



# *PROBUS Club Of Durham West*

[www.durhamwestprobus.org](http://www.durhamwestprobus.org)

Volume 11. Issue 4.

December 2017-January 2018

**PROBUS MONTHLY MEETING**  
Thursday January 11<sup>th</sup> 2018, 10 am

**SPEAKER**  
C.J.Calvert "Living an Exceptional Life"



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** **Mark Scanlan**



**Merry Christmas**      **Mele Kalikimaka**

The Christmas season is not always a joyous time of year for many people, including my wife and me. We have been through some difficult times around this time of year including marriage breakdown, divorce and deaths. I'm sure the Christmas season is the same for many others as well. We have managed to get through it with the love of family and friends.

It's amazing how our lives have been greatly enriched due to the excitement that started in 2010, then again in 2011 and 2013 as our three adorable grandchildren arrived. They bring us so much joy and love and their excitement at Christmas time is very infectious. Although we have enjoyed raising our 5 children and have some very special memories from that time, there is something magical about watching our three little ones. We feel so blessed!

On a recent visit to Pickering Town Centre we were delighted to see the beautiful new castle and all the decorations. Santa had arrived already and we watched many families waiting so their children could have a chat and their picture taken with Santa, in November yet! It certainly gave us a lovely warm feeling and simply brought a smile to our faces.

We wish everyone the joys of the season and all the things that make it so special, the lovely decorations and lights, the baking, the wonderful foods and visits with family and friends.

We are certainly looking forward to the New Year. May we all continue to knock things off our bucket lists. Have a healthy and happy 2018!



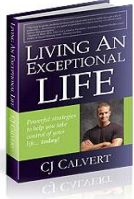
**Happy New Year**



**Happy Hogmanay**



## INTRODUCING OUR JANUARY SPEAKER



C.J. Calvert is an inspirational speaker who wrote his book “Living an Exceptional Life” on how to de-stress, laugh and include humour in your day. You will discover the strategies he has shared with tens of thousands of audience members on how to transform our lives!

Please note: In the future we will ensure that all our speakers use the microphone, repeat any questions asked by the audience before answering them and that those at the back can hear the proceedings clearly.

## MEMBERSHIP

In November we were pleased to welcome our new members.



James Upfold, Clare Kidd, Elinor Kidd, Diane Fleming and Lorna Smith.

Absent: Betty Ann Campbell, Carol Robertson and Gail Tays

Please remember to send us any updates on your address, phone number or e-mail.  
Maria & Bob Bawcutt, [bamb63e@gmail.com](mailto:bamb63e@gmail.com)





## **SOCIAL REPORT**



### **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

**December 14, 2017**

#### **Our Annual Christmas Luncheon**

Deer Creek Golf and Country Club Banquet Facility, 2700 Audley Rd. N., Ajax.

Time: Social: 11:30 am to 12:30 pm

Lunch: 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

Contacts: Claire Speed: 905-428-6356 or [mcspeed@rogers.com](mailto:mcspeed@rogers.com)

June Booth: 905-686-1477 or [jdbooth52@yahoo.ca](mailto:jdbooth52@yahoo.ca)



### **COURT WHIST**

**Thursday January 25, 2018**

Come and join the group and learn to play a fun game similar to Euchre  
Play instructions will be provided. Just bring a snack (dessert or appetizer) to share  
and a deck of cards and enjoy a winter afternoon with Probus friends.

Cost: \$5.00

Location: 55 Falby Court, in the activity room.

Time: Afternoon - time to be announced later.

This event is **Full**. Please see convenors if you wish to be on the wait list.

Convenors: Bonnie Cutten (905-831-7489) and Marianne Rodhe (416-491-1406)



### **VALENTINES DAY POT LUCK LUNCH**

**February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Following the February general meeting.

Come and enjoy the company of your PROBUS friends. Bring a dish to share with the  
group. Valentines cake will be provided.

Signup at the January meeting.

Convenors: Juanita Hogg-Devine (416-444-2257) and Dale Thomas (905-723-6862)



**BATA SHOE MUSEUM and LUNCH**  
**Tuesday March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

We will enjoy a highlights tour of the museum which houses the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of shoes and footwear and related artifacts from around the globe.

Costs and details to be announced later.

Signups at the January and February meetings.

Convenor: Marcia Everitt (416-724-6355)

**REMINDERS:** There are NO REFUNDS if you sign-up for an event & are unable to attend. You may have someone go in your place by getting payment from them & notifying the Convenor of the event of the change along with the name & phone number of the person replacing you.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR CHEQUE BOOK** as you must pay for the event at the time of sign-up.

Please use the suggestion box for feedback and ideas for social events

**Please be aware that many people are very allergic to scents so please DO NOT wear perfume or aftershave to gatherings.**



**ACTIVITY GROUP NEWS**



If you have an interest and you would like to explore the membership for others interested in joining you, please speak to me at the meeting or send me an email. We are exploring establishing a Boards Game group, a second Scrapbooking group, and a Movies group.

If interested in helping to get any one of these started, please let me know. It is a good way to get involved in Club activities and at the same time meet other members.

When signing up to indicate your interest in a group, please leave contact information. If no email address, then give a phone number.

Catherine Frost [c.frost@sympatico.ca](mailto:c.frost@sympatico.ca)





## **BOOK CLUBS**

### **THE NOVEL READERS**

We will get together on December 6, 2017 at 1:00 to discuss “The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy” by Rachel Joyce. Looking ahead to January 3, 2018, we will be talking about “Do Not Say We Have Nothing” by Madeline Thien. On February 7, 2018 our club will be reading and exchanging impressions about *Beartown* by Fredrik Backman. For more information about the Novel Readers, contact Colleen Lea at 905 686-1629 or [colleenlea@hotmail.com](mailto:colleenlea@hotmail.com)

### **THE ‘READERS CHOICE’**

Our December discussion will be Canadian author Shari Lapena’s thriller ‘The Couple Next Door’ a tale of secrets and lies. Our January read will be Plum Johnson’s debut novel “They Left us Everything” a memoir about paraphernalia and more. Contact Debra Eckstein at [debra@eckstein.com](mailto:debra@eckstein.com)

### **WORDS WORTH READING BOOK CLUB**

For December we are reading “Laughing all the way to the Mosque” by Zarqua Nawaz. We will also be enjoying a pot luck luncheon. Our January book is “The Invention of Wings” by Sue Monk Kidd.  
Contact: Joice McKay [joicemckay@rogers.com](mailto:joicemckay@rogers.com) or 905-683-8432



## **BOWLING**

Bowling will be on **Thursday December 21st. & Thursday January 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm.** (Note the Thursday change for these months) at the Ajax Bowling Centre, 172 Harwood Ave. S. Bowling is once a month on the fourth Thursday afternoon. Novices to experts are welcome to this FUN activity! This is not a league so you sign up each month. We always welcome new bowlers.  
Cost is \$9.50 and includes 2 games & shoes or \$8.00 if you have your own bowling shoes. Pay at the bowling alley. Please contact Bonnie each month if you would like to bowl. Bonnie Cutten at: [bcutten0809@rogers.com](mailto:bcutten0809@rogers.com) or 905-831-7489.



## **BREAKFAST CLUB**

First Tuesday of the month at 9:30, the breakfast group meets at a local restaurant. Members pick their favourite restaurant which enables members to enjoy light conversations and laughs over a delicious breakfast and coffee.  
December 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am we will be meeting at Westney Grill, 570 Westney Road, Ajax  
Contact: June Booth [jdbooth52@yahoo.ca](mailto:jdbooth52@yahoo.ca)  
Please email June and myself (Linda Robbins) at [Richard.robbins@sympatico.ca](mailto:Richard.robbins@sympatico.ca) by December 1<sup>st</sup> to ensure you are included in the reservation.  
**PLEASE NOTE:** The Breakfast Group will NOT meet on Tuesday January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **GARDEN CLUB**



The garden Club will meet at St. Paul's United Church on Feb. 5th at 2:00 pm.  
Contact: Geoff Nie [geoff.nie@sympatico.ca](mailto:geoff.nie@sympatico.ca)

### **NATURE LOVERS**



The Nature Lovers held the November 16th planning meeting at St. Paul's United Church to discuss the outings for 2018. Our proposed outings include the following:

March - Canadian Canoe Museum

April - a hike along trails in Walker Woods/Glen Major Forest

May - Special tour at Toronto Zoo

June - Ostrich farm tour

July - Jungle Cat World

August - Parkwood Estate gardens tour

September - Mennonite Farm Tour

October - Credit Valley Explorer Train ride

Our monthly field trips are usually the third Thursday morning of the month (dependent on when an activity is available). We are always looking for new members so come join us loving nature!

Contact Geoff Cutten for more details [gcutten0809@rogers.com](mailto:gcutten0809@rogers.com) 905-831-7489.

### **NIBBLES AT NIGHT**



Thanks to Carrie & Frank Green for an enjoyable evening in November. Sandy & Karl Clarke will be our hosts on Friday, December 15th and Elizabeth Ryan will host on Friday, January 19th.

We have room for a few new members. If you think you might be interested contact me and we will arrange for you to join us one evening.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

For more information about NIBBLES please contact Dru Carter at 905-683-9677 or [carterdru34@gmail.com](mailto:carterdru34@gmail.com).

### **SNAPPED PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB**



In November we had a very successful planning day. We look forward to more great outings with our cameras.

We are an amateur photography club where all types of cameras and levels of photography are welcome. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month. If you are interested in trying photography contact: Ann Buffett at [annbuffett@sympatico.ca](mailto:annbuffett@sympatico.ca)

## **UKULELE STRUMMERS**



The ukulele strummers are enjoying their Christmas music finishing up a terrific year of jamming with a pot luck at Roy and June Boon's on Dec.13th at noon.

## **WALKING on WEDNESDAYS**



Just because the weather is getting cold does not mean that it is time to hibernate. So join us each Wed throughout the winter as we brave the cold and snow (OK, let's be honest, on really bad days we hit the mall to walk) to continue our weekly walks. To find out where we will be walking for 75 minutes (approx.), you need to join our weekly email list. Send me your email address and I will send you one email each week giving you the location for the walk. We try to walk different routes each week and in different parts of the region. No need to commit to coming each week. You just show up whenever you are able. But we are hoping that you will enjoy walking and talking so much that you won't want to miss a week!! So start your New Year's resolutions early this year and come out to walk with our group!!

Bernice Pyke [billandbernicepyke@hotmail.com](mailto:billandbernicepyke@hotmail.com)

**Shorter Walks – Slower Walks** If you find that 75 minutes is too long or the pace is too fast, come out on Wednesday and meet at the specified location and those of us who need a slower, shorter walk will follow along behind at our own pace. We will still get the needed exercise and social chatter.

### **Additional Activity Groups and Contact Information**

<b>Create And Chat</b>	- Dorothy Green	<a href="mailto:captain.kirby@sympatico.ca">captain.kirby@sympatico.ca</a> .
<b>Genealogy</b>	- Judy Feeney	<a href="mailto:jepf@rogers.com">jepf@rogers.com</a>
<b>Golf</b>	- Marcia Everett	<a href="mailto:marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca">marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca</a>
<b>Marathon Bridge</b>	- Julie Trebilcock	<a href="mailto:julietrebilcock@rogers.com">julietrebilcock@rogers.com</a>
<b>Pole Walking</b>	- Eileen Nixon,	<a href="mailto:eileennixon8585@gmail.com">eileennixon8585@gmail.com</a>

## **PROBUS CLOTHING**

Orders for PROBUS branded merchandise were submitted to the supplier on November 1. I expect to have most of them available for distribution at the Christmas luncheon. I have already communicated directly with anyone whose order was delayed due to a back order situation.

If you missed your chance to order, don't worry, for you will have another chance next year! Jim Hinnecke



## PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST WINNERS



- 1<sup>st</sup> place:** Janet Simmons for “Winter Sunset”  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** David MacKay for “Ever Vigilant”  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Bonnie Cutten for “Superman”  
**Honorable Mention:** Patricia Ho Yuen for “Man in the Bay”  
Ian Medford for “Rose-breasted Grosbeak”



**1<sup>st</sup> Place**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**



**Honorable Mention**



Patricia, Bonnie, Byron (accepting for wife Janet) and Ian





## MESSAGE BOARD



### AJAX LIBRARY ROTARY ROOM

**Bridge** on Thursdays at the Ajax Public Library – Main Branch, 55 Harwood Ave. South at 2:30 pm (A free will donation is taken for coffee and cookies.) This is social bridge so come and HAVE FUN.

Next dates are December 7<sup>th</sup> and January 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Free Bridge Lessons** There are **no** bridge lessons in December. We will meet again on January 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at the Ajax Public Library – Main Branch, 55 Harwood Ave. South, starting at 2:30 pm (A free will donation is taken for coffee and cookies.)

**Euchre** December 8<sup>th</sup> and January 19<sup>th</sup> at the Ajax Library Main Branch from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. BUT come a little earlier because it can fill up quickly.

**Cribbage** is at the McLean's recreation centre, on opposite Fridays to Euchre. The information can be found at, [www.ajax.ca/library](http://www.ajax.ca/library)

All of the above are free and everyone is welcome.

### Trips

**Branson and Chicago**, June 2nd to 10th, 2018.

Includes 8 breakfasts, 1 lunch (on the Branson Belle), and 6 dinners. Area tour in Branson, Untouchable Tour in Chicago, Branson Bell with entertainment, river cruise in Chicago, Andy Williams and Me – with Jimmy Osmond, Rick Thomas Magic Show, Dixie Stampede Show, Titanic Museum, Billy Dean, Free shopping time, Elevation at the St. Louis Arch.

Price is C\$ 2,495.00 per person double occupancy.

Contact: Karl Clarke at [ksan2640@gmail.com](mailto:ksan2640@gmail.com)



## **2017 / 2018 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**PRESIDENT – Mark Scanlan**  
scanbones@gmail.com  
**VICE PRESIDENT –Randy Slein**  
randyslein@gmail.com  
**PAST PRESIDENT –Gwen Smith**  
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**MEMBERSHIP - Maria & Bob Bawcutt**  
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**Dale Thomas**  
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**ACTIVITIES – Catherine Frost**  
ccfrost501@gmail.com  
**SPEAKERS – Roy Boon**  
royboon67@gmail.com



Comments, articles and photographs from Social Events and from the Activity groups would be appreciated.

Please send to: [annbuffett@sympatico.ca](mailto:annbuffett@sympatico.ca)

For information on other PROBUS Clubs in Canada go to [www.probus.org/canada.htm](http://www.probus.org/canada.htm)