



Diamond (60th) Edition

December 2023



Message from the President

Welcome to December and the last month of the year. Regardless of what may happen this month, 2023 will surely go down in history as an 'interesting' year. Thank goodness for organizations such as PROBUS to help keep us sane.



Despite what else has been going on it, has been a banner year for Lakeside. With 156 new members in 2023, our Interest Groups and Special Event offerings have also grown proportionately.

This growth is also evidenced by the fact that we have 300 members coming to our Christmas Luncheon. It should be great so I hope to see you there. Don't forget that there is no Members Monthly Meeting this month.

With so many new members, we are now the second largest club in Canada (and probably the world) - and all before our 5th Birthday! Our Diamond Anniversary will actually be in January and we will celebrate it accordingly at our Annual General Meeting on January 10th. Mark that in your calendars as you won't want to miss it!

Now getting back to December. It is, of course, the month for various important religious holidays. People from different religions celebrate different traditions. The two main ones revolve around Christians celebrating Christmas and Jews celebrating Hanukkah. So to be politically correct - Season's Greetings to you all!

There are many other holidays spread throughout December: December 6th is St. Nicholas' Day (which some may know as the original Santa Clause), December 8th celebrates National Brownie Day (US), while December 15th is National Cupcake Day (US). More sadly (for me anyway), December 21st is the Winter Solstice, which marks the longest night of the year and is astronomically the beginning



of winter. This also means that many of you will be leaving for extended winter breaks in Florida, Arizona and the like. Enjoy!

There are also a number of month-long observances including National Egg Nog Month (and who doesn't love eggnog!), National Fruit Cake Month (also yummy!) and, most importantly, National Impaired Driving Prevention Month. Let's hope that is successful.

Take care,
[Peter Green](#)

Membership Report



PROBUS Pickering Lakeside is happy to welcome 25 new members who recently joined our club: Barb Jones, Pete Jones, Judy Carpino, Sue Brown, Carla Anderson, Rob Anderson, Gail Miles, Jacquie Johnson, Maureen Peers, Sheri Bredewold, Yvonne Inniss, Jean Jackson, Adele Chandler, Keith Chandler, Laurie Blair, Jim Spence, Jim

Spencer, Paul Countryman, Joanne Countryman, Andy Westcott, Jennifer Caradonna, Linda Thomas, Nancy Catchpole, Bill Catchpole and Aline Tossmann. You can pick up your badges at our Christmas lunch on December 13th.

Additionally, the following members can also pick up their badges at the Christmas lunch: Cheryl Arnott, Lynn Bowers, Darrell Babcock, Janet Babcock, Jane Brown, Anton Bertram, Gwen Campbell, Maureen Emmons, Norine Findlay, Mali Fonseka, Sherry Fraser, Kevin Graham, Janet Garnett, John Garnett, Wendy Gillespie, Lynne Hansman, Peter Klammer, Denise Klammer, Carolyn Koivisto, Christine Lavey, Dianne Lewis, Kim Miller, Wendy MacPherson, Janet Martin, Debbie, Magder, Sue Mathieson, Duncan Mathieson, Carol Nebel, Lois Porter, Marilyn Stitt, John Stitt, Della Smith, Margaret Sherwood, Liz Schlee, Rob Schlee, Karen Taylor, Monica Turi, David Toswell, Lynn West, Peter West, Glen Wood, Louise Zerter and Bill Zerter.

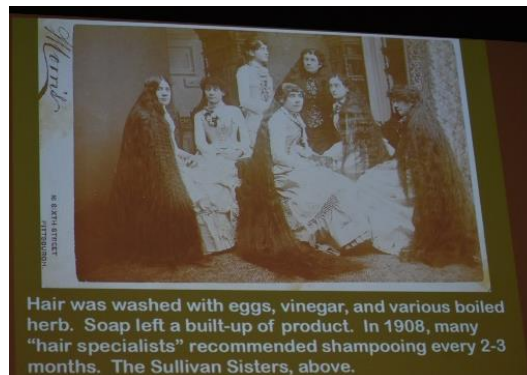
As you may have noticed on our website, we are now only taking those interested in membership on a wait list basis. If you have a friend and they live in Pickering, they can contact me at my club email address and I will place them on the list and contact them when a spot becomes available.

[Sharon McMinn](#)

November Meeting

We had a record-breaking turnout for our November meeting. And why not? We had one of our most popular speakers - Lianne Harris who entertained and informed us about everything we needed to know (and maybe a few things we didn't need to know!!) regarding the history of hygiene. And judging from the number of boxes that got packed up, there were a lot of Wine Event participants dropping off their contributions. There are more photos from the meeting and some of our other November activities posted in the Photo Gallery on our website. Remember to log in to see them.

We didn't have quite enough tables set up as a significant number of members attended who had not registered before the meeting. Thanks is due to our dedicated House Team who worked quickly to set up extra seating to one side. Please help us be prepared for our meetings in the future by registering online ahead of time (or cancelling if you are no longer able to attend).



Events



Our members enjoyed a Saturday night out last month with dinner at Avanti Trattoria then followed by the Forever Young – Rod Stewart Experience show at the Regent Theatre in Oshawa. That's quite the jacket!

We will be travelling by bus to see the Niagara Festival of Lights on December 5th. There will be time to do some holiday shopping in Niagara-on-the-Lake followed by dinner at the Sklyon Restaurant. We will then tour the beautiful Christmas lights and displays.



We are once again holding the 12 Days of Christmas Wine Event this year. Daily draws will be held starting on December 2nd. The final draw will be held at our Christmas Luncheon. The deadline to drop off your bottle of wine was November 30th so please deliver your bottle to Lyn Capps' home (86 Ravenscroft Dr., Ajax) if you have not already done so. The first draw will take place on December 2nd. A Zoom invite will be sent out for the daily draws. We have 152 bottles of wine to date. The Grand Prize will be drawn at our Christmas Luncheon on December 13th.



Our annual Christmas luncheon will take place at the Ajax Convention Center on December 13th and is now sold out! This is clearly one of our most popular events. We will be entertained by John Cigan and his son, Mason Cigan, as they each impersonate Elvis. Double the Elvis's

– double the fun! Still want to go? Put your name on the waitlist in case a spot opens up. Cost is \$ 50.00 for members and \$65.00 for guests.



Can you believe we are already planning events for 2024? We will be heading to Flato Theatre in Markham to see Humans 2.0 by Circa. Tickets are \$55.00 each. Book early so you are not disappointed. We have a limited number of seats available.

I wish all of our members a very Happy Holiday Season. Looking forward to 2024

Do you have any suggestions that you think would be a fun event for us? Send an email to: valerievrodrigues13@gmail.com

[Valerie Rodrigues](#)

MOBILE APP

Access our directory and event calendar from your mobile phone or tablet.



The app is called *Wild Apricot for Members*. You can also use it to register for events and update your contact information!

Once you have downloaded the app, sign in using the same email (login-id) and password that you use to access the Probus Pickering Lakeside website.

Questions about the App? [Click here](#) to contact Scott, our web master.

The Social Scene

November was a very busy month Just take a look at the pictures below of members out enjoying themselves!

Several activities are cancelled for December/January. Please see further down in this section for a list of those affected. And there are some activities where a single occurrence is cancelled; those are also listed below.

Trivia is still on for December, we have moved it up by a week to Tuesday, December 19th, instead of December 26th – we didn't think many people would show up that day!

Once again, we are planning a Holiday Square/Cookie exchange. It will take place on December 18th - details will be shared in the coming days. (Just a note, it will overlap with the Gingerbread House Workshop. Both activities will be taking place in the same location so no reason why you can't participate in both!)

This first set of pictures is from the October Arts & Crafts Workshop. At this workshop, members were making Christmas Box cards.



There were some beautiful days for hiking in November. Below left are the hikers at the lookout on the Vista Trail in the Rouge. Below right, there was record breaking attendance at the hike on November 13th. Lots of people came out for the hike along the Mast Trail in the Rouge.



There were also some not so nice days.... but the weather did not deter this group of hardy walkers on the left from “enjoying” the waterfront trail.

And of course, there were the UofT walking tours with Bruce Bell. Below left, here’s Bruce telling the group about the history of the buildings in one of the quadrangles that was visited on the walk. Below right is one of our groups striding purposefully with Bruce along the University’s Philosopher’s Walk.



Below, some of our ladies ventured to Brooklin in November for lunch at the Brooklin Pub.

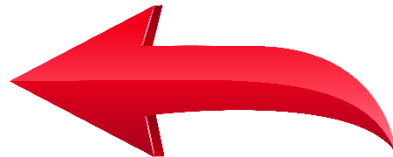


Tea anyone? An afternoon of good conversation and good food was enjoyed at Chez Jacquie last month.



Seasonal Cancellations:

- Ladies Lunch
- Cocktail Hour
- Taste of the World
- Wine Tasting
- Cover to Cover
- In The Kitchen
- Euchre (Dec. 21st & Jan 4th)
- Strategic Board Games (Dec. 28th)
- Weekly Walks (Dec. 26th & Jan 2nd)
- Weekly Hikes (Dec 25th and January 1st)
- Bowling (January)
- Movie Club (January)



Ideas? Suggestions? Questions? Comments? Feedback? You can reach us at:
PPLC.social@gmail.com

[Julia Tonks](#)

Social Bridge and Bridge Bidding Lessons:

Every Thursday in the Rotary Room, Ajax Library (55 Harwood Ave. South) from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Take note that there will only be Social Bridge for December. The group will resume its regular schedule on January 4th.

December dates:

- December 7 - Social Bridge
- December 14 - Social Bridge
- December 21 - Social Bridge
- December 28 - No Bridge

Note: The lessons will continue until the spring on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. The lessons will build on material from previous lessons. Contact Harvey Brodhecker at: hbrodhecker@yahoo.ca for more information.

Groups - Crafts, Culture & Chat



Arts & Crafts

Click the group name to check

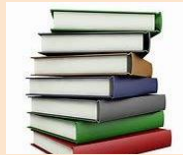
[Linda Black](#)



In Stitches

3rd Monday of the month

[Fran Sancroft](#) & [Elaine Phipps](#)



Not a Book Club

2nd Friday of the month

[Elaine Phipps](#)



Cover to Cover Book Club

Last Monday of the month

[Pauline Field](#)



Movie Club

1st Monday of the month

[Elaine Phipps](#)



Lakesides Ladies Let's Talk

1st Friday of the month

[Janet Babcock](#)

Groups - Food & Drink



Lakeside Happy Hour

Click the group name to check

[Gail Gobeil](#)



Lakeside Ladies Lunch

3rd Wednesday of the month

[Gail Gobeil](#)



Breakfast Out

3rd Monday of the month

[Susan Simpson](#)



Tastes of the World

Last Tuesday of the month

[Maureen Kelly](#) & [Virginia McKay](#)

Groups - Games



Bridge

Check our website for venues, dates and times.

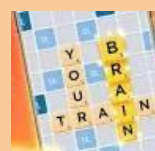
[Peter Green](#)



Euchre

The 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month

[Nancy Agostino](#)



Scrabble

Last Friday of the month

[Marilyn McLaughlin](#)



Trivia

4th Tuesday of the month

[Peter Green](#) & [Roy Pettitt](#)

Groups - Physical Activities



Billiards

The 2nd and 4th Friday of the month

Bill Phipps



Bowling

1st Monday of the month

Gail Gobeil



Lakeside Walking Group

Every Tuesday

Lynda Borg & Barb McGrath



Lakeside Hiking Group

Click the group name to check

Jeff Bowers

Share the Wealth



The Share the Wealth Winners were picked by our guest speaker, Lianne Harris, at our November monthly meeting. What are the chances that the same member would win both draws? Well, it happened at last month's meeting. The lucky double winner was Ann Eriksson. Ann kindly donated the second envelope back to our club. Congratulations and thank you Ann!

Members' Forum

Thank you to our member, Jim Hinnecke, for drawing our attention to Community Care Durham (CCD). CCD is a multi-service registered charitable organization providing a broad range of support services for individuals over the age of 16 and their caregivers to enable people to maximize their independence and thrive where they choose to live. There are services geared towards older people (and their caregivers) who may otherwise be socially isolated and/or have limited support networks. Some are no charge; others have a fee but there are provisions for subsidies for those needing them.

Please check out their comprehensive and well-organized website at this link:

[Community Care Durham](#)

Breaking News...

We had another great turnout for Trivia at the Falcon Brewing Company this past Tuesday. The winners were the 3-person team "The Gableton's". In the photo to the right, counting their winnings, are Susan Hinnecke, James Hinnecke, and Roland Pauksens.



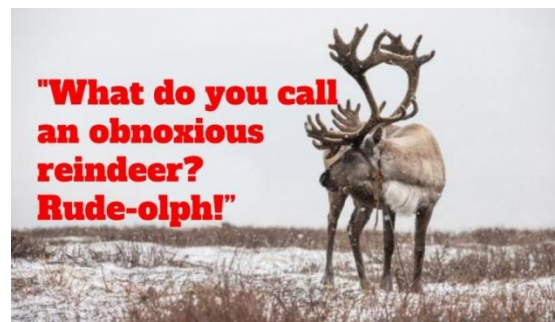
A Little Humour:

It was just before Christmas and the judge was in a happy mood. He asked the prisoner standing before him, 'What are you charged with?'

The prisoner replied, 'Doing my Christmas shopping too early.'

'That's no crime', said the judge. 'Just how early were you doing this shopping?'

'Before the shop opened', answered the prisoner.



Your Management Team:



President - Peter Green
(pplc.president@gmail.com)

Vice-President & Events - Valerie Rodrigues
(valerievrodrigues13@gmail.com)

Treasurer - Peter Davidson
(pplc.treasurer@gmail.com)

Secretary - Greg Garber
(pplc.secretary@gmail.com)

Membership Coordinator - Sharon McMinn
(mcminnsharon67@gmail.com)

Chair, Social Committee - Julia Tonks
(pplc.social@gmail.com)

Speakers Coordinator - Laura Green
(pplc.speakers@gmail.com)

House Coordinator - Nancy Agostino
(nancyagostino2@gmail.com)

Webmaster - Scott Smith
(pplc.webmaster@gmail.com)

Facebook & Newsletter Coordinator - Debbie Bilinski
(pplc.fbmgmt@gmail.com)

Member-at-Large - Gail Gobeil
(gail_gobeil@msn.com)

Member-at-Large - Patricia (Pat) Smith Robertson
(pplc.memberatlarge@gmail.com)



Your Club Calendar: December 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Lakeside Ladies Let's Talk A Very Merry Motown Christmas	2 12 Days of Christmas Wine Event – Daily Draws Begin
3 Poinsettia Tea	4 Hiking Group 5 Pin Bowling Movie Club	5 Walking Group Festival of Lights	6	7 Euchre	8 Not a Book Club Billiards	9
10	11 Hiking Group	12 Walking Group	13 Annual Christmas Luncheon	14 Strategic Board Games	15	16
17	18 Hiking Group Breakfast at Kathryn's Gingerbread House Workshop In Stitches Club Christmas Cookie, Square Exchange	19 Walking Group Trivia	20	21	22 Billiards	23
24 	25 	26	27	28	29	30
31 						