



PROBUS CLUB OF AURORA

November 2019

PROBUS CLUB EXECUTIVES 2019-2020

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November is here and with it comes the gloom of this particular month and the happiness that a war ended on November 11th. Remembrance Day, in my opinion, is one of the most important dates in the calendar year as we pay tribute to the men and women who sacrificed so much so that we could have a free and independent country, the envy of the world. The Probud Club of Aurora is proud to be one of many local organizations to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph on November 10th to honor our fallen heroes. Please join us for this event if you are able.

There are a number of upcoming events that should be enjoyable to all. The Probud Wine Tasting at Hollandview Trail on November 7 and the Optimist Club of Aurora's Hypnotist on November 8 at the Royal Canadian Legion are examples of local events that appeal to all ages over 18 yrs.

Some of the executive attended a District 2 meeting on October 21 St. in Stouffville Ontario. What a well organized and insightful event. We met representatives from many Probud Clubs located in District 2 and learnt from each other the many ways to improve our organizations. I was very impressed with the calibre of members that represented their clubs. Congratulations to the organizers, the Probud Club of Stouffville.

Remember that the dining out location for November is Fishbone in Aurora. One of the best restaurants in Aurora.

Notice

Due to increased facility rental fees and the cost of premium entertainers/speakers, we will be raising our annual dues this September to \$ 45.00 per year.

Save the date



November 7, 2019

Hollandview terrace

7:00 pm

Wine tasting extravaganza

A wine expert from the LCBO will present an overview of 6 exceptional wines for your tasting and comments.

SOLD OUT

Items of Interest

Probus Christmas Luncheon

We will have a sign up sheet at our next meeting on November 13, 2019 for the Annual Probus Christmas luncheon at the Redcrest Golf Club at 17700 Keele St. north of Highway 9 (Davis Drive). Once again, there will be a great buffet and first class entertainment for your enjoyment. The cost this year will be \$50.00 per person and this amount must be paid on November 13th, as we will not be collecting any monies at the event. Thanks for your cooperation.

You Are a Star

Many of us believe that we have hidden talents never before expressed to the rest of the world. You are probably hiding a great gift and just need an opportunity to showcase this wonderful talent. The waiting is over.

The A Cappella York group are looking for you. Please contact Ed Webster at 905-751-1878 to get the audition that will launch your singing career or at the very least you'll have a great time.

Knowledge Is Power

Gran Aurora, a charity that supports The Stephen Lewis Foundation, is hosting an evening with renown author Ted Barris, a noted military historian, on November 4 at 7 pm at the Cultural Centre in Aurora. Ted will be speaking on his

Dedicated Volunteers

Social

Rosalyn Gonsalves
Carroll Graham

Dining Out

Nerrill Mahabir
Joan Atkinson

Speaker Reports

Blair Dawson
Carolyn Liddy
Murray Sinclair

Greeters

Theresa Robertson
Kaye Morrison

Guest Greeters

Sue White
Moe Bagan

Proof Reader

Rosalyn Gonsalves

Archivist

Ron Gibson

Sound

Glen Langford

Past Photographer

Gordon Barnes

Members at Large

Jean Bowers
Cliff White

Health & Wellness

Sally Arthur

latest book “Rush to Danger” which explores his father’s experiences as a medic in WW2.

The Stephen Lewis Foundation supports grandmothers in Africa who are raising their grandchildren because of the Aids epidemic.

Tickets are \$25.00 and may be purchased through Snap’d or by contacting (905) 751-1217 or (905) 727-9235.

Helping Others

Welcome Table, a division of Welcoming Arms, is hosting a Dinner and Trivia night at Trinity Anglican Church on November 9 at 6 pm. The evening will include a gourmet dinner, Trivia and a silent auction and is the major fundraiser for this programme which provides dinner on a weekly basis for under housed and marginalized families in the Aurora area. Tickets are \$45.00 each or \$350.00 for a table of 8. They may be obtained through welcomingarms@live.ca or at (905) 726-1483.

Welcoming Arms, a community programme founded by seven local churches, supports marginalized families in the Aurora area through “Bridging the Gap” “Welcome Table” and “Martha’s Table.”

Planned Programs

November 13, 2019

David Newland, adventurer, singer, travel guide with *Adventure Canada*, to present on Canada's relationship to the North

December 11th, 2019

No Program--Christmas Luncheon

January 8, 2020

Lecturer, broadcaster, writer, producer Ted Barris is to present on his book, *Dam Busters*

Troubadours at Heart

Lowell McClenny and Glen Langford from our Probus Club of Aurora, will be performing with the YORK REGIONAL POLICE COMMUNITY CHORUS on Saturday November the 9 th, 2019 at the 27th Annual "In harmony with the Community" fundraising Concert. This spectacular event will be held at the ultra modern Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts located at 10268 Yonge St. in Richmond Hill. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and are available from Lowell McClenny at 905-727-9676 or Glen Langford at 905-895-2116.

Along with Lowell and Glen, the Aurora Seniors Evergreen Choir will also be performing at this event, The additional stars from the Probus Club of Aurora will be Ed Webster, David Brownlow and Joan Brownlow. Make an effort to go out and support this group of talented individuals.

Additional entertainment will be provided by the Ottawa Police Chorus, The Salvation Army North York Temple School of Music Children's choir.

NOTE: Included in this year's program, will be a Remembrance Day Tribute by the mass choirs.

Past Presidents

1995 - Gerry Arthur
1996 - Ken Molyneux
1998 - Gordon Butler
1999 - John Wright
2000 - Tom Ridout
2001 - Ron Gibson
2002 - Doug Andrew
2003 - Marion Baggett
2004 - Tom Ridout
2005 - Daisy Hurst
2006 - Michael Varcoe
2007 - Marilyn Munslow
2008 - Robert Saunders
2009 - George Woolley
2010 - Jim McCulloch
2011 - Dinker Joshi
2012 - Jim Liddy
2013 - Jean Bowers
2014 - Bill Dies
2015 - Ron Canham
2016 - Joey Perry
2017 - Joan Brownlow
2018 - Vern Cunningham
2019 - Vern Cunningham



Probus Dinner And Lunch Outings

November 19 (6:00pm) - Dinner at Fishbone

302 Wellington Street East, Aurora

December 11 (11:30am) - Lunch at RedCrest Bistro

17700 Keele Street, King City

January 21 - Lunch at State and Main

14760 Yonge St., Winners Plaza, Aurora

February 18 - Lunch at Boston Pizza

8 First Commerce Dr., Walmart Plaza, Aurora

March 17 - Lunch at Milestones

18162 Yonge St. East, Newmarket

April 21 (6:00pm) - Dinner at Luna Ristorante

16655 Yonge St., Suites 9-10, Newmarket

May 19 (6:00pm) - Dinner at Graystones

14889 Yonge Street, Aurora

Members in the News

Two older, rather eccentric, ladies come into a Travel Agency twice a year to plan a summer trip or a winter cruise - which they never take because they can't afford to do so but they have a wonderful time planning it all. One day in the Travel Agency something happens that changes their lives. Come and see this comedy at the Aurora Seniors Centre on Saturday, Nov. 23 or Sunday, Nov. 24, both performances at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$5.00 for Members of the Aurora Sr. Centre or \$7.00 for Non-members of the Centre. They include refreshments following the show.

Tickets are available from Director Joan Brownlow at 905-841-2121. She will bring them to the meeting on Nov. 13. Probus member Ed Webster is one of the Stars of the Show.



Become A Wine Connoisseur While Having An Evening Of Fun With Friends

Probus Is Establishing Pods Of Eight Individuals Who Want To Know More About The Different Wines In A Friendly, Fun Loving Environment.

There Will Be A Sign Up Sheet At The September 11 Meeting. Individuals Or Singles Or Friends Are All Welcomed

Wine Pod Information

1. \$15.00 per person to attend.
2. 8 persons meet on a monthly basis or whenever they are all available
3. Each team (2) takes a turn at hosting
4. Four bottles of wine are purchased by host team - 2 white, 2 red.

 The Optimist Club of Aurora
presents an evening with



FRIDAY NOV 8, 2019
7:00 PM

Aurora Legion
Industrial Parkway North, Aurora

\$40.00

Ticket must be presented at door
Refreshments included, cash bar
Must be 19 years or older

SPONSORED BY



5. Host provides wine paid from kitty.
6. If all the money is not used, the balance remains in the kitty. Cost of four bottles should not exceed \$120.00. Choice and price at the discretion of the host.
7. Some research either through LCBO, Vineyard, Websites etc. relative to the wines to be shared with the group. Wines may be chosen by region, country, last place visited on a vacation etc.
8. Host provides the bread and crackers at their expense.
9. 2nd team cheeses at their expense.
10. 3rd team salad at their expense.
11. 4th team dessert at their expense.
12. Provision of food and wine is done on a rotating basis, so that the cost of the various FOOD items is shared equitably.
13. At the end of season (October to May) if money left in kitty, let's go out for dinner and divide bill at the end. If kitty does not cover the entire meal cost, each person will contribute. One bill divided by eight (8) persons.

Knowing about Internet Fraud

Brock Godfrey is a volunteer for the Canadian Anti - Fraud Centre. He spoke to us on measures available for us to protect ourselves from fraud. The CAFC is Canada's repository for data, intelligence, and resource material, as it relates to mass marketing, and identity fraud.

It is interesting to note that it is estimated that only about 5% of fraud victims will file a report with CAFC. among the top scams affecting seniors in 2018, the following are significant:

TYPE OF SCAM	NUMBER REPORTED	TOTAL DOLLAR LOSS
Romance	315	\$9,096,000
Prize	1023	\$3,270,000
Investments	62	\$2,683,000
Job	115	\$2,190,000
Merchandise	315	\$1,523,000
Service	2284	\$1,419,000
Extortion	6119	\$1,425,000
Inheritance	165	\$1,320,000
Bank Investigator	517	\$1,169,000
Emergency	324	\$630,000

Romance: A growing number of people are turning to the internet to find companionship and/or love. Scammers know this , and gain trust of victims through frequent contact - phone, e-mail, etc.,- and then will ask for financial assistance for various reasons (family illness, travel costs, etc.) . Note that the reported cost shown above is quite substantial and it is known that only a fraction of the instances which occur are reported. The message is not to send money for any reason, unless you know the person very well.

Prize: You might hear via e-mail, or regular mail, etc., that you have won a lottery or sweepstake, but you must pay a small up - front fee in order to collect your winnings.. In addition to the so - called fee, the scammers will have some of your personal information for future use.

Service, Tech Support: Scammers will call and claim to represent a well - known tech company, such as Microsoft. They will claim that your computer is malfunctioning and needs service. Of course, a fee is required for this service. Remember that Microsoft and most other well - known computer companies will not make such calls.

Extortion : CRA scam: Fraudsters will call, impersonating the CRA and claiming that there are problems with your past filed tax returns and additional payment is required immediately. They want you to pay by a money-service business or prepaid gift card, etc.. If this should happen to you, do not do anything until you have checked with CRA.

Bank Investigator: You could be asked for assistance to catch a bank employee who is suspected of stealing money. You are asked to withdraw some cash from your account , place it in an envelope and meet the "investigator" in a nearby parking lot where the envelope is turned over. (As a personal comment, this is a bit too much for me to swallow !)

Emergency: You receive a call from someone pretending to be a relative who is in an urgent situation and needs some money immediately. They might claim to have been in an accident while travelling abroad and money is needed for hospital expenses, lawyers, fees etc.

This presentation certainly rang a bell with your reporter, and probably a substantial number of other members, who also have trouble keeping up with some of the newer technology.

Murray Sinclair

The Optimist Club of Aurora
An evening with a hypnotist

Friday November 8, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion, Aurora Branch

Contact ROBERT GABY: 905-727-0582 / 647-237-0582 / rajj@rogers.com

The Aurora Optimist Club is a service organization operating within the community of Aurora. The club is governed by Optimist International receiving it's charter in 1985 . The primary purpose of an Optimist club member is to assist youth in the community involving sports, arts, education, medical and any other needs that may arise.

The goal of an Optimist is to "bring out the best in kids". This has been the motto since 1919. Club members are motivated to commit their time and resources whether it be for fundraising activities or various programs involving the youth of Aurora. All funds raised are allocated to the youth in Aurora only.

Our major source of Fundraising are the events we participate in using our Mobile Kitchen. We have other individual events partnered with various community groups and Town of Aurora programs that allow us to raise funds as well.

With the funds we raise we are able to:

- Offer scholarships to Aurora high school students
- Sponsor the Aurora Youth Art Festival
- Host the Annual Chess Tournament for Aurora schools, grades 1 - 8
- Snacks for School Programs
- Partner with STAPLES to provide school supplies to local children in need of assistance

Knowing about Internet Fraud

It's November again, time to think about poppies, veterans and our democratic form of government that they fought for. Thinking about democracy usually conjures up elections. We know that elections are a necessary part of democratic government, but they are not a sufficient element. The failure of "democracy-building elections" in Iraq, Egypt and Libya demonstrate that the preliminary requirements are: 1) minimal corruption 2) the rule of law and 3) a trusted judicial system. Only then is it time for a fair election.

The last majority Liberal Government promised to eliminate the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP). It didn't happen. Before that election, it was noted that the sitting majority Conservative government was elected by only 39.6% of the popular vote. Over 60% did not vote for them. Then the Liberals formed a majority government with 39.5%, so over 60% did not vote for the Liberals either.

The 2019 Conservatives won the popular vote, but the Liberals won more seats. The Green's 6.3% of the popular vote yielded less than 1% of the 338 seats.

What is fair?

It is reported that the ancient Greeks selected by a majority vote, but they also selected by lot, which gave protection to minorities.

The current FPTP countries in the world are dominated by Britain and her former colonies. Seats in the legislatures represent geographic districts. Most of the countries in the world that have multiple parties and hold elections, have proportional representation (PR). Seats in the legislatures represent the party strength in the popular vote. Mixed Member Proportional systems are a cross between the two.

Is one system more fair?

Early in the FPTP discussion, a "Ranked Ballot" was suggested as an alternative. Do not get confused. Any flavour of PR changes the structure of the legislature. The system for scoring ballots is important, but it is only housekeeping.

In 1785, the French philosopher and mathematician Marquis de Condorcet wrote “Essay on the Application of Analysis to the Probability of Majority Decisions.” This is about vote scoring. This was an era of the US and French Revolutions and the constitution writing the was happening in both countries.

In a simple election, the winner with more than half the votes cast has a majority. A winner with less than half has a plurality. A majority winner will usually enjoy a longer honeymoon with the voters.

Majorities are also achieved with a Two Round Runoff election. Round one finds the top two, from all the candidates. Round two gets a majority winner.

A ranked ballot has the preference for each candidate marked 1-2-3-4. An Instant Runoff election emulates previous conventions by dropping the bottom candidate after each count and recounting. Eventually the top score will be a majority winner.

The Marquis made a more complicated counting system and also struggled with possible controls on who should be allowed to vote. Eventually he wrote, “ If we cannot find voters who are sufficiently enlightened, we must avoid making a bad choice by accepting as candidates only those men in whose competence we can trust.”

Simple solutions seldom come without unintended consequences. If you know and accept the rules before the vote – the result is fair.

Probus Members visit the McMichael Gallery - October 28th, 2019

A beautiful Fall day for nine members of our Club to visit the fabulous collection of Maud Lewis's paintings at the McMichael Gallery in Kleinburg.

Lunch at the Gallery provided a time for fellowship and some good laughs.

Do consider joining us for these impromptu outings. If driving provides a challenge, please contact one of your Social committee members and we will arrange.

Early Days
Maud Lewis made her first artistic forays with her mother, making Christmas cards that they sold from door to door in Yarmouth. Her early paintings that followed were works of distinctive, endearing character, focusing with anecdotal detail on the world around her and often incorporating explanatory captions. Achieving a wonderful tonal integrity in her use of colour, she developed a rich palette that brightened as her approach to painting matured.

