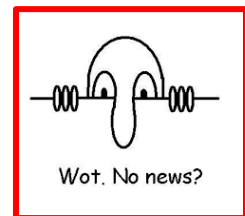




February/March 2024

Message from the President

This edition of our Newsletter will cover two months, February and March, as most of the Management Team will be traveling over the next little while. I guess we pay them too well. 😊 So as the next Newsletter will be on April 1st, I'm officially declaring this the "Spring is Coming" edition - I'm not really a winter person.



However, despite the fact that a lot of the Management team are away over the next couple of months, fear not as all our activities will still be happening. Valerie, as well as our Social Committee, are also still planning for a number of Spring/Summer trips and activities so don't forget to check the website regularly. This leads me to thank once again all our volunteers for all the work they do to keep these events going - and thank them we did at the Volunteer Appreciation event we held in January.



Now I have to think about some interesting tidbits about both February & March. The pressure is on!

First off, February includes Valentine's Day and last month's Trivia featured a question about whether St. Valentine was a real person or whether this day was just a marketing ploy dreamed up by greeting card companies. It turns out he was real - a priest who was sent to jail for performing weddings for couples during a time when new marriages were outlawed in ancient Rome. He was tortured and martyred while incarcerated but before dying, he apparently wrote a letter to his love interest and signed it "from your Valentine". The greeting card industry took over from there!



Another thing to remember about February is that this year is a Leap Year and there will be a February 29th. Throughout history, the number of days in February has changed

often and at one time it only had 23 days. That works for me! The less February days the better. As I said, I'm not really a winter person.

Of course seeing as how February 29th is such an unusual day, there are some different traditions associated with it. One is that this is the one day every 4 years when women could propose marriage to men - and the man was expected to pay a penalty, such as a gown or money or 12 pairs of gloves, if he refused. Apparently, the gloves were so the woman could wear them to hide the embarrassment of not having an engagement ring. Not sure why 12 pairs though, seems like overkill to me.

One last thing about Febuary [sic] (editor:  groan!), it is one of the most often misspelled words in the English language even including once in a White House press release.

March is named after Mars, the Roman god of war, and an interesting side note is that a lot of recent wars were launched in March. The wars in Vietnam, Iraq, and Libya all follow that unpleasant trend, but hopefully it will not continue into 2024.



Then on March 10th, we have the start of Daylight Savings Time (why is that still a thing?) followed by [Pi Day](#) on the 14th which celebrates the importance of this remarkable mathematical constant. It is an annual opportunity for math enthusiasts to get together to try and recite as many of the infinite digits of π as they can, write a poem in 'Pilish' (yes, there really is a [language based on Pi](#)), talk about math in general and last, but by no means least - prepare and eat some 'pie'.

To wrap up March, we have St. Patrick's Day and an opportunity to drink green beer on the 17th. No true Irish person would ever do that by the way. On March 19th, we have the Vernal Equinox (when the sun will be directly over the equator), and finally, the month ends with the start of Easter on the 31st. It's all downhill from there and Spring is Here!

Take care,
[Peter Green](#)

Membership Report

Thank you for your quick attention to your club renewals. There is an amazing renewal response so I have not gone to the wait list to add any new members. Our club remains capped at this time.

We have also capped the Pickering resident wait list so it doesn't get too big, meaning at this time we are not taking any more new upcoming membership requests.

[Sharon McMinn](#)

Speakers Report

I hope you enjoyed our last Speaker, Terry Fallis. I certainly did as I found him to be such an easy-going and entertaining story-teller. I purchased one of his books and am sure it will help me get through all the flying I'll be doing soon.

I will miss our next two speakers as I'll be away. Peter Davidson will help them prepare for their presentations and be their hosts in my place and so I want to thank Peter in advance for doing so. I'm disappointed to be missing them as I think both will be very incredibly interesting and informative. Until confirming Eileen Kennedy's (our February Speaker) engagement, I had no idea what a history Durham has with respect to the film industry and what an impact it has had and still has on our region.



Then in March we have Constable Darryl Rice. I suspect many of you have seen Darryl talk before and those who have will know how good he is and the importance of what he has to say. He regularly makes presentations throughout the Durham region and has won much recognition for how well he does it.

Don't forget that the Meeting in March is on the 1st Wednesday (March 6th) so as not to conflict with March Break and we have given Darryl 90 mins for his presentation.

I hope you enjoy both speakers as much as I will miss seeing them,

[Laura Green](#)

January Meeting & AGM

Our January meeting was a busy one! We had two special guests who each presented certificates recognizing our club's fifth anniversary – Mayor Kevin Ashe, on behalf of the City of Pickering, and Doug Byers, Ontario District 9 Director, on behalf of PROBUS Canada. The 2024 Management Team was introduced and approved by our members, who also approved the club's 2024 budget. There were anniversary cakes to enjoy during our social break and then our guest speaker, Terry Fallis, delivered a great presentation about his new book. We also welcomed our newest volunteer, Bonnie Cutten, who is now our club photographer for our monthly meetings and special annual events such as our BBQ and Christmas Lunch. Some of her photos appear below. See the January meeting photo album on our website for the rest of them. Finally, we thank Laura Green who has so capably handled the photographer role since our club began.





Events

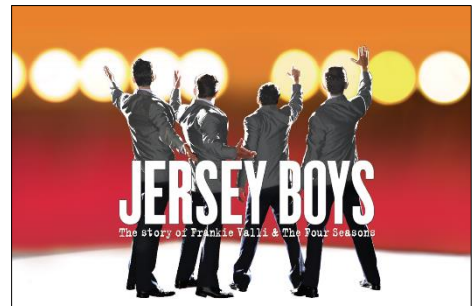
On February 1st, we will be heading to Flato Theatre in Markham to see *Humans 2.0* by Circa. A symphony of acrobatics, sound and light, this is the next level circus by Circa. Ten bodies appear in a flash of light. They move in harmony for a fleeting moment and then descend into a sinuous trance.



We will be celebrating Chinese New Year's on February 8th at the Mandarin Restaurant in Pickering. Cost: \$32.00 (this price includes meal, soft drink or coffee and taxes and gratuity).

Next we will be going to the Regent Theatre on Friday, February 16th, to see *SOLITARY MAN - THE DEFINITIVE NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE*. Tickets have been sold out for the event however you can purchase your own tickets directly from the theatre if you would like to join us.

On March 28th, we will be heading to the Hamilton Family Theatre to see "*Jersey Boys*". *Jersey Boys* is the international musical phenomenon that takes you behind the scenes – and behind the music – of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. Discover the secret of a 40-year friendship as four blue-collar guys work their way from the wrong side of the tracks to the heights of stardom, thrilling audiences with electrifying performances of chart-topping hits including "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Oh What a Night," and "Can't Take My Eyes



Off You.” This trip will include transportation by Coach Bus, lunch at The Golf Restaurant and show tickets. All taxes and gratuities are included for \$163.00. Book your spot today.

I’m currently working on some boat tours for the upcoming months. Stay tuned and check your emails.

Thank you to everyone for all of your suggestions. I’m looking into them.

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 (logon-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.

Remember - No March Newsletter

As Peter noted in his section, there will be no March newsletter. Calendars for February and March are on Pages 11 and 12. Look for our next newsletter on April 1st (and no - that is not an April Fool’s joke!).



The Social Scene

There are a few changes to the Activities schedule this month as follows:

- There will be no Arts & Crafts this month as it is Family Day, and the Rec Centre will be closed.
- In Stitches is still on - it will take place at Elaine’s home instead of the Rec Centre.
- Another change just for February is that Taste of the World is earlier in the month - on February 8th - to celebrate Chinese New Year.
- Starting this month, Happy Hour will be moving to the first Monday of the month (Feb 5th). Hope everyone can still make it. And if you are a bowler, Happy Hour will be right after bowling.

This month’s Ladies Lunch will be held at The Fox Goes Free. The invitation will be in your mailbox next week.

Let's take a look at some of the activities from January...

The Arts & Crafts folks spent an afternoon creating beautiful water colour paintings using a masking technique. What a talented bunch!



The weather never seems to deter the weekly walkers. It was a very snowy day, but pretty, for the walk through the Greenwood Conservation area.



The January Wine Tasting was a big success. Wines from Spain, Australia and Ontario were explored.





The weekly hikers have been out trying different trails. Here they are going along Duffin's Creek up near Pine Ridge High School.

Lots of people turned out for Trivia in January so the competition was fierce. But the team who lead the way through every

round and ultimately won, were the Whatevers (Randy Slemin, Susan Hinnecke, Jim Hinnecke, Reid Robertson). Check out Reid's T-Shirt - maybe that helped them win!



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.

February and March Dates:

- February 1 - Social Bridge
- February 8 - Lesson 8 - Major Opening and Responder has no Major Suit Plus Reverses
- February 15 - Social Bridge
- February 22 - Lesson 9 - 2 club opener
- February 29 - Social Bridge
- March 7 - Social Bridge
- March 14 - Lesson 10 - Preemptive bids
- March 21 - Social Bridge
- March 28 - Lesson 11 - Takeout doubles

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







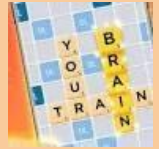
[Linda Black](#)



[In Stitches](#)

3rd Monday of the month

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

 <p><u>Not a Book Club</u> 2nd Friday of the month</p> <p><u>Elaine Phipps</u></p>	 <p><u>Cover to Cover Book Club</u> Last Monday of the month</p> <p><u>Pauline Field</u></p>
 <p><u>Movie Club</u> 1st Monday of the month</p> <p><u>Elaine Phipps</u></p>	 <p><u>Lakesides Ladies Let's Talk</u> 1st Friday of the month</p> <p><u>Janet Babcock</u></p>
Groups - Food & Drink	
 <p><u>Lakeside Happy Hour</u> 1st Monday of the month</p> <p><u>Gail Gobeil</u></p>	 <p><u>Lakeside Ladies Lunch</u> 3rd Wednesday of the month</p> <p><u>Gail Gobeil</u></p>
 <p><u>Breakfast Out</u> 3rd Monday of the month</p> <p><u>Susan Simpson</u></p>	 <p><u>Tastes of the World</u> Last Tuesday of the month</p> <p><u>Maureen Kelly</u> & <u>Virginia McKay</u></p>
 <p><u>In the Kitchen</u> 4th Thursday of the month</p> <p><u>Elaine Phipps</u></p>	
Groups - Games	
 <p><u>Bridge</u> Check our website for venues, dates and times.</p> <p><u>Peter Green</u></p>	 <p><u>EuChre</u> The 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month</p> <p><u>Nancy Agostino</u></p>
 <p><u>Scrabble</u> Last Friday of the month</p> <p><u>Marilyn McLaughlin</u></p>	 <p><u>Trivia</u> 4th Tuesday of the month</p> <p><u>Peter Green</u> & <u>Roy Pettitt</u></p>

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, Terry Fallis, at our January monthly meeting. Congratulations to Carol Rydzkowski and John Rydzkowski – perhaps our first spousal winners in club history?!

The Foodie Report

We are a club that sure enjoys its food! In January, we breakfasted at Kathryn's, tasted the world at Magwyers and learned a new recipe for an easy dinner at home - a tasty Cabbage Roll Casserole with our "In the Kitchen" Zoom group.



A Little Humour:

"Technically true" jokes:

- If everyone in the world held hands around the equator, most of them would drown.
- There's a lot to consider before getting married. On the one hand, you get to wear a ring. On the other, you don't.
- Any sentence becomes more profound if you put the name of a philosopher behind it – *Plato*

**IF YOU ARE SWEATING
WHILE PUTTING GAS
IN YOUR CAR, AND
FEELING SICK WHEN
PAYING FOR IT, YOU
HAVE GOT THE
CAROWNERVIRUS!**

**When older
people say,
"Enjoy them
while they are
young." They are
talking about
your knees and
hips not your
kids.**

**Do y'all remember,
before the internet,
that people thought
the cause of stupidity
was the lack of access
to information? Yeah.
It wasn't that.**

Your 2024 Management Team:



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

Vice-President – Gail Gobeil
(gail_gobeil@msn.com)

Treasurer – Terri Abernethy
(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)

Events Coordinator – Valerie Rodrigues
(valerievrodrigues13@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 – Peter Davidson
(pplc.davidson@gmail.com)



Your Club Calendar: February 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Euchre In Person Movie Night Humans 2.0 by Circa - Flato Theatre	2 Pickleball (#3 of 4) Lakeside Ladies Let's Talk	3
4	5 Hiking Group Bowling Movie Club Happy Hour	6 Walking Group	7	8 Strategic Board Games Taste of the World - Chinese New Year Dinner	9 Pickleball (#4 of 4) Not a Book Club Billiards	10 
11	12	13 Walking Group	14 Members Monthly Meeting Lunch after Meeting	15 Euchre	16 Solitary Man - The Definitive Neil Diamond Tribute	17
18	19 Breakfast at Kathryn's In Stitches Club	20 Walking Group Wine Tasting	21 Lakeside Ladies Lunch	22 Strategic Board Games In the Kitchen	23 Billiards	24
25	26 Cover to Cover Book Club	27 Walking Group Trivia	28	29 		



Your Club Calendar: March 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Lakeside Ladies Let's Talk	2
3	4 Bowling Movie Club Happy Hour	5 <i>Walking Group</i>	6 Members Monthly Meeting Lunch after Meeting	7 Euchre	8 Not a Book Club Billiards	9
10 	11	12 <i>Walking Group</i>	13	14 Strategic Board Games	15	16
17 	18 Breakfast at Kathryn's Crafts In Stitches Club	19 <i>Walking Group</i> <i>Wine Tasting</i>	20 Lakeside Ladies Lunch	21 Euchre	22 Billiards	23
24	25 Cover to Cover Book Club	26 <i>Walking Group</i> Trivia Taste of the World	27	28 Jersey Boys - Hamilton Family Theatre Strategic Board Games In the Kitchen	29	30
31	Note: Activities in <i>green italics</i> are recurring or planned but set up was still in progress at time of publication. Keep checking our website and your Inboxes for final details.					