

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we get ready to welcome 2025, it seems that this is the time of year when we are especially hopeful that the world will be a happier, healthier and more stable place. It certainly would be wonderful for this to happen. I hope you have enjoyed the Christmas season.

In addition to our monthly meetings, I want to remind everyone of the variety of activities our club offers. Over the next few months our Walking Club laces up every Friday at the Save Max Soccer Centre. Darts and cards are Thursday afternoons at Spot One and there are monthly meetings for our Book Club and our new Technology Booster Club. These events will soon be routinely posted on the website calendar. Several special events are also in the planning stages.

Please also remember that as we begin a new calendar year, we continue to need more volunteer help on our management committee, and you might find such involvement to be just as rewarding the current members do.

On behalf of the management committee, I wish each of you health and happiness in the New Year.

Murray Gingrich

gingrichmurray@gmail.com

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President

Murray Gingrich
gingrichmurray@gmail.com

Vice President

Vacant – Could be You

Secretary

Greg Allen
gregallen112@gmail.com

Treasurer

Peter Volkes
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Membership Director

Jack O'Reilly
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Program / Speaker Director

Neil Watson
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Special Events Director

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Director without Portfolio

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Jackcmurphy46@hotmail.com

Information Technology & Archivist

Dieter Christiansen
dieterc@rogers.com

Friendship & Fellowship Director

Peter Kuipers
peterthomaskuipers@gmail.com

Newsletter Director

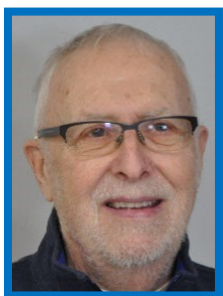
Bob England
rp_england@yahoo.ca

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – OPPORTUNITIES



VICE-PRESIDENT

The position is vacant. It could be you! This is a great opportunity to better know the Club and its members. A trajectory from VP to President and then Past President. If interested, and we know you are, please contact Murray Gingrich (President) 647-527-5630 or by email gingrichmurray@gmail.com



FRIENDSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

Peter Kuipers

With absolute great respect for our member's privacy, our Club celebrates those things, the happy, the sad, those things that are important to our membership. Peter Kuiper is looking for reasons to celebrate...perhaps it's a birthday, a life lived, affiliations etc....please help and provide your information.

To share please contact our Fellowship Director, Peter Kuipers, at home at (905)453-1759 or on his Cell phone (905)965-3958 or through email peterthomaskuipers@gmail.com

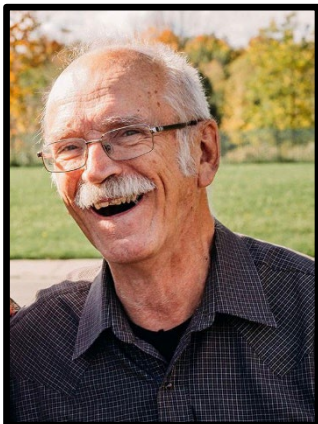
Elgin Kreuger writes...



Photo by Kanti

"Christmas is the time of miracles, and the Brampton Probus Walking Club has its' own little miracle. Over a year ago Bob England suffered a major stroke. Those of us who saw Bob in the hospital realize a medical miracle has occurred. Driven by Bob's determination he rejoined our walks in May and has participated nearly every Friday. All of us have taken turns assisting Bob, but a special thanks to Robin Scott, Kanti Mistry, and Jack Murphy who picks Bob up each Friday. We are walking at the Save Max Soccer Centre beginning January 3rd, 2025. Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year!" **Elgin Kreuger**

OUR MEMBERS PASSING



Robert John Osborne

April 28, 1945 - November 27, 2024

Bob was a long-time member of the Probus Men's Club of Brampton and an active Bridge SIG participant, and it is with heavy hearts that we announce the peaceful passing of Bob Osborne on November 27, 2024, in Brampton. A celebration of Bob's life was held on Thursday December 5 at the Meadowvale Funeral Centre in Brampton.



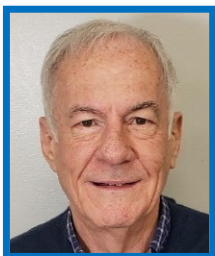
Ernie Atkinson

Ernie Atkinson's daughter advised us that Ernie had passed away on November 27, 2024.

Ernie was a long-term member. He was inducted in September 2007 and left Probus in October 2019 when he moved.

The funeral was held on Saturday, December 14th at the Meadowvale Funeral Home.

Ernie Atkinson at his
2007 induction



PROGRAMS & SPEAKERS

Please note – Our meetings will be livestreamed for those unable to attend, and then archived for future viewing. The Zoom link will be emailed on the Monday, the day before the Meeting.

JANUARY GUEST SPEAKER – Lou Lisi



Tues. January 07th 2025

Lou Lisi retired from the CN Police in 2018 after a 33-year career, including service as a Staff Sergeant overseeing Network Security and Intelligence. Certified as a Security Analyst by the RCMP and trained in CPTED, Lisi managed cross-border security, critical infrastructure, and IT systems. His security plans were recognized by Transport Canada and CBSA. Lisi also supported communities with emergency planning for hazardous materials. Currently, he works seasonally for the Toronto Blue Jays, conducting risk assessments and VIP protection.

FEBRUARY GUEST SPEAKER – Billy Watterson



Tuesday, February 04th 2025

Local Brampton wood carver and artist Billy Watterson completed a carving of a life-sized Second World War soldier, which he donated to the [Royal Canadian Legion Branch 15 \(80 Mary St.\)](#) to honour the memory of fallen service men and women for Remembrance Day.

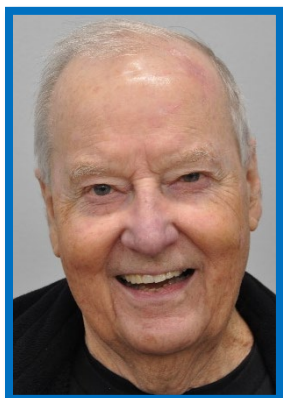
MARCH GUEST SPEAKER – John Halleran



History enthusiast John Halleran presents his new talk for 2025 entitled "**What's with Commissions?**"

His entertaining, power-point supported monologue examines the response to four seminal events: the attack on Pearl Harbor; the Kennedy assassination, 9/11 attacks and the Canadian trucker protest.

His presentation discusses what was learnt from examining past govt commissions and juxtaposing them against the recent Public Order Emergency Measures Commission struck in response to the Canadian Trucker Freedom Convoy.



LUNCH LOCATION – Bill Watson

Following the January 07th meeting – Lunch is at **Heritage Fish and Chips**. Everyone knows it! They have been in business for over 40 years... great food, friendly service, and reasonable prices.



Bramrose Plaza

*295 Queen St. E
(beside the No Frills
store)*

TECHNOLOGY BOOSTER CLUB (Third session)



Tuesday, January 14th, 01:00 – 03:00 PM

"Resistance is Futile - Technology and the Rise of Digital Citizens"

This is the final session in our premiere series. The meeting link will be delivered to all subscribers. Chris, the presenter, recommends connecting to the call via a computer or laptop, thus freeing up the use of phones or tablets during the session.

He is also open to receiving any technology questions before the session – have a question? Send it to probus32brampton@gmail.com

TECHNOLOGY BOOSTER CLUB – Future Sessions

Twenty-two Probus members signed up for the Technology Booster Club and the consensus is that each session has been a resounding success. Important and relevant information delivered by a skilled presenter in which no participant is left behind. Questions and clarifications are always encouraged.

Planning for a second series is in the works – Possible dates are February, March and April. Details to follow. DO YOU HAVE A TECH QUESTION OR SUBJECT THAT YOU WOULD LIKE ADDRESSED?

Send your topic of interest to probus32brampton@gmail.com



DECEMBER MEETING

Researching your Family

Our guest speaker was **Coral Harkies** a member of the Ontario Genealogy Society. Coral spoke on researching your family the good, the bad, the skeletons in the closet!

Questions on genealogy may be directed to Coral's email info@ogs.on.ca

Want to see the recorded meeting? Click on the Link Below...

<https://tinyurl.com/77bpwvvd>



SHARE THE WEALTH

DECEMBER MEETING – WINNERS

The Dream-makers – Fred Bennet (L) and Bill Watson

In addition to the Cash prizes, the draws also included three bottles of Infused Olive Oil – generously provided by Marcel.



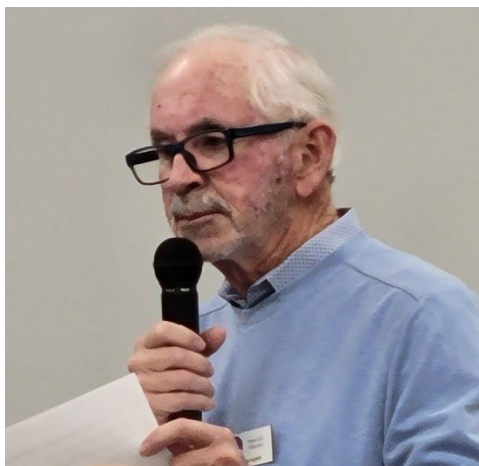
Steve Hughes (far left), Paul Devitt (left) both received their \$25.50 winnings.

Bruce, Robin and Fred all won a bottle of Infused Olive Oil



Carol Singing...

...Under the able direction of **Steve Hughes** and accompanied by **Barry Endicott**

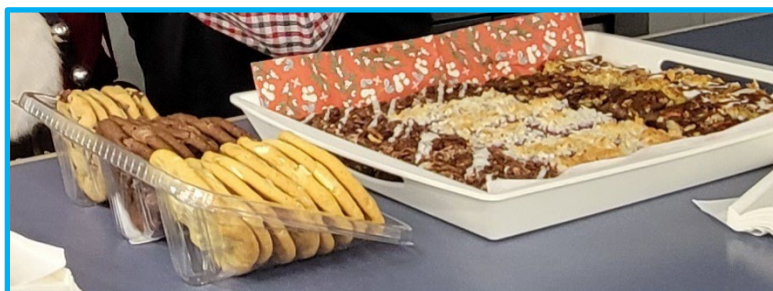


And lots of food.....

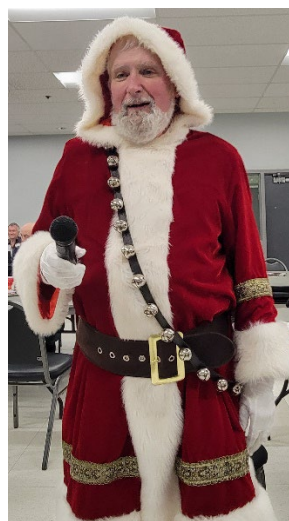


Thanks to **John Inglis** for arranging for the Platters

Thanks
to **Peter Volkes** for generously
providing the desserts



...and of course, a visit by **St. Nick** as well



Want to see more Christmas meeting photos...click on the link

<https://tinyurl.com/yyf2aej6>



BOOK CLUB

Central Public School
24 Alexander St. Brampton
3rd Monday of the month – 2:00 – 3:00 pm



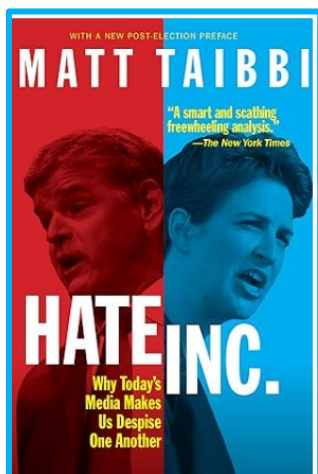
CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The only thing missing from the Probus Book Club's Christmas luncheon was the taking of a photo. Artificial Intelligence (Ai) was tasked with recreating the event.

The actual luncheon, arranged by Bob England, was held at Fanzorelli's on Queen St. – An excellent choice which was held on Monday December 16th

Ai described the event as "a delightful celebration of camaraderie, intellectual exchange, and the joy of the written word" and that departing with hearts and minds full, the Probus Book Club members left looking forward to another year of literary adventures and cherished fellowship".

January reading - Monday January 20th, 2025 @ 2:00 pm



Hate Inc.: Why Today's Media Makes Us Despise One Another

Matt Taibbi

(copies available)

In this characteristically turbocharged new book, celebrated *Rolling Stone* journalist Matt Taibbi provides an insider's guide to the variety of ways today's mainstream media tells us lies. Part tirade, part confessional, it reveals that what most people think of as "the news" is, in fact, a twisted wing of the entertainment business.

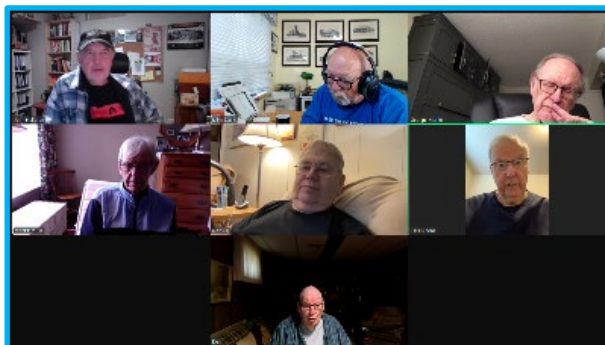
BOOK CLUB - February reading – Monday, February 17thth @ 2:00 pm



A genre called “Noir” or “Pulp Fiction”

Mike Hammer, Sam Spade...characters from the 30's, 40's, 50's by Mickey Spillane, Raymond Chandler, Dashiell Hammett.

Noir writings of the 1930s-50s are dark, cynical tales of crime, morality, and human frailty, marked by sharp dialogue, flawed protagonists, and gritty urban settings. (much like our Book Club and its members)



PROBUS ZOOM SOCIAL

Friday afternoons at 4:00 pm., is a virtual social get together. You provide your own Beverage from the comfort of your own home, and we provide Friendship, Camaraderie, and spirited discussions.

It is light-hearted, completely casual, and a lot of fun – Barrie Williams provides three quizzes and trivia questions. Hope to see you there!

The invitation for this event is emailed, on Fridays, to all our Probud members and it includes the Zoom link.

Questions? Contact Mike at mikedavis0723@gmail.com



DARTS, CARDS, and OTHER THINGS.

Every Thursday 1:30 – 4:30

Spot One 289 Rutherford Rd. South

Questions? Contact Marcel marcel.spidalieri@gmail.com or Mike Mahaney retiredsharyn@hotmail.com

Darts Luncheon – Dec. 19





WALKING CLUB

In an increasingly digital age, what does “clockwise or anti-clockwise even mean?”



December 27th, the final outdoor walk of 2024

Beginning Friday, January 3rd, 2025 @ 9:00 AM and continuing every Friday until further notice, we will be walking at the Save Max Sports Centre, which is at the intersection of Dixie Road and Sandalwood Parkway.



while others are encouraged to do it...the Probus Men's Club of Brampton's walking Club does it!

“A walk in the snow”

December 20, 2024

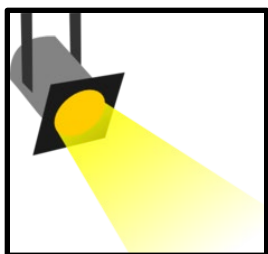
Photo by Kanti

Want to see more Walking Club photos....click on the link below

<https://tinyurl.com/2cseephp>

Questions...

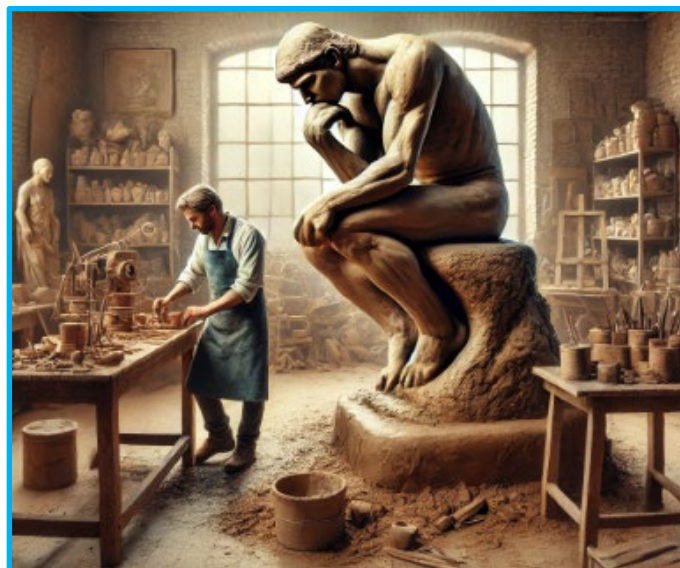
Elgin Kreuger	ekreuger@sympatico.ca ;	905.457.5377
Steve Hughes	gshughes33@gmail.com	416.985.6667
Kanti Mistry	mistry.kanti@gmail.com	416.453.0766



A SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBERSHIP

"Hobbies, Crafts and other distractions"

Do you have a hobby, craftwork or other distractions that you would like to share with all our members at a General Meeting?



Please let Neil know as he is putting the Spring / Summer programs together. Neil can be reached at Neilwatson2016@gmail.com or speak with him at the January meeting

Other Probus Groups from around Brampton

Probus Travel Group Jan 15, 2pm

The topic for the January Travel Group will be: A road trip through Eastern Europe. The trip starts in Odessa, Ukraine, visits the breakaway Republic of Transnistria and on through the countries of the former Yugoslavia, finishing off in Slovenia. It's an area of the world that has seen more than its share of turmoil, but a wonderful place to travel. The presentation is by Alan Shaver.

Date: Wednesday, January 15th

Time: 02:00 PM

Click on the link below to join the presentation.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85286638983?pwd=BSJ3SvPKNZXEGnzHyfxUluySRIIV7E.1>

Meeting ID 852 8663 8983

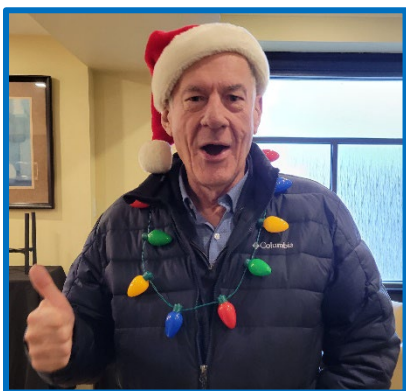
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If anyone is interested in presenting please contact us.

Alan Shaver 905-840-4486

Lionel Nichol

Probus Travel Group



Neil Wishing everyone a "Merry Christmas"

Tiny Thoughts..... presented by **Neil Watson**

"Your calendar is the most honest autobiography you'll ever write.

It doesn't matter what you say your priorities are; your calendar reveals the truth. Each block is a decision about what matters, stripped of pretense and rationalization.

Your calendar isn't just recording your time—it's exposing your lies."

OUR THANKS....

Do you have a membership story? Something that you would like included in the newsletter? Send it to probus32brampton@gmail.com

Thanks to all who have provided content for the newsletter, and as always, a special thanks to Ron Crouse for his monthly Illustration.

Have a comment? A suggestion? or a submission?

*Newsletter comments, suggestions, or
submissions, may be directed to*

Probus32brampton@gmail.com
