

Durham Central PROBUS Club Newsletter: September 2021



2021 – 2022 Executive Officers:

Tom Reed,
President

Patti Mavins,
Vice President and
Newsletter Editor

Doug Byers,
Past President

Tricia Cadieux,
Secretary

Tom Anderson,
Treasurer

Committee Chairpersons & Other Positions

**Jackie Bathe,
Janet Good &
Judy Roebuck,**
Social Committee

Catherine Frost,
Special Interest
Groups

Laurie Jones,
Speakers

Paul Dionne
Membership

**Heather Anderson
& Sue Mackinnon,**
House Committee

Connie Nelson,
Web Master &
Archivist

**Sylvia Hughes &
Mary Ann Bridge,**
Members at Large

NEXT MEETING – THURSDAY, September 16, 10 AM
Online meeting via Zoom

President's Message

Even More Dog Days? The month of August was certainly the upside, rather than the downside, of the Dog Days of Summer! The heat and humidity were oppressive, curtailing even our outside activities unless you had a lake or pool at hand. I was fortunate to spend some time with our Paddlers and Walkers despite the heat. Thank you to our leaders, Lewis and Peter. I am sure you, like me, are frustrated that the numbers continue to rise dramatically just as we were hoping for more participation in outdoor gatherings and activities. Regardless, please frequent our new website to see the latest activities available for you to join and participate. Suggestions, initiatives and ideas for the enjoyment of our members are most welcome. Please let Catherine know of yours.

Thanks goes to Patti, Paul and Connie of your Management Team for their work in developing the survey to gather your input about returning to face-to-face meetings as promised. Thanks also to those of you who replied. This information will be reviewed at our Team meeting in early September, and is critical in helping guide our decisions for a return to the Shrine Club and the opening of more of our interest groups. Meanwhile, we are close to finishing the revisions to job descriptions on the management team; an update will be made following our meeting in September.

Mary Anne Bridge has volunteered to be our new Member-at-Large on the Management Team for this year. Please join me in welcoming Mary Anne!!

Do your best to stay safe and cool. But above all, remain positive and healthy and make your vote count on September 20.



September Speaker: Nicole Adams, Local History and Genealogy Librarian

“DNA Testing Demystified”



Genealogy is one of the most popular hobbies and new developments in consumer DNA testing have added a whole new way to dig for your roots, but many are unsure what their results mean. Genealogist and librarian Nicole Adams will explore the types of tests and what they can reveal about your family history.

Nicole Adams is the Genealogy and Local History Librarian at the Oshawa Public Libraries as well as a professional genealogist. She has over 30 years of experience in researching family history and is always keen to help others in their research. As a life-long resident of Oshawa, she has a wealth of knowledge about the history of the local area which is useful when fielding inquiries in the library’s Local History Room. In her leisure time, she is a lover of mystery novels, audiobooks, jigsaw puzzles and afternoon naps.

Note re: August Speaker, Lucy M. Black

In our August meeting, we all enjoyed the very interesting presentation about the Underpinnings of her historical fiction novel, *Eleanor Courtown*. For those of you, like me, who now want to read her book, it is available for sale at Blue Heron Books and at the Lynde House.



Congratulations to Rein Harmatare and Brian Thompson, the lucky winners during the meeting of a copy of her book!

Membership

As we head out of the “dog days of summer” and the kids head back to school, I would like to welcome two new members to our club ... Carolyn Clancy and Cheryl Owen. We are glad that you have decided to join our club. Hopefully you enjoy our club’s offerings and we get to meet face-to-face with the both of you in the near future.

The main topic of discussion at August Management Team meeting was the return to our in-person meetings at the Shriner’s Hall. Before making this decision, we decided that we wanted to hear the opinion of our members. In the first week of August, we sent out a survey to all members asking for your opinion about returning in-person to the Shriner’s Hall, if our safety protocols are adequate and would you be willing to attend a Christmas luncheon.



Thanks to all members who took the time to respond to our questions. Many of our members offered up very interesting comments on their surveys which provided us with even further

insight as to how they feel about returning. Currently we are analyzing the survey results and we will use the results in combination with the current COVID situation to make an informed decision in early September. That decision will be communicated out to the members shortly after it is made.

Lastly, the Management Team will be reaching out to those members who have not logged into our website. The goal is to obtain better insight as what issues were being encountered to prevent people from logging in. We really want all members to experience the complete offerings of our club including our Interest Groups and upcoming events. If a Management Team member does reach out to you, please tell them about your website experience and what you need help with.

Paul Dionne

Social Events

Second edition of the **Local Discovery Adventure Tour** is available:

Date: Sept. 11 and 12, 2021

Cost: \$10 per car

To participate in this event please register on line and make payment by September 7th.

The itinerary/route will be emailed to you the evening before.

Congratulations to Derek and Helen Read for coming first in the August tour. Thanks to the other teams for participating.



Walking Tour Oshawa Automotive Museum/ Automotive Heritage sites

Date: Monday, September 27, 2021

Time: 1 pm

Cost: \$10 per person

This outside tour covers automotive heritage sites and stores with a local expert guide.

Meet in the parking lot of the museum, 99 Simcoe. Street South, Oshawa.

Face masks are required and social distancing will be observed.

To participate please register and pay online by September 23, 2021

For more information, please contact Jackie Bathe.

Community and Other Virtual Events:

Looking for some services and activities outside of our local PROBUS offerings? Check out these suggestions:

1. **Oshawa Senior Citizens Centre:** The 2021 Fall Activity Guide will be released August 30th with registration beginning **Tuesday, September 7th**. Visit oscc.ca/activityguide on or after August 30th to see what we have for you this fall!

Oshawa Recreation: For more information visit: <https://www.oshawa.ca/things-to-do/covid-19-health-and-safety-pools-fitness-centres.asp?mid=2553>

Clarington Recreation: Registration for 2021 fall 55+ Active Adults programs begins **Wednesday, September 1, 2021**. You can preview the programs available starting on Wednesday, August 25 at www.clarington.net/BeActive and on each program web page.

Whitby 55+ Recreation Services: For more information visit: <https://www.whitby.ca/en/play/55-recreation-services.aspx>

- Whitby has launched a partnership with [iSeeChange](#), their tool which can be basically described as an Instagram for Climate. Over the next six months, residents, workers and visitors to Whitby and surrounding areas, are invited to share stories, photos or comment on weather patterns or extreme weather events that they observe in their own backyard, neighbourhood or community. This could include a heavy storm, extreme heat, flooding or even just your daily experiences of the weather.

For more information please visit: <https://www.whitby.ca/en/news/whitby-let-s-talk-weather.aspx>

- Finding yourself with some spare time and are curious about canning? Check out this link for a step-by-step guide to canning: <https://www.bernardin.ca/en/stepbystep.htm>



We all enjoy hearing about things to do in our community. If anyone has information about virtual or community events to share with our members, please email Patti Mavins by the 25th of each month for adding to our newsletter.

Special Interest Groups

All outdoor activities are continuing. Please check the information in this newsletter.

We would like to have one player for Mahjong.

If you see an activity you would like to join, please contact the leader as shown on the web page or contact me.

Indoor Golf: given that waves of this virus will continue for another 6 months, I would like to have someone organize some indoor golf. The sooner we have members sign up for this, the better it will be for booking a spot. Please let me know if you are interested in this activity to start in October or November.



Check out the pictures from the “PROBUS Paddlers” group. They do find interesting spots. You are welcome to join them.

Please contact me if you are interested in joining any of the groups listed on the web page or you see listed in the newsletter.

Catherine c.frost@sympatico.ca

Book Club – “The Chicklits”:



Although we did consider meeting in the park for our August Book club meeting, it landed in the middle of a scorching hot day so we opted to sticking with Zoom! We all enjoyed our July / August book, “Distant Shores”, by Kristin Hannah.

We will next be meeting on Monday, September 20 at 2 pm to discuss “Crow Lake” by Mary Lawson. It is described as a “...universal drama of family love and misunderstandings, of resentments harbored and driven underground...”

We have room for more members in our book club. If you are interested, please contact *Patti Mavins*.

DC Wanderers:

The *DC Wanderers*, Durham Central’s new walking group, meets every Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m., weather permitting. We spend an hour or so walking/exploring different trails in Durham Region.

We welcome new members to our group. For more information, please contact *Pete Jones* at barbandpete@rogers.com.

We look forward to seeing many PROBUS members on the trails in the months ahead!



The Day Trippers



Our Day Trippers group was surveyed and everyone seems excited to get moving. I have a sunflower farm tour ready to go. I'm just waiting for the humidity to ease up and patiently hoping that we don't get a 4th wave of covid. That being said, I hope to book it for the beginning of September. For those who would be interested please look at the web site for Bragg's Farm.

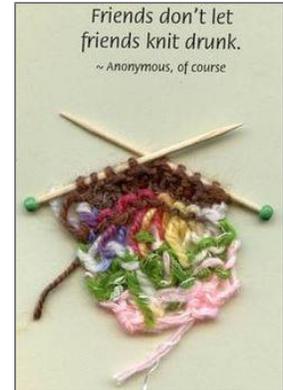
www.braggfarms.ca

New members are always welcome!
Bonnie Hyderman

Fibre Friends:

While we know our members continue working on a variety of fibre crafts, the group is taking a break for the summer and look forward to resuming meetings in September on Thursday, September 9 at 10 a.m. and Wednesday, September 22 at 1:30 p.m. Mark your calendars!

Jane Rail and Barb Jones



Golf Groups:

We are back.



The golf courses are open and social distancing rules apply. The patios and restaurants are open for a beverage after the game and some good fun. The patios and indoor dining both have the protocols and limitations. The courses are in great shape for everyone to enjoy a nice day out of the house.

We are golfing 18 holes on Friday mornings. We arrange tee times at different golf courses each week.

We have been golfing at Silver Lakes, Baxter Creek, Black Diamond and Deer Creek S during the month of August. We have tee times for Ballantrae, Baxter Creek, 6 Foot Bay and Deer Creek S for the month of September.

Any member wishing to join the PROBUS Golf Group is welcome.

For more information e-mail *Tom Anderson* at tlacma99@gmail.com

If you are interested in golfing 9 holes only, a 9-hole PROBUS golf group has been formed and they golf every Thursday. They would love more members to join them. If interested, contact *Doug Byers* at dougbyers@rogers.com

PROBUS Paddlers



To All Those Who Like “Messing About in Boats” (Winnie the Pooh):

The PROBUS Paddlers is a newly formed group that enjoys paddling on local waterways. We paddle twice each month, on a Monday from 10:00-12 noon approx. Where have we paddled this summer? Ever paddled on the Nonquon River in Seagrave, Lynde Marsh in Whitby, Duffins Creek in Ajax or the Rouge River in Scarborough?? Well, join us and together we'll explore our local area. Safety, fun, and exploring nature are our goals. Regarding safety,

you must be able to swim comfortably about 4 lengths of the Town pool (100m). In addition, we wear PFD's/life jackets at all time on the water. Participants do require their own PFD, paddle and watercraft. Canoes and kayaks are what our members paddle but SUP's (stand up paddle boards) are welcome too. There is a possibility that a canoeist might have an empty seat in their canoe for you. Got a question? Contact me anytime. See you on the water.

Lewis Williams

PROBUS PEDAL POWER (CYCLING) GROUP:



We have had some great rides this summer. While difficult to accept, summer is coming to an end and soon so too will be our cycling season. We will continue to ride into the fall, as long as the weather remains decent, hopefully at least to the end of October.

Please contact me if you have questions or would like to be added to the email list. There is no limit on numbers, nor any obligation to come out every week.

John Patté – gangler@live.ca

Pickleball:

We have been playing at Radio Park at 6 pm on Thursdays. The morning times are still too busy for us to be able to play together as a group. It sure has been hot, which is why we are not playing in the afternoons. Early evening is the best time for us for now.



New members are welcome. Check out some pickleball videos on You Tube. Let me know if you are new to pickleball and I will set up at 5:30 on Thursdays at Radio Park to show you how to play before you play with the group. Paddles up and have some fun with us! Contact *Linda Hebert* at linmar322@gmail.com

Uncorked:



The Uncorked Wine Group will be holding their first meeting in a safe patio setting on Thursday, September 16, 2021. After many months of not being able to meet due to COVID-19 the Uncorked Wine Group is very enthusiastic in getting together again to taste new wines and food pairings.

Meet your Fellow Members!

Meet John Patté



Having graduated from UofT in 1967 (ChemEng), John moved to Sarnia to pursue his career. That move proved life-changing, not because of his career but because he met and married the love of his life, Hettie. Little did Hettie know at the time that she would soon be moving to London, ON where John commenced his studies to become a Chartered Accountant. While in London, John and Hettie had three children and John progressed in his new career as a CA specializing in tax consulting.

In 1981, John moved his family to Williams Lake, BC where he ran the tax practice of a local CA firm. While the move was an exciting adventure for a couple of years, the call of family back in Ontario was too great to resist. So, the family returned to Ontario, settling in Whitby, in 1983, and

John became Director of Tax for the local office of a large international CA firm. John left that firm in 1988, eventually setting up his own practice. He continued to practice in Oshawa till he retired in 2012.

During his time in Whitby, John has served his community and his profession through Whitby Chamber of Commerce (1984-2005 as Secretary-Treasurer), The Rotary Club of Whitby (1984 to present, including as President 1990-1992) and as Treasurer of several other organizations, including Oshawa Symphony Orchestra, Business Advisory Council, Oshawa Cycling Club (2010-present, including time as Treasurer and Secretary). John was elected a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants (now CPA Ontario) in 2006 for his “outstanding career achievements and leadership contributions to the community and the profession”.

John and Hettie continue to enjoy an active life in retirement, with five grandchildren and membership in several interest group of PROBUS. John remains an active cyclist and an advocate for cycling and active transportation.

Meet your Management Team!

Meet Judy Roebuck, Social Committee



I grew up in Oshawa enjoying the many activities offered in the neighbourhood parks and pools.

After attending Western University and London Teacher’s College I started my teaching career there, staying four more years enjoying the theatre and concert venues and being involved in a local service club. Then I moved on to Guelph, where I raised my son and daughter, while continuing to teach for 30 more years organizing sports programmes and setting up computer courses and labs. After retiring I relocated again, resettling back in Durham.

My interests have always been sport activities including swimming, walking, hiking, cycling, skiing and golf. I am an avid reader and play

passable bridge, love music, theatre, travelling and dote on my 4 grandchildren.

I have enjoyed being a member of the Oshawa PROBUS Club with its many interesting members and activities and now the Durham Central group, having been involved in the social committee for both organizations. Looking forward to many more memorable experiences!!

Poet's Corner

Art's Content

Life's joys, tribulations, an incredible scene,
bold colours softened by calm shades of green.
Every colour and match contributes to the sight
blue, black, beige, and white, potential of might
essential in completing a magnificent scheme
beyond comprehension played on the big screen.
Preliminary sketches, plain black and white,
erasures, revisions, some done in the night.
Progress; "Eureka!" New balance and light
everything aiming t'ward getting it right.
Decision is made as to what will be painted
The subject secured. The goal is untainted.
Great artists of old, whose fame is assured,
knew line, form and function. These names have endured.
Brush strokes of confidence, paint bravely splashed
blending the colours, old doubts quickly dashed.
The vision becomes clear; the product sincere,
lighting and angles and shadows appear. Black,
white, red and yellow portraits so fine. The
gallery's dazzled; creation on time.
Brush laid aside, and the picture complete
The signature promised all would be replete.
The artist stands back heart overflowing.
Past, present and future alive in his knowing.
Multitudinous textures and shapes all align
in glorious colours, a vision sublime.

L. Patricia Bayley

Condolences

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of one of our club's members, **Gail Macleod**, on August 12, 2021. Gail was a member of our Chicklits book club, and our thoughts and prayers go out to her family. The obituary for Gail can be found through the following link:

<https://www.arbormemorial.ca/mountlawn/obituaries/patricia-gail-macleod/69988>



Member Care



The care of and compassion for our PROBUS Club members is an important feature of a vibrant club. While we all hope our members remain in good health, from time to time, members are in need of our support. "If I'd only known" is a statement we would like to avoid. Please inform Sylvia Hughes, in charge of Member Care, of any circumstances where a member of the club needs our support. Please provide as much detail as possible while being sensitive to the wishes of her or his family. Tom will send out the appropriate notice to the club and express appropriate wishes to the member and family on behalf of the club.

Durham Central PROBUS Club: [Click Link to Durham Central PROBUS Club website](#)

PROBUS CANADA Website: www.PROBUS.org

PROBUS Global website: <https://probusglobal.org/index.html>