a Club activity twice.

POTENTIAL INTEREST GROUPS:

Animals (Horses & Dogs), Astrology, Bowling, Card & Board Games, Cooking, Current Events, Fitness, History, Home Reno, Mah-jong, Music, Sports: (Pole Walking, Running, Biking, 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 at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

*We need Coordinators to make the following groups active: Art Club, Book Lovers, Meditation and Travel.

Teamwork Makes the Dreams work!

CURRENT INTEREST GROUPS:

BANNED BOOK CLUB

The group will meet again on **Tuesday, April 18, 2023** and will be discussing, "*The Stone Angel*", by Margaret Laurence. Brett Moore will be leading the discussion.

In March "*The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*", by Sherman Alexi was discussed. This book generated some excellent discussion led by Joanne Alexander.

Currently the group has a spot for one new Club member. If interested in joining contact me, Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

The group will meet monthly on the third Tuesday at 1:30.

Coordinator: Camille Scarlett

BOOK LOVERS – **Coordinator Required**

The Book Lovers had been meeting on Wednesdays from **1:30-3:00**. The last book discussed was "*The Clockmaker's Daughter*" by Kate Morton.

If you are interested in joining this group when it becomes active again, contact me, Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

BOOK CLUB **This group has reached its maximum number of members and has a waiting list.**

Please contact me if you want to be added to the wait list, Betty Bignell,

interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

Coordinators: Lyn May, Lenore Moore

CASINO VISITS

Several members of the group will be going to **Casino Rama on Wednesday, April 19**. They will be driven by Uxbridge Town Trolley, leaving Uxbridge at 9:00 and \$25.00 will be paid to the driver. Casino Rama will give group members \$10.00 each in free play and a discount of \$10.00 off the price of the lunch buffet. They will be returning at 4:00pm. If you are interested in joining the Casino Visits Group, please contact me, Betty Bignell, at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinator: Jim Boyle

EUCHRE.

The Euchre group meets on the first Tuesday of the month, at 10:00 am.

Coordinator: Carolyn Hicken

GARDENING

Thursday, April 6, 2023, the group will be meeting at Richter's Herbs. The many herbs grown there are sent all over North America. Group members plan to return home with ideas for their own gardens. Depending on where the group meets, there may be a very small initial charge and weekly charge for members of this group.

For more information or to join the group, please contact me, Betty Bignell at interest.groups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinator: Sally Kotsopoulos

GENEALOGY **There is now a Wait List for Club members to join this group.**

The next meeting will be **April 20 from 1:30-3:30**. This small, informal group has members actively tracking their family trees and exploring their DNA.

They all have an interest in learning more about their family trees and the different tools out there to help them.

The group will meet on the third Thursday of each month from 1:30-3:30.

Coordinator – Bernie Beales



HANDICRAFT



The Handicraft Group will meet **on April 21 at 1:30 pm**. Participants are invited to bring their current projects to share with others and continue to work on.

It would be appreciated if a group member will bring yarn and a crochet hook. There are a few members who would like to learn the basics of this craft.

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 at interest.groups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinator: Sally Kotsopoulos

HIKING



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!



Hikes in April will be on **Thursday April 6 and April 20**. Hike details are emailed to members for Pre-registration. The Hiking Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 9:30 am. 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 – A Group for Both Women and Men!

The Kitchen Bridge group will be meeting at a member's home on **April 6 at 7 pm**. New members welcome! If you are interested in joining this group, contact Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com. Kitchen Bridge meets on the first Thursday of each month.
Coordinators: Margaret & Rene Blanchet

LADIES BRIDGE CLUB

The Ladies Bridge Club will get together on **Wednesday, April 19 at 1 pm**.



The Ladies Bridge group meets on the third Wednesday of each month.

Online Bridge continues every **Monday at 1:00**.

Coordinators: Carol Chillman, Caren Narvet

LET'S EAT OUT

The group will be dining together **Thursday, April 20 at 6:00 pm**. In March the group met for dinner at Pickle and Olives in Port Perry. Meeting monthly to enjoy dinner with other Club members, this group has enjoyed dining in a great variety of restaurants.



If you would like to join them, next month, please contact me at interestgroups.uxbridgeptobus@gmail.com. The group meets monthly on the third Thursday. Coordinators: Gail & Chuck Heroux

LUNCH GROUP

The Lunch Group will meet next on **April 24 at 12:00**. Group members are contacted monthly with the name of the restaurant where they will meet. In March the group met at Wixen's Bridge in Uxbridge. If interested in joining this group, contact me, Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.



The Lunch Group meets on the last Monday of the month at 12:00.

Coordinators: Betty Bignell & Joy Freemantle

MOVIES

This group periodically meets to watch movies together. In March the group met at the Flato Markham Theatre to watch "Emily" a Toronto International Film Festival event.

If you would like to be a member of this group, please contact me at

interestgroupsuxbridgeprobus@gmail.com.

Coordinators: Gail & Chuck Heroux

PICKLEBALL

It has been confirmed that Bonner Fields, at the Multi-Sport Court, will be opening in **April** if weather permits. The Park season will end in October. The Pickleball court will continue to be drop-in only. Days and times our group will be playing will be established soon.

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

Coordinators: Gerry Bignell, Barry Scarlett

SCRABBLE

The Scrabble group will meet on **Wednesday, April 12th at 1:00 PM**.

The group welcomes new players and encourages cooperation and laughter as they expand vocabularies and make new friends. This is a cooperative group interested in having a good time and stretching their brains (at least a little bit). New members are welcome. If interested contact Betty at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com or at the General Meeting.

The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm.

Coordinator: Judy Fink

SMALL TOWN THEATRE GROUP

After having lunch together on **April 22**, the Small Town Theatre group will attend the matinee performance of Grease at the Port Perry Town Hall.

Group members may be interested in attending comedies, musicals, or plays in the Durham and York regions.

If you want to join this group, please contact me, Betty Bignell at interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

Coordinators: Steve Fryzuk, Peggy Kennedy

URBAN WALKING

A social group, they walk at a moderate pace for about an hour. After the walk, if near a coffee shop members rest and chat with a coffee. Group members will be notified of when and where the next walk will be.

New members will always be welcome!

Coordinator: June O'Donnell

WINE CLUB This group now has a waiting list

The Wine group will meet next on **April 12. At 7:00 pm.**
Please contact me if you want to be added to the wait list.
This group meets monthly on the second Wednesday.
Coordinators: Margaret & Rene Blanchet, Sherrill Burns

“There’s an Interest Group for that!” (Debra Revie Lippay)

Betty Bignell

Interest Group Chair

interestgroups.uxbridgeprobus@gmail.com

A little fun

The Clever Newfie

In a small fishing village, a Newfie was walking up the wharf carrying two live lobsters, at least three pounds, one in each hand.

It was three weeks after the season closed! Whom should he meet at the end of the wharf but the Fisheries Officer who, upon viewing the live and wiggling lobsters, says: "Well me Laddie I got you this time -with two live lobsters three weeks after the Season closed!"

The Newfie says, "No - My Son you are wrong! These are two trained lobsters that I caught two weeks before the season ended."

The Fisheries Officer says, "Trained like how?"

"Well my son, each day I takes these two from my house down to the wharf and puts them in the water for a swim. While they swim I sits on the wharf and has me a smoke, or two. After about 15 minutes I whistles and up comes me two Lobsters, and I takes them home!"

"Likely story", the Fisheries Officer says, "Lets take them on down to the wharf and see if its true."

So, the Newfoundland goes ahead of the Fisheries Officer to the end of the Wharf where, under supervision,he gently lowers both Lobsters into the Water. The Newfie sits on a Wharf Piling and lights up a smoke, then another.

After about 15 minutes the Fisheries Officer says to the Newfie: "How about whistling?"

The Newfoundland says "What For?"

The Fisheries Officer says, "To call in the Lobsters"

The Newfie says, "What Lobsters?"

A wife was making a breakfast of fried eggs for her husband. Suddenly, her husband burst into the kitchen. 'Careful,' he said, 'CAREFUL! Put in some more butter! Oh my gosh! You're cooking too many at once. TOO MANY! Turn them! TURN THEM NOW! We need more butter. Oh my gosh! WHERE are we going to get MORE BUTTER? They're going to STICK! Careful. CAREFUL! I said be CAREFUL! You NEVER listen to me when you're cooking! Never! Turn them! Hurry up! Are you CRAZY? Have you LOST your mind? Don't forget to salt them. You know you always forget to salt them. Use the salt. USE THE SALT! THE SALT!'

The wife stared at him. 'What in the world is wrong with you? You think I don't know how to fry a couple of eggs?' The husband calmly replied, 'I just wanted to show you what it feels like when I'm driving.'



Instead of the John I call my bathroom the Jim!
That way it sounds better when I say I go to the Jim first thing every morning!!!

Apparently you have to eat healthy more than once to get in shape. This is cruel and unfair.

I always knew I'd get old. How fast it happened was a bit of a surprise, though.

I am starting to think I will never be old enough to know better.