



The PROBUS Club of Durham West

General Meeting November 10th, 2022, HMS Ajax Room
South Entrance Ajax Community Centre,
75 Centennial Road, Ajax, ON L1S 4S4

November 2022 President's Message

Welcome to our official first newsletter using Wild Apricot. The platform will make it much easier in the future to sign up, pay for events and renew your membership online. It will also make it much easier to manage a club as large and active as ours. We hope you enjoy your online experience.

Going forward, the plan is to remove content that is only relevant to our Club members, **from the public site**. For example, names of new members' requests to fill management positions and the President's message.



COVID is still with us and flu season is around the corner. Feel free to wear your mask indoors but **we will not** be checking for vaccination status.

We will provide extra seating at our meetings to allow more opportunities for social distancing. The management team continues to track the COVID situation and, if warranted, may put in place revised safety guidelines.

I recently attended a meeting of all the PROBUS Presidents in the Durham Region. We shared stories and ideas about how best to run our meetings. Attendance at our own, and most clubs, has started out slow since resuming in-person meetings, but more members are now showing up every month. This is very encouraging news, as the management team strives to offer members fun and rewarding meetings.

We still **have vacancies on our team** and need volunteers to share in the efforts that make our Club great! Detailed job descriptions are available at [Job Descriptions](#)

The House Chairperson oversees a team of volunteers at the General Meetings. The House Chair reports to the management team on any issues brought forward by our members. The team ensures that refreshments are available, greets members and guests, records attendance, updates the guest book, and sells tickets for the Share the Wealth draw. The House Chair is a minimum one-year commitment that includes attendance at monthly General and Management meetings or sending a team member instead.

The Social Committee Chairperson works with a team of volunteers to plan and prepare social events. They collaborate with the Committee, the Management Team, and our members to promote upcoming events and prepare budgets. This is also a minimum one-year commitment that includes attendance at monthly General and Management meetings.

Don't forget "FALL BACK"

Daylight Savings Time ends on SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6

Ruth Bridge
President

NOVEMBER SPEAKER

November 10th, 2022

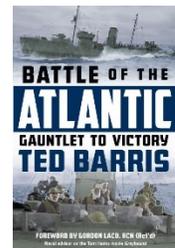
TED BARRIS – Battle of the Atlantic: Gauntlet to Victory

Ted Barris, a noted military historian, once asked his father, Alex, “What did you do in the war?” What the former US Army medic then told his son forms the thrust of Barris’s latest historic journey—an exploration of his father’s wartime experiences as a medic leading up to the Battle of the Bulge in 1944-45, along with stories of other medics in combat throughout history.



Barris’s research reveals that this bloodiest of WWII battles was shouldered largely by military medics. Like his father, Alex, medics in combat evacuated the wounded on foot, scrounged medical supplies where there seemed to be none, and dodged snipers and booby traps on the most frigid and desolate battlefields of Europe. While retracing his father’s wartime experience, the author weaves into his narrative stories about the life-and-death struggles of military medical personnel during a century of service.

In this unique front-line recounting of the experiences of stretcher-bearers, medical corpsmen, nurses, surgeons, orderlies, dentists, and ambulance drivers, Barris explores the evolution of battlefield medicine at such historic engagements as Fredericksburg, Batoche, the Ypres Salient, the Somme, Vimy, Singapore, Dieppe, Normandy, Falaise, Bastogne, Korea, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Barris’s sources reveal—like never before—why men and women sporting the red cross on their helmets or sleeves didn’t flee to safety but chose instead to rush to assist.



MEMBERSHIP

There are more photos on our website
<https://durhamwestprobus.org>

Marie Dinelle is welcomed as our newest member by President Ruth Bridge.



Name Badges

Is your membership badge hiding in that safe place you stored it pre-COVID and you can't quite remember where that safe place is?

As with everything else, our supplier costs have increased so that as of January 1, 2023, the replacement cost of all new badges will be raised to \$25.

If you want to beat this increase and order yourself a new badge at the cost of \$20, please contact us at dwprobus.membership@gmail.com, or see us at the Membership desk at the November General Meeting.

Please remember to wear your badge at every PROBUS meeting and event. It helps identify you as a member and makes it easier for your fellow members to greet you and get to know you.

Bev & Dave Bicknell
Membership Chair

Please note that the email for membership inquiries, change of address, etc. is now dwprobus.membership@gmail.com

SOCIAL

REMINDERS: There are NO REFUNDS if you sign-up for an event and are unable to attend. You may have someone go in your place by getting payment from them and 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.

Use the suggestion box for feedback and ideas for social events.

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

Some of our members are unable to drive but would like to participate in social events. If you are planning on driving to an event and are willing to share your ride with someone unable to drive, please contact the event convener and let them know your availability. Likewise, if you need a ride, contact the event convener, and let them know so they can match you up with a driver.

AGA KHAN MUSEUM – SOLD OUT

We have arranged a Private Tour at the Aga Khan Museum. The Aga Khan Museum is a museum of Islamic art, Iranian art, and Muslim culture. It showcases artifacts from the entire range of Muslim culture and history. Check out their website to learn more about this interesting museum check the website at <https://www.agakhanmuseum.org/index.html>



Date: Saturday, November 19, 2022.

Time: You should arrive at Aga Khan Museum main desk at **10:45 a.m.**

Cost: \$24 which includes admission fee and a private tour.

This is a carpool or drive-yourself event. We encourage club friends to travel together.

The address is **77 Wynford Drive, North York, Ontario M3C 1K1.**

Directions to the Museum: 401 West; South on Don Valley Parkway; off-ramp at Wynford Drive; turn right on Wynford Drive then left into the Aga Khan Museum Parking Garage.

There is underground parking and the daily flat rate is **\$10**. Payment can be made at machines found in the parking areas, contactless online at [The Aga Khan Museum](#), or the Visitor Services desk inside the Museum.

We will have a **“You-Pay Late-Lunch or Early Dinner”** at the **Pickle Barrel** restaurant in Pickering for us to unwind and share our reflections and impressions of everything we learned at the Aga Khan Tour.

Pickle Barrel address: 1809 Liverpool Rd (west side of Pickering Town Centre)

Convenors: Pat Bolger pbolger@rogers.com and Sharon Fenn sf809@hotmail.com

Lorna Smith
Social Chair

[GO TO EVENT](#)

HOLIDAY/CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

DATE: THURSDAY DECEMBER 8TH

Location: Ajax Convention Centre – 550 Beck Crescent, Ajax

Time: Social hour – 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Lunch: 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Menu: Choice of Butternut Squash soup or Gourmet Caesar Salad. Choice of Entree will be roast turkey, blackened salmon or stuffed pepper (vegan), warm apple and peach crumble for dessert, tea, or coffee. Gratuities are included.

Cost: \$40.00 for members and \$50.00 for guests

Entertainment: Deidrey Francois

The last chance to sign-up will be at the November General Meeting at the sign-up table. Sign-up forms will be available, in the newsletter, on the website, and at the sign-up table.

Please bring your completed form to the General Meeting with your cheque made payable to the PROBUS Club of Durham West. Cheques will not be cashed until we have enough people to make this event happen.

Please invite your friends to join us for a fun time. Where else can you have a meal and entertainment for the low price of \$40 for members and \$50 for guests?

Convenors: Sharon Castellarin (sharoncastellarin@bell.net) and Lorna Smith (lsmith1@bell.net)

[GO TO EVENT](#)

MORE POWER TO YOU

Date: Friday, January 27, 2023

Time: 9:15 am (2 1/2 hours)

Place: Pickering Nuclear Generating Station
Information Centre at:

1675 Montgomery Park Road, Pickering,
(Bayly to Sandy Beach to Montgomery Park).



Cost: FREE. Join us for this informative morning!!

Parking: There is very limited parking at OPG. Carpooling with friends is necessary. Park at Alex Robertson Community Park at the foot of Sandy Beach Road (close to OPG).

Procedure for registration: To reserve a spot, hit the register button. You can register non-member guests after January 1st. If you have problems registering guests, please email: billandbernicepyke@hotmail.com

Portions of the Information Centre tour are **self-guided** (30 min). However, the presentation on CANDU and the virtual tour will be presented by a staff person. **We will be sitting while listening to the presentation.** There should be something for everyone during the 2 1/2 hours that we will be at the Centre.

If your plans change, please let Bernice know so that your spot can be allotted to someone else. We are offering this tour to two other PROBUS groups in the area so reserve your spot early.

[GO TO EVENT](#)

MORE INFORMATION:

How well do you know your neighbours? Probably not as well as you think! Most of us have lived 'Next Door' to the Pickering Nuclear Power Station and probably know very little about what they actually do inside those huge domed structures. Here is your chance to change all that. On Friday, January 27, 2023, you will be given the opportunity to learn a LOT about the Pickering Power Plant, what it does, how it works, and how it affects our communities. We will spend the morning learning about the CANDU technology, talking about how the systems work, hearing about new technologies, participating in a **'virtual' tour** of the Generating Station, and learning more about OPG and what it does for us.

ACTIVITIES

If you are interested in joining a group, we are looking forward to hearing from you!
Please reach out to Bev Waite at bev.waite@outlook.com

APP-TEASERS

Presently, our Nibbles group is at capacity, and there have been a couple of requests to start a second group.

In response to requests, a new "nibbles-type" group has formed called App-teasers. The plan is for it to be an informal afternoon gathering of conversation, snacks, and drinks. It will be held on the fourth Tuesday of every month and each month a member will host the group in their home/backyard. The next meeting will be on November 22nd from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

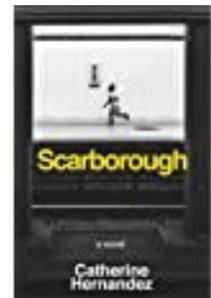
Please email Roseann at blakeroseann695@gmail.com if you are interested, and she will share more details.

Bev Waite
Activities Chair

NOVEL READERS BOOK CLUB

In November, the Novel Readers will be discussing **Scarborough**, by Catherine Hernandez. The novel is set in a low-income and culturally diverse area of Scarborough. So far, we have been able to meet in person. Looking ahead to January, our selection will be **Looking For Jane** by Heather Marshall. We currently have full membership.

For more information, please contact Colleen Lea at 905-686-1629 or colleenlea@hotmail.com

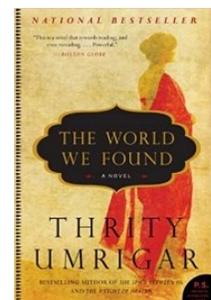


WORDS WORTH READING BOOK CLUB

In November, the book club will be discussing the novel "The World We Found" by Thrity Umrigar. According to Goodreads, it is "a skillfully wrought, emotionally resonant story of four women and the indelible friendship they share." As outlined by Will Byrnes, Thrity Umrigar "has written this story about caste, class, religion, and relationships between women". Thrity Umrigar is the acclaimed author of "The Space Between Us" and "The Weight of Heaven".

Presently our book club is at full membership.

Contact: Jean Jackson at 905-420-6410 or jeanej@rogers.com



BOWLING

Thursday, November 24th. at 2:00 p.m.

Join us for a FUN time!

Novices to experts are welcome!

We welcome new bowlers. This is **not** a league.

Contact Bonnie each month to sign-up.

Bowling is once a month usually on the fourth Thursday afternoon.

Location: Ajax Bowling Centre, 172 Harwood Ave. South.

Cost: \$11.00 includes 2 games & shoes (\$2.00 for shoes)
\$9.00 if you have your own bowling shoes. Payment at the bowling alley.

Please contact Bonnie each month if you would like to bowl.
bcutten0809@rogers.com or call 905-831-7489 for more information.

DURHAM WEST MARATHON BRIDGE CLUB

Our members are looking forward to the 2022-23 season.

For further information please contact us.

Dave or Irveen Powley
powleydi@gmail.com or (905) 683-1444

CINEMA CLUB NEWS

A small group met at Pickering Cineplex on Saturday, October 15th for an afternoon showing of The Women King which everyone seemed to enjoy.

If you have any questions or would like to join us, you can contact me, Karen Dryden at
kdryden2852@gmail.com

or

Anne McKenzie at annel.Mckenzie@gmail.com

CREATE AND CHAT

We have many photos of our projects on the website: <https://durhamwestprobus.org/create-and-chat>

Eleven ladies attended the October meeting, bringing not only their current projects but lots of conversation and laughs. Several Halloween costumes were donated for the neonatal unit at Sunnybrook Hospital to be delivered by Bev Waite; also Mary Mullen donated red wool to be made into scarves for Aids Durham at Christmas.

Our November gathering will take place in the Arts Room at Westney Gardens Retirement Residence, 1010 Westney Rd N, Ajax, on the northwest corner of Westney and Rossland Rds. Access to the parking lot is from Rossland Rd for those who haven't been there before.

Hope to see you there.

Contact: Sharon Marshall, oxford9390@gmail.com

DINNER GROUP - "Let's Eat"

We have many photos of our get-togethers on the website <https://durhamwestprobus.org/Lets-Eat>

Four members of the Let's Eat dinner group met at Symposium Restaurant - 338 Rossland Road, East, Ajax on Thursday, October, 20 at 5:30 p.m. We had great food and conversation. We're considering making this a lunch group for the winter months since many of us are hesitant to drive in the evening.

I will be sending an email to the members for their thoughts/approval to change to a lunch group for the winter months.

June Booth

FRIENDLY EUCHRE

November dates are the 4th and 18th, at the library in the Audley Rec Centre. We meet every other Friday for a fun afternoon of cards. Repairs have started at the Ajax Main Library but a date for our return there has not been established yet.

Doors open at 1:30 p.m. and Euchre starts at 2:00 p.m. and finishes at 4:00 p.m.

Masks are a personal choice

Everyone is welcome. If you are interested in joining us just come to the library, or I can be contacted at annbuffett@gmail.com

GARDENING CLUB

Unfortunately, our October trip to Edwards Gardens was cancelled due to a lack of volunteer staff at Edwards Gardens. Likewise, our outing to Vandermeer's is also in jeopardy for the same reason.

Winter is fast approaching so effective immediately we will be closing down this group activity until the Spring.

See you then and stay safe.

Geoff Nie: geoff.nie@rogers.com

NATURE LOVERS

If you are interested in joining the Nature Lovers activity group please contact Geoff Cutten.

Geoff Cutten at gcutten0809@rogers.com.

NIBBLES AT NIGHT

Check out a variety of photos taken by our members at <https://durhamwestprobus.org/nibbles>

October Nibbles was another great evening hosted by the Bawcutts and a birthday celebration for Glenn Frasier. Good times and lots of fun.

Our Nibbles group is currently at capacity.

Fran Griffin frangriffinhome@gmail.com

SNAPPED PHOTOGRAPHY

Check out a variety of photos taken by our members at <https://durhamwestprobus.org/snapped-camera-club>

The Snapped Photography group visited WindReach Farms for their September outing. A tour was provided by a volunteer who is also a photographer. "WindReach Farm strives to enrich the lives of persons of all ages with disabilities and/or special needs by providing opportunities to enjoy experiences in farming, nature, outdoor recreation, and other activities, and to share those experiences with family and friends."

In October, the group went to Purple Woods Conservation Area. Lots of photos were taken of the colourful scenery. We took the Discovery Trail (accessibility trail) however, I would not want to push a wheelchair up those gradual hills - just a warning to those wanting to venture out. Check out our photos.

If you are interested in joining our Snapped Photography group, please contact Lorna Smith at lsmith1@bell.net

NORDIC POLE WALKERS

Rain or hail our ladies are always out walking. Poles are optional.

Contact Eileen Nixon at eileennixon8585@gmail.com for information.



WEDNESDAY WALKING GROUP

If you are interested in joining our Wednesday Walking Group please contact Bernice Pyke. billandbernicepyke@hotmail.com

LIBRARY BRIDGE

The library is having trouble locating the source of the water leak in the floor of the Rotary Room in the main branch of the Ajax Library. We have therefore been reassigned to the Multipurpose Room in the Audley branch of the library.

The following schedule is for Bridge at the library in November

Thursday, November 3, 2:30 to 4:30 Social Bridge.

Thursday, November 10, 2:30 to 4:30 Bridge Lesson (Major Suit Openings and Response Sequences when Responder has the Other Major).

Thursday, November 17, 2:30 to 4:30 Bridge Lesson (Minor Suit Openings and Response Sequences when Responder has a Major Suit).

Thursday, November 24, 2:30 to 4:30 Social Bridge.

I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL!

Harvey Brodhecker at hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca

OUTDOOR GOLF GROUP

We are winding down the season at Hawthorne Valley with splendid fall colors on the course.

Hope to see everyone next year.

If you are interested in joining us email Marcia Everitt at marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca



The Ajax Public Library Newsletter - **What's On** can be viewed or downloaded at <https://www.ajaxlibrary.ca/whatson>

The Amateur Short Story contest deadline is November 30 or join a book club. Do you want to learn a new skill? Free video courses led by experts on topics such as web design, business, marketing, photography, and software development are available at <https://www.ajaxlibrary.ca/research-learn>

The St. Francis Centre's 2022 season opened on September 24th. See what's coming up at <https://www.ajax.ca/en/play-and-discover/shows-and-tickets.aspx>

Free virtual programs older adults and seniors can participate in from the comfort of home. SCWW operates Monday through Wednesday. November Schedule To participate in the program via Zoom or call-in, contact 55plus@ajax.ca or call 905-619-2529, ext. 7243

<https://www.ajax.ca/en/play-and-discover/activities-and-recreation-programs.aspx#55-LINK-Newsletter>

<https://www.ajax.ca/en/play-and-discover/activities-and-recreation-programs.aspx#Senior-Centre-Without-Walls-SCWW>

SHARING OUR RECIPE

This month I am sending you a spectacular recipe that makes “**The Big Guy**” hustle out to the **Capital Letter Store** and come back with a bottle of **Dry Marsala Wine**. It is the key flavour ingredient of this recipe and you cannot substitute any other wine to get that special Marsala flavour. I found this recipe at www.feastingathome.com and I have tested this recipe many times (3 bottles of Marsala worth). I am confident that it will be one of your “**Company is Coming!**” special recipes. I have added the peppercorns as I like to have that burst of peppery goodness in my mouth when you unexpectedly crunch into one. This sauce is not a gravy but more of an “au jus”. For extra richness, add more cream, or for a looser sauce, add more broth or wine.



Chicken Marsala

Adapted for 2 Hungry Seniors
Serve with mashed potatoes and cooked peas, beans, carrots, or asparagus

“**The Big Guy**” recommends a chilled crisp clear Sauvignon Blanc or a chilled Pinot Grigio.

¼ cup flour
1 tsp salt
½ tsp pepper
2 boneless skinless chicken breasts in 4 cutlets
2 Tbsp olive oil
1 Tbsp butter
2-3 cups of sliced mushrooms – button, cremini, portobello, or shiitake
1 shallot, finely sliced (substitute ½ red onion)
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 Tbsp chopped fresh oregano and/or thyme
1 tsp whole peppercorns, crushed (optional)
1 cup chicken broth
¾ cup dry Marsala wine
½ cup heavy cream or half and half

Table Garnish:
Fresh Parsley
Fresh Thyme

1. Mix the flour, salt, and pepper on a plate or in a zip-lock bag. Cut the chicken into cutlets so each cutlet is about ½ inch thick.
2. Heat oil and butter in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Dredge each cutlet in the flour and immediately sear each side of the cutlet for 3 minutes then remove from the pan and set aside.
3. Lower the heat, add one more Tbsp of olive oil and butter to the pan then add mushrooms, shallot, garlic, oregano, thyme, peppercorns, salt, and ground pepper. Sauté until the mushrooms start to release their liquid and begin to brown slightly.
4. Add the chicken broth, Marsala wine, and heavy cream. Nestle the chicken cutlets into the sauce and simmer for 12-15 minutes until the sauce has reduced by half and the chicken is fully cooked.

Submitted by pbolger@rogers.com

PROBUS CLUB OF DURHAM WEST
ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 2022
AJAX CONVENTION CENTRE, 550 BECK CRESCENT, AJAX

SOCIAL HOUR 11:30 A.M. -12:30 P.M.
LUNCH 12:30 P.M.-2:00 P.M.

MENU

SOUP (BUTTERNUT SQUASH) OR SALAD (GOURMET CAESAR)
ENTREES – CHOICE OF ONE
TRADITIONAL CARVED TURKEY DINNER or
BLACKENED SALMON or
STUFFED PEPPER (VEGAN)
DESSERT – WARM APPLE & PEACH CRUMBLE

EACH PROBUS MEMBER IS \$40.00 GUEST IS \$50.00

As a reminder of the Holiday Luncheon, please keep the top portion.

Please tear off and hand in the completed form with the cheque attached to Lorna Smith or Sharon Castellarin at the General Meeting.

<Please indicate your choice with a check mark>

Member \$40.00/Guest \$50.00

Name of Member

Soup (Butternut Squash) or _____
Salad (Gourmet Caesar) _____
Traditional Carved Turkey Dinner or _____
Blackened Salmon or _____
Stuffed Pepper with white & wild rice (Vegan) _____

Name of Member/Guest

Additional Member \$40.00/Guest \$50.00

Soup (Butternut Squash) or _____
Salad (Gourmet Caesar) _____
Traditional Carved Turkey Dinner or _____
Blackened Salmon or _____
Stuffed Pepper with white & wild rice (Vegan) _____

Cheque Attached? Yes _____ Amount? _____

Registration for the Holiday Luncheon must be received by November 10th.

<Please make cheques payable to The PROBUS Club of Durham West>