



PROBUS News.....

PROBUS Club of Bradford

Volume 146, Published September 2023



I know the voices aren't real, but
man do they come up with some
great ideas!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear PROBUS Members:

"It's the most wonderful time of the year!"

Several years ago, a tv commercial took this Christmas song and started airing it as a back-to-school jingle. It reflected how I had always felt about September. Even though my children have long left home, and even though Kent and I have no grandchildren, the sentiment still stays with me.

To me September signifies a new beginning, a fresh start to life, an ability to create something new. It is also the start of a new PROBUS year and that means a few new faces both on our management team and in the general membership.

Although they will still be active in our club, it is with sad hearts and many thanks we say goodbye to Patricia Dion and Deb and Pete Liukaitis from their management roles. I know I speak for everyone when I say their contributions over the years are greatly appreciated. Together they have donated 34 years to helping our club in a variety of positions including slides and slide shows, all things technical, webmaster, secretary, membership, communications, vice president and president.

Next, I am happy to welcome Dianne Turcotte (secretary), Ellen Rombough (communications), and Tom Nelson (presentations). We are looking forward to working with you and hope you find being members of the executive as enjoyable as the rest of us do.

A special welcome to the new members of the Probus Club of Bradford. I know our returning members will introduce themselves to you at the October meeting on October 10th. If there is one thing our club excels at, it's socializing.

As many of you are aware, the Probus Club of Bradford is twinning with the Probus Club of Waikanae Central in New Zealand. Check out their website www.probuswaikanaecentral.org.nz and read their newsletters. You may find the new best friend you didn't know you were missing.

Until next month... Bunny

PROBUS meeting

October 10 at 10:00 am

At St. John's Presbyterian Church

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The President's Message.....	1
September Meeting/Speakers...	2
List of Clubs.....	3
Events Attended.....	4-6
Upcoming Events.....	7-9
Miscellaneous.....	10-12

2023/4 Executive Committee:

President: *Bunny Kaufman*
Vice President: *Dale Tasker*
Secretary: *Diane Turcotte*
Treasurer: *Cheryl Blair*
Social Chair: *Wendy Van Straten*
Communication: *Ellen Rombough*
Presentations: *Tom Nelson*
Speakers' Chair: *Bob Evans*
Members Chair: *Pat Mohren*
Major Events:
*Brenda Andrews and
Peggy Michaud*
Members at Large:
Ann Evans and Chris Van Straten
Past President: *Dave McMillan*

SEPTEMBER MEETING

September was another successful meeting. Bunny was MIA and The Sub” ran the show.

Introducing the new executive members for 2023/24:

President: *Bunny Kaufman*

Vice President: *Dale Tasker*

Secretary: *Diane Turcotte*

Treasurer: *Cheryl Blair*

Social Chair: *Wendy Van Straten*

Communication: *Ellen Rombough*

Presentations: *Tom Nelson*

Speakers' Chair: *Bob Evans*

Members Chair: *Pat Mohren*

Major Events: *Brenda Andrews and Peggy Michaud*

Members at Large: *Ann Evans and Chris Van Straten*



The Sub

A big **THANK YOU** and farewell to Deb and Pete Liukaitis and Patricia Dion for their **MANY** years of serving on the executive in various capacities.

Your contributions will not be forgotten.



September Guest Speaker...Robert Thiessen, “The Thiessen Adventure”

Robert told a heartwarming story of how he and his wife travelled to Africa (twice) and faced many challenges to adopt their two sons and bring them to Canada.

The Thiessen family is thriving and their two boys are looking forward to their future.



Guest Speaker for October...

Daniel Aonso “The Sounds of Hollywood—Discovering the Music of Film”

Starting from the soaring romanticism of the Golden Era of Hollywood, and traveling through the years— From the scares and screeches of Bernard Herrmann to the beautiful sounds of John Williams, explore the music of motion pictures!

Daniel Aonso studied piano from an early age. He then went on to complete a Bachelor's and later Master's degree in music from York University with Classical Piano as primary instrument. His main areas of interest are in Popular Music and Film Music. He currently teaches piano, guitar, percussion and music theory at PAVAS music school in Mississauga.

We have had the past pleasure of Daniel's entertaining talks about The Beatles music. Looking forward to this one too!



BRADFORD PROBUS CLUBS CONTACTS

These are the current clubs that are actively running. If you have a particular interest that you would like to share with club members and start another club contact Wendy Van Straten at

wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca

Bid Euchre—Deborah Liukaitis
dliukait@sympatico.ca

Book Club—Cheryl Blair
cheryl_blair@rogers.com

Dinner Club—Dale Tasker
dale.tasker@rogers.com

Discussion—Peter Ellis
peterellis1000@gmail.com

Knitting—Linda Alsop
lindacvano@gmail.com

Movie—Dave McMillan
dmcmillan2000@rogers.com

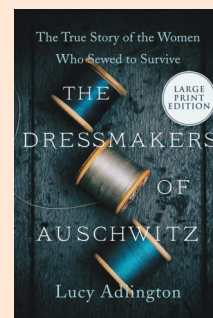
RODEO—Gwen Green
gweng9@rogers.com

ROMEO—TBA volunteer

Scrabble—Amy Wright
amywright0@hotmail.com

BOOK CLUB (Cheryl Blair, cheryl_blair@rogers.com)

Book Club is meeting September 28. The book is “**The Dressmakers of Auschwitz**” by Lucy Adlington. A powerful chronicle of the women who used their sewing skills to survive the Holocaust, stitching beautiful clothes at an extraordinary fashion workshop created within one of the most notorious WWII death camps.

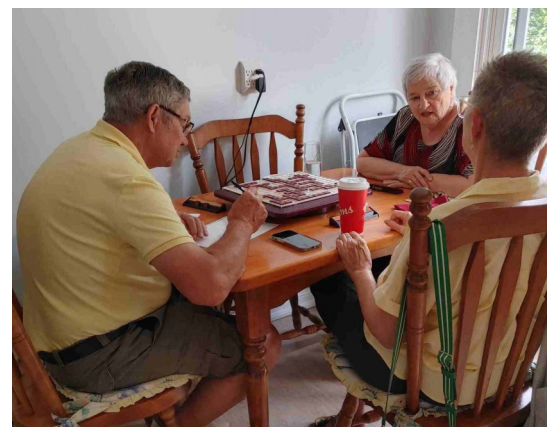
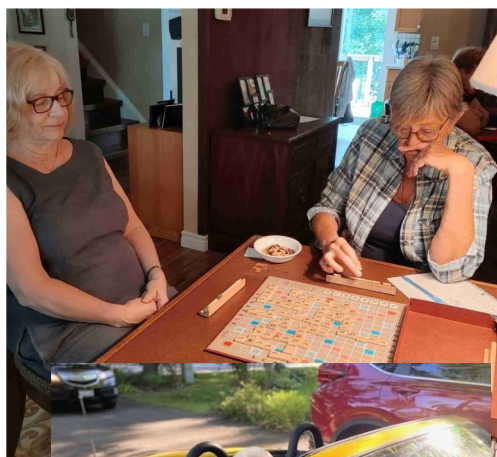


Check this link for access to books the club has read: [Book Club - The PROBUS Club of Bradford](#)

SCRABBLE CLUB

The Scrabble Club is getting some good reviews. Thankyou Amy Wright for organizing.

If you wish to attend the next game, contact Amy Wright at amywright0@hotmail.com



If you win do you get a ride home in Amy's little sports car?

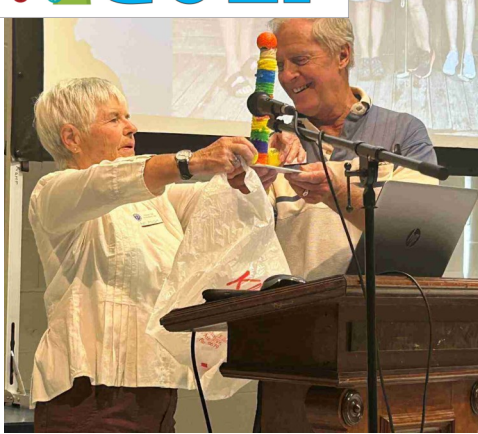


KNITTING- The SSK Ladies are anxious to dive into their yarn stash and start creating again.

If you are interested in joining the group, contact Linda Alsop at lindacvano@gmail.com.



When your Nan is both an avid knitter and Elvis fan.



Moose Mohren was the winner of August's Mini Golf game.

At the September meeting Amy Wright presented him with another of her creative trophies.

Moose was speechless and humbled by Amy's artistic talent.



Hottest day of the summer!
Why not a beer!



Lost in the weeds again



The Mini Golf crew melting on the deck.

Finish this sentence...

It was hotter than _____



CAR RALLY

This year's car rally was a big success. There were new to antique vehicles and some very nefarious looking characters participating.



THE WINNERS...

1st Place—The Drag Racers

Cynthia and Brian Riley

Wendy and Chris Van Straten



2nd Place—The A-Team

Judy and John Tolchard

Susanne Artichuk and Joan Simpson



3rd Place—Dust In The Wind

Kim and Larry Stumpf

Gwen Green and Earl Michaud



4th Place—Lost Souls

Cheryl and Gord Blair

Judy and John Zima



Last Place—Faster Than You (doubt it)

Chris and Matt Granger

Barb and Chris Zuercher

Looks like they have a job to do after the party.





Thank you Mooses for hosting another fun afternoon of Oktoberfestivities. Great food, fun games and the cider enhancer!

Sorry, we terrorized the moose.



Gemütlichkeit!



We had games!



A little instruction for Jo.



Auf Wiedersehen!

Peggy has a date with the moose.

EVENTS

APPY PARTIES!

Here is the list of the next appy parties.

If you want to attend or host any future events, contact: Wendy Van Straten at vcvanstraten@yahoo.ca

Remember to bring an appetizer to share and your favourite beverage for a couple of hours of socializing.

Barb and Chris Zuercher

Date: Saturday, November 4 Starts 4:00 pm (30 member maximum)

Wendy and Chris Van Straten

Date: Thursday, January 4 Starts 4:00 pm

Look for the sign-up sheet at the October meeting



Appy Party

at Diane and Tom Nelson's

September 14



**Always make sure SOMEONE in the relationship has good credit.
That's why its called SIGNIFICANT other.**

Sign/if/I/can't.

Follow me for more marriage tips.

EVENTS TO COME

COLLINGWOOD FALL GET-AWAY

3 days and 2 nights—October 11 to 13th (Wednesday to Friday)

We are in countdown mode for the October get away! Looking forward to a fun 3 days.
For questions and information contact Wendy Van Straten at wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER!



Event Date: Saturday, October 21 , starts at 4:00 pm

For those who have signed up... the locations and what you are making is a mystery—
you will be informed at the October 10 meeting

Contact Carol McMillan at dmcmillan2000@rogers.com or Brenda Andrews at dbandrews2004@gmail.com

A day trip to Shaw Festival to see *Brigadoon!*

Date: Thursday, November 30th

Cost: \$221 per person Deposit of \$50 per person

Final Payment by October 10

INCLUDES:

- Bus and guide—Hamilton Tours
- Stop at Picard's Peanuts
- Lunch at Queen's Landing
- After the show—free time on Main Street (or spousal day care—pub)
- Some seats still available

Contact Wendy Van Straten

wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca



EVENTS TO COME



COMING SOON

THE CHRISTMAS LUNCH!

Friday, December 8 at 12:00 noon

Location: Bond Head Golf Course

Cost: TBA

Signup and payment starts at October 10 meeting.

Mark Your Calendar for Events to Come!

November 9—Bid Euchre Tournament (Cost \$10.00 per person)

December 8—Christmas Lunch (Cost: tba)

January 18—Murder Mystery (Cost: tba)

January 29 —Whisky tasting



Canadian History—BED PUSHING IN THE '60s

Who remembers for a brief time in the winter of 1961, Canadian post-secondary students were swept up in a weird fad...bed pushing? This is the story about the fad.

The fad apparently began at the University of Rhodesia in Zimbabwe, and then moved over to South Africa. From there, it spread to Canada where it was swept up coast-to-coast.

Canadian post-secondary students tried to set a world record for most continuously pushed bed. The record was set by students at Queens University, who pushed a bed around a city block for 1,609 km.

The speed record for a bed was 13.5 km/h, for a bed pushed 563 km.

To try and beat the record, students elsewhere in Canada pushed beds on wheels over highways, fields and frozen lakes.

Students from the University of Alberta pushed one bed mounted on bicycle wheels from Edmonton to Calgary in February 1961. Four women sat on the bed wearing fur coats for the entire journey.

Undergraduates from Waterloo College pushed their bed from London to Kitchener and were invited to come to the Quebec Winter Carnival with their bed. Three members of Parliament heard this and invited them to stop off in Ottawa and roll their bed through the capital. They did, leaving the bed chained to a post overnight. The Ottawa Police Chief called it "asinine".

One psychologist interviewed by the Ottawa Journal in February 1961 stated the fad was good for students because it was better than hanging out at the pool or engaging in riots.

He added: "If students in certain foreign countries spent their time pushing beds down a highway instead of rioting, life would be more peaceful."

As quickly as the fad emerged, it was gone.

The record set by Canadian students was eventually beaten in 1979 by students at St. Vincent College in Pennsylvania who pushed a bed in laps around a shopping centre for 3,190 km.

Craig Baird-Canadian History Ehx, September 2023



A Texan walks into an Irish pub and says, "I hear you Irish are a hard bunch of drinkers. I'll give \$500 American dollars to anybody in here who can drink ten pints of Guinness back to back."

The room went quiet and no one takes up the Texan's offer. An Irishman even leaves.

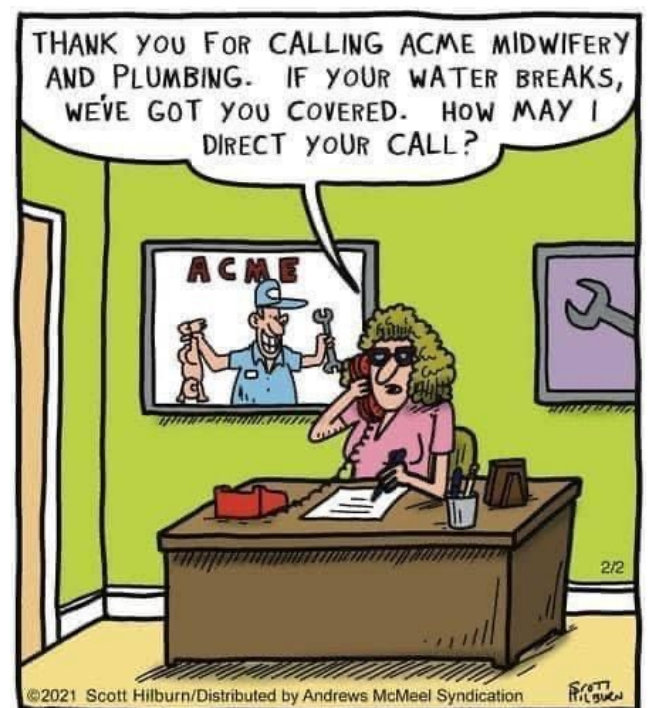
Thirty minutes later the same Irishman who left walks back into the bar, taps the Texan on the shoulder and asks, "Is your bet still good?"

"You bet it is", replies the Texan and asks the bartender to line up ten pints of Guinness.

Immediately, the Irishman tears into all ten of the pint glasses, drinking them all back to back. The other pub patrons cheer as the Texan sits in amazement.

The Texan gives the Irishman the \$500 and says, "If ya don't mind me askin', where did you go for that 30 minutes you left the bar?"

The Irishman replies, "Oh...I had to go the the pub down the street to see if I could do it first."



The Weird True Story of the Rise and Fall of the Waterbed

If you've ever slept on a waterbed, you know that it is a singular experience. Some of you (including yours truly and hubby) may have even owned one. At the time we thought the concept was very innovative and it was the most fascinating thing. Also, the quality of sleep for us was excellent.

Almost since its invention, the waterbed has been associated with excitement and even licentiousness — but ever since the late 1980s, when the waterbed hit its peak, it's been slowly disappearing from American and Canadian homes. Read on for the weird true story of the rise and fall of the waterbed.

The waterbed, as we know it, got its start in California, in the late sixties. After experimenting with chairs filled with cornstarch and even Jell-o, Charlie Hall, a design student at San Francisco State University, hit upon the idea of a mattress full of water. Hall presented the water-filled mattress as his master's thesis one evening in 1968, and his entire class spent the night frolicking on it. Thus, the modern waterbed was born.

Hall wasn't the first person to come up with the idea of filling a mattress with water. In the early 1800s, Dr. Neil Arnot created a 'hydrostatic bed for invalids' that was intended to reduce bedsores. The bed consisted of a warm bath filled with water and topped with a layer of rubber, which was then sealed to prevent leaks. And science fiction writer Robert Heinlein, inspired by the time he spent bedridden with tuberculosis, described a waterbed in great detail in one of his books, although he never bothered to build it.

But it was modern technology that really made the waterbed possible. The invention of vinyl meant that a mattress that would reliably hold water and not leak was a real possibility. So, Hall began his experiments at just the right time. Of course, it was the swinging sixties, and marketers quickly picked up on the waterbed's more tantalizing possibilities. One company claimed that "Two things are better on a waterbed. One of them is sleep."

Hall sold waterbeds to members of Jefferson Airplane and to Hugh Hefner. In 1971, Time reported that, "in Manhattan, the waterbed display at Bloomingdale's department store for a while was a popular singles meeting place."

In the 1980s, the waterbed successfully made the leap from bachelor pad to suburban bedroom. **At the peak of the waterbed craze, in 1987, more than one out of five mattresses purchased in the U.S. were waterbeds****. The industry was worth \$2billion. Enjoying that sweet, sloshy sleep was almost mainstream. But since then, their market share has declined

to a lowly five percent. So, what happened?

Some people have attributed the decline of the waterbed to their association with creepy '70s lotharios, but their popularity with suburbanites in the '80s seems to refute that. The real problem with waterbeds was that they were kind of a pain. Installing one meant running a hose into your bedroom, risking flood-like conditions. Moving a waterbed was even more complicated, requiring an electric pump or another device to siphon out the water. And the wooden frames could weigh hundreds of pounds. Plus there was the possibility of your mattress springing a leak, or growing algae (although, to be fair, this could be avoided by adding a little Clorox to the water upon the initial filling). Many apartment complexes banned them.

But the modern waterbed still had its adherents — and it might look (and feel) much different than you'd expect. New soft sided, or 'waveless', water beds lack the telltale wood frame of the old models. They consist of a water-filled pouch or coils surrounded by foam sides, and look just like a standard mattress. Separating the water into multiple compartments cuts down on the wave action, which makes for a bed that's just as supportive and not nearly as sloshy (although maybe also not nearly as fun).

Oddly, waterbeds may be finding a new market, but not a human one. Time, which first reported on the popularity of the waterbed in 1971, published an article in 2012 about the trend of buying waterbeds for cows. *That's no bull!* Apparently this unconventional accommodation helps to reduce sores and infections, and is less likely to grow bacteria than beds of traditional materials like wood chips. There are entire companies devoted to producing waterbeds for cows. As one Oregon farmer put it: "Happier cows, happier milk."

So, in its own way, the waterbed persists. It may have disappeared, for the most part, from the American bedroom, but in the American psyche (and maybe the American farm), Charlie Hall's unusual invention still looms large.



**there is no specific data for Canadian but the markets are culturally and geographically close to the U.S.

When God created Adam and Eve, he said to them: "I have two gifts to give you—one is to pee standing up and..."

Adam, interrupted God screaming, "*ME! ME! I want it, please Lord...please...please...please...this would make life a lot easier!*"

Eve agreed and said those things didn't matter to her.

So, God gave Adam the gift.

Adam was amazed, screaming for joy, running through the Garden of Eden peeing on every tree.

He ran along the beach making drawings with his pee in the sand.

He lit a fire and played fireman.

God and Eve stared at the mad man with happiness until Eve asked God, "And...what is the other present?"

And God answered..."The brain is yours."

And that, my friends, is how it all started.

Margaret Hamilton; lead software engineer of the Apollo Project, stands next to the code she wrote by hand that was used to take humanity to the moon. [1969]



Paddy pulls up at the traffic lights next to a stunning looking girl.

Paddy smiles at her and winds his window down.

She smiles back and winds her window down.

Paddy says, "Have you farted as well?"



See you at the next PROBUS meeting

October 10th—10:00 am

At St. John's Presbyterian Church