



Beaver Valley Probus Club

The Grapevine for May 2014

Box 148, Clarksburg, Ontario N0H 1J0 Volume 14, Issue 5

Current Activities

by Convener Joan Hammond

[\(details\)](#)

Backroads Cycling
Book Club Chapter one
Book Club Chapter Two
Book Club Chapter Three
Birding
BVP Computer Group
Canoe / Kayak
Casual Dining
Chess
Cooking Together
Cue Sports
Digital Photography
Dining About Town
Dining with Flair
Euchre
Gardening
Golf
Hiking
Marsh Street Painters
Nordic Pole Walking
Recreational Cycling
Scrabble
Singles Gourmet
Ski Legends
Snowshoeing
Stitch & Bitch
Support Group
Table Tennis
Wood Carving

Activity groups are self sustained.
Participate – Volunteer
but above all-have fun and enjoy

“Please be advised that all events and activities of the Beaver Valley Probus Club are organized for the benefit and enjoyment of its Members. Individuals who participate do so at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety”.

E-mail address: beavervalleyprobus@beavervalleyprobus.com

Web-Site: www.beavervalleyprobus.com

President's Message

Our April meeting was well attended and our speaker Terry Gregson held everyone's attention for an hour. He spoke about his career as an NHL Referee and ended his talk with marvellous pictures of Sochi and the Olympic Village.

At our May meeting, we have speakers who embrace an activity and we will learn about Nordixx Pole Walking. This sport is accessible and a cardio work out. Also, at this meeting, you can sign up for the summer picnic and annual Bocce Tournament. The caterer for the picnic is Burger Bob who is providing a generous menu.

As I write this in April, my daffodils are blooming, my snow tires are off, the skis are put away, and so now I can rake the lawn or as my husband suggests take up golf!

Enjoy the sun and warm weather.

Regards,

Catharine Pepper

Activity Group Update

SINGLES GOURMET: The 2 groups enjoyed lovely dinners Apr 27th, themed FRENCH cuisine. Who says cream makes your clothes shrink? Our next dining experience is on May 25th at 6pm. The challenging theme is THE SOUTH BEACH diet. Does anyone remember that? Our hosts are Bev Johnston and Mary Dillon. Enjoy. Thereafter, our windup BBQ, 4pm on the 29 June, is being hosted at Sally Tucks beautiful rural property. Thank you Sally.

Gloria Thompson

GARDENING GROUP: The Probus Garden Group is active for the 2014 year.

There was no official sign up list available at the Activity Fair for this activity SO it is very important that you sign up for this year if you wish to remain on the garden group email distribution list.

Information about the upcoming activities of the Garden group will be sent to the members who respond to the email which was sent out.

On behalf of the leaders of the Garden group

Communications Probus Garden Group: *Alison Parker & Frances Baker.*

SKI LEGENDS: The 2013-2014 ski season was a season for the record books. It began the end of November and ended near the end of April. Blue Mountain was open for skiing 142 days, and the snow conditions were the best anyone could remember. It was very cold for large portions of the time and for some it ruined what could have been a perfect winter, for others it was the perfect winter. The Legends started the season with a Wine and Cheese at Skiis and Biikes and a Breakfast at TSC, both events were free for members. Our season ended with a late season trip to Sun Peaks, B.C. It was an eventful trip with great skiing, in between we had a couple of fun filled parties, ski days at private ski clubs, early and mid season ski trips and a whole lot of skiing at Blue. If the winter seemed too long for you, you have choices, go somewhere warm for all or part of it, or join Ski Legends and it will seem shorter.

Hope to see you on the slopes next winter,

Bob Muir, Louise Donegani, Wilf Phillips

Upcoming Club Events

Come and enjoy **Crazy For You**, the New Gershwin Musical, at the Festival Theatre in Stratford on Wed Oct 8, 2014, 2:00 pm.

Sent to Deadrock, Nevada, to foreclose on a derelict theatre, banker Bobby Child falls for its owner's daughter, Polly Baker. Can he reconcile the demands of duty and love – and his own dreams of dancing. "I Got Rhythm", "Nice Work if You Can Get it", and Someone to Watch Over Me" are just some of the gems in this dynamic musical's dazzling score.

Ticket cost is \$112.00 which includes theatre, bus and lunch at Anna Mae's in Millbank. **A WAITING LIST HAS BEEN STARTED**
Sign up sheets will be at the back of the room at our May meeting. Payment by cheque only.

PROBUS BIRDING

Even the longest and coldest of winters will not hold back the wonderful phenomenon that is the spring bird migration. The instinctive urge to fly north to breeding grounds kicks in with longer daylight hours and warming temperatures, and birds take wing within the same range of departures dates each year with only minor variations, just like the famous annual return of the swallows to Capistrano.

For each species there is an optimal time (with a certain amount of variability each year) when they need to arrive in their breeding areas to ensure a long enough period is available to select suitable habitat, court, mate, construct nests and raise a brood or two.

All this must coincide with the hatch-out or emergence of each species specific insect or plant food supply, to ensure young can be well-fed and raised to a point of self-sufficiency before the time quickly arrives for the reverse migration south.

Thus the great urgency of the migration north, which provides us Birders with some of the best birding of the year. On April 24th the Birding Group travelled to Minesing Swamp to observe the stopover of a diverse range of duck species. This huge wetland is a provincially significant 'staging' area for migrating ducks – a place for resting and fuelling-up for a brief period before they make their final push on to their summer breeding territories. The group observed 12 different species of ducks all in bright spring breeding plumage. *Article by Lynn Richardson*

for more photographs by Nancy Seppala [click here](#)



May Day & the Maypole

from Wikipedia

This Festival usually occurs in May but some festivals are held in mid-summer. The tradition of dancing around the Maypole is primarily found in the Germanic nations of Europe. The origins remain unknown but it is speculated that originally it had some importance in paganism and early medieval cultures.

The Maypole itself symbolizes various things such as the world axis, reverence for sacred trees or simply a part of the general rejoicing of the return of summer and growth of new vegetation. In this way, it bore similarities with May Day garlands which were also a common festival practice in Britain and Ireland. In Britain, the Maypole was evident as early as the 14th century and the practice became increasingly popular as "communal symbols" that brought the community together.

However, with the rise of Protestantism in the 16th century, the church beliefs led to disapproval of the Maypole and other May Day practices as idolatry and immoral. During the Reformation, maypoles were destroyed.

Today, however, May Day has continued to be celebrated as a traditional springtime rejoicing in the planting of seeds and new growth. It is also a bank holiday in Britain on the first Monday in May. There are many different ways that the 1st of May is celebrated today.

Submitted by Caroline Bacher,



Management Team for 2014-2015 Featuring **Joanne Vivona** Co-Secretary and Refreshments Co-ordinator



Joanne hails from Montreal but has been in Ontario for 35 years, first in North York, then in Richmond Hill where she worked as a librarian in a French Immersion school. Joanne missed the hills of Quebec and her husband missed the mountains of Sicily so sought the highest point in Ontario for a new perspective! They both enjoy the thrill of white snow and have been suitably rewarded this winter.

Joanne enjoys many hobbies such as reading, yoga, aquafit, senior's exercise at the "Y", kayaking, picnics on the Bay, having company, making soup and sipping her spouse's excellent cappuccino.

Her daughter is a downtown gal but tolerates their choice of rural life. Her son was married last fall and Joanne is practicing how to be an inoffensive mother-in-law. They have a dog named "Chloe" who licks all visitors and is a motivator for walks on Road 2 with views of the water.

Submitted by Caroline Bacher

ANNUAL GOLF EVENT

Monday June 23, 2014 It's time to sign up for the Annual Mixed Foursomes Golf at the Shelburne Golf and Country Club.

Here is how the day will unfold. Plan to arrive at the golf course no later than 8:30am to register, meet your playing partners and load up your clubs. Then enjoy muffins and coffee and perhaps warm up on the driving range and/or putting green if you need the practice. At 9:00am you will be led to your starting hole for the Shotgun start and then play a team best ball format.

When you finish your 18 holes join with the group for a little socializing, bragging (or complaining), lunch and prizes.

The all-in price is \$67.00 per person. If you have already registered please bring your cheque to the May Probus meeting or somehow get it to Bob Smithson or Stella Zahradnik. We still have lots of spots left for more golfers. Great skill is not a prerequisite.

Contact: *Bob Smithson* or *Stella Zahradnik*



The Master Gardener's Corner

Things to do in or for your garden in – May from *John Hethrington*

Things to do in your garden each month taken from the Ontario Master Gardener Calendar by John Hethrington, Past President, Master Gardeners of Ontario. For more information, or your copy of the 11" x 17" calendar of the full year's tips for a \$1 contribution to Master Gardeners.

- Clean up winter debris in the garden as soon as the soil is dry enough to work. Dig in manure or compost and weed well. An extra hour weeding now will save 3 later in the summer. Use a line to cut straight edged.
- Add 3" to 4" of mulch to flower beds and shrubs to conserve moisture. Shredded cedar bark is best, but expensive.
- Don't walk on or roll lawns that are still full of water. It compacts the soil.
- If already compacted, rent an aerator and dig plugs out of the lawn.
- Prepare containers and pots and fill with a mixture of compost and potting soil. Be creative in plant choice. Mixtures of plants such as herbs, perennials and annuals can be quite successful as long as they have the same sun and water requirements.
- If you have very big or deep pots or planters, put some empty plastic water bottles in the bottom of the pot to take up space the roots will never get to. It makes the planter or pot lighter and easier to move, if needed.
- Harden off seedlings for at least a week before planting. Find the last frost date for your area, and allow at least 2 weeks more before planting tender transplants such as tomatoes and corn. This year, probably into early June.
- Plant beans directly into the garden as they quickly germinate and will grow as long as the soil is warm.
- Cage peonies.
- Monitor for the presence of slugs, cutworms, earwigs and tent caterpillars.
- Control weeds in the lawn by hand pulling. Use nematodes to control grubs which eat the grass roots leading to brown patches in the lawn in summer.
- Prune roses according to type.
- Dead head faded tulips and daffodils and other spring bulbs, do not cut or pull the leaves until they are brown and decayed.
- If you have any fritillaries or lilies (day lilies are beetle free), now is the time to watch for the red lily beetle (adult, larva and eggs). So far, removal by hand is the best way to reduce the problem.

Scam Alert!

Did you know that there have been a number of scams reported in our community over the past several months? These scams include the Google Docs scam, printer toner scam, Canada Revenue scam, grandparent scam, WestJet Email and telephone scams, internet fraud and identity theft.

Protect yourself and your family by being an informed member of our community.

The Blue Mountains Community Watch has created an online community to keep you informed of reported scams in our area. We will be sharing reported scams, providing security tips and news. We encourage you to join our online community so we can help protect each other by posting any suspicious activities.

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BlueMountainsCommunityWatch>

Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BlueMountainsCW>

Visit our website: <http://www.bluemountainscommunitywatch.ca>

Please contact us at communications@bluemountainscommunitywatch.ca for more information.

SCAMS
TARGET YOU
PROTECT YOURSELF

Our Speakers for May

MARIANNE FORD and her husband STEVE NASH

IT'S SPRING – TIME TO GET WALKING

Marianne and Steve are master instructors with Nordixx Pole Walking. There is tremendous excitement about this health and fitness activity. Nancy Hart is the leader of our own Nordic Pole Walking Group.

The Barrie and Wasaga At The Beach Probus groups were very enthusiastic about Marianne and Steve's presentation and opportunity to try pole walking. Pole walking is the "smarter way to walk". The whole body is involved instead of just half the body with normal walking. There are clinically proven positive results in regard to diabetes, osteoporosis, cancer, loss of weight, relief from knee and joint pain and lower blood pressure.

An educational power point presentation will be followed by an opportunity to try Nordic poles outside in the parking lot. If desired poles will be available to purchase at that time. Come to learn all about pole walking try it and perhaps join our group.



Our Speaker for June LARA JAVALYN Community Relations Co-ordinator Grey Roots Museum & Archives

Our June meeting will provide us with a splendid opportunity to learn more about history and the people of Grey County. Grey Roots Museum & Archives has matured over the last ten years from its beginnings as a small county museum. It is now housed in a new, attractive, large building; adjacent to a "Heritage Village" that is a work in progress. Find out about programs and events; collections and archives at the museum; and how alcohol played an important role in shaping the county!!

Lara Javalyn has been at Grey Roots Museum & Archives for the past 7 years. Her role includes managing visitor services, media relations, marketing and fundraising. She often acts as spokesperson for Grey Roots through radio, television and newspaper interviews, speaks to groups such as Probus. Lara graduated from the University of Michigan and has a certificate in Museum Studies from the Ontario Museum Association.



The Quiz this month has an American flavour test your knowledge by [clicking here](#)

April winners:

George Baker & Murray
Lamont

Newspaper Team

Editor

David Morgan

Reporters

Caroline Bacher, Nancy Seppala

Distribution

Barb Thompson

Website Maintenance

Barb Thompson

Technical Advisor

Terry Kellar

Web site update

Our Beaver Valley Probus Club new website is now operational. The communications team of Barb Thompson, David Morgan and Terry Kellar have worked very hard to have our club website be attractive and easy to use. As the communications coordinator I give my sincere thanks to David and Terry who have so willingly participated in the process!!!!

Barb Thompson

Support Group

Do you know of a member who needs encouragement to get through a difficult period?

Please do not hesitate to call **Marg Nattress** who is the contact for May or any one of the Management team.

Next months contact is Mary Anne Lawrie

Famous Last Words

Submitted by Past President Peter Armstrong

"Hurrah, boys, we've got them! We'll finish them up and then go home to our station" These were the last words of General George Armstrong [no relation!] Custer as he charged Sitting Bull's Sioux tribe at the Little Big Horn on June 25, 1876.