

"Newsletter"

Issue Date: March 19, 2020

Issue #23

Founded: November 17, 2017

President's Message

Greetings to all !!

Well these are certainly challenging times for everyone. Many of us have had trips cancelled or postponed and we are all concerned about COVID-19, wondering when life will return to normal. In the interim, I encourage everyone to respect and practice social distancing. Hopefully it will end soon and we can get back to enjoying our many activities and events. Just a reminder, we have cancelled our March 25th meeting and will monitor the situation and keep you apprised if there are any further cancellations.

On a much more positive note I would like to share a change that Management Committee has decided to make with respect to payment for events, activities, membership fees etc. Due to the number of events we have, our social committee members and treasurer are required to handle a very large number of cheques and sums of cash. This is a situation that our Social and Activities members are not comfortable dealing with and subsequently requested that Management Committee consider other means of payment to make it easier and more efficient for all concerned. As a result we decided to speak to other Probus groups to see how they are managing this process and if they had made any changes. A sub-committee was set up and they reported that a few clubs had moved to the "Square System" which allows their membership to pay by credit or debit card; cheques and cash are no longer accepted. This is certainly a significant change but we have been told it is working. This is not to say there weren't any challenges but those have been worked out now. So our committee asked for a demonstration of how the system actually worked and felt it was a system that would benefit us. Therefore, we have arrived at a decision to implement the Square payment system for our club, allowing for payment by credit or debit card only. We will no longer be accepting cheques or cash.

We feel this is a necessary and progressive step going forward and understand that for some it may be very challenging, but we are asking you to support our Social and Activities Coordinators and members as we implement this new system and thank you in advance. The system will be managed by our Treasurer, Betty Farquharson, Betty has worked very hard over the past few months along with other members of the Management Committee to get the system up and running and we are now in a position to implement it. Please refer to Betty's note with respect to dates etc., which is included in this newsletter for details.

That is it for this month, please continue to monitor your emails for updates and let's hope we can resume our monthly meetings in April. Wishing you and your families' good health.

Martin Ruthven President

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Activity Co-conveners' Message

This is a very challenging time for all social clubs and events. 4Seasons Probus Club has had a busy and very enjoyable time the past few months, but with the spread of Covid19, our activities have come to a sharp halt, with many of our March activities being cancelled.

PLEASE NOTE: AT THIS TIME, BOTH BOWLING FOR THE EASTER BUNNY AND TRIVIA NIGHT ARE STILL GOING AHEAD. FOR BOWLING, IF YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED UP, BUT WISH TO PARTICIPATE, PLEASE EMAIL <u>4seasonssocial@gmail.com</u> YOU CAN SIGN UP, AND PAY AT THE BOWLING ALLEY ON APRIL 9. Cost is \$15.00 per person

FOR TRIVIA NIGHT, YOU CAN SIGN UP AND ARRANGE FOR PAYMENT BY EMAILING activities4seasons@gmail.com WE WILL NEED PAYMENT BY APRIL 16. Cost for this event is \$12.00 per person

AT THIS POINT, ALL EVENTS FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTHS WILL PROCEED AS SCHEDULED. AS THE COVID19 SITUATION UNFOLDS, WE WILL ADVISE IF THERE ARE FURTHER CANCELLATIONS.

Hopefully, we are able to resume all of our activities before too long, but the health and safety of us all is paramount. If social distancing is the best way to prevent further spread of the virus, we can all do our part.

On An Administrative Note

Please remember that our coordinators work to organize fun activities for our members. While occasional guests are welcome, it should not become the norm. For non-members who wish to participate in our activities, please encourage them to become members. For further clarification, please refer to #2 of our Policies and Procedures on our website.

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Updates From Our Coordinators

CONTEMPORARY HISTORY

Our next meeting is expected to take place in late April or early May.

EUCHRE

Our recent fun Euchre get together was Thursday March 12th. Rita Leithead was our gracious host for 16 people. Jerry Colson was the night's big winner. In attendance were: , Jill and Howard Morrison, Norina Goegan, Michael and Dianne Gerstmann, Dale and Pam Adams, Ann Bardoel, Jerry and Kim Colson, Lorie and Rory Ring, Mike Travers, Joe and Jane Galda. (Our next game will be the second Thursday in April).



INVESTOR GROUP



The latest in our series of monthly meeting took place at the home of Barry Davenport on Wednesday, March 11th (picture attached). Attendees presented their views on the recent market volatility and its causes, along with a synopsis of the prospect for selected equities in the participants portfolios. We also viewed a video that focused on how innovations in the energy and transportation could fundamentally alter those sectors. The next meeting will be in mid-April.

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SNOWSHOEING

The winter hike/snowshoeing group has had several wonderful, well attended outings in these final weeks of winter. There were 2 hikes in the Pretty River Provincial Park & 1 hike in the Wasaga Beach Provincial Park. These pics reveal many smiling faces even before the lunch!



Update From The Treasurer - Debit and Credit payments coming soon

Treasurer: Betty Farquharson

Beginning at the next Probus meeting, members will be able to pay with debit or credit card for any events they wish to participate in. For one meeting only – April 22, unless there are further shutdowns, we will also accept cheques. Following this meeting, cheques and cash will no longer be accepted. We look forward to improving the convenience for all 4Seasons Probus members.

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Social Co-conveners' Update

EVENTS FROM MARCH

Girls' Night Out was a huge success. Participants enjoyed an evening of comedy centered around the trials and tribulations of life as it presents itself to some women.



These events that are still a go, unless otherwise indicated. We will update those who have signed up for events that may be cancelled due to Covid19 circumstances beyond our control. These are unpredictable times.

March

March 17 & 20 - Honda Plant Tours. CANCELLED

March 25 - Happy Hour CANCELLED

April

April 8 - Theatre Trip - Niagara on the Lake - to see 'Gypsy' \$160 SOLD OUT

April 9 - Bowling for Bunnies \$15 room for 19 more bowlers

April 23 - Trivia Night \$TBA (room for more participants!)

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May

- May 9 Theatre Trip to see 'Hamilton' in Toronto \$300. SOLD OUT
- May 25 Spring into Summer Fashion Show \$15
- May 28 Niagara Bike and Wine Tour \$117.52 May 27 – 29 *optional* Niagara Wine Tour Prince of Wales Accommodation \$517.54

BY SPECIAL INVITATION

May 13 - Wings – Butterflies and Planes with Collingwood Probus Club with Gord Mackay. \$80.00 Contact Gord if you're interested at 705-467-0745 or gordonmackay2727@gmail.com

MANY MORE EVENTS ONCE CONFIRMED!

12+ events awaiting confirmation. Details available upon confirmation. Includes

Miss Midland Lunch Cruise



Bruce Power Station Tour,

Nine and Dines at a variety of local courses,

E. Carr Observatory,

Our Annual Christmas Dinner and Dance.

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2020 Management Committee

President	Martin Ruthven	289-383-3129
Vice President	Bruce Clark	705-532-9829
Past President	Steve Officer	519-281-7207
Past President	Diane Fitzgerald	416-930-1850
Treasurer	Betty Farquharson	905-808-5306
Secretary	Gene Allevato	705-445-9508
Membership Chair	Sue Barbour	416-985-7164
Communications Chair	Wendy Hately	705-444-3420
Activity Convener	JoAnne Ruthven	289-383-3129
Events Convener	<u>Rita Leithead</u>	705-351-2448
Speakers Chair	Cate McMullen	705-445-9406
Member At Large	Mary Ferguson	647-640-7875

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