

Ken Talbot, President

### **PRESIDENT'S PODIUM**

Once again my feet are back in Canada. Seeing life from the other side of the world, especially Asia, is a big opportunity and a privilege. One thing that always stands out is that wherever we come from, whatever our beliefs, first and foremost people are trying to raise families in a peaceful world. After several weeks in the sun (I am sure there is no sympathy from anyone for the jet lag nights!) it is always good to return to our home here and to all our family and friends – those smiles mean so much to us. We are living in turbulent times so it is important to have time enjoying company together, and where better than our Orca PROBUS Club.

I am told we were lucky to avoid the snowfall a few weeks back when 18 inches fell in one day, which is 4 times the average total for January. However, I notice the daffodils are starting to show so I have to presume that's the last time we will see the white stuff? However, the amount of rain we are having is getting a little excessive, with this January providing twice the normal rain fall for the month. Sounds like we picked the right month to be away but time will tell.

My thanks again to those who helped make the first meeting in our temporary facility a success. We have had some feedback and some issues we think can be resolved by different seating arrangements. We will be therefore be trying different layouts for our next meeting. There is no need to come early to set up. We have booked this facility to June in order to enable the Legion to complete their renovations. Please bear with us as we make the best of this temporary accommodation.

See you all on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Cheers!

- President Ken

**The ORCA PROBUS CLUB meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m.  
Meetings will be held at Comox United Church, corner Beach Dr. & Comox Ave.**

**Our Website: [www.orcaprobus.ca](http://www.orcaprobus.ca)**

# **In Memorium**



## **Eileen Thornton-Jones**

Eileen joined Orca Probus in 2009. She had not been in good health for the last few years so was not active in the monthly club meetings, but did enjoy the lunch bunch.

An active card player with friends, Eileen will be remembered for her enthusiasm and her sense of humour.

## **ORCA PROBUS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

President	Ken Talbot
Vice-President	Neil Brodie
Secretary	Marguerite Ancell
Treasurer	Caroline Urquhart
Membership	Lynnette Lynch Val Dyke
Social & Activities	Jerith Jones
Facilities	Mike & Barb Wilson
Newsletter	Bruce Ellis
Past President	Marie Knowles
Orca Probus email address	

## ***ACTIVITY GROUP CONTACTS***

BBQ Group	TBA
Bridge	MaryLynn Rasmussen
Camera Club	Bruce Ellis
Dining Out	Lawrence Petkus
Dining In	Pamela Melko
Garden Club	Cricket Price
Golf Group	Ross Cowan
Happy Appies	TBA
Hiking Group	Tim Ackerman
Lunch Bunch	Maxine Slater
Probus Singers	Rae Siebert
Pub Club	Howard Siebert
Quilters Group	Beth Ritchie
Book Group	Marilyn Morris
Walking Group	Deanna Provencher
Bowling Group	Marie Knowles
Wine Club	TBA

## **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**



01 Wendy Irwin	10 Annie Judson
03 Ron Lowrie	12 Tony Wilson
04 Mark Simonson	14 Albert Rachynski
05 Einar Brasso	16 Gwendolyne Kruger
05 Marilyn Manley	25 Liz Van Boeschoten
10 Robyn Dickinson	26 Cindy Budd

## **MILESTONES**

Congratulations to the following members celebrating  
15 years with Orca Probus:

Wendy and Lorne Irwin  
Terry and Beth Broomfield  
Moya and Gerald Fleming



## JANUARY SPEAKER

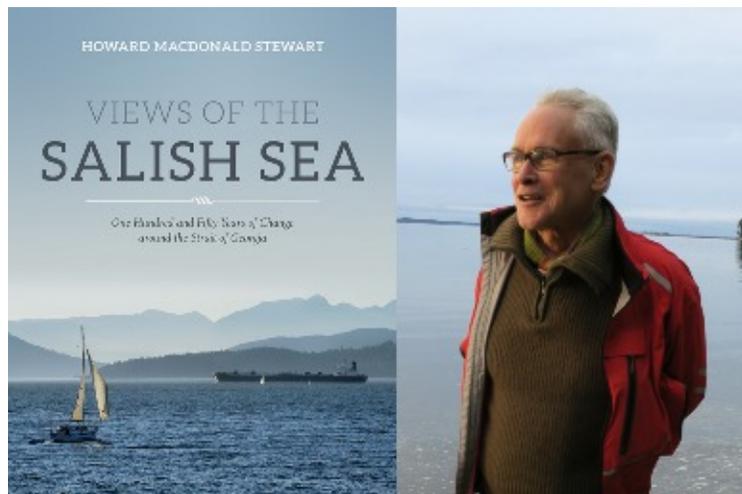
Our January 14<sup>th</sup> meeting speaker was Mike Fournier.

Mike gave a very informative talk on how we should all be prepared for possible disaster (fires or earthquakes). He handed out helpful Brochures, and told us about a marvelous device... a hand-cranked radio that will continue to work after batteries wear out.



## FEBRUARY SPEAKER

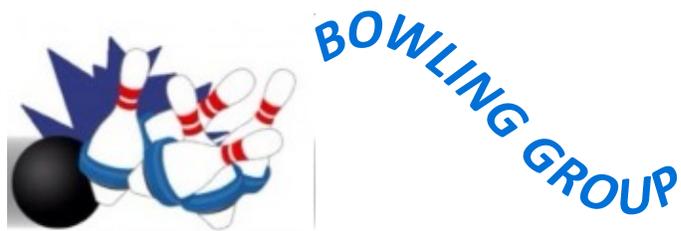
At our February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting the speaker will be Howard Stewart. Howard will be presenting an overview of his book about the Salish Sea.



If you have not done so in the past, we urge you to check out our website

**[www.orcaprobus.ca](http://www.orcaprobus.ca)**

Blair Deering does a marvelous job managing the site.



**Breaking News!! We have an amazing bowler in our group – David Kruger, who scored 7 STRIKES over two games at our January 8 bowling get together. (Attached is the photo to prove it). He near wore out the turkey!!**

**David certainly has set the bar for the rest of us. Anyway, we all will get a chance to show our stuff as follows:**

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020  
TIME: 1:00 PM**

**(as always please arrive by 12:45 pm in order to pick up your shoes and stretch)**

**LOCATION: CODES COUNTRY LANES  
307 - 6th STREET, COURTENAY**



**COST: \$11:45/person (includes 2 games, shoe rental, taxes)**

**CASH ONLY PLEASE**

**Anyone new wishing to join us please contact Marie Knowles**

**We'd love to have you.**



## **Probus Canada**

Probus Canada continues to expand. 6 new clubs in;

Leduc  
Richmond Hill  
North York  
Durham  
North Bay  
Saskatoon

There are now 38,000 members across Canada

## “SAILING TO THE SYMPHONY”

**Saturday, June 27, 2020**

### **PRISMA (Pacific Region International Summer Music Academy)**

Those of you who attended last year will remember that we had a great time. Again, we have great news:

- Last season we were able to obtain the **best seats in the house**. This year we have been granted the same privilege. This means: no stairs, no bleachers, far enough up audience to have an excellent view of everything onstage, yet close enough to have a truly intimate musical experience.
- We are informed that both the **dining arrangements** and excellent food preparation will also be repeated. (Currently no details re: the actual menu).
- The same **transportation** situation — discounted ferry rates and a free shuttle to the Evergreen Theatre are as before.
- The package cost is \$85.00 per person (the same as last year), **however, PRISMA is offering a 10% discount on packages for groups like ours, if we book by February 15 – which means the cost will be \$76.50.**
- We have asked PRISMA to hold 60 packages at the discounted rate; however, these will only be held for us until **April 22, 2020**, at which time final payment is required. After that date any tickets remaining will be sold at the full amount or returned to PRISMA.
- The matinee performance will include music by Stravinsky and Rimsky-Korsakov as well as two competitors from the Concerto Competition – Final Round.

**You will have an opportunity to sign up for tickets at the March 10, 2020 general meeting.**

If you are currently away from Comox but would like to attend the event, please email Lawrence Petkus (lpetkus@gmail.com) directly to have your name added to the list along with the number of tickets required.

**At the April 14, 2020 meeting final payment for all tickets will be required. No refunds after payment.**

As always we thank you all very much for your continued support of PRISMA. We love organizing this for you and look forward to another successful event.

Marie Knowles and Lawrence Petkus (2020 PRISMA Co-Chairs)

## PROBUS SINGERS AND FRIENDS



A beautiful day filled Jill and Tim's living room with lots of sunshine. The Probus Singers and Friends helped that sunshine along with lots of enthusiastic singing. Rae was recovering from the flu and a sore wrist and Bev was relaxing on the beaches of Maui, so Blair Deering was kind enough to come and help Rhonda lead the singing.

As always, there was a little bit of everything – some John Denver, The Beatles, Helen Reddy, Bob Dylan, Johnny Cash, Anne Murray – you name it, we probably sang it! Bruce was there adding a bit of trivia for each song and giving us a different way of looking at it.

Thanks again to everyone who came to sing, and to Jill and Tim for opening their home to us. See you all next month: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH, 2:00 pm.

- The Undecideds



## Camera Club

We are planning on resurrecting the Orca Camera Club.

At the monthly meetings we will watch a lesson from the National Geographic “Fundamentals Of Photography” course and then share our own pictures and stories.

While there will be lessons on how to use the features of your camera (f-stops etc.), you do not need a fancy SLR to enjoy this club. The majority of the time will be spent on how to take better pictures, how to share the pictures, and how to edit.

The sign-up list will be available for additional members at the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you are unable to attend and are interested in joining, please contact Bruce Ellis to be added to the list.

# SPRING event

There will be a club event for the spring, but this time something a bit different. We will be organizing a driving adventure tour.

Everyone who signs up will be randomly assigned to a team of 3-4 people that will include one driver. Singles are welcome. We will meet at a central location and the teams will be given a long list of sights of interest in the Valley.

Teams will be given 2 hours to hunt them out, take a picture and move on. In the end we will gather at a restaurant where your pictures will be judged, winners selected and we will all enjoy a meal.

There is no cost for this event (except, of course, for your meal).

Date will be the afternoon of April 9.



More details and a sign-up sheet will be available at the February & March meetings.

**Probus Quilters and Friends** had their monthly gathering at the home of Liz van Boeschoten in January. There were lots of creative and inspirational projects to admire.

L to R: Brenda Oakes, Liz van Boeschoten, Karen Ross, Joan Bertram, Coby Sherstone, Beth Ritchie, Deanna Provencher, Gail King and Elizabeth Sywulich.



## ***PUB CLUB NEWS***

This month we will be going to the Ace Brewing Company located at 150 Mansfield Drive in Courtney. It is right next to the Whistle Stop Pub. I stopped in for lunch and a beer a few weeks ago. I was impressed with the ambiance and the layout of the facility. They have a good selection of light meals which I think you will like. I will include the menu with my announcement later this week.



Last month we went to the Griffon Pub and we had a fairly good turnout of around 30. By all accounts the service was very good and those who had the Schnitzel enjoyed it very much. It is always nice to return to a facility that has a tried and true service and knowledgeable staff.



A Roman walks into a bar and holds up two fingers,  
“Sir can I have five beers please.

# HIKING GROUP

Despite the record rainfalls in the month of January 2020, we did manage to get a hike in under SUNNY skies!! Yes on January 9th, 11 Probus hikers ventured out and did the Bevan/Puntledge loop trail to the Comox dam and back. Only one detour was required due to the heavy rains and high water. We welcomed Dave and Gwendolyne Kruger, new members this year, on their first hike with our group. Some of us were all a little surprised when a passer-by's dog ended up atop the picnic bench at lunch time!





the flower

the old folk and the young folk get along very well  
 the young think life is swell, old folk say it's going to hell  
 both have no patience when they want their due  
 young ones want their food now and old folk do too  
 when young folk fall, they have a hard time getting up  
 while the old folk stay low after petting the pup  
 young folk think grandpa's whiskers are mighty rough  
 grandmas can't get enough of that soft baby stuff  
 old folks back the car up with a stiff neck  
 if they ding something behind, well, what the heck  
 young folk have a heavy foot and love to speed  
 till a slick spot shows them that caution's what they need  
 often moms and dads don't listen to the old or young  
 you'd think they were conversing in a foreign tongue  
 young folk play and old folk don't work anymore  
 both are too busy figuring out just what life is for  
 the very young wear diapers, some very old folks do too  
 life can be inelegant, but one thing is true  
 from the seed came the flower, and from the flower comes the seed  
 from knowledge comes wisdom and this is what we need  
 so don't blame the children and respect the old folks too  
 as we live and learn there is one thing that is true  
 the old folk and young are certainly one  
 brought together as our wisdom blossoms in the sun.