



March 2022

Message from the President



So February is 'done and dusted' and what a sad month it was with yet more snow and cold, the very "un-Canadian" events that took place in Ottawa, Russia attacking Ukraine, etc. But our club is not about politics so lets just reflect on the facts that we are now almost through winter, we're having more indoor events, restrictions are lifting, the days are getting longer and warmer, the snow is virtually gone , and our calendar is full - including some out of town trips to the likes of Kitchener and later on, even further afield. I hear rumours your Social Committee are even looking at cruises. Stay tuned!

We are also gearing up to having our General Meetings back in the salons of the Rec Centre starting in April. There are a lot of details to be finalized by then but we are already working on making that happen. I think having in-person meetings again will be a huge step forward and a real positive sign that the pandemic will be largely behind us. In the meantime I hope to see you at some of our long list of March events.

Being a curious soul, I decided to google what March is all about and discovered that the name March comes from the Roman god of war, Mars. For many years, March, was the start of spring and hence the start of the New Year. It would be so nice to forget the last 12 months and start a fresh new year wouldn't it?

More signs of the impending change from winter to Spring is that we will move our clocks forward on March 13th and then the Spring Equinox (after which the length of the day becomes longer than night) falls on March 20th. However, another not so nice feature that March is "National Umbrella Month" - but at least we don't have to shovel rain!

By the way, you may have heard the weather proverb, "If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb," which means that if the month starts off stormy, it will end with mild weather.

There is, however, a different interpretation: The constellation Leo, the lion, rises in the east at the beginning of March and thus the month "comes in like a lion," while Aries, the ram, sets in the west at the end of the month, and hence, the month "will go out like a lamb" - who knew!

Traditionally in March we can Spring Clean indoors if its raining, or get out in the garden again if its not. We can take in March Madness if you are a basketball fan or celebrate St Patrick's Day - whether you are Irish or not. Finally, March 8th is "International Women's Day"! Fancy that, I always thought every day was Women's Day! This seems like a good place to end.

Take care [Peter](#)

Speakers Report



For our next (and hopefully final) Zoom meeting we are pleased to welcome back Nick French who again will be speaking to us directly from his home in South Africa. Nick was born in Zimbabwe and attended the University of Cape Town where he qualified in Business Administration. His working career covered marketing and general management, both in South Africa and a 20 year stint in Singapore.

In 2011 Nick took early retirement and pursued his passion of giving talks to companies, clubs and associations and providing training and workshops, especially as it relates to 'cross-cultural intelligence' - how to succeed in business by getting along with other cultures.

He has been a passionate Toastmaster, rising to the top rank of Distinguished Toastmaster in 2012 and he is the Chairman of The PROBUS Association of The Western Cape.

Finally, he is an historian and his presentation to us will be about something we all know so much and yet so little about: "**Heroes and Villains of the Titanic**": As with most disasters involving man made machinery, the sinking of the Titanic on that fateful day on 15 April 1912 could have been avoided were it not for a number of human mistakes, before and during the catastrophe. At the same time, the impact of the disaster could have been far greater were it not for the brave acts of certain individuals who placed the lives of others ahead of their own. In this talk Nick will tell the tale of the Titanic through the actions of all the interesting characters who played key roles in every aspect of her life, her catastrophic sinking and the aftermath.

[Laura](#)

Membership Report



Hello fellow Lakesiders. We are so ready and looking forward to getting together as a club in the very near future. Our club has had continual interest during the past year and although we had some members not renew, we had many join us. Our membership currently stands at 305 members. I feel that once we are able to meet together in person, we will have many more join our amazing group of

Lakesiders. As of now we are only taking Pickering residents as members, in order to follow the arrangement with the City of Pickering to keep our membership consisting of a large percentage of Pickering residents. We do have a short wait list of interested people that live in Durham Region but outside of Pickering.

I have recently had a few requests from members to reorder their badges that they have lost/misplaced. If you cannot find your badge, please let me know and I can order you one, at a cost. To those people who have not received your badge, I have them in my possession and will have them available for you as soon as we start getting together again in our general meetings.

Recently, I received communications from a few members who say they are not receiving emails regarding upcoming events/activities. I would ask that everyone check out their PROBUS profiles and make sure they are up to date with any new phone numbers, changes of address, email changes, or just to check that they are receiving our club communications. To do so simply log into your PROBUS account and click on the small person icon on the top of the page. There will be a drop-down menu with your name and three lines. Choose the "View Profile" one. This will allow you to change personal information. Next area to check is what communications you wish to receive. For this you need to click on "Activities" which is under the name of our club, on a blue bar. When that area opens up there is a brief description followed by the words "Want to Update Your Activity Mailing List". Please click on that and then you have two choices to either add or remove activities you want to hear about. Once you have done that "Submit" and your profile will be completed and up to date.

[Sharon](#)

The Social Scene

Well, we laughed and were educated on the various meanings of certain words at the Comedy event in February. Did I need to know? No but I am a more informed person. BTW-we are looking at a dinner or lunch at Bollock's – note spelling! Not a naughty word!

ACTIVITY GROUPS

ARTS and CRAFTS

In Stitches - Love that name! - will meet on the 3rd Monday of the month at 1pm. This new club consists of a group of like-minded members who enjoy all yarn crafts (knitting, crocheting, others still to be discovered). The location is currently TBD as the decision has been made to make this meeting 'in-person' and we are still actively looking for a convenient meeting location. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, March 21st** at 1pm - all interested parties are welcome to join in.

BOOK CLUBS

Cover to Cover Book Club - The next meeting will be held on **Monday, March 28th** at 2pm and the book for discussion will be A Village Murder by Frances Evesham. Note: This club is currently seeking three new members. If you are interested in joining, contact Pauline.

Not a Book Club - will meet on **Tuesday, March 8th** at 1 pm. Each of us will talk a bit about a book they have read in the past month and then we will put together a list of books for those interested.

Mystery Readers - will meet on **Friday, March 11th** at 11am. Members have been asked to read a Linwood Barclay book of their choice. We will talk about the author and recommendations, if any, from his collection. In the second half of the meeting we will ask members about the other books they have read in the last month. A list of books will be provided after the meeting.

FOOD & DRINK

In the Kitchen - We finally convinced Vicki to do a cooking segment. Registration for **Thursday, March 10th** at 3pm is now open. Vicki will be busy. She is showing us how to make a basic Marinara Sauce, Eggplant Parmesan and Creamy Polenta. Me, who isn't an eggplant person, is looking forward to something different. I promise I will try all of it.

Lakeside Ladies Lunch - Finally! We are back and will be at Amici's on **Wednesday, March 9th** at noon. This is a small group lunch so book early.

Meals Out - My, My, we had a large number of participants in February at our first breakfast out! One of our members suggested going out for Pancake Tuesday - Thank you for the idea. We will be returning to Perkins **Tuesday March 1st** at 9am and again **Monday, March 21st**.

We would like to open up a couple of other dining out activities, however, we need members to volunteer to take the lead. All you have to do is arrange the reservation with a restaurant for our group and show up at the event. Everything else will be handled and posted by Lynne Stewart. Please let me know if you are interested. Some of the dining out activities we need leadership for include:

- Men's Breakfast Out (male members only)
- Meals Out (all members welcome) - could be breakfast, lunch or dinner

- Taste of the World (all members welcome) - dinner out to restaurants providing international cuisine

GAMES GROUP

Bowling is back. We will be striking out at 1pm on the first Monday of the month starting March 7th. Come out and have a ball!! *Note:* the notification for bowling went out to all members for the March 7th session but in future updates, will only be sent out to those who have Games Group checked on their member profile. To update your member profile, please refer to Sharon's article above in Membership Report.

Bridge - The Ajax club will be continuing to run Bridge sessions on the Trickster Cards app and will continue to offer spots to our members. The games will take place on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 2 pm. If you are interested please contact Harvey Brodhecker (at hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca) for more information.

Billiards at Petrina's is back on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month starting at 10:30am. The first one will be **Wednesday, March 2nd**.

Crack the Case - will meet on **Wednesday, March 23rd** at 1pm. Believe it or not, it isn't always over a woman. Last month 4 cases were about gambling and greed.

Trivia - Effective **Tuesday, March 22nd** Trivia is returning to the Falcon Brewery on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2pm. It is wonderful to see so many in-person events starting up again.

Virtual Bingo - Get ready to play Bingo online. On **Wednesday, March 9th** at 3:30pm, we will be using a combination of Zoom and an online application where your Bingo caller will start calling out the numbers. We will be playing a few different games.

MOVIE CLUB

Movie Club - Did you know that you don't need to have Netflix or Prime in order to see the movies we select? They are all chosen from free online apps like Hoopla, Kanopy and Youtube. Join us on **Monday, March 14th** at 2pm as we discuss the movie 'A Civil Action' starring John Travolta, Robert Duvall and William Macy. In this legal thriller based on a true story, John Travolta stars as a tenacious personal-injury attorney whose fierce determination entangles him in a case that threatens to destroy him. Robert Duvall was nominated for an Oscar for his performance.

ONLINE CHAT

Ladies Let's Talk - will meet on **Friday, March 4th** at 11am. Suggested topics - What would you like to see from the past or what is something from our current lifestyle that surprises you the most? These are just suggestions - you never know what we will talk about.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

Lakeside Weekly Walking Group - This weekly walking group goes out each Tuesday at 10:30am. The walks will alternate weekly - Carruthers Marsh the first week and Ajax Rotary Park the next.

- **Tuesday, March 1st** at 10:30 - we will meet at the Carruthers Marsh Pavilion
- **Tuesday, March 8th** at 10:30 - we will meet at the Ajax Rotary Park
- **Tuesday, March 15th** at 10:30 - we will meet at the Carruthers Marsh Pavilion
- **Tuesday, March 22nd** at 10:30 - we will meet at the Ajax Rotary Park

After the March 8th walk, if the weather improves, the location could change - please make sure you check out the weekly invitation and our website.

OTHER

Our Durham

Life in the Fit Lane - Cindy Legare, a Fitness and Fitspiration Coach, has agreed to come and talk to us on **Tuesday, March 1st** at 4pm about how we can deal with the day to day issues we have through exercise and yoga.

Foodbank Tour - on **Thursday, March 24th** at 2pm, Margaret Jocz, Director of the St. Paul's On the Hill Community Foodbank, will join us on Zoom to take us on a tour of the Foodbank and talk about the amazing work that they do supporting those in our community struggling with food insecurity.

Day Tripping

St. Patrick's Day Kitchen Party - On **Thursday, March 17th** at 8:30am we will be leaving from the parking lot of Chestnut Hill Recreation Complex and head off to downtown St. Jacob's to check out the shops before heading off to Kitchener. Arriving at Bingeman's, we will partake in a fabulous buffet lunch and enjoy a high energy show with lots of singing, laughing and no doubt feet tapping. Featuring The Celts, led by Noni Thompson and Eugene Rea, including Irish dancers, featuring World Champion step dancer Daniel Carr.

Keep up-to-date - continue to check us out on our website at [PROBUS Pickering Lakeside - Home](#) and on our Facebook page [PROBUS Pickering Lakeside | Facebook](#).

Lynne

Upcoming Events

[Breakfast at Perkins](#)

Tuesday, 1 Mar 2022 9:00 AM - 1097 Kingston Road, Pickering

[Lakeside Weekly Walking_group](#)

Tuesday, 1 Mar 2022 10:30 AM - Carruthers Marsh Pavilion, Ajax

[Life in the Fit Lane](#)

Tuesday, 1 Mar 2022 4:00 PM - ZOOM

[Billiards](#)

Wednesday, 2 Mar 2022 10:30 AM - Petrina's Billiards, 21 Harwood Ave S. 2nd floor, Ajax

[Euchre](#)

Thursday, 3 Mar 2022 1:00 PM - Royal Canadian Legion - 1555 Bayly St Pickering

[Lakeside Ladies Let's Talk](#)

Friday, 4 Mar 2022 11:00 AM - Zoom

[Ajax 5 Pin Bowling Centre](#)

Monday, 7 Mar 2022 1:00 PM - 172 Harwood Avenue, Ajax

[Lakeside Weekly Walking_group](#)

Tuesday, 8 Mar 2022 10:30 AM - Ajax Rotary Park

[Not a Book Club](#)

Tuesday, 8 Mar 2022 1:00 PM - Online Zoom meeting

[Lakeside Ladies Lunch at Amici's](#)

Wednesday, 9 Mar 2022 12:00 PM - 1305 Pickering Parkway

[In the Kitchen](#)

Thursday, 10 Mar 2022 3:00 PM - Zoom

[Mystery Book Club](#)

Friday, 11 Mar 2022 11:00 AM - Online Zoom meeting

[Movies](#)

Monday, 14 Mar 2022 2:00 PM - Online Zoom meeting

[Lakeside Weekly Walking_group](#)

Tuesday, 15 Mar 2022 10:30 AM- Carruthers Marsh Pavilion, Ajax

[March General Meeting](#)

Wednesday, 16 Mar 2022 10:00 AM - Zoom

[Billiards](#)

Wednesday, 16 Mar 2022 10:30 AM - Petrina's Billiards, 21 Harwood Ave S. 2nd floor, Ajax

[St. Patrick's Day Kitchen Party](#)

Thursday, 17 Mar 2022 8:30 AM - Chestnut Hill Recreation Complex

[Breakfast at Perkins](#)

Monday, 21 Mar 2022 9:00 AM - 1097 Kingston Road, Pickering

[Lakeside Weekly Walking_group](#)

Tuesday, 22 Mar 2022 10:30 AM - Ajax Rotary Park

[Crack the Case](#)

Wednesday, 23 Mar 2022 1:00 PM - Zoom

[Cover to Cover Book Club](#)

Monday, 28 Mar 2022 2:00 PM - Zoom

[Lakeside Weekly Walking_group](#)

Tuesday, 29 Mar 2022 10:30 AM - Carruthers Marsh Pavilion, Ajax

Our Members Say

As our amazing Social Committee begins to increase the number of activities available to our membership, we have been pleased with the many comments coming in from our members, so we decided that we will start to post some of them in our monthly newsletter. This month our comments came as a result of our trip to Herongate Dinner Theatre on Sunday, February 13th.

"It was good food, good wine, good company and a good show" Pauline Field

"Fabulous afternoon at Herongate. Great food and show. So nice to see so many members out. Got my fix on lemon meringue pie. Yummy!!!thanks to everyone for organizing another excellent outing." Olga Green

"Olga - you said you were going to get that lemon meringue pie and you did!" Vicki Trusdale

"Entertainment was enjoyable, food was good. It was nice to be out with friends. The atmosphere was not uncomfortable at all. I felt comfortable being out - and that is a good thing!" Vicki Trusdale

"Enjoyed being out with friends, having a good meal and relaxing with a good show. Staff was super friendly and thanks for keeping us safe." Erika Winfrow

"Good times again with friends enjoyable" Jeannie Harris

We strongly encourage our members to let us know how you enjoy the many activities and events that your Social Committee makes happen. Post your comments on our Facebook page or send to pplc.webmaster@gmail.com and we will publish it in the next newsletter.

I Never Knew That ... (uncollaborated)

A SHOT OF WHISKEY

In the old west a .45 cartridge for a six-gun cost 12 cents, so did a glass of whiskey. If a cowhand was low on cash he would often give the bartender a cartridge in exchange for a drink. This became known as a "shot" of whiskey.

THE WHOLE NINE YARDS

American fighter planes in WW2 had machine guns that were fed by a belt of cartridges. The average plane held belts that were 27 feet (9 yards) long. If the pilot used up all his ammo he was said to have given it the whole nine yards.

BUYING THE FARM

This is synonymous with dying. During WW1 soldiers were given life insurance policies worth \$5,000. This was about the price of an average farm so if you died you "bought the farm" for your survivors.

IRON CLAD CONTRACT

This came about from the ironclad ships of the Civil War. It meant something so strong it could not be broken.

PASSING THE BUCK / THE BUCK STOPS HERE

Most men in the early west carried a jack knife made by the Buck knife company. When playing poker it was common to place one of these Buck knives in front of the dealer so that everyone knew who he was. When it was time for a new dealer the deck of cards and the knife were given to the new dealer. If this person didn't want to deal he would "pass the buck" to the next player. If that player accepted, then "the buck stopped there."

RIFF RAFF

The Mississippi River was the main way of traveling from north to south. Riverboats carried passengers and freight but they were expensive so most people used rafts. Everything had the right of way over rafts which were considered cheap. The steering oar on the rafts was called a "riff" and this transposed into riff-raff, meaning low class.

COBWEB

The Old English word for "spider" was "cob."

SHIP STATE ROOMS

Traveling by steamboat was considered the height of comfort. Passenger cabins on the boats were not numbered. Instead they were named after states. To this day, cabins on ships are called staterooms.

SLEEP TIGHT

Early beds were made with a wooden frame. Ropes were tied across the frame in a crisscross pattern. A straw mattress was then put on top of the ropes. Over time the ropes stretched, causing the bed to sag. The owner would then tighten the ropes to get a better night's sleep.

SHOWBOAT

These were floating theaters built on a barge that was pushed by a steamboat. These played small towns along the Mississippi River. Unlike the boat shown in the movie "Showboat," these did not have an engine. They were gaudy and attention grabbing which is why we say someone who is being the life of the party is "showboating."

OVER A BARREL

In the days before CPR, a drowning victim would be placed face down over a barrel and the barrel would be rolled back and forth in an effort to empty the lungs of water. It was rarely effective. If you are over a barrel you are in deep trouble.

BARGE IN

Heavy freight was moved along the Mississippi in large barges pushed by steamboats. These were hard to control and would sometimes swing into piers or other boats. People would say they "barged in."

HOGWASH

Steamboats carried both people and animals. Since pigs smelled so badly they would be washed before being put on board. The mud and other filth that was washed off was considered useless "hog wash."

CURFEW

The word "curfew" comes from the French phrase "couvre-feu," which means "cover the fire." It was used to describe the time of blowing out all lamps and candles. It was later adopted into Middle English as "curfeu," which later became the modern "curfew." In the early American colonies, homes had no real fireplaces so a fire was built in the center of the room. In order to make sure a fire did not get out of control during the night it was required that, by an agreed upon time, all fires would be covered with a clay pot called - a "curfew."

BARRELS OF OIL

When the first oil wells were drilled they had made no provision for storing the liquid so they used water barrels. That is why, to this day, we speak of barrels of oil rather than gallons.

HOT OFF THE PRESS

As the paper goes through the rotary printing press friction causes it to heat up. Therefore, if you grab the paper right off the press it's hot. The expression means to get immediate information.

There, don't you feel smarter now?

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